Furman Alumni News

Furman University

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Reunions spark special moments

Since joining the staff of the Alumni Office eight months ago, I have been truly impressed by the genuine love and commitment Furman alumni have for their alma mater.

After working on my first Homecoming, I am excited about the opportunity to help plan reunion events for Homecoming 2004, November 5-7. This year, alumni in classes ending in 4 and 9 will celebrate special reunions.

Class reunions are a great way to maintain or rekindle ties with old friends and to remember how Furman has made a difference in your life and the lives of your classmates. Because Homecoming represents the largest gathering of the Furman faithful in one place each year, it is a wonderful occasion for reuniting and reminiscing.

Heartwarming stories often emerge during reunions. For example, at Homecoming 2003 James McKittrick of Simpsonville, S.C., and M.O. Owens of Gastonia, N.C., returned to share memories about their senior year as roommates — 70 years ago!

The Class of 1978 also had a special reunion story — which actually began with Jennie Brown from the Class of ’94. On a trip to meet members of her boyfriend’s family, she learned that her uncle, Wayne Cole, was a 1978 Furman graduate. Wayne, who now lives in Texas, ran cross country and track at Furman and won the Athlete of the Year Award as a senior.

A few years ago Wayne lost his award, along with many other personal effects, in a house fire. Insurance covered most items, but not the award. So Jennie contacted alumni director Tom Triplitt ’76 to ask about getting a replacement.

After Jennie sent an old newspaper article about Wayne’s award, Tom visited a local trophy shop to have it re-created. When he arrived, he found Wayne’s former high school coach working at the shop! Not only that, but the Class of ‘78 reunion chairs, Ed and Tricia Toole Boehmke, were two of Wayne’s good friends. So Jennie’s desire to help a future in-law quickly became a group effort.

In the end, no one was more surprised (or touched) than Wayne when Ed Boehmke presented him a new Athlete of the Year Award at his reunion dinner. It was an easy thing to do, but it was just one example of how the Furman family looks after its own.

The Alumni Office can help make your class reunion a memorable one as well, but we need your help. That’s why we invite volunteers from each class to plan their Homecoming activities. Reunion committee members work closely with the Alumni Office to contact classmates, share ideas and make arrangements.

And if you’re not sure what to do, don’t worry! Training will be provided in March for those interested in serving on a committee.

The Alumni Office handles all the mailings, printing and details for each event — we just need your ideas. So help us plan the best reunions ever at Homecoming 2004!

— Jane Dungan
Associate Director, Alumni Programs

To volunteer to work on your reunion committee, call Jane Dungan at 1-800-787-7533 or e-mail jane.dungan@furman.edu.

Web page features new look

Check out www.furman.edu/alumni/index.htm, where you’ll discover our revamped Alumni Association Web page! We think you’ll find it easier to read and to navigate.

Along with the new look are several new features, including a “Spotlight” section. If you have any photos of special personal events — weddings, babies, anniversaries — send them along and we’ll post them on the site for all the world to view!

You can e-mail digital photos to Melanie Krone ’94, associate director of the Alumni Association, at melanie.krone@furman.edu.

Furman Clubs on the move (as usual)

Congratulations to the 2003 Furman Club award winners:

Furman Club of the Year: Capital Area Club (District of Columbia), led by president Lindsay Blankenship ’00 and co-president Elizabeth Holt ’97.

Furman Club President of the Year: David Cobb ’90 of the Charleston (S.C.) Club.

Speaking of Charleston, the annual Christmas Holiday Gala at The Governor’s House Inn (owned by Karen Spell Shaw ’80) had a record number of alumni, parents and Furman staff members in attendance. Other special winter events included a January trip to Miami by John Barker, director of career services, for a career networking happy hour.

The Atlanta Club got together for dinner and a good cause, as members sorted items donated to St. Vincent De Paul, an outreach organization for the impoverished. The Dallas Furman Club welcomed President David Shi to a dinner in February, and the Seattle Club also got together for dinner.

The Charleston and Charlotte clubs both turned out in force to cheer on the men’s basketball team when the Paladins came to their areas for games against The Citadel and Davidson, respectively.

Some Furman club events to watch for this spring:

• The Atlanta Furman Club will join with Georgia State University for a career networking happy hour.
• The Capital Area Club will enjoy a tour of the National Gallery of Art.
• The Charlotte Furman Club will join forces with the Paladin Club for a golf tournament.
• While Furman students enjoy May Day Play Day on campus, Furman Clubs across the country will participate on May 1 in volunteer projects as well.

For an up-to-date listing of Furman Club events, please visit the Alumni Association Web page. To learn more about what Furman Clubs have to offer, e-mail Melanie Krone or call her at 1-800-PURPLE3.
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This year is reunion!
Robert E. Cashion, who retired after 45 years in Greenville County Schools, was formally honored December 18 when Robert E. Cashion Elementary School was dedicated. The new school in southern Greenville County replaces East Ganett Elementary, which Cashion served for many years as its only principal. ▪ Donny Wilder, former publisher-editor of the Clinton (S.C.) Chronicle and a past member of the South Carolina General Assembly, received an honorary degree from Presbyterian College at the school’s opening convocation September 9.

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Next reunion in 2006
Ron Hyatt has relinquished his longtime role of faculty marshal at the University of North Carolina but remains on the faculty of the Department of Exercise and Sports Science. He is also a retired colonel in the North Carolina National Guard. ▪ Kay McGee Phillips retired December 1 after 19 years of service to the residents and staff of Salemstowne, the Moravian Retirement Community, in Winston-Salem, N.C. She had been president and chief executive officer of Salemstowne since 1996.

57
Next reunion in 2007
Jeffrey Willis, Helms Professor of History at Converse College in Spartanburg, S.C., is the author of Remembering Greenville: Photographs from the Coxe Collection.

58
Next reunion in 2008
Wilfred Platt, Jr., of Macon, Ga., has retired from the Mercer University Department of

History but continues as director of the Honors Program for the school’s College of Liberal Arts.

60
Next reunion in 2005
Helen Fincher is president of the Gainesville-Hall Convention & Visitors Bureau in Gainesville, Ga. She was formerly executive director of tourism in the Georgia counties of Augusta-Richmond and Helen-White.

61
Next reunion in 2006
Having retired from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, James McElveen is now teaching eighth-grade English at Kilmer Middle School in Vienna, Va.

62
Next reunion in 2007
Charles Hughes has joined Arthur State Bank as vice president and manager of the Augusta Road branch in Greenville.

66
Next reunion in 2006
Charles E. Carpenter, Jr., a shareholder in the Columbia, S.C., law firm of Richardson, Plowden, Carpenter & Robinson, P.A., was recently elected secretary of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. ▪ MARRIAGE: Judith Babb Chandler and Rupert Huse, November 28. Judith recently retired as director of the Bridges to a Brighter Future program at Furman.

69
Next reunion in 2005
Thomas Harper of Jacksonville, Fla., is co-founder of the Harper Gerlach Law Firm, which focuses on employment, labor, and wage and hour law.

73
Next reunion in 2008
Gale Kimball Garner is director of Christian education at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Mauldin, S.C. ▪ Frances Smith Ligler, senior scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory in the Center for Bio/Molecular Science and Engineering in Washington, D.C., received the 2003 Homeland Security Award from the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, a federal agency that supports groundbreaking research. Ligler, a member of the Furman board of trustees, was cited for her work on ultrasensitive detectors for biological threats. ▪ Katherine Wells has become staff attorney with the South Carolina Senate Judiciary Committee in Columbia.

74
This year is reunion!
Phillip and Susan Taylors Cooley live in Salisbury, N.C., where Susan is a clinical social worker at the Veterans Medical Center. Phillip owns and operates Homewatch Caregivers Home Health Agency in Charlotte. ▪ Karen Herring Harmon, choral director at Irmo (S.C.) High School, directed the Adult Choir of Singles from the Dioceses of South Carolina for South Carolina Day November 16 at the Washington National Cathedral. ▪ The board of directors of Westminster John Knox Press has established the WJK Presidential Prize for Excellence in Religious Scholarship and Writing. The award will recognize writers and scholars who show promise of making a major contribution to religious scholarship. Davis has spent more than 25 years in the publishing business. ▪ Robert Walker of Columbia, S.C., is president of the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

75
Next reunion in 2005
Linda Wilson Hindman (B.G.S. '99) is assistant business manager for Christ Church Episcopal School in Greenville. ▪ Joe Watson, a former Circuit Court judge and former solicitor for the 13th Circuit of South Carolina, recently became counsel with Price, Paschal & Ashmore PA in Greenville. ▪ BIRTH: Audrey and John Bettger (M.B.A.), a son, Marcus Matthias, October 8.

76
Next reunion in 2006
Van White of Orlando, Fla., has been promoted to executive vice president by SunTrust Bank. He is senior credit officer for the 11-county Central Florida Region.

77
Next reunion in 2007
Keith Aarseth of Aurora, Ill., is an options trader at the Chicago Board of Trade.

78
Next reunion in 2008
Ed and Tricia Toole Boehmke are teachers in Greenville County. Ed teaches science, coaches cross country and track, and serves as assistant athletic director at Eastside High School, where he has worked since graduation. Tricia is an elementary school physical education teacher and has previously been an assistant principal and a principal. ▪ John Cole recently opened his second veterinary hospital in Loveland, Ohio. ▪ After 24 years in the ministry at various churches, Jim Mathis of Lexington, S.C., has become a professional speaker, corporate seminar leader and consultant.
Next reunion in 2007
Paul '83 and Angie Hendrix Harteg live in Greenville. She is a senior software analyst with the Greenville Hospital System and he is a consultant in the financial services division of Crisp Hughes & Evans. Maggie Long McGill has joined the law firm of Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft in Rock Hill, S.C., as a legal assistant in banking and finance.

Robert Watson, a liaison officer with the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Germany, has received a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the U.S. Army War College.

BIRTH: Christopher and Lisa Peabody, a daughter, Caroline Christine, January 24, 2003, Bethesda, Md.

This year is reunion!
Susan Williamson DeVenny is the new director of First Steps, South Carolina’s early childhood development program. She founded Parents for Public Schools in South Carolina and formerly served as assistant vice president of human resources at Colonial Life and Accident Insurance Company.

Charles Hunter of Woodbridge, Va., is Deputy Director Refund Crimes for the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigation. Scott Lenning has received the Anderson College Distinguished Alumnus Award, presented to an alumnus who exemplifies the educational philosophy of the college. Scott is director for the Billy Graham Crusades. Cindy Roberts Peary of San Antonio, Texas, is a management consultant with BearingPoint.

Bonnie Borshay Sneed, an associate professor of choral music at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, has been named the school’s new choral director. Elliott Strait is director of the pharmacy at Chester County (S.C.) Hospital.

Brian Warford is vice president and general manager of Nicholson's Hi-Fi in Nashville, Tenn. He is also the assistant conductor for the Nashville Symphony Chorus.

BIRTH: Don and Barbara Law, a daughter, Rachel Julia, March 23, 2003, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Next reunion in 2005
Robert Rook is an associate professor and chair of the history department at Fort Hays (Kan.) State University. David Smith is band director at Morris Middle School in McAllen, Texas.

Next reunion in 2006
Mike Roosevelt was recently named chief of the Assessments Group in the CIA’s Crime and Narcotics Center. His wife, Jane Doussard '82 Roosevelt, has begun a two-year National Institutes of Health fellowship in developmental psychopathology at the George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. After almost 15 years with the Missouri Baptist Convention as a media specialist, Ken Satterfield of Jefferson City has become advertising and subscription coordinator for the Missouri Baptist newspaper Word & Way. Donna Daniel Teague is author of a cookbook titled We Gather Together: Recipes for Church, Family and Civic Events. Some of Donna’s recipes were featured in the November issue of Southern Living.

MARRIAGE: Thomas Fisher and Martha Reynolds, July 5, Hamilton, N.Y. They live in Cambridge, Mass., where he is a senior engineer in the microelectronics division of Rohm and Haas Electronics Materials.

Next reunion in 2006
Bryan Holt of Longmont, Colo., is senior project manager for IBM Global Services. Preston Smith appeared on NBC’s “Today Show” December 23, playing piano and conducting The Boy and Girl Choristers of Saint Bartholomew’s Church in New York City, where he was recently named associate director of music. He previously served as organist and choirmaster at Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Tampa, Fla., and was a part-time instructor at the University of Tampa.

Deanna Womack is a registered nurse at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital.
Ahoy, mateys!

Children's book rides crest of pirate mania onto best-seller charts

Melinda Brown Long says the secret to the success of her latest children's book, *How I Became a Pirate*, is the same as the secret to good comedy: It's all in the timing.

Long, a 1982 Furman graduate who says she's been fascinated by pirates since childhood, chose to explore the topic through the tale of young Jeremy Jacob and his encounter with a horde of not so bright but oh so earnest pirates. Jeremy thrills to their swashbuckling, free-spirited, no-rules lifestyle — until he realizes what he's missing back home.

The book, cunningly illustrated by Caldecott Honoree David Shannon, was published by Harcourt, Inc., on September 1 — which is where the timing comes in.

First, one of the summer's hit movies was *Pirates of the Caribbean*, a rollicking story of hijinks on the high seas that starred heartthrobs Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom. Then, with the help of a boost from syndicated columnist Dave Barry, "Talk Like a Pirate Day" on September 19 (same date every year, me hearties) drew widespread attention, including a feature on National Public Radio.

And just one day earlier, on September 18, the seventh incarnation of "Survivor" premiered on CBS with a pirate theme — even though Rupert, the cast member who most looked the part, eventually walked the plank.

The result of this harmonic convergence of pirate mania and the release of Long's book? Through Christmas, *How I Became a Pirate* had spent 11 weeks in the Top 10 of the children's book best-seller list of the *New York Times*, alongside books by such notables as Lewis Carroll, J.K. Rowling, Dr. Seuss and Madonna. "Suddenly, pirates are hot," Long says with a trace of wonder. "And it's great that we happened to publish at the same time."

For Long, an eighth-grade language arts teacher at Tanglewood Middle School in Greenville, *Pirate* is her most successful book to date. Having previously produced *When Papa Snores* (2000, Simon & Schuster) and *Hickup Snickup* (2001, Simon & Schuster), she seems to have the children's book formula down pat.

She traces the start of her writing career to a rainy day when she was 6 years old — and a moment of inspiration on her mother's part. After hearing quite enough of Melinda's complaints about being bored, crafty Mom grabbed a typewriter, placed her daughter in front of it, handed her a pile of rubber stamps with animal characters on them and said, "Here. Write a story about these things."

Which the youngster proceeded to do. And she's been writing ever since.

When she started writing seriously, Long says, "I tried everything — short stories, poems, romances, you name it. But I kept coming back to children's books." She says she always had a knack for making up stories, and her interest was further piqued at Furman in a children's literature course taught by Nelly Hecker, who now chairs the education department. "She was a great teacher who made those stories come alive," says Long.

Long actually signed with an agent in 1986, but it wasn't until 1997 that *When Papa Snores* sold. *Hickup Snickup* and *Pirate* followed in short order.

Once a publisher buys a children's book, Long says, it can take three years or more for it to be published. "You've got production work, and the rough sketches of the art work, and constant revisions, both to the text and the art," she says. "It can take a while, but it's really fun to watch each book progress and come together."

Seeing how the illustrator, whom the publisher chooses, interprets her words is also a treat, she says: "It's amazing how sometimes the artist almost reads my mind and produces an illustration that exactly matches the way I envisioned the scene."

While she has ideas for more children's books targeted to the preschool and early elementary years, Long also aspires to write for a slightly older crowd. She is working on a historical novel, designed for middle and high school students and based on old family tales, about a Southern girl's experiences at the onset of World War II.

"I'm hoping to have a chance to work on it during the summer," she says.

— Jim Stewart
Selvy named to list of greatest college stars

Street & Smith's Magazine has included Furman's Frank Selvy in its rankings of the 100 Greatest College Basketball Players.

Selvy, who was named the NCAA Player of the Year in 1954 after averaging a nation's best 41.7 points per game, was rated the 50th greatest player by the magazine, which many consider the leading authority on college basketball. The rankings were compiled from nominations submitted by a blue-ribbon, 40-person panel of college basketball writers, coaches and broadcasters. Each panelist completed a top-50 ballot, from which the full list was tabulated.

The magazine issued the rankings in a special collector's edition, published in December.

Selvy, a native of Corbin, Ky., set an NCAA Division I record on February 13, 1954, when he scored 100 points in a 149-95 win over Newberry at Greenville's Textile Hall. Twice the national scoring champion, he set 24 major college records during his Furman years and was a three-time All-American.

After graduating in 1954, Selvy was the first pick (by the Baltimore Bullets) in the National Basketball Association draft and went on to play professionally for nine years, the last five with the Minneapolis and Los Angeles Lakers. He averaged 10.8 points per game for his pro career.

Furman recognized the 50th anniversary of Selvy's 100-point game February 21 during the Paladins' game against The Citadel.

Street & Smith's named Lew Alcindor (later Kareem Abdul-Jabbar) of UCLA the greatest all-time college player, followed, in order, by fellow UCLA star Bill Walton, Oscar Robertson of the University of Cincinnati, Bill Russell of the University of San Francisco and Pete Maravich of Louisiana State.

Letter: Selvy story rekindles memories

Just a note of thanks for the story on Frank Selvy ("Man of the Century") in the Fall 2003 Furman magazine. The article brought back a lot of memories of that "magic game" when Selvy scored 100 points, and of my days at Furman.

Over the years I have discovered that most everyone in Greenville County apparently witnessed that glorious feat in the old Textile Hall. My dad, who was then head golf professional at the Greenville Country Club, and I were in attendance as well. Although I was in the stands, I too vividly remember Frank's final shot and the crowd's reaction.

But there is more. After a tour in the military I transferred to Furman in 1963 from what was then North Greenville Junior College. Furman had a golf course that was not being utilized and was not planning to have a golf team that year. I lobbied for one and was told that if I could assemble a team the university would approve. I first approached fraternity brothers (Centaur) and eventually the directors at the Greenville Country Club kindly allowed us to play our matches there.

I was selected team captain the following year. Again we played our matches at the Greenville Country Club, and Frank Selvy was our coach. He is a true gentleman, and the qualities of character that he left me with I now realize were instrumental in my own development. I have met few that surpass him as a human being.

Michael Lucas ’65
North Charleston, S.C.

Leavenworth, Kan. Kimberly Chappell has moved to Roswell, Ga., after accepting a position with Bristol-Squibb Company as the neuroscience medical science manager in the Atlanta area. Kevin Hendricks has joined the Wyche, Burgess, Freeman & Parham, P.A., law firm in Greenville. He will concentrate his practice in corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions. Anthony Jones is a counselor at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, N.C. BIRTHS: Alex and Laura Albert, a son, McConnell Russell, August 8, Washington, D.C. Kevin and Rosemarie Ann Baloy Curley, a son, Brian Michael, June 1, Midlothian, Va. Jeff and Karen Meade Farris, a daughter, Hannah, October 6, Flower Mound, Texas. Dan and Paige Overton Pitts, a son, Tait Daniel, August 20. Scott and Mary Spear Prentice, a daughter, Michelle Louise, January 15, 2003, Frederick, Md. Michael and Anne Noble Smith, a daughter, Ashley Marie, August 21, Chatham, N.J.

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This year is reunion!
Jason Davis of Norcross, Ga., is employed with Scott, Madden & Associates. Steven House and his wife, Alice, are assistant professors in the Department of Family Medicine at Mercer University School of Medicine in Macon, Ga. David and Emilie McDonald Woody have moved to Mount Pleasant, S.C. David is minister of faith development at Providence Baptist Church and Emilie teaches at Wando High School. BIRTHS: Jim and Melissa Adair, a son, Stephen, August 26. Jim is an environmental systems engineer with Cryovac in Simpsonville, S.C. Peter and Deborah Lamb Farrell, a son, Andrew Scott, May 14, Charleston, S.C. Deborah is the guidance director at James Island Charter High School. James and Lanie Rockafellow Kitchens, a son, William James III, December 15, 2002, Columbia, S.C.
Steve and Patti Cox Mayo, twin daughters, Kathryn Maureen and Lillian Grace, June 4, Charlotte, N.C. James and Shannon Duval Meade, a daughter, Emma, March 21, 2003, Madison, Wis. Shannon has received tenure and been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Philosophy at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wis. Bob and Kelly Cole Spratling, a son, Jonathan Todd, June 6, Atlanta.

90  
Next reunion in 2005  
Elton and Amy Williamson Bailey live in Parker, Colo. He is operations business manager with Arrow Electronics. Edwin Beckham of Roswell, Ga., is a staff analyst with RWD Technologies. Frank Blackwell has joined ScanSource Inc. in Greenville as sales manager for the point-of-sale and automatic identification and data capture sales unit. Boyley of Thorofare, N.J., is Northeast regional director of Christian Medical and DentalAssociations. Fe Cowan is a teacher and coach at T.L. Hanna High School in Anderson, S.C. David Salmon of Locust Grove, Ga., is regional manager-genetic analysis for Transgenic, Inc. BIRTHS: Robert and Elizabeth Johnson, a daughter, Molly Elizabeth, December 30, 2002, Smithfield, Va. Andrew and Laura Murphy, twin daughters, Alexandra Jewel and Katherine Alison, October 28, 2002. Andrew, who works with Wealth Management Deutsche Bank in Atlanta, recently graduated from Georgia State University’s Executive M.B.A. Program. Anthony and Andrea Miller Von Aldenbruck, a son, Alec Preston, May 20, Jensen Beach, Fla. Erik and Jennifer Wells, a daughter, Zoe Sarelyn, June 3, Bogart, Ga. Erik is a dentist. Blake and Tracy Watkins Young, a son, Justin Tyler, May 12, Knoxville, Tenn. Tracy is vice president of marketing with Team Health.

91  
Next reunion in 2006  
Tracy Jones Barnhart of Mount Pleasant, S.C., is a hydrogeologist with General Engineering. Michael Bellon is a music teacher at Mill Creek Elementary School in Columbia, S.C. Randall David Cook of New York City was a finalist in the 2003 Sundance Filmmakers Lab competition for his screenplay “Revelation.” His play “Beneath the Banyan Tree” premiered at New York’s Abingdon Theatre last spring, and his “American Idle: Murders the Music,” a parody of the television show, has been published by Brooklyn Publishers and produced in Nova Scotia. He is co-author of “Open Call,” a “theatrical event” that premiered in New York’s Hamptons in September and then transferred off-Broadway for an open-ended run. Katherine Komarow Durst of Largo, Fla., was recently named manager of the Ultimate Body-Shaping Course of Belleair, a fitness/kickboxing facility. She also earned her first-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Ken Ellison of Highland Park, N.J., is pursuing a D.M.A. in clarinet performance at Rutgers University. He is the founder of Sonora Winds, a trio with bassoon, clarinet and flute that recently presented a concert series in Philadelphia. He performs on the soundtrack to “Bad Hair Life,” a well-received Middlemarch Films documentary about people who suffer from trichotillomania (compulsive hair pulling). Chris Ferrell is president of Executive Learning, Inc., a training firm in Nashville, Tenn. He recently completed his second term on the Nashville City Council. Cathi Douglas Jones of Cumming, Ga., is an instructional support teacher at South Forsyth High School. Brian Sloop of Columbia, S.C., is a financial services product associate with State Farm Insurance Company in its field office in Lexington, S.C. He assists about 45 State Farm agents with introducing financial products into their marketing/business plan. MARRIAGES: Melanie Dyer and George Andrew McGeehee, April 6. Melanie is a freelance writer and Andrew works for Westinghouse as a nuclear safety engineer. They live in North Augusta, S.C. Tracey Weldon and Cuthbert Stewart, August 30. She is an assistant professor of English at the University of South Carolina. BIRTHS: Evan and Shannon Brooks, a son, Wyatt Franklin, October 17. Andrew and Stacy Nations ‘93 Burt, a son, Casey David, August 5, 2002. Stacy earned her Ph.D. in early childhood education and is currently on the faculty at Clemson University. Andrew is an assistant coach for the Furman women’s soccer team. Andrew and Joy Erwin ‘92 Coe, a daughter, Sarah Anne Aderholdt, February 13, 2003, South Boston, Va. Christopher and Marla Doehring, a daughter, Emily Helen, March 12, 2003. After four years in the Army, Christopher is now on the family practice residency faculty at St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind. Bobby and Natalie Huberdeau Doerr, a son, Jack, September 17. David and Martha Pinilla Flory, a daughter, Ava Grace, July 9, Jacksonville, Fla. David ‘86 and Kirsten White Gantt, a son, Benjamin Alexander, August 8, 2002, Greenville. Bryan ‘93 and Dena Petty Garner, a son, Cooper Petty, August 28, 2002, Charleston, S.C. Ryan and Elizabeth Macllaine Greene, a daughter, Mackenzie Coleman, December 31, 2002, Waukesha, Wis. Craig and Lori Hoffman, a son, Matthew Philip, May 24, New York, N.Y. Craig works for Taylor-Reln Securities. Michael and Melanie Morgan Roadruck, a son, Joseph Michael, September 5, Fort Worth, Texas. Melanie is customer satisfaction program manager in the Dallas Sales Center of IBM. Jonathan and Windsore Tollison Warthin, a daughter, Lydian Elizabeth, April 10. David and Tracy Williamson, a daughter, Riley Hannah, March 11, 2003, Charlotte, N.C. Michael and Michelle Parks Wyatt, a son, Simon Dantzler, April 16.

92  
Next reunion in 2007  
Timothy Brown was named the 2003 Beaufort (S.C.) High School Teacher of the Year. He has also won a Fulbright Memorial Fund fellowship to travel to Japan. Keely Burrell is a law student at the University of South Carolina. Stephen Hall of Bainbridge Island, Wash., is employed with Vulcan, Inc. Carolyn LaMontagne-Hefko is a Master of Library Science program at the University of Illinois in Champaign and is working in the school’s education and social science library. She has written a young adult novel and is currently working on a children’s novel. Marty Weems of Blountville, Tenn., is a representative for Novartis Pharmaceutica, selling hypertension and diabetes medications. Andrew Zorovich of Belleair, Fla., is a tax and financial planning consultant with Pinnacle Tax Advisors. MARRIAGES: Blair Carlson and Heather LaLone, May 4. They live in South Lake Tahoe, Calif. BIRTHS: Brent ‘93 and Kimberly Ruggles Shealy, a daughter, Elizabeth Ruggles Shealy, July 8. Brent has completed his fellowship in nephrology and works with Columbia (S.C.) Nephrology Associates. Louis and Leslie Gillespie ‘93 Spence, a son, Cameron James, September 17, 2002.

93  
Next reunion in 2008  
Scott and Sandy Altizer live in Knoxville, Tenn., where he is director of high school relations for the University of Tennessee football program. Graham Dickerson is a family doctor with Mary Black Physicians Group in Chesnee, S.C. Emily Jarrell is a freelance musician in the Charlotte, N.C., area and works
Urban League honors Shis

Furman president David Shi '73 and his wife, Susan Thomson Shi '71, have received the 2003 Whitney M. Young, Jr., Humanitarian Award from the Urban League of the Upstate for their humanitarian efforts and contributions to the Greenville community.

Both Shis have been active in local causes since 1993, when they moved to Greenville. In praising their selection, The Greenville News emphasized “their extraordinary contribution to the Greenville community that is manifested in numerous ways.” The News pointed to David Shi’s involvement in a wide variety of local and state efforts “connected with improving this area and making it a better place to live, learn and work.” Susan Shi was described as “a tireless volunteer, particularly for causes related to education and early childhood development.”

The award, presented November 13, is named for the educator, author and civil rights leader who directed the National Urban League from 1961 until his death in 1971. John E. Johns, president emeritus of Furman, received the Young award in 2001.

In addition, both Shis were named to the list of Greenville’s “Top 25 Leaders” in a poll conducted by The Greenville News. More than 700 community leaders were asked by the News to help select individuals who have exercised influence on matters of public interest, including issues ranging from politics, business and government to education, religion and the arts.

with Opera Carolina as accompanist and coach. • Susan Kutzner has been hired as quality assurance manager by Vigilix LLC, a software development company in Greenville. • Amber Singleton of Monroe, Ga., works for the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation as director of McDaniel-Tichenor House, a historic house museum just outside of Atlanta. • After completing a residency in general surgery at the Medical College of Ohio, Chadwick Thomas has joined Upstate Surgical Associates in Greer, S.C. He serves as assistant medical director of surgery and is on the teaching faculty for the general surgical residency in the Greenville Hospital System. • Stephanie Compton Turner is a physician with the Greenwood (S.C.) Eye Clinic. • BIRTHS: Chris and Heather Cadenhead, a daughter, Ashlyn Christine, August 30, 2002. In October Chris became pastor and Heather minister of youth at Greenville’s Augusta Road Baptist Church.

• Andy and Taryn Wilhoit Davis, a son, Brennan Patrick, September 16, Columbia, S.C. • Doug and Martha Rivers Davison, a daughter, Emma, February 22, 2003. They live in Williston, S.C., and Martha is an attorney. • George and Corinne Crosby Edwards, a daughter, Barbara. They live in Hixson, Tenn. • Joseph and Tiffany Jo Freese, a son, Daniel Joseph, November 5, 2002. Tiffany is a veterinarian in Abbeville, S.C. • Lane and Tracy Doster Jones, a daughter, Piper Madelyn, September 3.

• Robert III '94 and Bethany Keith Marshall, a son, Wyatt Keith, May 6, Lawton, Okla. Robert is in the U.S. Army and is currently teaching in a field artillery school. • Daniel and Regina Meezie, a son, Greyson Boyd, September 12. • Brian and Laura Miller Mitchell, a son, Caleb Andrew, February 27, 2003, Burlington, N.C. • Christopher and HaeKyong Nelson, a son, Christopher Jacob, August 7, 2002, Simpsonville, S.C. Christopher is a physician with Laurens (S.C.) Family Practice.

• Scott and Heather Nelson, a son, Elliott Scott, October 7, Greenville. Scott is a pastor at Grace Church. • Thomas and Beth Turrentine Nuckolls, a daughter, Avery Turrentine Nuckolls, October 2, 2002, Greenville. • Roger and Marcy Cather Sternitzke, a daughter, Amanda Gayle, September 15. • Hunter and Heather Stevenson, a son, Joseph Stone, October 22, 2002. • William Douglas, Sr., and Dorothy Kennedy Tesnear, a son, William Douglas, Jr., April 30, Greenville. Dorothy is administrative assistant to the vice president of sales at Michelin North America.

94
This year is reunion!
Samantha Goody Bailes of South Riding, Va., teaches eighth-grade physical science in the Loudoun County Public School system. • Jennie Brown has joined the Blackburn & McCune law firm in Nashville, Tenn., as an accountant. • Malcolm Cook is an account manager with Interlink Communications Systems in Clearwater, Fla. He sells wide area networking and Internet service equipment. • John Denning II of Ridgeland, Miss., is completing a psychology internship at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and is scheduled to graduate from Louisiana State University this spring with a Ph.D. in clinical psychology (neuropsychology). • Denise Ransom Grabowski has joined Lott & Barber Architects in Savannah, Ga., to provide planning and sustainable development services. She was recently appointed to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Advisory Council. • Allison Jeffrey Hanauer is a clinical psychologist with the U.S. Air Force and is stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska. • Mary Heather Yost Harvey of Marietta, Ga., is employed by Cardinal Health & Hospital Supply. • Kimberly Currier McAdams of Gilbert, Ariz., is director of learning and development in the GreatWest Division of the American Cancer Society. • Kevin McLeod began work in September as an international specialty casualty underwriter with Liberty International Underwriters in New York. • Cindy Merrill of Parker, Colo., is a systems analyst with the Perot Systems Corporation. • Wayne Pendle has become associate pastor at Reeves Creek Baptist Church in Snellville, Ga. • Anne Neil Chalker Piccone of Oldsmar, Fla., became a sales representative for Bayer Pharmaceuticals in November. • MARRIAGES: Stephen Feyl and Sarah Burns, October 26. They live in Cold Spring, N.Y., and Steven is head of research and information services for the Westchester campus of Pace University. • George Isaacs and Lisl Barnes, May 31. They live in Winston-Salem, N.C. He is completing a general surgery residency at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and she
is practicing pediatric dentistry in a Medicaid dental clinic. ■ Steve Murray and Celeste Moser, August 17, 2002. They live in Memphis, Tenn. ■ Benji Sadler and Jessica Albert, April 26. They live in Beaufort, S.C., where he practices law. He has also been commissioned a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate General Corps. ■ Bryan Peter Stevens and Kimberly Rena Hilyer, October 4. Both work in Greenville, she as a physical therapist at Accelerated Physical Therapy and he as a contractor at Milestone Style Renovations. ■ BIRTHS: Stephen and Helen Arnold, a daughter, Alice Kathleen, August 28, Knoxville, Tenn. ■ Mark and Amy Bearden ’95 Clary, a son, Joseph Bearden Clary, September 26, Greenville. ■ Jim and Lara Cote, a daughter, Lillian Elisabeth, October 15, Murfreesboro, Tenn. ■ Todd and Jenn Overcast Lane, a daughter, Charlotte Abigail, August 1, Stone Mountain, Ga. ■ David and Sarah Aleemous Lourie, a daughter, Rebecca Barbara, December 16, 2002, Los Olivos, Calif. ■ Claude and Jewel Giesy McRoberts, a son, Noah Daniel, February 5, 2003. They live in Indianapolis, Ind., where Claude is an officer recruiter for the U.S. Navy. Jewel stepped down in 2002 from coaching volleyball at the College of Charleston (S.C.), finishing her career with two consecutive Southern Conference championships and a trip to the NCAA tournament. ■ John and Mary Mundy Miller, a son, Price Balford, October 15, Atlanta. John is a partner/producer with Sterling Risk Advisors. ■ Blake and Jenny King Neeley, a daughter, Anna Katherine, October 27, Goodlettsville, Tenn. ■ Anthony and Amy Scott Russo, a daughter, Isabel James, September 24, Okinawa, Japan. ■ Bill and Corrie Byelick Stover, a daughter, Baylie Barcus, September 12, St. Petersburg, Fla. ■ Alexander and Shannan Hurley Wayne, a son, Garrett Miller, October 1, Flowery Branch, Ga. ■ Corey and Corry Moorhead White, a daughter, Ashley Elizabeth, February 12, 2003, New Haven, Conn.

95 Next reunion in 2005 Cortney Combs is a Suzuki violin teacher in Davie, Fla. ■ Tammy Gann is a mathematics teacher at Wellington (Fla.) Christian School and also works in college ministries with her church. ■ After returning from military service in Afghanistan, Steve Hunt accepted a position as an operations research/intelligence analyst with SAIC in Denver, Colo. His wife, Heather Vande Brake ’96 Hunt, ran the Chicago Marathon in October. ■ Jennifer McLane is now teaching at Oakbrook Preparatory School in Spartanburg, S.C. ■ Cynthia Price of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., is a senior financial analyst with CSX Corporation. ■ BIRTHS: Charles and Kathy Culver, a son, Ty Ellis, August 28, 2002, Johnston, S.C. ■ Brant and Jennifer Zubrod Taylor, a daughter, Joanna Christine, March 25, 2003, Columbia, S.C. ■ Billy and Eleanor Iurcovich ’96 Williams, a son, Alexander Robert, August 15, Smyrna, Ga. Billy is a senior manager at KPMG.

96 Next reunion in 2006 J. Alan Alewine received his Ph.D. in mathematics from Vanderbilt University and is an assistant professor of mathematics at McKendree College in Missouri. ■ Deborah Drew Berry has been promoted to branch manager of the Regions Bank Meeting Street office in Charleston, S.C. ■ Bryan Cochran received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Washington in Seattle and has joined the faculty of the University of Montana in Missoula. ■ Scott Cooper recently became Southwest Airlines’ new area marketing manager for Baltimore/Washington, Cleveland and the northern Virginia area, with primary responsibilities for corporate sales, community events and media relations. ■ Andi McMahan Damewood is the academic Web services administrator at the University of Tennessee. ■ Karen Cram Hoar is a third-grade teacher in Miami, Fla. ■ Petrie Runnels Miles teaches chemistry at the Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tenn. ■ Scott and Tamara Engle Powers live in Douglasville, Ga. Scott is senior account executive for IntegraColor, a visual communications company supporting the Coca-Cola Company. Tamara is employed by Wellstar as supervisor of women’s resources for Kennesette and Cobb hospitals. ■ Julie West Torres of Fort Worth, Texas, who is pursuing a master’s degree in English as a second language at the University of North Texas, was recently awarded the Mary Patchell Memorial Scholarship from the school’s Department of English. ■ Britt Riedl Young is now a meteorologist and news reporter at KGBM-TV in Honolulu, Hawaii. ■ BIRTHS: Tim and Catherine Hinkle Austin, a son, James Laxson, September 12, Birmingham, Ala. ■ Ken and Jeanne Davis Fullarton, twins, a son, Thomas Gregory, and a daughter, Olivia Christine, November 2, Mount Airy, Md. Jeanne is a technical recruiter for SAIC. ■ Fred and Melissa Caron ’97 Grahn, a daughter, Olivia Audrey, July 15. Fred is the database administrator for McKinney and Silver in Raleigh, N.C., and Melissa has started a catering business. ■ George and Donna-Leigh Eichor Harmon, a son, Edward, September 26, Simpsonville, S.C. ■ Brian and Jill Fredo Kibler, a daughter, Andie Lynn, April 9. ■ Brian and Aubrey Lee Knighton, a daughter, Aurora, September 21, Bethlehem, Ga. ■ George ’98 and Kristen Nevins Linney, a son, George Edward IV, October 10. ■ Robert and Kristi Padgett Olterman, a son, Cameron Daniel, September 17, Marietta, Ga. ■ Robert has earned the Certified Financial Planner™ designation from Oglethorpe University. ■ Alex and Kim Sloop Powers, a son, Luke Nelson, May 7. ■ Brian and Erica Curren Schuler, a daughter, Sydney Lynn, March 27, 2003. Erica, a special education teacher, is pursuing a master’s degree for National Board Certification. ■ Adam and Caroline Simpson ’98 Whaley, a son, Graham Thomas, September 17. Adam completed his M.B.A. degree at the Goizueta Business School at Emory University last summer and works in the marketing department at ADP in Atlanta.

97 Next reunion in 2007 Having earned a master’s degree in accounting, Allyson Deihl lives in Jacksonville, Fla., and is a CPA for Blue Cross & Blue Shield. ■ Conan Felix has returned from Iraq and is assigned to the 2nd Tank Battalion of the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C. ■ Roy Kemper is a senior financial analyst with Bi-Lo in Greenville. ■ Karen Oberg Yochim is an attorney with the Gainesville, Fla., firm of Richard M. Knellinger, P.A. Her practice consists of family law, estate planning and probate. ■ MARRIAGES: William Marshall Moorhead and Jennifer Caroline Adamson ’99, September 27. Both are employed in Greenville, she as an attorney at Leatherwood Walker Todd and Mann, P.C., and he as district director of South Carolina Public Health Preparedness DHEC. ■ Dawn Villanueva and Brian Levy, May 3. They live in Roswell, Ga. ■ BIRTHS: Joe and Susan Worley Brewer, a son, Jackson Davis, August 3. They live in Charlotte, N.C. ■ Shane and Brandy Ray Duncan, a daughter, Jordan Elizabeth, June 10. ■ Tim and Courtney Garner ’98 Spitz, a daughter, Lilly, January 27, 2003, Pittsford, N.Y.
Bell named Mitchell Scholar

Monica Bell ’03 is one of 12 students nationwide to be named a George J. Mitchell Scholar for the 2004-05 academic year. The award supports a year of graduate study in Northern Ireland and Ireland.

The Mitchell Scholars program honors outstanding young Americans who exhibit academic excellence, leadership and community service. The scholarship, administered by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance, is a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., and is honored in memory of Mitchell, a former U.S. Senator from Maine who played a leading role in the Northern Ireland peace process. Each Mitchell Scholar receives a travel stipend, housing and tuition.

Bell, a native of Anderson, S.C., majored in political science and sociology at Furman. Active in the Association of Furman Students, College Democrats, Furman University Student Activities Board and Student Government, she was a Harry S. Truman Scholar and received the American Legion Medal. In addition, she worked as an intern at the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Justice Department.

Currently office manager of the South Carolina Democratic Party in Columbia, she plans to pursue a degree in equality studies at University College Dublin. She is the third Furman graduate in four years to receive the Mitchell award, joining Jenny Lambert ’01 and Hal Frampton ’02.

The Mitchell Scholarship program is one of the most competitive fellowship programs in the United States. This year’s competition had 245 applicants from 166 colleges and universities. Other recipients represented such institutions as Indiana, Northwestern, Princeton, Stanford and Virginia.

Next reunion in 2008

Shannon Barber works in Kuwait for Kellogg, Brown and Root (the engineering and construction arm of the Halliburton Company) as a morale, welfare and recreational coordinator for troops stationed in the Middle East. David Burns is now an associate at Velocity Sports & Entertainment, LLC, in Wilton, Conn. Scott Clanton, an assistant vice president at National Bank of South Carolina in Myrtle Beach, has earned a Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Christina, work in college ministries at Coastal Carolina University.

Alyson Dickson is studying for her Ph.D. in American religious history at Vanderbilt University. Audrey Dodson is the events and programs coordinator for the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership at Furman.

Ross Eldridge has entered a one-year M.B.A. program at the University of Georgia, at the end of which he will work in the investment banking group of Banc of America Securities. Ryan Moore of Rockville, Md., is in a pediatrics residency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Marisa Manzi Nava has received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Alabama and is a psychologist with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. Camille Gibson Rabon of Cullen, Va., is a music teacher at Appomattox Elementary School and also teaches economics at a community college.

MARRIAGES: Grace Dayril and Jon Michael Strother, September 27. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where Grace is a quality assurance coordinator for Pinkerton Compliance Services. Lindsay Rebecca King and Charles Thomas Hussey, May 31. They live in Birmingham, Ala. Lindsay is employed by Children’s Rehabilitation Services as a physical therapist and he by the Southeastern Conference.

Lindsey Jenkins and John Thompson, September 13. They live in Atlanta, and Lindsey is district advertising manager for Southern Accents magazine.

BIRTHS: Derek and Amy Maris ’01 Bruff, a daughter, Sophie Grace, October 4, Cambridge, Mass.

Cordes and Emily Ford, a son, Nathaniel, January 11, 2003, Charleston, S.C. Cordes is an associate with Buist Moore Smythe McGee, P.A. Joseph and Kate Augustine Haber, a son, Caleb James, September 6, Columbia, Md. Charles and Jennifer Cox Jeter, a daughter, Ellie, August 28, Huntersville, N.C.

Mitch ’99 and Kathyn Pierce Kiser, a son, Nicholas Paiton, August 3, Brighton, Mich. Andre and Laura Angel Mann, a son, Gabriel Judson, October 24. They are business consultants in Central Asia.


Michael and Leslie Oubre, a son, Jonah Michael, September 28, Lawrenceville, Ga. Michael is assistant band director at Winder-Barrow High School. He is also secretary/treasurer for the Georgia Music Educators Association District 13 and is coordinating the District Large Group Performance Evaluations.


This year is reunion!

Michelle Bellon received her master’s degree in architecture from Clemson University last May. The graduate faculty in the School of Architecture selected her to receive the Harlan McClure Award for the best architectural thesis in graduate study. She is an intern architect with Neil Stevenson Architects in Charleston, S.C.

Allison Digh Bumpgardner of Charlotte, N.C., is an executive assistant at Wachovia Treasury Services.

Julie Flaming has passed the South Carolina Bar and is an associate in the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, L.L.P., in Columbia. She is practicing in the area of pharmaceutical and medical device litigation.
Next reunion in 2005

Russ Boyd was scheduled to receive his Master of Divinity degree in December from Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University. He has been approved for ordination by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Cecilia Carro of Annandale, Va., has started graduate school at Georgetown University. David Cole completed his studies at Samford University and has been called to Hardwick Baptist Church in Milledgeville, Ga., as minister of music. Stephanie Gaston graduated from Campbell University School of Law last May, passed the North Carolina Bar, and works as an attorney with Cranfill, Sumner & Hartzog, L.L.P., in Raleigh. Ali Kraigsley of Sherman Oaks, Calif., earned her master’s degree in aerospace engineering and is now a research assistant at the University of Southern California. Paul ’01 and Mary Robertson McKie live in Hanover, N.H. Mary completed her M.S. degree in international agriculture at Cornell University and Paul is a student at Dartmouth Medical School. Ashley Clark Ransom is scheduled to graduate from Wheaton College in May with a master’s degree in teaching English as a second language/intercultural communication. Yolanda Schillinger has graduated from law school and is an associate in the New York City law firm of Holland & Knight, LLP. Jackie Smith is an assistant coach for the women’s basketball team at Bucknell University. Elizabeth Lightner Winter completed her master’s degree in library and information studies at Florida State University last August. Graham Wright is employed by Cambridge Healthtech Institute in Boston, Mass., as conference director. He is also acting and singing in the Boston area.

MARRIAGES: Jeremy Cass and Anna Lang, November 23, 2002. Jeremy is an instructor of Hispanic studies at the University of Kentucky in Lexington and is finishing a Ph.D. in Hispanic/Caribbean studies. Anna is finishing her Master of Public Health degree in epidemiology. Travis Filar and Natalie Muro ’02, August 9, Birmingham, Ala. They live in Lexington, Ky., where Natalie is in physical therapy school at the University of Kentucky. Travis teaches lower school physical education and coaches basketball at Trinity Christian Academy. He is also a volunteer assistant volleyball coach at the University of Kentucky. Adair Holliday and David Dobrowski, August 30. They live in Apex, N.C.

Whitney Jackson and Evan Howell, October 18. They live in Washington, D.C., where Whitney is a staff writer and reporter for the flagship newsletter of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Peter King and Shana Byers, June 7. They live in Alexandria, Va. Peter is in his third year at George Mason School of Law and Shana teaches at Mount Vernon High School. Kimberly Kinoshita and Ranjit (Sid) Avinash Khanolkar, October 4. Kimberly is a sales assistant with Smith Barney in Atlanta and Sid is an associate and portfolio manager with SunTrust Banks. Jonathan James Looney (M.A.) and Michelle Angela Montoney, October 11. Michelle is a student at the University of South Carolina, and Jonathan is an administrative resident at Newberry County (S.C.) Memorial Hospital. June Mee and T.J. Clark, November 1. June teaches at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and T.J. works at Countrywide Home Loans. Andy Platt and Melissa Rosenbaum, July 19. They live in Brentwood, Tenn. Andy works in the business office at Legends Club of Tennessee and Melissa teaches third grade at Christ Presbyterian Academy.

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. Birth and marriage announcements for alumni couples who graduated in different years are included under the earliest graduation date (except if requested otherwise); they are not listed under both classes. We ask that you include your spouse’s or child’s name and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

You can send news to Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail alumni@furman.edu.

FAX: (864) 294-3023. Selected items submitted to the on-line registry at http://alumni.furman.edu are included in class notes.

Stephanie Cole Long is a librarian in the Rutherford County (N.C.) Library. Tyler Milliken, an intern in the social studies department at Greenwich (Conn.) High School, has been accepted to the Master of Arts, Secondary Education and CT Certification program at Fairfield University. MARRIAGES: Courtney Armstrong and Jim Buxton, June 21. They reside in Atlanta where they are attorneys. Tricia Casto and Michael Fuller, October 11. They live in Cullman, Ala., where both practice law. Illana Fisher and Jason Burkhart, August 31, 2002. They live in Aiken, S.C. Illana is an assistant national coordinator of Wheelin’ Sportsmen, an outreach program of the National Wild Turkey Federation that provides people with disabilities an opportunity to enjoy outdoor recreation. Katherine Anne Fitch and John Clayton Pennlegion, September 6. They live in Greenville where both work for Campus Outreach. Erin Paul and Chris Golden, September 13. They are occupational therapists with Willowbrook Health and Home in Nashville, Tenn., working with the developmentally delayed. Erin received her clinical doctorate in December. Stacy Schorr and Geoffrey Chandler, October 10. Stacy is a copy editor/page designer for the newspaper Stars and Stripes in Arlington, Va. BIRTHS: Michael ’00 and Stacy Rowell Owings, a son, Alex, October 20. Stacy recently passed the South Carolina Bar and is employed by the Strom Law Firm in Columbia, S.C. Jeremy and Sarah Beavers Price, a son, Nathan Jeremy, August 7, St. Petersburg, Fla. Mark and Kristi Hulstrand Reed, a son, Walker, May 29, St. Simons Island, Ga. Jeff and Alicia Leerssen Stark, a son, William Jeffrey, February 21, 2003, Tyrone, Ga.


James Edwin Williams III and Kimberly Lynn Feindt ’01, July 19. They live in Decatur, Ga. James is a chorus teacher at South Gwinnett High School and Kim is an evaluation associate with Communities
When Ron Singleton ’83 answered an e-mail from the United Methodist Church national office asking for comments about the threats and effects of litigation on the ministerial profession, he never thought he’d wind up in the midst of “Lawsuit Hell.”

But that was the headline on the front of the December 15 issue of Newsweek, referring to an article about society’s increasingly litigious nature and how concern about being sued, even at the slightest perceived offense, is affecting various professions. And there, on the cover, stood Furman alumnus Singleton, minister at Inman (S.C.) United Methodist Church, alongside a physician from Brooklyn and a law enforcement officer from Maine.

Singleton, who has never been sued or known anyone who has been, says that his response to the UMC query pointed out how, as part of their training, ministers and prospective ministers are “made aware that you have to be careful about putting yourself in a vulnerable position and that there are general rules you need to follow.”

The UMC passed his thoughts on to the magazine, and soon a reporter called to follow up with a telephone interview — and to ask if Newsweek could send a photographer to Inman to take a picture. The story opened with Singleton discussing the precautions he takes, alongside a large photo of him in his church’s attractive sanctuary. (To read the story, visit the Web at msnbc.msn.com/id/3660738.)

Then came another call: Could he travel to New York for a cover shoot? Well, sure, he said, and wound up spending a day posing in a New York studio.

Singleton does point out that luck played a role in his 15 minutes of fame. Had the magazine been scheduled for printing a few days later, he wouldn’t have been a cover boy at all. “We were told that we would be on the cover — unless they found Saddam Hussein.”

The date of Hussein’s capture: December 13.

— Jim Stewart
Lincoln Financial Group. ■ Lauren White and Matt Steele, September 20. Lauren has left WYFF-TV in Greenville to be an associate producer with the station’s parent company, Hearst-Argyle Television, in Washington, D.C.

**Next reunion in 2008**

Adam Baslow has taken a job in land development with Special Properties Inc. in Charleston, S.C. ■ Erin Bourne of Greenville has become a sales and marketing associate for Ryan Homes. ■ Jessica Currier of Alexandria, Va., is a program analyst with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. ■ Philip Hinton recently completed Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla., and was commissioned as a naval officer. ■ Noah Huffman has been serving as a medical platoon leader with the 3-325 Airborne Infantry Division in based in Iraq. ■ LeBryan Sperling is working in Atlanta as a researcher with the Emory University sociology department on a project that deals with substance abuse among young people.

**MARRIAGES:** Lorna-Megan Elizabeth Bass and Cavett Robert Cooper, July 26. She is pursuing a master’s degree in education at Furman and he is employed at Leadership Center East in Greenville. ■ Jonathan William Caskey and Kelley Elizabeth Fitzgerald, June 28. Both work in Spartanburg, S.C., Kelley as a teacher at Fairfield Elementary School and Jonathan as public affairs assistant with the Southern Conference.

**DEATHS**

Marian Wrigley Dashiel 32, November 22, Spartanburg, S.C. She was an ardent conservationist and a member-at-large of The Garden Club of America.

Jerome Warren ’32, November 5, Orangeburg, S.C. He taught math and science in Lexington County (S.C.) Schools and was a district manager with Field Enterprises Educational Corporation. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and was a Mason.

Emily Orr Black ’33, October 23, Greenville. Active in civic affairs, she was Miss Greenville of 1933.

Elizabeth Gary Wells Bynum ’36, November 2, Columbia, S.C. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and served as a docent at both the Columbia Historic Houses and the South Carolina State Museum.

Josephine Loadholt Green ’36, September 14, Estill, S.C.

Sue Owings Harvey ’36, September 17, Greenville. She was a supervisor with the Department of Social Services.

Frances Schaefer Norris ’36, November 18, Greenville.

Gertrude Rollins Gaines ’37, September 26, Inman, S.C. She taught school for 36 years in both North Carolina and South Carolina. She was a former member of the National Teachers Association, State Teachers Association and Retired Teachers Association of Spartanburg County, S.C.

Leonard C. Boykin, Jr. ’39, September 12, Bishopville, S.C. He taught school, served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was general counsel for Ford Motor Company after graduating from the University of Notre Dame School of Law.

Beatrice Rimmer Fleckenstein ’40, November 10, West Valley, N.Y. She taught in Springville, N.Y., for 17 years.

Robert Neil Lacey ’40, October 27, Dallas, Ga. After serving with the U.S. Army Air Corps Weather Service during World War II, he had a career as a meteorologist and retired from the National Weather Service in Atlanta.

Eleanor Neely Booker ’41, September 9, Anderson, S.C. She was a retired teacher and librarian.

Erma Riggins Looper ’41, October 25, Greenville. She was active in performing and teaching piano and was a member of the Crescent Music Club and the Greenville Music Teachers Association.

Charles Allen Griffith ’42, November 22, Simpsonville. He was a retired Baptist minister, having pastored churches in Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia. After retirement he became interested in genealogical and historical research and authored two books.

Miriam Whitaker Burgess ’43, September 18, Belle Glade, Fl. She began her longtime career in education as a chemistry and math teacher in South Carolina and later taught math in Florida. She became headmistress of Glades Day School in 1967 and retired in 1978. She served as vice president of the Florida Council of Independent Schools for nine years, was an active member of its evaluation committee and traveled throughout Florida assisting in evaluating other independent schools. She was also an accomplished china painting artist for more than 50 years.

Mary Susan DeLoache ’43, September 19, Greenwood, S.C. She was employed with Saluda County Department of Social Services and also worked with Connie Maxwell Children’s Home in Greenwood before retiring from the South Carolina Children’s Bureau.

W. Lloyd Hellams, Sr. ’43, September 13, Columbia, S.C. For most of his career, he served as pastor of Southside Baptist Church and as interim pastor of Eau Claire Baptist Church. He served on the faculty at Baptist Hospital School of Nursing and on the board of trustees at North Greenville Junior College, Baptist College (now Charleston Southern University) and Furman. He also served as an officer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and was a Mason.

Lois Grace Johnson Hughes ’45, November 22, Greer, S.C. She taught for 25 years in the Greenville County School District.

Dorothy Slaughter Osborne ’46, September 16, Union, S.C. She worked with her husband in the management and operations of radio station WBCU. She was active in the South Carolina Broadcasters’ Association and in many organizations involving conservation and educational pursuits. She was a former board member of the Union County Mental Health Association and was associated with Friends of Union County Carnegie Library.

Miriam Westmoreland Anderson Putnam ’46, October 7, Greenville. She was employed in the agricultural and textile laboratories at Clemson University, Table Rock Laboratories, Greenville County Schools, Clemson University Extension Services and J.B. White Department Store. She served on the board of directors of Grady Hipp Nursing Center and was a member and president of the American Association of University Women.

Thelma Rose Turner Thomason ’46, September 9, Simpsonville, S.C. She retired from the Greenville County School System after a 35-year teaching career.

Charles L. Anderson ’49, October 25, Decatur, Ga. He was an Army veteran of World War II and had retired as office manager of National Gypsum Co.

Marian Bates Barker ’49, October 31, Rochester, N.Y.
Paul O. Batson, Jr. '49, September 18, Marion, S.C. An Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, he served in three theatres of war and received the Bronze Star and other decorations for actions in Burma. He was pastor of Little Rock and Fair Bluff Baptist churches before going to Marion Baptist Church, where he served from 1957 until his retirement in 1985. He was a trustee at South Carolina Baptist Hospital for 29 years, was moderator for the Marion Baptist Association and was a trustee at Midwestern Baptist Seminary for 12 years, serving as chair the last two years of his tenure. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by Furman in 1981.

Cecil Hartzog Beard '49, November 18, Murrells Inlet, S.C. He was an ordained Baptist minister and pastored a number of churches in the two Carolinas. He was a member of a Waccamaw Association Pastor's Conference and served on the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and the founding board of Baptist College (now Charleston Southern University), from which he holds an honorary degree. He also served on the boards of Connie Maxwell Children's Home and South Strand Helping Hand and was moderator for the Waccamaw, Williamsburg and Southeast Baptist associations.

John Frank Ingram, Jr. '49, November 7, Darlington, S.C. An Army veteran, he taught high school English for many years in Darlington and Hartsville, S.C.

Doris Cabler Turner '49, October 17, Travelers Rest, S.C. She was a retired teacher with the Greenville County School System.

Robert Gregg Willimon '49, September 24, Atlanta. He spent the majority of his working life as a writer for Georgia newspapers, including The Atlanta Constitution. He was a musician and served in World War II.

James Wharton Breazeale '50, November 11, Mount Pleasant, S.C. He was an account executive in the freight industry and was a commissioner for the Sanitation Department of Greenville County for 13 years. He was an Army veteran of World War II and was a licensed fishing guide.

Robert James Bringman, Sr. '50, September 9, Orangeburg, S.C. He was a pastor at various churches in South Carolina and Georgia and was in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was active with the Boy Scouts of America and received the Silver Beaver Award.

Robert Hoyt Lampley '50, October 31, Hendersonville, N.C. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, after which he worked with the family business, Lampley Motor Co. in Hendersonville. He was later employed by Royal Typewriter Co. in Atlanta, then transferred to Rockville, Md., as the company's director of international marketing. In 1969 he became district manager in Norfolk, Va. After leaving Royal he founded Chesapeake Office Supply, which he managed until his retirement.

Eloise Scaife Jones Rodgers '53, September 15, Prineville, Ore. She worked for the local Strom Thurmond when he was governor of South Carolina and later transferred to the South Carolina Tax Commission. She served as an auditor until her retirement after more than 30 years of service.

Douglas Neil Baker '54, September 4, Greenville. He pastored a number of churches in South Carolina before spending his final 30 years at Berea First Baptist Church. He served as president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention in 1989 and was a trustee at Greenville Technical College, Anderson College and Charleston Southern University. He was awarded honorary doctoral degrees by Furman and Charleston Southern. For 18 years he served as volunteer chaplain of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and for five years as a volunteer chaplain for SLED. He was recognized as the South Carolina Alumni of the Year by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1992 and as Citizen of the Year by the Berea Lions Club in 2003.

Mary Elizabeth Owen Gaddy '54, November 12, Asheville, N.C. She had taught school in Hartsville, S.C. She was a volunteer at the Rathburn Center and was a member of the Home and Garden Club of Asheville, the Salvation Army Auxiliary and the Western North Carolina Rescue Mission.

Joe Dan Sparks '54, September 30, Anniston, Ala. He had a long career with the Department of Labor and was an administrative law judge with OSHA in Atlanta before his retirement in 1989.

John A. Ramey, Jr. '56, November 16, Columbia, S.C. After six years in the U.S. Air Force as a payload master, he was a special agent with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for 27 years. He received the Treasury Agent of the Year Award in 1974 and retired in 1980.

Thomas S. Turner '56, September 15, Spartanburg, S.C. He was an Army veteran and a Southern Baptist minister who served as pastor of a number of churches in South Carolina and Georgia.

James Thomas Kerns '57, November 6, Greenville. He was part of the Army of Occupation in Japan during World War II and also served in the Korean War, receiving the Bronze Star for heroism and four Purple Hearts. He went on to be transportation sales manager with Arkansas Best Freight Co. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Hejaz Shrine and the Masons. He was also a member of the Limestone College Saints Clubs and was a volunteer for the Veterans Administration pharmaceutical program.

Ellen Gray Chapman '65, October 8, Myrtle Beach, S.C. She was president and owner of Genco, Inc., and worked for the Chamber of Commerce for a number of years as research and film office manager. She was a graduate of Leadership Grand Strand, was a volunteer with the American Cancer Society and served on the board of Community Volunteer Services.

Kenneth Walker Jones '65, September 5, Greenville. He was a former member of the Greenville Kennel Club and the Dog Obedience Club.

Boyd N. Lockaby, Jr. '67, October 20, Springboro, Ohio.

Larry Daniel McDonald '67, September 26, Greenville. He worked at the public defender's office in Richland County, S.C., and later practiced law in Beaufort, S.C., and Greenville. He was a member of the South Carolina Bar Association and the Greenville County Bar Association.

William C. Gray, Jr. '70, October 21, Atlanta. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was deputy commissioner of the Department of Parks and Recreation for the city of Atlanta, for which he worked for 24 years.

Dave H. Smith '85, September 14, Big Sky, Mont. A carpenter, he was a partner in Archer Smith Construction in Atlanta and worked for Stoner Construction in Big Sky before starting his own company, DHS Construction. While living in Atlanta, he played rugby for the Atlanta Renegades and was selected for the Georgia Select Side and the Eastern Regional Union Select Side.
Whitlow’s novels tackle ethical issues

What does a novelist do when Publishers Weekly dubs him the “John Grisham of the Christian (fiction) market”? Praise the Lord, and keep writing. Robert Whitlow, a Charlotte, N.C., lawyer and 1976 Furman graduate, is at work on his fifth Christian legal thriller. His last, Life Support, has sold more than 35,000 copies since coming out in July.

That’s hardly a Grisham-level number, but most novelists would like to have it. Whitlow has impressed Christian fiction insiders, including Jana Riess, religion book review editor at Publishers Weekly.

“I read so much Christian fiction, and most of it is lousy,” she says. “To find a novelist like Robert Whitlow who knows how to tell a good story and who improves with each outing — that’s a real joy.”

Christian fiction is a rapidly growing force in religious book publishing, Riess says. The biggest name is Tim LaHaye, co-author of the blockbuster “Left Behind” series, but the list includes other successful authors — among them Gary Parker, an Atlanta minister who is also a member of Furman’s Class of ’76.

The story of how Whitlow came to write Christian legal thrillers has twists and turns.

He grew up in Georgia, his love of reading kindled by his older sister Annette, a future librarian who passed on Look Homeward, Angel and other books. When he got to Furman he planned to major in business, but changed directions after a conversation with English professor James Stewart.

“I’m eternally grateful to him,” Whitlow says. “He told me, ‘Don’t worry yet about what you’re going to do for a living. You’re at a liberal arts school. Take advantage of what we have here in the liberal arts.’”

Whitlow majored in history, graduating Phi Beta Kappa. Then he went to the University of Georgia law school, where he made law review.

Between college and law school, he worked at a camp for emotionally disturbed children. The stress caused him to pray seriously for the first time. Whitlow credits prayer, along with reading C.S. Lewis’ Mere Christianity, for his move from casual to devout Christian.

Near the end of law school, Whitlow felt God telling him not to accept a job offer from a big Atlanta firm. Instead he joined a small firm in Dalton, Ga., representing injured carpet mill workers in civil cases.

During 17 years in Dalton, Whitlow built a lucrative practice. He married Kathy McClure, and they had four children.

In 1994, his wife dreamed that the family was moving to Charlotte. A year later, she had another Charlotte dream in which she saw the house they were living in. She told a friend, who said her brother owned a house just like that in Charlotte. And it was for sale.

The Whitlows decided God wanted them, for reasons they didn’t understand, to be in Charlotte. They bought the house in question.

The family moved in 1996, but Whitlow continued to practice in Dalton, driving to Charlotte on weekends. He recalls waking up one morning with the idea that few people appreciate the influence their forebears have on them, for good and bad.

As he drove to Charlotte that day, he thought of a story to illustrate the point: A young Southern lawyer learns, on the death of his father, that he has inherited membership in a secret society dating to the fall of the Confederacy. The bequest has social and financial advantages but becomes a curse from which only a turning to God can save him.

When he got to Charlotte, he told Kathy the story. She insisted he write it. So Whitlow began his first novel, The List.

“I turned on the computer and typed ‘Chapter One.’ I didn’t know what to do. I just had this thing in my head.”

Whitlow soon closed his Georgia practice and moved to Charlotte, deciding he could afford to write full time for two years. But he struggled with his novel and eventually set it aside.

In early 1998, he dared look again.

“Awful,” he says. “But one chapter was good.”

That was encouragement enough. Whitlow finished The List and got the attention of an editor at W Publishing Group, a division of Thomas Nelson Inc. The firm bought the novel and published it in 2000.

The List sold 20,000 copies in six months — impressive for an unknown author. Whitlow followed the next year with The Trial, about a small-town Georgia lawyer who defends a man accused of killing a wealthy college student. The Trial won a Christy Award, given by the Christian Booksellers Association for outstanding fiction.

In 2002 came The Sacrifice, about a North Carolina lawyer who defends a white teenager accused of a hate crime. Whitlow followed with Life Support, about a female lawyer who finds both Christ and a boyfriend while representing a troubled young wife who wants to pull the plug on her comatose husband. He’s well into a sequel, Life Everlasting.

All of Whitlow’s novels feature contemporary Southern lawyers grappling with faith and ethics. His overarching theme, he says, is that “God is real and wants to interact with us.”

Now a member of a Charlotte firm, Whitlow says he enjoys legal work but acknowledges that he does it mainly for health insurance and a steady income. Evenings and weekends, he’s writing fiction.

Whitlow is unpretentious, volunteering with a laugh that many of the lofty epigraphs he uses at the beginning of his novels’ chapters come from spins through “Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations.”

But he’s serious about what he believes he offers his readers: “I know the law, I know the South and I know the life of faith.”

— Sam Hodges ’77

The author is book editor for The Charlotte Observer, where the original version of this story appeared on November 15, 2003. Reprinted with permission.