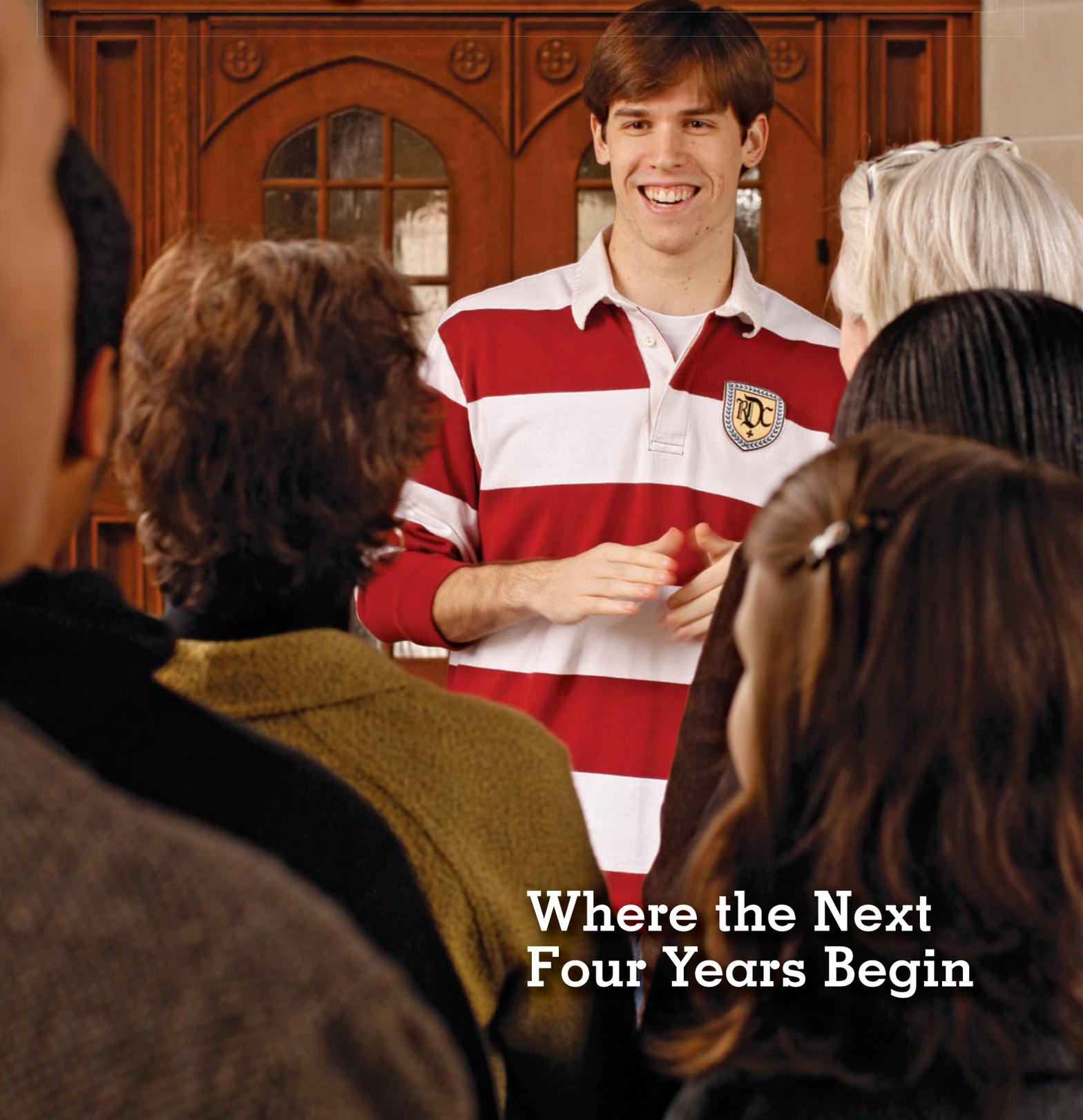


Rhodes

THE MAGAZINE OF RHODES COLLEGE • WINTER 2010



Where the Next
Four Years Begin

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WINTER 2010
VOLUME 17 • NUMBER 1



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Photography by Justin Fox Burks

Rhodes

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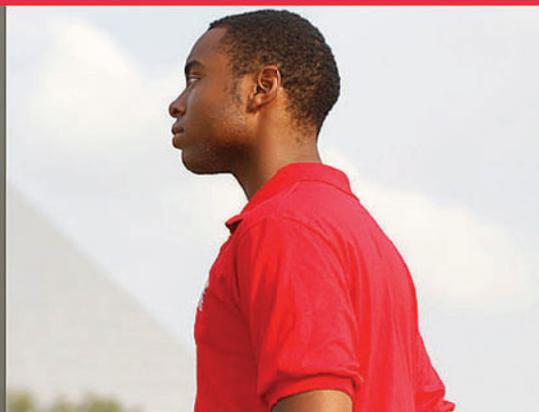
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December 3, 2009

Over There

A faculty-led trip to Egypt
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Over There



Finding Motivation in a
Multitude of Environments



Having it all

LATEST RHODES BLOGS

inside Rhodes » students »

False Sense of Organization

Thu, 21 Jan 2010 by Daniel

Last night in between dinner and
desert, the conversation turned to
obligatory military service. The guy
sitting across from me, who is finishing
a doctorate in fluid mechanics, told me
... »

Home is For

Wed, 10

NEWS



Anson Purdy '10 to Attend Campus Leaders Today, Community Leaders Tomorrow

Purdy was selected by Omicron Delta
Kappa national leadership honor
society to participate in the
... »

We've redesigned our news site. When you visit rhodes.edu/news, you'll find:

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- A new home for **Faces of Rhodes**, interviews with our outstanding students
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We hope you'll visit, view, comment and share!

WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

By Robyn Gibboney

Emergency student aid. It can sometimes be the key that unlocks the door to graduation. Although students who begin at Rhodes may not finish for a variety of reasons, perhaps most common is the high cost of staying in school.

When unanticipated circumstances arise, resources intended to help pay for college may no longer be available:

- ♦ A parent's employment status may change.
- ♦ A family member may face a serious health concern.
- ♦ The value of invested college funds may drop precipitously.

In these uncertain economic times, the demand for emergency student aid is at an all-time high at Rhodes.

Meeting this demand is one of our highest philanthropic priorities. When students have demonstrated the ability to succeed academically and are active members of our learning community, we are committed to helping them complete their Rhodes education.

Emergency assistance has made a difference in the lives of many students. For example, a first-year entered in the fall with all the hopes and dreams of her fellow classmates, but then tragedy struck. Her grandmother was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and her parents suddenly had to cover thousands

of dollars in unanticipated major medical expenses. Thanks to emergency aid funds, we were able to ease this family's tuition burden so that the student could remain at Rhodes.

Another emergency aid recipient speaks for many in a letter she sent to the college. That support enabled her to stay at Rhodes College and complete her senior year. "I am grateful to those who create these funds for unexpected situations that arise in students' lives. Thank you for your kindness and generosity."

Rhodes seeks to attract and retain a talented, diverse student body and engage these students in a challenging, inclusive and culturally-broadening college experience. We strive to make a Rhodes education accessible to all worthy students and to help our students succeed.

Fortunately, several funds exist to help meet these goals. You can provide emergency assistance by giving to the Margaret Hyde Council, the Joe Neville Society or the Student Aid Fund. You also may choose to endow your own emergency aid fund.

By providing for students' unanticipated needs, you enable them to graduate rather than leave. You challenge these students to persist and succeed in the face of difficulties. **R**



Where the Next Four Years Begin

By Chelsea Hennessy '11
Photography by Justin Fox Burks

In a 60-minute campus tour, Rhodes Diplomats present the college dream of academic excellence swirled with the promise of the person you can become here. Parents glimpse the well-adjusted young adults, while their sons and daughters perceive an idyllic escape from parental regulation and high school drama. Rhodes appears like an alternate universe of Gothic archways, black leather couches and a Starbucks within walking distance. Although, at this point in their lives, most are so eager to get away from home a tent would satisfy.

In this state of mind, students and parents could easily conjure an image of Rhodes that doesn't match the reality. The campus tour, for most students, is *the* one shot Rhodes has to present the real undercurrents of life here. As the College Board Web site says, "You can't judge a college by its brochure." The campus tour is one of the few opportunities for prospective students to talk with Rhodes students.

Assistant director of Admissions Beverly Brooks says, "The Diplomats have more impact than anyone on staff. These are people who could be in classes with you or in your fraternity or sorority, so that makes it seem more real."

Caroline King '06, another assistant director of Admissions adds, "Colin Johnson, a senior, is on the cross country team and he latches onto any student who is planning on running. A couple of years ago

every student he wanted to come to Rhodes came!"

Because student tours play such a vital role in the decision-making process, many Admissions offices at other colleges elect to pitch money at tour guide programs. But does monetary compensation for tour guides ensure a higher quality tour? Not according to dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Dave Wottle. He contends that a paycheck doesn't attract the right candidate for this high-profile position. To him, the volunteer nature of the job makes all the difference in the mentality of the tour guide.

"Students who really love Rhodes and are doing well here want to talk about it; they are the best advertisement of all," says Wottle.

The philosophy works; the prospect of giving back to the institution that formed you is ample payment for the Rhodes College Diplomats.

Jarrett Tate '11 says, "The money doesn't even factor in."

Applications for this volunteer position consistently pour in; last year more than 120 applied and 25 were selected.

Choosing the Diplomats involves a lengthy process of applications, interviews and deliberation. Admissions staff members and the student Steering Committee select them.

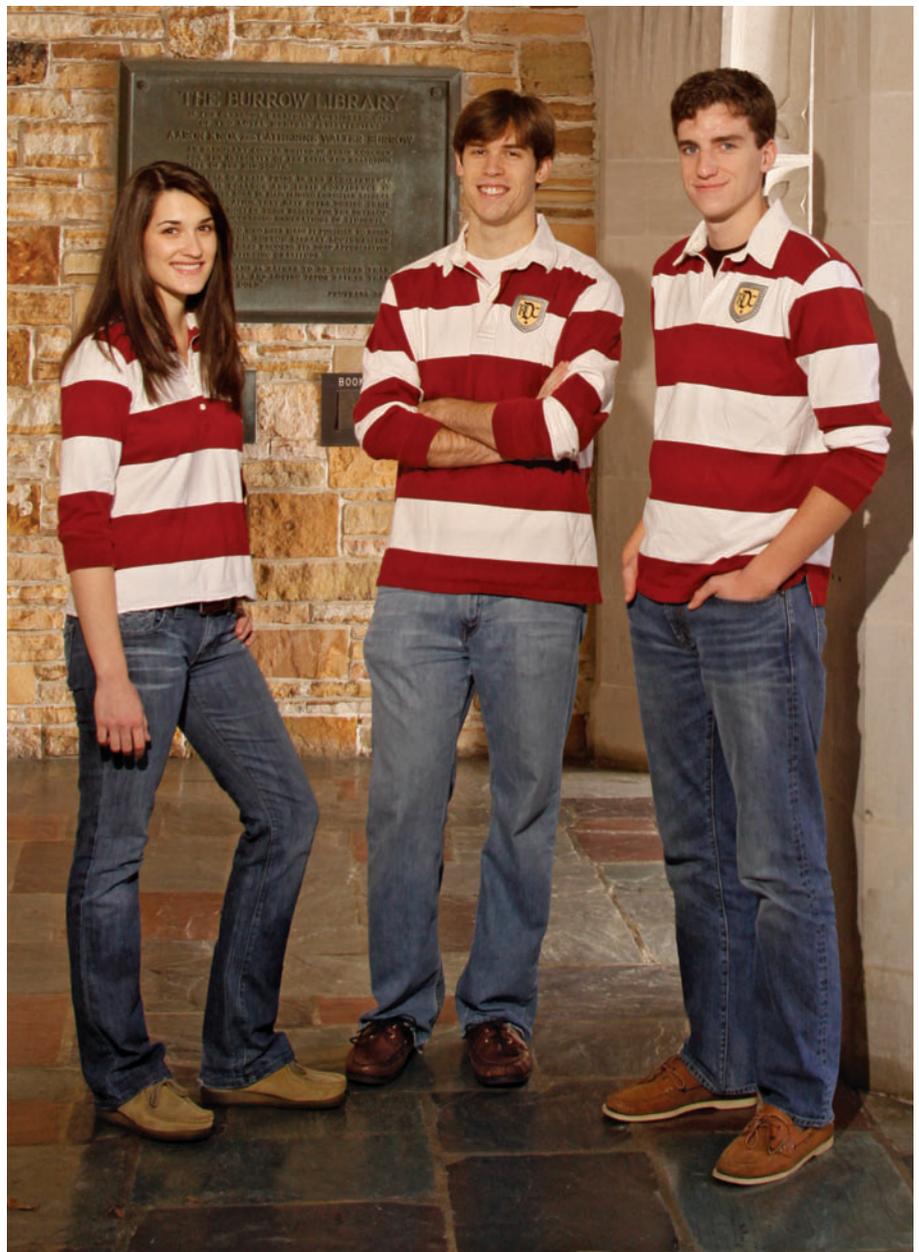
"We want students with experiences they can talk about," King says.

The tour guides must be able to answer rude questions with grace and difficult ones with fluidity; their honesty and poise will be tested. There are a lot of tough, unavoidable questions that are simply the nature of college life: Do kids drink on campus? What about crime in Memphis? The Diplomats concentrate on the safeguards Rhodes enacts to keep students safe and healthy.

“I am always just bowled over by how articulate our students are,” Wottle says.

So you think you can guide? Those ombudsmen who make it past the gauntlet of applications and interviews attend mock tours and receive a training packet with answers to frequently asked questions. They aren’t thrown into the lion pit without preparation. Guides are encouraged to memorize basic facts and statistics, but stories are far more valuable.

“When our visitors are spending an hour with a student we want that to be more valuable than something they could have gotten at home,” says King. “It’s not about memorizing the year the buildings were built; families can get statistics from the Web site. We



The Steering Committee—seniors Ali Goostree, Peter Zanca and John Nichols

want them to feel like they are already students here.”

Allyson Pellisier ’10 says, “The things I wind up talking about are the things that have been the most meaningful for me here.”

Tour guides have to pull a Walt Disney and find a multigenerational appeal, something that engages the students but is also informational for the parents. Guides generally start the tour by asking the group what they are interested in.

According to Dan Schrader ’10, making the tour run smoothly is “one of those things that’s just in the moment.”

Says Sarika Mirchandani ’12, “When we talk about



Rhodes Diplomats Dan Schrader '10, Sarika Mirchandani '12, Jarrett Tate '11 and Allyson Pellissier '10 pin on their name tags in the Admissions Office, Burrow Hall

how the student to faculty ratio is 10.5:1, I say that I'm probably that half person."

John Nichols '10 says, "I always like to stop in front of President Trout's portrait in Barret Library and briefly pay homage to him."

Schrader talks about the one thing every student has to do before graduation. He tells them, "You have to ride the lynx statue, but you can't get caught because there is a \$50 fine."

To Pellissier, giving tours is a bit of a guessing game to figure out what part of campus that student would be most interested in.

She says, "Then you get to highlight the parts of Rhodes that are most relevant to them." Each tour is personalized and addresses the group's interests.

What happens after the tour? The relationship doesn't have to be over if the visiting students don't want it to be. Business cards allow prospective students to initiate contact.

"Diplomat business cards are our most recent

attempt to extend communication beyond our visitors' on-campus experience. We don't want to be overburdening and call them all the time," explains Nichols.

Schrader says, "You develop a personal interest in some prospective students because they are genuinely interested in Rhodes—those are ones who will e-mail you after the tour."

King says of the Diplomat amenity, "It just makes sense. If they represent the college they need to have business cards."

The Admissions Office places trust in these students to present the most genuine and positive depiction of Rhodes. When asked if Diplomats feel any censorship pressure to circumvent certain topics, the overwhelming response was "No." Nothing is off limits.

Pellissier says, "The only thing we are asked to do is not to lie; we have an honesty policy. The Admissions Office wants people to come to Rhodes but they also



Peter Zanca '10 at the doors of the Paul Barret Jr. Library

care about retention. They want students to come to Rhodes for what it is, not what we present it to be.”

Mirchandani adds, “Not only are we asked to answer honestly, but if we don’t know the answer, we are just to say, ‘I don’t know,’ and I think they would rather hear that. I don’t feel bad about saying ‘I don’t know’ because I handle it the right way. I can e-mail them and then let them know the answer to their question.”

The Diplomats have free rein because they have earned it.

Brooks says, “I think it makes the parents feel free to ask anything—and get real answers.”

Like the embodiment of the honor code, students are trusted.

What may be most surprising is that the majority of the tour organization is done by Rhodes students. Admissions officers rarely interfere.

“We are just there to facilitate,” says Brooks, who advises the program with King.

The three members of the Steering Committee,

all seniors, do the brunt of the labor. Ali Goostree schedules meetings, makes announcements and recruits Diplomats in the spring. John Nichols directs overnight hosting and transportation and Peter Zanca handles the tour schedule. Together the three lead the monthly meetings.

Since the Diplomats aren’t paid, each student has a personal reason for volunteering.

“Being a Diplomat allows me to share my college experience with someone going through the decision process,” senior Diplomat Colin Johnson explains. “I appreciated honest insights when I was applying to colleges, and I like being able to give that to a visiting family so they can make the choice that’s right for them.”

The overriding reason that Diplomats volunteer their time is best expressed by King: “When you love Rhodes, you want to share it with other people who will thrive here.” 

TOTAL RECALL

By Martha Hunter Shepard '66

“I think it’s remarkable that anyone could remember something someone else said 40 years earlier,” says Bo Scarborough '67, speaking of his long-ago mentors at Rhodes.

Yet he does. We all do. We can’t help it.

We can quote verbatim what our Rhodes mentors said 10, 25, 50 years ago. Just read the Class Notes from

1949, 1958 and 1959—who knew back then that total recall would be part of the curriculum?

Yet it’s our fate, and a kind one, too, that those Rhodes mentors—professors, coaches, siblings, friends—knew and cared as much as they did to open up for their students new universes of thought, word and deed that would last a lifetime.



VIRGINIA ARCARI

Sid '68 and Carol Colclough Strickland '68 at home

Sid Strickland '68

Vice President for Educational Affairs and Dean of Graduate and Postgraduate Students at New York City's Rockefeller University; Research professor; Director of Rockefeller University's Laboratory of Neurobiology and Genetics
New York City

Carol Colclough Strickland '68

Writer
New York City

Like many alums, Sid Strickland had several mentors. His sister, Priscilla '63, was his first.

"When she was studying Biology at Rhodes, it was in the absolute midst of the molecular biology revolution," says Sid, referring to the explosion of research surrounding the DNA genetic code. "She would come home and tell me about the experiments they were doing and it was very exciting."

But like DNA's double helix, Sid's path to a Rhodes Chemistry major and Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Michigan had some twists. Namely, he set out to be a Math major.

"A very important person in my career was Math Professor John Christy," he recalls. "At the beginning of my sophomore year he called me in and said, 'You're a very good applied mathematician.' Implicit in that comment was that I was not a very good theoretical mathematician. He said there were a lot of sciences that use math that I might enjoy. So I switched my major to Chemistry and studied under Professor Richard Gilliom '56. There was a huge math component in his classes, which I loved. But there was no formal biochemistry course, so I went to Dr. Harold Lyons, who gave me a tutorial in biochemistry. We read the book, *Molecular Biology of the Gene*, co-authored by James D. Watson, who was a co-discoverer of the structure of DNA. That was my real introduction to the field."

By his senior year, Sid wanted more. So he went knocking on doors at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, asking anyone who would listen if he could work there. Dr. Martin Morrison, chairman of biochemistry at St. Jude, let him in, helping him "get my feet wet in experimental biochemistry."

Today in his lab, Sid heads a 15-member team of

international researchers whose cutting-edge studies include causes of Alzheimer's disease and stroke, and the use of stem cells to treat nerve defects.

At Rhodes, though, it wasn't all microbiology, all the time.

"The Man (Search) course was a very big influence on me," Sid says. "I still think about it. I read things that I would *never* have read otherwise. And the humanities professor who influenced me the most—I know this is a common answer—was Jack Farris in English. I can still quote things he said in class."

His wife, English major Carol Strickland, agrees.

"If I could tell a story like Jack Farris, I'd feel I could really enrapture my audience, because that's what he did."

Carol is a best-selling author of books that demystify art, architecture and art history—*The Annotated Arch*, *The Illustrated Timeline of Western Literature* and *The Annotated Mona Lisa*. She has written documentaries and prize-winning screenplays. A regular writer on the arts for the *Christian Science Monitor*, she is currently writing a historical novel about sixth-century Byzantine Empress Theodora.

"The most influential professor to me in terms of content and my future direction was Danforth Ross, who taught American Studies," says Carol, who went on to get a Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan and taught American Studies, creative writing and literature at several New York-area colleges and universities.

In addition to Dr. Ross, she offers a litany of Rhodes English Department mentors.

"For instilling discipline and scholarship I had great professors—Robert Cooper, Yerger Clifton, John Quincy Wolf, James McQuiston. I had my first basic literature class from Professor McQuiston, and when I wrote *The Illustrated Timeline of Western Literature*, I wished I still had my notebook from that course."

As teachers, Sid and Carol also draw from their Rhodes experiences.

"I think we both have a Socratic method of teaching that we learned at Rhodes," says Carol, "where you don't preach at students—teaching not as a didactic exercise—but you try to bring it out of the students to make them come up with the insights themselves so they have a sense of discovery and master critical thinking."

John Churchill '71

Secretary and CEO, The Phi Beta Kappa Society
Washington, DC

The motto of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest academic honor society, is "love of learning is the guide of life." A fitting credo for any scholar, especially John Churchill, who heads the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society.

Churchill once said, "When I came to Rhodes as a student, I fell absolutely and deeply in love with the whole liberal arts idea and wanted nothing more than to spend my life on a college campus." The philosophy major, Lynx linebacker, track star, Phi Beta Kappa, Yale Ph.D., Rhodes Scholar and Lynx Athletics Hall of Famer got his wish at Hendrix College, where he held teaching and top administrative posts for 24 years before being tapped to head the Phi Beta Kappa Society in 2001.

Since then, Churchill has overseen various PBK initiatives—two quarterly publications, lectureships, scholarships, fellowships and several awards and programs. He still is able to spend part of his life on college campuses, traveling extensively to visit PBK chapters and working with other institutions with similar goals to advance the liberal arts and sciences.

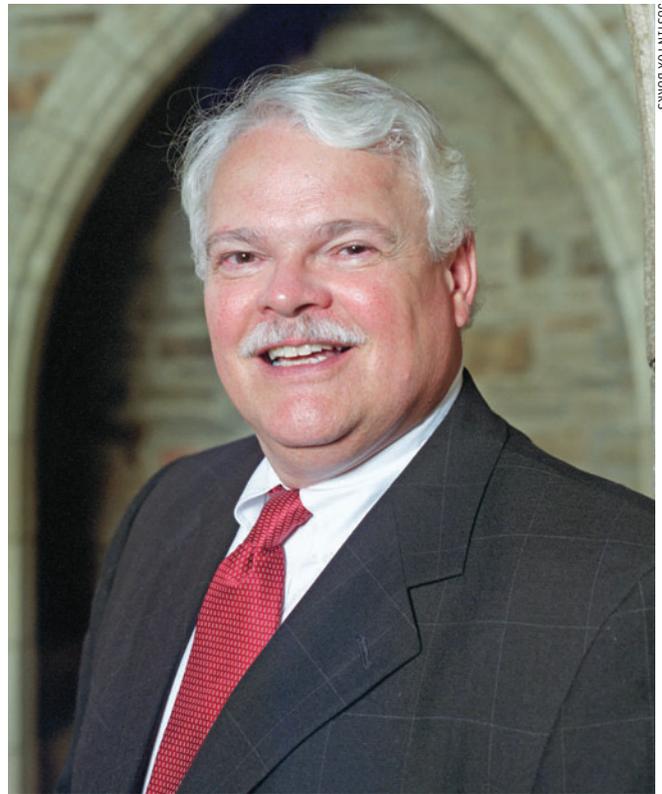
From his first day as a Rhodes freshman, the liberal arts-loving Churchill found mentors all over campus. In Philosophy, they were Professors Larry Lacy '59, Jim Jobs and Bob Llewellyn, with whom he has maintained "lifelong professional and personal friendships." Under their tutelage, Churchill chose as his area of expertise the thought of 20th-century philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein.

"Of course, I took a lot of German in addition to other courses," he says. "I studied under Gernot Dworschak and Horst Dinkelacker. In my senior year there were many independent study options, so I was able to design a lot of my own curriculum. In one of those courses, I translated Nietzsche's *Also sprach Zarathustra* from German to English under Professor Alvin Overbeck."

Another class he enjoyed was a reading course of Dostoyevsky and Kafka. In Religious Studies, he greatly admired Michael McLain, and during Churchill's sophomore year, English professor Jack Farris' Modern Novel class was a particular favorite, along with the get-togethers for the football team Farris and his wife, Anna, hosted.

Open to mentors one and all, Churchill found them on the athletic field as well.

"In football, Jesse Johnson coached my first two years,



John Churchill '71 at Rhodes in 2002

then Don Lear. Bill Mayo was the line coach, and in track, it was Freeman Marr '48," says Churchill.

Coach Lear once said, "John Churchill was the smartest football player I ever coached. He would know the scouting report inside out. He was like having a coach on the field."

In addition to his affinity for the game, Churchill found the chance to "get to know—and respect" his teammates, and he's still in contact with many Rhodes classmates.

"As a student," he says, "it felt like doors were swung open. Professors were always there, offering guidance, suggestions, orientation. That is characteristic of the very best colleges. It takes a certain culture and tradition for that to happen, like that of Rhodes.

"Last year I led a weeklong seminar for college and university presidents for the American Academic Leadership Institute of Washington, DC. As I prepared for it, I found it was very much like the Man/Search course in nature, and my Rhodes experience was very much in mind."

That Rhodes experience, he says, "was a rich one that has served me well."



MANICANTE PHOTOGRAPHY

Johnny Moore '88

Johnny Moore '88

*President and CEO, SunTrust Bank
Memphis*

Like John Churchill, Rhodes Trustee Johnny Moore found his Rhodes mentors in coaches and faculty alike. Then-football coach Mike Clary '77, now athletic director, recruited Moore.

"Mike Clary is the reason I came to Rhodes," he says. "I was looking to play at UT, Memphis State or Ole Miss. But I'd hurt my knee, and if Mike hadn't come to visit me while I was at Melrose High School, I probably wouldn't have set foot on the Rhodes campus."

It didn't stop there. Once Clary got the future Rhodes Athletics Hall of Famer and Business Administration major to campus, Moore found an academic mentor who took that role very seriously. It was legendary Professor Sue Legge, who prided herself on placing her students with the then-Big Eight accounting firms, not to mention the high ratio of her students who were successful in passing all four parts of the CPA exam in the first sitting. Johnny Moore was one of her many students who fit that scenario.

"As a student, my intent was to major in Business Administration," says Moore. "I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do in the business arena, but I thought

it would afford me the best opportunity for developing a successful career. Then I met Sue Legge.

"I took my first accounting class and did pretty well in it," says Moore. "Sue encouraged me to stay in accounting. I agreed, as long as I continued to make good grades. She became my adviser, counseling me to take all the accounting courses I could, even during third term, when students took 'lighter' courses. I really must have loved accounting to give up that third term!

"At the time, though, there weren't a lot of African Americans in the Big Eight accounting firms. So I said to Sue, 'Let's be realistic. There aren't a lot of guys like me there. How open are they going to be for me to join one of those firms? I don't want to make such a large commitment and expend all this energy on accounting if I'm not going to have a shot.'

"To her credit, she reached out to them, asking something like, 'I have this student here who's pretty good, and if he makes his grades, will he have an opportunity?'"

The next thing Moore knew, he was working at Ernst & Young. Shortly after joining the firm, he successfully completed the CPA exam.

"When I passed all four parts of the CPA exam on the first try, it was one of the happiest days of my life to go back to Sue Legge and show her my grades. This was my present to her for the interest she took in me as person. She went out of her way to help me, and that's something I will never forget."

Later, as a senior accountant at Ernst & Young, he ran some of National Bank of Commerce's (now SunTrust Bank) audits.

"I was on track to be a manager, but the bank convinced me to leave," he says.

He stayed with the bank for 17 years, mostly heading the Memphis region's commercial line of business before being tapped as president in 2009.

Moore is quick to cite Economics Professors Wasfy Iskander and Chuck Orvis as having been "very instrumental in my studies and career." Yet Sue Legge, he says, "was more than an adviser. We became really close. We made a commitment to each other, and I worked like crazy to make my grades."

The two still talk regularly, and Moore keeps up with Mike Clary.

"That's the beauty of Rhodes," says Moore. "Because it's a small college you can really connect with professors who can have an impact on your life both academically and professionally. And that connection is something you can't put a price tag on."

Charles M. Agee III '99

*Founder & COO, Augusta Capital
Nashville, TN*

Madison Moore Agee '99

*Marketing Communications Manager, Kroll
Nashville, TN*

"I was one of those Economics students who was a Ben Bolch disciple. There was a group of us who hung on every word he said," Charles Agee says.

However, he was to find that mentors come in many forms, including Rhodes Board of Trustees chairman Bill Michaelcheck '69.

As a student, Charles came up with the idea of forming Augusta Capital, a financial firm that is a capital provider to accomplished law firms that have significant contingency fee litigation practices. Unlike a bank, Augusta only recoups its investment if and when the law firms actually win their cases. Thus, Augusta's clients enjoy relief from the financial burdens that accompany contingency fee litigation without the pressures associated with traditional debt financing.

"In a nutshell, that's what Augusta does," he says. "We realized that it's hard for litigators to focus 100 percent on client advocacy when they also have looming loan obligations—it's a win-win situation for everyone. Augusta's business model has evolved quite a bit from its inception, but it's actually a concept that had its origin at Rhodes."

After Charles's junior year, Finance Professor Debbie Pittman '71 arranged a summer internship for him at Bear Stearns in New York City, "down the street" from Michaelcheck's Mariner Investment Group office.

"Bill and I knew each other—we grew up in the same part of West Tennessee—and we kept in touch throughout college," Charles says. "That summer in New York, I was thinking about the viability of this business model, and after hours I would just kind of run up and down Park Avenue from my internship at Bear Stearns to Bill's office and pick his brain. I guess it was something he thought enough of that he gave me a lot of good advice and even helped me get started."

Charles founded Augusta Capital his senior year, keeping it in Memphis for a few years before moving it to Nashville. Part of the idea for the company came from his father's experiences.

"My dad is a lawyer in a small-town practice where he does a little bit of everything, but what he really likes to do is litigate," Charles explains. "He's a born courtroom

lawyer, which is where he spends most of his time. So, while I was growing up I gained an understanding of the pressures and issues someone in his profession deals with. Also, some of the Economics and Business courses I took at Rhodes, plus my general interest in the financial industry—all those factors fed into the development of Augusta's business model."

Augusta Capital is "pretty unique," according to Charles. "There is a small industry we've helped to create that offers a variety of financial products to the legal industry, but there's just a handful of firms like ours with a national footprint."

Charles's wife, Latin American Studies major Madison Moore Agee, likewise found mentors in her area of study.

"My No. 1 mentor was Mike LaRosa," a History professor who co-founded the Latin American Studies program. "I feel like we navigated Rhodes together. He started at the college my first year. Mike's wheels were always turning. He was always thinking of ways to get his students out of our comfort zone. I took a class from him almost every semester, and he ended up being my adviser. We stay in touch and try to talk as much as possible.

"I also enjoyed taking Spanish classes from Eric Henager '89. He opened the whole world of Spanish American literature to me. He was very demanding, but at the time I appreciated having so much asked of me because it made me step up my game."

Along the way, Madison also developed her writing skills that she would later parlay into positions in the communications field. In her current position she creates and edits the vast majority of company literature for the Nashville-based Background Screening division of Kroll, the global risk consulting company headquartered in New York.

"My major was certainly different from what I do now, but Rhodes truly helped prepare me to write and communicate well," she says. "It's amazing how marketable that one skill is in the business world—most people can't write as well as a Rhodes graduate. My college experiences also encouraged me to be curious, be brave and ask questions. At Rhodes, I never felt uncomfortable challenging a professor, and I'm still peppering senior leadership with questions today."

After graduation, and with the best intentions of going to graduate school, Madison moved to Austin, where she began working in what she thought was a temporary assignment for American Campus Communities, a real estate company that specializes in building housing for colleges and universities.

"I started off answering phones and doing some



BOB SCHWARTZ

Charles '99 and Madison Moore Agee '99 at his office

 **WEB EXTRAS**

Go to rhodes.edu/magazine to find:

- Tributes the class of '59 paid to some of their faculty mentors at their 50th reunion in October 2009
- Bo Scarborough '67 discussing some of his Rhodes mentors
- In Print—new books by faculty and alumni

secretarial and assistant work,” she says. “It was a small company then—fewer than 15 people—and they needed some help with their proposals and business development activity. I said, ‘You know, let me have a shot at this.’ They gave me one project, and I guess I did a pretty good job because I very rapidly went from being a receptionist to manager of on-campus business development. It’s a testament to being in the right place at the right time with the right skill sets.”

Still, grad school beckoned. She moved to Nashville to pursue her longed-for master’s in Latin American Studies as a fellowship student at Vanderbilt. The move also allowed Madison and Charles, who was already ensconced in the state capital, to finally be together after a three-year, long-distance relationship.

“Madison and I knew each other at Rhodes, but started our courtship about a year after we graduated,” says Charles. “Just to make it extra difficult, we lived in different cities. We burned up our Southwest frequent flyer miles.”

The couple has a two-year-old son named Charlie, who they’re “already subliminally pushing toward a Rhodes education by often dressing him in a college-branded sweatshirt,” says Madison.

Like John Churchill, both Charles and Madison say they can’t think of a course at Rhodes they didn’t enjoy. Charles recalls a Political Science class with Professor Steve Wirls where “everyone in the class was super interested in the material because he had a way of piquing people’s intellectual curiosity.” Madison particularly liked film classes. “I took one my sophomore year, then tried to take one every semester,” she says. “I had always loved movies, but had never before thought of them as an academic endeavor.”

Says Charles, “Part of the Rhodes experience is that you’re immersed in an environment where students participate in classroom discussion and the professors make themselves available both inside and outside the classroom.”

A Rhodes education—it’s an unforgettable experience. **R**

Building Government 2.0

By Christina Huntington '96

Katie Jacobs Stanton in the library of the Old Executive Office Building in Washington, DC, home of the New Media team office

Last February, the Rhodes community buzzed with news that one of our own—Katie Jacobs Stanton '91—had received an appointment as the first-ever White House director of Citizen Participation.

“I feel like I have a front-row seat at history, because every time we do something, we’re the first ones,” said Stanton when she chatted with students and faculty at Rhodes in September.

Despite her imposing title, Stanton has an easy-going, approachable manner that seems consistent with her years at Yahoo! and Google. And to hear her speak with enthusiasm about her current job is to believe that working in government isn’t that different.

Stanton describes the eight-person New Media team on which she serves as “the ultimate start-up with the greatest brand,” staffed with talented people from a range of industries. Along with supporting the White House Communications Office, the group works with cabinet-level agencies and some smaller ones to help them communicate in new, effective ways.

The team’s mission is clear, as it came from the top. On his first day in office, President Obama issued a memorandum stating, “We will work together to ensure the public trust and establish a system of transparency, public participation and collaboration.”

“We try to take that directive very seriously in everything we do,” says Stanton.

Everyone plays, everyone wins

If you’re going to be transparent, you need to reach as many people as possible. So the team invested in the most popular medium on the Web—online video. They upgraded the president’s weekly radio address to a video format on Whitehouse.gov. More important, they also posted the videos on hugely popular sites like YouTube and Vimeo. For the first time, presidential messages left the confines of an official site, mingled with public content and invited responses. Think of it as a virtual town hall meeting.

And since the Web is global, what potential might video have for international relations? The team found out during the president’s first trip to Cairo in June, when they live-streamed video of his speech. It garnered 1.2 million views from 179 countries.

Reaching out to Muslims was a priority, so the team

distributed a video of the president’s address to Iranians on the holiday of Nowruz—the first day of spring. It received 610,000 views, with more hits coming from Tehran than San Francisco.

And video is just the beginning, because the Web supports more than just broadcasting.

“Technology is enabling unprecedented levels and types of collaboration,” says Stanton. “It’s not necessarily the government talking *to* people, it’s talking *with* people. And the Web enables so many more people to participate.”

Even before Obama entered the White House, his transition team began developing channels for mass participation. Through Change.gov, citizens were invited to submit questions and vote on the ones they deemed most important. (In fact, the site’s voting platform ran on Google Moderator, and Stanton led its implementation. She credits that association with her eventual White House appointment.)

More than 100,000 people made submissions, casting 1.8 million votes. The Obama team answered the most popular questions. The Department of Defense now uses a similar structure for gathering questions and concerns from troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

New media can amplify a broadcast, and it can give citizens a way to talk directly to government. But shouldn’t there be more to a lofty term like “Citizen Participation”? There is.

“We believe if we gather all these people together, they’ll find the resources and means to help improve their community,” explains Stanton. “This is where I spend a lot of my time, and I personally find it really fascinating.”

When the H1N1 flu became a concern, Stanton and her team looked for ways to educate the public about prevention. The solution, like the illness, was viral.

In July, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a video PSA contest on flu prevention. The top 10 videos were posted on YouTube, and the public voted on the overall winner.

Stanton says the contest yielded more than 200 great entries, many of them humorous.

“It allowed people to be creative about the flu,” says Stanton. “Who knew the flu could be that interesting and funny? But it was.”

The total cost for the project was \$2500—prize

money for the winning auteur, a rapping physician from Long Island.

“It was a low-cost, effective way to get people talking about the flu,” explains Stanton. “It’s not just the government talking, but it’s people talking to one another: ‘Hey, did you see this funny video on Flu.gov?’ Or ‘Hey, I heard you’re sick, check this out, it might help you.’”

Citizen participation may get a jump start from technology, but its critical effects extend far beyond the Web. Online conversations lead to offline actions, whether it’s getting people to educate their friends and family about the flu, or mobilizing citizens with the help of a site like Serve.gov, which matches volunteers with community service projects.

From Rhodent to Googler

As a college student around 1990, did Stanton ever anticipate a job in technology?

“Never in a million years,” she laughs. “I took an intro to Computer Science class and let’s just say, it didn’t come naturally to me. But I was fascinated by the first opportunities to do instant messaging.” (Other ’90s alums also fondly remember the “Phone” function of the VAX platform at Rhodes.)

Originally from Cortlandt Manor, NY, Stanton was a reluctant Rhodes student—at first. Rhodes was her backup college, and she gave herself permission to transfer if she didn’t like it.

“But when I got there, everyone was very friendly; it was very warm. I loved it so much that I wanted to stay.”

Stanton majored in Political Science, with Plough Professor of Urban Studies Mike Kirby as a mentor who encouraged active learning. Stanton recalls a project for Kirby’s class in which she worked with the Shelby County Department of Corrections.

“Getting real-world experience and injecting it into the classroom, making it relevant, was really important,” Stanton says. “And one of the best things I did was go abroad.”

Stanton went abroad twice through Rhodes—first to the American University of Paris, and later spent a thought-provoking summer with the Great Lakes-Jerusalem Program studying the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. She also held a summer internship with Sen. Edward Kennedy in DC.

Later, as a Jacob Javits Fellow at Columbia University in New York City, Stanton earned a M.A. in International Affairs. The program included time working for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. She jokes that she must be the only person to have

worked for both Jesse Helms and Barack Obama.

After grad school, Stanton settled in New York City to work for Chase Manhattan Bank. It was her first foray into technology, as a researcher in emerging markets. When she tired of banking she decided, “Whatever I did next, I wanted to be able to sit next to a stranger on a plane and be really proud of what I did.”

Stanton began her job search on Yahoo! and quickly realized it was just the kind of employer she wanted. Her finance background paid off, and she was hired to help develop Yahoo! Finance.

She moved to Yahoo!’s northern California headquarters, where she stayed for three years.

“Yahoo! was my first professional love, but I left it to spend more time with my greater loves, my newborn twins and toddler,” she says. “When I was ready to go back to work, I wanted to go somewhere that could possibly be as good as Yahoo! or even better. Google was the only company I could even think of, and I wasn’t disappointed. I was really proud to be a ‘Googler.’”

Stanton spent six years at Google, most recently as a principal in New Business Development involved with the OpenSocial platform. Before that, she worked on syndicating Google search and ads and later managed products including Google Finance, Blog Search, Google News and Google Moderator.

Always game

Stanton admits the move to DC from northern California, an environment she had grown to love, was daunting, but the transition has been relatively easy.

“This is such a wonderful opportunity for all of us, and I felt honored to serve this president and our country,” she says. “My husband was super-supportive and the kids were excited, too.”

Stanton has relatives in the DC area, so her children, now nine and seven, have been building new family ties. Her husband, Patrick, works for OPOWER, which provides rate comparisons to customers of participating utility companies as a way to encourage responsible energy use.

White House hours are long, and Stanton remains mindful of the constant balancing act.

“It’s hard as a working mom. When you’re working, you feel like you should be with the kids, and when you’re with the kids, you feel like you should be working.”

But discipline keeps family and work running smoothly. Stanton leaves the office by 6 p.m. every day.

“I want to have dinner with my family every night,” she says. “I want to help with the homework, and if the world

for some reason crashes—which it doesn’t—between 6:00 and 8:30, everyone knows how to reach me.” Once the kids are in bed, she wraps up work from home.

And there’s always plenty of work. When the worlds of new media and politics collide, change happens fast. Just a few weeks ago, Stanton embraced yet another transition—this time to a new role at the State Department. She’ll continue using new media tools to support diplomacy around the world, a practice she describes as “21st-century statecraft.”

In a (characteristically abbreviated) Twitter post announcing her move, she described it as “Same playground, difft sandbox & new friends to meet.”

Wherever the shifts in technology and priorities take her, Stanton will navigate with self-assurance and curiosity. Her take on the family’s transition to DC sounds a lot like her approach to work: “Everyone’s always up for an adventure.” 



WEB EXTRAS

View some video of Katie Jacobs Stanton’s ‘91 remarks to the Memphis Leadership Academy in September 2009 at rhodes.edu/magazine.

JUSTIN FOX BURKS



Katie Jacobs Stanton '91 speaking at a Leadership Memphis luncheon in September

AND THEN WHAT?

By Christina Cooke '10

Go to college. Get involved. Try new things. Make new friends. Earn good grades. Grow. Mature. Succeed. Graduate. And then what? Year after year, thousands of college graduates find themselves unsure of what direction their lives should take. Some eventually figure it out, some not. At Rhodes, an entire arsenal of professors eagerly awaits, ready to advise soon-to-be graduates on taking the next big step.

“I’ve been advising students interested in pre-health professions since I came to Rhodes 23 years ago,” says Dr. Alan Jaslow, a professor in the Department of Biology. Initially, it was a voluntary addition to his teaching duties, but Jaslow now undertakes pre-health advising on an administrative level as the current director of the Health Professions Advising (HPA) program. Launched in February 2006, HPA offers a variety of resources, such as a handbook of important information on each health occupation, a timeline of classes to take each year in order to build toward a specific career, and various networking events with alumni practitioners and graduate school representatives that offer students a glimpse of what lies ahead.

But in Jaslow’s view, the crucial element for attaining success is to meet with the students as soon as possible to get them on the right track.

“The sooner we can meet with them, the better,” he notes.

And he means it. As part of the Open Rhodes summer orientation program, Jaslow leads a session in which he discusses all the coursework and research experience necessary for a career in the health professions—all before the students have even had their first day of class.

“Educating the students as soon as possible on what they need to do is key to helping them be in the best position for where they want to go,” he says.

Approximately 30-35 percent of the student population

accesses HPA each year, and Jaslow keeps track of every one of them.

“I keep files on all my students, every one receiving their own dedicated folder,” says Jaslow as he slides open cabinet after cabinet. “Every time I meet with them—and I try to schedule regular meetings—I jot down what courses they’ve taken, what extracurriculars or research opportunities they’re involved in, where their GPA stands and any other information that will help me offer them the best advice possible,” he says.

Rhodes’ current acceptance rate for medical school and graduate school in the health professions is well above the national average, and Jaslow has no intention of allowing that tradition to diminish. In fact, *Newsweek* magazine rated Rhodes as “The College Most Likely To Succeed” based on high acceptance rates for medical school, law school and other graduate and professional programs.

Such sterling statistics are native to other departments. For instance, the Department of Psychology which, in a recent study, was ranked eighth highest in the nation for number of graduates who eventually receive Ph.D.s.

“We’re very proud as a department of not only preparing students academically but also exposing them to a variety of research initiatives,” says Dr. Natalie Person, an associate professor and current chair of the department.

From her perspective, those research experiences are the vital difference that makes Rhodes students so successful. By the time graduation rolls around, all Psychology students have had an authentic research experience and more than half have served on faculty research teams. That kind of background makes Rhodes students the choice candidates for graduate study.

“When I take students to conferences, my colleagues who work in graduate programs want to meet them,” says Dr.



Seated: Judith Haas and Alan Jaslow; standing: Marsha Walton, Mark Pohlmann, Natalie Person

Marsha Walton, a professor in the department. “Why?” she continues, “because they already know how well-prepared my students are so they want to recruit them for their schools.”

Currently, about 60 percent of Psychology students apply to graduate school and of that 60 percent, more than 90 percent gain acceptance. Although the research experience certainly prepares them, what aids in making the leap from aspiring undergraduates to established graduates is the close mentoring and rigorous selection process that the students undergo with their professors.

By the time Walton meets with her students, she expects them to have already researched which schools they’re interested in, what programs they offer, and have read through the publications of the faculty at each school. In her opinion, only through such thorough investigation will the students realize what they want to go to graduate school for and why.

“I want my students to go into this process with their eyes wide open, as wide as they can go,” she says. “I don’t recommend students for programs they’re not ready for and I don’t send students off without their knowing what they’re getting themselves into.”

Once the students have completed their research, the application process becomes much more of a matching process as Walton, Person and their colleagues work with the students to help them choose the schools that will offer the best education for their interests.

“If they’ve got the passion, dedication and grades necessary, we’ll help them find a place to continue,” says Person.

That mentality is precisely what Dr. Marcus Pohlmann, a professor in the Department of Political Science, employs when advising students interested in the law professions.

“I see myself more as a resource person than a student

coordinator,” he notes as he reflects on his 24 years serving as the pre-law adviser.

Like the Department of Psychology, about 90% of students who apply to graduate law programs gain admission, a percentage that enthruses yet irritates Pohlmann. In his view, if students are smart enough to gain admittance to Rhodes, then they already have the credentials to be successful at some kind of law profession.

“No matter what students’ particular interests are or how their GPA has fared, chances are there are schools out there that are the right fit for them,” he says.

He sees no reason why that 90 percent acceptance rate couldn’t be 95 percent or even 100 percent. From his perspective, students are often hesitant to come forward and vocalize their interest in law school.

“There are a lot of resources available to students, but they’ve got to take the initiative and identify themselves to receive the guidance they need,” he says.

But Pohlmann, like Jaslow, makes himself available to students from the get-go to quell any fears or anxieties. At Open Rhodes he hosts a session to discuss the necessary components for a career in law. As a result, his mailing list now typically has well over 60 names and his advising time slots are chock-full of eager students. In order to keep his advice relevant, Pohlmann collaborates with the Law School Board Association to keep track of which schools Rhodes students apply to, what LSAT scores helped them gain acceptance, and any other factors that influenced the schools’ admissions committees in their favor. That way, when students come to him, he can take a look at their credentials and advise them on the schools to which they could realistically gain acceptance.

“When it comes down to it, applying to graduate school costs time and money,” he says, “and the last thing I would want is for any of my students to waste either.”

As any professor can attest, applying to graduate school can require just as much time and dedication as a full-time class.

“It’s a long and arduous process,” says Walton, “even more so now with all the additional information available via the Internet, so I completely understand why some students choose to wait.”

For those who wish to spend a year or two pursuing an individual interest before continuing on, Dr. Judith Haas, an assistant professor in the Department of English, knows the perfect alternative: study abroad. In addition to teaching, Haas co-directs the Postgraduate Fellowships program with Dr. Mike LaRosa, an associate professor

in the Department of History. The two aid students in choosing the scholarship or fellowship that’s right for them and navigating the application process—and what a process it is.

“For some fellowships, we begin meeting with students as much as eight or nine months before the due date,” says Haas. Excessive? Hardly. Necessary? Absolutely. Haas and LaRosa endeavor to make sure the students examine why, specifically, they want to apply for a certain scholarship or fellowship, what they hope to gain from that experience, and how that experience will benefit them in the long run.

“We want the students to know the reality of what they’re getting into,” says Haas.

In order to ensure that the students are as prepared as they can be, Haas and LaRosa mandate that they submit their materials to their office for a simulated admission procedure in the weeks preceding the deadline.

“Through the mock interviews and application review sessions, we guarantee that students truly are a good fit for what they’re applying for,” says Haas.

Not all students make it through the vetting process, but the majority of those who do go on to attain success. At least one student per year has been named a Watson Fellow and the Luce and Fulbright Scholarships are usual staples on the list of awarded scholarships.

“I’m always on the lookout for exemplary students who would be a good fit for a postgraduate fellowship,” says Haas. “Making the information readily available is one thing,” she says, “but sometimes approaching a student individually helps ease those anxiety jitters.”

No matter what approach they take, Rhodes professors are passionate about and dedicated to furthering their students’ professional success.

“We’re a graduate school preparatory program, not a finishing school,” says Pohlmann.

And the students couldn’t agree more. In a recent campus survey, about 90 percent of the participants reported that they came to Rhodes with the expectation to continue on to postgraduate programs.

“The kind of students who apply to Rhodes all aspire to professions, not just a job,” notes Jaslow.

With that in mind, professors use these four years as an opportunity to cultivate their students’ readiness to go to graduate school, medical school or pursue a lifelong passion somewhere abroad—opportunities that for many lead to fulfilling careers. But no matter if students choose to enter graduate school or the job market right away, Rhodes ensures that they go forward prepared and with purpose. 

From the Alumni Relations Office

Dear Alumnus/a,

Greetings from the Alumni Relations Office!

This issue of *Rhodes* magazine features several alumni who are doing amazing things in their careers and students who are providing leadership in recruiting new students to enroll. As you learn more about these members of the Rhodes family, one theme that comes through is that members of the college faculty and staff as well as alumni are serving to mentor fellow community members.

Katie Jacobs Stanton '91 recalls the guidance of Professor Mike Kirby. Johnny Moore '88 speaks of the influence that Coach Mike Clary '77 and Professor Sue Legge had upon him. Charles Agee '99 extends gratitude to Bill Michaelcheck '69 for his willingness to help him as a young alumnus. In the "And Then What?" article, Christina Cooke '10 makes it evident that our faculty members work closely with students to guide them in making plans for advanced study.

I don't think anyone is ever too old to have a mentor. In my case, Billy McLean '57 was of enormous support

as I made the transition from student affairs dean at state universities to alumni secretary at Rhodes. He still is.

Nor is anyone too young to be a mentor. I see our sophomore students teaching newcomers the ropes every August.

We have an opportunity before us to facilitate mentoring among those who are able to share and those who can benefit from the guidance. A powerful electronic tool was deployed in January to connect members of the Rhodes family. It may be used by students seeking contact with alumni in fields they wish to enter. It is also available for alumni to connect with other alumni. Learn more about the Mentor Network on the Rhodes Web site, found on the Career Services home page. Please join.

Quite likely, our most remarkable resource in fully realizing the Rhodes Vision is our community. Please continue the good work of helping recruit new students, supporting student learning, assisting other community members in their careers and providing financial support to the extent you are able. To these items, which you are already doing so well, I



Bud Richey

ask that you add "mentor another" to your list.

Best regards,

Bud Richey
Associate Vice President and
Director of Alumni Relations

Nominations Requested

Nominations are requested for the following awards to be presented at Homecoming/Reunion Weekend Oct. 29-30:

**Distinguished Alumnus/a Award • Young Alumnus/a of the Year
BSA Distinguished Alumnus/a Award • Athletic Hall of Fame • Faculty Portrait Series**

Nominations are also being sought for a three-year term of service on the Alumni Association Executive Board. Individuals may nominate themselves for board membership.

Nominations must be received by Friday, March 12, 2010

Use the electronic form at rhodes.edu/alumni2951.asp
or e-mail alumni@rhodes.edu or mail to:

Bud Richey, Alumni Relations Office • Rhodes College, 2000 N. Parkway • Memphis, TN 38112

Class Notes

By Chelsea Hennessy '11

Rhodes College
Alumni Association
President
Marynell Branch '77
Little Rock, AR

1947

Ernest Flaniken of Cocoa FL, celebrated his 85th birthday in July 2009 by making a tandem ski dive from 15,000 feet. His jump master was a Brazilian named Junior. Both landed safely.

1949

Eloise Metzger Cooper Lewis writes: "Hello from Sun City Center, FL, where I'm so delighted to be able to drive my golf cart everywhere I need to go—grocery store, doctors' offices, movies, pharmacies, church, department store, and with doors on my golf cart, I use it rain or shine! I only use my car when I have to go outside the city. So nice. Still playing golf, dispatching for the Security Patrol every week, the Emergency Squad every eighth day and the Samaritan Services once a month, plus substituting often—all volunteer groups. At Prince of Peace Catholic Church, I'm a eucharistic minister and a member of the Cord Rosary Makers Group. Then there is water aerobics three times a week, weaving, the DAR, reading a book or two each week, computer time and all the extra little fun things, plus my little Maltese, Tiffany, the love of my life. With trips to Dominican Republic a couple of times a year to

visit my son Robert, I'm keeping quite busy. Frankly, I really don't think I could be taking advantage of all these opportunities if it hadn't been for the wonderful educational foundation I received from Southwestern/Rhodes back in the '40s. Didn't realize just how it would pay off in my golden years. Wish I could give all my professors a big belated hug for what they gave me."

1950

60th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30
Reporters: Ann DeWar
Blecken
355 Caraway Cv.
Memphis, TN 38117
901-683-4737.

Jim Williamson
733 University St.
Memphis, TN 38107
901-276-3989

Denby Brandon is co-author of the book *The History of Financial Planning*. It chronicles the financial planning movement and how it has grown and changed over the years.

1954

Anne Riley Bourne of Camden, TN, has once again received the Best Community Volunteer award. She has been actively volunteering since 1959. A cancer survivor, she has been a huge supporter for Relay for Life. She is also on the Benton County Arts Council and is a member of the Glover's Trace DAR. Says Anne, "I love having a mission to be involved in."



The Charitable Annuity: The Gift That Keeps Giving

The charitable gift annuity is an increasingly popular way to make a planned gift to Rhodes while enjoying fixed income for life and possible tax benefits. In exchange for a contribution of \$10,000 or more, in cash or appreciated stock, Rhodes can offer you a fixed annual payment for life, based on your contribution, your age and the current annuity rates established by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

The amount of your lifetime annual payment is determined at the time the charitable gift annuity is funded. Your annual payment will never change and will continue regardless of how long you live.

Age	Annuity Rate
70	5.7%
75	6.3%
80	7.1%
85	8.1%
90 & over	9.5%

You may establish a charitable gift annuity for you and your spouse or any other loved one, but the annuity rates will be slightly lower for two people. For additional information, please contact:

The Rhodes College Office of Development
901-843-3850
rhodes.edu/plannedgiving



Rhodes College
—1848—

1958

Reporter: Lorraine
Rayburn Abernathy
30 Willway Ave.
Richmond, VA 23226
804-353-4202
labernathy04@comcast.net

This report is being written prior to Thanksgiving, and **Jane Sohm** in Memphis sends along an appropriate item. "Thanksgiving cometh with thoughts of teachers who left their imprint." She mentioned with gratitude Dr. Dan Rhodes, Dr. Taylor Reveley and Dr. Jameson Jones in the fields of religion and ethics. I'm sure we are all grateful for the many excellent teachers we had at Rhodes.

Nancy Carter Burnidge in Illinois wrote that she was looking forward to enjoying her family at home for Thanksgiving, including three-year-old twins. Nancy recommended a book she read over the summer, *What Is the What*, by Dave Eggers. She hoped others would suggest good books and said she particularly enjoyed *Rhodes* magazine recommendations by current professors.

Nancy, I know, enjoys Elderhostel programs as I do. This past summer I had a great time at Montreat, NC, at a program on Scottish influence on Montreat and the mountain area. Met an old friend at Black Mountain, little town near Montreat, and strolling around after lunch we ran into **Denton** and **Mary Allie McLellan '61**, who spent the summer in Black Mountain working on their vacation home, which I visited one afternoon. I also ran into

Charlotte Frist Chesnutt '60, who, with her husband, lives in Montreat. I had a lovely, long phone conversation with **Anne (Pooh) Caldwell '51**, who recently moved to Asheville.

Robert Neil Templeton shared the news that **Jettie Bowen** and his wife Glenda had invited the Templetons to come to Memphis for Homecoming to see old friend **Billy Young '60** inducted into the Rhodes Athletic Hall of Fame. They discovered that Coach Bill Mabry and classmate **Bobby Rose** were also being inducted. Temp and wife Karen had also enjoyed a reunion in Cashiers, NC, with some old shipmates on the USS *Monrovia*, who celebrated having met 50 years ago.

Louis and **Kip Shoaf Zbinden's** four children threw their parents a lovely beach party, complete with "a huge tent," in Port Aransas, TX, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 14.

Jane Barr Stump-Green writes from Arizona that she and her husband got away to Zion National Park in Utah, after enjoying the visit of classmates **Barbara McClaren Matthaei** and **Nancy Carter Burnidge**, who were visiting the Grand Canyon. Jane wrote to let us know she has finished a book on the history of Show Low, AZ, and Fort Apache from 1200-1903. The Apache Wars were fought near Show Low. She has received some impressive reviews, both about the interesting writing and its accuracy. She said it is available in bookstores or Orders@Xlibris.com. The title is *Show Low Dreams:*

The History of Show Low, Arizona and Fort Apache, 1200-1903.

We have heard from **Catherine Earle Cortelyou** in Alabama that she had a busy summer, with a two-week beach trip to Florida, trips to Atlanta and New Orleans, working on a re-enactment of the Battle of Fort Mims and working on a 55th high school reunion. She did all of that while taking treatments to perk up her immune system.

Katherine Dean (Deano) Thompson Bibb has moved to Memphis from Hollandale, MS, where she has lived and worked most of her life. She has a daughter in Memphis, so Deano has moved into a retirement complex, Germantown Plantation.

We had a note from **Beth LeMaster Simpson** saying she was grateful for expressions of care from classmates when **David** died.

Milton and **Mary Joy Knowlton**, along with son Geoffrey and his wife and family, enjoyed a visit to San Antonio for the Mass Mutual Leaders Club, for which both Milton and Geoffrey qualified in August. They thoroughly enjoyed a riverboat tour of the Riverwalk, the Alamo, several missions, the zoo and Six Flags.

Keeping the home fires burning in northeast Arkansas is **Betty Russell**, who cares for her 101-year-old father in Piggott. Betty, a good golfer, is president of the board of her country club.

Also caring for aging relatives is **Mike Ivy** in Benton, AR. Mike has a 93-year-old cousin whom he cares for as well as visiting

an elderly uncle in Phoenix.

I appreciate hearing from you folks, and welcome news at any time.

1959

Reporter: Sara Jean
(Shiney) Jackson
sjj1022@earthlink.net

The ones of us who attended our 50th reunion will surely agree that the weekend was a huge success. An informal count reported that 45 of the 122 class members (37%) attended one or more events. Lots of hugs, laughs, memories, exclamations about the beauty of the campus, the new buildings, the struggles to remember who, what, and when. Just a lot of fun. Special mention has been made of the "testimonials to professors" portion of the Saturday night program.

Other items of interest: **John Gay** (who couldn't attend) was pleased to be able to contact former roommate, **Danny Logan**.

Bates Peacock Toone arrived home from Memphis to find a copy of Noel Bacchus' book, *Where Cries the Kis-Ka-Dee*. Noel is the husband of **Joan Waggoner Bacchus**. Bates is the cover artist.

Since retiring from his internal medicine practice, **Joe Sullivan** has rekindled a passion for photography, and was selected Photographer of the Year by the Memphis Camera Club in 2008. His first full exhibit, "God's Winged Creatures," a study of wild birds and butterflies, was recently presented by Christian Brothers University. Joe is currently organizing a black and white exhibit of Memphis churches titled "Places We Worship,"

Class Notes

which was commissioned by Christian Brothers, where it will be on exhibit in August 2010.

Sad news from **Michael Anne Condon Zimmerman**, who reports the death of her husband, Steve, in August 2007.

Sending regrets at not being able to attend the reunion was **Jane Alexander Biedenbarn**. Jane writes of her delight in her grandchildren. Actually, she writes mostly about husband, **Jack '58**, of his continued tennis competition, now with son, Joe, playing again in a national father-son senior doubles tournament.

Again, a wonderful reunion for those of us who were there. Those who couldn't be present were missed.

1960

50th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

Reporter: Kim Baxter Henley

kbaxhen@comcast.net
427 Colonial Rd.

Memphis, TN 38117
901-761-1443

At their 25th Southwestern reunion, six members of the class of 1960 had such a good time together that they planned to meet again the next year in Florida. For the next 23 years, they met each year in locations from Maryland's Eastern Shore to Silicon Valley to seven European countries. In 2009, **Sandra Bain Fink, Connie Kitley Goddard, Marilyn Turner Hill, Karen Boyce Logan, Janet McKenzie Nix and Ann Vines Roberts** gathered in Montreat at the home of **Sara Jean (Shiney) Jackson '59**. While there they visited

Sissy Raspberry Jones '59, Jimmy Curtis, Charlotte Frist Chesnutt, Marcia Wooten Bristow '61, Denton '58 and Mary Allie McColgan McLellan '61, Anne Caldwell '51 and Bob Welsh '59.

Becky Knack Davis writes of a recent trip to Greece: "I bicycled up to the Aphaia Temple which tops the island of Aegina in Greece's Aegean Sea. My husband and I were on a small sailboat with some friends from Grand Rapids, sailing and biking, principally on the Ionian Islands; but on the way, we conquered Aegina. Imagine my surprise when we reached the temple and I overheard some students, who were listening intently to their professor, mention something about Rhodes. I did a double take and queried, 'Rhodes College in Memphis?' When they answered 'Yes!' I announced that I had graduated from there in 1960. I could see these young people doing the math and looking quite surprised back at me with my helmet and biking shorts. However, they were most delightful and friendly. Certainly seeing this old lady doing her thing may have given them some hope for their own futures. To be 70 and bicycling Greek mountains *is* a feat and I am thoroughly pleased I did it, although I must admit it was REALLY tough!"

1961

Reporter: George Awsumb
wawsumb@gmail.com

Ken Barker reports that he has retired from teaching college courses in biology, mostly in Buffalo, NY. He and his wife enjoy opera

and ballet in Toronto, and they visited Belgium in November.

Bruce Burr and his wife Joan have retired to Mountain Home, AR, where they have built a home on a bluff above the White River. Bruce loves to practice his fly fishing there. He and Joy enjoy community activities and visits with their four daughters in Memphis, Portland, Los Angeles and Spain.

Judith Carson Vestal reports that she and her husband Tom came to Memphis during Thanksgiving to be entertained by their family, which includes 10 grandchildren, ages 12 down to 7 months. They planned to travel during the Christmas season.

Edwina Bringle spent much of 2009 studying at Penland School of Crafts for a flame working bead class. She also gave private weaving classes in her studio. She will be teaching a weaving class at Penland in 2010.

Jim Johnston is semiretired from dentistry. He recently returned from working in South Dakota in a mobile dental clinic that is sponsored by the Ronald McDonald Foundation and the Delta Dental Plan of South Dakota. "We worked in the Sioux Falls area with children who have no means to receive dental care."

George Awsumb and his wife **Betsy '63** recently retired from teaching and went to meet their new grandson Whitman and his sister Rosie (2) in Washington. Then they took a four-week road trip to visit their daughter and grandsons in Los Angeles.

On they way they visited the Rockies, the Heifer Center, the Grand Canyon and many other wonderful sites.

Harvey Jenkins is having fun with his new motor scooter which he enjoys driving around the beach.

Geraldine Knight White was visiting her family in Niceville last August when their house caught fire. Everybody escaped but the house was totally destroyed. She is thankful that her family is safe and in a new house.

1962

Memphis attorney **Jocelyn Dan Wurzburg** was been named Distinguished Alumna of the Year at Rhodes Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend. Her accomplishments include: authoring Tennessee's first antidiscrimination law in employment, housing and public accommodations, serving as Memphis' first professional mediator, founding the Mediation Association of Tennessee and the Memphis Panel of American Women, chairing the Martin Luther King Memorial and founding the Jazz Society of Memphis.

John '61 and Marilyn Stewart Daniel hosted a mini-Southwestern reunion at their Woodford County, KY, home over Labor Day weekend 2009. Those attending were **Bill '60 and Marlene Peeples Howard, Margaret Minyard Dement, Susan Huffman, Barbara Bell Lawrence and Genevieve Johnston Clay**. Earlier in the year, Marilyn was inducted into the University of Kentucky Law School's Hall of Fame.

1963

Reporter: Charlie Rich
gscar@sbcglobal.net

We welcome and look forward to sending our news to **Charlie Rich**, who has graciously volunteered to be our new class reporter.

Mary Rinehart Cathcart, senior policy associate at the the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and former Maine state legislator, gave the keynote address at the University of Maine at Machias' 98th commencement, where she received the university's Distinguished Achievement Award. Mary served in the Maine House of Representatives from 1988-94 and in the Maine Senate from 1996-2004.

1964

Reporter: Mary Lou Quinn
maryloumcl@comcast.net

The grand 45th reunion of the class of 1964 is now but a very pleasant memory and for all of our classmates who were not there, you really missed something and we really missed your smiling countenances.

Friday night was what has become a tradition: a party at the home of Bob and **Emily Holloway Walker**. We must be reasonably well behaved as they keep inviting us back. The food and drink were great and only a few identification mistakes were made before the donning of the ever helpful nametags.

Saturday officially began with the Alumni Convocation in Hardie Auditorium. Our class

banner was regally transported by **Tom Lappage** (meaning he didn't trip or anything). During the speeches and awards we learned that we, the class of '64, were given the Goodbar Morgan Award for the greatest increase in donor participation. It is interesting to note that the percentage increase that won it for us was a whopping 3%. Makes you wonder about all the other classes.

A number of us went to the Rhodes-Austin College football game. We didn't win, but at least it didn't rain.

The Saturday night dinner and the Sunday morning brunch were both held at the University Club. Dessert Saturday was at the home of **Caroline Gage Sanford**. Good times all.

It is always amazing to see how quickly we all get re-acquainted in our every five-year gatherings, and how enjoyable it is to spend time together. And now for the awards ceremony:

The Gold Medal for Superb Planning goes to **Margaret Rowe Fancher, Dosset Foster, Ann Clark Quinlan Harris** and **Emily Holloway Walker**. Great gatherings were the result of their meticulous work

The Prize for Best Catch of a toy football thrown by a Rhodes cheerleader goes to **Eleanor Lawrence Geiger**.

The Panache and Élan Award goes to **Tom Lappage** for exemplary banner carrying.

The Golden Fleece Award goes to **Mary Lou Quinn McMillin** for raising enough funds to earn us The Goodbar Morgan Award which goes to us all. So pat

yourself on the back!

Others attendees were: **Ann Adams**, who has recently moved back to Memphis from Grand Junction, CO; **Josh Brown**, who actually graduated with the class of '65 but "claims us;" **Mary Rinehart Cathcart '63**, who has enjoyed an interesting career with the Maine legislature; Ray Eberle; Linda Foster, **Tom Geiger**; **Joe** and **Mary Graham**; **Lewis Guess**; **Ed** and **Sharon Hankins**; **Bob Hasselle** and **Caroline Everington**; **Cyril** and **Betsy Hollingsworth**; **Jo Kenny**; **Thuy Lappage**; **Challace McMillin**; **Marilyn Myers**; **Gail Hoover** and **Ed Parrish**; **Randall** and **Martha Hunter Shepard, '66**; **David** and **Elizabeth 'Butch' Saunders Cooper**; **Bob Walker**; **Bob** and **Brenda Hickman West**; **Liz Currie Williams**.

In five years we will be Golden Lynx Rhodes Alums (how can *that* be!). We hope all of you will give serious consideration to coming and seeing how wonderful we all turned out.

Thanks to **Doug Fancher** for this fine rendition of the reunion weekend.

Hayden Kayden wrote: "Not much to report from the Alaskan front as I sit here at the computer watching the rain fall by the bucket outside. We are preparing for our annual migration south to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. On our way south, we will spend two weeks with my parents, (ages 92 and 96) who are still living alone in their home on the Guadalupe River near Hunt, TX. Our big adventure in September was a two-week trip north to the Yukon Territory, in

search of an escape from the rainfall of Southeast Alaska. Bonnie and I and our dog Wally were joined by a friend from Denmark and a friend from Mexico for a weeklong canoe trip on the Stewart and Yukon Rivers. The weather was perfect, no bugs, beautiful fall colors, some exciting fishing and best of all, no other people. I was sorry to miss everyone at the 45th Reunion."

From **Marilyn Myers**: "I certainly enjoyed coming to the class reunion in October. My 'newest news' is that I was recently on the road again. This time, I went back to Japan where I spent about 12 of my working years with the Foreign Service. I try to get back every three years or so to see my aging Japanese friends. I was there for three weeks, covering Tokyo and many points west such as Kyoto, Osaka and Fukuoka."

Sharon Lupfer Nardo says, "I hope you all had a grand time at the reunion. I thought about all of you that weekend. Recently I was contacted on Facebook by **Edith Hay Harris** who had seen a comment from me on the page of **Hayden Kaden**. Edith is living in Durham, NC, which happens to be about 30 miles from where my daughter lives in Raleigh. Since my husband and I went to Raleigh for Thanksgiving, Edith and I arranged a visit! I never thought I'd sign up for Facebook, but it was the only way I could view many friends' photos and videos. Since signing up, I've rediscovered old friends from all parts of my life."

Lee Carroll was named associate professor emeritus

Class Notes

of Supervised Ministry by Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA, following his retirement in June 2009 after serving on the faculty for 26 years. Prior to that, Lee served for 15 years as a pastor with three different congregations. His spouse, **Betty Wilby Carroll '65**, retired in December 2008 from her position as a program specialist for the Federal Administration for Children and Families (Atlanta Regional Offices). Lee and Betty have been married for 44 years, have two grown children (one in Atlanta and one in Vancouver, BC) and are anxiously awaiting the birth of their third grandchild.

In February '09 **Nancy Wasell Work's** late husband Henry H. Work, M.D., was memorialized in three lectures by British physicist/priest and Templeton Prize winner, the Rev. Dr. John Polkinghorne, KBE, FRS, fellow and retired president, Queens College, Cambridge University, UK. The lectures, titled "The Friendship of Science and Religion," were sponsored by and presented at the Cosmos Club Foundation, Washington National Cathedral and St. Paul's Episcopal Church-K Street in Washington, DC. Nancy is a member of the Cosmos Club Foundation that awards grants-in-aid to Cosmos Scholars completing M.A. and Ph.D. theses and dissertations. She is also a member of Washington National Cathedral's Fabric and Fine Arts Committee and is a lector and evangelization co-chair at St Paul's-K Street. **Liz Currie Williams'** brother Tom Currie, dean

of Virginia Theological Seminary at Queens College, Charlotte NC, was helpful in making the contact with Dr Polkinghorne. Last summer Nancy made a 60-day around-the-world pilgrimage to visit her stepson Henry Work III and dedicate his memorial to his father in New Zealand. Her pilgrimage began in Paris and included the Holy Land, Jordan and the Greek Islands in the footsteps of the apostle Paul as well as Turkey, India, China and Japan with the theme of witnessing the church made manifest worldwide.

Challace McMillin was honored in October '09 by the naming of the Challace Joe McMillin Sports Psychology Center at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA, where Challace coached and/or taught for more than 30 years. Challace continues to work with the Sports Psych Center as a Mental Training Coach.

1965

45th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30
Reporter: Virginia Lowry Ives
virginiaives65@bellsouth.net

Tricia Butterworth Egger and her husband, who had a nostalgic trip back to Georgia, South Carolina and Memphis, reports, "We visited with **Myrna Schaap Fouts** and **Susan Fisher Cheairs '66** and families. It was great. So good to reconnect."

Bill Boyd is retired and currently vice chairman of the Board of Education in Middletown, CT. Wife, Joyce Jacobsen, is a professor

of economics at Wesleyan University (and a recent recipient of the best teacher award), editor of the *Eastern Economic Journal* and author of three books as well as numerous papers. Daughter Catherine is a sophomore at Hamilton College where she has a radio show ("The Empire Sound Track") and is studying studio art and writing. Son Kenneth is a junior at Middletown High and plays on the varsity soccer and tennis teams. He also plays premier soccer. Both kids played ice hockey—Catherine, for the Connecticut Polar Bears (one of the premier girls' hockey organizations in the country; her team won back-to-back New England T2 championships) and Kenneth for the CT Clippers, Middlesex and East Haven (where his team finished third in the state in regular play, with Kenneth leading scorer). Ironically for a nonathlete, Bill has spent most of his time over the last decade in youth hockey administration—as treasurer, registrar, even as team manager. He has two older children with **K.E. Field '67**: Will, who lives in Germantown (four grandchildren), and Kara, who lives in Memphis (three grandchildren).

Gil Jones writes with news of a move and recent retirement. Gil and wife, **Pat Dickson '64** retired this past year from their respective jobs: Pat worked as a medical technologist and Gil as professor of chemistry and department chair at Boston University. As professor emeritus, Gil maintains an office and lab at the university and keeps

a welcome trimmed-down schedule of research and writing. He continues to consult for a company he cofounded, PhotoSecure DNA Technologies, LLC (photosec.com), an incubator company of the Boston University Photonics Center. PhotoSecure develops products for document or product security (e.g., anticounterfeiting). Pat and Gil have two sons, Jason (38), a psychiatrist living in Charlestown/Boston (on staff at The Arbor), and David (34), who heads a real estate firm that serves midtown Atlanta (Blue Sky Real Estate Group). David, wife Karen and two boys, London (2 1/2) and a recent arrival, Brenin (7 months), live in Virginia Highlands, Atlanta. Gil and Pat have moved recently from Waltham, MA, to a new home on Cape Cod (town of Bourne, MA, village of Buzzards Bay). They maintain a second home in Clearwater/Sand Key, FL. It will come as no surprise to some of you that they are avid card players: duplicate bridge (especially Pat) and tournament no-limit hold 'em poker (especially Gil). They enjoy having visitors—travelers either to New England or Florida.

Lou Ellen Hindman Griffin writes: "Gerry and I spent 10 days in B.C. Canada at the end of September. Drove up from Oregon via ferry from Port Angeles, WA, to Victoria where we had high tea at the Empress Hotel and saw Bouchart Gardens on the same day. Took the ferry to North Vancouver and on up to the Young Life camp, Malibu Club. We had beautiful weather and

helped close up the camp for the winter with about 50 other volunteers. The setting is extraordinary, at the juncture of the Jervis Inlet and Princess Louisa Inlet, with tree-covered mountains on all sides. We have been going each spring (last week of April) and fall (last week of September). We would love to have others go with us this spring!”

Jim and **Teri Tidwell Hornberger** sold their home and bought another place nearby in Kendrick. She says, “Jim is very happy, the dogs are making the adjustment well, and I am always flexible.” After they sold the farm they left for an adventure in their RV for five weeks traveling back to Watertown, SD, to visit friends, to Ft. Wayne, IN, to visit Jim’s family and on to Memphis for a weekend of family reunions and a three-day wedding of Teri’s second cousin, **Hank Byrd ’90**. A few years ago Hank bought a home next to Rhodes, where two of the parties were held. The architect of Rhodes was the original owner of the home.

Queenie Porter writes: “I completed work for the D.Min. degree in early 2009, graduating in June from Wisdom University in San Francisco (formerly University of Creation Spirituality, founded by Matthew Fox). Beginning the program way back in 2000, I was prompted to finish by the realization that for my dissertation I could write about the work my colleague Lynn Bledsoe and I began in 2003, which is now a growing nonprofit in Birmingham, AL. The dissertation, titled “Program

Development of Ruth and Naomi Senior Outreach: A Spiritual Autobiography,” includes original poetry as well as an autobiographical section and is an intentional blending of subjective and objective material. Writing it provided me the wonderful opportunity to integrate my life, work and theology and to reflect on what I have learned (professionally and personally) about aging. In addition to providing pastoral care (in a holistic model that includes music, dogs, gardening, cooking and Montessori-based dementia programming) to isolated elders, primarily in nursing homes, we have done a lot of speaking and teaching. This past summer we led workshops (along with colleague Dr. Jocelyn McGee of Jackson, MS) at the Second Annual Conference of the Society for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University Medical School and at the Ninth Annual Conference of the Pioneer Network, a national grassroots organization fostering culture change in long-term care. Most recently we have been thrilled to introduce teenagers to long-term care residents and to life issues of aging, and our work. We hope to institute an internship program as well as periodic camps bringing youth and elders together. I don’t anticipate retiring fully for a long time but do look forward to being able to spend more time with grandchildren and writing. Traveling too someday! I am delighted to have one of my three children in Birmingham, Mary Scott (and neurosurgeon husband

Blake) Pearson along with two grandchildren, Samantha (4) and Becca (2). I also enjoy being with my two other adult children several times a year. Daughter Susan Hagood, living in Atlanta, commutes monthly to DC for graduate studies in organizational development at American University. Son Thomas Hagood works at a law firm in Tampa. On my visit to Tampa last February, swimming with manatees was a rare treat. Singing lullabies to them, I discovered they respond to music as much as human elders (and babies) do!”

1966

Reporter: **Sammy Primm Marshall**
samamarshall@comcast.net

Isabell Van Merlin’s sculpture “Rainbow Arches” (made of multicoloured bamboo), appeared in exhibitions at the Tri State Sculptors’ annual exhibition and conference at Elon University, NC, in late August 2009 as well as Maudslay State Park, MA, in September.

Bob Wild has retired after 32 years of practicing urology. He and his wife Pam have two vacation rentals near Raystown Lake where he is now the maintenance man. “Our daughter Kris was married in June 2009. **Buddy Doyle** officiated, which made the service extra special. He and **Frances** spent several extra days with us as we simultaneously held our Wild family reunion. **Roy’64** and **Marjorie Wild Selvidge ’63** were there. I am learning to play golf a little better. I

spend a lot of time with my granddaughter Mallory who is now 15 months old. I have more time now for nonmedical reading. Pam keeps the rentals rented all summer and most weekends the rest of the year, so there is always something to do or repair. **Charlie Bagley** and I drove to Lewistown, TN, for the funeral services of **Bill Weber**. We were able to see **Tom Buford**, **Tom Brooks** and his wife **Dana Edmonds Brooks ’68**, **Duane Mills**, **Jimmy Whittington ’67** and **Rascoe Rhea ’69**. I went to Atlanta in October to spend four days with **Vern McCarty**, **Buddy Doyle** and **Charlie Bagley**, our second annual minireunion. I am working out in preparation for my becoming a ski bum for six weeks this winter. I will be driving to the west coast and back and skiing at about 16 different mountains with friends and family at each location. This will be Bob’s Great Adventure at age 65 instead of 25 when most do it. I will be eating at a lot of the joints, diners and local restaurants recommended in the book *Roadfood*. Thus far into my retirement every day seems like a day of vacation. Only people who are retired seem to have time to write this much about themselves.”

Ray Bye received the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award at Homecoming/Reunion Weekend. Ray is director of federal relations and economic development at Florida State University. He is the lead university official in all federal/Congressional relations activities and has presented testimony more than 100 times to committees of the U.S.

Class Notes

Congress.

Joyce Malone Wilding retired from cooperate management consulting and executive coaching five years ago and has been doing volunteer work for the Episcopal Church. She made her lifetime vows to the Third Order Franciscans. She will return to retreat ministry in 2010. She stays in touch with Phyllis Tickle and recently hosted her as keynote speaker at the 25th anniversary dinner of the Penuel Retreat Center.

Rick Thomas recently returned from a mission trip to northern Uganda to a region that has been devastated by the Lord's Resistance Army. He traveled with a medical, dental and eye team to Restoration Gateway at Karuma. He was charged with producing a documentary film on the restoration initiative for displaced persons and orphans. He says this was his first attempt at this type of endeavor.

Our thoughts have been with **Ginny Taylor Drash** and her family as they cope with the loss of **Sam '61** last year. We are also thinking of the families of **Claire Massey** and **Bill Weber**, whom our class lost last year as well. Ginny says that she was able to go to Washington, DC, in October with two cousins. They visited several museums and enjoyed their time together so much that they hope to travel together again next year.

1967

Reporter: Jeanne Hope
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I am sending out a plea to hear from some of you with whom I don't communicate. I only have e-mail addresses for 63 and am missing the rest of you when I e-mail requests for news. My e-mail address is listed under my name above and I would love to add many more of you to our class list. It will give you the opportunity to respond if you have something to share.

This has been the year of Italy for several of us. **Beth Pevsner Polanka** "had a very eventful summer which started in Italy—walking the five lands of Cinque Terre and then on to the gorgeous hill towns of Tuscany with lots of walking, sightseeing, eating and wine drinking. It was a great journey. Then I came home and moved out of the family home where I lived for the past 21 years. I have scaled down to a smaller property and smaller home in town where I have so much less to take care of—it has been a good decision. Back to work with the school year at Miami going full steam and having lots of problems as a result of the downturn in the economy, like most colleges. Unfortunately, when my business is good, life is bad for someone. Business is good. Only have small trips planned until my next big adventure in August 2010—Alaska."

Mimi and **Bob Mehrle** recently traveled for two weeks in Italy with Clarkson and **Mary Ann Rambo McDow**. "Robert and I were at Lake Como in Varenna and Bellagio first," Mimi writes. "Then we met the McDows in Florence. We were there

for three days, then had a farmhouse in Tuscany for a week. We went from there to Cinque Terre for a few days. Robert and I went back to Milan to see the Last Supper after that. We had just learned to say a few phrases and it was time to come home! I would think a month in Florence would be just grand! I would need to be rolled onto the plane after all the huge meals! Maybe I could learn to order more moderately if I had a month to try all those wonderful dishes."

Although she is still selling real estate, including a referral from **Jane Maxey Brown**, **Carol Wertz Sutter** traveled extensively this year. "I spent February as a snowbird in Florida visiting friends and the Everglades and Key West for the first time. In June my sister **Jeanne Kerridge '65** and I started in Plano, TX, at brother **Mark Wertz's '69** home and drove through the hill country of Texas, visiting my first two presidential libraries (Bush 41 and LBJ). July found me at Niagara Falls and Lake George, NY, and August in the Berkshires. In September, my daughter Samantha and I flew to Venice and went on a seven-day cruise of the Adriatic. Later that month I flew to LA for my 40th Eastern Airlines reunion. I took advantage of that to see my second two libraries (Reagan and Nixon). I had to stay home for a couple of months to earn some money before we left for our annual trip to the Cayman Islands the end of November. Just hope I can keep my health as I am planning a riverboat trip

from Paris to Prague for my 65th in April."

Willie Edington is now enjoying the decidedly quieter side of life having both children away at college. "Payne is at Tulane, doing Navy ROTC, and finding out what the real world is all about. He seems to love it, though, and if he makes it through the Navy drill this semester, he goes on a Navy scholarship. Jessie is at Sweet Briar and seems to love it as well. She has easily transitioned into the lacrosse program but has many friends in the equestrian program. I hope she stays with lacrosse, since lacrosse sticks are a lot cheaper than horses."

1968

Reporters: Bob Morris
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Drue Thom White
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The summer issue of *Rhodes* mistakenly included a great many of 1968's Class Notes in 1969. The magazine regrets the error.

Mary Morris Berryhill spent October on a tour of the Greek mainland and islands. Then she drove up to Italy to all the big cities. She and her son took pictures for his Web site, onthisveryspot.com.

Scott Arnold retired from farming in Tunica, MS, three years ago, and now his job is being the best grandfather he can be to Abigail (6) and Scottie (2). He likes this job much more than the previous one.

Priscilla Hinkle Ennis and her husband Bob welcomed their first granddaughter, Grace Elizabeth Ennis, Aug. 14, 2009. Their daughter, Amy, and husband Kader

are in San Francisco. Kader, who is originally from Algeria, became an American citizen this year.

Gail Jennings returned from a three-week photo safari to Kenya and Tanzania. She plans to return every five years.

Carolyn Bruninga McGough retired from PharexLahabra, a company that manufactures stucco materials. This year, she and Matthew will be moving from their home near Atlanta to the mountains of north Georgia where they have built a new home.

Eric Wilson writes, "My wife Marilyn and I have "unretired" and accepted positions with the College of Gold Keiser University, effective Sept. 1, 2009. We moved from Myrtle Beach, SC, to Port St. Lucie, FL, and found a beautiful home just minutes from work. We are responsible for opening the college from scratch, including hiring staff, developing the facility and admitting students into the program."

David McMillan has been a practicing psychologist in Nashville, TN, for more than 30 years. He founded the Nashville Psychotherapy Institute and has been the director of Compose, a program to treat domestic violence. He is an adjunct faculty member at Vanderbilt and Fisk Universities. He has also written two books, *Create Your Own Love Story* and *Emotion Rituals*. He is the author of the McMillan theory of sense of community. He is married to Marietta Shipley, a retired Davidson County Circuit Court judge. Currently, he is writing a pastoral care

manual and has just finished his second draft of a novel.

1969

The summer issue of *Rhodes* mistakenly included a great deal of 1968's Class Notes in the 1969 column. The magazine regrets the error.

Another correction: New York artist **Margaret (Peggy) Cogswell**, not Margaret Couch Cogswell '81 has been named a Fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, having received a 2009 Guggenheim Fellowship in Fine Arts. To see some of her work, visit her Web site: margaretcogswell.net.

1970

40th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30
Reporter: Hud Andrews
hud.andrews@musowls.org

Sue Ellen Pharis Watson is a clinical social worker in Memphis, where she has resided with her husband Parks for the past 24 years. Sue Ellen recently visited her daughter Cecelia Alexandré in Berlin where Cecelia, a graduate of St. John's College, Annapolis was completing research for her doctoral degree from the University of Chicago. The two enjoyed a side trip to Paris, taking in the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the view from atop the Eiffel Tower, as well as indulging in many memorable gastronomical delights. Outside work, Sue Ellen spends much of her time as a primary caregiver for her 94-year old mother, Celia, the widow of James A. Pharis, who for many years

was director of housekeeping for Rhodes.

Jim Brinson was recently appointed carillonneur at Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, PA. "This is in addition to my music teaching duties at the school. If you want any more information about the school, the Web site is mercersburg.edu."

Claudia Herbers Slate has her first grandchild, Quinn Tooley, a beautiful girl. Claudia is a professor of English at Florida Southern College in Lakeland.

Randy Sunday has moved to Santa Barbara, CA, where he is closer to the ocean and cliffside mountain bike trails. "My daughter Lucy is in LA singing, dancing and acting and was recently in a French music video and a movie. I still run Sarah House, a 'social model' hospice for the low-income and homeless. In 2009, the national director of the hospice program in Slovenia visited us for two weeks because they are using Sarah House as the prototype for their hospice homes. In the meantime we are scrambling for dollars. There are no state or federal funds for our end of life care program. Hope all is well with you."

Wallace Mayton celebrated 20 years as associate pastor of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Midland, MI, in 2009. The congregation provided a surprise anniversary reception for Wallace and **Lindsay '72** and four of their five daughters who were able to attend as part of the surprise. The church created a professional and personal travel fund as one of its gifts.

Ann Barber-Snyder is still

working at an inner-city school—"hard work, but, dare I say it, I do enjoy my 'cherubs.' The art teacher and I have started an arts integration program, which is pretty special for us and which will become a model for others."

Mike and **Rosemary Wood Potter** have a new grandson, Finnegan Wood Potter, born June 9, 2009, in Knoxville. "He's our first grandchild and is absolutely adorable, of course! We have been burning up the interstate between Memphis and Knoxville."

Junius Allen recently spent time "with a couple of geologists in southeast Trinidad looking for signs of landslides, faults and mud volcanoes. I'm a geotechnical engineer with BP's Trinidad and Tobago business unit, but my office and usual workplace are in Houston."

Walt Ogburn writes: "Our oldest son Walt arrived at the NSF's South Pole Station in November with a research team to build and start up a new microwave radiation telescope. They will use the telescope to search for primordial gravity waves created during the first fraction of a second after the 'Big Bang.' You can read about his experience on his blog, including information about the research program, BICEP2: rwogburn.blogspot.com/."

Hud Andrews has accepted a new position as director of development at Memphis University School. He had a wonderful time visiting with his friends in the the class of '69 at Homecoming, particularly his high school friend, Nick House, who married **Kathy Cogswell '69**.

Class Notes

Hud is also excited about the arrival of his first grandchild, a granddaughter from his daughter, Amy Murphy, who lives and practices naturopathic medicine in Toronto.

1971

Reporter: Betha Hubbard Gill

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yorkforest@aol.com

Leigh Brasington has retired from his day job as a software engineer after 37 years. However, he will continue his moonlighting job teaching meditation retreats in the U.S. and Europe, but between retreats instead of playing with computers for money, he will be attending multi-month silent meditation retreats at The Forest Refuge in Barre, MA.

At the fall Ostrander Awards Ceremonies for Memphis theater, **Bill Short**, Barret Library's coordinator of public services, received the Cameo Award for his performance in "The Play's the Thing" at Germantown Community Theatre.

1973

Reporter: Margaret Lawson Headrick
margaretheadrick@comcast.net

In December, **Patricia Spears Jones** read at the San Francisco State University Poetry Center from Camille Dungy's anthology *Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry*.

Memphis attorney and former head of Memphis Light, Gas & Water Division

Herman Morris was sworn in as Memphis's new city attorney.

Andy Pouncey has developed his longtime passion for World War I into a Web site, waruntold.com, which is designed to share the experiences of individuals in the military through their own memorabilia, letters, images from the past and present-day images, taken on his walks on the Western Front.

Last summer, **Neville Reese** received an award from the American Association of Justice, which recognized him as a Diplomat in Trial Advocacy.

David Francis and his domestic partner of 16 years, Michael Boustead, planned to move from Los Angeles to Key West at the end of 2009.

Clifford Pugh won't brag on himself, but **Jane Howze** let us know that he has been named editor of an online magazine called Culture Map. It is the buzz of Houston now. Clifford hopes his Rhodes friends will check it out and become a fan on Facebook: culturemap.com.

When **David** and **Virginia Shettlesworth Garrett's** son, Geoffrey, and Anna Marie Nelson married Sept. 26, 2009, they hosted guests from California, the Pacific Northwest, France and points in between. Currently, David and Virginia are enjoying the fact that all of their children are married, happy, homeowners and self-supporting. Full reports are on their homepage at garrettzoo.net.

Amy Bailey Evans will continue to serve another term as president of Women Artists of the West

(WAOW), a national juried women artists' association. She also had a painting juried into the American Impressionist Society's annual exhibition, recently held at Saks Galleries in Denver. She will be exhibiting her work in the third annual exhibition of Nomadas del Artes to be held at Dallas' Southwest Art Gallery in April 2010.

Rusty and **Margaret Lawson Headrick** moved to Knoxville, TN, a year and a half ago. Margaret is a trainer for Tennessee's Early Intervention System, an early childhood agency within the Tennessee Department of Education, and Rusty remains a shareholder in the law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. They are completing renovations to their house in the mountains around Boone, NC, and are enjoying spending weekends there.

1974

Frank Broyles, minister of church and community at Faith Presbyterian Church in Huntsville AL, received the Intercultural Award. It is the first to be awarded to a person who has contributed greatly to the mission of the International Society through actions and ideas that "bring diverse international elements together for social interaction and cultural awareness in the general region of Huntsville, Alabama."

Les Jaco and his wife Pam have lived in Jackson, TN, since 1980. They have two daughters, **Mary Hopkins '05**, who lives in Memphis with her husband **Jim '05** and

Margaret, a recent graduate of Tulane University.

Historian **Jimmy Ogle** conducted free walking tours of Memphis in the fall. Subjects ranged from Cotton Row to the Mississippi River.

1975

35th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

Coca-Cola Enterprises announced the establishment of the **Vicki R. Palmer** Scholarship Program, which will fund \$25,000 in annual scholarships to Spelman College, of which Vicki is a trustee. She is retired CCE executive vice president, financial services and administration.

Kate Pera was featured in the Sept. 9, 2009, edition of Memphis' *Commercial Appeal* for her work as director of catering at the downtown Memphis Doubletree Hotel.

1976

Steve Williford recently met up for breakfast in Sugatuck, MI, with **Doug Trapp '85** from New York and **Diane Clark '62** from Traverse City, MI.

1977

Roanoke, VA, physician **Randy Rhea** received the Virginia Health Care Foundation's Unsung Hero Physician Award for his dedication to helping the working uninsured since the start of his medical career 25 years ago. He began volunteering with the Bradley Free Clinic while a family practice resident. The clinic provides free medical, dental and pharmacy care along with a specialty

referral network.

1979

In July 2009, **Jonathan Kaplan** was named by the Labor Relations Institute to the list of Top 100 Labor Attorneys in the United States for 2009. The honor puts him in the top 1% of the nation's labor attorneys. Jonathan is with the Memphis law firm of Kiesewetter Wise Kaplan Prather.

1980

30th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

1981

Susan Ray Bransford writes, "On Oct. 25, 2009, I celebrated my 50th birthday by running the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, DC. I started running at age 48 and decided that I needed something to keep me going. I was a bit ambitious in my reach but I formed a team of St. Jude Heroes composed of my son (a sophomore at Georgetown), my daughter (a senior at Rice), my brother and his wife and a few friends. Together we raised more than \$18,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Then we had fun running the marathon. Really, it was great. OK, all the guys were competitive but the girls ran together. Our finishing time wasn't special but we enjoyed every minute. My sister, **Ruthann Ray '78** was part of the support team. I highly recommend this as a great way to celebrate any special event in your life."

1982

David Nelson writes, "I retired from the Navy in October 2005 after 23 years of service. My last tour in uniform was as the head of the Aviation Enlisted Distribution branch (PERS-404) at Navy Personnel Command in Millington, TN. Soon after retirement I was hired in a civilian capacity to serve as the deputy to the Head Enlisted Community Manager (BUPERS-32) also with the Navy Personnel Command in Millington. I currently live in Bartlett, TN, with my wife of 26 years, Kim. We have three children, Christopher (25), James (23) and Kathleen (20)."

Ellen Harris is working for a "hip, new small business in New Orleans called The Occasional Wife: theOccasionalWife.com. (No, it's not an escort service, but we all enjoy the hint of that in the company name.) We provide organizational services for businesses and individuals, ranging from academic and corporate settings to personalized event, design, home and fashion consultation. Our company is the brainchild of a couple of super smart, successful women who are go-getters with years of life experience, professional savvy and creative problem solving. I am meeting so many interesting people through my work, and what we do is genuinely gratifying because we are really helping people. We see the results and so do they!"

1984

Reporter: **Tracy Vezina Patterson**
2680 McVay Rd.
Memphis, TN 38119
901-624-6681
tvpatterson@bellsouth.net
Elizabeth Sheppard Hurley, former director of development for the Metropolitan Opera and former Chicago Symphony Orchestra fundraiser, has been named executive director of the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago.

1985

25th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30
Reporter: **Jim Golden**
jimatphi@hotmail.com

1986

Reporter: **Colleen Grady**
colleen.grady@lls.org
Scott Sweetser was selected for promotion to colonel in the U.S. Army. He commands the NATO-Pakistan-Afghanistan Border Coordination Center at Spin Boldak, Afghanistan.
Lemuel Gordon is a partner with Alabama Pathology Associates/Bridger Laboratories in Montgomery. He writes, "Although I still love playing bluegrass banjo, my five-year-old twins and baby son take up most of my time."
Will Albritton reports that he and his wife recently joined three other couples at a surprise 45th birthday party for **Geordy Wells** at his home. Will jokingly writes, "Since Geordy has always had such a difficult time making and keeping friends, we felt it was our duty to help him bring in another year. As usual,

Geordy got wild and crazy and embarrassed us all!"

And speaking of Geordy, he joined **Alan Arnold** and **AJ Heine** in New Orleans for Mardi Gras last year. Together with **Holly Hubbard Heine '87**, **Susan Shackelford Arnold '89** and various offspring, the group really enjoyed the special time together. They had great fun introducing the next generation to the wonderful Heine family Mardi Gras traditions.

Susan Stribling celebrated her 18-year anniversary with Coca-Cola in December. She writes, "I got to manage a really incredible event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the famous Coca-Cola 'Mean Joe Greene' commercial. We brought Joe together with the original 'kid' from the commercial for a ceremony on the 50-yard line at Heinz Field before the Steelers-Bengals game with Steelers president Art Rooney II. As part of the event, we presented Joe and Tom with the Clio Awards (the Oscars of the advertising industry) that they and the commercial won 30 years ago, but never received, for Creative Excellence in Advertising—a long overdue honor. On a personal note, in August I went on my 11th safari, this time to Zambia and Botswana. I spent 10 days with my mom and brother at three different camps seeing amazing wildlife, and I stayed for five days of horseback riding in the Okavango Delta in Botswana. I can't describe the exhilaration of galloping across an open floodplain next to a thundering herd of 250+ cape buffalo. I can't

Class Notes

wait for safari number 12!”

Amy Howell is doing a lot of work in social media. She has her own blog (Howell-marketing.com) and says she would love to connect with alums on Twitter. Follow her @howellmarketing.

Ellis Gatewood Stroud is the owner/director of Dance Arts Iowa, a dance, yoga and Pilates studio, which opened a second location in January. Check out danceartsiowa.com. She has three teenage males in the house (13, 16 and 17) and reports that life is really good.

Joe MacCurdy is medical director of the Division of Radiology at Horizon Medical Center in Dickson, TN. He lives in Nashville with wife Theresa and children (15, 13, 11 and 7). He recently visited Rhodes alums **John Crabtree '87** and **David Peterson '87** in Louisiana. And I was lucky enough to visit with Joe and Theresa recently, too!

Susan Baynham Miller is trying to dodge layoffs and spends the rest of her time trying to keep up with her girls (3 and 4 ½). She reports that so far her sanity is intact, but check back for more updates!

Janet and **Paul Eich** welcomed a son, Cato, Nov. 15, 2009.

1987

Reporter: Mimi Swords Fondren
mimifondren@bellsouth.net

Brian Mott was featured in *New York Teacher*, a publication of the United Federation of Teachers, for his work in New York teaching special education.

1988

Reporter: Brooke Glover Emery
rhodesclassof88@gmail.com

Anne and **John Garrard** and their three daughters live in Jackson, TN, where John is president of MasterFit Medical Equipment and Supply Co. He enjoyed attending Homecoming with **Kevin Cox '90**, also from Jackson.

Julie and **Leighton Shantz** have three daughters, Hayden and Landry (both 7) and Reagan (2). He is managing director of Lockheed Martin Investment Management Co. in Bethesda, MD.

1989

Kimberly Ross and Bill Strang had a son, Kyler Staunton Strang, Dec. 21, 2008 in Arlington, VA.

Kirk Stone writes, “I’m still practicing family medicine in Union City, TN, and was appointed the Obion Country medical examiner in November 2009.”

1990

20th Reunion
Homecoming: Oct. 29-30
Reporter: Rod White
rodw@white-associates.net

1991

Michael Robbins was recently appointed to the position of special assistant, Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Education.

1992

Reporter: Sara Hawks Marecki
saramarecki@sbcglobal.net

On Aug. 15, 2009, Elizabeth and **Brad Todd** welcomed a son, Coleman Andrews. Brad is the founder of Coach to Cure MD. The program is a one-day nationwide project designed to build awareness about Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, which affects boys, and to support researchers in finding a cure. Brad’s nephew Joel, who is living with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, is the inspiration for the event. Last year 2,675 college football coaches throughout the country participated, each wearing a “Coach to Cure MD” arm patch during a football game. Rhodes Coach Joe White participated Sept. 19, 2009, when Rhodes played Trinity. **Lizzie Baird '09** is national coordinator for the event.

Buddy Cater writes: “Last October, I accepted a position as CFO of God’s Smile Ministry which offers housing to recovering alcoholics and recovering drug addicts. In my tenure, we have opened three new facilities and are looking for more. I still own and run Hamilton Financial (my real job), but I am enjoying this very fulfilling post. I will keep everyone posted on our growth ... next stop is probably in Texas.”

Stephanie Clark says that she’s “spending half of the year on St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where I’ve lived for the past 15 years, and the other half in Black Mountain, NC, where I

recently bought a house. I work as an artist, bartender and—new to the scene—hoopdance instructor! I’m loving life hanging out with my fabulous boyfriend, Logger, and our two great cats! Free time is spent roadtripping in my VW bus, hiking, camping, painting, cooking, working on our houses, sailing in the islands, hooping, beach bumming and watching sunsets.”

Don’t forget to sign up for our group page at Rhodes College—Class of 1992!

1993

In July 2009, **Tanja Thompson** was named by the Labor Relations Institute to the list of Top 100 Labor Attorneys in the United States for 2009. The honor puts her in the top 1% of the nation’s labor attorneys. This is the third consecutive year that she has been named to the list. Tanja is with the Memphis law firm of Kiesewetter Wise Kaplan Prather.

Joe and **Susan Long Castelli** moved to Pueblo, CO, in July 2009. Joe is an OB/GYN at Associates in Women’s Health Care in Pueblo.

Shelly and **Scott Ostrow**, co-owners of Bach’s Lunch in Memphis, recently celebrated the food outlet’s fifth anniversary. Bach’s caters to the office crowd and provides office delivery.

Dave and **Jennie Beth Harris Johnston** announce the birth of a daughter, Camille Harris, July 31, 2009. Big sister Caroline is enjoying her sister Cammie. Jennie Beth and Dave both practice medicine in Clarksville, TN.

James and Stephanie

Endsley **Westphal** married Aug. 29, 2009, in Seattle, where they currently reside. **San Hass '94** was best man, **John Jeter '92** officiated and **Edgard Cabanillas '94** was a groomsman. James writes, "I've somehow managed to finish writing a Ph.D. dissertation in physical chemistry while working as a database developer for a software company in Redmond, WA. (Mom was right when she said 'Math will come in handy someday.') Outside of work, I do a little bicycle racing, some rock climbing and a bit of scuba diving."

1994

Reporter: Judy Brown
judy.brown@borax.com

Mike Rushin was selected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Governors of the Shriners Hospital for Children in Shreveport, LA.

1995

15th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

Reporter: Sarah Sears-Egeli

703-971-9417

sarahsears@live.com

In Athens, GA, the *Athens Banner-Herald* named **Welch Suggs** to its list of the top 40 under 40 for his work as an administrator at the University of Georgia. Welch is an assistant to UGA president Mike Adams. Welch also received a Ph.D. in December from UGA's Institute of Higher Education. His dissertation was titled: "The Gender Gap and Selective College Admissions: The Consequences of Institutional Decision Making."

Jennifer Erkulwater and **Trent Taylor** welcomed their third son, Cormac Erkulwater Taylor, Nov. 9, 2009.

Richard '96 and **Caroline Cater Reynolds** announce the birth of their third daughter, Frances Mae, Aug. 17, 2009. She joins her sisters Anne (3) and Mary Bains (1).

Christina Pierce Belden has been enjoying working as a stylist at The Upper Hand in River Oaks for the past two years. She attended a studio class with Orlando Pita in NYC, fresh from his Paris Christian Dior show. Christina married John Belden in July 2006 and they celebrated the birth of daughter Adeline Grace in June 2008. They are looking forward to introducing her to Rhodes soon!

1997

Darrell Cobbins has been named chairman of the board of Memphis Light, Gas & Water. The founder and owner of Universal Commercial Real Estate, he is the youngest chairman in the utility board's history.

The book *Veiled Remarks* (a curious compendium for the maritally inclined) by **Melissa Anderson Sweazy** is out on the shelves.

Don Purvis, varsity football coach at First Assembly Christian School in Memphis, has developed a partnership with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Since last May, varsity players have been volunteering at St. Jude. In the fall, the players worked with student leaders to put together a Rally Week fundraiser.

1998

Reporter: Amanda Grebe
Tamburrino
1805 Central Ave.
Memphis, TN 38104
901-278-1093
tamburrino@rhodes.edu

Mickey Babcock received the 2009 Woman of Distinction Award presented by the Wyoming Council for Women's Issues. She was selected for her participation as a core trust holder in "Womentum," a unique program created by a group of women from Jackson Hole dedicated to bringing about social change.

Jake and **Lara Harkins Pickerel** had a daughter, Bridget Jeanne, June 10, 2009. Lara enjoyed her time at home with the family last summer before returning to work in October. She is a senior manager at Accenture in Atlanta.

Henry Murphy and wife Lauren Schiller welcomed Nikolai Fennell Murphy-Schiller Sept. 16, 2009, in San Francisco. The new family lives at the famous corner of Haight and Ashbury Streets.

1999

Reporter: Leigh Powell
powla99@gmail.com

Edson Erkulwater and Marilyn Penaco married Sept. 26, 2009, in New York City. **Raj Gulati '97** was a member of the wedding party.

Diane Faires finished her master of divinity degree at Vanderbilt University in May 2009. She is now serving as associate pastor at St. Paul's Christian Church in Raleigh, NC.

Kevin Willoughby reports

on several exciting photo shoots lately, including DJs Tommy Sunshine, Kraze, Paolo Mojo, Nick Curly, Paul Anthony and Kaskade; rapper Big Boi; dance troupe Vae de Vire Society; and designer Sarah Jones's autumn/winter 2009 collection. You can see highlights at [gallery.me.com/ Kevin_Willoughby](http://gallery.me.com/Kevin_Willoughby).

Steve Meyer and Sarah Jones married Oct. 2, 2009, in Cincinnati. Groomsmen included **Aaron Becker**, **Jason Heller '00** and **Mike Mann '01**. **Barnett Edelen '01** served as an usher at the wedding.

Justin and **Ashley Pillow Mauck** are staying busy with their twin daughters, Anna Elizabeth and Lucy Eleanor, who were born Oct. 15, 2009. The family lives in Little Rock.

2000

10th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

Nicki North Baxley
nickinp@gmail.com

U.S. Navy Lt. **Allen Ledbetter** has been awarded the Vice Admiral Robert F. Batchelder Award in recognition of exceptional operational performance. The Navy League presents this award to Supply Corps officers who have made significant contributions to the supply readiness of our operating forces.

Randi and **Jason Jowers** welcomed Jackson Karl, July 9, 2009.

In May 2009, **Jeff Sutton** founded ValueTree Investments, LLC, a registered investment adviser in the state of North Carolina.

Shadenn Zarur finished her MBA at IESE Business

Class Notes

School in Barcelona in 2006. She then went to Mexico to work as a product specialist for Johnson & Johnson Medical Mexico and was promoted to sales manager in 2008. In July 2009, she married Fernando Andrade. They are planning to move to Ann Arbor, MI, for Fernando to work on his MBA at Ross Business School.

Tim Hayes has been an instructor of English at Auburn University since August 2008. He received his Ph.D. in English literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in December 2007. He's enjoying life in Auburn and being closer to family in Nashville, especially spending time with his niece and nephew, Stella and Dean.

Melissa Rall and Kyle Bender married August 1, 2009, in Greenville, SC. "We currently live in Citrus Springs, FL. **Heather Lockridge McDonnell** was present with her husband Michael."

2001

Reporter: Elisabeth Meyers Yoder
elisabethyoder@gmail.com

Ryan Lasiter represented his firm, Doyle Rogers Co., a real estate and development, investments, banking and brokerage firm in Little Rock, in the Mayor's Institute on City Design (MICD). MICD works in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, the United States Conference of Mayors and the American Architectural Foundation toward assisting

cities in developing a revitalization strategy for certain areas of their downtown districts.

Leigh Manasco Harmon accepted a position as the grassroots advocacy trainer at the Lance Armstrong Foundation in Austin, TX. She travels throughout the country training volunteers on making cancer a national priority.

Clint '02 and **Julia Garrett Randolph** had a daughter, Anne Garrett, Nov. 20, 2008, in Baltimore.

Claire Hegarty was appointed to the position of director of Alumni Relations in the Advancement Office at Woodward Academy in College Park, GA. She formerly served as assistant director of annual giving.

John Goss spoke at a November Rhodes biology seminar on "Spatial and Temporal Regulation of Exocytosis by Molecular Tethering Complexes." John is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the molecular, cellular and developmental biology department at Yale.

Shaun and **Kirsten Rosaaen Dugan** welcomed a son, Ryan Michael, Sept. 7, 2009 (Labor Day—he already has a sense of humor). Kirsten and Shaun also celebrated their 5-year wedding anniversary Dec. 4, 2009.

Adam and **Amy Wood LaFavor** are happy to announce the birth of their son, Grant, Sept. 14, 2009.

Ana Pérez and **Andrés Ibañez** married Sept. 20, 2009, in Madrid, where they reside. Ana is currently a senior consultant at KPMG Spain in Global Sustainability Services, where she advises

companies on corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Jonathan Pence writes, "Kayla Pence brought our third son into the world on Oct. 21, 2009. We are so blessed and thankful to have a full house of healthy boys!"

2002

Reporter: John Ramsey
jtramsey@rhodes-alumni.net

Erin Spinka and **Anton Garcia-Fernandez**, a Rhodes Modern Languages instructor, married July 18, 2009.

Film producer **Elizabeth Tyson** worked on the documentary, "JFK: 3 Shots That Changed America," which premiered in October 2009 on the History Channel.

Tiffany Merritt and **Tim Moreland** welcomed a daughter, Darah Sophia Moreland, Aug. 7, 2009.

At the Ostrander Awards for excellence in Memphis theater held in August 2009, **Eric Sefton** won the award for sound design for McCoy Theatre's "The Skin of Our Teeth," which was named best Dramatic Production in the college division.

2003

Reporter: Kim Kirkpatrick
kirkpatrick_k@yahoo.com

Aisha Sharif and **Caki Wilkinson** participated in the Rhodes Alumnae Poetry Reading Sept. 17, 2009.

JR Taraboccia, an attorney in Portland, OR, and his wife Nikki are scheduled to be on HGTV's "My First Place," which will air this summer or fall.

Joel Harris of San Antonio was named Young Alumnus

of the Year at Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend. Joel is founding principal of KIPP University Prep High School that opened August 2009. Also, as a KIPP Fisher Fellow, he is enrolled in a year-long program that teaches individuals how to effectively lead the new schools.

Stu and **Carrie Osborne Johnston '06** moved to Greensboro, NC, in mid-July 2009 so Carrie could pursue a law degree at Elon University. Stu is teaching high school math and coaching middle school football at Penn-Griffin School for the Arts, an arts magnet school in the Guilford County public school system. He says, "The kids are great, and I work with a strong team of teachers. We like North Carolina very much, though we miss friends, colleague, crab cakes and the Ravens."

Lori Steger and her husband Jacob Ensor had twin daughters, Emma and Kate, Aug. 14, 2009. Both Lori and Jacob are attorneys who live in Stuart, FL.

Rebecca Held left her job at an environmental consulting agency in Washington, DC, last summer to pursue her master's in environmental policy at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She is looking forward to using her cross-country skis!

Wes and **Kathryn Hazelrig Brinkley** are happy to announce their marriage, Nov. 8, 2008, in Birmingham, AL, where they currently reside. Bridesmaids included **Martha Thomas**, **Meredith Lancaster Galligan**, **Lauren Hinson** and **Beth Hazelrig '10**. Many

other Rhodes graduates were in attendance.

Kyle Hatley is the assistant artistic director of Kansas City Repertory Theatre.

Last summer, he directed “The Borderland” (KC Rep), “Hamlet” (Studio 116) and a re-mount of his play, “The Death of Cupid” (Fringe Festival), which originated in 2008 at McCoy Theatre, all of which won him the Reader’s Choice 2009 Best Director Pitch Award. He is currently developing his new play, “Head,” which will premiere in July 2010, as well as “People Fall,” which will have its first workshop in May 2010. This season at the Rep, he was the assistant director for Moises Kaufman’s “Into The Woods,” David Cale’s world premiere of “Palomino” and the assistant director and script supervisor for the pre-Broadway world premiere of “A Christmas Story, The Musical.” Upcoming, he will direct the first regional production of Nathan Jackson’s “Broke-ology” at Kansas City Repertory Theatre. He is also artistic director of Chatterbox Audio Theater and invites you all to visit chatterboxtheater.org and check out the work that he, **Bob Arnold ’02** and **Dave Mickle ’02** are developing and producing online.

Brett Ramsey and his wife Jessica have been living in Clarksville, TN, for the last three years. Brett, who teaches political science at Austin Peay State University, has also announced his candidacy for state representative for the 68th district of Tennessee.

Matt and **Mary Campbell Toussaint** welcomed a son, Colby Berwick, Oct. 17,

2009, in Dallas. “Finn loves his baby brother and we are so blessed to welcome this precious boy into our family!”

Jazz Crockett is running for the post of district attorney in Bowie County, TX (Texarkana). Election day is March 4. She currently serves as assistant public defender of Bowie County.

2004

Reporter: Kyle Russ
ckylerruss@yahoo.com

Greetings, folks. This update is short as many of us caught up during our five-year Homecoming celebration (great to see you guys!). But, here goes ...

First off, **Matt Hoffberg** recently made a trip to Washington to visit yours truly. While in town, Matt made a little time to visit his Georgia senators to weigh in on the health care debate.

Next up, in the small town of Atoka, TN, **Katie Maxwell** took the plunge and became a HO (homeowner). Katie welcomed a rescued puppy (Mabel) into the new digs and is still enjoying work at SunTrust where she is a marketing specialist. Also in Memphis, all is well with **Lauren Ferrera**. Lauren is still with FedEx and for the last two years has been the product manager for the online shipping application for fedex.com. She notes that she’s excited about nearing the graduation date of her EMBA program at the University of Memphis.

Last note on the Memphis front, **Lori Beth Dunn Schaefer** is now full time at the University of Memphis and is halfway through a 60-hour master’s program;

she expects to graduate in May 2011 with a master’s in Clinical Mental Health.

Julia Walsh is (still) in school and successfully defended her master’s thesis in I/O Psychology this winter. She is now starting to work on comprehensive exams and Ph.D. in I/O Psychology, all at Auburn. Good luck Julia—get out of there soon!

On the Left Coast, **Stephan Horbelt** took the position as editor in chief of the largest LGBT publication in California, *Frontiers in L.A.* magazine. He notes that “I’ve finally found a job that I love, with great perks. Every issue I get to interview respected and hilarious celebrities like Tom Ford, Kathy Griffin, Lisa Lampanelli, Adam Lambert, Lesley Jordan and Jane Lynch.” I personally do not know who any of those people are, but as the beneficiary of Stephan’s fantastic (and rather critical) editing skills throughout my Rhodes career, I’m confident that the magazine is in good hands.

From overseas (Iraq), **Palmer Snodgrass** writes that he’s been flying in support of combat operations since August. Thankfully, he was home (New Orleans) for Christmas.

On the marriage front, **Jennifer Clare Sirmon** and Jeffrey Adam Peters married July 18, 2009, at Fairhope United Methodist Church, Fairhope, AL. A reception followed at Bayside Academy on the bluff. Rhodes alumni in the wedding party included: **Catherine Curtis Eckley**, **Sarah Margaret Bridwell Decker**, **Andé McDaniel** and

Krista DeWitt ’05. After a honeymoon trip to Anguilla the couple is at home in Birmingham. Jennifer works in administration at UAB Hospital and Jeff is an attorney with the law firm Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings.

Jeaneane Fountain Camp recently returned from her MONTH-LONG honeymoon that included, no kidding, a trip around the world. The trip began in Mexico, then to Vancouver, China, Russia and London. The young couple returned stateside aboard the QE2. Needless to say, Jeaneane said that returning to work was a little rough.

Veena Rangaswami is still working for a NGO in Bangalore (peacechildindia.org), coordinating projects at a home for street and working children, and taking every opportunity to see as much of India as possible. If anyone is ever on that side of the world, be sure to look her up. Fantastic work Veena!

Lipstick on Your Collar founding member **Emily Goodman** will graduate from the University of Miami School of Law in May 2010. After a happy three years, she is looking forward to moving back home to North Carolina to start her legal career. Until then, Emily will be enjoying her last year of studies in Miami, living with her cockapoo Sergeant, and singing in one of the campus choirs.

Alyson and **Peter Igoe** are doing well in New Orleans; Peter is finishing dental school there. Their daughter Eileen was recently selected as an entrant into the New Orleans Piano and Jazz

Class Notes

School, which is quite an accomplishment. She has already performed “When the Saints Go Marching In” live at three venues. I can’t even play “Hot-Cross Buns” and I took piano lessons for years, so yeah, I’m jealous of the three-year-old.

Last, but certainly not least, **Anders Reynolds** is moving up the congressional ladder in Washington and just accepted a promotion as the legislative director for Congressman Marion Berry (D-AR). Congrats, Anders.

All is well for ckye—still “doing the Lord’s work” at the bank and am training for an island triathlon.

Again, great to see so many of you at Homecoming. Keep in touch.

Best, -ckyle

2005

Fifth Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 29-30

Reporters: Brandon

Couillard

brandon.couillard@gmail.com

Molly Fitzpatrick

mhfitz11@hotmail.com

Marc '04 and **Georgianna Lissauer** recently bought their first home and look forward to many Rhodent guests.

Tripp and **Ashley Wells**

Hullender '07 recently moved to downtown Memphis. Tripp works for Metropolitan Bank and Ashley is a teacher for the Catholic Diocese of Memphis.

Kevin Davidson has accepted a position with Wells Fargo’s Global Banking and Trade office in Dallas, where he’ll begin after completing his MBA at Texas Tech University.

Jordan Wood passed the Alabama bar exam and is working for the law firm of Christian & Small.

Katharine Etchen and **Brandon Couillard** married in September in Louisville, KY. The couple continues to live in Manhattan and recently moved to the West Village. Fellow alumni of the wedding party included: **Ken Bode**, **Jordan Wood**, **Jake Nemer**, **Nicole Lazo**, **Liz Wiedemann** and **Lee Thomas '04**. Other Rhodes alumni in attendance included: **Laura Hilliard**, **Nick Wiseman**, **Dani Ray Barton**, **Travis Cox**, **Krista Dewitt**, **Elizabeth '03** and **George Spears '02**, **Ginnie Arnold Meredith**, **Cynthia Pfohl**, **James Ray**, **Elizabeth Cooley '04**, **Jon Wood '02**, **Elizabeth Erny '07**, **Kristan Ward '07** and **Lindsay Sears**. Additionally, Brandon recently left Banc of America Securities for greener pastures in the equity research department at Jefferies & Co., a mid-tier investment bank in New York City, where he covers health care stocks.

Liz Wiedemann moved to Valencia, Spain in October, where she is teaching English with **Ellie Wigodsky '06**. Both Liz and Ellie are fluent in Spanish and look forward to many Rhodes visitors this summer.

Liz Roads and Thomas Upchurch, who met on European Studies 2003, married Sept. 19, 2009, at All Saints’ Chapel in Sewanee, TN. The wedding party was made up of several Rhodes '05 alums, including **Meg Brodman**, **Maureen Miller**, **Lucy Waechter Webb**, **Andrew Trundle**, **Daniel Waechter Webb** and **Andy Roads '09**, with several

more alumni in attendance. After honeymooning in Cabo San Lucas, the couple now resides in midtown Memphis. Liz is a speech language pathologist at Methodist North Hospital and Thomas is a seventh-grade math teacher at the Soulsville Charter School.

Margaret Summerford wed Jeremy Gaddy Aug. 29, 2009 in Tuscaloosa, AL. In attendance were: **Mills Ramsay '04**, **Andre de Araujo Jorge '04**, **Jacki Jeffrey**, **Molly Fitzpatrick**, **Hillary Schroeder**, **Chris Glancy**, **Millie Worley Ronnlund** and **Margaux Bray Glancy '08**. Margaret and Jeremy are now living in Birmingham, AL.

Joanna Young had an eventful 2009! After working in real estate development for a little over a year, she was laid off in February, at which point she decided the best use of her savings would be some time abroad. Joanna moved to Buenos Aires, Argentina in May where she studied Spanish, wrote for an online magazine geared toward expats and worked as business director with a start-up event company. While in Buenos Aires, she was lucky enough to connect with a current Rhodes junior, **Morgan Rote '11**, who became a close friend and travel buddy. In November, Joanna returned to Dallas to accept a fund level strategic analysis and advisory role with Hudson Advisors, the asset management subsidiary of Lone Star Fund.

In 2008, **Mira Patel** received a master of science in historic preservation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

She worked for the National Trust for Historic Preservation for almost two years before moving on to Landmarks Illinois (where her exciting work included Cameron’s house in “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off”). In addition, Mira worked as a historic properties specialist at Sotheby’s International Realty. Now, she is employed by the Chicago Conservation Center, working with clients to restore and conserve fine art and art objects.

In May, **Susannah Young** completed a M.A. in arts, entertainment and media management at Columbia College Chicago. She’s still living in Chicago and working as a creative associate/copywriter at August Jackson, a production and PR firm. She’s also freelancing as a music journalist. You can read and agree or disagree with her reviews at Pitchfork Media and Prefix Magazine.

Laura Gray Teekell is still in London getting her M.A. in art, style and design at Christie’s, which she will complete in October 2010.

Everyone mark your calendar—our fifth year reunion will be held Oct. 29-30, 2010. See you there.

2006

Reporter: **Nicole Vazquez**
nicolev@rhodes-alumni.net

Christina LaPrease participated in the Rhodes Alumnae Poetry Reading Sept. 17, 2009.

Joey Garrison now works on the City Paper Metro desk for the *Nashville Post*.

Billy Wilson recently started a new position as Workbridge trainer at

BRIDGES. He plans to begin law school in the fall.

Susannah Morse and Adam de Nobriga married June 6, 2009, in Jackson, MS. Attendants included: **Meriwether Wofford, Leanne Malik Pettway, Christine Bass, Nancy Elizabeth Dement, Wheeler Graf, Michael Hohos** and **James Feurbacher**. Susannah is currently practicing as a speech-language pathologist in two nursing homes in Memphis. Adam is finishing his third year of law school at the University of Memphis.

Becky Saleska Wolfe is in her fourth year of teaching in Los Angeles. She teaches earth science and life science.

In August, **Lydia Vincent** and **Chris Hawthorn '05** moved to NYC. Chris is currently working toward his MBA at Columbia University, and Lydia is working as a women's health nurse practitioner in a reproductive endocrinology and infertility practice in Manhattan.

Erin Tasman and **Colt Conner** married Oct. 17, 2009, in Marietta, GA. The following Rhodes alums were in the wedding party: **Liz Hodge, Susan Truss, Meredith Gould** and **Grace Richardson Johnson**. There were many others from Rhodes in attendance as well. Erin and Colt are currently living in Atlanta, where Erin works for Ernst & Young and Colt is with Hays Financial Consulting.

Susan Truss recently began law school at the University of Alabama.

Virginia Stewart and Steven Terhar married Dec. 5, 2009, in Hot Springs, AR. They will live in northern

Virginia.

Ellie Wigodsky is currently teaching English in Valencia, Spain.

Morrow and **Lake Waterstradt Bailey** married Aug. 15, 2009, in Montreat, NC. Her bridesmaids included **Merritt McMullen Driscoll, Sally Baker** and **Grace Richardson Johnson**. She and Morrow are currently living in Chicago, where Lake teaches kindergarten with the Chicago Public Schools.

Ashley and **Tim Robinson** married Sept. 13, 2009. They live in Bentonville, AR, where Tim works as a senior finance and strategy manager for Walmart and runs his bike shop. He is in the process of applying to several grad schools and hopes to begin a MBA program in 2010.

After spending two years working for the Department of Defense, **Dane Meyer** moved on to complete a master's in Social Science at the University of Chicago in 2008-09. He is now studying Mandarin Chinese in Taipei, Taiwan.

Nicole Vazquez finished her teaching fellowship last semester and has recently embarked onto the wonderful world of wine. She is the new general manager for Cork Wine Bar at the Pavilions in downtown Houston and recently passed her first level examination with the Court of Master Sommeliers. She is completing her master's at the University of Houston while continuing with wedding consulting and singing around town.

2007

Thérèse Rapski-Douglas and **Rama Douglas '08** married May 3, 2009, in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. They live in St. Louis.

Rachel Austin, who will receive her master's in public administration from the University of Georgia in May, has been awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. She will study at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Policy in Singapore, where she will research immunization and vaccination policy. She also plans to organize immunization outreach efforts in Indonesia and Malaysia.

Hallie Graves is clerking for Chief Judge Sidney A. Fizwater of the Northern District of Texas during 2010-11.

Amy Wells and Zachary Todd Quinkert married Oct. 9, 2009, in New York City's Central Park. Amy is a graduate student in the Laboratory of Neurobiology and Behavior at Rockefeller University.

After Rhodes, **Katie Jardine** packed up and left the country for Japan, where she's been ever since, teaching English to Japanese 7th-9th graders. She has used her allotted 20 vacation days per year to explore Japan, visit Australia and make Christmas pilgrimages to her family in New Orleans. She still hopes to visit Hong Kong, South Korea, Russia and pretty much the entire European continent.

2008

Diana Comes is this year's recipient of the National Association of Women

Judges' Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Scholarship. Diana is a second-year student at the University of Memphis law school.

Nick Lewis was featured in Memphis' *Commercial Appeal* for his second place finish at Colorado's Leadville Trail 100 ultra marathon, a 100-mile race through the Rocky Mountains.

2009

Lizzie Baird is national coordinator of Coach to Cure, a one-day nationwide project designed to build awareness about Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. The program's founder is **Brad Todd '92**, whose nephew Joel suffers with Duchenne. College football coaches throughout the country wear a "Coach to Cure MD" arm patch during one football game in a season. Rhodes Coach Joe White participated Sept. 19, 2009, when Rhodes played Trinity.

At the Ostrander Awards for excellence in Memphis theater held in August 2009, **Shannon King** won the award for Supporting Actress in a Drama, McCoy Theatre's production of "Fat Pig." **Jane Kilgore** won the award for Leading Actress in a Drama, McCoy's "The Skin of Our Teeth," which was named best Dramatic Production in the college division.

Kristine Overacre Page recently accepted the position of PR specialist at Razer, a computer peripherals manufacturer specializing in products specifically catered to gamers, in Carlsbad, CA.

Lauren Hampton won ArtBistro's "I Love What I Do" video contest. She is

Class Notes

a graphic designer for *AY Magazine* in Little Rock, AR. **Andrea Bell**, who is

completing a year with AmeriCorps VISTA at Western Illinois University,

is also the coordinator for VolunteerNOW, the local volunteer center. She recently

gave a presentation to the local Kiwanis chapter.

In Memoriam

'32 **Katherine Reid Brown** of Memphis, July 20, 2009. She was a teacher at The Hutchinson School, Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal School and served in the public school system as well. She and her mother opened the Cupboard Tea Room on Union Avenue in 1943. She leaves three sons including Joshua Goodlet Brown III '65 and a granddaughter.

'39 **Samuel Cutter Carter** of Harlingen, TX, Sept. 9, 2009. He was chief of surgery at Harlingen State Tuberculosis Hospital and a fellow in the American College of Chest Physicians. He served as a physician for the City of Harlingen Police and Fire Departments and for American Airlines-Valley Region. He was also a FAA flight physician, a member of Flying Physicians and the Confederate Air Force, as well regional associate of the Aircraft Owner's and Pilot Association. The widower of Eva Meador Carter, to whom he was married for 66 years, he leaves a daughter, a son, four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a sister.

'40 **Frances Smithwick Lee** of Atlanta, Nov. 18, 2009. Corporate secretary for Challenger Films, she taught grade school students in the early days of Pace Academy. An avid gardener, she participated in many of her children's activities including rappelling and taking rides in a motorized ultralight hang glider and sailplane. She attended

Marietta Alliance Church. The widow of Robert E. Lee Sr., to whom she was married for 43 years, she leaves two daughters, three sons, five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

'41 **William Benson Bobo** of Clarksdale, MS, October 18, 2009. He served as a Presbyterian minister in Holly Springs for two years and then practiced internal medicine in Clarksdale for 40 years. The widower of Betty Ruth Glasgow, he leaves three sons.

'43 **Mary Margaret "Pinkie" Curry Davidson** of Lafayette, CA, Aug. 21, 2009. She was active for many years in the Methodist Church and the Republican Women Organization. She enjoyed gardening, traveling, playing bridge and being with her children. The widow of Harry Alvin Davidson, to whom she was married for 58 years, she leaves three daughters, a son and four grandchildren.

'43 **Josephine Rhea Thomas** of Jackson, TN, Oct. 29, 2009. She worked as an X-ray technician in Oak Ridge during World War II and in Riverside, CA, after the war. She returned to West Tennessee to work at Kennedy Hospital in 1947. She was an active member of the First Methodist Church of Jackson and involved with the Jackson Hoe and Hope Garden Club for many years. For the past four years she had attended the Burks Methodist Church in Hixson, TN. The widower

of William A. Thomas, she leaves three sons and seven grandchildren.

'44 **Patricia Blake Carothers Coldwell** of Dallas, Nov. 1, 2009. She taught English literature for many years at Richland College and was an active member first at St. Matthews Cathedral and later at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church. The widow of David F.C. Coldwell, she leaves two grandchildren.

'44 **Samuel Stockley Moore** of Corona, TN, Sept. 16, 2009. He and his brother farmed for many years. He was a Presbyterian, the magistrate in the Tipton Country, Tennessee Court for 17 years and a member of the OK Hunting Club. He was also a member of the Nathan Bedford Forest Camp #215, Sons of the Confederate Veterans; the Isaac Shelby Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution; and the Descendants of Early Settlers of Shelby County. He enjoyed camping and canoeing the rivers of Missouri and Arkansas. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Joanne Cullom Moore, a daughter, three grandchildren and a sister, Elizabeth Moore Tipton '52.

'44 **Sam Stephenson Jr.** of Memphis, Nov. 1, 2009. A World War II Navy veteran and custom home builder for more than 30 years, he attended Christ United Methodist Church.

'45 **Sam Joseph Denney** of Memphis, Dec. 28, 2009. A

physician who practiced for 45 years in North Mississippi and West Tennessee, he served as a Navy aviator during World War II. A member of First Baptist Church, he was the widower of Carol Ann Catching Denney. He leaves two daughters, three sons and 14 grandchildren.

'45 **Marguerite Field Hoerl** of New Castle, DE, Nov. 25, 2009. A teacher, tutor and writer, she was the author of the 1997 book, *Turning Back the Tide of Illiteracy*. During World War II she performed numerical operations on mechanical calculators for the Manhattan Project at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she met her husband of 47 years, the late Arthur Edwin Hoerl. She leaves four sons and seven grandchildren.

'47 **John Caruthers Broderick** of Gaithersburg, MD, Jan. 4, 2010. A former professor and retired assistant librarian at the Library of Congress, he taught at the University of Texas, Austin and Wake Forest University before joining the staff of the Library of Congress in 1964. He retired in 1988 as assistant librarian of Congress for research services. During his tenure there he also served as a visiting professor at George Washington University, University of North Carolina, University of Virginia and Catholic University of America. He leaves his wife of 50 years,

Kathryn Lynch Broderick '47, a daughter, a son and a grandson.

'48 Christine Traicoff Rollins of Alexandria, LA, Dec. 20, 2009. A former high school teacher, she retired from the Rapides Parish Library in 2008 after 30 years of service. She was a member of the National Republican Women's Club, League of Women Voters, Matinee Music Club and Alexandria Little Theater, and performed with Sweet Adelines quartets and Central Louisiana Press Club Gridiron Shows. A member of Horseshoe Drive First United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir, she leaves three sons, four granddaughters, four grandsons and twin great-granddaughters.

'49 Frank Hale Berfield of Walnut Creek, CA, Dec. 2, 2009. He was a retired senior instructional designer for the U.S. Senate Computer Center in Washington, DC. After retirement in 1988, he was a volunteer TV director for Montgomery County, MD, Community Television, where he produced "Dance Lesson," a series of instructional programs on ballroom dancing. He spent his early career in Memphis involved in TV production and public relations. He leaves a son and two grandchildren.

'49 Thomas McCants Glenn III of Tyler, TX, May 24, 2009. An engineering writer with General Electric HMED in New York and Texas, he leaves his wife, Dorothy McGhee Glenn '51, two daughters, two sons and seven grandchildren.

'49 James Lefforage Wiygul of Memphis, Aug.

31, 2009. A decorated World War II Army Air Force veteran, he practiced dentistry for 53 years. He was a past president of the Memphis Dental Society and recipient of its Humanitarian Award, a lifetime member of the Tennessee and American Dental associations, a fellow of the American College of Dentists, Dentistry International and the Pierre Fauchard Academy. He was a lifelong member of the Shelby Dental Study Club and a member of Christ United Methodist Church. The widower of Luella Phillips Wiygul, to whom he was married for 63 years, he leaves two sons, four grandchildren, a brother and a sister.

'50 Elizabeth "Libby" Ann Peets of Sebastian, FL, July 4, 2009. After high school she joined the Navy for two years. She attended the University of Miami where she earned her B.A. in music. She was recalled by the Navy after graduation and transferred to the Women's Army Corps where she achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel. After her discharge she worked for the government at the Pentagon. A member of St. Sebastian Catholic Church, she leaves her sister, a niece, a nephew and a great-niece.

'51 William (Bill) Bronson Brazelton Jr. of Fort Smith, AR, Nov. 10, 2009. He was with the Bostitch Co. for 26 years and was involved with many community organizations. After college he served two years in the Army during the Korean Conflict, then returned to Memphis where he worked for Sears Roebuck and First National Bank. He

was heavily involved in the Senior Olympics and won more than 100 medals in field events over 12 years, and was a national champion in the javelin. A longtime member of West-Ark Church of Christ, he was the widower of Peggy Goodall Brazelton, to whom he was married for 47 years. He leaves three daughters and two grandchildren.

'51 Robert Frank Kirk of Mount Pleasant, FL, Oct. 26, 2009. He served in the Navy for 20 years as a captain and practicing physician. He then began a 25-year career practicing and teaching in the OB/GYN Department of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. An avid outdoorsman and runner, he was a founding member of the first Cooper River Bridge Run. He was a member of the Alpha Omega Medical Society, Thegos Society, executive board member of the Bridge Run and First Baptist Church of Haddonfield, NJ. He leaves his wife, Sally Carney Kirk; a son; two daughters, including Peggy Kirk Courtney '79; nine grandchildren; and a sister.

'51 John L. Kurts of Indianapolis, July 16, 2009. The senior cost accountant for Firestone's industrial products division, he was with the company for 56 years. An Army veteran, he leaves his wife, Margaret Kurts, three sons, a sister and a brother.

'52 Martha Ann Jones Burke of Jackson, MS, Aug. 9, 2009. A member of St. Richard Catholic Church, she served as a eucharistic minister and minister to the sick. She

also served as a volunteer at St. Dominic's Hospital in the Critical Care Unit. She leaves five daughters, a son, 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

'52 Clarence Day of Aberdeen MS, Oct. 9, 2009. President of the Day Companies, in 1981 he established the Day Award for Outstanding Teaching and the Dean's Award for Research and/or Creative Activity at Rhodes, which recognizes exceptional faculty. He received an honorary doctorate from Rhodes in 1990, the college's Distinguished Service Award in 2003 and was an honorary member of ODK, the national leadership fraternity. He loved sculpture, travel, tennis, sailing and swimming. He leaves a daughter, a stepson and a granddaughter.

'52 Frank Albert Hitchings Jr. of Memphis, Nov. 27, 2009. Retired vice president of development for Allen and O'Hara, he had also served as president of Omnicon, general manager of Clark Tower and vice president of real estate at First City Bank. He was a member of the 21st Century Committee at Rhodes and was a member of Les Passees Hospital Board. A member of Independent Presbyterian Church, he leaves his wife of 55 years, Mary Catherine Lynn Hitchings '51, a daughter, a son, three grandchildren and a brother.

'53 Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Wade Ferris of St. Petersburg FL, Sept. 14, 2009. She was a member of the charter staff of the library at the University of South Florida in Tampa and later worked to establish the book

In Memoriam

collection at the campus in St. Petersburg. She was an avid quilter and tireless volunteer for numerous charitable causes. She was honored with the 2005 McAdams Peace Award for her many years of dedicated service to the children at the Happy Workers Daycare Center. She leaves her husband, Harold Ferris, a daughter, son and three grandsons.

'53 Karle B. Rhea Sr. of Memphis, Jan. 19, 2009. He was a resident of Somerville and family physician there for 50 years. A charter member of Christ Presbyterian Church, he was married to Mary Elizabeth Borum Rhea. He leaves three sons, including Karl B. Rhea Jr. '83, and six grandchildren.

'55 Virginia Walton Hines of Austin TX, Oct. 16, 2009. An active member in Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church as well as the D.A.R., she enjoyed genealogy research, bridge groups, travel, politics, gardening and tennis. She leaves her husband, Mac Hines, two sons and a brother.

'57 James Edward Edens III of Okolona, MS, Dec. 1, 2009. A third-generation cattleman and well-known cattle auctioneer, he was a longtime member of the Okolona School Board, past director of the Bank of Okolona and past president of the Okolona Chamber of Commerce. An elder of the Okolona Presbyterian Church, he leaves his wife of 54 years, Frances DeRossitt Edens '58, four sons, 10 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter and two sisters, Jeanne Edens Ditto '49 and Hattie Lee Bryant '52.

'60 Dr. Travis Glen Casanova Sr. of Cleveland, MS, Sept. 26, 2009. He was a member of the DSU Foundation Board of Directors, board member of the Child Abuse Prevention Center of Oxford, MS, member of the Cleveland and Greenwood Exchange Clubs and member of the Marshall County Forestry Association. He was awarded the Mississippi Tree Farmer of the Year. He leaves his wife, Corinne Wiggins Casanova, two sons and two granddaughters.

'62 Edward "Eddie" Ray Gaines of Gulfport, MS, Dec. 21, 2009. He was a partner in the law firm of Palmer, Stewart and Gaines from 1968-86, the year he was appointed U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi. He served as prosecuting attorney for the city of Gulfport for 12 years and was a fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation. He was a state bar commissioner for the Second Circuit Court District, judge advocate for the Navy League and was involved in several civic endeavors. A member of St. Peter's-By-The-Sea Episcopal Church, he leaves his wife, Deane Chrestman Gaines, a daughter, two grandchildren and a sister.

'62 Glenn Allen Jones of Bartlett, TN, May 21, 2009. A retired chef in the food service industry, he was a longtime volunteer with the Memphis Zoo and Feast for Friends. He sang tenor in the choir at Calvary Episcopal Church where he was a member.

'63 Sherri Alexander Rudd of Cleveland, GA, July 20,

2009. She began her nursing career in Savannah, and then worked at Sheppard Spinal center in Atlanta. Later she worked at Northeast Georgia Medical Center and ended her career by serving the local community as a home health nurse in White County. After retiring, she continued to serve others by donating her time and services through her work in the Catholic Church. She leaves her husband of 47 years, Father Thad B. Rudd (one of two married Catholic priests in Georgia), three children and 10 grandchildren.

'65 William "Bill" Cecil Griffin Jr. of Knoxville, TN, Aug. 28, 2009. A physician with Dermatology Associates of Kingsport, TN, since 1980, he formerly practiced pediatrics in Kingsport, TN, and Corvallis, OR. An advocate for children, he partnered with the Junior League of Kingsport to establish the first child abuse services in the Tri-Cities, including an abuse hotline. He served as president of the Independent Physicians Association and established the Elizabeth R. Griffin Research Foundation in memory of his daughter. A member of Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church in Johnson City, he leaves his wife of 41 years, Caryl Peden Griffin, a daughter, two grandsons, a brother, David Griffin '69, and sisters.

'67 Talbot Spottswood Mathes III of Midland TX, Aug. 3, 2009. He spent most of his life in Memphis, where he was president of Mathes Bros. Insurance Inc. and Mathes Investments. He also volunteered for several

years at the Crisis Center. He leaves his mother, Catherine Mathes, and a sister.

'71 David Lawrence Carter of Memphis, Nov. 20, 2009. He was retired from the Memphis Public Library and active in the Sierra Club Chickasaw Group.

'71 Carol Yvonne Ramsay Lockett of Austin, TX, Sept. 3, 2009. She worked at the University of Texas Library for 30 years, where she was a manager in the Acquisitions Department. In the early '80s she taught English as a second language in Mexico and Brazil. A clarinetist and pianist, she had recently begun playing the harp and hammer dulcimer. She leaves her husband of 19 years, Landon J. Lockett III, her mother and two brothers, including Christopher Malcolm Ramsay '80.

'72 James Kendrick (Ken) Thompson, Aug. 18, 2009. The youngest tennis coach at Vanderbilt University, he had a sales career and became a high school English teacher at age 50. He taught in Arizona, California, Tennessee and Michigan and had been the Alabama state doubles champion tennis player for several years. He leaves a daughter, two brothers and a sister.

'87 Eric Preston Bell of Little Rock, AR, Nov. 3, 2009. He loved attending his daughter's basketball, cross country and track events at Arkansas Baptist. He leaves his wife, Deborah Coleman Bell, a daughter, two half-sisters, an aunt and an uncle.

'94 Dean Thomas Merritt of Twin Falls, ID, April 26, 2007. He leaves a daughter, his father, stepmother, mother, grandmother and sister.

Helping Students Stay at Rhodes

The Margaret Hyde Council exists to support women students at Rhodes College. Founded in 1996, the council was named for Rhodes alumna, trustee and benefactor Margaret Ruffin Hyde.

One way the council makes a difference is by awarding student emergency assistance. Through both endowment and annual gifts, council donors' generosity has changed countless women's lives.

Responding to a grant from the Margaret Hyde Council, one student struggling to make ends meet wrote, "My experiences at Rhodes have been absolutely life-changing. I know that completing this remarkable learning experience would have

been impossible were it not for your generous contribution. I cannot thank you enough, and I will forever be inspired by your selfless act and spirit of goodwill."



Margaret Ruffin Hyde '34

There has never been a more critical time to support Rhodes students.

For more information or to give to the Margaret Hyde Council or other student emergency assistance please contact:

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JUSTIN FOX BIRKS

True fan Tiffany Cossich '12 enjoys a photo op with Charlaine Harris '73, best-selling author of the Southern Vampire Series of books on which the HBO drama "True Blood" is based. Harris visited her alma mater in November for sessions with students, faculty and staff; book signings; and an evening with the Rhodes community.