

6-1-2000

Gifts that make a difference

Mac McArthur
Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine>

Recommended Citation

McArthur, Mac (2000) "Gifts that make a difference," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 43 : Iss. 2 , Article 37.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol43/iss2/37>

This Article is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the [FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines](#). For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.

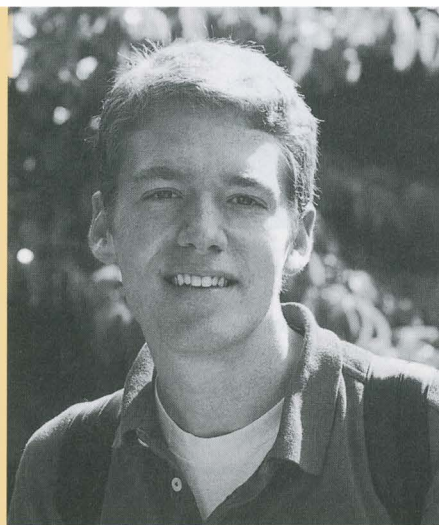
Gifts that make a difference

I decided to come to Furman in the spring of my senior year of high school, and that was and is a decision in which I take much pride. Having been here for two years, I know that Furman has been and will continue to be a place of personal growth and achievement. My education could not have been possible without the financial aid I received through the donations of alumni.

Upon inquiring in the Development Office, I was surprised to learn that the money for my scholarship comes directly from alumni donations: the \$5 and \$10 donations to the university. It amazed me that so many in the Furman family have given so that I might attend this school. That knowledge makes me appreciate my education even more than I already do.

I have been afforded the opportunity to be a part of many extracurricular programs, live in campus housing, and work closely with the faculty and staff. I feel that I have been a part of many facets of campus life.

In the past two years I have been a FRAD (Freshman Advisor), a peer tutor in the psychology department, a Psychology Club member, and a member of the Student Board of Communications. I was recently inducted into Alpha Epsilon Delta (the premedical honor society) and Psi Chi (the national honorary society in psychology). I have served as the



treasurer of the Student Alumni Council and am beginning my second year as the editor-in-chief of the *Bonhomie*. This is just one example of the small impact an individual can have on this campus — and thankfully, it was made possible through scholarship money.

I was taking photographs beside the lake during Homecoming last year and saw two married Furman alums. They had their three boys with them and were trying to take a family picture in front of the Bell Tower. The mother, obviously having a difficult time rounding up three boys, was becoming frustrated with the whole process. I stepped in and volunteered to take the photograph for them.

In taking that picture, I realized that life truly does run in cycles. In a few short years, I will be a Furman alum, and one day my family and I will be trying to take our own picture in front of the Bell Tower. I hope that I can make a difference in the life of even one student in the same way that alumni and alumni giving have made a difference in my education here at Furman University.

— Mac McArthur

The author is a rising junior from Spartanburg, S.C.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Election returns are in!

The staff of the Alumni Association is delighted to welcome our newly elected Alumni Board members!

New members, who were elected in balloting held through snail mail and, for the first time, through e-mail, are **Catherine Hunter Hightower '55**, **Randolph Williams Blackwell '63**, **Elizabeth Jean Howard '81** and **Catherine Rakestraw Smith '92**. In addition, the Alumni Board appointed **Lt. Col. John R. "Cass" Cassady '62** and **Mickey Arthur Walker '55** to fill unexpired terms. The new board met for the first time as a group at the Leadership Furman weekend (see below).

Many thanks to all alumni who agreed to serve as candidates for the board, and to everyone who cast a ballot. And special thanks to our outgoing board members who have done such an outstanding job over the last five years: **Aubrey Daniels '57**, **Vernon Dunbar '83**, **Michael Ray '72**, **Beth Kendrick Tally '70** and **Lisa Roberts Wheeler '82**.

And finally, a special tip of the cap to **Lynn Powers Gibbs '78**, outgoing president of the Alumni Association. Lynn's dedication and hard work on the Alumni Board for the better part of the '90s served as an inspiration to all of us, and she has certainly earned a rest — although we won't guarantee that she won't be called upon again soon!

The Alumni Board represents the entire Furman alumni body, more than 22,000 strong. Composed of 30 people from a broad spectrum of classes, the board advises the university on current and upcoming issues.

Furman Club news

The summer has been full of terrific Furman Club events. Tops among these gatherings were a Hawaii Furman Club dinner with President Shi and a reception in New York City for Furman's Big Apple summer interns.

Alumni and friends from all over the country also turned out for more than 20 Summer Send-Offs to introduce incoming freshmen to the dynamic Furman family. Many thanks to the volunteers, alumni and parents alike, who hosted these gatherings.

To find out how to get involved in the Furman Club network, visit or contact the Alumni Office.

Leadership Furman 2000

Furman trained and entertained its top volunteers at Leadership Furman Weekend August 18-19.

Representatives of the Alumni Board, Young Alumni Council and Heritage Society joined Furman Club presidents, reunion class chairs, class and head agents, and career services ambassadors as they mixed, mingled and discussed ways to better serve the university. The volunteers enjoyed dinner at White Oaks, remarks by Susan Shi, special presentations and an update on student recruiting.

To learn more about one of the aforementioned groups, contact the Alumni Office.