

6-1-2011

Furman Alumni News

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2011) "Furman Alumni News," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 54 : Iss. 2 , Article 21.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol54/iss2/21>

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ALUMNI HAVE KEY ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING FURMAN REACH ITS GOALS

IT ISN'T HARD TO NOTICE the excitement in the air on campus these days. In just one year on the job, President Rod Smolla has brought a new sense of energy and enthusiasm to the Furman community while creating a strong vision for the Furman of tomorrow.



As the new president of the Alumni Board, I had an opportunity to learn more about the university's developing strategic plan at the spring trustees meeting, and I was impressed with the ambitious initiatives presented by President Smolla. It quickly became apparent that he is passionate about academic excellence and about engaging students' minds and hearts to ensure that they achieve their full potential as students, citizens and leaders.

The administration, faculty, students and staff will play a leading role in achieving these goals, but it is clear that the greater Furman community, and specifically our alumni, can also play a pivotal role in the university's continued success.

Alumni often reflect on the Furman "experience," which evokes many fond memories of our college years. But sometimes, it is difficult to put our experiences into words. Nonetheless, I feel compelled to challenge each of us to share our Furman stories with others.

One of Furman's strategic initiatives is to increase the quality and diversity of the student body. The Alumni Board will be working to support this goal, and in the coming months you will hear about ways to become involved.

However, all of us can support our recruitment efforts because we are some of the best recruiters

Furman could have! By sharing our stories with prospective students and their parents, we can personalize the Furman experience and provide the insight and understanding they can't get from anyone else.

If we want Furman to continue to cultivate its special living/learning experience for undergraduates, we need to be vigilant in identifying and recruiting young men and women who possess the potential to thrive in the Furman environment. If we are willing to accept this challenge, then we can serve as role models for the next generation of Furman alumni.

Our roles may have changed since our student days, but our responsibility to the university and to the Furman community is greater than ever. I hope you will join your Alumni Association Board of Directors in being the engaged, enthusiastic supporters Furman needs us to be!

SPEAKING OF THE ALUMNI BOARD, we have welcomed eight new members for 2011–12. They are:

- **Tracy Hulseley Bond '90**, a Greenville attorney. A graduate of Mercer University Law School, Tracy is a law clerk with the U.S. District Court and has been active with Furman's Mock Trial program.
- **Kevin R. Bryant '85**, a Greenville businessman. Kevin, who played basketball at Furman, is the resident managing director of Aon Risk South Inc., a provider of risk management services, insurance and reinsurance brokerage, and human capital consulting.
- **O. Vernon Burton '69**, professor of history and director of the Cyberinstitute at Clemson University. An acclaimed scholar and Pulitzer Prize nominee, he was selected the 1999 national teacher of the year for research and doctoral universities by the

Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. At that time he taught at the University of Illinois. He has also taught at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., and, since 2010, at Clemson.

- **Chad Hardy '89**, a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors in Asheville, N.C. Chad has been a member of the executive committee of Furman's Young Benefactors group and served three terms on the board of the MANNA FoodBank.
- **Jimmie Harley '58**, associate minister at Taylors First Baptist Church in Greenville, where he recently served as interim pastor. Jimmie is a longtime leader among South Carolina Baptists and has four children who attended Furman.
- **Tommy Marshall '77**, director of athletics at Marist School in Atlanta. Tommy played football during his undergraduate days. Before going to Marist in 1996, he was an assistant football coach and assistant director of athletics at Furman.
- **Leon Smith '61**, a Baptist minister from Kernersville, N.C. Leon holds a doctorate from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a former president of the North Carolina Baptist Convention and of the Association of Southern Baptist State Convention Presidents.
- **George Short '54**, a retired Greenville accountant. George, who worked with Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, is a life member of the Furman Advisory Council and a dedicated community volunteer. He is active in Presbyterian church work.

— CHRIS BROWN

The author, a member of the Class of '89, is an attorney in Greenville.

CLASS NOTES, SUMMER 2011

60

The chapel at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., was dedicated February 13 in memory of **Ronald D. Lackey**, a former professor of religious studies, dean of student affairs and chaplain at the school. The university also presents the Ronald D. Lackey Service Award each year to the graduating senior who has excelled in service to the university and the community. Ron died in 1999.

62

Having retired from the practice of law, **Thomas Player** of Atlanta is pursuing a second career in sculpture. His work is shown primarily at the Edward Dare Gallery in Charleston, S.C. He has been accepted as a Fellow in the Hambidge Artist Residency Program, an artists' retreat in North Georgia, and his work is included in the National Sculpture Society Awards Exhibition at Brookgreen Gardens on Pawleys Island, S.C., through October 31. Visit his website, www.tomplayersculpture.com.

63

Bill Mackey retired May 31 as executive director and treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, which he had led since 1998. He received the Campbellsville University Leadership Award at the university's May Commencement, where he was the speaker.

64

J.L. "Bud" Alley, Jr., of Brentwood, Tenn., recently earned a master's degree in history from Middle Tennessee State University.

67

David Barksdale, an assistant basketball coach at Mountain State University in Beckley, W.Va., for the last seven years and a highly successful high school coach in the Beckley area in the 1980s and '90s, received the Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce 2011 Community Service Award May 20 for his contributions to the lives of the area's youth as a teacher and coach. He led Woodrow Wilson High to five state titles in the 1990s, and this year Mountain State advanced to the NAIA national championship game. The basketball court at Beckley-Raleigh Convention Center is named in his honor.

70

Lloyd Linney has been promoted to professor in the School of Music at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla.

73

Thomas B. "Bo" Carter has been named chair of the advisory board of directors and chief development officer with ServisFirst Bank Pensacola in Florida. Bo retired as president of Bank of Pensacola/Coastal Bank & Trust in 2010. He is a member and past president of the Pensacola Downtown Rotary Club and was a member of the Pensacola Mayor Transition Team 2010. He is a past appointee of the Escambia County Investment Advisory Board and a member of the Naval Aviation Foundation Finance Committee.

On June 4, **Kenneth L. Shigley** was installed as president of the 42,000-member State Bar of Georgia and appointed to the state's Criminal Justice Reform Council. His law practice in Atlanta focuses on commercial truck and bus accident litigation.

74

Robert L. Chiles joined the ministerial staff of Greenville's Christ Church Episcopal in June as the associate for pastoral care. He was most recently rector of St. David's Episcopal Church in Columbia, S.C.

78

George "Chip" Tolleson has been ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament and is pastor of Beulah Presbyterian Church in Monroe, N.C. His previous career was in building materials.

81

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Cecily Bradford Morris (M.A. '85) has become executive director of the Greenwood-Lander Performing Arts Series in Greenwood, S.C. A former art teacher in the Greenville and Abbeville County school districts and for the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, she served as principal of McCormick Middle School for five years before leaving that position in 2009 to return to the classroom. She is a past president and board member of the Abbeville Opera House.

82

Bryan Barnes, a shareholder and board member of Rogers Townsend & Thomas in Columbia, S.C., has been invited to join the International Association of Defense Counsel, a professional association for the world's leading corporate and insurance defense lawyers.

ADOPTION: Andy and **Leslie Stevens Bulluck**, a daughter, Lydia Virginia Linmei Bulluck, born January 27, 2010; adopted February 22, 2011, from Hubei Province, China. The family lives in Glencoe, Ill.

85

Advance America, the country's leading provider of non-bank cash advance services, has named **James Ovenden** of Johns Island, S.C., its chief financial officer and executive vice president. Since 2002 Jim has been the principal consultant with CFO Solutions of South Carolina, a financial consulting business for middle market companies.

86

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Preston Smith has been appointed music director and conductor of the Perley Boy and Girl Choristers, an auditioned chorus of 40 middle schoolers in New York City sponsored by the Victor A. Perley Foundation. He continues as organist and director of music at the Church of the Ascension, accompanist for New York University's voice department, and private piano teacher.

87

Mary Beth DeCredico Langley has been named an accounting analyst with A.T. Locke, a Greenville firm. She has more than 20 years of experience in accounting and financial analysis and is founder of a successful Web-based crafts business.

Alan E. Thomas was one of 13 pediatricians nominated by his fellow physicians to the 2010–11 New Jersey Top Doctors list published in *New Jersey Monthly* magazine. Alan practices at Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights.

John S. West has been appointed managing partner at Troutman Sanders in Richmond, Va. He has been a partner at the law firm since 2001 and is deputy group leader of the white collar and government investigations practice.

BIRTHS: Patrick and **Christine Schneider Purcell**, twins, a daughter, Avery Grace, and a son, Connor Patrick, April 30, West Long Branch, N.J.

2011–12 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Chris Brown '89, president; Leslie L. Smith '91, president-elect; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89, vice president; Clare Folio Morris '83, past president; Lynn Neely Bailey '78; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Frank W. Blackwell '90; Sidney R. Bland '59; Tracy Hulsey Bond '90; Kevin R. Bryant '85; O. Vernon Burton '69; Mary Lou Walch Cagle '69; Paul D. Goebel '63; Michael L. Guynn '91; Charles D. Hardy '89; Jimmie E. Harley '58; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; Gail Laible Hughes '83; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; C. Todd Malo '95; Thomas A. Marshall '77; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Gordon D. Seay '61; E. Leon Smith '61; George O. Short '54; Connie Gartrell Williams '74.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: Rod Smolla, president; Mike Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; James Crockett '12, president, Student Alumni Council; Teddy Hess '12, president, Association of Furman Students; Joel Bloom '12, president, Senior Class.

88

Dale Atkins of Bluffton, S.C., has been named by *South Carolina Super Lawyers* magazine as one of the top attorneys in the state for 2011.

In April, the Rev. **Ricky O. Creech** became executive director/minister for the Washington, D.C., Baptist Convention, a cooperative of more than 150 churches. Previously he was minister of administration and missions at Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Decatur, Ga., and head of the Birmingham (Ala.) Baptist Association.

MARRIAGE: Melissa Sexton and Benjamin Valena, March 20, 2010. Melissa teaches at The Howard School in Atlanta, and Ben is a program manager at Emory Adventist Hospital.

89

Gina Garrett Jones is registrar at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C.

90

Lt. Col. **David Jewell** enrolled this summer at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa.

BIRTH: Reggy and Lilly **Sagebien**, a daughter, Gabriella Sophia, May 3, Miami, Fla.

91

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Steve Cover has been named vice president of software development for the Rainmaker Group, an Atlanta-based company that provides automated profit optimization software and services for the multifamily housing, gaming and hospitality industries.

Karen Erbes Gleason of Atlanta has joined Grizzard Communications Group as group vice president and senior strategist. Karen previously worked for Blackbaud. She has more than 18 years of non-profit healthcare and agency experience.

BIRTH: Ligon and **Julie Ann Stuart**

Williams, a daughter, Joy Lila, January 29, Pensacola, Fla.

93

Craig McCoy recently assumed duties as chief executive officer of Emory Johns Creek Hospital near Atlanta. He previously was CEO of Paradise Valley Hospital in Phoenix, Ariz.

Reggie O'Shields has been appointed general counsel of Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, where he is also a senior vice president.

WEDDING: Jennifer Laura Spencer and **Mark David Wild**, December 11. She is employed with Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina, and he is a physician with Three Rivers OB-GYN Associates. They live in Columbia.

94

Mariah Brown Spengler, a licensed mental health counselor, has opened Transitions Counseling and Wellness in Gainesville, Fla. She earned her doctorate in mental health counseling from the University of Florida.

BIRTHS: Daniel and **Allison Welch Bennett**, a son, Luke Daniel, October 30. They live in Montreat, N.C.

Lauren and **Jennifer Chase** '98 **Chandler**, a son, Lauren Lee, January 20, Cordova, Tenn.

Ransom and Céline **Gladwin**, a son, Jebran Ransom, April 13. They live in Valdosta, Ga., where Randy is an associate professor of Spanish at Valdosta State University and Céline is president of BFB Gladwin Architects.

95

Bryan Cribb, assistant professor of Christian Studies at Anderson University, received an Excellence in Teaching Award from South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

BIRTHS: George and **Kristina Koldoff Christy**, a daughter, Bernice Catherine, April 27. They live in Atlanta, where they work for Turner Broadcasting.

Thomas and **Melissa Morgan Kelley**, a son, Lucas James, January 7. They live in Decatur, Ga.

Alex and **Meredith Levesque Pit**, twins, a son, Aaron Jacob, and a daughter, Ella Grace, November 9, Irvine, Scotland.

96

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Jonathan F. Bassett of Greenwood, S.C., was named Lander University's Distinguished Professor for 2010–11 and also received the 2011 Outstanding Teacher of Psychology Award from the South Carolina Psychological Association. His wife, **Lori Lucas Bassett**, works in the communications office at Greenwood Genetic Center.

Amy Jowers has joined the Charleston, S.C., law office of Moore & Van Allen as an associate. She is a member of the 2011 class of Leadership Charleston.

Rebecca Jones Massey of Flowery Branch, Ga., became director of the Hospitalist Program at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in April.

BIRTHS: William and **Shannon Hindman Dunn**, a daughter, Katherine McClellan Dunn, March 10, Charlotte, N.C. Bryant and **Amy Cooper Pickney**, a daughter, Sarah Caroline, August 24, 2010, Knoxville, Tenn.

97

Kelly Uldrick Pew (M.A.) is the new assistant superintendent of instructional services for the Pickens County (S.C.) school district. She had been the district's assistant superintendent of human resource services since 2009. A longtime school and district administrator, she teaches in the graduate programs in education at Southern Wesleyan University and Anderson University.

Jason W. Searl, an attorney with the Orlando (Fla.) office of Gray Robinson, P.A., has been appointed to serve on the 2011 Orange County Redistricting Advisory Committee, which is working to redraw the commission district lines for Orange County based upon the population data gathered from the 2010 Census.

98

Tim Aucoin, a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service in Miami, Fla., was awarded the Attorney General's Special Commendation Award during National Missing Children's Day ceremonies May 25 in Washington, D.C. He earned the honor for his part in identifying, locating and arresting a child molester in Miami, and in locating four child victims.

Joey Espinosa recently accepted a job with the newly launched Boys & Girls Club in Allendale, S.C. The club provides after-school programming and all-day summer camp for children who live in Allendale County, a rural and under-resourced region of the state.

Autumn Veazey has joined the staff of the U.S. Senate's Agriculture Committee. She is responsible for specialty crops, food safety, organics and market orders. She previously worked for the United Fresh Produce Association.

BIRTHS: **Greg** and **Yen-Wen Clepper**, a daughter, Molly Claudean, December 22. They live in Evans, Ga.

Cornel Broenner and **Jennifer Lentini**, a daughter, Juliette Sophie, October 5. They live in the suburbs of St. Louis, Mo., where Jennifer has an integrative medicine practice.

Mark and **Melissa Normington**, a daughter, Caitlin Elizabeth, August 2, 2010, Greenville.

99

Kimberly Greisch Byrne has earned a Master of Education degree from the Richard W. Riley College of Education at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C.

Mark Rowe of Greenville has been named general counsel and chief compliance officer for Techtronic Industries North America, Inc., and its North American subsidiaries.

Kristin Stultz was awarded her Ph.D. in theatre from the University of Georgia in May. She lives in Greenville and will teach theatre courses at Furman this fall.

MARRIAGE: **Robin Travis Doermann** and Elizabeth Walker Howson, June 4. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

BIRTHS: **Matt** and **Sarah Blosser Blackwell**, a son, Thomas Malcolm, February 16, Matthews, N.C.

Paul and **Megan Foote Monsky**, a son, Jeffrey Nicholas, December 20. Megan is an attorney with the Board of Immigration Appeals of the U.S. Department of Justice. They live in Alexandria, Va.

ONE PROFESSOR'S INFLUENCE: RUTH REID

WHEN I ARRIVED AT FURMAN in the fall of 1959, Ruth Reid was already a fixture in what was then the Department of Physical Education (now Health Sciences).

I was certain that because I was a football player and had to miss class occasionally on Friday and Saturday — yes, back then we had class on Saturday — that Ruth (of course, I never called her Ruth when I was a student and could not for many years afterward) would fail me in all her classes. She expected her students to attend class every day and had no sympathy for football players.

Ruth was a good badminton player and particularly loved to beat those of us who were athletes. It was not until I was a senior that I could beat her. She did not accept that particularly well, but I sure enjoyed it.

Back then, a physical education major also had to take water safety with Ruth. I put this off until my senior year, when I finally had no choice, and managed to get through the course.

When I look back at my time at Furman, I realize how much Ruth meant to my academic and professional development. As a freshman, I didn't like Ruth very much. By my senior year, I thought maybe she was OK. When I went to graduate school, I learned what she had really taught me — and how valuable it was.

Ruth was dedicated to Furman and to the physical education program. She pushed students hard and made it clear when she did not think you were giving your very best.



Jerry Thomas and his mentor reconnected on campus in 1990.

I was the speaker at Ruth's retirement in 1985. I value Dr. Ruth Reid and what she did for students so much that I led the way in establishing a scholarship in her name.

— **JERRY THOMAS**

The author, a 1963 graduate, is professor of kinesiology and dean of the College of Education at the University of North Texas in Denton.

This is one in a series of articles in which alumni describe their favorite Furman teachers and "heroes." If you have a story to share, please send it to jim.stewart@furman.edu. To learn about the Furman Standard, a faculty development program to honor influential mentors, contact susan.brady@furman.edu.



**ALUM UPDATE:
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TAPS SAULS**

STACY F. SAULS '77, bishop of the diocese of Lexington, Ky., has been named chief operating officer for the Episcopal Church. He begins his new duties September 1.

Sauls, whose work was profiled in the Winter 2007 issue of *Furman* magazine, will oversee the staff of the Episcopal Church Center in New York, as well as offices in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Seattle, Puerto Rico and elsewhere. He will coordinate the work of the church's mission program, communications, finances and administration, and will assist presiding bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori in her role as the president and chief executive officer of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, the church's corporate legal entity.

The Lexington diocese where Sauls became bishop in 2000 included 14 of the 100 poorest counties in the United States. He was credited with addressing the issues and needs of the poor, especially in Appalachia, through education, healthcare, youth work and housing initiatives. Under his leadership a Reading Camp program was established to help children from Appalachia in need of intensive remedial reading work. The program has since been implemented in other areas of the United States, as well as South Africa and Liberia.

After earning his Furman degree, Sauls completed law school at the University of Virginia and worked as a corporate lawyer, most notably with the law department of Delta Air Lines. He later graduated from General Theological Seminary in New York and was ordained a priest in 1989.

He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the District of Columbia Bar and the Ecclesiastical Law Society (United Kingdom). Holder of a master's degree in canon law from Cardiff University in Wales, he has received honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees from General Seminary and from the University of the South (Sewanee), where he is a trustee.

— EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

00

Craig Hunter recently became a senior research scientist in Eli Lilly's Global Health Outcomes group in Indianapolis, Ind.

MARRIAGE: **Jason Wilson** and Mary Beth Bemby, April 9. Having completed his fellowship in surgical oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., Jason planned to open a practice in Hampton, Va., in August.

BIRTHS: **Keith '99** and **Alish Hostetler Clairmont**, a daughter, Madison Ada, September 5, 2010, Atlanta.

Travis and **Natalie Muro '02 Filar**, a son, Luke Jonathan, June 3, Durham, N.C.

Jon '99 and **Liz Elgar Kendall**, a son, Luke Murphy, October 20, Marietta, Ga.

Larry and **Tamiah Kerns**, a daughter, Ava Camryn, May 24. They live in Simpsonville, S.C.

Patrick and **Allison Stack Nugent**, a son, Owen George, August 13, 2010. They live in Point of Rocks, Md. Allison is senior marketing manager for Toll Brothers, Inc.

01

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Kat Fulton of Del Mar, Calif., is a board-certified music therapist and drum circle facilitator. She combines music with wellness practices to promote healthy living, especially among older adults. She recently was quoted in a *Wall Street Journal* article about dementia and music therapy. Visit her blog, www.rhythmforgood.com.

Kelly Benning Huckaby of Dallas, Ga., has been elected to the board of Benning Construction Company, which specializes in grocery-anchored retail centers, medical office buildings, educational facilities, multiscreen theatres and community centers. Kelly is the granddaughter of the company's co-founder and the daughter of its president. She previously worked with the company in accounting procurement on job sites, and now is a grant writer.

MARRIAGES: Christopher Bale

and **Carlyn Hayden**, April 30. They live in Washington, D.C., where Chris is a recruiter with Citystaff and Carlyn is a physical therapist.

Christen Cullum and **Steve Hairston**, June 4. Christen, formerly a member of the Admission staff at Furman, is completing her Ph.D. in the educational policy, planning, and leadership higher education program at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va. Steve is senior assistant dean of admission at the University of Richmond.

Townes Johnson and **Marshall Legh Turnbull**, May 7. Townes is an attorney in Greenville.

BIRTHS: Sean and **Mary Tyson Davis Bradshaw**, twins, a son, Davis Holden, and a daughter, Sadie Paige, December 14, Aurora, Ill.

Brian '03 and **Kylie Inman Holladay**, a daughter, Julia Alice, January 23, Atlanta.

Jason and **Marie Spalding Richards**, a daughter, Sara, April 11, Greenville.

02

MARRIAGES: Charlie Bertalan and **Michael Marie Kibler**, March 5. They live in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Karl and **Amelia Lacey Buchholz**, November 20. They live in Asheville, N.C. Amelia is a Title One teacher at North Windy Ridge Intermediate School.

Brian Ticknor and **Peyton Greenfield**, April 16. Brian is a senior scientist at the Savannah River National Laboratory near Aiken, S.C.

BIRTHS: Banning and **Rebekah Ballard Ballard**, a daughter, Carson Belle, March 6, Lexington, Ky.

Adam and **Danielle Logan Conrad**, a daughter, Annelise Marie, May 16, Charlotte, N.C.

Trey '01 and **Courtney Horner Kenna**, a son, William Meyers Kenna, March 26, Greenville. Trey became a Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry in July 2010.

Andy '03 and **Katie Anderton Kidd**, a daughter, Emily Douglas Kidd, February 18, Jacksonville, Fla.

Josh and Natalie **Patterson**, a son, Emory Jones Patterson, March 25. Josh is an assistant principal at Boiling Springs Intermediate School in Spartanburg (S.C.) School District 2.

Justin and Brandy Englert **Price**, a son, Ellison John, March 16, Charleston, S.C. Robert and **Shealy Boland Reibold**, a daughter, Sadie Katherine, May 23. They live in Columbia, S.C.

Rodrick Antonio Elkins and **Rebecca Rush**, a son, Rodrick Antonio Rush Elkins II, September 5, 2010. Rebecca became an international manager with HSBC Bank in London, England, in July.

Andy and Christina **Valkanoff**, a daughter, Addison Marie, March 22, Raleigh, N.C.

03

Steven E. Buckingham has joined the Greenville law firm of Gallivan, White & Boyd, P.A., as an associate in the business and commercial group.

Angela Christian of Mauldin, S.C., recently received a Jefferson Award for Public Service. She was nominated for the award through the Verizon Foundation for her volunteer work with Big Brothers Big Sisters and Carolina Youth Development.

Sean Foster has been promoted by HealthCare Partners to the company's San Antonio office in Long Beach, Calif., where he oversees the practices of 14 primary care physicians.

MARRIAGES: Martha Elizabeth Baggett and **Matthew Oliver Riddle**, May 21. They live in Charleston, S.C., where both practice in the Young Clement Rivers law firm.

Susanna Branyon and Bryan Klingenberg, July 17, 2010. They live in Washington, D.C.

Paul S. Landis and Susan Elizabeth Sellers, May 14. Paul is a clerk with the Faysoux Law Firm in Greenville.

Lauren Simmons and Stephen Slingerland, May 22, 2010. They live in Seattle, Wash. Lauren earned a Master of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary and is seeking a call to the ordained ministry with Foothills Presbytery. Stephen is an account executive for market development with FedEx.

Mary Frances Snodgrass and Eric Christiansen, July 10, 2010. They live in Sandy Springs, Ga.

BIRTHS: Wes and **Betsy Hubbard Vance**, a daughter, Hannah Kathryn, September 24, 2010. They live in Chicago. Wes is vice president of investment-only sales with Oppenheimer Funds.

Rob '01 and **Amanda Brackett Warren**, a daughter, Camille Lee, March 28. They live in Greenville.

04

Brian and **Kelly Shedd '05 Geppi** live in Charlotte, N.C., where he is an associate in the corporate bank of JP Morgan Securities. Kelly has been promoted to director of clinical affairs as part of the medical and wellness operations team covering disease and prevention management for Primary PhysicianCare, Inc., a third party administrator and corporate wellness firm.

Matthew Heathman was ordained by Second Presbytery (Western South Carolina and Georgia), Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church on March 8. He is a chaplain candidate in the U.S. Navy Reserve and has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

Philip Prince of Blacksburg, Va., was named the outstanding doctoral student in the College of Science at Virginia Tech for 2010–2011. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in geomorphology, with a focus on the geomorphic landscape evolution of the Appalachian Mountains. He has

published a manuscript in the *Journal of Geomorphology* and is a two-time recipient of the university's Tilman Award for Continued Excellence in Teaching.

Mary Elizabeth Thompson received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in flute performance from the University of Kansas in May. She has accepted a Fulbright grant for the 2011–12 academic year to conduct postdoctoral research in Mexico City on contemporary Mexican music for flute.

MARRIAGE: Whitney Leigh Marcum and Justin Patrick Holofchak, August 7, 2010. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

05

Ashley Ginn lives in Charlotte, N.C., where she has been named director of marketing for the South Region of Carolinas HealthCare System.

Ryland Gore graduated *cum laude* from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta this spring and has begun a general surgery residency at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Whitney Kay Sharp Tindall participated in a 1,000-mile bicycle ride through Florida and Alabama April 22–May 1 to benefit The Learning Tree, Inc., a multi-location facility in Alabama for youngsters with mental, emotional and health challenges. Whitney is a board-certified behavior analyst and is based at the organization's campus in Tallahassee, from which she works with teachers across the state.

MARRIAGES: Memory Cameron and Richard Stein, April 16. They live in Greenville.

Alan Bret Parks and Kristen Elizabeth Archie, June 4. He is a para actuary with Blue Cross Blue Shield, and she teaches in Lexington (S.C.) School District One.

BIRTHS: Will and Jenny **Brantley**, a daughter, Charlotte Ann, January 31, Augusta, Ga.

Darryl and **Lianna Scharff Crawford**, a daughter, Leilani McKayla, July 29, 2010. They live in Platte City, Mo.

Matt and **Anne Haddow Freeman**, a son, Wilson Gage, November 7. They live in Atlanta.

David and **Sara Clark Perry**, a son, John Carter, April 7, Charleston, S.C.

Rex '04 and **Becca Weinert Springfield**, a daughter, Lucy Claire, February 21. Rex works in management for General Produce in Atlanta. Becca is a special education teacher.

06

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Christy Campbell manages the corporate affairs of Shift360, which provides financial and advocacy services for investment-ready social businesses in collaboration with governments, businesses, private philanthropists and other organizations. Based in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Shift360 aims to promote social justice and economic empowerment.

Victoria Ridgeway earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the Georgia Campus of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and is completing a residency in anesthesia in Largo, Fla.

Daniel Sperry of Arlington, Va., has entered his third year of serving the family of King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and currently works as an advisor to Prince Mohammed Bin Abdullah Al Saud.

MARRIAGES: Tara Blake and **Patrick Sprague '07**, March 12. They live in Mobile, Ala.

Kristen Morgan Huggins and Eugene Hay Walpole IV, June 19, 2010. She is a sales and marketing representative with The Directions Group, Inc., and he is a CPA with Elliott Davis in Charleston, S.C.

Peter MacKenzie and Katie Johnson, May 14. Peter is an inaugural recipient of the Top Advisors Under 40 Award presented by the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of Insurance &

Financial Advisors. The award recognizes excellence and achievement in the insurance and financial services field. Peter works with National Financial Services Group.

BIRTH: Jesse and **Katherine Ellison Lile**, a daughter, Ellis Ann, January 1, Blacksburg, Va.

07

Megan Barnes has joined the law office of Bass, Berry & Sims PLC in Memphis, Tenn., in the firm's corporate and securities practice. She earned her law degree *magna cum laude* from Wake Forest University.

Emmanuel Chandler earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and will complete his residency in pediatrics at MUSC's Children's Hospital.

Daniella Fergusson graduated from the University of British Columbia in 2010 with a Master of Arts degree in planning. She is planning assistant at HB Lanarc, a Vancouver-based planning, landscape architecture and sustainability consulting firm.

Austin Holmes has earned a Master of International Business Administration degree from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Jennifer Jenkins graduated from Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine and is licensed to practice in Florida and Indiana. She is practicing small-animal medicine in the Jacksonville, Fla., area.

Kathryn Melton graduated from the physician assistant program at St. Louis University in December and is practicing family medicine in Charlotte, N.C.

Lois Montague graduated in the top 15 percent of her class from the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine May 27. She was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi and Gold Humanism honor societies. As a senior she edited the school's monthly newsletter and was selected Associated

Student Body Student of the Year for her service to the student body and community. She is now at the University of Chicago continuing her training to become an otolaryngologist.

Kartikeya Singh published a paper titled "India's Emissions in a Climate Constrained World" in the journal *Energy Policy*. Having earned his Master of Environmental Science degree from the Yale University School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, he has begun a doctoral program at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Medford, Mass.

Abby Sprau completed a master's degree in international policy at Florida State University and is now working in South Africa with the Peace Corps.

MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Fulmer and Charles Devin Eakes, Jr., December 18. Elizabeth earned a Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston and is pursuing her residency there, with a specialty in orthodontics. Devin is an investigator for the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

Mary Ellen Suitt and Brian Montgomery Barnwell, March 26. They live in Columbia, S.C., where she is a health and wellness coordinator for Colonial Life Insurance Company and he is an associate with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough law firm.

BIRTH: Paris and **Jennifer Ward Cornwell**, a son, Desmond Michael, November 29, Knoxville, Tenn. Jennifer earned a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Tennessee and works as executive director of Bridge Refugee Services, Inc.

08

Gordon Hicken is an instructor of percussion at Chipola College and a graduate teaching assistant at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Samantha Smith received her Master of Education degree from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, and has accepted an elementary teaching position at the American International School of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Courtney Stewardson has been named assistant volleyball coach at Furman. She previously worked as an assistant coach at Radford University in Virginia and as a graduate assistant at the University of Delaware.

MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Goss and **Matt Kuhn**, May 28. Elizabeth is a staff assistant for former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Matt recently graduated from Columbia University School of Law and accepted an associate position with the Jones Day firm in Washington, D.C.

Lauren Hyland and **Garrett Schneider**, '09, May 29. They live in Neptune Beach, Fla. Garrett is employed by Acosta, and Lauren works for Johnson & Johnson.

BIRTH: Josh and **Meggie Eisen-Berkeley Simmons**, a son, Grayson Michael, June 6. They live in Brooklyn, N.Y.

09

Abby Elsener has been hired as communications associate with Cristofoli-Keeling, Inc., a marketing communications firm in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has been an international student advisor at the ELS Language Center in Cincinnati and is co-author of *Seed to Table*, a cookbook focused on organic and urban micro-farming and developed as a fundraiser for Abalimi Bezekhaya, an agriculture and environmental action association in South Africa.

Jade Lawson of Charleston, S.C., a communications assistant with Spoleto Festival USA, received a Master of Public Administration degree from the College of Charleston. She also earned a Certificate in Arts Management.

Kathleen McKinney lives in London, England, and is a graduate intern in the textile department at Christie's, the fine art auctioneer company.

Brent Trapana has been named 2011–12 editor-in-chief of the *Nova Law Review* of Nova Southeastern University Law Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Jason Williams has been elected co-president of the Student National Medical Association chapter at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. SNMA is a student-run organization focused on the needs and concerns of medical students of color.

MARRIAGES: Blair Bouknight and **Brett Boyle Brading**, March 26. They live in Greenville. Blair teaches at Woodland Elementary School, and Brett is employed by The Parker Company.

Evan Dingle and **Jodi Schneidewind**, May 14. Both are medical students at the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

10

Ashley Baker has been promoted to account executive at Jeff Dezen Public Relations in Greenville.

MARRIAGES: Christian Ayers and **Becca Foehring**, May 28. They live in Memphis, Tenn., where Christian attends law school at the University of Memphis.

Pia Marie Louise Landis and Samuel Wyatt Chocklett, May 21. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

Mary Lashbrook Matthews (M.A.) and Grady Siler Patterson IV, April 16. She is a teacher in Greenville County and he is controller for Titan Real Estate Investment Group.

Rob Mitchell and **Katie White**, May 21. Both are graduate students at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. She is in law school, and he is pursuing a Master of Music Education degree.

BELCHER NAMED WESTERN CAROLINA CHANCELLOR; NEWMAN RETIRES AT SHORTER

DAVID O. BELCHER, a 1979 Furman graduate who had been provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock, became chancellor of Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C., on July 1. He succeeded John W. Bardo, who retired after 16 years at WCU.

In announcing the appointment, Tom Ross, president of the University of North Carolina system, said that Belcher “brings to the task more than two decades of academic and leadership experience at highly respected public universities. He has proven to be an energetic and effective leader who encourages strategic thinking, promotes collaboration and inclusiveness, and makes student success a university-wide responsibility.”

A native of Barnwell, S.C., Belcher earned his Furman degree in piano performance. He went on to attain a master’s degree at the University of Michigan and a doctorate at the University of Rochester’s Eastman School of Music.

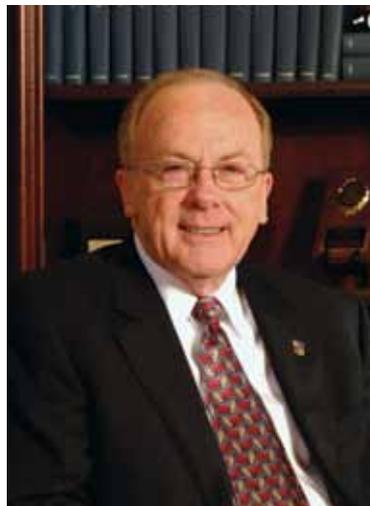
He began his academic career in 1988 at Missouri State University, where he was coordinator of keyboard studies and dean of the College of Arts and Letters. He moved to Arkansas-Little Rock in 2003.

Belcher’s wife, Susan, is a talented vocalist who taught at UALR.

In a meeting with Western Carolina faculty and staff in April, Belcher credited the chancellor at UALR, Joel Anderson, with providing him “leadership opportunities that most provosts don’t get to have” — including fundraising, chairing the institution’s NCAA recertification effort, and responsibility for campus-wide strategic planning.

He also pointed to his upbringing as the son of a minister and a teacher as key factors in his career choices. “My parents made me as a kid get up in front of people and speak in public,” he said. “They have a passion for education. They have a passion for high standards. They have a passion for a fundamental commitment to other people. Those things undergirded my childhood and teenage years.”

Belcher comes from a loyal Furman family. His parents, Posey and Jean Orr Belcher, graduated in 1954 and 1953, respectively, and his siblings are Philip ‘82, Elizabeth Belcher Mixon ‘87 and Miriam Belcher Ponder ‘91. The Belcher children have endowed an organ recital series at Furman in honor of their parents.



David Belcher (left) and Harold Newman were both music majors at Furman.

WHEN HAROLD NEWMAN retired as president of Shorter University May 31, he left a legacy of service and accomplishment.

Newman, a 1965 Furman graduate, was known for his vision and commitment on the campus in Rome, Ga., where he was a teacher and administrator for 26 years, the last six as president. Under his leadership, the Southern Baptist institution achieved university status, created a number of new programs, weathered the recent economic upheaval and stabilized its finances, and boosted enrollment.

Nelson Price, chair of Shorter’s board, said Newman “peerlessly served Shorter through a new ‘golden age’ of academic, spiritual, physical and athletic advancement . . . while serving the total communities of Rome and Floyd County in many community enterprises.”

After earning his Furman degree in music, Newman completed a Master of Church Music degree in piano performance at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Education degree at the University of Tennessee. He taught at North

Greenville College (now University) and at Andrew College before moving to Shorter as provost in 1985.

In an interview with the *Rome News-Tribune*, Newman cited a number of highlights from his years at the school, including:

- Transition to university status, completed in 2010.
- Creation of a program for adult students, which now has 2,000 enrolled, and a nursing program.
- Development of an international studies program which today takes students to six continents, and expansion of the athletics program to 21 teams.
- Recognition among top college guides as a “best value” and leading Southeastern baccalaureate college.
- Launch of an 18,000-square-foot library expansion.
- Growth of the student body from 900 to 1,500 students.

Newman told the newspaper, “I hope [Shorter] will be remembered as a strong academic school that also celebrates a strong program of athletics and is poised for a bright future. I hope they think of me as someone who has integrity personally and professionally . . . [who is] committed to the university and making it the best I can.”

Donald Dowless, former vice president for academics at North Greenville University, succeeds Newman as president.

PARRISH AWARDED RANGEL FELLOWSHIP

RACHAEL PARRISH '09 has received a prestigious Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellowship. The fellowship, awarded to 15 young people nationwide, supports outstanding seniors and recent graduates who are interested in a career in the U.S. Foreign Service.

The fellowship is funded by the U.S. Department of State and managed by the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center at Howard University. It will provide approximately \$90,000 in benefits over two years to support Parrish's pursuit of a master's degree in international affairs at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in Boston.

As part of the Rangel Program, Parrish worked this summer for the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. In the summer of 2012, the State Department will send her overseas to work in a U.S. embassy to get hands-on experience with foreign policy and the work of the Foreign Service. Upon graduation she will become a U.S. diplomat.

Parrish, who is from Cobden, Ill., earned her Furman degrees in political science and Asian Studies. She was active with FUSAB (Furman University Student Activities Board), Chi Omega sorority, and the Riley Institute advance team.

In the summer of 2009 she studied Mandarin at China's Soochow University with support from the State Department's Critical Language Scholarship. She also worked as a fellow at the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in Washington, D.C.

She recently finished an intensive Mandarin language program at Tsinghua University in Beijing through the University of California's Inter-University Program. In addition, she worked as an English research assistant at Tsinghua and interned at Groupon International.



11

Virginia Batts was awarded a Compton Mentor Fellowship for 2011–12. The award provides \$30,000 to support a project that addresses water scarcity in the rural region of Sangamner, Maharashtra, India, northeast of Mumbai. The fellowships have been awarded since 2002 to recent graduates from select schools to pursue projects in the fields of environment and

sustainability, peace and conflict resolution, population and reproductive health, and climate change and energy policy.

David Hottel interned this summer with Crawford Strategy, a marketing and public relations firm in Greenville.

Lacey Ruff is employed in the sales department of WYFF-TV 4, the NBC affiliate in Greenville.

DEATHS

Lou Frances Coleman Lide '33, March 18, Newberry, S.C. She taught in the Newberry County public schools for more than 30 years.

Mary Robert Thornwell Stewart Kagin '35, March 24, Minneapolis, Minn. Before moving to Minneapolis she lived in Louisville, Ky., where she was president of Episcopal Church Women at Calvary Episcopal Church. She was active in the American Association of University Women, Colonial Dames XVII, Daughters of the American Revolution, and United Daughters of the Confederacy.

John P. Faris '37, May 4, Laurens, S.C. In 1939 he became superintendent of the Watts Plant of J.P. Stevens Company and remained in that position until he resigned to join the Navy. He went on to serve in both the Atlantic and Pacific theatres and was awarded the Purple Heart. He returned to Laurens after the war and became vice president of Laurens Glass and executive vice president of Indian Head Glass Container Group. He was active in the Laurens Rotary Club, serving as president, district governor, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Heritage and History International Fellowship. A strong advocate for the Boy Scouts, he was president of the Blue Ridge Council and a representative to the National Office, and he received the Silver Beaver and Good Shepherd awards. He was a life member of Palmetto Lodge 19, a 32nd degree Scottish Rites Mason, and a member of the Class of 2009 Laurens County Hall of Heroes. He served as chair of the Furman board of trustees, trustee of the Kennedy Foundation, director of the Laurens County Foundation, and president of the Laurens Chamber of Commerce.

Mary Edna Coker Bush '39, May 30, Easley, S.C. She was an assistant actuary with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., and later taught at Dacusville, Parker and Easley high schools. She was owner of three upstate South

Carolina businesses: Bush Oil Company of Easley, Forrest Oil Company of Travelers Rest, and Coker's Supermarket of Moonville.

Mattie Garrison Andrews '40, May 22, Fountain Inn, S.C. She taught in elementary schools in Fork Shoals and Fountain Inn and retired from the Greenville County School District with 39 years of service. She was a member of the South Carolina Education Association and a volunteer at the Hillcrest Hospital Auxiliary.

Annie Elizabeth Farish Cates '40, August 9, 2010, Burlington, N.C. During World War II she worked at the *Burlington News-Times*. She and her husband later ran a loan business.

Hope Sims McCleskey '40, May 15, Greenville. She retired after 27 years of teaching in Greenville County, 25 of them at Augusta Circle Elementary. Following retirement, she volunteered at the Children's Hospital of the Greenville Hospital System. She was a member of the Crescent Community Club and Delta Kappa Gamma, an honor society for women in education.

Frances Thompson Balentine '41, May 27, Greenville. Active in church and civic affairs, she was a member of the Clarice Wilson Garden Club and Greenville Woman's Club.

Margaret Skinner Farrell '41, March 15, 2010, Acton, Maine.

Herbert Clifford Penn '41, September 15, 2010, Bay Minette, Ala. He was a retired teacher and football coach at Mitchell County High School in Camilla, Ga. He served with the Army Air Corps during World War II.

Margaret Kelsey Greer '43, May 21, 2010, Dublin, Ohio. She was head of the garden section of the Woman's Club of White Plains.

Wade Hampton Hale '43, April 24, Greenville. He retired from North Greenville Junior College (now University)

after 35 years as an instructor in the religion department. He also served as director of the Baptist Student Union for 25 years and was interim pastor in a number of churches in upstate South Carolina.

Marion Hunt Sprecher '43, June 12, Catonsville, Md. She was a longtime employee of the Baltimore County School System, where she was a librarian in several elementary schools.

Frank Edward Krupicka '44, March 11, Port Charlotte, Fla. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II and attained the rank of captain. He was founder and owner of the Stamford Dental Laboratory, from which he retired in 1980.

Nancy Willis Massey '44, April 14, Gastonia, N.C. She taught in the Charlotte and Greenville, N.C., schools, and taught adult basic education at Gaston College.

Dorothy Felkel Truluck '44, March 29, Darlington, S.C. She was a substitute teacher and worked as an elementary school secretary. Later she became the first secretary at Florence-Darlington Technical College. After many years in education, she retired from the Department of Social Services. She was instrumental in founding the Lord Cares Ministry.

Vergil Leon Hudson '45, April 12, 2010, Chesapeake, Va. He graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and served many years in the ministry.

Curtis L. Ivey '45, January 28, New London, N.H. His business interests included real estate development, hotels, restaurants, insurance and nursing homes. He was president and CEO of Medic-Shield Nursing Centers, Inc., headquartered in Colorado; Huck Industries of Greenwich, Conn.; and Curtis L. Ivey, Inc., a real estate development firm in Greenwich. He served on corporate and civic boards in Connecticut, Florida, New Hampshire and Maine. A captain in the U.S. Marine Corps and a decorated war hero, he saw service in the Pacific during World War II.



JEREMY FLEMING

flash mob

In case you haven't done so yet, join the more than 84,000 people (as of late July) who have visited YouTube to watch the Furman Flash Mob, recorded in Greenville's Falls Park April 30. For those over 30 years old, flash mobs occur when a group of people suddenly appear in public, perform a dance or song or other group activity, then quickly disappear. In this case, more than 200 Furman students learned (or sort of learned) a dance, coordinated by Dan Weidenbenner and Julianna Battenfield, both members of the Class of '11. Then they rocked the park and entertained amused onlookers to Cee Lo Green's "Forget You" (the family friendly version). President Rod Smolla and the Paladin mascot even contributed a freestyle riff. Enjoy the fun by scanning the attached code with your smartphone or clicking the link at www.furman.edu.



Stephen Ellis Julian '45, November 10, Port Saint John, Fla. He was a Baptist minister who led churches in South Carolina, Texas and Florida. He also served as director of missions in Marathon, Fla.

Jean Witherspoon Mimnaugh '45, March 25, Clinton, S.C. She was a charter member of the Clinton Cotillion Club and served as its secretary, coordinator of debutante presentation, and chair of the 1975 Debutante Ball. She was an avid bridge player.

Stella Cockerill Barnett '46, June 9, Charleston, S.C. She was an educator for more than 40 years and was retired from Porter-Gaud School.

Virgil S. Davis '47, March 16, Atlanta. He was a Baptist minister and a professor of history at Mobile College (now University of Mobile) in Alabama for more than 20 years.

Harold Lee Moore '47, May 31, Warner Robins, Ga. He graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and was pastor of churches in South Carolina and Kentucky while he was a student. He later served First Baptist Church of Hazlehurst, Ga., for five years and First Baptist Church of Warner Robins from 1956 until his retirement in 1980. In retirement he was active in the Rehoboth Baptist Association.



JEREMY FLEMING

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, CD

“BECAUSE I KNEW YOU, I have been changed for good.”

Carol Daniels ended her remarks at her June 10 retirement party with this line from the musical “Wicked.” Those in attendance — and hundreds of Furman students through the years — could easily have responded with one word: “Ditto.”

Since arriving at Furman as a secretary in the early 1970s, and especially since 1974, when she moved to the Office of Student Affairs/Services/Life, Carol may well have “saved” more students than anyone at Furman.

Whether it was a hand to hold, a shoulder to cry on (or cry with), a gentle nudge or a kick in the butt, Carol had a knack for knowing exactly what a student needed at exactly the right time. And she was always on call. As was noted at her party, she would often quote one of her Furman mentors, the legendary Marguerite Chiles, who said, “There is no piece of paper on my desk more important than the student in my office.”

Her official title at retirement was coordinator of student life, a catch-all moniker that allowed her to wear many hats and to oversee or advise everything from freshman orientation to student publications and sororities and fraternities. She was also an academic advisor, and in 2005 she became the first non-faculty member to receive the Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for

Meritorious Advising. She is the only two-time winner of the Chiles-Harrill Award for devotion to students and is an honorary member of Senior Order, the select women’s leadership society. She is also an alum, having earned her degree while working full time.

A colleague once said of Carol, “There are numerous students who would not be alumni without her experience and expertise. She has a very warm and inviting presence that makes even the most troubled student feel comfortable with her.” Carol herself has said, “It’s those students who for whatever reason are not performing as well as they can that I seem most drawn to. It’s wonderful to see them make progress and become more confident. And it’s such a pleasure to have a job in which I can devote my time to students’ interests.”

Many were on hand June 10 to enjoy the festivities, which included a rather excruciating serenade, a performance of “YMCA” by the semi-hunky men of Student Life (pictured), and a slide show featuring a cavalcade of Carol hair-dos and don’ts through the years.

They came to celebrate her years of service, to show their appreciation for her faith and support, and to demonstrate that she had made a difference in their lives.

— JIM STEWART

Carolyn Carter Looper Ash '48, May 1, Easley, S.C. She was a chemist at Union Bleachery in Greenville before becoming an elementary school teacher and working in seven different South Carolina towns. She was a reading specialist and at one point was principal of a girls' correctional institution.

Colleen Stokes Banks '48, May 6, Easley, S.C. She taught elementary school in Baltimore, Md., and was a hospice volunteer and an avid gardener.

Lea Burnett Givens '48, June 1, Sumter, S.C. He graduated from Bowman Gray School of Medicine in 1952 and went on to intern at Roper Hospital in Charleston, S.C. After two years in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in Germany, he returned to Charleston for a residency in internal medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina. He was chief resident during his final year and received a cardiology fellowship at MUSC. He practiced internal medicine in Sumter from 1959 to 2010 and held memberships with the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Medical Association, the South Carolina Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, the Sumter-Clarendon-Lee Medical Society, and the Tuomey Foundation. He was also a member of the South Carolina Historical Society and a recipient of the Order of the Silver Crescent, given in recognition of his dedication and commitment to South Carolina and its citizens.

Betty Jane Odom Vernon '48, May 13, Bryan, Texas.

Norma Euzelia Sires Wofford '48, April 16, Lenoir, N.C. She was retired from Sires Lumber Company and was owner of the Yogurt Shop.

Dean Judson Abernathy, Sr. '49, April 20, Nashville, Tenn. D.J. served in World War II and was wounded during the Battle of the Bulge. He went on to graduate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

and serve churches in Texas, Florida and North Carolina. In 1975 he preached the convention sermon at the Florida Baptist State Convention annual meeting. He was executive director of United Christian Action in Florida from 1979 until 1990 and spent the last years of his full-time ministry as a representative of the faith community in Florida.

Harold Hoyle Hill, Sr. '49, March 9, Mount Pleasant, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and was retired as sales manager for Moore Business Forms. He was a member of Toastmaster's, the Data Processing Managers Association, Gideons International, and the prayer team of Mustard Seed International. After his retirement, he began a food ministry for the home-bound.

George W. Patterson '49, March 20, Columbia, S.C. Pat was a turret gunner with the U.S. Navy during World War II and served on three different carriers. He was involved in the first "take back" of the Marshall Islands and was aboard the *USS Hancock* when the Japanese surrendered. For his service he was presented the Air Medal with Seven Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross. After the war, he earned his Furman degree and worked for General Motors Acceptance Corporation for 36 years until his retirement in 1985.

Joseph Lawton Smith '49, January 10, Miami, Fla. He was an ophthalmologist who did his residency at Johns Hopkins University and a fellowship at Harvard Medical School. He went on to serve on the ophthalmology faculty at Duke University and was one of the "founding five" of Bascom Palmer Eye Institute at the University of Miami, where he worked from 1962 until his retirement in 1993. In 1977 he founded the Christian Ophthalmology Society and served as its president until 1990. He launched the *Journal of Clinical Neuro-Ophthalmology*

in 1978. A member of Gideons International, he was a captain in the Air Force and practiced aviation medicine during the Korean War.

Harold Peter Boiter '50, March 27, Barnwell, S.C. He spent three years in military service, rising to the rank of first lieutenant in the Chemical Corps, before beginning work at the DuPont Savannah River Plant near Aiken, S.C., in 1953. He remained with DuPont for 36 years, mostly in the health physics department, and retired as chief supervisor in the safety and security department. He was ordained into the ministry in 1979 and retired as pastor of River of Life Church in 2000, the same year he retired from a Sunday radio ministry. He was a trustee of Faith Training Center in Walhalla, S.C., treasurer of the Barnwell County Ministerial Association, president of the United Way of Barnwell, and board member for the Barnwell County Hospital. He was a member of Evangel Fellowship International.

Norman Franklin Brown '50, May 30, Kings Mountain, N.C. After serving in the Army during World War II, he enrolled at Furman and went on to earn a degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. His pastoral duties took him to several churches in the Carolinas. He and his wife were also members of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, from which they retired in 1986 after serving seven years in Germany.

Julius Ray Johnson '50, March 27, Piedmont, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and later was the cost manager at J.P. Stevens. He was a member and past president of the Piedmont Lions Club and volunteered with Meals on Wheels.

James Harrison Fletcher '51, April 26, Wise, Va. He was accepted into the U.S. Air Force cadet program and saw service in the Korean War as a first lieutenant and a

navigator. After his military duty, he earned a dental degree from the Medical College of Virginia.

Henry Gordon Drummond '52, June 4, Greenville. He was retired from Greenville Technical College and also worked as a business manager with the YMCA. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean War.

James Henry Thompson '52, May 30, Taylors, S.C. He was the founder of WGGS TV-16, Faith Printing Company and Faith Temple Church, all in Greenville, and of WATC TV-57 in Atlanta. He hosted "Niteline" at WGGS for 35 years and was pastor at Faith Temple for 30 years. A portion of Highway 253 in upstate South Carolina is named in his honor. He was recognized by the South Carolina Broadcasters Association with the 2009 Honorary Life Membership Award and was also a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor given by the state.

Wilfred B. Buckner '53, March 23, Statesville, N.C. He served two years in the U.S. Army, then went on to own Southside Drugstore from 1968 to 1990. He was a charter member of Gideons International (Statesville Camp) and served on the Iredell County Board of Health.

William Joseph Trowell, Sr. '53, May 5, Spartanburg, S.C. Joe spent his business years with Reeves Brothers, Inc., holding various management positions at plants in Spartanburg, Greenville and Chesnee. He retired as vice president of the Apparel Textile Division. He was active with the United Way of Spartanburg.

Kathryn Ellen Craven Whaley '53, March 28, Charleston, S.C. She was employed by Charleston Memorial Emergency Room and by Public Savings and Loan.

Mildred Cutts Bailey '54, October 12, Rayville, La. She began her career in 1950 as a nurse in emergency care at Greenville General Hospital. She was a public health nurse in Richland Parish of Louisiana from 1957 to 1965 and was regional manager and nursing supervisor for handicapped children from 1965 to 1974. She retired as director of nurses at the Oakwood Home for the Elderly in Mer Rouge, La. A member of numerous nursing associations, she received many awards and recognitions, including a listing in *Who's Who in American Nursing* in 1986.

Mildred Zetts Wade '54, April 15, Greenville.

Billy Eugene Huff '55, April 27, Greenwood, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran. After graduating from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he was a pastor for 40 years.

Jean Webster Machen Poole '56, March 29, Lexington, Va. She was an elementary school teacher in the public schools of Accomac County, Va., and Lumberton, N.C.

Elias Coye Still, Jr. '56, May 26, Eden, N.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran who went on to a career in the ministry, pastoring a number of churches in the Carolinas. He retired from Sunset Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, N.C., in 1994 and served as an interim pastor at a number of area churches.

Jack Porter Dean '57, June 8, Anderson, S.C. He was a Baptist minister in South Carolina and Alabama.

Samuel Cecil Hickman '57, March 10, Kennesaw, Ga. He served in the U.S. Army and was a member of the Army baseball team. For most of his career, he was a sales representative for heavy construction equipment. He also worked in customer service and in the emergency room at Kennestone Hospital. He was a member of Shriners, Elks and American Legion Post 29.

Gatha Clyde Gilbert, Jr. '58, May 22, Jacksonville, Fla. While serving in the U.S. Army in Korea, he directed a Korean chorus. When his military service was complete, he spent 50 years in various music ministries around Jacksonville. He was also a talented wordcarver. At his death he was working in customer service at Coggin Honda.

Robin Ormand Hood '59, March 21, Travelers Rest, S.C. He worked in numerous textile mills as a lab technician.

Russell David Smith, M.A. '59, May 18, Spartanburg, S.C. He taught eighth grade mathematics at Fairforest Middle School and advanced math at Spartanburg Community College, and was retired from Spartanburg School District 6. He was past president of the Spartanburg Math Association and was active with the National Association of Mathematicians and the National Science Foundation. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a member of American Legion Post 28.

James Rogers Dacus '60, May 23, Easley. A U.S. Navy veteran, he worked for JC Penney in Greenville and retired from Robinson Company.

William Thomas Forrest '60, May 10, Greenville. Tommy played baseball for the U.S. Army. He later went into auto sales and retired as treasurer of Golden Strip Nissan.

Otis Wayne Rutledge '60, May 15, Greenville. He taught music at Greenville High School and Greenville and Hughes junior high schools. He was also an electrician and electrical engineer with Daniel International and with Old South Electrical. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

James A. Bowers, Jr. '62, April 25, Watkinsville, Ga. After service in the Air National Guard, he went to work for Oconee State Bank in Watkinsville. Eventually, he and his wife started First Allied Securities, which they operated until they retired in 2009. With other

business associates, he formed The Bank of Georgia, which they later sold, and the North Georgia Bank. He was president of the Oconee County Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Watkinsville Civitan Club and other civic organizations.

Richard Henry Gettys, M.A. '63, April 10, Easley, S.C. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a heavy machine gunner and drill instructor at Parris Island, S.C., and as an instructor in Officers' Basic School in Quantico, Va. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Silver Star for valor in the Chosin Reservoir battle of the Korean War, and he participated in the Inchon Landing. He went on to become an educator, beginning his career as a teacher and coach at Spartanburg (S.C.) High School. Later he became the first principal of Easley Junior High (now Gettys Middle) and then principal of Easley High. He was the first director of management information systems of the Pickens County School System and retired in 1994 as superintendent. He was involved in numerous civic organizations, was a commissioner for Easley Combined Utilities for more than 40 years, and was on the board of Piedmont Municipal Power Agency.

Doug Nye '63, June 5, Columbia, S.C. He was a longtime writer and editor for *The State* and *The Columbia Record* newspapers and was a columnist for McClatchy-Tribune News Service. He retired from newspapers in 2004 but continued to write. He produced a show called "Time Machine" on South Carolina Educational Television and co-wrote a documentary, "When Cowboys Were Kings," that aired on the History Channel in 2003. He was the author of *Those Six-Gun Heroes*, a book about the heyday of the Hollywood cowboy film industry. Most recently he wrote a weekly column on new Blu-ray movie releases for MCT News Service.

Mickey Waldrep Shanley '63, June 11, Greenville. She was secretary and treasurer of Waldrep's Beauty Supply. A volunteer with Meals on Wheels and the Battered Women's Shelter, she served on the board of the Samaritan House and the Greenville Community Development Advisory Board. She was a member of the Behethland Butler Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Elizabeth Ann Newell Brown '71, March 16, Greenville. She taught kindergarten in Greenville County schools for 14 years.

Christine Harbin Davidson '72, May 30, Greer. She was a retired teacher from Tryon Street Elementary School.

Andrew Bradwell Clarke, Jr. '76, May 24, Atlanta. Brad was associated with Wells Fargo & Company before joining U.S. Deloitte Consulting. He most recently worked in the company's Office of Information Management as business solutions director, leading the talent program, shared services and application management teams.

Ann Garey Correll '76, April 30, Charlotte, N.C. After two years as Peace Corps workers in the Philippines, she and her husband returned to the United States. They moved to Charlotte in 1984, and thereafter she was active in school and community organizations. She was a talented artist.

Chris A. Keen II '87, April 17, Hendersonville, Tenn. He worked as a corporate administrator for Dialysis Clinic, Inc., and served as a director for Allen County Farmers Service. He worked with the AGAPE Kid's Classic Charity Golf Tournament and was a passionate supporter of local high school golf and hockey teams.

Steven Andrew Fowler '98, June 3, Irmo, S.C. He was employed in food management with Papa John's Pizza.

Joseph Lee Johnson '98, May 21, Mount Carmel, Tenn. A building contractor and realtor in the Kingsport area, he died of complications from injuries he sustained in an automobile accident in 2004.

COMPANY'S EFFORTS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE HEART SURGERY

WHEN SURGEON VINOD THOURANI '90 walked into a business meeting several years ago, he had no idea that one of the people at the table, Jim Greene, would also be a Paladin.

"We started talking, and I found out that Jim was the CEO of a company called Mitral Solutions, a company that was pioneering new technology in the area of beating heart mitral valve repair," says Thourani, associate professor of surgery and associate director of the structural heart center in Emory University's Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. "They were doing work with Georgia Tech and needed a surgeon to help out on the project. They asked me if I wanted to be a part."

Greene, a 1981 graduate, eventually sold Mitral Solutions to St. Jude Medical. After he did, he soon had the opportunity to partner with his Furman friend again. Thourani and colleagues Jorge Jimenez, a biomedical engineer at Georgia Tech and Emory, and Ajit Yoganathan, a distinguished professor in biomedical engineering at the schools, were preparing to launch a cardiovascular medical device company and needed a CEO.

So Greene came on board as head of Apica Cardiovascular, which was founded in 2009 based on technology invented by Jimenez, Thourani, Yoganathan and Thomas Vassiliades, an associate professor of cardiothoracic surgery at Emory. The company, which began in Georgia Tech's VentureLab program, has developed a system to simplify and standardize the technique for opening and closing the beating heart during cardiac surgery. According to Thourani, the system minimizes the size of the incision needed to gain access to the heart and eliminates the need for conventional sutures, thus improving the procedure's safety and reducing time spent in the operating room.

Apica has licensed the technology and will continue to develop the system, which will make the transapical access and closure procedure required for delivering therapeutic devices to the heart more routine. The goal is to expand the use of surgical techniques that are less invasive and do not require stopping the heart.

The idea originated from Thourani's participation in a transcatheter valve trial — the only such trial in the Southeast and one of the top five in the country — sponsored by Edwards Lifesciences.

"One day after finishing surgery, the patient — a person in their 80s — had lost a couple of units of blood. I went back to the Georgia Tech lab, wishing there was a way to not lose as much blood. Jorge said he may have something that could help me, and that's where it all started," Thourani says. "It was basically a clinician seeing a problem in the operating room, taking it to a researcher, finding a solution to the problem, and taking it back to the bedside. By the end of this year, we'll have a device that will be able to benefit people."

The improved heart surgery system consists of a conduit with proprietary technology inside that allows the conduit to be securely attached to the beating heart. Surgeons can then deliver therapeutic devices, such as heart valves or left ventricular assist devices, into the beating heart without loss of blood or exposure



Apica Cardiovascular co-founders, from left, Jim Greene '81, Vinod Thourani '90, Jorge Jimenez and Ajit Yoganathan, use a model to show where their heart surgery system attaches.

to air. Once the surgery is complete, the system closes and seals the access site with a biocompatible implant. The closure site can be reopened if necessary.

With research and development support from the Coulter Foundation Translational Research Program and the Georgia Research Alliance VentureLab program, Apica has completed a series of pre-clinical studies to test the functionality and biocompatibility of the device. In March, Apica received a \$5.1 million investment from Ireland-based Seroba Kernel Life Sciences and Israel-based TriVentures, with which it will continue to conduct research and pre-clinical trials in Atlanta. The testing is expected to lead to regulatory approval.

Says Greene, "When you bring a new product to the FDA, their two questions are: Does it work? And is it safer than what's out there? If it doesn't do both of those, then you've got your answer. It's not going to be approved and you're back to square one redesigning the product. Just as in life, there's no guarantee in business that just because it's a cool idea it's going to be anything that is commercially viable, or there's not another competitor out there that's developed a better mousetrap."

But in this case, thanks to the combination of technological and clinical expertise from his colleagues at Emory and Georgia Tech, Greene believes that Apica's technology "has the potential to revolutionize the delivery of different types of medical devices to the heart, including aortic and mitral valves."

Compiled by Nancy Fullbright '95 with Abby Vogel Robinson. Both are communications officers with the Georgia Tech Research News & Publications Office.