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## Furman Alumni News

Furman University

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## A TRIBUTE TO A TRUE AMBASSADOR FOR FURMAN

There was a grand funeral held in Daniel Chapel on Furman's campus May 16. It was for the president of the Alumni Association — Randolph Williams Blackwell '63, who died May 13 after a brief illness.

Just a few weeks before, Randy had spoken with the board of trustees at its spring meeting, recapping the year's activities. He had only recently been in my office to plan our fall meeting. He was excited about finding volunteers to work in the organic garden near Cliffs Cottage, the *Southern Living* sustainable home.

Randy was the quintessential alumnus. He was from a great Furman family. His father was Gordon W. Blackwell, eighth president of Furman. Both of Randy's children are alumni, and his son, Frank, also serves on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Two of his three siblings are alumni, and his late brother Gordon had been a member of Furman's board.

Randy had the unique ability to make you feel that you were one of his closest friends. He had hundreds of them. His positive attitude and enthusiasm made people feel good.

As the president of the Alumni Board, his goal was to help all Furman alumni, but especially the Alumni Board, know more about the wonderful things going on at Furman, from Asian Studies to sustainability to athletics to admissions. He was amazed when a professor or staff member would spend time with the board, sharing their enthusiasm for their work at Furman. Randy would catch their enthusiasm and try and share it with everyone else.

Clare Folio Morris '83, who succeeds Randy as Alumni Association president, says, "Randy was one of those larger-than-life people you rarely meet in your lifetime. He brimmed with bonhomie (so appropriate to Furman — right?), and you couldn't help but bask in the glow of his flat-out, full-tilt enthusiasm.



"In the short period of time that we had to know each other, I grew to love him and his beautiful wife, June, very much. Furman is a better place because of Randy Blackwell."

Chris Brown '89, president-elect of the Alumni Association, shared these thoughts:

"It is hard to find the words to express how saddened I am over Randy's death. I developed a deep sense of admiration and respect for Randy once I was elected to the Alumni Board. He was so generous with his time and support when I came on the board, and that support continued as we began to work together on the Executive Committee the past two years.

"He was a 'feel good' person in the sense that I always felt better about myself after having been with him. He had a gift for making others feel special, and it is a trait I have tried to emulate in my own life. I was always impressed by his true passion for Furman and how he loved to talk about it. He was an ambassador for our alma mater in so many ways.

"His leadership and devotion to Furman and our board will be greatly missed. He will be a hard act to follow."

In a fitting tribute to Randy, the farm stand that sells produce from the university's organic garden has been named in his honor. As Angela Halfacre '91, Furman's director of sustainability, says, "Randy planted the first plant in the new organic garden in 2008, and he has been a tireless advocate for our sustainability efforts. His enthusiasm, kindness, energy, friendship, and welcoming and open nature have been particularly appreciated by Furman's Center for Sustainability.

"His ideas and support for our efforts to reach out to the community about sustainable practices and ways of thinking have been a model for our students and all the Furman family. His tireless desire to support the organic garden has helped Furman make great strides in sharing the message of sustainability in real and lasting ways with our students and the greater community. Randy will be sorely missed."

But Randy would not want for us to mourn for him. Instead, we should honor his memory by getting excited about all of the great things happening at Furman now.

The best tribute to him would be for all alumni to capture a bit of his enthusiasm by participating in the annual fund, attending an athletic event, telling a high school student about Furman, volunteering to help on campus, or hosting an alumni event.

The possibilities are as endless as Randy Blackwell's love for Furman!

Memorials may be made to the Randy W. Blackwell Memorial Fund at Furman, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613.

— TOM TRIPLITT '76

*The author is director of the Alumni Association.*

## CLASS NOTES, SUMMER 2009

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41

**Elizabeth Scarborough Mascia** of Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., was honored May 1 by the Louis August Jonas Foundation for her community leadership and service. The celebration, held at the Harvard Club in New York City, was part of a benefit for the foundation and for Camp Rising Sun, with which Lib has long been associated. The camp is an eight-week international, full-scholarship leadership program for gifted and talented students from more than 30 countries. The foundation also recognized Lib for her civic and philanthropic endeavors. Among many other contributions, she was founding president of the Day Care Center of the Tarrytowns, which is named in her honor. She is a founder of Abbott House, which assists abused, neglected and abandoned children and their families, and was a member of the citizens' committee that led to the establishment of the Family Court System in New York's Westchester County.

42

On June 10, Delta Air Lines dedicated its newest Boeing 777LR aircraft to former company CEO **David C. Garrett, Jr.** Dave, a former Furman trustee, became Delta's president in 1971 and CEO in 1978. In 1983 he was named chair of the company's board of directors and held all three of those positions until he retired in 1987. He remained on Delta's board until 1994.

44

**John T. James** is retired after serving as pastor of seven different churches in Florida over a period of 50 years. He now lives in Charlottesville, Va.

56

**Evelyn Cleveland Davis** of Black Mountain, N.C., a training consultant for Wycliffe Bible Translators and SIL International, is included in the 2009 edition of *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Education* and *Who's Who in the World*.

59

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

**William F. "Billy" Cave** has been elected to the board of directors of the South Carolina State Museum Foundation, the private support and fundraising arm of the museum. He is the managing principal of Reliance Trust Company in Atlanta.

62

The Rotary Club of Greenwood (S.C.) recently presented **Roger Stevenson** its Community Service Award and made a \$1,000 contribution to Rotary Polio Plus in his name. This is the club's highest award and recognizes outstanding residents for living up to Rotary's ideal of "Service Above Self." Roger joined the Rotary Club of Greenwood in 1975 and started the Greenwood Genetic Center about the same time. The club determined that his vision, determination and inspiration have taken the genetic center and the J.C. Self Research Institute of Human Genetics to the highest levels of medical science, offering medical services to families and children afflicted with genetic birth defects.

65

**Trenton Connelly** has been called as pastor of Enoree Baptist Church in Travelers Rest, S.C., where he had been interim pastor since last September. He retired from Prater's Creek Baptist Church in Pickens, S.C., in 2003.

66

**Edmund LeRoy** has retired after 26 years as professor of music at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., and is now professor emeritus. He is relocating to Charleston, S.C.

73

**Ronnie L. Jowers** of Atlanta, vice president of health affairs and chief financial officer of Woodruff Health Sciences Center of Emory University for the last 18 years, has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for his dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of financial management. He is a member of the boards of several Emory-related hospitals and serves on the planning committee of the Association of Academic Health Centers. Cambridge Who's Who publishes executive, professional and entrepreneur biographies and is a premier resource for business networking.

**Ken Shigley** was recently elected treasurer of the State Bar of Georgia, moving up from secretary. He practices law with Chambers, Aholt & Rickard, LLP, in Atlanta.

75

**Jay Bocook**, director of athletic bands and lecturer in music at Furman, has been elected to the Drum Corps International Hall of Fame. DCI, a non-profit organization based in Indianapolis, Ind., is dedicated to promoting drum corps activity and marching music performance for students ages 13 to 21.

79

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Catalyst Telecom, a sales unit of ScanSource, Inc., has named **Bruce Meyer** of Greenville vice president of merchandising. He brings more than 25 years of experience to the position, having previously served as vice president of global marketing for direct accounts with KEMET Electronics.

**Joe Riley**, previously vice president for television for the Maine Public Broadcasting Network, has become president and CEO of the Brazos Valley Public Broadcasting Foundation in central Texas. The foundation runs Waco public television station KWBU and radio station KWBU-FM.

80

**David A. Merline, Jr.**, of Greenville, a shareholder in the firm of Merline & Meacham, P.A., was selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2009 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of corporate law, employee benefits law, tax law, and trusts and estate law. He was also named a Super Lawyer in the Corporate Counsel edition of *Super Lawyers Magazine*.

**George Singleton**, author of two novels and four collections of short stories, is the recipient of a 2009 Guggenheim Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. The awards go to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional capacity for productive scholarship or outstanding creative ability in the arts. George, who teaches creative writing at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, will use the \$40,000 award to work on his forthcoming novel *Side Notes for a New Grudge*.

81

**Hal Hanlin** has rejoined the Columbia, S.C., law firm of Callison Tighe & Robinson, LLC. He is a member of the South Carolina Bar Association, the Richland County Bar Association and the Columbia Tax Study Group.

## 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; Andrew Yowler '10, president, Student Alumni Council; Ben Able '10, president, Association of Furman Students; Rick Harris '10, president, Senior Class.

## 84

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

**Chip Wilson** has joined Johnson Capital in Denver, Colo., with responsibility for launching and managing a new hospitality division, Johnson Capital Lodging Advisory. He was previously a partner with Dakota Ridge Development and a managing partner at Dakota Ridge Real Estate Advisors. In 2004 he was interim chief executive officer for The Savoy Group, the owner and operator for four of London's finest luxury hotels.

## 85

**Bart Dredge**, a former Furman professor who is now chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Austin College in Texas, has been named a 2009 Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. The foundation annually honors 15 Texas college professors for superior teaching, based on nominations

by the state's colleges and universities. Bart has taught at the school since 1994.

**Jeffrey M. Kuntz** has been hired by Spartanburg (S.C.) School District 7 as orchestra coordinator and conductor of the Spartanburg High School Symphony. He is nearing completion of his doctorate in music education from Boston University.

**Dianne Barnett Steinbeck** graduated from Regent University with an Ed.D. degree in educational leadership. She is an assistant principal at Chapman Intermediate School in Woodstock, Ga.

## 86

**Marcus Johns** has been appointed an assistant regional counsel with the Office of the General Counsel, Region IV, Social Security Administration in Atlanta. OGC attorneys provide legal advice and representation supporting the administration of SSA's programs and the development of national policies and procedures.

**Eugene H. Matthews**, an attorney with Richardson Plowden & Robinson, P.A., in Columbia, S.C., has been included in the 2009 list of *South Carolina Super Lawyers*, a magazine listing of lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. He is a shareholder in the firm and practices employment, administrative and regulatory law, civil rights mitigation and appellate litigation.

## 88

**BIRTH:** **James, Jr.**, and Stacey Dennis **Looper**, a son, James Wesley, April 20. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

## 90

**Patrick Mahoney** has been appointed as partner, president and chief operating officer by the Orlando, Fla., firm of NAI Realvest, one of the largest full-service commercial real estate companies in central Florida. From 1990 to 2007 Patrick was president of Orlando-based Intercoastal Distributors Inc., a ceramic tile and stone distribution company.

**BIRTH:** Terry Vaughn and **Stephanie Allison Eller-Vaughn**, a son, Connor Mathis Eller-Vaughn, February 1, 2008, Tallahassee, Fla.

## 91

**Randall David Cook** was the writer for the 2009 Astaire Awards, which annually recognize outstanding achievements in dance on Broadway and film. The awards were presented June 1 in New York City, with stage and film star Alan Cumming as host. Randall's play "LOVE@CentralPark.COM" is being published by Brooklyn Publishers.

**BIRTHS:** **Terry and Lori Auten Moshier**, twins, a daughter, Caitlin Elizabeth, and a son, Christopher Matthew, January 15, Columbus, Ga.

## 94

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

**Brian Edens** has joined Sealevel Systems Inc. as sales manager for the western United States. He previously worked at Datastream Systems (now Infor).

**Carolyn Ann Yates Rabatin** of Nashville, Tenn., has joined Pinnacle Financial Partners as a senior vice president and financial consultant at Pinnacle Asset Management. She was previously a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch.

**MARRIAGE:** **Debra Tindall** and Thomas Combs, May 2. They live in Kingsport, Tenn.

**BIRTHS:** Jeff and **Kelly Jackson Davis**, a daughter, Brooke Catherine, April 24, Columbia, S.C.

Eric and **Jeana Samples Yates**, a daughter, Penelope Rose, February 25. They live in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

## 95

**Ernest Abisellan** is the consul at the U.S. Embassy in Asuncion, Paraguay. He has been with the State Department since 2003, serving in Nicaragua, Moldova and Paraguay.

**BIRTH:** Laura and **Charles "Tracy" Ballew** (M.A. '97), a son, Charles IV, March 27. They live in Daytona Beach, Fla., where Tracy is the sales and marketing manager for Fabco Metal Products.

## 96

**Alan Alewine**, an associate professor of mathematics at McKendree University in Lebanon, Ill., received the William Norman Grandy Faculty Award at the school's Commencement in May. The award, voted on by faculty and administrators, recognizes an individual for community participation, personal commitment to students, and demonstration of the ideals promoted by McKendree.

**BIRTHS:** **David** and **Bethany Byrne**, triplets, a daughter, **Olivia Ann**, and sons, **George Alfred Louis** and **Samuel Wright**, January 28. They live in Beaufort, S.C.

## 97

**Susan Worley Brewer** of Greenville received the First Timers Award as the state's best new photographer at the 2009 convention of the Professional Photographers Association of South Carolina, held in February. Visit her Web site at [www.susanbrewerphotography.com](http://www.susanbrewerphotography.com).

**Robert Tims, Jr.**, of Lexington, S.C., became pastor for preaching and leadership at Lake Murray Baptist Church in January.

**BIRTHS:** **Mark** and **Christa Bailey Allen**, a son, **Barrett William**, January 27. **Christa** works for U.S. Sen. **Mel Martinez** and **Mark**

is a software architect. They live in Oviedo, Fla.

**Bryan '95** and **Kirsten Giddings Beard**, a daughter, **Ashlyn Daniel**, July 22, 2008. They live in Smyrna, Ga.

**Chad** and **Katy Oliver Hutcheson**, a daughter, **Adeleigh Belle**, March 27, Belmont, N.C.

## 98

**Heather Hatfield Greer**, a Greenville resident and member of Furman's Young Alumni Council, has launched **Heather's Harmony**, a provider of piano and voice lessons and live music for weddings. Visit her Web site, [www.harmonyheatherj.com](http://www.harmonyheatherj.com).

**Andy Oakes** has joined the staff of **LeConte Wealth Management, LLC**, in **Alcoa, Tenn.**, as a financial advisor. Before joining **LeConte**, **Andy** worked with **Merrill**

**Lynch** in **Knoxville** and spent a year as a **Peace Corps** volunteer in the **Ukraine**.

**MARRIAGES:** **Laura Beth Scholz** and **Timothy A. Long**, February 27. They live in **Atlanta** where she is president and CEO of **Scholz Communications**, a boutique firm specializing in arts and lifestyle public relations. **Tim** is a senior principal with **Chicago-based Eloyalty**.

**Stefanie DeAnne Shute** and **Leighton Reynolds Kremer IV**, November 15. She works with **Baker and Taylor** in **Charlotte, N.C.**, and he is with **Home Depot**.

**BIRTHS:** **Stewart** and **Amy Austin**, a son, **Campbell**, March 11, **Simpsonville, S.C.** **Stewart** works with **Objectworld Communications**, a **Canadian software** company.

**Cornel Broenner** and **Jennifer Lentini**, a son, **Alexander Josef**, March 13, **Toledo,**

**Ohio.** **Jennifer** is a **lifestyle medicine** physician and **Cornel** is a **process engineer**.

## 99

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

**Courtney L. Tollison**, assistant professor of history at **Furman** and museum historian at the **Upcountry History Museum** in **Greenville**, has been awarded a **Fulbright Scholarship** to teach in **Ukraine** in 2010. She will travel early next year and teach **American history** through the spring at **Yuriy Fedkovovych Chernivtsi National University**. She also intends to consult with museums and assist them in developing oral history programs.

**Katja Wolski** recently accepted a position in **Melbourne, Australia**, as account manager with **Invitrogen**.

## ALUMNI BOARD WELCOMES NEWEST MEMBERS

The **Alumni Association** Board of Directors has added four members for the 2009-10 academic year.

The **Rev. Herman A. Matherson, Jr.**, of **Akron, Ohio**, earned his degree in **chemistry** in 1979. He has been associated with **The House of the Lord** ministry since 1994 and serves as the church's chief operating officer. He previously spent 15 years in development and project management with **General Tire and Rubber Co.** A **U.S. Army** reservist, he is active in many educational and community projects.

**Andrew C. Medlyn '97** of **Durham, N.C.**, is planning and finance director with **Measurement Durham LLC**. An economics major at **Furman**, he has a master's degree in city and regional planning from **Clemson University**. He formerly worked in economic development in **Georgetown County (S.C.)** and in **Greenville**. He is a board member of the **Historic Preservation Society of Durham** and a member of the **Urban Land Institute** and of **Downtown Durham, Inc.**

**Gordon D. Seay '61** has been with **The Marchant Company**, a **Greenville** real estate firm, since 1993. He served as development manager until 2005, when



Matherson



Medlyn



Seay



Smith

he became general manager. He previously worked in real estate and the banking industry and also owned a men's clothing store. He is chair elect of the **South Carolina Realtor Political Action Committee** and a former president of **Furman's Paladin Club**. He is on the board of the **John I. Smith Rite Care Center** for children with language disorders.

**Leslie L. Smith '91** recently became Southeast finance manager for **RailAmerica** in **Jacksonville,**

**Fla.** She previously played on the **Futures Golf Tour** for five years before working for **CSX Transportation** for 10½ years.

A history major at **Furman** with an **MBA** from **Florida State University**, she is pursuing a **Master's** in **Health Administration** from the **University of North Florida**. She is active with the **Baptist Health Hospital Auxiliary** and **Florida Women's State Golf Association** and is a mentor for **Take Stock in Children**.

**MARRIAGES:** **Dawn Loffredo** and Kent Lietzau, August 30, 2008. Dawn is executive assistant to former U.S. senator and presidential candidate Robert Dole. Kent is vice president of strategy at Lockheed Martin headquarters. They live in Rockville, Md.

**Stacey Rose** and Daniel Harris, April 5. Stacey works with the Alexandria, Va., firm of DiMuroGinsberg, P.C., as a litigation and trial attorney. Daniel, a family medicine physician, was scheduled to complete his residency at Georgetown University in June.

**BIRTHS:** Jonathan and **Rebekah Gentry Gregory**, a son, Jackson, March 25, Greenville. Rebekah is director of the Paladin Club at Furman.

**Daniel** and **Althea Griesbeck**, a son, Evan Samuel, July 21, 2008, Woodstock, Ga.

Hershal '01 and **Michelle Rogers**

**Pleasant**, a daughter, Annabelle Elizabeth, April 8. They live in Bonita Springs, Fla.

Jim and **Kerri Carter Porter**, a daughter, Macie Pax, October 26, Charlotte, N.C.

Jeff and **Holly Harper-Roberts**, a son, John Daniel, November 21, Woodstock, Ga.

## 00

**Alison Kraigsley** has completed her Ph.D. in molecular biology from the University of Southern California and received the Trusten Award as the most accomplished graduate student in biological sciences. She has joined the National Institute of Standards and Technology where she will conduct research on how bacteria attach to different materials.

**Nicholas Pennington** was a member of the first class of graduates from Drexel University's Earle Mack School of Law this spring.

**MARRIAGE:** **Ansley Campbell** and **Ben Vinson** '99, May 16. They live in Atlanta.

**BIRTHS:** **Jonathan** and **Emily Wolfe** '02 **Bohn**, a daughter, Caroline Elizabeth, August 7, 2008. They live in Atlanta where

Jonathan has earned an MBA from Emory University and Emily is a wedding planner. T.J. and **June Mee Clark**, a daughter, Elizabeth Grace, November 14. June is a music teacher and church musician in Birmingham, Ala.

**Jay** '01 and **Robin Thomas**

**DiBartolomeo**, a son, Gerald Anthony IV, May 29, 2008. They live in Rockville, Md.

Thomas and **Ginny Carroll Herrick**, a son, Samuel Dale, May 2, Knoxville, Tenn.

Bill and **Dana Steffan Romash**, a son, Charles John, October 23. They live in Sussex, N.J.

Aaron and **Ginger Denison Rothrock**, a daughter, Hailey Jordan, March 11, Durham, N.C.

## 01

**Samantha Donaldson** is program manager of communications with Partnership for Public Service, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit that works to revitalize the federal government by inspiring a new generation to serve and by transforming the way government works.

**John MacLean** has joined the engineering firm of Morrison-Majerle in Montana as an environmental scientist. He holds a Ph.D. in geosciences from the University of Montana.

**MARRIAGE:** **Jennifer Scholz** and R. Brian Smith, May 16. Jennifer is a doctoral candidate in psychology at Argosy University and Brian is employed with the Georgia Governor's Office of Planning and Budget as a policy analyst. They live in Atlanta.

**BIRTHS:** Jonathan and **Meredith Moore Barth**, a daughter, McKenzie Gene, March 30, Charleston, S.C.

**Brandon** '05 and **Nicole Malseed Berry**, a daughter, Allie Elizabeth, April 6. They live in Greer, S.C.

**Heyward** and **Whitney Goodwin**

**Bouknight**, a daughter, Virginia Blair, February 22. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where Heyward is an attorney at Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson.

**Mark** and **Kelly Dockter Higgins**, a son, Jack William, October 3. They live in Roswell, Ga.

**Will** and **Kathryn Connors Johnson**, a daughter, Clara Ann, October 15, Greenville.

**Matthew** '00 and **Tracy Williams**

**Moore**, a daughter, Caroline Nash, May 6. They live in Dalton, Ga.

Will and **Julie Taft Spearman**, a son, Jacob Locke, February 2, Durham, N.C.

## 02

**Chris Bainbridge** won two Tellys for writing and directing in the 30th annual Telly Awards competition, which honors the best local, regional and cable television commercials and programs, as well as the finest video and film productions and work created for the Web. He works for BClip Productions in Asheville, N.C.

**Adam Marinelli** earned his J.D. degree from the Charleston (S.C.) School of Law.

**Douglas B. O'Neal** has become an associate with the law firm of Merline & Meacham, P.A., in Greenville.

**MARRIAGES:** **Ginger Melissa Fleming** and Christopher Paul Van Vooren, April 25. They live in Columbia, S.C., and are both employed by BlueCross BlueShield, she as a corporate trainer and he as a direct marketing representative.

**Victoria Lace Frasher** and Eric Tobias Marshall, April 4. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

**Amelia Godfrey** and David Helmick, April 18. They live in Columbus, Ga.

**ADOPTIONS:** Luke and **Shannon Pierce Morrison**, a son, Mendel Lucas III, and a daughter, McKenzie Bella, adopted in December. They live in Easley, S.C.

**BIRTHS:** Rusty and **Gene Holman Blake**, a daughter, Eugenia Lee, January 29, Charleston, S.C.

**Paul** and **Julianne Foster**, a daughter, Kendall Joy, May 29, Greenville.

**Rob** and **Laura Hartman**, a daughter, Anna Claire, November 19. Both Rob and Laura recently completed residencies, Rob in pediatrics and Laura in OB/GYN, at the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center. Rob was to begin work at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta in July.

Jeffrey and **Karen Jones Kung**, a daughter, Liza Grace Shiang Kung, April 24, Charlotte, N.C.

**Andy** and **Carrie Pascual**, a daughter, Ella Taylor, December 12, Norcross, Ga.

## 03

**Amanda Owens Banks** of Greenville is an individual and family therapist.

**Katie Lewis** is editorial coordinator and research assistant at the Oregon Social Learning Center in Eugene. She also works as a free-lance writer for various magazines and newspapers.

**MARRIAGES:** **Holly Constance**

**Chudalski** and Kenneth Robert Sharp, December 27. They live in Greenville where she is employed at Young Life and he is with Jacobs Engineering.

**Lloyd Flores, Jr.**, and Emily Arnold, April 4. Having passed the state Bar exam, Lloyd is employed as a staff attorney with the South Carolina Supreme Court. Emily works for Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia.

**Kristen E. Hankla** and Bryce Donovan, June 21, 2008. She covers local government and women's issues for the Charleston (S.C.) *Post and Courier*, and he is a humor columnist for the newspaper.

Carrie Copeland Vickery and **Michael**

**Loring Meisenheimer**, March 21. Both are employed with Campus Outreach in Greenville.

## HOMECOMING 2009 SET FOR OCTOBER 16-18

Homecoming is more than just coming back to alma mater. It's sharing the campus with family and friends, reliving memories with classmates and professors, and choosing from myriad activities that have been planned specifically with alumni in mind.

Classes ending in "4" and "9" will celebrate reunions at Homecoming October 16-18. Samford will be the opposition for the football game.

All Homecoming and reunion information will be available on-line at <http://alumni.furman.edu>. Registration will begin in late August.

Updates will also be sent via e-mail, so if Furman doesn't have your current e-mail address, you might miss out on exciting university news. To avoid such a fate, please send your preferred e-mail address to [alumni@furman.edu](mailto:alumni@furman.edu) so that you can stay abreast of the latest news about Homecoming and other areas of interest.



## 04

### THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

**Ryan McAuley** completed his Doctor of Medicine degree at East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine and has begun residency training in internal medicine and pediatrics at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**April Robinson** graduated from pharmacy school at the Medical University of South Carolina this spring and has begun a pharmacy practice residency at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

**Sarah Allison Thomason** has earned her doctorate in psychology from Nova Southeastern University.

**MARRIAGES: Michael Evans** and Taemi Young, January 3. Michael received his MBA from Georgetown University and now works for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. They live in Arlington, Va.

### **Dorothy Freeman** and **Thomas Self**

'05, May 16. They live in Greenville.

**Matthew Heathman** and Leah Hall, October 25. He completed his Master of Divinity degree at Erskine Theological Seminary and was promoted to Lieutenant junior grade in the Navy Reserve. He is interning at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Greenville and she works at Berea First Baptist Child Development Center.

**James Harold Kilpatrick, Jr.**, and Ashley Elizabeth Meyer, March 28. She graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law and is an attorney in Atlanta. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs.

**Helen Lindsay Keaton** and Kevin West Jones, March 28. They live in Greenville where Kevin is vice president of BJ&B Group. Helen teaches seventh grade social studies at McCracken Junior High School in Spartanburg (S.C.) District 7.

## 05

**Ashley Jackson** recently received a Master of Science degree in clinical psychology from the University of Memphis.

**Marisa Krepfle McIntyre** graduated from the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law in May. Her husband, **Rick McIntyre** '04, obtained his MBA degree from Marylhurst University in March. She has begun working at Palmer, Reifler and Associates in Orlando, Fla., and Rick will begin law school at Barry University this fall.

**Kathryn Shipp** earned her medical degree from East Tennessee State University in May and is now a pediatric resident physician at the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C.

**Joe Waters** has accepted a position as director of adult education and pastoral

care at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Taylors, S.C.

**MARRIAGES: Greg Dover** and Suzanne Clanton, May 30. Having earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wake Forest University, Greg has assumed duties as associate pastor at Earle Street Baptist Church in Greenville.

**Courtney Lynn Prehmus** and John Steven Warren, Jr., March 28. Courtney previously worked at the White House as a writer for President George W. Bush, then moved to Buenos Aires to do graduate work on a Rotary Scholarship. John served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a decorated infantry officer. He is co-founder of GadZeus, LLC. They live in Norcross, Ga.

**John Carl Rust** and **Mary Virginia "Mivvi" Strickland** '06, November 1. They live in Birmingham, Ala. Mivvi is a middle school physical education teacher

## 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](mailto:alumni@furman.edu). Selected information submitted to the on-line alumni registry (<http://alumni.furman.edu>) is included in class notes.

and coach with the Vestavia Hills Board of Education. John is a commercial credit analyst with First Commercial Bank and is working toward his MBA at Samford University.

**Brian Alan Warth** and Valorie Renee Palmer, April 25. They live in Greenville.

## 06

**Kimberly S. Jackson** received a Master of Divinity degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in May.

**Lee Ann Wooten** has been awarded the 2009 Top Litigator Award at the University of South Carolina School of Law. Presented by the American Trial Lawyers Association, the award was based on her performances in mock trial competitions during her years in law school.

**MARRIAGES: Elizabeth Marler** and David Armstrong, May 9. They live in Charleston, S.C., where Elizabeth is a student at the Medical University of South Carolina College of Dental Medicine

and David works as a network consulting engineer for Cisco Systems.

**Katherine Piburn** and James C. Jones, April 4. They live in Phoenix, Ariz., where Katie is a free-lance writer and editor and J.C. is a software engineer.

## 07

**Merianna Neely** of Spartanburg, S.C., has been awarded a 2009-10 Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Germany. She recently finished her second year as a third-grade teacher at Fairforest Elementary School and was scheduled to complete a master's degree in literacy this summer at Furman.

**John Newby**, a third-year law student at the University of North Carolina, was a summer associate with the firm of Yates, McLamb & Weyher, L.L.P., in Raleigh, N.C.

**Holly Wegman** graduated from Wake Forest University in May with a master's degree in psychology.

**MARRIAGES: David Robinson**

**Ballinger, Jr.**, and Anna Kate Rampey, June 6. They live in Fountain Inn, S.C.

Anna Kate is a kindergarten teacher at Waterloo Elementary School in Laurens County School District 55 and David is an English teacher at Ralph Chandler Middle School in Greenville County. He is pursuing a master's degree in literacy at Furman.

**Kimberly Cline** and **Jerry Clinton Gibson** '06, November 22. They live in Greenville.

**Katie Cornelius** and **Donny Pittaway** '05, January 17. Katie works as a production manager for White House Black Market at the company's corporate office in Fort Myers, Fla., and Donny is pursuing a master's degree in secondary education.

**Stacy Lynn Jones** and **Franklin Everett Warren III** '04, April 4. They live in Greenville.

## 08

**Kristin Feierabend** is an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer in Montpelier, Vt. She is serving a year in the Montpelier City Planning and Community Development Department where she is working with the community on a long-range plan for the city and organizing neighborhood community groups.

**Austin Tucker** is a junior consultant in investment banking in Paris, France, with CSC (formerly Computer Science Corporation).

**Ryan Wilson** recently spent time in Cape Town, South Africa, as a volunteer for the Living Hope Community Center, a faith-based non-profit focusing on HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention. He also worked with the Mobile Music Academy in Cape Town, teaching music to children in underdeveloped areas. He has returned to the States to begin work on a Master of Divinity degree at McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University in Atlanta.

**MARRIAGES: Graham Clark** and **Josh Mudd** '05, September 6, 2008. They live in Smyrna, Ga.

**Hailey Iminger** and Gordon Wilson, June 14, 2008. They lived in Scotland for nine months where she worked as a reporter for a local newspaper. They now live in Concord, N.C.

**Michael Brett McCarty** and Dana Rose Baker, April 25. He is studying for a master's degree at Duke University Divinity School and she is a physical therapist in the Duke Health System. They live in Durham, N.C.

## 09

**Tommy Andrews** is a Congressional intern with U.S. House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio.

**Kate Hofler** is a research fellow at Greenville Forward, a non-profit organization.

**Andrew Sample** is an analyst with Fixed Income Sales & Trading in Purchase, N.Y.

## DEATHS

**Virginia Sandel Mood** '36, March 21, Sumter, S.C. She retired from the "Green T" Texaco Station, which she and her husband owned and operated.

**Claudianna Prevost Evans Rice** '36, January 17, Anderson, S.C.

**W. Frank Caston** '37, February 19, Spartanburg, S.C. He was a retired clinical psychologist and U.S. Air Force officer. He served five years in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and many more years in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. He retired after 16 years with the Veterans Hospital in Columbia, S.C. He was also director of the psychology departments of Whitten Center in Clinton, S.C., and the Caswell Center in Kinston, N.C. He was a ham radio operator and a member of the American Radio Relay League and the Columbia Amateur Radio Club, as well as Kiwanis Club, the U.S. Chess Federation and the Palmetto Chess Club.

**Napier Tedards Holland** '37, May 17, Augusta, Ga. Active in Girl Scouts of America, she was a substitute teacher

and worked for Cullum Galleries. She was also an accomplished bridge player.

**Obera Byars Pruitt** '37, April 28, Anderson, S.C. She taught home economics at Girl's High School in Anderson and at Pendleton (S.C.) High School. She was an assistant home agent of Anderson County and was home agent for York County, Lowndesville High School, Belton and Belton-Honea Path High School. She was a member of Theta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, the Anderson County Woman's Club, Anderson County Education Association and Golden Hour Garden Club.

**Charles Alvin Batson** '38, May 20, Columbia, S.C. A veteran radio and television broadcaster, his 45-year career began in 1936 at an NBC affiliate in Greenville. He was one of the first military draftees from Greenville in 1941. He was sent to England and became part of the force invading North Africa, after which he was assigned to Allied Force Headquarters in North Africa as radio officer

on General Eisenhower's staff. After being transferred to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., he became executive officer of the radio branch in the War Department Bureau of Public Relations. He left the military in 1946 with the rank of major. That same year his television career began at the National Association of Broadcasters in Washington and New York City, where he was director of television. He returned to South Carolina in 1951 as director of television for the Broadcasting Company of the South (later Cosmos Broadcasting) and was instrumental in putting WIS-TV in Columbia on the air in 1953. He rose to the position of president, chairman and chief executive officer of Cosmos and held all three offices when he retired in 1981. He was the first television broadcaster to be president of the S.C. Broadcasters Association and was later inducted into the group's Hall of Fame. Active in the community, he served on a host of boards for professional and charitable groups.

**Frances Wertz Owings** '38, October 13, Virginia Beach, Va. She was a retired teacher with Norfolk (Va.) Public Schools, where she taught for 30 years. She was a member of the Fidelis Epsilon chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa.

**Louise Bolt Alverson** '40, March 16, Paris, Ky. She held a variety of editorial positions with the *Paris Daily Enterprise*, a newspaper started by her husband in 1942. Following the sale of the newspaper in 1975, she became associated with the Paris-Bourbon County YMCA where she worked until retiring as head of public relations in 1997. Active in her community, she served three years as chair of the Crippled Children's Society, as an officer in the Bourbon County Women's Club, and as a member of the library board. She was also a member of the Jemima Johnson Daughters of the American Revolution chapter and was an avid golfer.

**Goldie Wood Christopher** '40, April 29, Greenville. She was a retired vice president with First Citizens Bank of Great Falls, S.C.

**Wilbur T. Reid** '40, April 19, Darlington, S.C. He was a Baptist minister.

**Margaret Ashmore Johnston** '41, March 27, Lexington, N.C. She taught briefly at Berea High School in Greenville.

**W.E. "Gene" Curry** '43, February 26, Munroe Falls, Ohio. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and the Korean War and was employed by the B.F. Goodrich Company for 41 years.

**Henry J. Gambrell** '43, April 6, Greenwood, S.C. He was a Baptist minister for churches in South Carolina and Georgia. He was a Mason for 60 years.

**Nancy Elizabeth "Bettie" Powe Christopher** '44, April 26, Greenville. She was a teacher in the Greenville County School District. A talented violinist, she was a past president of the Greenville Music Club and performed with the Foothills Philharmonic Orchestra. She also played with the Scoopers, a string ensemble.

## WOMEN LAWYERS' GROUP TAPS FURMAN GRAD

The oldest women's bar organization in the United States has a Furman alumna at the helm.

Lisa Stevens Gilford, a 1990 graduate and an attorney with Alston and Bird LLP in Los Angeles, was installed July 23 as president of the National Association of Women Lawyers, the nation's leading voluntary organization devoted to the interests of women lawyers and women's legal rights. During her one-year term she will preside over the group's executive board, help oversee the organization's daily operations, and serve as the group's principal media contact on noteworthy legal issues.

According to Gilford, the NAWL, founded in 1899, played a key role in the women's suffrage movement and other women's rights matters during the 20th century. It is an advocate for women in the legal system while providing programming and support for women lawyers, law students and other professionals.

"I am honored to lead such a longstanding and significant group," says Gilford. "NAWL's mission of advancing women in and under the law is personally important to me."

After earning a degree in political science from Furman, where she was a Truman Scholar, Gilford earned her J.D. from the University of Southern California and a Master of Laws degree from Georgetown University. She has more than 15 years of experience in trial law and is a partner in Alston and Bird's Litigation and Trial Practice Group.

Active in many bar, civic and trade organizations, she is a frequent lecturer on such topics as California tort claims, diversity issues and professional development concerns for women lawyers. She has been named a "Rising Star" by *Southern California Super Lawyers* and is chair of the DuPont Minority Job Fair for the Western Region. In 2008 she received the



J. Michael Brown Award from DuPont for her commitment to diversity, recruiting and mentoring in the legal profession.

**Josephine “Jo Jo” Sheppard Rogers Engler** ‘46, March 15, Augusta, Ga. After graduating from nursing school at Vanderbilt University, she trained at Johns Hopkins University to be supervisor of the first premature infant nursery at University Hospital in Augusta. She also taught pediatric nursing at the Barrett School of Nursing and served as a medical missionary in Liberia.

**Joan Flandreau Wernsing** ‘46, November 5, Hendersonville, N.C. She was a teacher and a community volunteer.

**Earl Paulk** ‘47, March 29, Atlanta. He was founder of the Cathedral at Chapel Hill in Georgia’s DeKalb County and was for a time a national leader among independent charismatic churches. He wrote a number of books and was invited to

a White House prayer breakfast by Ronald Reagan. His public housing ministry was named by George H.W. Bush as one of his thousand points of light.

**Christopher Jefferson Futrell, Jr.** ‘48, March 7, Laurens, S.C. After graduating from seminary, he served as pastor of Baptist churches in Kershaw County, S.C., and Blythewood, S.C. He went on to serve on the staff of the South Carolina Baptist Convention as an associate director of discipleship training and as a media library consultant. In 1993 he retired from the convention to become director of missions for the Ridge Baptist Association. He was the associational director of Discipleship Training for Lexington Baptist Association for many years and served for a time as president of the Pastors Conference

in Kershaw and Columbia Metro Baptist associations. He was chosen the Outstanding Alumnus of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for South Carolina in 1993 and was recipient of the Church Media Library Award from the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Samuel Neely Smith, Jr.** ‘48, May 12, Columbia, S.C. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and then worked for the Burroughs Corporation for 31 years before retiring. He was a member of the American Legion and the Civitan Club.

**Ansel L. “Ace” Bridwell** ‘49, May 15, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and was employed as the human resources director at the Poe Plant of Burlington Industries for 25 years.

**Jane Alexander Carson France** ‘49, March 16, Greenville.

**Floyd Fredrick Griffin, Jr.** ‘49, March 22, Greenville. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and went on to be a family physician. He was past president of the Lion’s Club and volunteered with Meals on Wheels.

**Jean Sedberry Lawrence** ‘49, April 14, Greenville. In 1965 she started the kindergarten program at White Oak Baptist Church, where she taught and served as director for 25 years.

**Cecil Phillips Satterfield, Sr.** ‘49, May 6, Greer, S.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and a retired employee of Liberty Life Insurance Company.

## DAN FOSTER WAS ONE OF JOURNALISM’S FINEST

### Dan Foster’s death

May 22 at the age of 80 left a gaping hole in the journalistic world, locally and nationally.

Generations of Greenvilleans enjoyed Foster’s newspaper stories and columns during his 52 years of covering sports in the state, region and nation. When he retired as sports editor of *The Greenville News* in 2000, he received a host of awards, including the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina’s highest civilian honor. He was also elected to the Furman Athletic Hall of Fame.

Upon his death, Foster, a 1949 Furman graduate, was remembered as much for his personality and friendliness as for his works. *The News* described him as “a man who loved life and lived it to the fullest. He was a master storyteller — [whether] penning one of his thousands of columns or spinning a yarn in the elevator . . . he had a kind word for everyone, and if he had time, a story that would leave you in stitches.”



And although Foster didn’t practice his craft in the nation’s media capitals, he was highly respected by his peers. He was a former president of the National Football Writers Association and was enshrined in the U.S. Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame. He covered everything from Super Bowls to the Masters to the NCAA Final Four. His most memorable event, he once said, was the earthquake-marred 1989 World Series between Oakland and San Francisco.

Foster was sports editor of *The Hornet*, Furman’s student newspaper, during his undergraduate days, while also working at the local paper. After graduating he wrote for the *Greenville Piedmont*, the afternoon paper, before entering the Air Force during the Korean War. He returned to Furman as sports information director during the era of basketball standouts Frank Selvy and Darrell Floyd. Soon, though, he resumed his newspaper career, where he would remain.

*The News* credited Foster with playing “an undeniable role in helping young black athletes during a time when our Southern culture was defined by a separate, and surely unequal, way of life. Long before it was expected, Foster covered black athletes in [Greenville]. In doing so, he gave many young blacks

a chance at a college scholarship and opportunity to break through racial barriers.”

*The News* quoted Jesse Jackson, the Greenville native and civil rights leader whom Foster assisted in landing a football scholarship to a major university, as saying that Foster’s “role as a journalist, to open doors for all Americans, is just legendary.”

For Foster, sports writing was a labor of love, something he felt fortunate to do for a living. Upon his retirement he told *Furman* magazine, “I never thought that getting free tickets, parking in reserved parking, and sitting in a climate-controlled press box to watch sports was all that noble.”

But if anyone represented nobility in sports writing, it was Dan Foster.

*Dan Foster is survived by his wife, Kay Floyd Foster; two sons and daughters-in-law, Max and Mary Foster of Charlotte, N.C., and Beach ‘78 and Maria Foster of Greenville; three step-daughters; 11 grandchildren and step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorials: Paladin Club, Furman University 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or Salvation Army, P.O. Box 237, Greenville, S.C. 29602.*

**Julia Fields Agee** '50, April 15, Greenville. Holder of a Ph.D. in cell molecular biology from the Medical College of Georgia, she worked as a research scientist at the Veterans Hospital in Augusta, Ga.

**Charles Brooks Johnson** '50, March 30, Walhalla, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and participated in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a retired school administrator in Oconee County.

**David Norman "Sonny" Wilburn** '50, March 19, Union, S.C. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, where he rose to the rank of captain and served in the Korean Conflict. He went on to practice law in Union for many years until he was appointed a judge by the South Carolina General Assembly. He was family court judge for South Carolina's 16th Judicial Court, which encompasses Union and York counties. Following his retirement, he was a member of the board of the Salvation Army and volunteered with Meals on Wheels.

**Juanita Hart Bacon** '51, May 4, Lexington, S.C. She earned a master's degree in nursing and retired from BlueCross BlueShield after many years of service.

**Floretta Richardson Boyd** '51, March 30, Mullins, S.C. She taught in junior and senior high schools in the Carolinas. She also served as a home missionary in Arkansas, New Mexico and Louisiana. In 2008 she was recognized by her church, Mullins First Baptist, when a Women's Missionary Union group was named in her honor. She was a past member of the Marion County Historical Society.

**Martha "Pete" Self Thomason** '51, April 30, Anderson, S.C. A member of the Mimosa Garden Club, she was a certified flower show judge and participated in many flower shows.

**Victor Morgan Dukes** '52, May 2, Maggie Valley, N.C. He was pastor of First Baptist Church in Bath, S.C., before being named

director of religious activities at Furman in 1958, a position he held until 1965. He went on to serve as pastor of First Baptist Church of Walhalla, S.C., before moving in 1970 to Brookland Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. (which later merged with Hyattsville Baptist Church in Maryland). He also worked for a time with the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. He moved to Charleston, S.C., in 1985, and in 1990 was named superintendent at the Star Gospel Mission, the state's oldest Christian welfare organization. He retired in 1997.

**Rebecca Moore Kay** '52, April 16, Charlotte, N.C. She taught music at elementary schools in Union County, S.C.. She also taught private piano lessons in her home and was a church organist for 27 years. She was a member of the Hickory Grove Christianaires and was a hospice volunteer.

**Lester L. Bates, Jr.** '53, January 14, Columbia, S.C. He was a distinguished civic and community leader, as well as an influential judge and businessman. During law school at the University of South Carolina, he served as executive vice president of the American Law Student Association. After two years in the U.S. Air Force as a legal officer, he practiced law in Columbia for 46 years, including 12 when he served as president of the New South Life Insurance Company. He was a judge of the Columbia Municipal Courts for more than 13 years and a chief administrative judge for more than seven years, during which time he promoted a specialized criminal domestic violence court and later assisted the state attorney general in developing such courts throughout the state. He was on the S.C. Bar Association Pro Bono Board and was president of the Richland County Bar Association, which named him Lawyer of the Year in 2001.

The same year he was named Rotarian of the Year in Columbia and received the Distinguished Service Award from

## DON'T FORGET THOSE SIX-WORD MEMOIRS

The magazine is still collecting the six-word Furman memoirs we requested in the spring issue. We've received a variety of entries thus far — and a number of people have sent multiple phrases. Because of the large numbers of submissions, we decided to delay publication an issue so that we could review them all carefully.

Many alumni (and a few parents and friends) tell us they've been inspired by this idea. Even those who haven't shared their memoirs with the magazine have described exchanges with old roommates and friends. So at least we've jogged some memories.

There's still time to send yours. You have until September 10 to craft your statement and submit it to jim.stewart@furman.edu, or mail it to Jim Stewart, Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613.

Six words. Furman years. Simple enough.

the Domestic Abuse Center. He was a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award, and of distinguished service awards from the Columbia Jaycees and the Business Association of Columbia. He served on the boards of Furman, the Salvation Army, the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce and the University of South Carolina Coliseum, among others. He was also long-time president and board member of the Providence Home, a Christian facility for homeless men; former chair of the Central S.C. Chapter of the American Red Cross; and a board member of the Epilepsy Association of South Carolina for many years.

**Augustus Jerome Blalock, Jr.** '54, April 10, Charleston, S.C. He was a jet fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force and retired as president of Tidewater Transportation Company. He was a member of the Huguenot Society and the Charleston Museum. He held a 100-ton ocean operator's license with the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Joe Cephas Durham**, M.A. '54, June 4, Pickens, S.C. He was in the U.S. Army before entering the field of education,

in which he was principal at three schools in Pickens and Oconee counties. He also served as superintendent of the Pickens County School District and retired in 1974 from the South Carolina State Department of Education.

**Herman Virgil Thomason** '55, May 14, Alexandria, Va. He was minister of education and music at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Arlington, Va., and Groveton Baptist Church in Alexandria. He taught English for 25 years at Mount Vernon High School in Fairfax County, Va., before becoming guest services manager for the Bethesda (Md.) Marriott.

**Mary Dean Edens Winchester** '55, March 4, Virginia Beach, Va. She taught in the public schools of Virginia Beach and South Carolina for more than 30 years. She also taught GED classes for the military during her husband's career in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. She was involved in a variety of community endeavors.

**Martha Phillips Poore** '56, May 11, Anderson, S.C. She spent her career teaching in the upstate of South Carolina and retired from the Greenville County School District.

## McCONNELL, 3 OTHER ALUMS JOIN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Mike McConnell**, former Director of National Intelligence, was one of four alumni who joined the Furman board of trustees July 1.

McConnell, a native of Greenville and a 1966 Furman graduate, served as DNI under President George W. Bush. A U.S. Navy veteran and former top intelligence officer for the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Persian Gulf War in 1991, he is now a senior vice president with Booz Allen Hamilton in McLean, Va.

The other new trustees, who were announced after the board's spring meeting in April, are David L. Hauser of Cramerton, N.C., Robert E. Hill, Jr., of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., and Carl F. Kohrt of Powell, Ohio.

Hauser, a 1973 Furman graduate, is group vice president and chief financial officer of Duke Energy Company in Charlotte. Hill, who graduated in 1983, is president and chief executive officer of Acosta Sales and Marketing Company in Jacksonville, Fla. Kohrt, a former chair of the board and a 1965 graduate, is the retired president and CEO of Battelle in Columbus, Ohio. He received an honorary degree from the university last spring.

Emilyn Sanders of Greenville and Charles H. Townes '35 of Berkeley, Calif., have been granted status as emeritus members of the board.

**Charles T. Goodson** '58, May 1, West Columbia, S.C. He was a retired general thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon. After graduating from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in 1963, he completed a rotating internship and general surgery residency at Spartanburg (S.C.) General Hospital and then completed a thoracic and cardiovascular surgery residency at MUSC. He was a surgeon in the U.S. Army for two years, one of them in Vietnam. From 1971 until retiring in 1999 he practiced general, thoracic and cardiovascular surgery in the Midlands of South Carolina. He was a member of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians, a diplomat of the American Board of Bariatric Medicine, and a member of the American Society of Aesthetic Mesotherapy.

**John R. McKinney** '61, April 30, Greenville. He was a U.S. Navy hospital corpsman aboard the USS Bennington from 1955 to 1959. He went on to work for (Texize) Dow Brands in Mauldin, S.C., retiring as a distribution manager.

**Charles Robert "Robbie" Sharp** '62, April 11, Dawsonville, Ga. He built and flew ultralight airplanes and was an entrepreneur whose most recent venture was Sharp Signs in Dawsonville.

**Randolph "Randy" Jennings Griffith** '64, May 21, Asheville, N.C. He was a minister and author.

**Raymond Erl Campbell** '66, May 10, Greenville. He spent more than 30 years in the banking business with the former Peoples National Bank, Southern Bank & Trust and Summit National Bank. He was a past member of the board of directors of Samaritan House in Greenville and was a U.S. Army veteran.

**Eula Mae Roaden**, M.A. '66, April 11, Greenville. She taught at Grove and Northwood elementary schools and was a reading specialist at Travelers Rest and Gateway elementary schools, all in Greenville County. She was a member of Alpha Delta Kappa sorority, the international honorary society for women educators.

**Rance Claxton Cobb** '71, April 19, Gaffney, S.C. He retired as principal of the school at Leath Correctional Institution in Greenwood, S.C., and was most recently employed by the Cherokee County (S.C.) School District as a principal at Cherokee Community Learning Center. He was also a board member of Lakelands Federal Credit Union.

**Nancy Catherine Hamby** '71, April 19, Greenville. She was employed with the Greenville County Department of Social Services for 34 years, working with adoptions, child protective services and adult protective services. She retired in 2005.

**Alva Eugenia Lee Kennedy** '73, January 6, Dallas, Texas.

**Edwin Jerry Massengale** '76, March 11, Greenville. He worked in civil service for 31 years.

**William Bruce Posey** '77 and **David Mapp Sloan** '77, May 16. They were killed in an automobile accident in Wilkes County, Ga. Billy Posey was a resident of Columbia, S.C. He was employed by J.P. Morgan Chase and had formerly worked with Nissan Motor Corp. David Sloan lived in Providence, N.C., and was an ophthalmologist in nearby Danville, Va. He was a member of the Christian Ophthalmology Society and the Boy Scouts of America and served on the Medical Ethics Committee at Danville Regional Medical Center. He practiced ophthalmology in New Hampshire at Pease Air Force Base, where he carried the rank of major and was awarded the Meritorious Service

Medal. He was a medical missionary to Mexico and Pakistan and was substitute organist at Mount Hermon Baptist Church.

**Rachel "Mamoo" Harbin Holliday** '79, April 5, Belton, S.C. She was a retired engineer with BellSouth. A talented singer, she was deeply involved in church missions work.

**John W. "J.R." King, Jr.**, MBA '81, March 30, Lexington, S.C. He started his military career as a medic in the U.S. Air Force, then attended Western Michigan University and entered the U.S. Army Infantry. During his career he taught in the ROTC program at Furman. He retired as a lieutenant colonel after 25 years of service. He was then employed as the commissary branch manager for the South Carolina Department of Corrections for 11 years. He was interred at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

**John Phillip Allen** '84, March 30, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army veteran of Vietnam and was employed in the Department of Facilities Services at Furman.

**Tara Sue Taggart** '88, April 2, Blythe-wood, S.C. She graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1993. She worked with the South Carolina Department of Appellate Defense, the state Guardian Ad Litem program, and in private practice in criminal defense. She was also an animal protection activist and worked to establish the Cotton Branch Animal Sanctuary.

**Jennifer Lynn "Jenn" Stefanik** '94, March 28, Smyrna, Ga. She was a special education teacher with the Clayton County (Ga.) School System and at the time of her death was employed in Cobb County as a second-grade teacher at Russell Elementary School. She participated in mission trips to Russia and South America, was active in Junior League and was a volunteer with many local organizations.

## BEING THE CHANGE

**Kartikeya Singh '07** spent the last year addressing the issues closest to his heart: climate change and renewable energy.

Singh, who wrote about his efforts as a Compton Fellow in his native India for the Summer 2008 issue of *Furman* magazine, is a founder and first executive director of the Indian Youth Climate Network (IYCN), a grass-roots movement among the country's young people. Through its work with like-minded non-profit groups, the IYCN strives to increase awareness about climate change both nationally and internationally.

To illustrate his dedication to the cause, Singh spent part of the last year on a "Climate Solutions Road Tour," a 4,000-kilometer journey across India designed to document and profile solutions to the climate crisis within the country. In the process Singh and his cohorts tested technology by driving the entire distance in specially designed solar-electric cars made by REVA, an Indian company. He also continued his focus, begun during his Compton Fellowship, on bringing renewable resources to the rural areas of India.

For Singh, one tangible culmination of his efforts occurred in April, when solar lanterns were distributed to 70 households in rural villages in Madukkarai District of Tamil Nadu State. The lanterns provided families with more and extended access to light for reading, studying and other activities.

As Singh wrote in a letter to friends and acquaintances, "The next steps will be to bring in some other forms of energy into the villages: biogas, perhaps biofuel for decentralized electricity generation, and maybe even micro-wind.

"The big story is that young people drove this change. They got together, formed a group and adopted a village. They committed to making change . . . and in doing so have set a powerful precedent for what young people across the nation need to be doing. This is being the change!"

Singh himself is an example of renewable energy, as the launch of the rural energy project came only a week after he had returned from a trip to Antarctica to study the effects of global warming.

He was one of 80 young people from throughout the world to take part in the Inspire Antarctica



COURTESY KARTIKEYA SINGH

*Singh displays the flag of India on his visit to the frozen plains of Antarctica.*

Expedition 2009, run by Project 2041. The expedition allowed the group to see the impact of climate change on the fragile ecosystems of Antarctica, study the challenges that lie ahead and, in Singh's words, "realize the full potential of the kind of drastic changes we need to solve the climate crisis."

Having spent the last two years promoting environmental issues, Singh has returned to the States and enrolled in the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies at Yale University, where he will pursue a master's degree in environmental management.

But he is not leaving his activist ways behind. He plans to attend the United Nations Climate Negotiations in Copenhagen this December with the Indian youth delegation. At last year's UN climate summit in Poland, Singh spoke to the plenary session — and urged leaders to act. As he said at the time, "the very survival of humanity" rests on international willingness to address the issues.

He'll likely share the same message with this year's delegates.