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Every alum should be required to visit Furman in the spring. Remember the magic of the campus in late March or early April, when overnight the entire landscape turns from the woody brown and gray of winter to a vibrant spring green, bursting forth from every budding tree, flowering bed or grassy lawn? I could never decide who deserved more credit for this transformation, the good Lord or the Furman grounds crew! I am just glad to be the beneficiary of such creative design, and I have appreciated every moment of my 12 springs at Furman.

And just like the campus in the spring, life holds great potential, growth and change for me right now. With excitement and bittersweet emotions, I retired April 30 as director of the Alumni Association. In the words of a good friend, I am moving on to "smaller and better things." Bill and I are expecting our first child at the end of the summer, and I have decided to embark on what I believe is my true calling: full-time motherhood.

It is difficult, though, to envision life without a daily connection to Furman. This university has played an enormous role in my spiritual, mental, emotional, physical and professional development, a gracious role that I will never be able to measure or repay.

The seasons of my life at Furman have taken on various colors and patterns, each one distinctly different yet equally transforming. As a young, excited and unbearably nervous freshman, I moved into Unit One, an academic journey that challenged and stretched my mind and an emotional journey that introduced me to my closest lifelong friends.

After making a graduation appearance in the library fountains, I was fortunate to be invited back as a member of the admissions staff. Thus began my second season at Furman, a period of great professional maturing that offered me the chance to see the inner workings of this institution.

Admissions work was exciting, but what I really wanted was to plan all those alumni parties. Shortly after my move to the Alumni Office, a prominent administrator nicknamed me the "Furman party girl." I spent the next six years trying to prove that there is much more to alumni work than reunions, Furman Club events and Homecoming block parties!

No one was really convinced, and my favorite Furman memories do stem from alumni-laden events: late nights patrolling the mall at Homecoming, watching students labor over their floats, one very chilly March morning at Stone Manufacturing, launching Cherrylade on her four-mile journey "home" to Furman; a sunny October afternoon when over 1,000 people attended dedication ceremonies and ate "Lunch on the Lawn" at our new Alumni House, then proceeded to stroll through the front doors for a tour (don't tell the fire marshal).

Now, I have a lifetime of memories to anticipate. I can't wait for the day that someone surprises me with a new Furman "did you know" story — and I really didn't already know the news. I look forward to attending a class reunion or Furman Club event without having planned the whole thing, and I am most excited about one day moving my young, excited and unbearably nervous teen-ager into the Furman residence halls (no matter what my Davidson-alumni husband says)!

God has blessed me with rich days at Furman, and I am forever indebted to the professors, administrators, staff members, students and volunteers who have had an impact on my life. I will miss my daily trek to campus, and I will REALLY miss my glorious office in Cherrydale, but I will have forever my Furman memories and relationships.

Thank you, Furman, for such a blessed season of learning, loving and living.

— Shannon Wilkerson Wilson '93

Still time to attend Wellness U

From June 20-23, Furman offers alumni and friends the chance to explore the many facets of wellness through Alumni College, our second annual "educational vacation."

You'll learn from Furman professors and guest lecturers about such topics as stress management, diet, exercise, the effects of aging, and much more.

Here are a few quick facts on Wellness U:

Where will it be held? On campus. Attendees stay in the North Village apartments.

Who is invited? Alumni, parents and friends.

What is the cost? $475 per person, covering housing, meals, materials, use of campus facilities, and special events. Commuter cost: $375.

How can I register? Visit the Web at www.furman.edu/alumnicollege, or call the Alumni Office at 1-800-PURPLE3.

Reunion planning in full swing

Homecoming 2002, October 18-20, is just around the corner. And that means reunion time for classes ending in 2 and 7!

If you're interested in helping to plan your reunion, please contact the Alumni Office, which will put you in touch with the appropriate reunion chair:

1952: James R. Stewart, Jr.
1957: James B. Watts
1962: Janet Southern Huskey
1967: Murray and Beno Dozier Brockman
1972: Nancy Gianoukos Druffin
1977: Pamela Brannon Simmons
1982: Marshall Bettendorf, Sandy Morgan
1987: Si and Wanda Justus Pearman
1992: Paige Herrin Stowell
1997: Cari Williams Hicks, Jonathan Lewis

Furman Clubs enjoy busy spring

From the Carolinas to sunny California, Furman Clubs were in high gear this spring.

The always popular Spring Coaches Tour gave members of the athletic department a chance to meet with alumni and friends in Charlotte and the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area of North Carolina, while the Furman Symphonic Band traveled to York County (S.C.) and the South Carolina Midlands to perform for Furman groups. The Southern California, Delaware Valley (Pa.) and Chicago clubs planned service projects for early May, and the Bay Area (Calif.) Club planned an outing to a San Francisco Giants game with friends from the College of Charleston.

Visit www.furman.edu/admin/alumni/FurmanClubMap.htm for the latest information on Furman Club events.
31 Samuel Thaddeus Strom, Sr., is a retired educator and businessman living in Union, S.C. After serving as a principal of high schools in the South Carolina towns of Gray Court and Woodruff, he went on to own and operate a Western Auto store in Union from 1945 until his retirement in 1975. He has also been active in civic and church life. With his wife Martha, he is author of The Stroms of S.C. 1765-1983 and Certain Allied Families.

41 John Fowler, a retired educator from Mullins, S.C., and Christine Benfield of Covington of nearby Bennettsville have played tennis as partners for over 50 years. They have won 16 state doubles championships and three South Carolina Senior Cup championship tournaments, which features players from nine southern states.

48 Edward Wilbanks of Panama City, Fla., is the president of Capstone House, Inc., a not-for-profit educational and scientific institution.

49 In recognition of her many years of dedication and civic contributions to the city of Folly Beach, S.C., Betty Jo Sloan Fersner was selected by the town’s mayor to be grand marshal of the 2001 Folly Beach Christmas parade.

50 Virginia Short Uldrick is among 25 individuals recently recognized by The Greenville News as the community’s Top Leaders. They were selected by other Greenville community leaders on the basis of their influence on matters of public interest, including issues ranging from politics, business and government to education, religion and the arts.

57 This year is reunion! Joe Cooper, who recently retired as executive vice president of Greenville Technical College, has joined the staff of Taylors (S.C.) First Baptist Church as part-time financial administrator.

58 Next reunion in 2003 Harry Eskew, who recently retired after 36 years on the faculty at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, served as a clinician during Furman’s annual Church Music Conference in January. He coordinated a program on sacred harp singing and presented two lectures.

59 Next reunion in 2004 Wallace Hughes has retired as director of missions for the Abbeville (S.C.) Baptist Association, a position he has held since 1983. C. Dan Joyner is among 25 individuals recently recognized by The Greenville News as the community’s Top Leaders. They were selected by other Greenville community leaders on the basis of their influence on matters of public interest, including issues ranging from politics, business and government to education, religion and the arts.

60 Next reunion in 2005 Joel Jenkins is serving as interim pastor at the First Baptist Church of Cherryville, N.C. He and his wife, Joyce, have served with the International Mission Board for 14 years and he has pastored churches in six European countries.

62 This year is reunion! Troy Gregg, who retired in November as pastor of First Baptist Church of Chesnee, S.C., is interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Cowpens, S.C. He is a former chair of the South Carolina Baptist Convention’s Executive Board and a past member of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Nominating Committee. He has also been vice president of the state convention and a member of the board of advisors of Gardner-Webb University. He wrote the Bible studies for the March-May issues of the Baptist Courier.

63 Next reunion in 2003 Marthabelle Brunson Rabon of Easley, S.C., is a learning disabilities teacher in the Greenville County schools.

64 Next reunion in 2004 Jackie Cooper and his wife, Arlene, retired from the International Mission Board at the end of 2001 after 24 years of service in Panama. They are now on a three-year assignment to work with the Hispanic population in the Abbeville (S.C.) Baptist Association. Jackie is also an adjunct professor at North Greenville College, teaching Spanish.

65 Next reunion in 2005 Robert Miller has retired after 19 years as pastor of Woodfields Baptist Church in Greenwood, S.C. He also pastored churches in Florida and upstate South Carolina during his 40-year ministerial career. He has served on the Executive Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention and as a trustee of North Greenville College.

66 Next reunion in 2006 Charles E. Carperter, Jr., was invited to serve as a faculty member on a recent program of the Pacific Northwest Judicial Conference for members of the Supreme Courts of Montana, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Hawaii, Alaska and Guam.

68 Next reunion in 2003 Randall Jones and his wife, Juanita, were honored last fall by Langston Baptist Church in Conway, S.C., as the 2,700-member congregation celebrated his 25 years as their pastor. Jones currently serves as president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

72 This year is reunion! JoAnn Thomason Weathers is HR-recruiting manager with TMG Solutions, Inc., in Dallas, Texas.

73 Next reunion in 2003 John Monfardini, a State of Georgia High School Counselor of the Year, is head counselor at DeKalb Alternative School in DeKalb County, Ga. Furman president David Shi is among 25 individuals recently recognized by The Greenville News as the community’s Top Leaders. They were selected by other Greenville community leaders on the basis of their influence on matters of public interest, including issues ranging from politics, business and government to education, religion and the arts.

74 Next reunion in 2004 Eric Berg was among the forensic pathologists who performed autopsies and assisted in identifying body parts following the September 11 act of terrorism at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Janis Little, an honors English teacher at Brentwood High School in Nashville, Tenn., has finished her Plus 30 (specialist’s degree). She also sponsors the school’s newspaper and yearbook. The Palmetto Bank has named Tina deBondt a vice president for Travelers Rest, S.C. Bill Wilson of Belmont, Mass., is director of strategic development for Systems Engineering, Inc.
Next reunion in 2005
Jane Jordan has been promoted to deputy general counsel and chief health counsel at Emory University, representing the Woodruff Health Sciences Center and Emory Healthcare. ■ Chuck Magill of Duluth, Ga., is general manager of Yopak USA. ■ Bill McClintock has joined First Citizens Bank in Greenville as vice president and commercial relationship manager. ■ BIRTH: John L. (M.B.A.) and Audrey Betiger, a son, John Leon IV, February 12, Greer, S.C.

Next reunion in 2006
Frank Holleman, Deputy Secretary of Education in the Clinton administration, has been appointed to the U.S. Comptroller General’s Advisory Board for the General Accounting Office (GAO). He also serves as a member of the GAO’s Education Advisory Panel. He is a member of the Wyche, Burgess, Freeman & Parham, P.A., law firm in Greenville.

This year is reunion!
Donald Turner, pastor of Round Hill Baptist Church in Lexington, S.C., received the 2001 Harold Von Nessen Distinguished Service Award from the associate chaplains of Lexington Medical Center. He was recognized for his service to the medical center and to its associate chaplain program. He is a member and past president of the executive board of associate chaplains.

Next reunion in 2003
Ingrid Blackwelder Erwin has joined the Greenville law firm of Nexsen Pruet Jacobs & Pollard LLC to practice in the areas of labor and employment law and litigation.
This year is reunion!

Danna S. Brown has become manager of corporate finance with JPS Industries, Inc., in Greenville. Deirdre Jenkins Hunt and her husband, Bryant, live in Mission Viejo, Calif., where she teaches band at Kraemer Middle School in the Placentia Unified School District. Joanne Davidson Ibsen lives in Oster, Denmark, and is marketing manager at TARIGIT, a business intelligence software vendor.

BIRTHS: Tony and Betsy Bedini, a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, January 5, Raleigh, N.C. Austin and Kelly Woods Fleming, a son, William, April 9, 2001, Boca Raton, Fla. Craig and Charlotte Thomas Floyd, a daughter, Anne Elizabeth, January 9, Beaufort, S.C. Bryan C. and Andrea Moody, a daughter, Caroline Grace, August 29. Both Bryan and Andrea are attorneys in Scottsdale, Ariz. Peter and Sandra Sorge, a son, Cameron Peter, September 27, Jupiter, Fla. Peter is an executive chef at Jetty’s Waterfront Restaurant in Jupiter and is part owner of a restaurant in West Palm Beach, Fla., called Bimini Twist.

Next reunion in 2003

Brian Black is an assistant professor in the Cardiovascular Research Institute at the University of California-San Francisco. His lab works on the molecular genetics of cardiac and skeletal muscle specification and differentiation during embryonic development. Brian Brooks lives in Chula Vista, Calif., and works in private protective services. Paul C. Lam, a market representation manager for Ford Motor Company, was transferred to Dallas, Texas, last summer. He handles buying and selling of Ford Division car dealerships in Texas as well as Oklahoma. Kevin Moore is director of marketing for the Arizona Theatre Company in Phoenix. Michael Suttles of Florence, S.C., is a probation officer with the U.S. Department of Probation. John Watts has been elected a member of the law firm

Rosalie Manly Burnett ’49

A longtime music teacher, elementary school principal and church organist in Atlanta, Ga., and in Greenville, Rosalie holds a master’s degree in organ performance from Indiana University. She has been organist at Greenville’s Lutheran Church of Our Savior for the last 23 years.

Chair of her class reunion committee since 1974, she is a docent at Cherrydale, Furman’s Alumni House, and a longtime member of the Paladin Club. She is a past dean of the American Guild of Organists and a life member of the National Parent-Teacher Association and the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Charles W. Linder ’59

Charlie is professor of pediatrics and associate dean emeritus of the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, where he earned his M.D. degree and later practiced and taught from 1969 until 2001. He served as chief of staff of the Medical College Hospital for 16 years. A member of the Presidents Club at Furman and a longtime member of the Paladin Club, he serves on the board of directors of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He is also a member of the board of trustees of the Tomorrow’s Children Endowment Fund.

George Lee Johnson ’68

George is a vice president of Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina and an adjunct professor of journalism and mass communication at the University of South Carolina. He also worked with The Greenville News and in public relations at Furman and the Liberty Corporation.

A member of Furman’s National Development Council, he is vice chair of Planned Parenthood of South Carolina and president of the state Managed Care Alliance. He was elected to the Public Relations Society of America’s College of Fellows in 1996.

James G. Revels, Jr. ’62

Buddy, a high school alternative education teacher in Louisville, Ky., spent 18 years as a Baptist minister in South Carolina and Georgia. He also taught history at Mississippi College and worked in development and student services.

A member of the Furman Admissions Network, he has served on his reunion committee and as a class agent. He chaired the Community Youth Network in Athens, Ga., on the Georgia Foundation for Private Colleges and Universities and the advisory committee for Mercer University, and is active in community relief programs.

James Jackson Burks ’89

Jay is a major in the U.S. Air Force Medical Service Corps and chief of health benefits and policy for the Office of the Air Mobility Command Surgeon at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. He co-founded the St. Louis Area Furman Club and works with the Furman Admissions Network. He has been president of Mid-America Healthcare Executives of the East St. Louis Metropolitan Area and a diplomat of the American College of Healthcare Executives. He and his wife, Valarie Scheetz Burks ’89, will move this summer to Montgomery, Ala., where Jay will attend Air Command and Staff College.

Davin K. Welter ’89

Davin is station manager at WUGA 91.7 FM at the University of Georgia in Athens. He is a former director of the Furman Fund and has also worked in development at the Medical College of Georgia and at Georgia Southern.

Past president of Furman’s Young Alumni Council, he serves on the university’s Strategic Planning Task Force and Political Science Advisory Council. He is a board member of the Athens Kiwanis Club and the Run Walk for Home, is on the advisory board of the Athens Banner-Herald, and is a member of the 2000 class of Leadership Athens.

Candidates for Alumni Association Board of Directors

To vote for new members of the Alumni Board, please complete and return the ballot included in this magazine or access the Alumni site at www.furman.edu and follow the instructions for voting. Vote for one nominee in each column.
of Nexsen Pruet Jacobs & Pollard, LLC, in Greenville. He concentrates his practice in the areas of taxation, mergers and acquisitions, estate planning, commercial real estate and business planning. \textbullet\ BIRTHS: Jeffrey and Tracey Bridges Atwater, a daughter, Katherine Margaret, October 28, Atlanta, Ga. \textbullet\ Bernard and Evelyn Mantz Wedge, a son, Ethan Bernard, Alpharetta, Ga. 89

Next reunion in 2004
Rebecca Armacost is assistant vice president for diversity and workplace ethics with the Georgia Power unit of Southern Company in Atlanta, Ga. \textbullet\ Paul Constantine is one of three people recently promoted to vice president of merchandising with ScanSource of Greenville in the company’s newly created computer telephony integration business unit. \textbullet\ Shannon Duval, assistant professor of philosophy at Mount Mary College in Wisconsin, received the school’s 2001–2002 Excellence in Teaching Award. Her selection for the award was based on nominations by students and recent alumni. \textbullet\ Lisa Yeomans Landreth is lead budget analyst in the Greenville Hospital System. \textbullet\ Bryan Longmuir is chief financial officer and comptroller at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell, Ky. \textbullet\ Kelly Cole Spratling of Atlanta, Ga., is a computer programmer with the U.S. Army. \textbullet\ D’anne Dorris Weaver is assistant administrator at Faith Christian Academy in Greenville. \textbullet\ David and Emilie McDonald Woody live in Charlotte, N.C., where he is minister of youth at Providence Baptist Church and she is a history teacher and softball coach at Butler High School. \textbullet\ BIRTHS: Troy and Susan Schablir ’81 Fowler, a son, Vance Robinson Fowler, January 3, Slippery Rock, Pa. \textbullet\ Ray ’90 and Beth Lopez Jarvis, a daughter, Emily Catherine, January 26, 2001. Ray is an OB/GYN with the Harbin Clinic in Rome, Ga.

90

Next reunion in 2005
Tommy Hill of Greer, S.C., is a self-employed pilot. He flies for several companies on a contract basis and is also a flight instructor. \textbullet\ Holly Harris Mislyon has been promoted to director of finance and information systems with the Atlanta (Ga.) Opera and is also studying for her M.B.A. degree in finance. \textbullet\ Matt Pittman, a certified public accountant, has joined First National Bank of Spartanburg, S.C., as vice president and controller. \textbullet\ Lisa Stevens has been named a partner in the Weston Benshoof Roche Fort Rubalcava MacCuish, LLP, law firm in Los Angeles, Calif. \textbullet\ Angela Smith Williford of Tabor City, N.C., is risk manager, in-house counsel and corporate compliance officer with Conway Hospital, Inc. \textbullet\ BIRTHS: Sean ’92 and Tammy Toole Harvey, a daughter, Rachel Yvonne, December 11, Vero Beach, Fla. Tammy is a bookkeeper for Treasure Coast Builders, Inc., and Sean is a team supervisor for ROC Associates, L.L.C. \textbullet\ Matthew and Emily Radford Hill, a son, Ryan, December 31. Emily is an advertising account supervisor in Dallas, Texas. \textbullet\ Christopher and Carol Roper, a son, Nathaniel Joseph, July 12, Monroeville, Pa. \textbullet\ Michael and Wendy Eilers Timms, a daughter, Emma Grace, November 12, Dacula, Ga. Wendy is a senior personnel analyst with Georgia Merit System of Personnel Administration. \textbullet\ David and Alison Miller Turner, twins, a daughter, Anna, and a son, Caleb, April 17, 2001, Mount Pleasant, S.C. Both David and Alison work at the Medical University of South Carolina.

91

Next reunion in 2006
Page Anderson of Decatur, Ga., is an assistant professor in the psychology department at Georgia State University, working in the clinical psychology doctoral program. \textbullet\ Mark Bakker has become a partner with the law firm of Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham, P.A., of Greenville. His wife, Tara Daniel ’92 Bakker, is an occupational therapist with St. Francis Hospital. \textbullet\ Greg Edens of Liberty, S.C., is a family physician with Family Practice Associates in Pickens, S.C. \textbullet\ Doug Harper lives outside Tallahassee, Fla., and is an attorney specializing in family law, probate, trusts and estates. \textbullet\ MARRIAGE: Thomas K. Bates and Tara Nicole White, January 19. They live in Atlanta, Ga. \textbullet\ BIRTHS: Henry and Jeannine Preger Cheuning, a son, Hayden Campbell Cheuning, December 15, Glen Allen, Va. \textbullet\ Wayne and Jennifer Sherrill Davis, a son, Bryant Ziegler Davis, November 22, Willow Spring, N.C. Jennifer is an instructional support specialist in the Johnston County School System. \textbullet\ Robert and Natalie Huberdeau Doerr, a daughter, Anna, October 16, LaGrange, Ga. \textbullet\ Dan and Elizabeth Henss Giroud, a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, January 31, 2001, Round Rock, Texas. \textbullet\ Keith and Emily Johnson ’93 Hynds, a son, Joshua, December 8, Birmingham, Ala. \textbullet\ Julian ’93 and Mary Elizabeth Fox Kaufman, a son, Porter Jackson Kaufman, September 5, Signal Mountain, Tenn. \textbullet\ Jeffrey E. and Patricia Lynch McDaniels, a daughter, Lauren Elise, December 13, Atlanta, Ga.

92

This year is reunion! William “Tripp” Amos, vice president of field force development with AFLAC in Columbus, Ga., has been recognized as one of Georgia’s brightest young stars in GeorgiaTrend magazine’s “40 under 40” listing. \textbullet\ Christi Goss Bilbrey is director of volunteer ministries and facilities support for First Farragut United Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tenn. \textbullet\ Barry Culp has been hired as a project hydrogeologist with RMT, Inc., a full-service engineering and environmental management consulting firm in Greenville. \textbullet\ Beth Flowers Flannigan of Atlanta, Ga., is a media writer at Georgia State University. \textbullet\ Daryl Hartley, formerly a research assistant professor at the University of Tennessee, has accepted a tenure-track faculty position at the U.S. Naval Academy. \textbullet\ Patty Velado Hernandez is an oral pathologist and associate professor in the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. \textbullet\ Michael Overcash was scheduled to graduate from the Medical University of South Carolina in May with a Physician Assistant degree. \textbullet\ Michele Pope is scheduled to complete her Master of Library and Information Science degree through the University of South Carolina this summer. She teaches history at Landrum (S.C.) High School. \textbullet\ Christy Reed has been promoted to coordinator of enrichment services and technology at the Atlanta (Ga.) Speech School. \textbullet\ Curtis and Kimberly Rice ’93 Rush live in Clinton, S.C., where he is city executive for Wachovia
Artistic vision

Ron Boozer’s sketches adorn Shi’s new book

When Ron Boozer ’72 travels, he almost always takes his sketchpad with him.

During layovers in airport terminals, he sketches his fellow passengers. If there’s a busy city plaza near his hotel, he tries to find time to do a quick drawing of the surroundings.

And no matter how hectic his schedule gets, the Charlotte, N.C., architect devotes two hours each Monday evening to sketching at a studio near his office.

But does putting artist’s pen to paper help him unwind after a long day at work? Is it therapeutic?

Well, not always.

“I have such high expectations for a product and have a vision for what it should look like,” says Boozer, a native of Union, S.C., who has been sketching since he was in elementary school. “If it does not meet those expectations, it can be frustrating. Whatever the outcome, it’s always a learning experience.”

Boozer is a principal and team leader with Odell Associates, an architectural and engineering firm. An art major at Furman and a three-year starter at defensive tackle on the football team, he went on to earn a master’s degree in architecture, health care planning and design from Clemson University. He has contributed to award-winning designs for Shriners Hospitals in Sacramento, Houston and Boston, and he lists his work on The Johns Hopkins Hospital Comprehensive Cancer Center in Baltimore as his most challenging and rewarding project.

While his job responsibilities and family life leave little room for hobbies, he was able to carve out enough time recently to complete a set of ink sketches and a watercolor of the Bell Tower for Furman president David Shi’s new book, The Bell Tower and Beyond: Reflections on Learning and Living. The University of South Carolina Press published the collection of Shi’s newspaper columns, speeches and essays in April. Boozer’s drawings of campus scenes, students and buildings appear throughout the 217-page book.

Boozer and Shi were teammates on the Furman football team and had stayed in touch through the years, so it was logical for the president to ask his friend to provide the illustrations. Boozer visited the campus numerous times and completed 75 works, from which the publisher chose 26.

“I hope the drawings come across as more than depictions of students or buildings,” says Boozer. “I hope they evoke some feeling and communicate as clearly and simply as David’s writing.”

Although Boozer’s work has appeared in architectural manuals, The Bell Tower and Beyond represents the first time his drawings have appeared in a publication designed for a general audience. He is happy with the collaboration between author and artist and likes the idea of pursuing similar opportunities in the future.

But he’s not ready to quit his day job. “I’ve always had a great interest in architecture and art, and I made my choice [to pursue architecture as a career],” he says. “But I managed to hold on to the other. Sketching helps me share my artistic voice, and it hones my senses for architecture.”

— John Roberts

Another Boozer sketch is on page 20.
analyst with Pfizer Credit Department, Capsugel Division, in Greenwood, S.C. • Patrick Giles of Charleston, S.C., is working toward his Ph.D. in cell biology at the Medical University of South Carolina. • Laren Harmon of Parker, Colo., is a regional sales manager with Michelin, N.A. • James Higbe of Jacksonville, Fla., is president of Connexsys, a wireless internet and network services company. • Anna Maria McDiarmid and her husband, Jay, have graduated from physical therapy school and accepted jobs in Fairbanks, Alaska. Susan has been working as a physical therapist with HealthSouth in St. Augustine, Fla. • Shelley Waters-Boots is a research director with CA Child Care Resource and Referral Network in San Francisco, Calif. • MARRIAGES: Hilary Eaton and Brett Esry, June 2001. Hilary is an assistant scientist and safety officer at a particle accelerator lab associated with Kansas State University, where Brett is a professor of physics. • Lisa A. Sherrill and Brian Halstead, November 10. Lisa is a neonatal nurse practitioner at Carolina Medical Center and Brian is the business manager for D.L. Williams Electric, both in Charlotte, N.C. • BIRTHS: William and Kirstin Quinn Clark, a son, William Quinn, February 27, 2001. • Bruce and Julie Steinfield Clary, a daughter, Bethany Raye, October 5. Julie is a pharmacy manager with Bi-Lo Pharmacy in Spartanburg, S.C. • Chad and Leah Jackson, a son, David Lee, June 26, 2001, Houston, Texas. • Noel and Stephanie McGowan Kirila, a son, Colin McGowan Kirila, December 9, Kannapolis, N.C. • KERRY HARKE JOEDECKE of Decatur, Ga., is an associate with Rogers & Hardin, LLP. • Kristi Adair Nixon is a senior scientist with Lumidigm, Inc., in Albuquerque, N.M. • Wayne Pendle is director of sales with Eon, a communications company in Atlanta, Ga. While completing his Ph.D. at Tulane University, Mark Souther also teaches American urban history at Loyola University in New Orleans and is working on an article for the Journal of Urban History. He recently presented his research at a national urban planning history conference in Philadelphia, Pa., and again at the Organization of American Historians Conference in Washington, D.C. • Emily Thayer of Alpharetta, Ga., is a revenue assurance manager with Cingular Wireless. • MARRIAGE: Carolyn Ann Yates and Charles Michael Kochler, November, Nashville, Tenn. • BIRTHS: Brian and Lori Green, a son, Christian.
Allen, December 8. Brian is a resident physician in the Department of Radiology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Todd ’95 and Suzanne Cioffi Malo, a son, Jack Christopher, August 14, Greenville.

95

Next reunion in 2005

Emmet Austin of Greer, S.C., is a chemist with Cryvac/Sealed Air Corporation. Sarah Richardson Bentzler is a psychologist at the Developmental Evaluation Center in Wilmington, N.C. Duane Biasi is a trader with Avery Partners, LP, in New York City. Harry Foster is completing law school at Georgia State University. While in school he has worked with the U.S. Senate, U.S. Attorney’s office, U.S. Marshals and the Fulton County Sheriff’s office. Clayton Jennings has joined the Green­ ville law firm of Gallivan, White & Boyd, PA, as an associate attorney practicing in the area of commercial litigation, corporate and business planning, and real estate law. After receiving his L.L.M. degree from the University of Miami last summer, Eric Light has become an associate attorney with the estate planning firm of Cox & Nici in Naples, Fla. Hunt Rounsavall is an attorney with Goldberg & Simpson, PSC, in Louisville, Ky. His specialty is construction law. He also works in the securities area.

MARRIAGES: James Duncan and Wendy Gibson ’80, November 17. James is a vice president and asset manager with JPI Mid-Atlantic Development and Wendy is a consultant for Price WaterhouseCoopers. They live in Bethesda, Md. Cameron Nuesdle and Dawn Marie Fischer, April 28, 2001, Augusta, Ga. Lynne Sylkora and Samuel Unglo, December 29. They live in Atlanta, Ga. Lynne is public relations director at the Arthritis Foundation National Office and Sun is a financial planner at the Ayco Company.


96

Next reunion in 2006

Sherry Crowe of Saramon Lake, N.Y., received her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from the Medical University of South Carolina last summer and is now a postdoctoral fellow at the Trudeau Institute. Andrew Humphries of Mauldin, S.C., is a computer consultant with the McCraw Corporation. Brian Nutter is a judge advocate in the U.S. Marine Corps, stationed at Parris Island in Beaufort, S.C. Angie Avard Turner has been admitted to the Georgia Bar. She and her husband, Steven, have moved from Michigan to Pelham, Ga.


Daniel Ray Sprouse and Angela Marie Flowe, November 17, Greenville. Graham Looper Wood and Richard Bruce Sizemore, November 10. They work in Greenville, she with the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company and he with the City of Green­ ville.

MARRIAGES: David and Laura Carriere Axelson, a daughter, Mary Laura November 8, Atlanta, Ga. Derek and Melanie Brannon Derringer, a son, Derek Andrew, January 24, Irmo, S.C.

97

This year is reunion!

Kasey Allee is a professor of costume design at San Jacinto College in Houston, Texas. Dawnelle Diedrich is a doctoral student and research assistant at the University of Maryland. Meghan Smith Dykes and her husband, Scott, live in Louis­ ville, Ky. In addition to teaching approximately 40 private piano students, she teaches general music full time at a local Catholic school. Karen Esteri is an administrative assistant at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. Emily Slaton Fritz of Herndon, Va., is a ministry partner services representative with Prison Fellowship Minis­ tries. She and her husband, Scott, also operate a business of their own. John Scott Gray teaches philosophy and political science at Ren­ d Lake College in Ina, Ill. Travis Kleckley is completing course work for a concurrent master’s degree in health administration and health information systems at the Medical University of South Carolina. He is also a data manager with the Clinical Innovations Group.

MARRIAGES: Lori Cole and Matt Waters, December 15. They live in Ashburn, Va. Sonny Jones and Sarah Robinett, June 2, 2001. She is in nursing school at the University of South Carolina and he is in medical school.

BIRTHS: Ryan and Cyndee Lee Bonacci, a daughter, Shea Lee-Anne, October 1, Lawrenceville, Ga. Cyndee is program director at the Family Life Center at Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church. Michael and Lynne Andrews Brons, a son, Ednund David, January 12. They live in Annapolis, Md., where Michael is the assistant to the superintendent of the U.S. Navy Academy.

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Next reunion in 2003

Carrie Ackerman has started work toward her master’s degree in public health at George Washington University and works part time for the Academy for Educational Development in Washington, D.C. Jennifer Atkinson is in graduate school at the University of Georgia, studying for her M.Ed. degree in school health education. Arch Bell has moved to Austin, Texas, to work as a sales engineer with Insync Internet Services/Reliant Energy.

Grace Dayritt of Charlotte, N.C., has been promoted to quality assurance coordinator with Pinkerton Services Group. Chuck Dillard is musical director of Opera Carolina in Greenville. This education and outreach program is made up of a small group of young artists who tour the Carolinas and perform about 10 times per week.

Audrey Dodson has joined the sales staff of The Phoenix, Greenville’s Inn. She will focus on the social, military, university, religious and fraternal markets. Jamie and Chrissy Williams Duncan live in Raleigh, N.C., where Jamie attends Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Chrissy teaches kindergarten.

Chris Flynn works for the American Red Cross in Charlotte, N.C., and is attending Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, working toward a master’s degree in counseling.

Mark Kemp is minister of music at the First Baptist Church of Lexington, N.C.

Kiana Matthews is a user interface designer in the education and productivity division of Texas Instruments in Dallas, Texas.

Marie Swann, who is scheduled to graduate from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria and be ordained to the Episcopal priesthood this summer, will move to Shelby, N.C., to become assistant rector at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.

MARRIAGES: Amanda Hoffman and Gavin Desnoyers, January 12. They live in Cumming, Ga., and she is a software developer with MATRA Systems, Inc. They will move to Slovakia this fall as missionaries, to begin a high adventure camp for high school students.

Amy Hutchison and Andy McKee, July 2001. Amy has begun work toward her Master of Arts degree in teaching at the University of South Carolina, and Andy is in law school.
BIRTH: James and Julie Hudson Clark, a daughter, Sally Emma, January 8, Greer, S.C.

Next reunion in 2004
Rick Addy lives in Irmo, S.C., and works for Edward D. Jones & Company as an investment representative. During her first year of graduate work toward a master’s degree in architecture at Clemson University, Michelle Bellon has studied in Charleston, S.C., and in Genoa, Italy. Christa Brunow is an independent communications consultant and leads a junior high school youth group at a church in Charlotte, N.C. David Coe, who is finishing law school at Harvard University, has accepted a job in Washington, D.C., beginning in September. Mandy Collinger is publicity manager for Essential Records, a Christian record label in Nashville, Tenn., whose artist roster includes Jars of Clay, Third Day and Caedmon’s Call. Bob Crutchfield is an information technology specialist with IBM in Atlanta, Ga. Christine Dawkins was scheduled to receive her master’s degree in social work from the University of South Carolina in May. Jeff and Mary Moore DeLoach live in Athens, Ga., where she is a sales specialist with Flowers Inc. Balloons and he is a law student at the University of Georgia. Tara Fogleman teaches science at the Savannah (Ga.) Arts Academy. Megan Foote of South Royalton, Vt., is scheduled to sit for the South Carolina Bar examination in July after graduation from Vermont Law School. Renae Norris is a fourth grade teacher at Dacusville Elementary School in Pickens County, S.C. Mary Mitchell Richerson of Louisville, Ky., is an elementary teacher in the Shelby County Public School System. Meg Slowikowski has received her master’s degree in industrial and organizational psychology from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and is employed as an HR systems and services coordinator with Medical Management Professionals, Inc. She lives in Hixson, Tenn. Lindsey Osborne Stinnett was scheduled to receive a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Tennessee this spring. She works as a grant writer for Child & Family Tennessee, a social services organization in Knoxville. After finishing her master’s degree in history at the University of South Carolina last fall and teaching a class at Columbia College, Courtney Tollison is completing her doctoral classes.

Next reunion in 2005
Daniel Alvarez was selected by the Colorado Rapids in the third round of the Major League Soccer draft in mid-February. Liz Atwater completed her master’s degree in December and returned to Vancouver, Wash., to work as a human factors engineer with Hewlett-Packard, where she had been an intern last summer. Chris Churchill lives in Irving, Texas, and develops all forms of Web applications for his company, Churchman & Associates, Inc. Brad Crenshaw is a graduate student and teaching assistant in the Department of Geology and Geological Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. Michael Feldhaus and John Skinner are both employed by Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati, Ohio. Michael is an investment research analyst and John in brokerage operations. Michael is pursuing an M.B.A. degree at Xavier University. Elizabeth Head was scheduled to complete her M.M.Ed. at Florida State University in Tallahassee this spring. After completing her master’s degree in exercise science, Shelby Huie is a cardiovascular diagnostic technician at the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C. Tommy John III has signed to pitch for the Schaumburg (Ill.) Flyers of the independent Northern League. Jennifer Lichtenberg has moved to New York where she works in her family business, S. Lichtenberg & Co., Inc. Robert Staton is studying for a master’s and Ph.D. in medical physics at the University of Florida. Dana Steffen of Long Valley, N.J., is an elementary school teacher in the Washington Township School System. Tracy Towle completed her master’s degree at Furman in December and is now an assistant for the Hurricanes Club at the University of Miami (Fla.). Deborah Wells attends law school at Wake Forest University. Alicia Williams graduated from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro last December with a master’s degree in cross categorical special education, with an add-on license in learning disabilities. She lives in Cary, N.C., and teaches cross categorical special education for grades 3-5 at Farmington Woods Elementary School. MARRIAGES: Ellen Barbare Culbertson and Donald James Abramo, Jr., January 19. He is employed by
Merck and Company and she by Anderson County (S.C.) School District One. ■ Brooke Allison Bell and Mathew Glen Bair, November 10. They live in Anderson, Ind., where he teaches at North Side Middle School. She is a software analyst with Healthx.

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Next reunion in 2006

Reico Barber is studying for a degree in adolescent counseling at the Medical University of South Carolina. He works as a clinical residential counselor and a court-appointed parole officer. ■ Melanie Goode Callahan is self-employed and lives in Greenville. ■ Wes Cuberson is in his first year of graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, studying medical physics. ■ Christine Daniel of Mauldin, S.C., has joined the staff of the Girl Scouts of the Old 96 Council Inc. as director of communications. ■ Corrine O’Neill is an Americorps volunteer in Juneau, Alaska, working with AWARE, a shelter that aids women in abuse and rape emergencies. ■ Patricia Southard joined the staff of George Washington University in March as circulation supervisor/library assistant in the school’s Gelman Library. ■ MARRIAGE: Chu Pak and Mark Smith, October 6. They live in Simpsonville, S.C.

DEATHS

Marian Norris James ’27, December 15, Greer, S.C. She was a teacher in Greenville County, a former chair of the Easter Seal Society and a volunteer in the Greenville Hospital System.

Joseph Chesley Mathews ’27, December 9, Santa Barbara, Calif. A noted teacher and literary scholar, he held a Ph.D. degree from the University of California-Berkeley. His teaching career spanned almost 40 years, the last 30 of which were spent at the University of California-Santa Barbara. A Dante scholar, he authored many publications exploring the influence of Dante on American authors and was a recipient of the Harvard University Dante Prize. He was invited to lecture at the Library of Congress upon the 700th anniversary of Dante’s birth, and was awarded by the President of Italy the title Cavaliere in the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy. He received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Furman in 1996.

John Rogers Orr ’28, January 15, Seneca, S.C. He was a teacher, principal and superintendent in the South Carolina public school system.

Wille Cox Ray ’28, January 22, Whittmire, S.C. She taught primary grades for 27 years in schools in Clinton and Joanna, S.C.

Mary Sizemore Bishop ’31, January 16, Greenville. She retired from teaching after 30 years at Parker High School. She was a past president of the Cosmetology Teachers’ Guild.

Sam Brissie ’31, January 20, Lyman, S.C.

Grace Emma Lancaster Tate ’32, January.

Emma McGregor Webb ’33, January 1, Clemson, S.C. She served as organist, director of adult and youth choirs, pianist, choir member and member of the Music Committee of First Baptist Church of Clemson.

Roy Dendy Hogg ’34, December 7, Lyman, S.C. He played basketball and baseball at Furman and was retired from M. Lowenstein and Sons.

Susan Roe Keefer ’34, February 7, Travelers Rest, S.C. She taught school in Spartanburg (S.C.) County and worked in the music departments at both the University of Texas and at Furman, where she was for many years the department secretary.

Emma Grace Latham Kellett ’35, December 20, Belton, S.C. An educator in Greenville County schools for 35 years, she taught first grade for many years and later served as principal of two elementary schools. At her retirement she was a reading specialist for Greenville County. She was a charter member of Snow Campaign Daughters of the American Revolution, was active in several education organizations, and with her husband ran a general store and served as a precinct committee chairman.

Lucile Bolt West ’35, December 13, Greenville. She had retired from Harper Brothers after 35 years as a secretary. She was a member of Administrative Management Association, Magnolia Garden Club and Greenville Woman’s Club. She was listed in Who’s Who of American Women and Who’s Who in Industry and Finance.

Camilla Foreman Smith ’36, January 23, Greenville. She was a homemaker and active in First Presbyterian Church.

Elizabeth Nelson Burkette ’37, September 28.

Robert Lee Howard ’37, December 3, Greenville. He was co-owner and operator of Howard Brothers Gulf Station.

C. LeGrande Moody, Jr. ’37, November 16, Florence, S.C.

S.L. Watson, Jr. ’37, December 22, Lakeland, Fla. A founding member of the Florida Obstetrics and Gynecologic Society, he established a prenatal clinic for indigent patients in Lakeland and chaired a support group for Military Families-American Red Cross-Korean War. He was an attending staff member, a member of the executive medical staff and chair of OB/GYN Service at Lakeland General Hospital. His professional memberships included the Florida and American medical associations, Polk County (Fla.) Medical Society and the American College of OB/GYN ACOG. He was a diplomate of the American Board of OB/GYN.

Henry A. Bridges ’38, November 25, Bainbridge, Ga. A graduate of the Medical College of Georgia, he had practiced medicine in Bainbridge until his retirement in 1998.

Vivian Wickliffe Childers ’38, January 22, Greenville.

Frances Olivet Kendrick Wardlow ’38, November 8.

Catherine Brockman Sanders ’39, January 5, Spartanburg, S.C. She taught school and worked with her husband in his music career.

James Wesley O’Dell ’40, December 18, Jacksonville, Fla. He was co-owner and operator of Raymond Peninsular Warehouse Public Storage and Transportation Company, which was founded by his father in 1912. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, having served in the European Theatre, and was a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

William Govan King ’41, December 7, Clinton, S.C. A member of the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, he and his father began W.G. King and Sons Construction Company, which he ran until last summer. Having maintained his military status as a reserve officer, he was called back to active duty during the Cuban missile crisis. He also served as base commander of Dobbins Air

About class notes

Because of the large number of submissions Furman receives for the magazine’s class notes section and the amount of time it takes 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. Send alumni 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. FAX: (864) 294-3023.
Charles M. Harbin, Jr. ’46, January 15, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and retired as a supervisor for the Laurens Road Post Office in Greenville. He was a member of the Greenville Lions Club and the American Legion.

Harold A. Collins ’47, December 28, Americus, Ga. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II as a communications specialist. After his release from service, he earned both college and seminary degrees. He went on to pastor churches in Tennessee and Georgia and retired as pastor emeritus of Beecher Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga.

Sarah Martin Pittman Stombaugh ’48, November 25, Greenville. She was a former teacher and a past president of Greenville Kennel Club.

Charles M. White, Jr. ’48, January 26, Greenville. After serving in the U.S. Air Force Medical Corps, he operated a private medical practice in Greenville from 1957 to 1968. He was on the teaching staff of Greenville General and Marshall Pickens hospitals, chairing the psychiatry departments of both. He was a member of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, was a clinical associate in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina and was chief of staff and clinical director of adolescent psychiatry at Brierwood Hospital. He received awards from the American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, and American Academy and served as advisor and consultant for a wide variety of local agencies, departments and institutions.

James Perry Aiken ’49, January 15, Greenville. He retired from Allstate Insurance Company after 35 years, during which time he was a member of the Million Dollar Sales Club for 15 years and was awarded a Bronze Plaque.

Martin Vanburen Moss, Jr. ’49, December 25, Greenville. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he was an accountant for McBride Office Supply and was a 50-year member of American Legion Post 3, which he served as athletic director.

M.A. “Mac” Ivester ’50, February 10, Inman, S.C. He was a retired chiropractor with Dove Chiropractic. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, he was a Mason and a Shriner.

Dorothy Kendrick Connor ’51, January 27, Greer, S.C.

Claude Arnold Hightower ’51, January 30, Piedmont, S.C. During his more than 60 years of ministry, he served churches in South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

Nellie Josephine Belcher ’52, December 13, Greenville. She was retired from the Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Otis Walter Brady, Jr. ’52, January 15, Landrum, S.C. He was a Southern Baptist missionary who entered the mission field in the Bahamas. He went on to serve in Guyana, Mexico and Belize, and as a church planting consultant for the Caribbean. He pastored churches in North Carolina and South Carolina and was a U.S. Air Force veteran.

Donald E. Cook ’53, November 25, Wake Forest, N.C. He was a former professor at Gardner-Webb University.

Eugene F. Hayes ’55, December 23, Woodruff, S.C. He was retired from Whitten Center in Clinton, S.C.

Bessie Ann Allison Holden ’55, January 13, Landrum, S.C.

J. Bernard Shumate ’55, October 29, Highlands, N.C.

Jimmy Preston Greene ’56, December 17, Raleigh, N.C. He served as a Baptist minister and a teacher at Reinhardt College in Waleska, Ga., was a campus minister with the Georgia Baptist State Convention, and pastored churches in Florida and North Carolina.

Marlowe Timon Durham ’57, January 13, Lake City, S.C. He was a retired Baptist minister who served churches in the Upstate of South Carolina, in Lake City, S.C., and in West Virginia. He was a past president of the Williamsburg Baptist Association.

Nancy MacNees Conway ’58, February 3, Travelers Rest, S.C. She was a volunteer with the Greenville Literacy Association and the Humane Society’s Pet Therapy Program, and she served on the Northwest Area District 17 Library Board of Trustees.

Addie Lee Ballard Hunt, M.A. ’60, January 9, Columbia, S.C. She was a former teacher and guidance counselor in Easley, S.C., and held memberships in ADK, Easley Women’s Club and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ted McMeekin ’63, January 14, Abbeville, S.C.

Dorothy Yolanda Hill Harris ’72, November 26, Greenville. One of the first African-American women to enroll at Furman, she went on to work for Gates/Arrow, Inc., and was a former business manager of Dazzlers, Inc. She was a volunteer for the American Red Cross and was a Cub Scout leader.

Fara Denna Babridge ’89, January 26, Greenville. She was employed as a family caregiver.
Music, power and joy
A 9/13 concert brings out the best in a young conductor, an acclaimed cellist and an inspired orchestra

One day last August I picked up the ringing telephone in our home. The voice on the other end was that of the general manager of the Phoenix Symphony, where I am associate conductor.

"Bob, [music director] Maestro Hermann Michael is ill and not going to be able to conduct our opening gala on September 13," she said. "We'd like you to conduct in his place."

Young conductors dream about calls like this. Not only would I be stepping in to conduct our highly publicized opening gala, but the guest artist would be none other than Yo Yo Ma, the renowned cellist. I spent nine years in my hometown of Greenville studying cello with Furman professor Richard Maag, who helped crystallize my love for the cello and my admiration for artists like Yo Yo Ma. So I threw myself completely into score study and preparation for the first rehearsal, which was scheduled for Tuesday morning, September 11.

I woke at 6 o'clock on the 11th (9 a.m. Eastern time) and turned on the television en route to making coffee. I never got to the kitchen. Watching the second plane hit the World Trade Center is a memory I can never erase, as is the case for so many of us.

When the orchestra gathered later that morning at Symphony Hall for rehearsal, the musicians were silent, dumbfounded and unsure even of why we were there. I asked for a minute of silence, and then we played Tchaikovsky, Weber and Haydn. Music has a healing quality, and it was certainly in effect that morning. But it could not completely relieve our anxiety and sadness.

Later that afternoon, we discussed whether or not to proceed with the gala on Tuesday. I decided to ask Yo Yo Ma. He was in Denver, and although flights were grounded, he said that if we were going ahead with the gala on September 13, he would make the 16-hour drive to be with us.

That settled it. The concert was on.

He made the drive overnight, arriving in Phoenix just 90 minutes before his rehearsal with us. Yet he played with unflagging energy and artistry, and even stayed around for an hour afterwards, speaking with music students who had been invited to the rehearsal.

As an opening memorial, I decided to add Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings to our program. This poignant work is performed often in times of crisis or tragedy and has become a national hymn of memorial and remembrance.

Ten minutes before the concert was to begin, there was a knock at my dressing room door. It was Yo Yo Ma. "I wonder if it might be all right with you," he began, "if I could sit in with the cello section for the Barber." I found myself chuckling inside at this question, while being moved that this artist, perhaps the greatest of our time, also possessed such deep humility. "Yes, it will be more than all right," I finally answered.

And so Yo Yo Ma sat in the cello section and waited for the concert to begin.

If there had been any concern that the audience might stay away, it was allayed as I stepped to the stage. All 2,500 seats in the hall were full, and the 14 portal-door entries were also jammed with people.

The first sounds were that of the National Anthem, which everyone sang with overwhelming fervor.

Then came the Barber. No string player has ever given more than our musicians did that night — including Yo Yo Ma. He wasn't a superstar at that moment. Instead, he was one of our string "team" that created the most unified and powerful rendition of the work that I will ever experience. For what seemed an eternity after the final chords faded away, no one in the room could breathe.

And then the concert went forward. We realized we weren't there just to mourn loss, but also to celebrate life. The fire and energy of Yo Yo Ma's performances of the Haydn Cello Concerto in C-major and the Tchaikovsky "Rococo" Variations were matched by the orchestra's rendering of the Tchaikovsky Second Symphony. In those two hours there was no despair. There was only music, power and joy.

Yo Yo Ma took the stage at the end of the program and, unaccompanied, played a selection from Bach. Nothing could have served as a more appropriate "Amen" for the evening. Yet the audience called for more. So the orchestra played "God Bless America." The audience was in full voice once again, almost intoxicated now from hearing the world's greatest cellist lend his artistry to the evening, and from hearing our great Phoenix Symphony reach such a musical peak.

And where was Yo Yo Ma during this last piece?

In the cello section, playing and singing along with all of us.

— Robert Moody '89

The author is scheduled to conduct the final concert of Spoleto Festival USA June 9 at Middleton Place in Charleston, S.C. He dedicates this article "to the memory of my cello teacher, Dr. Richard Maag."