

1-1-2010

Furman Alumni News

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2010) "Furman Alumni News," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 52 : Iss. 4 , Article 24.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol52/iss4/24>

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GREETINGS FROM YOUR NEW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

It is with much pride and humility that I write my first column as president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Pride that, after my generally unimpressive stint as a sociology major at Furman, I would even be allowed on the board, much less serve as president.

And humility, as I follow in the larger than life footsteps of Randy Blackwell '63, who died last spring before completing his term as president.

With every project the board pursues over the next two years, we will ask ourselves the same question: Would Randy be proud of this? I can only hope that I can bring the same enthusiasm and passion to the job as Randy did.

Furman is facing some very real challenges right now — the economy, for one, and the retirement of the most excellent David Shi and transition to new leadership. However, Albert Einstein once said that in the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity.

I had the chance to serve on the university's Presidential Search Committee and was inspired by both the dedication of the committee to find just the right person and the incredible credentials of the candidates. Those of us on the committee believe that the Furman community will be extremely pleased with our new president, Rodney Smolla.

Of course, if you are taking the time to read this, you must love Furman as much as I do. If that is indeed the case, I would encourage you to give back to the university in any way you can.

Your contributions don't necessarily have to be

monetary, although my friends in the development office tell me that money is always in good taste. But there are many other effective ways to give back to alma mater — like attending your class reunion, joining a Furman Club, or serving as a Furman advocate for prospective students.

One area that's close to my heart is working with students. Many alumni take the time to mentor students, offer career advice and arrange internships for them. I've worked with a number of Furman students over the years and have been amazed by their talent, insight and contributions.

[Editor's note: Clare Morris was honored at Homecoming 2009 with the Wayne and Rubye Reid Award for contributions to students' career development.]

LET ME FILL YOU IN on my background and credentials. I'm a 1983 graduate, and back in the day I served as the marketing and communications director for the South Carolina Department of Commerce

With three colleagues from Commerce, I started the Clare Morris Agency in Columbia, S.C., in April 2006. We specialize in helping companies and organizations work to make South Carolina more competitive in the knowledge economy. Our president is another Furman product, Jessica Marsh Daly '94.

During our first three years we've done well, earning three awards from the S.C. Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators for excellence in communications strategy and execution. Our past and present client list includes the Riley Institute at Furman, Boeing, the Medical

University of South Carolina and the National Hydrogen Association. Visit our Web site, www.claremorrisagency.com.

On the home front, I'm the proud mother of Roe, a junior at Furman, and Andrew (16), a drummer for a Blink182 cover band called My Losing Season. I'm also a fitness fanatic, having recently completed two triathlons, and I'm involved in animal rescue efforts with Project Pet in Columbia.

As the Alumni Board works to formulate our vision and plans for the next two years, we welcome your input as to how we can better serve the more than 25,000 former students who call Furman alma mater. If you have thoughts and concerns, please e-mail clare@claremorrisagency.com.

IN CLOSING, I wanted to offer a quick note about Homecoming 2009. Among the "Golden Paladins" who returned to the "new" campus in October to reminisce about days of yore were Jose Vargas of Garrett Park, Md., and John T. James of Charlottesville, Va., both members of the Class of '44. They made the long trek south with their wives to celebrate their 65th reunion. Despite the less than stellar weather, they report that they had a wonderful time.

And Harry Baumgardner '39 of Greenville, who played on the last football team to beat Clemson, was on campus for his 70th reunion. He brought some memorabilia with him — including a picture of him with Furman Bisher '38, the legendary sports writer for *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. (See page 39.)

Would that we all could have the opportunity — and energy — to return to Furman almost three-quarters of a century after graduating!

— CLARE FOLIO MORRIS

CLASS NOTES, WINTER 2010

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Ted Tibbs is in his 50th year as organist at Southside Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. The church recently celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Samford Memorial Pipe Organ, which Ted helped to design. He is a professor emeritus of music at Samford University, where he taught from 1959 until 2002.

MARRIAGE: **Kaye Adams Cook** and Bert J. Lampert, Jr., May 3. They live in Raleigh, N.C.

56

James Crenshaw, Robert L. Flowers Professor Emeritus of Hebrew Bible at Duke University Divinity School, spoke at Furman October 26 on "Hebrew Wisdom and Contemporary Calling: Three Things You Must Know to Escape the 'Evil One'." His lecture was sponsored by Furman's Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection. James is a leading interpreter of wisdom literature and has published widely on biblical prophecy. In addition to teaching for two decades at Duke, he was on the faculty at Vanderbilt University Divinity School for 18 years.

60

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Helen DeLoach Fincher Hardman, who has 28 years of experience in travel and tourism marketing and management in the state of Georgia, has been appointed to the board of the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission for Region 2. She lives in Dahlonega.

62

Elizabeth Harrill Mitchell, president of the Maine Senate, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor. The primary will be held in June. Libby is a longtime leader in Maine politics, having served nine terms in the state House, where she is a former Speaker, and three

in the Senate. If elected, she will be the first woman to be governor of the state. Visit www.libbymitchellforgovernor.com.

69

James '65 and **Karen Olsen Edwards** live in Aiken, S.C., where she has started a residential real estate brokerage business. James is verifications loan officer for Wyndham Resorts.

Robert McKeown has been named interim director of the Institute for the Advancement of Health Care, the centerpiece of a developing relationship between the University of South Carolina and the Greenville Hospital System. He serves as chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Arnold School of Public Health at USC and as director of the university's Health Sciences Research Core.

Angela Buzzett Shiflet, Larry Hearn McCalla Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C., was named the 2009 South Carolina Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. Shiflet has chaired the Department of Computer Science at Wofford since 1998 and has been director of computational science since 2001.

71

Susan Thomson Shi, Furman's First Lady, received the 2009 All for the Love of Children Award from the Children's Hospital Development Council of Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center. The honor goes to a community leader who has made significant contributions on behalf of children. Susan was recognized as "a role model throughout her years in Greenville in promoting the importance of early childhood education and intervention."

74

Eric Berg retired from the U.S. Army in September as a colonel after 31 years of service, with a four-year break for medical school. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm (Third Armored Division) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (Armed Forces Medical Examiner System). A forensic pathologist, he worked with the recovery of the remains of those killed in the terrorist attack at the Pentagon on 9/11, helped bring back the bodies of Americans killed when a suicide bomber attacked the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, and assisted with the recovery of the remains of the seven astronauts killed in the explosion of the space shuttle Columbia. Now working as a civilian employee for the Army, he lives in Clarksville, Tenn.

Marion Soards, author and professor of New Testament at Louisville (Ky.) Presbyterian Theological Seminary, delivered the "What Really Matters" L.D. Johnson Lecture at Furman October 29.

Lynn Stall is pastor of Rumpel Memorial Presbyterian Church in Blowing Rock, N.C.

75

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

N. Staten Bitting, Jr., has been elected president of the Georgia Defense Lawyers Association. GDLA is an organization of lawyers who defend civil suits and proceedings. He is a partner in the firm of Fulcher Hagler LLP in Augusta.

Nancy Cox, associate dean for research in the College of Agriculture at the University of Kentucky, was honored in October with a Vision Award from Bluegrass Tomorrow, a coalition of business, farming, development and preservation interests dedicated to promoting coordinated growth and planning for the central Bluegrass region of Kentucky. Cox, who directs the

Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and is administrative leader for the university's equine initiative, was recognized for her support of the equine industry.

The city of Fredericksburg, Va., has hired **Richard Tremblay** as its economic development manager. He most recently was executive vice president with the residential division of Silver Cos. and previously served as planning director for Stafford County.

78

Yadkin Valley Financial Corporation of North Carolina, the holding company for Yadkin Valley Bank and Trust Company, has named **Jan Hunt Hollar** chief financial officer. Most recently she served as senior vice president and chief financial officer of BlueHarbor Bank in Mooresville, N.C.

83

Bill Ellison of Piedmont, S.C., and his jazz band "Staggered," composed of people who suffer from Meniere's disease and other hearing impairments, have produced a self-titled CD of American standards to help raise awareness of the disease. Visit www.staggered.biz to learn more.

David Grier of Greenville has become director of program and dealer development with TCI, a subsidiary of Michelin.

Michael Mohr has joined Wilmington Trust, a wealth management company, as managing director and head of investment advisory activities for the Southeast region. Michael was previously a founding principal of The Arden Group and a portfolio manager with SunTrust Bank. He is a member of the finance council and investment committee of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta and a member of the board of Eagle Ranch Children's Home, which supports children in crisis.

2009-10 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Clare Folio Morris '83, president; J. Chris Brown '89, president-elect; Harriet Arnold Wilburn '74, past president; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89; Lynn Neely Bailey '78; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Frank W. Blackwell '90; John M. Block '63; Mary Lou Walch Cagle '69; Bobby E. Church '78; Paul D. Goebel '63; Michael L. Guynn '91; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; L. Yates Johnson, Jr. '59; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; J. Cordell Maddox '54; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; Joseph C. Moon, Jr. '76; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Gordon D. Seay '61; Ellison L. Smith '89; Leslie L. Smith '91; Cynthia Black Sparks '80; Heyward M. Sullivan '59; William N. Turrentine '64; Connie Gartrell Williams '74.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: David Shi '73, president; Michael Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Jane Dungan, associate director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; Andrew Yowler '10, president, Student Alumni Council; Ben Able '10, president, Association of Furman Students; Rick Harris '10, president, Senior Class.

84

ADOPTION: **G. Allen Barbee**, a son, Donald Allen Barbee, born July 25, 1998, adopted October 30, 2009, Marietta, Ga.

85

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Todd Deaton, editor of the *Western Recorder* in Louisville, Ky., has earned his doctorate in education from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

89

John Blevins has been appointed research professor at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta. He works with the Interfaith Health Program to coordinate community mobilization projects in eastern and southern Africa.

George Quarles, head football coach at Maryville (Tenn.) High School, was the coach of the East team in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, an all-star game for high school players held January 9 in San Antonio, Texas. In his 11 seasons at Maryville, George has led his teams to seven state 4A titles and compiled a 150-12 record. His 2009 squad finished 13-2 and lost in the state 6A championship game.

90

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Emily Radford Hill of Plano, Texas, has been named vice president of the board of directors for the Texas Organization of Parents, Attorneys and Advocates. TOPAA helps secure appropriate educational services for children with disabilities. She also works to protect the civil rights of children with special needs.

91

Steve Duggan has been inducted into the Sumter (S.C.) High School Athletic Hall of Fame. He is also a member of Furman's Athletic Hall of Fame and the Sumter Sports Hall of Fame. A football and soccer standout and 1986 Male Athlete of the Year at Sumter High, he teaches and coaches in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Lori Schock of Arlington, Va., has been named director of the Office of Investor Education and Advocacy (OIEA) for the Securities and Exchange Commission. She was formerly associate director at the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's Investor Education Foundation and Office of Investor Education.

BIRTH: **Paul '93** and **Carol Ann Zuppa Good**, a daughter, Arabella Caroline McGrew Good, June 25, Greenville.

92

Michael Overcash was named by the South Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants as the Physician Assistant of the Year. Michael practices medical dermatology in Charleston and serves on the board of Palmetto Medical Initiative, a non-profit organization that works to take medical and PA students overseas to participate in medical missions. He is preparing medical mission teams to travel to Uganda and South Africa this spring. He is also the founder and immediate past president of the South Carolina Association of PAs in Dermatology.

BIRTH: **John** and **Miranda Wilsey**, a daughter, Sally Elizabeth, June 14, Barboursville, Va.

93

Timothy McCullough recently joined Vista Capital Management Group in Greenville as controller.

Rashmi Anand Smith of Arlington, Va., has joined the Office of Inspector General in the Department of the Treasury.

MARRIAGE: **Raina Renita Wood**

and Michael Paul Rathke, September 19. Both are organists, and Michael owns a pipe organ building company in New Castle, Ind.

BIRTHS: **Doug** and **Martha Rivers**

Davisson, a daughter, Mary Jane, May 29. They live in Williston, S.C.

Ben and **Jamie Moon Merrill**, a son, Dylan James, September 23, Charleston, S.C.

Nathan and **Amy Heidebrecht Woolwine**, a daughter, Sally Katherine, March 25, 2009, Concord, N.C.

94

Allison Jeffrey Hanauer of Collierville, Tenn., works for the Department of Defense as a civilian psychologist at NSA Mid-South, the U.S. Navy base outside Memphis. She previously served seven years on active duty with the U.S. Air Force, deploying to Iraq before transferring into the inactive reserve and working in private practice for three years.

Jerry Kane, assistant professor of information systems in the Carroll School of Management at Boston College, published an article in the *Harvard Business Review* titled "Community Relations 2.0: With the rise of real-time social media, the rules about community outreach have changed." The article focuses on how companies and other organizations must handle community outreach differently in the age of social media.

BIRTH: **Keith** and **Angie Waller**, a daughter, Abigail Reece, February 3, 2009, Gallatin, Tenn.

95

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

MARRIAGE: **Nancy Fullbright** and Peter Hendy, November 17. They live in Savannah, Ga.. Nancy is a communications officer for the Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute and Peter is an engineer at Gulfstream Aerospace.

BIRTHS: **Jeff '94** and **Stacy Williams Fuson**, a son, Coleman Jeffrey, July 7, Kennesaw, Ga.

David Lanning and **Adriana Bolanos-Davila**, a daughter, Rose Lee Lanning, November 5, Simpsonville, S.C.

Jerry and **Meredith Tomlinson**

Williams, a son, John Duncan, April 23, Lillington, N.C. Meredith is chair of the Department of Mathematics and Information Technology & Security at Campbell University, and Jerry is a psychological operations specialist in the U.S. Army.

96

BIRTHS: **Michael '97** and **Shawn Pierce Barfield**, a daughter, Elizabeth Belle, June 3, Charleston, S.C.

Mark and **Debbie Drew Berry**, a son, Maxwell Crawford, May 8, Charleston, S.C. Tripp and **Sherri Lewis Martin**, a son, Lewis Anderson Martin, October 1. They live in Liberty, S.C.

Rob and **Britt Riedl Young**, a son, Dawson Koa, September 2, Reno, Nev.

97

MARRIAGE: **Lori Boatright** and Randy McDowell, November 14. They live in Athens, Ga., where Randy is a systems analyst for Campus Crusade for Christ.

BIRTHS: **John** and **Melanie Dobson Hughes**, a son, Elijah Reid, November 30, 2008. They live in Carbondale, Colo., where John has opened Aspen Integrative Medicine. His practice offers care through osteopathy, nutritional support, prolotherapy, ozone therapy and other means of treatment.

Jon and **Rachel Zola Hutchison**, a daughter, Abby Diane, May 18, Sterling, Va.

98

Marie Swann Cope has been hired as assistant rector at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Spartanburg, S.C.

Michael Davis has been named chief executive officer of Sandhills Regional Medical Center in Hamlet, N.C. He previously was with Mary Black Health System in Spartanburg, S.C. The Los Angeles office of Alston & Bird LLP has named **Andrew Howard** a partner in the firm's construction and government contracts group. Andrew is a member of the American Bar Association's Public Contract Law Section and Construction Industry Forum and frequently lectures on the topic of public construction contracting. He is co-author of *The ABCs of Federal Government Contracting* and is a contributing author to both *The Construction Law Handbook* and *The Construction Contracts Book: How to Find Common Ground in Negotiating Design and Construction Contract Clauses*.

BIRTHS: Clay and **Jennie Connor Council**, a daughter, Madeline Kathleen, February 16, 2009, Raleigh, N.C.

Travis and **Amy Lang Johnson**, a son, Aidan Birch, November 4. Travis recently completed a master's degree in public health at Harvard University. The family is moving to Bundibugyo, Uganda, to work with a community development team through World Harvest Mission. Visit web.me.com/travisandamyjohnson. Blake and **Peyton Burke Lewis**, a daughter, Carter Burke, September 30, Greenville.

99

Jennifer Adamson Moorhead was selected by *Greenville* magazine as one of the city's "Best and Brightest Under 35" for 2009. The annual list recognizes individuals for their accomplishments and service to the community. Jennifer is an attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP, specializing in real estate and business transactions. She is a member of the South Carolina Bar Association, Greenville Chamber Real Estate Group and the



HELP BUILD THE COLLECTION

The Special Collections and Archives Department of the James B. Duke Library is always looking to add to its trove of memorabilia.

This image was recently digitized from its original format as a glass plate negative. Pictured are athletes at the Greenville Woman's College from the year 1930. If you can identify the women in this photograph, contact danielle.fisher@furman.edu, (864) 294-2194.

The department is also trying to complete its collection of GWC yearbooks by locating a 1904 edition of the *Blue and Gold* and 1909 and 1910 editions of *Entre Nous*. Contact Danielle Fisher if you can help.

International Council of Shopping Centers. She is vice president of the Young Alumni Council at Furman and is a board member of the South Carolina Council on Economic Education.

Brent Rosser of Charlotte, N.C., has been promoted to counsel status by Hunton & Williams LLP. His commercial litigation practice focuses on environmental matters, consumer finance, and contract and construction disputes. In early 2009 Benchmark Litigation recognized him as a North Carolina "Future Litigation Star."

MARRIAGES: **Michael David Schmidt** and Stacey Michelle Rockwell, September 12. He is director of sales with At Net Services and she is a dental sales professional with Heraeus Kulzer, LLC. They live in Greenville.

Brian Sumrall and Lauren Gracco, October 18, 2008. Brian has opened a private law practice in Atlanta.

BIRTHS: **Newman '00** and **Julie Mancini Bankston**, a daughter, Celia Elizabeth, July 9, Knoxville, Tenn.

Connor and **Brigid Kennedy Chambers**, a daughter, Moira Therese, September 8, 2008. They live in Fairview Park, Ohio.

Mark and Emily Turner Foster, a daughter, Sophia Helen, July 1. They live in Greenville where Emily has joined the pediatric neurology group at Greenville Hospital System.

David and **Jennifer Granger Guidry**, a daughter, Julia Granger Guidry, November 19, 2008, Charlotte, N.C.

Chad and **Melissa Faulkner McAllister**, a daughter, Lynley Joy, November 6. They live in Inman, S.C.

Bill and **Meredith Bridwell Smith**, a son, Wells McCall, June 12. They live in Greenville.

Matt and **Sarah Odell Smith**, a son, Turner William, June 8. They live in Anchorage, Alaska.

00

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

David McDowell has been named a member of the law firm of Gearhiser, Peters, Lockaby, Cavett, and Elliott, PLLC, in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Izetta Simmons completed her first foreign service tour in Accra, Ghana. She is now on a two-year assignment in Dakar, Senegal, as a foreign service officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development, working in the fields of health, population and nutrition.

MARRIAGE: Shelby Huie and Justin McNinch, August 8. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where she is a nurse at Carolinas Medical Center and he is a transportation broker.

BIRTHS: Andy and Lesley Morgan '01 Peters, a daughter, Vada Caroline, June 27, Atlanta. Both Andy and Lesley are residential real estate agents with Keller Williams Realty.

CLASS NOTES POLICY

Because of the large number of submissions and clippings Furman receives for the magazine's class notes section and the time needed to review, compile and edit so much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements. When sending news for class notes, please include your spouse's or child's name, whether your spouse is a Furman graduate, and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

When sent electronically, news about alumni couples who graduated in different years is included under the graduation date of the submitter. In other cases it goes under the earliest graduation date. It is not listed with both classes.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the on-line alumni registry (<http://alumni.furman.edu>) is included in class notes.

Lee and Susan **Smith**, a son, Landis Mack, August 13, Atlanta. Lee is director of student academic operations at Emory College of Arts and Sciences, and Susan is a librarian at Georgia State University.

Tyson and Caroline Dodge '01 Smoak, a daughter, Mildred Louise, June 30. They live in Greenville.

01

In his first year as coach of the men's soccer team at Coker College in Hartsville, S.C., **Paul Leese** led the squad to a 12-5-3 record, the best in school history, and the Conference Carolinas tournament championship.

Matthew B. Vasey, an emergency medicine resident in New York City, edits *The New York Journal of Style and Medicine* (www.nyjism.com), which describes itself as "an editor-reviewed, Web-based medical publication written

by doctors who are passionate about reaching out to the non-medical community about a variety of topics." The site features "artistic material and interviews that explore many aspects of entertainment . . . music, photography, modeling, fashion, design and art, along with professional athlete and celebrity interviews as they relate to medicine."

MARRIAGES: Kristina Groce and Benjamin Brown, August 1. Kristina earned her Ph.D. in school psychology from North Carolina State University. Benjamin is an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Arkansas-Monticello.

Annah Gullede and Michael Hiers, October 31. She is director of youth ministries at St. John's United Methodist Church in Lugoff, S.C., and he works for BlueCross BlueShield.

Kyle Moody and Laura Stinson, October 3. They live in Atlanta.

BIRTHS: Wes and Emily Coleman Botts, a son, Brittin Turner Botts, May 27, Birmingham, Ala.

Allan and Carrie Smith Burns, a daughter, Laura Avery, August 5. They live in Richmond, Va., where Allan is an attorney with Cravens and Noll, P.C., and Carrie is an employee benefits consultant with Willis.

Jason and Ashley Hicks Holbrook, a daughter, Avery Sue, April 17. They live in Westerville, Ohio.

Drew and **Katie Wyatt Johnson**, a daughter, Henley Margaret, October 12. They live in Smyrna, Ga.

David and Catherine **Koysza**, a daughter, Caroline Frances, April 2, Greenville.

David practices business, securities and bankruptcy litigation with the law firm of Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham.

The September issue of *Greenville* magazine named him one of "Greenville's Best and Brightest Under 35," an annual list that recognizes individuals for their accomplishments and service to the community.

Kevin '99 and Kristin Simpson Leedy, a son, Connor, April 30, Birmingham, Ala. Kevin has opened The Leedy Group, a consulting company for water infrastructure and economic development. Kristin is a veterinarian.

Wyeth and **Amanda Dowtin McLaughlin**, a daughter, Elizabeth Carter McLaughlin, May 30, Greensboro, N.C.

Joel and **Hayley Odell Simoneau**, a daughter, Bria Ruth Mackenzie, July 27. They live in Harvest, Ala.

02

Rudy Currence released an EP titled "Last Christmas" in November on the Disturbing Tha Peace Records label. It is available through iTunes, Amazon.com and Napster. He is working on his debut album for the company.

Megan Theiling Draper is director of development for the College of Pharmacy at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. She is co-owner with her husband, Trevor, of TMD Architects, a firm that was featured in the fall 2009 *Charleston Home & Design* magazine.

Paul Foster of Simpsonville, S.C., a representative with Northwestern Mutual Finance Network, was invited to attend the 2009 Northwestern Mutual Forum, held in November in Scottsdale, Ariz. The invitation was in recognition of his outstanding performance.

Elizabeth Coker Hamlett has become university collections manager at Furman. She has worked for a number of museums and historic groups in South Carolina and most recently worked for Informal Learning Experiences, a museum consulting firm in Washington, D.C.

MARRIAGES: Robin Hinson and Michael Kanady, June 27. Robin, a reporter for WOLO-TV in Columbia, S.C., was nominated for a 2009 Emmy for her coverage of a fatal plane crash that injured two celebrity musicians. Michael is a sales representative with Colonial Life Insurance.

Dulaney Wible and Benjamin Farkas, October 17. They live in Cockeysville, Md.

BIRTHS: Will and Jessica Sumner Barrett, a daughter, Kara Leanne, August 12, Johnson City, Tenn.

William and **Bonnie Warman Byrnes**, a son, Kieran Philip, February 10, 2009, Richmond, Va.

Brent and Kelly Benning '01 Huckaby, a son, Judah Pace, April 24. Brent is director of worship and arts at Hope Church in Dallas, Ga. Kelly recently joined a grant-writing consulting firm, where

she works to secure federal, state and foundation funding for community health centers and other clients.

Josh and Natalie **Patterson**, a son, Cooper Wright, September 8. Josh is an assistant principal at Boiling Springs Intermediate School. They live in Duncan, S.C.

Doug and Jody James '03 Webb, a son, Charles Douglas, February 25, 2009. Doug recently accepted the staff attorney position with the Greenville County School District.

SPORTSWRITING LEGEND BISHER RETIRES

With the retirement of James Furman Bisher, the world of journalism lost one of its all-time greats.

A veteran of more than 70 years in the newspaper business, Bisher spent the last 59 years of his career as sports editor and columnist at *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* — until October 11, 2009, when, just a few weeks before his 92nd birthday, he published his final column.

The North Carolina native covered it all, from the Olympics to the Masters, from the World Series to the Kentucky Derby, Super Bowl and Final Four. He wrote for national magazines and authored books with and about such legendary figures as Henry Aaron, Arnold Palmer and others. His distinctive flair and insightful style earned him a legion of faithful readers and a host of awards.

His work was included in the "Best Sports Stories of the Year" anthology 23 times. He received the Georgia Associated Press Sports Writing Award 18 times, was named the state's Sportswriter of the Year 19 times, and won the Professional Golfers' Association's Lifetime Achievement in Journalism Award. He is a member of the National Sportscaster and Sportswriters Hall of Fame, the International Golf Writers Hall of Fame, the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame and the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

As Vince Moore wrote in the Fall 1995 *Furman Magazine*, Bisher is "one of America's best sportswriters and one of Atlanta's best-known citizens."

Bisher is also a member of Furman's Class of 1938 — even though he actually earned his degree from the University of North Carolina. He had intended to finish his college career at Furman, but he was thrown a curve at the start of his junior year.

Bisher told Moore he thought he was set at Furman — he had a scholarship and was planning to be manager of the football team and sports editor of *The Hornet*, the student newspaper. But just two weeks into the term, he learned that Furman would not be offering any journalism classes that year, and journalism was his primary interest. After talking to his father, he decided to transfer to North Carolina.

Still, he said, "I made a lot of good friends when I was in Greenville, and they are friends I have stayed in touch with over the years."

His loyalty to Furman was evident when he established the J. Furman Bisher Academic/Athletic Scholarship, which is awarded to four top scholar/athletes each year. The university, in turn, honored him in 1978 with the Distinguished Alumni Award and in 1999 with an honorary Doctor of Letters degree.

Commenting on Bisher's retirement, Furman president David Shi joked that the sportswriter "is so distinguished that many people assume that Furman was named for him rather than the other way around." More seriously, Shi said that Bisher "effectively uses his agile words about athletics and athletes to help readers reflect on much larger issues . . . Over many years,



CHARLIE REGISTER

Furman Bisher has prompted countless readers to stop and reflect about sports but also about life — and what really matters."

For those who'd like to sample Bisher's talents, a good place to start is *Furman Bisher: Face to Face*, a 2005 collection of some of his best interviews (Muhammad Ali, Ted Turner, John Wooden and others). Or visit <http://furmanbisher.wordpress.com>.

03

Paige Harden of Austin, Texas, has completed her Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Virginia and her clinical internship at Harvard Medical School/McLean Hospital. She is an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Texas.

MARRIAGES: **Ryan Gooch** and Katie Holmes, November 11, 2008. They live in Brentwood, Tenn.

Kenneth Hamner and Michelle Sawyer, October 24. They live in Atlanta where she works as a fundraiser for Emory University and he manages on-line advertising campaigns for 360i.

Erik Huffman and Jaime Dugan, April 4. Erik and Jaime met as contestants on the 15th season of the CBS reality show "Survivor." They live in Nashville, Tenn.

Stephanie Anne Morris and Brian Kelly, August 2, 2008. Stephanie is a technology integrationist at Delay Middle School in Lewisville, Texas.

BIRTHS: **Mike '02** and **Ashley Callahan Baisley**, a son, Benjamin Michael, July 14. They live in Knoxville, Tenn., where Mike recently joined the law firm of Hodges, Doughty & Carson, PLLC. Steven and **Nikki Kuhne Bell**, a son, Hayden, October 1. They live in Junction City, Kan.

AS METLIFE FELLOW, PARKER HAS VOICE IN EDUCATION DIALOGUE

Two days after she graduated from Furman in 2007, Jeneca Parker began a master's program in childhood education at Pace University in Manhattan as a New York City Teaching Fellow. The program helps educators learn to work on narrowing the achievement gap among students in inner city schools.

It wasn't long before Parker, a fifth-grade teacher at Coy L. Cox School in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn, became alarmed by what she considered a lack of quality education afforded to children with special needs. She decided to complete her master's with a concentration on children with disabilities.

Today, through her work with special needs students, she has a chance not just to influence individual lives, but national education policy as well.

Parker was recently named a MetLife Fellow by the Teachers Network Learning Institute (TNLI), a select group of educators nationwide who are committed to bringing teachers' voices to bear on the national conversation about education. MetLife Fellows document their classroom work in papers and publications, share their work locally and nationally, and suggest ways to improve classroom practices. Their "action research studies" address the direct link between policymaking and its effects on student achievement.

One area of particular interest to Parker is reducing students' anxiety levels when taking standardized tests. Because of their disabilities, she says, her students tend to feel defeated before they ever begin the test.

She is also examining how to build students' confidence, especially in reading. "I was so tired of hearing this mantra: 'I can't read.' It's really frustrating as a teacher because they can read," she says. "But they don't see themselves as readers because they know they're struggling in comparison to other kids their age."

A native of Orlando, Fla., Parker initially planned to major in Asian Studies at Furman. She even traveled to China her sophomore year. But eventually, she says,

"I realized what I was passionate about was far bigger than a region of the world. I wanted to get folks out of poverty."

Through Furman's Individualized Curriculum Program, she designed a major called "International Development Studies" — and wound up traveling to Latin America and Africa. With each stamp on her passport, education inched up on her post-graduate agenda.

"I saw that the building block to development was working with these kids to give them better resources and better opportunities, so they could have a better quality of life," Parker says.

She's seen results. One student, Melanie, was reading at a second grade level, and Parker learned that the girl's foster parents ridiculed her because she was unable to read the newspaper. "That was a big problem because she is a smart young lady, and I wanted her to believe in herself," Parker says.

Initially, Melanie refused to see herself as a reader. But slowly, with Parker's encouragement, she made progress.

At the end of the year at Cox School, each student gives a brief speech. When her turn came, Melanie stepped up and said, "Thank you, Ms. Parker. I am a reader. You taught me how to read."

From Parker's perspective, Melanie was always fully capable. "But now she has confidence in herself," Parker says. "I know she's going to go so far."

As she completes her third year of teaching, Parker relishes the accomplishments of the children with whom she works each day. "I am far from perfect, but every day I'm learning," she says. "I can tell that I'm improving because I can see it in my students' attitudes and their small milestones of success."

— PIPER GRAY

The author, a 2008 graduate, is a freelance writer in New York City. Visit her blog, <http://litshardoutthereforatemp.blogspot.com>. Photo courtesy Jeneca Parker.



Jeneca Parker hopes to reduce students' anxiety about taking standardized tests.

Cameron and **Katie Mathews Garvin**, a son, Reese Kendrick, September 28. They live in Fort Valley, Ga.

Luke and Jennifer Luckenbill '04 **Swetland**, a son, Mark Christopher, May 31. They are with the U.S. Army, based in Germany.

04

Joyce Monforte Hollins has earned her master's degree in professional counseling from Middle Tennessee State University. She lives in Franklin, Tenn., and is a counselor at Centennial High School.

Dorothy Powers recently completed her MBA degree at the University of North Carolina's Kenan-Flagler Business School. She was scheduled to join Deloitte Consulting in January as a senior consultant with the strategy and operations practice out of Atlanta.

MARRIAGES: Laura Cunningham and Jonathan James Stair, August 15. They live in Atlanta.

Miranda Dunn and Marshall Orme Klein, October 17. They live in Atlanta where Miranda works in the office of Georgia governor Sonny Perdue. Marty owns a political consulting company.

Katie Hammond and John Hanson, August 1. They live in Matthews, N.C.

Karen Nelsen and Jeramiah McGinnity, September 5. They live in Atlanta.

Kay Parham and John Alexander, February 14, 2009. They live in Atlanta.

Sarah Thomason and Joseph Hoffmeyer '05, September 19. They live in Greenville.

Mary Elizabeth Thompson and Jeffrey Jacob Meyer, July 11. They live in Lawrence, Kan. She is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in flute performance at the University of Kansas and is employed as the grant writing assistant at the university's Lied Performing Arts Center. He is completing his D.M.A. degree in tuba performance from the Cleveland Institute

of Music and is employed by the Kansas Department of Veterans Affairs.

Kristi Wright and William Davenport '06, October 4. They live in Silver Spring, Md.

05

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Justin Cash received his Juris Doctor degree from American University's Washington College of Law and is completing a Master of Laws degree in taxation at the Washington, D.C., school.

Kate Sakolosky earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. She lives in Austin, Texas, and works for Central Texas Rehabilitation Hospital.

John Tynan was elected in November to a seat on the board of the Greenville Water System. He is a project manager for Upstate Forever, an environmental group that promotes conservation, sustainability and preservation of water and air quality in the Upstate.

J. Buckley Warden IV has joined the Richmond, Va., office of DuretteBradshaw PLC as an associate in the commercial litigation practice group. He previously served as a law clerk to The Hon. G. Edward Welmaker of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina.

MARRIAGES: Luke Barbour and Alice Martin, July 18. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Krista Joyce Davenport and Robert Clifton Timmerman, Jr., September 12. They live in Gainesville, Fla. She is completing an internship in internal medicine before beginning her radiology residency at the University of Florida, where he is a second-year anesthesiology resident.

Matthew Gooch and Deanna Farris, September 26. They live in Nashville, Tenn. Matthew has earned a master's degree in exercise science from Middle Tennessee State University.

KEEP UP THROUGH YOUTUBE

Did you know that Furman has a YouTube channel? The university has posted videos for a variety of constituents, from alumni to prospective students and parents, at www.youtube.com/thefurmanchannel.

The videos provide information about programs and services offered at Furman, as well as updates and features about university activities and initiatives.

For example, one series of videos features Forrest Stuart, director of financial aid, who offers advice on how to pay for college. Other videos cover summer research in the Townes Science Center, examine new courses such as "Engaged in Politics," follow students in the Chinese language house as they prepare a meal, and offer testimonials from students about how donors' contributions directly affect and support their Furman experience.

So next time you visit YouTube, check out the Furman channel.

06

Michael Cooper works for AmeriCorps in Woburn, Mass. He is an outreach and technology coordinator with Social Capital Inc., a non-profit that focuses on strengthening communities by connecting diverse individuals and groups through civic initiatives. He is completing a master's degree in ethics and public policy at Suffolk University.

John Dickson, a student at Harvard University Medical School, has been recognized by *Cambridge Who's Who* for demonstrating dedication, leadership and excellence in medical research. He is four years into an eight-year M.D./Ph.D. program, focusing his studies on biological chemistry and molecular pharmacology.

Dan Ennis graduated from law school at Washington and Lee University. He passed the Georgia Bar and works in Atlanta for the Parker, Hudson, Rainer & Dobbs law firm, where he practices in the area of commercial finance, dealing with asset-based lending.

Anna Lee Gresham has graduated from the University of Alabama with a master's degree in journalism.

Kimberly Jackson was ordained as a deacon in the Episcopal Church December 19 at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta.

David Mitchell graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law and is employed by Balch & Bingham, LLP, in Birmingham as an associate in the environmental and natural resources practice group.

MARRIAGES: Sarah Gilchrist Heedy (M.A. '07) and John Perry Folk, June 27. Sarah, a teacher at Monaview Elementary School in Greenville, was recently named Emerging Elementary Teacher of the Year for the Greenville County School System. John is vice president of Able Constructors.

Lee Ann Wooten and Hugh Thompson Rice III, October 24. They live in Myrtle Beach, S.C., where she is an attorney in the office of John M. Leiter, PA. H.T. has served as a law clerk for the South Carolina Senate Judiciary Committee.



THIRD ALUMNI RETREAT PLANNED

If you're contemplating a life transition or looking for a fresh perspective, you can join Furman alumni of all ages and stages of life to share wisdom, intellectual stimulation, fun, friends and transformation — in other words, the best of what you remember about Furman!

The Alumni Association is joining with the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection to offer its third alumni retreat July 29-August 1. The 2010 theme is "Simpler Living; Radical Change." All interested Furman alumni may attend, but spaces are limited and reservations required.

The retreat will begin with dinner on Thursday evening and end at noon on Sunday. Participants will learn about new ideas in sustainability and will consider practical lifestyle changes that promote personal and planetary well-being.

Current and former faculty members will lead sessions and speak on "Dreaming Dreams, Living Lives." They are: John Crabtree, English and academic vice president emeritus; David Rutledge, Reuben B. Pitts Professor of Religion; Margaret Oakes, professor of English; and Paula Gabbert, associate academic dean and associate professor of computer science.

Housing will be in North Village apartments, with most meals on campus. Cost for the weekend, including room, board and program expenses, will be \$295, with an additional charge of \$12.50 for those who would like the university to supply linens.

Reservation forms are available on-line at <http://furmanlilly.com>. Reservations will be accepted until May 3 unless all spaces are filled earlier.

In addition, the Lilly Center has announced plans for an alumni pilgrimage to Ireland in July 2011.

In the summer of 2009 a group traveled to Compostela, Spain, for an enriched spiritual experience during which they explored their vocational callings. The Ireland trip will offer similar opportunities. Cost is to be determined, but an early estimate is \$2,000 plus airfare.

Contact ann.quattlebaum@furman.edu, (864) 294-2511, to learn more.

07

Allison Carpenter Bellomo graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine with a Master of Science degree in genetic counseling. She works as a genetic counselor in the Greenville office of the Greenwood Genetic Center.

Ben Fulp was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps in August.

Andrew Orr works for the city of Franklin, Tenn., as a sustainability/grants coordinator. He pursues grants tied to sustainability and environmental efforts, as well as all the grant applications for city departments. He previously was a grant writer for Blue Print 2000, an intergovernmental agency in Tallahassee, Fla.

Soprano **Erika Grace Powell** made her solo debut January 18 at Avery Fisher Hall in New York's Lincoln Center as part of the Concert for Peace celebrating the spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Visit her Web site, www.erikagrangepowell.com.

Elizabeth Roach is deputy speechwriter for Gov. Steve Beshear of Kentucky.

Shani Robinson has joined the NORCEE Finance Office of AXA in Brussels, Belgium, as a junior analyst for the regional finance team. She previously spent a year teaching English in Paris.

Patrick Smith earned a master's degree in computer science from the University of Texas-Dallas.

Jessica Taylor of Arlington, Va., has been named assistant Web editor for "2010," a new site being launched by the journalistic organization POLITICO. She previously worked at *National Journal*, where she was the research director for the 2010 edition of *The Almanac of American Politics*.

MARRIAGES: **Clary Gardner** and Kristopher Aaron, June 27. They live in Chamblee, Ga.

Lauren Graham and Jonathan Kaczmarek, April 25. They live in Matthews, N.C.

Gary Guth and **Sarah Digby Wood**, September 26. She is employed by Inlingua Language and Intercultural Services in Greenville as a course coordinator, and he is a teacher and coach at Christ Church Episcopal School.

Katie Lewis and Andy Kerechanin, April 4. They live in Greenville.

Jennifer Ward and Paris Cornwell, November 8, 2008. They live in Knoxville, Tenn. Jennifer is working on a Master of Public Health degree at the University of Tennessee and serves as the office coordinator at Bridge Refugee Services, which works to resettle refugees from all over the world. Paris, a former U.S. Marine, is now in the Air Force and is working on his degree in mechanical engineering.

08

Ben Anderson has joined the Tysons Corner, Va., office of the Goodman & Co. accounting firm.

Tina Bishop (M.A.) is an instructional specialist at Carolina High School and Academy in Greenville.

Having completed her year as a Compton Mentor Fellow in Haiti, where she worked to promote environmental education, reforestation and use of alternative energy,

Elizabeth Cooke is now pursuing master's degrees in public affairs and environmental science at Indiana University.

Patrick Franks is the executive director of Teneo, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that works to equip leading young professionals with the relationships and tools necessary to advance the conservative cause.

Caitlin Green has earned a Master of Accountancy degree from San Diego State University.

Bonnie O'Neill works as a community development specialist for the Helena (Mont.) Citizens' Council, a group of 28 neighborhood representatives who advise the city commission on the budget and city development.

Major League Soccer's San Jose Earthquakes named midfielder **Shea Salinas** the club's 2009 Humanitarian of the Year for his outreach activities in and around the California city.

Jennifer Wilder works in San Salvador with the Volunteer Missionary Movement, an international community of lay Christians who are catalysts for peace, social justice and empowerment of the poor and marginalized.

MARRIAGES: Erin Bear and Kyle Brinks, September 6. They live in Savannah, Ga.

Matthew Friedel and Jeannie Tanner, March 21, 2009. They live in Central, S.C.

09

Jeff Heinzl teaches English at Carolina High School and Academy in Greenville.

Karly Schledwitz is a staff assistant for the majority staff of the House Committee on Science and Technology in Washington, D.C.

Melissa Summer teaches third grade at Woodland Heights Elementary School in Spartanburg, S.C. She is working toward her master's degree in early childhood education at Furman.

MARRIAGE: Melissa Raque and Thomas Patterson, June 13. They live in Greer, S.C.

DEATHS

Mattie Hughes Organ '33, June 2, Oakley, Kan. She ran a jewelry business with her late husband.

Frank W. Childers '34, September 27, Bainbridge Island, Wash. He was retired from Childers Inc.

Edith Gresham Kelley '34, November 20, Ware Shoals, S.C. She was a retired editor with the CIA.

Cleveland L. Woods '34, September 5, Greenville. He was retired from Kanawha Insurance Company.

William H. Glass '35, June 30, West Hartford, Conn. He was captain of Furman's swim team and a quarterfinalist for the 1932 Summer Olympics. A graduate of Duke University Medical School, he served as a junior surgeon in the Coast Guard during World War II. He then settled in West Hartford, where he practiced internal medicine for almost 60 years and was president of the Hartford Medical Society. He was a master carpenter and apprentice electrician, championship trap and skeet shooter, and a member and past president of the Hartford Gun Club.

James Edwin "Doc" Meadors '35, September 18, Greenville. He was the retired owner of J.E. Meadors Company. He was a past member of the Home Builders Association and the Salvation Army and served with the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

Rebecca Glymph Venters '36, May 29, Hemingway, S.C. She was a retired educator, having taught for more than 30 years in schools in Florence and Williamsburg counties of South Carolina.

Amy Craig Rhoden '37, June 5, Richmond, Va.

Margaret Jolly Wells '37, September 15, Greenville. She taught for more than 32 years in schools in Pickens, Woodruff and Greenville, where she retired from

Hollis Elementary. She was a former music instructor and was associated with League's Music Store.

Thomas Spartan Bruce '38, November 6, Greenville. He and his father owned P.L. Bruce Livestock Company and in 1938 founded Bruce Automobile Auction. In later years he partnered with son Tom in Bruce Implement Company, Bruce Construction Machinery Company and Auction Recon Center Inc., and with son Gary in Bruce Auto Auction. He was a past president of Carolina Farm and Power Equipment Dealers Association and a founding member of the National Automobile Auction Association, receiving the group's Pioneer Award and being inducted into its Hall of Fame in 1985.

He was also a past president and director of Southern Auto Auction Association. He served on the Greenville County Planning Commission and Greater Greenville Sanitation Commission and was a past president and charter member of Goodwill Industries of South Carolina. He was also a member of the Elks and a past president of the Executive Sertoma Club. He was a Shriner, a past director of the Royal Order of Jesters and director emeritus of the Shriner's Hospital for Children. The Goodwill facility on Poinsett Highway in Greenville was named in his honor, and the sculpture of Joel R. Poinsett on Main Street was donated in honor of him and his wife for their contributions to the city.

Susan Nicholson Blythe '39, November 19, Greenville. She was a sustaining member of the Junior League, a member of the Assembly and a past president and advisor to the Debutante Club. She was active in community affairs and served on numerous boards. She was a member and former chair of the Greenville Committee of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of South Carolina.

Virginia Brown Sweeny '39, October 31, Highlands, N.C. While living in Pittsfield, Mass., she participated in United Way fund drives, was inducted into the international Philanthropic Educational Organization and was a member of the Hospital Auxiliary.

C.A. Kirby, Jr. '40, January 13, 2009, Boiling Springs, N.C. He worked for Shuford Hatcher Funeral Home in Gaffney, S.C., and after graduating from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary went on to pastor several churches. He retired after 21 years at Double Springs Baptist Church, which named him pastor emeritus. He also served a number of interim pastorates.

Frances Scott Moffett Conoly '41, September 28, Greenwood, S.C.

Deloris Edwards Adams '43, September 30, Johnston, S.C. She worked for many years at Edwards Insurance Agency.

Ruth Mitchell Coble '43, September 1, Loudon, Tenn. While living in Charlotte, N.C., she and a partner established a nursery school for children whose mothers remained in the work force after World War II. She served 10 years as a volunteer with the Program for the Blind at Bethlehem Center, followed by 10 years of service at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte.

Curran Earle Stone '43, November 11, Toccoa, Ga. He was retired from Hampton Automotive in Columbia, S.C. He was in the U.S. Army during World War II, serving in five major campaigns in Europe, including D-Day on Normandy Beach. He and his wife assisted on many church-building mission trips and worked closely with Habitat for Humanity.

Harry Wills Weeks '43, October 24, Greenville. After college he was commissioned an officer in the U.S. Navy and served in the South Pacific. In 1947 he opened Weeks Company,

CAMPUS DIRECTORY

(area code 864):

Main University Number

294-2000

Academic Records (Registrar)

294-2030

Admission

294-2034

Alumni Association

1-800-PURPLE3

Annual Giving

294-3475

Athletic Ticket Office

294-3097

Bookstore

294-2164

Parents Programs

294-3465

For other administrative offices, call the main number.

Inc., in Greenville, a company that made disappearing stairways. The business eventually expanded to a variety of construction-related projects, including installing and servicing residential and industrial overhead doors and operators. He retired in 1984. He was president of the Augusta Road Kiwanis Club and served on the Kiwanis Board of the Carolinas and as lieutenant governor from the Greenville area.

Sue Chapman Clark '45, September 11, Atlanta. She was a fourth-grade teacher and retired as a teacher-librarian from the DeKalb County School System. She was a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa Teachers' Sorority.

Jeanne Coleman Robinson '45, October 11, Columbia, S.C.

Victor Adair Greene, Sr. '46, September 27, Greenville. He was pastor of Baptist churches in North Carolina, South Carolina

and Georgia. He served as a missionary in the Philippines and saw military service with the U.S. National Guard.

Virginia Grant Harris '46, November 27, Austin, Texas.

Evelyn Hodgens Hayes '46, November 4, Greenville. She held a master's degree from Columbia University and was a music teacher at Elon University in North Carolina and in the Greenville County School System. She was a past president of the Music Club of Greenville.

Lawton Wells, Jr. '46, October 31, Elgin, S.C. He was a Baptist minister, having last served Lakeview Baptist Church in Camden, S.C., for 24 years. The church named him pastor emeritus upon his retirement. He served other churches in South Carolina and Kentucky and was deeply involved with the Bethea Baptist Home in Darlington, S.C.

Ruth Mann Young '46, October 26, Cleveland, N.C. She was a mathematics teacher at several high schools in North Carolina.

Betty Campbell Balentine Gaillard '47, September 28, Greenwood, S.C. She taught at Lakeview School for 20 years and was a member and past president of the American Association of University Women. She served twice as president of the Piedmont Reading Association and was a member of the International Reading Association and the Epsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Mary Lou Lloyd Bailey '49, July 16, Columbia, S.C.

John Theodore Dickerson, Sr. '49, November 5, Easley, S.C. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in 1948 was ordained to the Baptist ministry. After graduating from college and seminary, he and his wife served as missionaries in Alaska from 1953 to 1995 and then held short pastorates in Simpsonville, S.C., and Geneva, N.Y. He was a member of the Pickens (S.C.) Rotary Club and the Upstate Furman 49ers.

Robert Foster Haddon, Jr. '49, December 4, 2008, Marietta, Ga. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II and went on to work as an engineer for AT&T for 39 years. He was a member of AT&T's Pioneer Club and served on the board of Camp Hope in Dahlonega, Ga.

Samuel Owens Schumann, Sr. '49, November 3, St. Stephen, S.C. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and obtaining his undergraduate and medical degrees, he became the first board-certified medical practitioner in Berkeley County, S.C. He was a member of the Berkeley County Medical Society, the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians, the South Carolina Medical Association and the American Medical Association. He was also a member of the St. Stephen Lions Club and a former member of the Berkeley County Mental Health Board.

Clyde Thompson Stephens, Jr. '49, October 20, Chester, S.C. He graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and retired as a lieutenant from the South Carolina Highway Patrol, having served 34 years. He was a member of the S.C. Troopers Association and a former member of the U.S. Army Reserve.

Marion Twyman Mathis, Jr. '51, November 4, Piedmont, S.C. He was a member of the U.S. Army's First Cavalry Division during the Korean Conflict and was awarded the Purple Heart. He worked in the jewelry business in Greenville.

Jo Ann Elizabeth Coleman '53, October 16, Travelers Rest, S.C. She was retired from Greenville Memorial Hospital, where she was a laboratory worker.

Martin Ray Willis '53, September 5, Laurens, S.C. He was a former pastor of four Baptist churches in South Carolina.

George Jerome Mitchell '54, October 1, Hendersonville, N.C. He was a retired Baptist minister and a former public school

and college teacher. He pastored several churches in upstate South Carolina, and his teaching career included stints at Slater-Marietta High School, North Greenville College, Spartanburg Methodist College, Boiling Springs High and Dan Greer Bible Institute. He was also a U.S. mail carrier for 10 years.

Jean Boartfield Harris, M.A. '55, Ocean Isle Beach, N.C., October 24. She was a past president of the Limestone College Alumni Association and of the board of trustees at Limestone, which named her its Alumna of the Year in 1977. An avid gardener, she was a nationally accredited "Master Flower Show Judge" and "Landscape Design Master Critic."

John Oneal Roberts '56, September 30, Wewahatchka, Fla. After receiving his pharmacy degree, he owned the Corner Drug Store in Pickens, S.C. He later moved to Florida and worked as a pharmacist at Bay Medical Center, from which he retired after 20 years. He was a Royal Arch Mason of the Easley (S.C.) York Rite Bodies.

Charlotte Louise Orman Kelley '57, October 27, Greenville. She worked in various administrative positions before retiring in 1986. She was a member of the Eastern Star and the National Penwomen's Association, and she was active in various civic organizations.

Bobby Derrick Chambless '58, September 19, Jacksonville, N.C. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 30 years, including two tours in Vietnam. He also served in Hawaii and Okinawa, Japan, and at several bases in the States.

Charles M. McCuen '58, October 10, Pendleton, S.C. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Rufus Samuel Merritt '59, September 20, Easley, S.C. He was retired owner and operator of Merritt Carpet and Tile. He also worked for Wunda Weave and Brookline Carpets.

RICHARD CASS, DISTINGUISHED ARTIST AND TEACHER

Richard Cass was a pianist of great distinction who thrilled audiences in concert halls throughout Europe, Asia and the United States. Known for his technical virtuosity and artistry, he was described by *The New York Times* as “a genuine musical personality” and by the London Daily Telegraph as “a complete artist . . . an important pianist from America.”

While he maintained a steady schedule of recitals and concerts from 1953, when he graduated *summa cum laude* from Furman, until his death November 29 at the age of 78, he was also a highly influential teacher. After working for a time at the University of North Texas, he accepted a position in 1975 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory, where he would remain for more than 25 years until his retirement. In 1999 UMKC named him a Distinguished Teaching Professor, and a scholarship at the school bears his name. In 1993 he was featured in the book *The Most Wanted Piano Teachers in the USA*.

Noted pianist Robert Blocker '68, Henry and Lucy Moses Dean of Music at Yale University, was one of Cass' students and became his close friend and colleague. Blocker spoke at Cass' funeral, and in his eulogy he offered an eloquent description of his friend's philosophy:

“Music was the garden of Richard's soul, and he tended it with great care,” said Blocker. “He embraced the premise that talent is a divine gift and, as such, it must be shared.

“Richard believed that artists must be involved in and affect the cultural fabric of their communities. That is precisely why his recitals were first for people —

whether in a Kansas City retirement home, a high school in Greenville, Carnegie Hall, or the great halls of Europe. For him, being a pianist carried a higher moral obligation than fame or money . . . Richard's artistry connected his heart to that of the listener.”

A Greenville native, Cass was a student of Wendell Keeney at Furman and was elected to Quaternion, the select honorary men's society. Upon graduation he



earned a Fulbright Scholarship and studied for two years at the Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris with such renowned artists as Nadia Boulanger, Alfred Cortot and Jules Gentil. After his well-received Paris debut, he won a top prize in the Viotti International Contest in Italy and went on to a series of concert triumphs in Europe and the United States.

Cass was known for his winning personality and widespread interests, among them science, philosophy, religion and politics. He loved gardening, cooking, the outdoors, and spending time with family and friends.

Throughout his life Cass remained close to his hometown and to Furman. The university presented him its Distinguished Alumni Award in 1981, and in recent years he worked with Furman students as a Distinguished Visiting Professor of Music.

“For Richard, teaching was a noble calling rather than a vocation,” said Blocker. “His sensitivity to individual personalities and needs made each student feel special — almost as if you were his only student. Simply put, his teaching inspired us and compelled us to be more than a pianist.”

Richard Cass is survived by his wife, Sanna Bryan '59 Cass, four children, and eight grandchildren.

Kenneth Edgeworth Hough '61, September 20, Brunswick, Maine. He was the headmaster of College Preparatory School in Charleston, S.C., from 1968 to 1981.

Fletcher Seaborn Stone, Jr. '61, September 9, Charlotte, N.C. He served two years in the U.S. Army. He was associated with Hoechst/Celanese for many years until retiring in 1996. He later founded FS Stone Application Technology, Inc.

Eula Lamont Vaughn '63, September 1, Greenville. He was retired from Norfolk/Southern Railroad.

Samuel Ludie Watkins '65, September 4, Laurens, S.C. He was a certified public accountant who was a member of the South Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of Certified Public Accountants. He was also an active member of Sons of Confederate Veterans and was a Civil War re-enactor. He spent 48 years as organist at New Prospect Baptist Church.

John Tyler Hill, Sr. '67, September 22, Fort Myers, Fla. An Allstate Insurance owner/agent for more than 25 years, he was also a Pop Warner football coach and a past chair of the Harry Chapin Food Bank. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club and was a Mason.

William Raymond Scott, M.A. '67, November 12, Spartanburg, S.C. He was founder and co-owner of Scott-Jackson Kitchens from 1953 until 1980. He also taught mathematics at Boiling Springs High School for two years and later gained recognition in several states for his work as an artist. He was a past member of the Civitan Club of Spartanburg and a founding member of the Palmetto Archery Club and the South Carolina Archery Association.



LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SET

Furman's Alumni Office and the Office of Admission have always had a good working relationship. The Admission staff pays close attention to applicants recommended by alumni and reviews all legacy applicants — students whose parents or grandparents are alumni — with special care.

Now the two offices have teamed to develop a scholarship program for legacy students who are accepted to Furman. The scholarship, worth \$5,000, will be available to each accepted legacy student beginning with this fall's Class of 2014. There are two stipulations: The student must be the child or grandchild of an alumnus or alumna, and the award is not "stackable," which means that if the student is already receiving at least \$5,000 in aid from Furman, the scholarship does not apply.

Figures compiled by the Office of Admission confirm that legacies are traditionally strong achievers at Furman and are highly competitive in the overall application pool, no doubt because of their exceptional ancestry.

Furman believes legacy students bring unique and desirable qualities to the university. It is hoped that the legacy scholarship program will help the university continue to foster strong relationships with alumni and their students.

Visit www.engagefurman.com or contact brad.pochard@furman.edu, (864) 294-2034, to learn more.

Arthur Norwood "Woody"

Dickerson, Jr. '69, October 9, Cayce, S.C. He was a retired federal probation officer (sentencing specialist). He served as a juvenile probation officer in Orangeburg, S.C., for nine years before moving to the Columbia area.

Laura Jean Block Michael '70, May 11, Chicago Heights, Ill. She was a library paraprofessional for Garfield Elementary School and Bloom Township High School.

Russell O. Winters '70, August 24, Easley, S.C. He was retired from Ryobi as a marketing manager. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict.

Clinton Walter Kersey, Jr. '71, September 19, Gaithersburg, Md. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and was former assistant pastor of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church.

Paul L. Vincent '71, September 2, Shelby, N.C. An artist, he was known for his botanical watercolors and fabric collage portraits. His most recent exhibit of spring flowers was at the Blue Spiral Gallery in Asheville, N.C., which, with the Hanson Gallery in Knoxville, Tenn., was the main gallery that featured his work.

Troy L. Tyson '73, September 5, Belvedere, S.C. He served in Christian ministry for many years in Florida, Georgia, Texas and South Carolina, and at the time of his death was transition pastor at Berlin Baptist Church in Wagener, S.C.

Margaret Parks, M.A. '74, September 6, Greenville. She retired in 1981 after teaching English at Greenville High School for 28 years. She was a longtime director of Camp Burgess Glen in Cedar Mountain, N.C., and was a member of Alpha Delta Kappa, the honorary organization of women educators.

Elizabeth Kerstetter, M.A. '76, August 24, Omaha, Neb. She taught at Armstrong Elementary in Greenville for

31 years and was known for her work with underprivileged children. After she retired from day-to-day employment, she continued to work as a tutor.

Gail Wilie Whitmire '76, October 6, Greenville. She was owner of Gail W. Whitmire CPA.

Kenneth Franklyn Ellington III, M.A. '78, October 27, Goshen, N.C. He was a music educator and served as associate director of arts education and student activities with the Cumberland County School System in Fayetteville, N.C. He went on to work with music companies in Indiana, Florida and Utah. Since early 2009 he had worked for Buffet Crampon USA Inc. He was active as a program evaluator, festival/contest adjudicator, guest conductor, string clinician, consultant to instrumental music programs, and clinician for numerous teacher workshops on orchestra program development and implementation.

Robert G. McDonald, Jr., M.A. '84, October 24, Liberty, S.C. He was on the faculty of Southern Wesleyan University for 20 years, prior to which he taught at the University of Georgia, served as campus administrator at Connie Maxwell Children's Home and worked as program director at The Coastal Center for Mentally Challenged Children and Adults. He was a professor emeritus at Southern Wesleyan.

Bryan Keith Holt '86, November 12, Orlando, Fla. He was a longtime employee of IBM.

Robin Dale McDaris '89, October 8, Greer, S.C. He formerly worked with Eastern Industrial Supplies.

David DeWitt Wilson '90, October 13, Piedmont, S.C. He was a computer analyst with Resurgent Capita Services and was formerly employed with Wangner Corporation.

FURMAN-INSPIRED SCRIPT COULD LEAD TO TV DEAL

From the landmark Bell Tower to the lake's lone black swan, from game day pearls to the signature kickoff key jingle, our alma mater is home to a number of quirks and curiosities that make it uniquely Furman.

And now, thanks to Adam Morgan '07, Furman may soon serve as fodder for a television show based on his award-winning comedy script, "Liberal Arts."

Morgan's script, about life at a small liberal arts school nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, took top honors over more than 700 entries in the Fox/Procter and Gamble Script Contest at the New York Television Festival in September. He earned \$25,000 and the chance to have his show developed as a pilot for Fox.

"Furman is its own world," says Morgan. "For the most part, you and your friends all live, work, study and play within its borders for four years. A complete environment like that, with its own history and mythology, is a perfect setting for a television show."

Morgan, a first-year graduate student in the creative writing program at Roosevelt University in Chicago, entered the contest at the urging of a friend and completed his script in less than a week — devoting just two nights to actual writing. "It sounds crazy," he says, "but I work best under pressure, and real TV writers don't even have that much time, especially mid-season."

Furman alums from the years 2005-08 may remember *The Seventh Day*, a movie Morgan wrote and produced his sophomore year. The film received much advance publicity, but heavy rains on location in nearby Linville Gorge, Jones Gap and Paris Mountain stalled shooting and pushed back post-production work, leaving Morgan just three days to edit 18 hours of footage in time for the ballyhooed opening in the university's amphitheater.

"It was torturous to watch," says Morgan of the unfinished product that premiered even though it was missing scenes, music and sound editing. "It was definitely my greatest failure, but it taught me a lot about perseverance and made me realize I didn't want to be involved in the physical production of film or TV. I just wanted to write."

As for "Liberal Arts," Morgan says he never expected to win. In fact, he hadn't planned to attend the New York awards show until the festival president called and convinced him that it would boost his writing career whether he won or not.

"I was completely shocked when they called my name," he says, "not because I wasn't confident in my script, but because there are so many talented writers out there and it's exceedingly difficult to stand out."

Now, though, he's getting plenty of attention from folks like Marcus Wiley, vice president of comedy development at Fox, with whom Morgan met to discuss the script. Says Morgan, "Wiley talked about what kinds of things he was impressed by in the pilot and said they were shocked to see a fresh take on such a well-tread concept as college life."



JEAN LACHAT / CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

For that, Furman gets some of the credit, says Morgan. "Furman is a uniquely special place that made a huge impact on me as a writer. Its natural beauty, supportive community, and almost ethereal sense of tradition and history really struck me as fascinating and helped me see the value of other special places in space and time, which are now usually the centerpieces of my writing."

Rather than focus on what Morgan calls the "over-the-top, drunken-frat-boy antics" of most college-themed movies and shows, the "Liberal Arts" script looks at the lives of a diverse group of students during Orientation Week at "Fitzgerald University."

What might Furman alums recognize in the script? "The spirit of Furman is definitely maintained, at least in the first draft," says Morgan, who earned his degree in philosophy and religion. "There's no telling what direction Fox will want to take it, but as it stands right now, it's a pretty faithful tribute to Furman."

And for those who may fear that the pilot will poke fun at Furman, Morgan says don't worry. "There are certainly a few jabs at the inherent qualities of most private liberal arts colleges, but nothing directed specifically at Furman," he says. "I loved my time in Greenville and would wholeheartedly recommend Furman to any student who wants to be academically and personally challenged."

One caveat: Don't start checking for show times just yet. The journey from pilot script to production is slow, and the likelihood that a purchased script will make it to air is only 20 percent.

For now, Morgan is hoping for the best while focusing on his career goals.

"If they decide to produce the pilot, it actually goes to series and they decide to keep me creatively involved, I'll move to Los Angeles and write for the show," he says. "It would be a dream come true, but if that doesn't work out I would be blissfully happy teaching writing at a four-year university like Furman. That's my current career plan, so I'm going to keep aiming for that."

— KATIE LEVANS

The author, a 2007 graduate, lives in Greenville and is the brand strategist for 10Best Solutions. Read her blog at <http://sweettater.wordpress.com>.