

# Rhodes

THE MAGAZINE OF RHODES COLLEGE • SUMMER 2011



**Music! Music! Music!**



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Photography by Justin Fox Burks

# Rhodes

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Thu, 21 Apr 2011 by Christina Huntington

Five students (Morgan Rote, Trey Carson, Lara Wagner, Brent Bulgereit, and Rachel Webb) accompanied Dr. Art Carden, assistant professor of economics and business, to the Association of Private Education meeting.

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### NEWS

#### Our Thoughts Are With Those In Joplin, MO

Our hearts and prayers go out to all those impacted by the severe weather that devastated much of Joplin, MO yesterday. »

Visit [rhodes.edu/news](http://rhodes.edu/news) for the latest stories and features about people and events.

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- Commencement photo gallery and video
- Shelby Foote Collection photo gallery
- Rhodes TV video profiles of student musicians
- Audio performances by members of the Music Department
- The many faces of Bill Skoog, Music Department chair and director of choral activities
- Video of Teach for America founder Wendy Kopp's 2007 baccalaureate address
- In Print—new books by faculty and alumni



# 'A Collection Large and Full of Treasures'

By Richard J. Alley

Photography by Justin Fox Burks



As moves go, it wasn't such a great distance. Only a little over two miles to be exact, from the study of a turreted, fairy-tale-like house on East Parkway to the Gothic, shady campus on North Parkway. Nevertheless, the acquisition by Rhodes College of the Shelby Foote Collection of writings, papers, hand-drawn maps, photos and memorabilia is such that it will take researchers and students on a journey through decades worth of history, stories and lessons.

The collection is a major gain for the college. On a rainy March morning in the warm confines of the Paul Barret Jr. Library, dignitaries and notables gathered to see and speak about the significance of the Foote collection to the worlds of literature, research, history and Rhodes itself.

As President Bill Troutt said that morning, the acquisition of the Foote collection "is a very special moment in the life of our college."

Though many of the items had been on loan for years to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, there was never much doubt that Foote's ties to Rhodes were strong, as he received an honorary degree in 1982 and lectured on campus in 1988 and 1991.

When son Huger Foote set out to find a permanent

home for his father's vast collection of papers and books, he kept the elder Foote's wishes and beliefs close to heart. Huger says of his task: "With that spirit in mind, things were somewhat simplified. At any juncture, I only needed to ask, 'What would my father have wanted?' and follow that course ... It was important to me that the entire collection be kept intact and preserved in its full integrity to inspire and, I think, amaze this and future generations of scholars. Rhodes shares this vision."

Shelby Dade Foote Jr. was born in Greenville, MS, in 1916. He attended Greenville High School and, later, UNC, where he first began contributing fiction to that school's literary journal, *Carolina Magazine*. In 1940 he joined the Mississippi National Guard and, eventually, the Marines, though he was dismissed from both branches of service. As a writer, he worked for the Associated Press in New York City. He would move back to Greenville and then to Memphis in 1952 where he lived until his death in 2005.

He was a Southerner by birth and in all things, and the very culture and history of his homeland shaped who he was as a person. In fall 1994, Brian Lamb, the founding CEO of C-SPAN and host of "Booknotes," visited Foote in his study for the television program. Foote told Lamb that day that "Any Deep South boy, and probably all Southern boys, have been familiar with the Civil War as a sort of thing in their conscience going back. I



President Troutt, Timothy Huebner, the L. Palmer Brown Professor of Interdisciplinary Humanities, and Cassi Bails-McLeod '12 examine pieces of the Shelby Foote Collection





honestly believe that it's in all our subconsciouses.” But it was Memphis where he would make his home by choice to live and work for more than half a century.

“I wrote the first volume (of *The Civil War: A Narrative*) on the exact western city limits of Memphis because it was on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River,” Foote told Lamb. “The second volume was written on the eastern limits of Memphis, which Yates Road was then. And the third volume was written where I live now, right in the geographical center of Memphis. All three volumes were written, every line of them, there in Memphis.”

Foote published a novel a year from 1949 to 1952, beginning with *Tournament* and ending with *Shiloh*. The latter was a precursor to the three-volume, nonfiction, 1.2-million-word *The Civil War: A Narrative* published in three parts in 1958, 1963 and 1974. His

novel *September September*, set mostly on Beale Street and the bluffs of Memphis, was published in 1978.

Based on a recommendation by writer Robert Penn Warren, filmmaker Ken Burns sat down with Foote in the late 1980s before shooting his planned documentary on the Civil War. The result of that conversation was Foote's face and smoky Southern drawl in almost 90 segments, one full hour of the 11-hour series. The documentary was enormously popular and Foote imbued it with a personality that propelled him into the limelight, a celebrity that Foote professed was unwanted and that some strangers and unknowing fans found not to be tolerated.

Despite the previous novels and the trilogy, Foote predicted that his magnum opus would be the novel *Two Gates to the City*. Though unfinished, its partial manuscript, notes and outlines now have a home among the photos and letters of the collection at Rhodes.

The inventory also includes letters to and from, and photos with, lifelong friend Walker Percy; 2,350 volumes from Foote's private library, including first editions by William Faulkner, Eudora Welty and Percy; leather-bound and hand-written manuscripts; personal diaries; an extensive collection of music and sculpture; as well as family correspondence and photos. There is an address book filled with Foote's distinctive handwriting where, on one page, the reader will find a phone number for Ken Burns preceded by that of Bozo's Bar-B-Q in Mason, TN. On the opposite page, a listing for actor Matthew Broderick.

All items will be housed in the 136,000-square-foot Paul Barret Jr. Library, and a task force made up of the library and Information Technology Services division and members of the History, English



Darlene Brooks, director of the Paul Barret Jr. Library, and Elizabeth Gates, Rhodes archivist and Special Collections librarian, review one of Shelby Foote's notebooks



and Religious Studies departments will work to index, catalogue, archive and display the collection. It is a process that will provide invaluable experience and training for students.

The first drafts, notes, outlines and maps drawn in his own hand offer an important peek into Foote's mindset and his efforts to write through subjects and scenes. These are vital to any researcher of history or literature, or Foote himself.

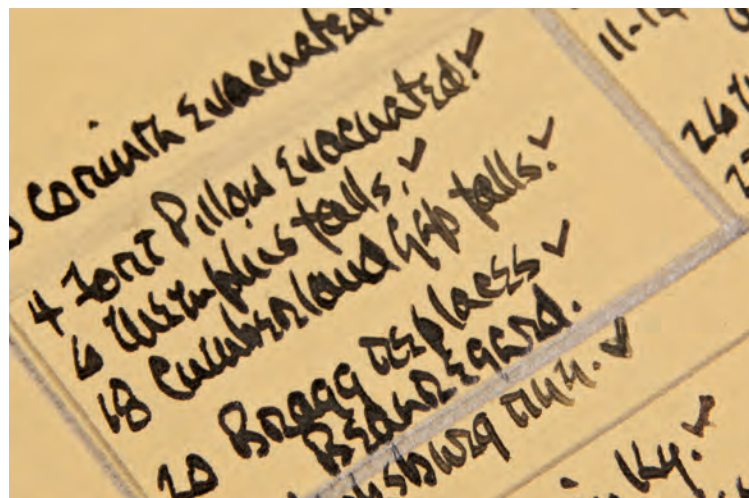
"I can imagine scholars of the Civil War, and particularly of Foote and of Southern literature, coming to campus to make use of the papers that will be housed here," says Tim Huebner, Department of History chair.

"Someone who is doing serious research on the fiction, on a novel like *Shiloh*, and thinking about its relationship to the history he wrote might want to look at that manuscript and see if there's evidence of nascent beginnings of this history," says Marshall Boswell, Department of English chair. "Any number of things can be found in a manuscript, it's really interesting research for people to do."

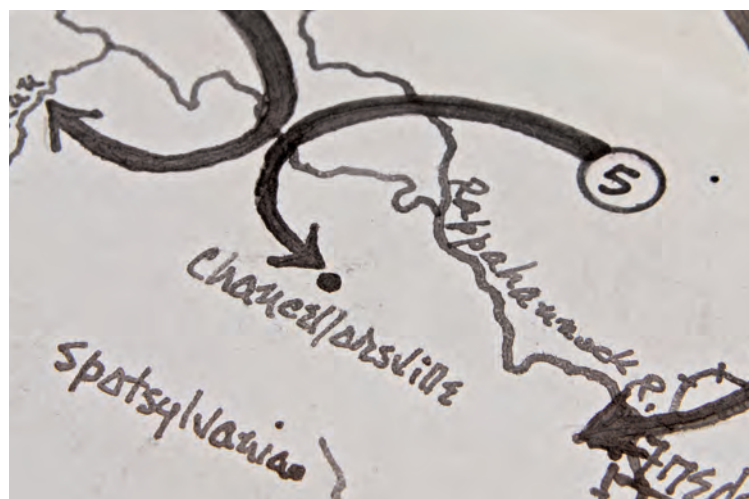
The work of Shelby Foote creates a kind of estuary for history and literature, a pool in which the two disciplines mingle and even feed off of each other. Foote told the *Paris Review* in an interview from 1997, "I think of myself as a novelist who wrote a three-volume history of the Civil War. I don't think it's a novel, but I think it's certainly *by* a novelist. The novels are not novels written by a historian. My book falls between two stools—academic historians are upset because there are no footnotes and novel readers don't want to study history."

As to history, Foote understood how to tame it in every respect, both in the research and in the telling of stories, and make it accessible.

"There is no great difference between writing novels and writing histories other than this: If you have a character named Lincoln in a novel who's not Abraham Lincoln, you can give him any color eyes you want. But if you want to describe the color of Abraham Lincoln's, *President* Lincoln's, eyes, you have to know what color they were. They were gray," Foote told the *Paris Review* interviewer.



Detail of Foote's Civil War chronology



Detail of a hand drawn map of the Wilderness Campaign

His 2003 biography, *A Writer's Life*, was written by 1991 Rhodes graduate C. Stuart Chapman who saw Foote as an important figure, not just in literature and history, but in the culture of the South as well.

"His life spans this enormous amount of time, arguably even more than Faulkner," Chapman says. "Shelby Foote is one of the last vestiges of the antebellum South."

Boswell and Huebner plan to capitalize on the wealth of information and writings this fall when they collaborate on a Learning Community. First-year students will sign up to take "Southern Literature" and "The American South," and the two classes will "cross-pollinate," as Boswell describes it, adding, "I might send a student over there (Barret Library) and see if she can glean something from those manuscripts that might illuminate some point in the novel that the person is pursuing."

Not only students, but the academic world at large will be better off with the collection to refer to and study, to see what it was the author was thinking—through copious notes, cuttings from magazines and newspapers and thorough outlines—as he wrote his novels and Civil War narrative.

“There are few writers who are identified with Memphis and the South the way that Shelby Foote is, and his papers are a real treasure trove precisely because he’s so organized and meticulous,” Chapman says. “It’s always the marginalia that’s so interesting about what he’s going through, what was happening in his life, in the Southern cultural phenomenon in relation to Mississippi or race or whatever it was.”

Such an extensive and high-profile collection may also pave the way for similar procurements down the road.

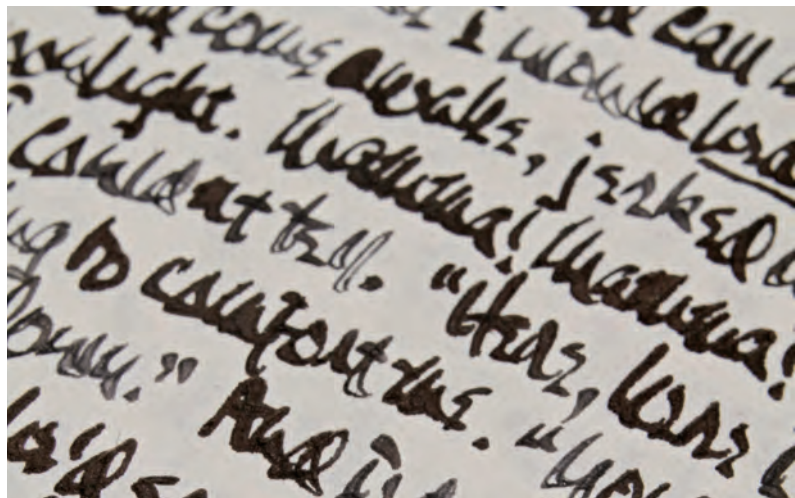
“I would hope that this would serve as a catalyst for us trying to develop a larger, regionally-focused archive on literature and history,” Huebner says.

Foote had said that he eschewed computers as a means of research. He preferred to look through books and newspapers, never knowing, yet always surprised, by what he might find there. He was a researcher, as his narratives on the Civil War prove, and the newspaper clippings that accompany his notes for novels found in the collection will provide a map in its own right, a connect the dots for future historians and novelists to learn how one writer may have arrived at point B from point A.

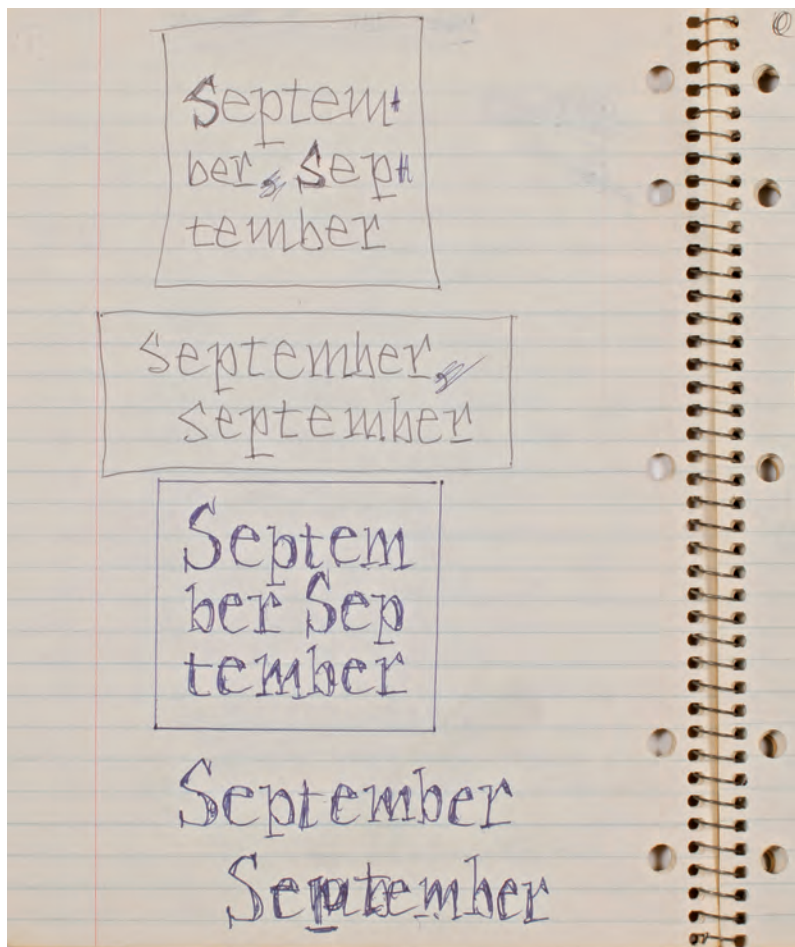
It is said that people who collect first editions of books do so to be closer to the author. If this is so, then to hold Foote’s handwritten manuscript for *September September* is to sit in the author’s study and share in the perfume of his pipe smoke as he dips nib into ink and scratches the opening line onto crisp white paper: “It was a bad time in many ways, some of them comprehensible, others not.”

Of the lifetime of work, Huger Foote says, “My father’s collection is large and full of treasures, and in studying it one discovers the vast and varied world that he has created in an intellectual life.”


Of the importance of access to such work, President Troutt adds, “We are a college that provides students with



Handwritten version of Foote’s 1978 novel *September, September*



A sketch from Foote’s spiral bound notebook—possibly a cover design?

remarkable opportunities—the best in the classroom, the best beyond the classroom, and access to academic resources that can only be found here at Rhodes and here in Memphis. With the acquisition of the Shelby Foote Collection, we take another step forward in the excellence we offer at Rhodes.” 



## Someone To Be Studied

As a History major at Rhodes, Stuart Chapman '91 became so enamored of Shelby Foote and his trilogy *The Civil War: A Narrative* that he put on a coat and tie one day his senior year and walked down East Parkway to the author's cloistered house. He knocked on the door and was let in by Foote's wife, Gwyn, and shown to the den where Shelby Foote shortly joined him. The two chatted for a half-hour about Foote's novels, the voluminous history, the Mississippi Delta and F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Chapman found him to be "unbelievably gracious" and, as he wrote in the preface to his later biography on Foote, *A Writer's Life*, "As had been the viewers of "The Civil War," I somehow also became hooked by the man's aura."

He found as well, in his dealings and conversations with Foote and his friends, cause to question Foote's notorious reclusiveness and abhorrence of the celebrity he garnered in the wake of the Ken Burns documentary of 1990, "The Civil War."

"I think he certainly cultivated it as the years went on, he appreciated being recognized. I think he felt it was long overdue as far as the recognition and he certainly enjoyed it," Chapman said by phone from his office on Capitol Hill where he is chief of staff for congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY).

"He absolutely relished, for all of the difficulty that I'm sure that presented at times, that he was finally, for the first time in his life, recognized."

It wasn't until years after the initial conversation in Foote's den that Chapman considered writing a biography, which eventually took about seven years of research and writing. He interviewed a willing and helpful Foote in his home, read through massive amounts of personal and professional papers, and interviewed many of Foote's close, personal friends and family members.

"He was just enormously gracious, particularly to a little punk who was all of 24 or 25, but helpful in the way that he could be."



Stuart Chapman '91

Chapman was born in northern Alabama, the son of a United Methodist minister, and received his bachelor of arts in history from Rhodes and a master of arts in English from the University of Georgia. He has worked for state representative David B. Sullivan (D-MA) and congressmembers Zack Space (D-OH), Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Sen. John D. (Jay) Rockefeller (D-WV).

When talk turns to *A Writer's Life* and Foote, even in those hallowed halls of Congress, people are fascinated by the Southern son who was a chronicler of Southern ways.

"Whether you're in New York or in Ohio or Alabama, or anywhere in between, it's always a conversation starter ... they have lots of questions about him. Everybody is, even now, mesmerized by him. The appetite for Shelby Foote is just amazing."

Chapman acknowledges with gratitude the help he received from Foote and his associates while writing his biography, and the value of full access to his personal papers and writings he views as inestimable.

"I think it's a huge coup for Rhodes to get these papers, there's still a lot of work to be done on Shelby Foote. I think he's going to be someone who's studied for many years and many decades to come."



# MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!



The Rhodes Singers at the National Cathedral in February



## By John Bryant '11 Photography by Justin Fox Burks



BOB MARCOT



Emmanuel John-Teye '13 performs with the Rhodes Jazz Ensemble at the Mose Allison concert in January in the McCallum Ballroom



The Rhodes MasterSingers Chorale and Memphis Symphony Orchestra in concert at Evergreen Presbyterian Church in April

It's Café Eclectic, a local hot spot, famous for its diced potatoes. The place is packed with the young, the old, the eating. A denomination of Rhodes student musicians stands in its proud corner, dapper and awkward, swaddled in guitar straps and garlands of brass. I hear the nervous plink of strings and keys, warm air coiled through trombones and trumpets. An announcement, a shuffle of hooves, and music begins.

The awkwardness stops being awkward. Because these Rhodes kids, these Rhodes kids can really play. The music is loose, slack and electric. It sounds very—I search for the perfect word—*jazzy*.

“Because it's jazz,” someone offers.

Yes, the Rhodes Jazz Band has indeed gotten more ambitious. It's spread off campus, it's ready to announce to Memphis, “We're here.”

A bluesy rapport gets going at Café Eclectic. We strike a deal with the band—they play, and we applaud, with feeling. They get to rocking. Old jazz standards accented with students' own untested riffs, carousels of solos, flights of fancy smoothed back into melody.

People start to sway. I dance, unashamed. We begin to think the song's over. The crowd's about to clap. But the piano comes back alive. Emmanuel John-Teye '13 pilots a neck of ivory, threatens to lap the speed of sound. My ears

sweat to hear, to understand, to cope with lightspeed beauty. It's inconceivable. His fingers relax from a hard flurry to a mere splash on the keys. In the interim, I run my eyes across his face. And I have to laugh. Because Emmanuel, Emmanuel is not even sweating. Emmanuel is just smiling.

He laps round the melody in a run of arpeggios; the place erupts. People stand to laud him.

A few more songs, and much more jazz applause later, and the Rhodes Jazz Band has sated the crowd's every jazz desire. Everyone's on their feet, ecstatic, eclectic, sated. The musicians retire their instruments in snug stalls of fur, snap cases shut.

I run up to Emmanuel, earnest tape recorder in a hand that sweats.

"I had no idea you were a music major!" I pant.

He smiles, pats me on the back—the run of my spine feeling musical now.

"Nah, man. Biology."

I'm incredulous. We swap stories. He's from Ghana, and I'm not interesting.

"How'd you hear about Rhodes?"

"My high school pre-calc teacher recommended Rhodes since I was looking for a good pre-med school situated in a 'musically-nourished' city."

"And then you just joined a Rhodes Jazz Band?"

"Yeah, I guess."

Perhaps Emmanuel is the exception at Rhodes. But actually, he's not. The fact is, Rhodes attracts Emmamuels from all over. Not just because Memphis is the home of the blues, not to mention and rock 'n' roll, but because as a liberal arts college, Rhodes offers what many schools do not—the chance to fold robust musical expression into the traditional academic experience. Emmanuel better articulates this himself, "I always felt like I wanted to be a musician. But I also wanted to be doctor. And I was torn between the two. And then I came to Rhodes."

How was this possible? Perhaps Rhodes Singer/History major Emily Main '12 says it best: "Rhodes knows we're interested in lots of different things. They know that's why we chose a liberal arts college. And so they give us every opportunity to do those things, and that's what I love about it."

True, the Rhodes student is a peculiar species. Part mammal, part Rhodes student, part sound aficionado. And Rhodes, with its special emphasis on cultivating the whole human person, seems to draw in these renaissance men and women at a rate that can only be described as allegro. On any temperate day, one can be walking on the lawn outside Paul Barret Jr. Library and run earfirst into a sonata or guitar riff, soared from the walls of Hassell Hall. On that given day, one could then peek in to find the sound's owner—an Economics major!

Fooled again!

There is not only room for individual musical brilliance like Emmanuel. Rhodes indeed has a true feast of options for *any* student, especially those wanting to make beautiful, corporate noise, if not in the Rhodes Jazz Band, then perhaps in Rhodes Singers, or the Rhodes Orchestra, or one of the two Rhodes a cappella groups, or in one of the abundance of music ensembles offered. Or, if you're a bit of a loner—one or two of the abundance of private lessons offered. Quick, I'll give you a tour.

First, the Rhodes Singers.

"To talk about what it was like to sing in the Washington National Cathedral would be a kind of great sacrilege. It was just too beautiful for words," says Joseph Hiller '11, one of the Rhodes Singers who performed in DC in late February.

William Skoog, professor of Music, department chair and director of choral studies, is just as unhelpful: "It was absolutely exhausting, absolutely exhilarating, all at the same time. That's all I can say. It was almost like we got home and said, 'Did that really just happen?'"

But it did.

In fact, the Rhodes Singers gave *five* performances in Washington, DC, in February 2011, two of which were "mountaintop experiences," according to Professor Skoog: one in the Washington National Cathedral, the other at Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, an unprecedented privilege for any choir.

Following those ultimate gigs,



Skoog will usher the choir to greater feats, to the Salzburg Choral Festival, singing also in Prague and Vienna, in 2012. How has he done this in such a short time, with a group of 60 busy college students, only a handful of whom are music majors? One student thinks he has the answer pinned down: “Because Skoog’s awesome.”

Professor Skoog, perhaps, has his own opinion: “What these students have discovered here,” he says, “is that nonmusic majors can also do something profoundly musical.”

But it would be unfair to say the Rhodes Singers’ success hasn’t been shaped by Professor Skoog’s special ethic: “I like to say singing in a choir is passion fueled by discipline. Now, discipline by itself is very important, but it’s also very dry. Passion by itself can also be very exciting, but if it lacks discipline, it doesn’t make for very good music. It’s both. It takes both.” But, he says, “One of the great things about being at Rhodes is that students *already* value that coming here. They already come ready to work pretty hard academically. And they bring that high level of intelligence and that high level of discipline to the musical experience. That’s why it’s so great here.”

In addition to passion and discipline, to these students Rhodes Singers is a kind of second fraternity or sorority, albeit one that gets to sing at cathedrals. Indeed, what is generally agreed upon is that one of the things that makes doing music at Rhodes so special is you get to do it with all of your friends. The students will tell you: More often than not, the people you sing with



The Rhodes College Orchestra plays themes from popular films at Rhodes Night at the Movies III in McCallum Ballroom



Harpists, left to right, Leerin Campbell, Mae Gillespie '12, Suzanne East '14, Kelly Dodson, Ye Zheng '13 and Linlin Qiu '13 perform at the Rhodes Chamber Music concert in April at Tutthill Performance Hall



Ritendo Tsoka '12 and members of the Commercial Music Ensemble perform their spring concert in the Lair

crazy, because I'm not professionally trained. But I auditioned and got in. (Auditions are for placement only.) The experienced members were amazing in helping me along. It was one of the most joyful communities I've been in at Rhodes."

The members of the Rhodes College Orchestra would say they feel the same way, even if they wouldn't sing it. In fact, in its three years headed by Dr. Joseph Montelione, the orchestra has leapfrogged from a threadbare 15 members to a rotund cadre of 45.

This statistic floored freshman cellist Stephen Leavelle upon coming to Rhodes. "For a college this size," he says, "to have a student orchestra at all is, first of all, amazing. And for that same orchestra to have 40 plus members is, second of all, astonishing."

Professor Montelione credits that success to the unique admittance tenet at Rhodes: "At lots of schools, if you're not a music major, you can't audition for the orchestra. But that's what makes us different. If you're a student at Rhodes, have a passion for and a commitment toward musical excellence, you're in."

It's more than that democratic ethic that makes the orchestra work. Again, the typical orchestra student is not just some uncommitted ragamuffin.

"We all really want to be there," posits percussionist Josh Fuchs '11. "Believe me, at a school as rigorous as Rhodes, we really, really want to be there."

are the people you eat with, and get mad at for not doing the dishes.

"It really bridges the gap between all people. On your first day, there are people in choir whom you've never seen before, or maybe seen once in class. But this one thing is so big and so impactful that we all become friends," says Elizabeth Moak '11.

"I think we all love music and love the connection we have to each other and to the music. We get to come to rehearsal and perform wonderful, enjoyable music that builds community with us. And then, we get to give that gift to everyone else. It's wonderful," rejoins Bailey Romano '12.

Tiffany France '11 adds, "There's something special about getting together with people with whom you don't have a ton in common, but you come together and you make this beautiful sound together that you can't make without

one another, and it creates this wonderful relationship of trust."

It also creates a kind of stress relief.

"On any day, things can go terribly wrong, but then you get to sing," says Romano.

Another says, "For me, choir is a very needed release from all the other things Rhodes has that keeps us busy. I mean, it's *hard* work, but somehow it's not *work*."

But Rhodes Singers is not only for the rarified ether of sonata sirens or precocious vocalists. Novices mingle with crooners of pedigree, in a community open to those who love to make joyful music. As Tiffany France says, "If you can sing, and love to sing, you can be in Rhodes Singers." Joseph Hiller agrees: "Before Rhodes Singers, I only sang in the car. I had a few friends who said I was good enough to try out. I thought that sounded



Montelione agrees. In fact, the typical orchestra student is one who, like Josh Fuchs, will one day do great things outside of music, but in the interim cannot stand to give up the instrument he loves. As Montelione says, “The core value of the orchestra is, everybody’s there because they want to be there. Everyone’s there because they love music. It doesn’t matter if you’re a Biology major, English major or Physics major. When you walk into the rehearsal room, you’re a musician.”

The passion’s grown. This year, the Rhodes College Orchestra traveled to Chicago for a whirlwind tour. The orchestra also performs two concerts a semester, the fan favorite of which is “Rhodes Night at the Movies,” a tribute to popular film scores. “It’s exciting,” says Montelione, “There’s this sense of pride and tradition of excellence in the orchestra now. We’re performing music from the standard orchestral repertoire in concerts on and off campus, incorporating more chamber music, and we no longer rely heavily on non-student musicians to assist in our concerts.”

How has the Rhodes College Orchestra not only grown in size, and excellence? One word, again: community. Josh Fuchs notes, “At a school this size, you already know all the people you play with. And there’s just something special about playing good music with people you know.” Professor Montelione also feels the difference: “You have to understand, when you perform as a musician in an orchestra, it’s not necessarily about being able to play the right notes and the right rhythms. It’s about one’s ability to communicate and connect

with other people on a higher level. The bonding experiences that occur on campus and on our tours are evident in concert performances. If you’re able to connect on a human level, on a personal level, that just makes communicating on a musical level that much easier, that much more powerful.”

But what, you may ask, if a student is too busy for such activities? What if you’re not ready to get into the tidal swing of music? What if you want only to dip your toe in the eddy of rhythm, stay ankle deep in the whirlpool of musical expression? Thankfully at Rhodes, there is a full spectrum of opportunities available to all students. They can take private voice or instrumental lessons of their choice, taught by an aggregate of the best musicians in this musical city.

“It’s great,” says Daniel Gilham ’12, taker of private guitar lessons. “Rhodes brings the best musicians in the city to you, and all you have to do is walk to class on Thursday.”

Also, for the relaxed and talented, there are two a cappella groups on campus, the all-guys Woolsocks, and the all-girls Lipstick on Your Collar. For Matt Walker, the more laid-back tenets of Woolsocks were a perfect fit for his talent: “I wanted to sing, but couldn’t and didn’t want to join an official group. Strict outfits, man. Couldn’t handle it.”

For Matt, the 12-member, four-part a cappella group was a happy contract between working hard and hanging out. “You get to push yourself musically, in a relaxed creative outlet. It’s also just a blast

being able to sing a mixture of doo-wop and modern pop.”

For Carrie Lee, leader of Lipstick on Your Collar, the feeling is mutual. “We’re really just singing for fun. It’s entirely student run. We pick all our songs ourselves, and we arrange some of them ourselves. It’s for people who are passionate about music and having fun. We get to perform for the college, but the best thing about Lipstick is the good mood you’re in at the end of practice because you and everyone else have just spent an hour and a half enjoying yourself, singing songs you like.”

Whatever the endeavor, music is happening at Rhodes. **R**

## Something for Everyone

Musical options at Rhodes include:

### Vocal ensembles

Rhodes Singers  
MasterSingers Chorale  
Women’s Chorus

### Instrumental ensembles

Rhodes College Orchestra  
Jazz Ensemble

### Chamber music

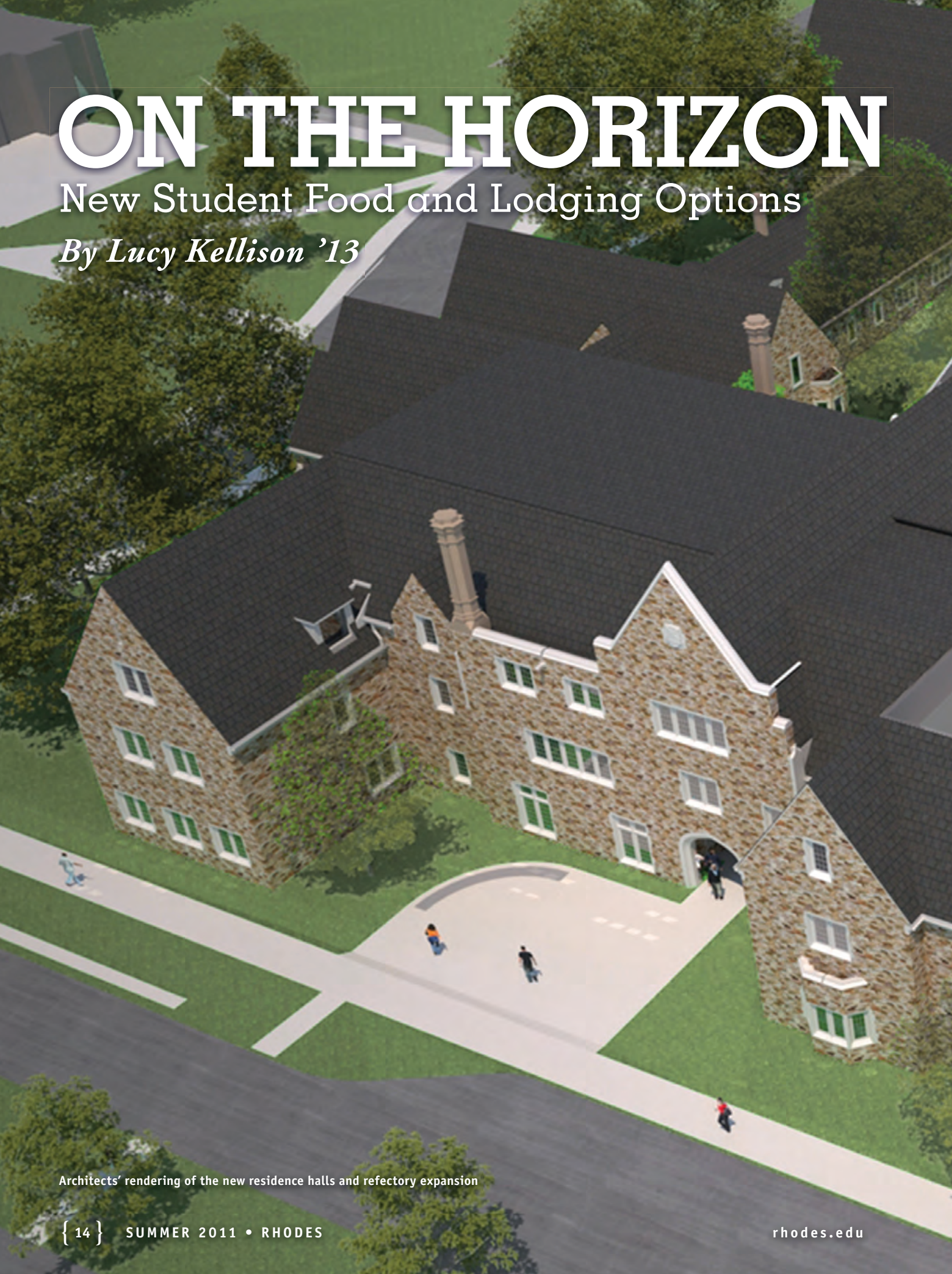
Commercial Music Ensemble  
Guitar Ensemble  
Harp Ensemble  
Jazz Combo  
Rhodes College Brass  
String Quartet  
Woodwind Quintet  
World Drum Ensemble



# ON THE HORIZON

New Student Food and Lodging Options

*By Lucy Kellison '13*



Architects' rendering of the new residence halls and refectory expansion





S

preparing a roll of architectural plans across her desk, Marianne Luther, director of Residential Life, points to a large room, which she then identifies as a common area. “This is going to be a large space on the first floor with a big walkthrough on either end,” she explains. “Here you can see a full kitchen, fireplaces, large screen TVs, movable furniture—lots of things to make it comfortable and accessible for students.”





Rhodes' newest residence halls facing Bailey Lane

The floor plan to which she is pointing shows the ground floor of two new residence halls being built on what was the Alfred C. Glassell Residence Hall parking site running parallel with the Bailey Lane entrance. The construction of the halls is one part of an 18-month project that also includes the renovation and expansion of the existing Catherine Burrow Refectory, which will include a major new servery and dining hall. In total, the addition to the refectory will be 19,000 square feet. The new residence halls will be 52,000 square feet.

In March, construction workers broke ground for the new residence halls, which along with the remodeled and expanded refectory are scheduled to open in August 2012.

“The demand for housing has been excessive for several years,” Luther explains. “The addition of East Village in 2001 met our housing needs for about three years, and

since then, the demand has been consistent. We had to look seriously at our stock and our enrollment numbers, and we realized that we needed to build.”

According to Carol Casey, dean of students, “This past fall, students, particularly in the first year class, felt a little more crowded. So that was a challenge, especially in halls like Glassell, where we had to convert a social room into a student room and some resident assistants took roommates. But, as a residential liberal arts college, Rhodes is committed to providing housing for those students who desire it.”

Part of the problem Luther faces in finding on-campus housing for all students who want it is that the junior class has never had a “designated” space. Existing halls are reserved specifically for first and second year students, and East Village was designed for seniors.

“Though we still don’t know how

the selection process is going to work, my goal is for the new halls to be for juniors,” says Luther. “Studies have shown that students who live on campus have higher GPAs, are more engaged, and are more likely to persist in their college career. When it comes down to it, Rhodes is a liberal arts college, and it is part of the foundation of who we are to be a residential campus.”

In spring 2010, Luther, Casey and Allen Boone ’71, vice president for finance and business affairs, other administrators and campus architects revisited a residential master plan created a decade ago by Hanbury Evans Wright + Vlattas, the architectural firm that designed East Village, the Paul Barret Jr. Library and the Burrow Hall and Palmer Hall renovations. The team decided that the Bailey Lane site was the most desirable space to build, as it would create a new quadrangle formed by Glassell Hall, the Moore Moore Infirmary and the expanded refectory. The architects then



began work to develop preliminary plans for the new residence halls, to which they temporarily refer as “West Village” until an official name is unveiled. The building incorporates what Luther calls a “deluxe suite” style, where every suite houses eight to 10 people and has a mixture of either single or double rooms, with a common area that students can share.

“This provides a different type of housing style than we have anywhere else on campus,” says Luther. “The main difference between the new building and East Village is that there are no kitchens in these suites. The suites in Robinson and Blount are very popular, so we tried to design something along those lines.”

Members of the group began the planning process in May 2010 after the Board of Trustees authorized them to proceed in the design and engineering of the project. To help

ensure that the new residence halls would be tailored to the needs and wants of Rhodes students, Luther organized student focus groups to provide input in the design process. The groups met at two different points, and each comprised five to seven students. The first group, which met over the summer, discussed the pros and cons of the initial design. Luther took their comments to the architects, then met with students again to discuss more finite details, including finishes and carpeting.

Oliver Haynes ’13, recipient of the Harold “Chicken” High Scholarship, and Kelly Johnson ’14 participated in the second round of focus groups. There, they discussed wall colors, rug samples and possibilities for lighting in the rooms. Johnson says that having focus groups like the one she participated in to discuss interior design details are important because they convey a wide representation of student input.

“I think the administration was really interested to see how we felt about other buildings on campus and if we wanted this one to be different,” says Johnson. “It seemed like the design was going for a traditional, classic Rhodes style with a modern spin.”

The two buildings will contain three floors of suites, and will house a total of 141 students, putting its capacity at slightly less than that of East Village and Glassell. The suites will consist of different combinations of singles and doubles, all furnished with closet space, desks and lofted beds. In addition, each suite will have one or two bathrooms and a common area. The design also includes study and laundry rooms on each floor, and a large first floor common room. Special emphasis was made in the design to enhance soundproofing between suites and between floors, an issue of concern to many students. Johnson, who lived in



Refectory lobby



Fireside lounge in the refectory

Robinson Hall her first year, says she especially appreciates the suite style of rooms and the attention to detail in the plan.

“The design includes study rooms that are soundproof,” says Johnson. “I’m glad I got to see exactly what these rooms would look like. I love the look of Rhodes architecture on the outside, and I think the inside really reflects that same feel.”

Haynes, who has lived on campus for two years, says that implementing lighting other than traditional fluorescent beams was something that students in the group had an especially strong interest in discussing.

“I think our perspective was really

heard on the lighting issue,” says Haynes. “One of the big concerns students voiced was using upward facing lighting instead of typical fluorescent beams. I think the layout is good for a junior dorm—just as nice as East Village, if not nicer.”

The administrators directing the project have plans to conduct a similar focus group for the interior décor in the renovated refectory. As the primary food service operation on campus, the structure has been added onto at least twice since the original building was constructed in 1925. The most recent addition took place about 25 years ago, and involved the addition of servery B, Rollow Hall and other small improvements. Boone says that because of increasing enrollment,

the need has once again arisen to renovate and expand.

In the current architectural renderings, the new grand servery will be about three times larger in square footage than the current A and B serveries combined. Part of the plan is to remove the loft that currently sits over the lobby to open the space up and create what Boone calls a “more welcoming and open entrance to the refectory.” The existing kitchen area will be completely gutted to create a fireside lobby area complete with comfortable seating where students can socialize or dine. One of the main features of the renovation will be the new grand servery, which will have exhibition-style cooking, similar to the style



of cooking that exists in the L. Palmer Brown Lynx Lair. Among some of the stations will be a new salad bar, a bakery, large pizza oven, a station with more vegan and vegetarian options and a traditional “homezone” line.

“This will be a very spacious area, with ample natural light from new windows and a large skylight in the center of the room,” says Boone. “Much of the cooking will be prepared on-site, in front of patrons, so the presentation is not only about the experience, but the quality. There will be a Mongolian grill and a pizza oven similar to the one at the Lair. With this design, the breads and desserts will be made right in front of you.”

The kitchen itself will be moved downstairs, and menu ingredients will be brought up to the main servery by a service elevator. The new dining hall will include a couple of additional private dining areas. Since the upstairs student residence rooms in Hugh M. Neely




Refectory servery

Hall will be reclaimed as offices for Aramark (Rhodes’ dining service), the Bell Room, where the offices are currently located, will also be reconverted to a private dining room to make a total of six private dining rooms in the complex. According to Boone, improved features include an entirely new system of handling dishwashing. To replace the current method of placing dishes and trays on carts, a conveyor belt system will be installed to carry

dishes downstairs into the main dishwashing area.

Boone hopes the college will be able to provide more dining options in the facility as well. “We are discussing some kind of late night service for students, where there could be access to the dining hall and the servery,” he explains. “We have to work out the details of how such additional food options will be implemented. We’ll just have to experiment with student interest and demand.”

For information on naming opportunities for these projects please contact Jenna Goodloe Wade, 901-843-3852, or [goodloe@rhodes.edu](mailto:goodloe@rhodes.edu). 



A private dining room in the refectory

# Who's Waiting for Superman?

By Martha Hunter Shepard '66



KATHI O'LEARY

100 or so Rhodes alums affiliated with Teach for America (TFA) know that. And they're not waiting.

Many Rhodes/TFA alums are currently teaching, and several of the class of 2011 (out of 48,000 applicants nationwide) have been accepted for this fall's crop. Quite a few alums have chosen to stay with TFA as administrators. To say they have a passion for education would be a vast understatement. They're excellent at what they do. And they are making a difference.

Teach for America, now 21 years old, was the brainchild of Princeton senior Wendy Kopp, who in a 1989 thesis outlined a national program to "eliminate education inequity." It would consist of a teacher corps of the best and brightest young college graduates who would attend intense summer training institutes, then branch out to work in the country's schools of greatest need. They would commit to two years of service.

Wasting no time, she got the program going in 1990 with 500 corps members (there are more than 8,000 today). In 2007, she went global, partnering with the UK's Teach First program to create Teach for All, an international version of TFA. That year, Rhodes bestowed on Kopp an honorary doctor of humanities degree.

It's been a slow process and not without criticism, but TFA has

Bophany Huot '94 in her classroom at City College of San Francisco

The message of the 2010 documentary film "Waiting for Superman" is that, unable to "fix" America's troubled public education system, it seems we've

been waiting for Superman to fly in and do the job. Trouble is, Superman isn't real. The many Rhodes alums who've chosen education for a career, including the



## Why They Do It

Some Rhodes/TFA alums give their take on education.

### Bophany Huot '94

**Early Career:** Taught English as a Second Language (ESL) for three years at Jefferson Junior High, Washington, DC.

**Currently:** Teaches at City College of San Francisco.

"I thought after my two-year commitment with TFA, I would quit and go to graduate school, perhaps law school. But I fell in love with the kids and with teaching. It felt like home. I was that refugee kid who struggled with academic English and who never really fit in with my grade school peers because I didn't experience anything they experienced. I understand my students' struggle, and it is extremely rewarding to be there to witness their struggles and their successes. I know all about working two jobs and going to school at night, hoping that your kids will have the opportunity to go to college. I get to see this daily.

"So I stayed on with TFA for another year. But I realized that I couldn't support myself with just an undergrad degree, so I got my master's degree in Teaching English as a Second Language at the School for International Training/World Learning in Brattleboro, VT. I am grateful to TFA for opening the door to something I had never thought I would be interested in. I will retire as a teacher."

### Julie Hallums '03

**Career:** Has taught in the same Chicago Public School for the last eight years, since TFA placed her there. Has taught 3rd and 4th grades, as well as ESL to 6th through 8th grade students. Recently received the Teach For America Chicago Alumni Distinguished Teacher Award.

"I've received two master's degrees in Curriculum and Instruction and School Administration. I have completed a bilingual and ESL endorsement and most recently received national board certification as a middle childhood generalist.

"I teach in a predominately Mexican neighborhood on the southwest side of Chicago, so all of my students' first language is Spanish. The best part of my job is that I feel like I make a positive impact on my students' education and lives every day. I've been included in family celebrations and have been able to build strong relationships with members of the community.

"I've seen gains in my students' state standardized test scores, increases in their fluency and confidence in using English. I've also seen students become more invested in their education. My former students are in high school now and doing well, many of whom come back to visit me and tell me they'll apply to college. In the next five years, I hope to work as a school administrator in Chicago Public Schools."



Stu '03 and Carrie Osborne Johnston '06 at his High Point, NC, school

helped change the culture of how we teach and learn in our schools. It has also been a first choice for postgraduate employment—and a lasting commitment—for some top Rhodes alums.

## Enter Rhodes

Kelly Garrett '92 was the first Rhodes alum to sign on with TFA after graduation. So many have followed that Rhodes has been recognized as a top contributor of corps members among small colleges and universities, including Middlebury, Amherst, Smith and Wellesley.

What's more, the vast majority of Rhodes/TFA alums, after their two-year stint, have stayed on as

administrators in TFA, or parlayed skills honed in TFA classrooms into other fields of service in public education—overwhelmingly in low-income communities that need them most. Grace Williams '03, for example, an instructional coach at Memphis' KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) Diamond Academy, is in line to start a new one, KIPP Collegiate Elementary School, in Memphis in fall 2012.

The Rhodes-TFA connection has continued to blossom, bearing fruit for the entire community. In 2006, thanks to a personal invitation to Wendy Kopp from President Bill Troutt, Rhodes trustee chair Bill Michaelcheck '69 and Memphian Barbara Hyde and the Hyde Family

Foundation, TFA established Memphis as a region it wished to serve. For four years Rhodes was the site of one of its eight summer training institutes.

## The commitment

Superman may work for free, but TFA members are compensated. They're salaried by the school districts they serve, with starting annual paychecks averaging between \$30,000-\$50,000 depending on the area of the country in which they live. What's more, at the end of each year they receive a \$5,000 bonus from AmeriCorps, which they can apply toward repaying student loans.

They earn every penny. At Becky Saleska Wolfe's '06 charter school



## Stu Johnston '03

**Early Career:** Baltimore—Booker T. Washington Middle School 2003-06, teaching science all three years, serving as a team leader his third year and assistant basketball coach for two years. New Era Academy 2006-09, an “innovation” high school, started with grant money from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2002 as part of an initiative to create small learning communities with some measure of independence in governance. Served as a math and physics teacher and was a classroom management coach for one year. After that, served as assistant principal for two years, while earning a postgraduate certificate in School Administration and Supervision from Johns Hopkins.

**Currently:** 2009-present—Penn-Griffin School for the Arts, Guilford County, NC, Public Schools, a magnet school for students gifted in visual and performing arts, serving grades 6-12. Moved to North Carolina in summer 2009 for his wife (Carrie Osborne Johnston '06) to attend law school. Teaches high school math and physics, serves as chair of the math department and coaches middle school football.

“My experience in TFA was one never to be equaled. Never in my life have I worked so hard and been so tired yet felt so passionate about the importance of the work I was doing—both the day-to-day act of teaching/leading students and the bigger picture, the social justice aspect of closing the achievement gap between rich and poor students.

“I would do it again. Sometime in the next few years, I want to be a principal/school leader. Ideally, I would lead a small, urban high school, much like New Era Academy in Baltimore. Working with John Davis and Paul Covington, the principals during my time at New Era who motivated staff members and students, convinced me that a school leader can have a huge, positive impact on school culture and consequently on students’ lives.”

## Cindy Hallums '03

**Early Career:** the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where she taught 6th, 7th and 8th grade special education reading for two years.

**Currently:** After completing two years in TFA, earned a master’s degree with a concentration in community schools at the University of Chicago School of Social Service administration. Taught one year at KIPP Ascend Charter School, then transitioned to the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund (DMSF), a nonprofit that offers four-year high school scholarships and educational support services to economically disadvantaged eighth graders in Chicago who demonstrate academic and leadership potential. Serves as director of High School Programs, overseeing DMSF’s educational support program for Daniel Murphy Scholars. The ultimate goal: to provide assistance to scholars throughout high school so they can gain admission to and succeed in college.

“Working with and for students to change the course of their educational path, I feel that my work truly impacts students on a daily basis and will change the trajectory of their lives, enabling them to break the cycle of poverty through education.”

## Carrie Osborne Johnston '06

**Early Career:** 2006-08—1st and 3rd grades, Frederick Elementary School, Baltimore. 2008-09—operation coordinator, TFA Baltimore.

**Currently:** Law student at Elon University, North Carolina.

“I would do it again. Although I don’t believe teaching is my best fit as a vocation, my experiences teaching in an urban school will inform my future choices, and already have to some extent. I’m interested in using my law degree to advocate for underrepresented populations. While I’m unsure about the specific route I’ll take at this point, I’m particularly interested in education law and representation of low-income people.”

in Inglewood, CA, a typical day begins upon arising at 5:30 a.m. It includes preparing lesson plans, grading, stopping at Walgreen's to buy supplies for a lab (out of her own pocket), teaching, tutoring, lunch duty, counseling, mentoring, cleaning. "Technically, the day ends at 3:15—but I usually stay until 5 so that I can tutor students and/or grade. Notice: I don't see a single adult the entire day," she says. Wolfe has taught at three schools in the Los Angeles area since 2006, but she says this year's her last. While she plans to pursue a graduate degree in environmental health science, she says she's committed to remaining in the field of education.

No matter where or how long they serve, Rhodes alums bring a certain expertise to the job. They arrive at TFA ready to work, steeped in knowledge gained outside as well as inside the classroom. As undergraduates, most were involved in community service programs, tutoring in nearby schools, building playgrounds and houses during alternative spring breaks in other countries, answering calls at the Memphis Crisis Center. Academics come into play as well.

Katie Franklin '02, now an assistant principal at Stuart-Hobson Middle School in Washington, DC, majored in Political Science and tutored at Snowden Elementary School. She says she found a common thread running throughout all her classes at Rhodes—"the intriguing pitfalls of human societies and the constant fight for justice by oppressed groups throughout history." By her senior year, she knew she wanted to teach.

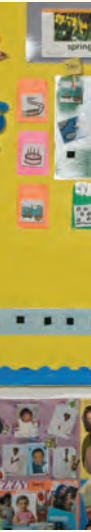
Noticing a TFA flier in Buckman one day, she applied online. "Since TFA gave me that first opportunity to work with students, it has undoubtedly changed my whole life and shaped my future," she says.

Stuart-Hobson, which offers a solid core academic program, has enjoyed visits by President Obama and his entire family, as well as retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.



AARON CLAMAGE

Katie Franklin '02 on the move at Stuart-Hobson Middle School, Washington, DC





## Caroline Vance '04

**Early Career:** Kindergarten teacher in Houston, then director of Growth and District Strategy for TFA's Houston region. In 2008, moved to Oakland, CA, with husband Paul Murray '01 and did grant writing for TFA in the Bay area and marketing for a small education nonprofit.

**Currently:** Last year returned to the classroom as the founding kindergarten teacher at ERES Academy, a turnaround school in the Oakland area.

"The joys definitely outnumber the difficulties, which I think is a sign that I've landed in the right place. The most difficult times for me are when I consider the weight of the things that my students have to cope with in the world outside of school. But I'm hooked. At my school alone, there are five teachers and one principal who would not be working in urban schools had they not done Teach For America, and they bring a lot to our school and to our students. That's a tremendous benefit."



## Laura Dallas McSorley '06

**Early Career:** Pre-K, District of Columbia Public Schools.

**Currently:** "Now a TFA alumna, I teach at Bridges Public Charter School, Washington, DC. Having taught Pre-K for the past five years, I've seen myself grow as an educator, but also enjoyed working with so many preschoolers and their families. This summer, I'll join the national Teach for America staff as the managing director of the Early Childhood Initiative. I'll be on the National Public Affairs team, where I'll get to help share the great talent our Pre-K teachers are bringing to classrooms around the country."

## Lindsay Hughes Wright '04

**Early Career:** 2004-06—5th grade, Walter G. Byers Elementary School, Charlotte, NC. 2006-TFA staff, helping found the Memphis and Nashville regions. Program director for TFA Memphis.

**Currently:** Currently managing director, program, in Nashville.

"Having the experience with my kids in Charlotte forever changed my life. I hadn't been exposed to the achievement gap prior to my teaching experience, and I quickly learned that my kids (and tens of thousands like them across the country) were not being given the opportunities they deserved. My students, with the same potential that I had in fifth grade, entered my class reading *below* a second grade level. I saw that with focus and a lot of support, my students could make significant growth in just one year, and if they had that support year on year, there is no reason they couldn't be given opportunities to attend schools like Rhodes. I couldn't imagine doing anything else."

Meredith Guillot '05, a program designer at Mastery Charter Schools in Philadelphia, credits her work with the Memphis Crisis Center and the teaching of Psychology Professor Marsha Walton for “getting me to think about and really see the differences between the ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ in America.” Guillot says Rhodes TFA alums inspired her as well. “All these factors influenced

me to submit an application. I believed, maybe somewhat naively, that TFA might be my way to go about changing the world. Plus, I loved working with children!”

Guillot’s TFA service was in a town of 5,000 in eastern North Carolina. There, she realized “how policy decisions in education, housing and medical care affected my students.”

Compelled to effect policy “through the lens of what’s best for children, not what’s best or easiest for grown-ups,” she enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania’s Fels Institute of Government. Soon realizing how much she missed being with students in a school environment, she applied to Mastery Charter Schools in Philadelphia, a nonprofit organization that turns around previously failing schools, at a highly successful rate.

President Obama cited Mastery at last year’s National Urban League Centennial Conference. Oprah Winfrey’s Angel Network bestowed \$1 million of viewer donations to Mastery, where Guillot now “designs programs and provides student and teacher support for students with low incidence disabilities such as autism and intellectual disabilities.”

Guillot has remained in the education field, she says, “because I believe there is no other choice. I’ve seen how desperate the situation is. Our CEO at Mastery is constantly referring to the fact that ‘the house is on fire’—there is no time to waste.” **R**



CHAD WILLIAMS

Kelly Garrett '92 at home in St. Louis



## Brooke Molpus '03

**Early Career:** 2003—8th grade language arts teacher at Jackson Middle School, Houston, TX.

2007—moved to Memphis as TFA program director, then managing program director.

**Currently:** November

2010—transitioned to director of Country Support for Teach for All, a global network modeled on TFA, providing consulting and coaching services to teacher training staff across the network.

“Education is the single most important factor impacting a child’s future. I’ve seen children, families and entire communities transformed by access to quality education. Movements like TFA, KIPP and Building Excellent Schools have made tremendous progress since the time I joined the corps in 2003. However, there’s so much more work to be done both on the national and global scale. You do see results, though. In Teach for All, in India, I’ve experienced students who spoke little to no English at the beginning of the year, ending the year with a nearly flawless performance of ‘The Lion King.’”

## Kelly Garrett '92

**Early Career:** Houston, TX—taught 5th grade for three years at John J. Herrera Elementary School; co-founded and directed Project Chrysalis Middle School and taught 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Memphis—founded Perea Preschool, teaching only as a last resort, but found amazing “teachers who were willing to come to our brand-new school.” Earned MBA from Harvard. Portland, OR—worked as director of business development for KC Distance Learning, a for profit education. Founded iQ Academies, a virtual charter high school that today serves students in nine states.

**Currently:** Lives and works in St. Louis, but serves as executive director of a family foundation in Fort Worth, TX, the Rainwater Charitable Foundation, which supports high performing educational programs that serve children in low income communities.

“The collective impact of TFA and programs that have a similar mission is large and growing. However, the inequities present in our educational system are still enormous. But without question, you can see results.

“The biggest proof that there is positive movement within education reform is that when I completed my TFA commitment there were a handful of schools (maybe 10) around the country that had earned the recognition of being ‘90-90-90’ schools. These are schools where 90% of students are people of color, 90% are below the poverty line (as measured by free/reduced lunch status), and 90% are *above* grade level academically. These schools appeared to be and were the exception in education. Today there are 90-90-90 schools in nearly every major urban center, and in some cities 90-90-90 schools are becoming commonplace.”

# BIDDING FAREWELL

*By Bryan Hearn '09*

*Photography by Justin Fox Burks*

## THE TEACHER-SCHOLAR

If you stepped foot on the Rhodes campus in the last two decades, chances are you encountered North Parkway, Thomas Lane and Gail Streete.

Next fall—for the first time in 21 years—Rhodes will be without her. Streete, professor and department chair of Religious Studies, is retiring after a distinguished career.

In 1990, Streete made the trek down to Memphis (a city she had only visited once), taking that same right onto University and finding a welcoming, Southern college that she would call home. Although a northeasterner and not a barbecue fan, Streete soon discovered that she loved Rhodes and the city of Memphis. It was here, after all, where she met and married her husband, Jack Streete '60, professor emeritus of Physics. “We got married in 1992, the day after Christmas,” she reminisces.

Recently, as buzz of Streete’s retirement began to spread, members of the Rhodes community lauded her and her contributions to their education and to the college.

“Professor Streete is not only incredibly informative, but she also brings humor and passion to the classroom,” says Jerica Sandifer '12. “Her course on Gnostic scriptures is one of the most enlightening classes I’ve taken at Rhodes.”

Years since his instruction under Streete, Greg Neill '94

still recalls the influence that she had on him. “Professor Streete, like many faculty at Rhodes, sees beyond a simple utilitarian view of education as vocational training,” he says.

Neill says he was inspired by her class, “Female Images of Salvation.” He adds that his autographed copy of Streete’s book, *Her Image of Salvation: Female Saviors and Formative Christianity* (Westminster John Knox Press, 1992), is still one of his most treasured possessions.

Streete’s colleagues, like Professor Bernadette McNary-Zak, admire her for her leadership, groundbreaking research and steadfast commitment to student learning. “She is the superb exemplar of a teacher-scholar who is a committed citizen of the department, college and discipline through her constant, selfless service,” McNary-Zak says.

Philosophy Professor Pat Shade notes that Streete has been a warm and enthusiastic collaborator. “Gail played an instrumental role in helping diversify the authors we teach in Search. She’s also invited me to guest lecture in two of her courses, thus broadening her students’ exposure to different disciplinary perspectives.”

The 2011 recipient of the non-student Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award and 1999 recipient of the Dean’s Award for Research and Creative Activity, Streete has published four books, five journal articles, 15 book chapters





Gail Streete

and 22 reviews or review chapters. Not only is she an accomplished researcher and the former W.J. Millard Professor of Religious Studies from 2004-10, she is also actively involved in the Rhodes community.

It wasn't a surprise to her colleagues or students, then, that Streete received the 2008 Jameson M. Jones Award for Outstanding Faculty Service.

"In a small community like Rhodes, you get so much energy from others," she says.

Energy she has indeed. Since 1990, Streete has served on 18 committees, chaired the Tenure and Promotion Committee and the Educational Development Committee, raised awareness for domestic violence both on and off campus and helped program various study abroad initiatives.

Streete enjoys working with the National Coalition Building Institute, a series of prejudice-reduction workshops, because they "help people share stories and work toward solutions of problems."

When Streete shares her story about the origins of her

career, she'll start by telling you about working as an academic librarian at her alma mater, Drew University. The particular section to which she was assigned was, not surprisingly, theology.

"I spent so much time with the books in my section. I ordered them, I read them and I recommended some to students. I had my master's in classics, but I started taking some classes in theology to keep up with what people were doing in the field. It was inevitable that I would go on to get my doctorate," she says.

Streete is renowned for her research in the study of women in the New Testament and early Christianity.

"When I was writing my dissertation I wasn't focused on the role of women, but I was reading some extracanonical materials with strong women characters in them. So I read more and more because they were so fascinating," she says.

What is interesting to Streete about these women characters is that "they're ambiguous. They're positive because they are so strong, but they're negative because they don't usually survive and they don't always have leadership roles within the church."

Contemporary scholars have taken interest in Streete's books, namely her fourth and latest, *Redeemed Bodies: Women Martyrs in Early Christianity* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2009), because of the connections she draws to modern-day martyrs.

Throughout her writing process, Streete was not only captivated by the stories of Thecla, Perpetua and Felicitas but also with the stories of modern martyrs, including Columbine and female suicide bombers in the Middle East.

"It's very difficult to connect things that happened hundreds and hundreds of years ago in a different context to what's happening today, but there are some connections," Streete says. "That's the part of the book that people are the most excited about, and I never would have expected that. Martyrdom may seem like a bizarre form of world-denial, but unfortunately, it's still relevant today."

One of the goals of Rhodes' Search and Life programs, according to Streete, is to help students understand "that religion is a part of culture," adding, "the more informed

that we are about all religious traditions, the better.”

Streete will disagree with anyone who believes that our society is “evolving out of religion.” “We’re not expanding our religious frontiers,” she says. “We simply cannot ignore religions and expect to understand the world in any deep way.”

When Streete retires, she doesn’t plan on severing ties with Rhodes altogether. She’ll miss teaching on a daily basis, shaping and implementing policies at the college and above all, interacting with students. “Not only are Rhodes students bright, they are also really nice people—they care about others and they care about making a difference,” she says.

Streete plans to spend more time with Jack, her stepchildren, John, Ellen and Elizabeth ’84, and her six grandchildren. She also hopes to travel, research and run (“not faster, but farther,” she clarifies).

Streete also has embarked on an ambitious creative passion. “I started writing stories using our dogs as characters,” she confesses. In one story, Laika (her husky) and Sonya (a Border collie mix) want to go to the zoo to meet wolves. In another, her old husky Keetah has what Streete calls a “Memphis adventure” in which she runs to Beale Street and meets a friendly chow named Handy (after W.C., of course) who teaches her about racial discrimination, music and barbecue.

Although Keetah may never get to Beale Street and have that conversation with Handy, we’ll likely see Gail and Jack Streete and their dogs taking strolls down North Parkway and Thomas Lane this fall.

## GETTING IT, TEACHING IT

Turn the clock back to spring 1971. Flowers are blooming outside of Palmer Hall, and senior Deborah Nichol (later, Pittman) is walking across campus. She is thinking how wonderful it would be to return to teach at Rhodes one day.

Graduation day passed, as did an impressive 15-year tenure as a banker for Union Planters Corp., where Pittman became the first woman senior vice president of a national bank in Tennessee.

Following a desire to return to the classroom, Pittman, already a CPA and CFA, completed a Ph.D. in Finance, and in 1992, found herself back at her alma mater teaching in the Department of Economics and Business.

Now, the former French and Economics and Business double major is revered in the Rhodes community for her excellent teaching, innovative research and dedicated mentorship. After a distinguished career at Rhodes and in the corporate world, Pittman has decided to retire.

The recent news surprised numerous Rhodes alumni who were inspired by Pittman. “I’ve told many people over the years that nobody ‘gets it’ better than Debbie Pittman,” says Frank Byrd ’90, director of Fielder Capital Group in New York City.

Whatever “it” is, Pittman gets it. She gets, for example, how to give students a rigorous education that will prepare them for careers in business.

“I still remember hours spent laboring over spreadsheets of pro forma financial statements in the computer lab, tracking down the errors that she identified,” says Jason Greene ’91, who is now an associate professor of Finance in the College of Business at Southern Illinois University.

Pittman also understands that students need to solve real-world problems in order to be prepared after graduation. She says that presenting “complex business problems” to students is what she’ll miss most about teaching. She explains, “It’s like a permanent mind game of how to give students a conceptual framework for making good business decisions that they can use in their careers.”

What makes Pittman such a successful teacher? Alumni still recall the ways in which she assisted, inspired and challenged them. Jon Wood ’02, now an equity research analyst for Jeffries & Co. in New York City, believes that he “would not have been able to find such a great job without her deep contact network in the professional community.” Wood was one of numerous alumni who hosted the 25 Rhodes students who traveled to New York City with Pittman annually for a career tour during winter break.

Back when she was a senior, Pittman learned firsthand about the power of Rhodes connections. Her Economics





Deborah Pittman '71

and Business professor, George Harmon '56, had a next-door neighbor who was an executive at Union Planters Corp. As it turned out, the neighbor's company was looking for an international banking analyst. That analyst would end up being Pittman.

Just as Professor Harmon helped launch her career, Pittman has helped numerous Rhodes seniors find their first positions in the corporate world.

"Pittman has catapulted the careers of more Rhodes graduates than perhaps any other professor," Byrd speculates.

Although her steadfast commitment to students hasn't wavered, there have been many changes in business classes since 1971. "The intriguing part about teaching in my field is that nothing stays the same for long, and one must always stay on top of new topics," Pittman says. "I perpetually reinvented my courses out of necessity, but also because I love to experiment to find something that works better."

As opposed to previous decades, now there is a lot more "hands-on" work done in case courses. When students

create models of cash flow forecasts on computers, Pittman can help them out individually with their work, giving them instant feedback.


In addition, the business environment has changed, which led Pittman and Rhodes to make changes to their curriculum. When she was chair of the Department of Economics and Business from 2006-08, she helped construct a major in International Business. "Globalization of business is a long-term significant trend, and our students want to participate," she says.

Despite these larger changes in business, Pittman and her department maintained their commitment to the liberal arts approach to teaching. She explains, "We initiated several team-taught case courses involving 'real' companies that required integration of economics, finance, management, strategy and accounting. We also added an ethical component."

For Pittman, Rhodes students must understand business ethics in order to be prepared for their careers. "We want graduates who can not only answer questions, but also question answers," she says.

Count Pittman as a graduate who does both. She takes continuing education classes at the Meeman Center for Lifelong Learning, for which she served as the director from 1997-2000. She has also served the Rhodes community as a member of 10 committees, including the Budget Team for four years and the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees for six. In addition, she's introduced her research to the larger business community through 10 published manuscripts and five published articles in the popular press.

In her retirement, she plans to spend more time with family and friends. She adds, "I've recently become interested in improving my gardening skills, and I am thrilled that I can now ride my bicycle on the Green Line, which is so close to my house."

Chances are, we'll still run in to Pittman, ever the lifelong learner, in a classroom in the Meeman Center. And everywhere, from Wall Street to Front Street, Rhodes graduates sit in their offices, thanking Professor Pittman for helping them get there and for preparing them for the complex challenges they face every day. 

# Summer Reading

## Faculty Offer Their Recommendations

### Lori Garner Assistant Professor of English

When asked what period of English literature I study, I often find that my response of “Old English” must be explained in terms of something more familiar: “the period of *Beowulf*.” While *Beowulf* is perhaps the only text with any substantial name recognition from the Anglo-Saxon period (roughly 6th-11th centuries), there are many richly rewarding lesser known works. I would like to share here four ways to engage the Anglo-Saxon period more deeply, but without requiring any knowledge of Old English, a language now so different from our own that it must be learned as a foreign language, as the opening of *Beowulf* attests: “Hwæt! We Gardena in geardagum þeodcyninga, þrym gefrunon . . . .”

First, for those who have read the heroic epic *Beowulf* but would like to enjoy it in a new way, I highly recommend Benjamin Bagby’s *Beowulf* DVD, released in 2006. A musicologist by training, Bagby accompanies his recitation on a reconstructed Anglo-Saxon harp. Not only does the DVD offer a rare opportunity to hear an engaging performance of the first 1062 lines in the original Old English (with the option of modern English subtitles), but the bonus features include an interview on early medieval music as well as a roundtable discussion with Old English scholars John Miles Foley, Mark Amodio and Thomas Cable.

For those wishing to venture somewhat deeper into Old English literature, *Poems and Prose from the Old English* (Yale University Press, 1998), translated by Burton Raffel and co-edited by Alexandra H. Olsen, offers a thorough yet manageable foray into Anglo-



Lori Garner



Saxon culture. This impressive anthology includes representative examples of Old English elegies, heroic verse, religious poems and wisdom poetry as well as prose works including laws, wills, medicinal texts, homilies and chronicles. A general introduction provides important historical contexts, and more concise introductions are provided to contextualize each subsequent section.

My own summer will be spent working with a collection of medieval herbal remedies known as the *Old English Herbarium*. Translated into Old English sometime around the 10th century, the *Herbarium* is itself a translation of a 5th-century Latin medical text. Organized around medicinal plants and their uses, the *Herbarium* sheds light on medieval solutions for problems ranging from toothaches, joint pain and gout to snake bites, swarming bees and even shattered skulls. While I will be working with these remedies in facsimile form, I'm happy to report that Anne Van Arsdall's translation of this fascinating text has recently been released in paperback by Routledge Press. In addition to the *Herbarium* itself, Van Arsdall includes thorough background on early medieval medicine. Chapters 3 and 4, which discuss manuscript illustrations and place the *Herbarium* within the larger context of European medicine, are likely to be of special interest.

Last, I am especially excited to tell you about a volume scheduled for June publication in its second edition by the University of Pennsylvania Press: *Feast of Creatures: Old English Riddle Songs*, translated by Craig Williamson. In the Old English riddles, myriad objects are described and/or describe themselves, inviting audiences to "say what I am called." Far more than mere child-games, these riddles explore complex phenomena in nature and society, offering modern-day readers a rare glimpse into the Anglo-Saxon world. A horn poignantly describes its separation from its "brother" (the other antler on the beast from which it was taken) during its transformation into a utilitarian object for men. A cup of mead playfully cautions readers not to over-imbibe, and a nightingale gives clues to its identity as "night-singer, song-shaper." In his thought-provoking and thorough introduction, Williamson aptly describes the riddles as "a metaphoric and metamorphic celebration of life in the eye of the Anglo-Saxon." To give a small taste of the Anglo-Saxon riddles and Old

English poetry more generally, I would like to leave you with one of the shorter riddles in *Feast of Creatures*. Hint: You definitely wouldn't find this "creature" in the heat of a Memphis summer!

"I saw a creature wandering the way:  
She was devastating—beautifully adorned.  
On the wave a miracle: water turned to bone."

## Michael Collins Assistant Professor of Biology

As the ecologist hired to replace the retired Dr. David Kesler, I recently finished up my first year at Rhodes. My first year was much as I expected: busy. But talented colleagues, wonderful students and exploring a new city have made this year professionally and personally rewarding. As a biologist, I like to think about the relationship that exists between science and society. While some research results in the development of technologies that are readily adopted—the fluorescent light bulbs and laptop in my office, for example—other advances are eschewed or even attacked. Stem cell research, global climate change, and evolution immediately come to mind.

In April, the Tennessee House overwhelmingly passed the "Academic Freedom Bill," which will allow K-12 public school teachers to present intelligent design and creationism as alternatives to evolution. Such efforts are not restricted to Tennessee. Measures that weaken scientific curricula have been proposed (and sometimes passed) in state legislatures and school districts across the country. Somewhere, somehow, we professional scientists have failed miserably in communicating our findings to the public. Several of the books that I recommend make science more accessible (I think!) to nonscientists.

Richard Dawkins has written many books explaining how evolution can result in complex structures, such as the vertebrate eye, that *appear* to have been designed. In *Climbing Mount Improbable*, Dawkins uses intricate examples to describe how natural selection slowly and incrementally builds these adaptations and likens this evolutionary change to ascending a mountain through switchbacks and gently sloped trails (and not scaling the cliff face). Dawkins' other books, such as *The Blind Watchmaker*, are also enjoyable and well written; for a



Michael Collins

more molecular and sophisticated treatment of evolution by natural selection, *The Selfish Gene* is a classic.

Matt Ridley's *Genome: The Autobiography of a Species in 23 Chapters* continues to intrigue me. Each chapter relates to a gene on one of our 23 chromosomes and details how these particular genes build proteins, regulate embryonic development and influence human traits such as intelligence, personality and homosexuality. One of the more fantastic examples even includes sexual conflict (at the genetic level!). Ridley's description of the human genome will make one marvel at the complexity of molecular evolution and the natural world.

Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs and Steel* constructs a hypothesis explaining the factors that have molded human history. Synthesizing information from many disciplines, Diamond posits that the distribution of

plants and animals suitable for domestication explains why Europeans spread across the globe and colonized Africa, Australia and North and South America (and why, for example, Africans, Australian Aborigines and Native Americans did not conquer Europe). In short, arable crops such as wheat and barley and the domestication of animals permitted food surpluses. Food surpluses allowed some members of society to devote their time to tasks other than gathering food, allowing for the eventual emergence of such entities as standing armies, science and political empires. Societies with domesticated plants and animals conquered those without. Diamond's compelling narrative linking geography and opportunity to disease, war and global conquest is a must-read.

Last, I recommend **any field guide**—that's right, a picture book! Summer is now upon us: Trees have leafed out, backyard birds are breeding and daylight is plentiful. Pick up a field guide and teach yourself to identify birds, trees or butterflies and learn about their natural history—where they live, what they eat and what eats them. More than 150 species of neotropical migrants—birds that breed in North America in the summer but spend most of the year in Central and South America—return each spring to Memphis. Their vibrant colors and melodic songs fill the summer, yet many of us remain oblivious to their presence. Take some time to enjoy, explore and learn about the outdoors—and take a friend or a child. For birds, I recommend *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*. Enjoy your summer!

## Alberto del Pozo Martinez Assistant Professor of Spanish

Summer nights are my favorite time of the year to read. You just need the appropriate book, the appropriate place (and the appropriate thirst-quencher to accompany both), and then you have the ability to dive into a world made of words and stay there for a long time. Without being distracted, you can reconstruct a universe such as you cannot do during any other time of the year. When I was asked to recommend five books to read this summer, I just tried to remember some of my most powerful reading experiences during summer vacation. Here is the strange amalgamation I came up



with, hopefully for your reading pleasure:

*The Black Dahlia* by James Ellroy. A twisted, parodic and brutal detective novel, it is the story of two L.A. cops in the 1940s who investigate the brutal assassination of Elizabeth Short, a.k.a. “the Black Dahlia.” They soon discover that the murder involves the dirtiest secrets of Hollywood and American politics of the time. As the case progresses, they get closer to and more involved in Elizabeth’s life and become obsessed with the victim’s incredibly attractive personality, to the point of falling in love with her. The result is one of the darkest detective novels one can read, and a perfect summary of Ellroy’s narrative universe.

*Will You Please Be Quiet, Please?* by Raymond Carver. Probably, Carver is the best American short story writer of his generation. I read this book five years ago and I still recall, as if it were yesterday, the outstanding story of the man trying to get rid of his dog (“Jerry and Molly and Sam”). Nobody but Carver can get even close to expressing the innocence and at the same time the desperation of everyday life in America. The mysterious simplicity of Carver’s stories and language always hides something else. Each story is like a trap: As the reader gains confidence by deciphering the secrets of the stories, the reader is caught and haunted by his or her own interpretation and the implications of it in his or her own life. An amazing book, and an amazing writer.

*2666* by Roberto Bolaño. A book for the summer—all the summer! A 1,200-page labyrinth describing how literature fights and tries to survive the black holes of the 20th century. A complete chaos, full of digressions, where writers under Nazism are inspired by writers under Stalinism; African-American journalists fall in love with the daughters of Latin American philosophers; and European literary critics travel to Mexico to make evident the relation between literary creation and the disappearances/killings of 104 women at the Mexican-American border.

*Under the Volcano* by Malcolm Lowry. An enigmatic novel about a British alcoholic ambassador, lost in a Mexican town, remembering his love and his hopes as he tries to escape his own path of destruction. But as this path progresses, the evocation of the Mexican past also

progresses, and both worlds running in parallel illuminate each other and explain each other. One needs strength and patience to read this hermetic book and to unravel, at least, part of its mysteries, but the effort is worth it.

*Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes, Ed. Edith Grossman. We read this book because, OK, how can you ever teach novels of any epoch and language without reading the classic of classics? But one too often forgets what a wonderful, funny, incredibly delicate and intelligent book this is. A book that contains all the literature of its time, pointing at its blind spots and carefully and systematically laughing about all its lies, old and new. An infinite book that has shaped human imagination and needs lots of time to be enjoyed properly. A book that everybody should read at least once in a lifetime. Also, the story of a friendship. It does not get any better than this.

Enjoy your summer reading! 



Alberto del Pozo Martinez

# THE CLASS OF 2011



*Photography by Justin Fox Burks*

## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

Rami Abdoulwasi Abdoch, Cordova, TN, Anthropology/Sociology

Victoria Lee Adcock, Nashville, TN, Theatre, Greek and Roman Studies (double major)

Anne Carlyle Agre, Baltimore, MD, Latin American Studies

Sarah Lynn Akin, Little Rock, AR, Art

Rebecca Ann Allen, Shaker Heights, OH, Business

Mark David Anderson, St. Charles, MO, History

Chenise Darneé Anthony, Memphis, TN, Political Science

Catherine Jo Appleton, Pegram, TN, Economics and Mathematics

Bradley Thomas Arnold, Shreveport, LA, Religious Studies

John David Ayers, Ridgeland, MS, History

Taylor Michael-Walters Babich, Tampa, FL, Business

Tenedra Ashley Bafford, Memphis, TN, English

Nicholas Allan Bailey, Dallas, TX, Economics and Business

Nicole Elizabeth Baker, LaPorte, IN, Music

Jason Andrew Ballard, Pinson, AL, Greek and Roman Studies (also received BS degree)

Hugh Henry Barber, Edmonds, WA, English

Katelyn Bost Barham, Senatobia, MS, Spanish

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Elisha Michael Clinton Bates, Memphis, TN, English

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Peter Edward Rockwell Bilan II, Sarasota, FL, Business

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Noah Robert Black, Clarksville, TN, English

Bradley Clayton Bledsoe, Athens, TN, International Studies & History

Sara Elizabeth Bowen, Nolensville, TN, History

Amy Elizabeth Bower, Little Rock, AR, Art

Matthew James Brennan, Worcester, MA, International Studies

Michael David Briggs, Moscow, TN, Business

James McDuffie Bruce IV, Greenville, SC, English

William Francis Bruce, Baton Rouge, LA, Art

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John Andrew Bryant, Collierville, TN, English

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Elizabeth Grace Connick, Harvey, LA, English

Benjamin Garner Conway, Prospect, KY, English

Emerson Wells Cook, Mobile, AL, Religious Studies

Jordan Leigh Forbes Cook, Dallas, TX, Political Science, English (double major)

Jill Marie Crenshaw, Bridgewater, NJ, Religious Studies, Greek and Roman Studies (double major)

Claire Allison Cullen, Kansas City, MO, English

Liam Fitzgerald Cullen, Memphis, TN, Business

Eric Rashad Dailey, North Little Rock, AR, Political Science

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Leigh Whitson DeVries, Nashville, TN, Religious Studies

Arpita Dirghangi, Memphis, TN, International Studies & Political Science

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 Alana Nicole Fritsche, Garland, TX, Business  
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 International Studies  
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 Jamesha Leeshun Hayes, Memphis, TN, English  
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Dean Galero receives congratulations from President Troutt

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 (double major)  
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 Grey Warner Robinson, Lookout Mtn, GA, Anthropology/Sociology  
 Rachel Elizabeth Robinson, New Orleans, LA and Amarillo, TX, Latin American Studies  
 Sarah Joye Rogers, Hoover, AL, Greek and Roman Studies, Economics (double major)  
 Natalie Anne Rolwes, Wildwood, MO, International Studies  
 Morgan Lynn Rote, Vestavia Hills, AL, Economics & International Studies  
 Esther Ruiz, Katy, TX, Art  
 Alexandra Russo, Summit, NJ, Economics  
 Kendra Monique Rutherford, Memphis, TN, Psychology  
 Olivia Frances Ryan, Gray, ME, Anthropology/Sociology  
 Sarah Virginia Salmon, Linden, TX, Religious Studies, Business (double major)  
 Griffin John Salzer, Beaufort, SC, Psychology  
 Anna Elizabeth Sanford, Shreveport, LA, English  
 Marrissa Antonia Scales, Alexander, AR, Psychology  
 Houston Marshall Scarborough, Midland, TX, Business  
 Smith Marshall Scarborough, Sealy, TX, English  
 Florence Anne Schaumburg, Shreveport, LA, Music  
 Michael Trent Schill, Belvidere, VT, Psychology  
 Noah Patrick Schill, Belvidere, VT, Psychology  
 Tyler Edward Schultz, Westborough, MA, Political Science  
 Jonathan David Schwartz, Tupelo, MS, International Studies & History  
 Angelo Ralph Scippa, Middleton, MA, Business  
 Kenneth Steven Scott, Dallas, TX, Music (also receiving BS degree)  
 Emily Ann Sellers, Kansas City, MO, International Studies & Political Science  
 Sydney Kathleen Shearer, Nashville, TN, Political Science  
 Hannah Elizabeth Shuman, Annapolis, MD, Art  
 Kurt Keating Silberberg, Lake St. Louis, MO, Business  
 Brett Edward Simek, Millstadt, IL, Psychology  
 Jasdev Kaur Singh, Hernando, MS, Psychology  
 Leah Jai Singh, Memphis, TN, Psychology  
 Tierney Alexander Sisk, Gulf Shores, AL, Psychology  
 Amanda Isobel Smith, Scottsdale, AZ, International Studies & Political Science  
 Catherine Clark Smith, Hopkinsville, KY, Anthropology/Sociology  
 George Arthur Smith II, Jackson, TN, Business  
 Jacob M. Smith, Memphis, TN, Art  
 Katharyn Evans Smith, Jacksonville, FL, International Studies  
 Sarah Rachel Smith, Murfreesboro, TN, International Studies  
 Stephen David Spainhour, Gastonia, NC, Psychology  
 Jonathan Michael Sprain, Anchorage, AK, History  
 Dennis Lynn Stanford Jr., Lilburn, GA, International Studies  
 Eric Grant Stradley, Burleson, TX, Economics and Mathematics  
 Steven Leonard Strasberg, Cordova, TN, Political Science  
 Jesse Straus, San Antonio, TX, Psychology  
 Elizabeth Anna Summitt, Memphis, TN, Business  
 Lynn Dietrich Swiger, Leesburg, VA, Art  
 Jarrett Eugene Tate, Decatur, GA, English  
 Carly Jeanne Taylor, Libertyville, IL, Political Science  
 Alan Mayfield Thomasson, St. Louis, MO, International Studies, Russian Studies (double major)



Rami Abdoch with his family





Caroline Lee, left, and Lydia Lancaster share a happy moment

David Barton Travis Jr., Paris, TN, Economics and Business  
 Charles Tyler Turner, McMinnville, TN, Music  
 John Cunningham-Spann Utt, Houston, TX, Business  
 Leigh Katherine Varley, Atlanta, GA, Economics  
 Dev Himanshu Varma, Memphis, TN, English  
 Kathryn Ann Vernon, Dallas, TX, Spanish  
 Charlotte Anne Wagner, Madison, NJ, Psychology  
 Lara Kathleen Wagner, Manchester, MI, International Studies, German  
 (double major)  
 William Andrew Wagstaff, Slidell, LA, International Studies & History  
 Mandi Rose Waits, Memphis, TN, Psychology, Religious Studies (double  
 major)  
 Chelsea Judith Wakstein, Framingham, MA, Anthropology/Sociology  
 Holland Elizabeth Walker, Vero Beach, FL, International Studies & Political  
 Science  
 Benjamin Rush Waller IV, Memphis, TN, Religious Studies  
 Courtney Simone Waters, Memphis, TN, International Studies  
 Charlotte Elisabeth Watson, Miami, FL, Philosophy  
 Rachel Cristine Webb, Virginia Beach, VA, Economics and Mathematics  
 Maura Elise Weber, St. Louis, MO, Political Science  
 Andrew Richard Weidler, Portland, ME, Psychology  
 Grace Marie Weil, Dallas, TX, International Studies & Political Science  
 Jason Robert Weise, Wildwood, MO, History  
 James Patrick Whalen Jr., Hilton Head, SC, Business  
 Carol Diane Wicker, St. Louis, MO, English  
 Meghan Elizabeth Wilcox, Memphis, TN, Art  
 Mary Emily Williams, Union City, TN, Political Science  
 Nicholas Peter Williams, Katy, TX, History  
 Daniel Judson Williford, Memphis, TN, French and History (double major)  
 Olivia Morrissey Wood, Centreville, MD, Art  
 Allison Campbell Woods, Stuart, FL, English  
 Owen Hammond Worley, Marietta, GA, Business  
 Kyle E. Wukasz, Eads, TN, Philosophy  
 Jill Z. Yong, Singapore, International Studies  
 Jiayun Zou, Anshan, China, Economics and Business  
 Katja Michelle Zurcher, San Antonio, TX, English

## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Sarah Elizabeth Allen, Mobile, AL, Neuroscience  
 Amrit Kaur Anand, Germantown, TN, Biology  
 Joshua Alan Anderson, Bartlett, TN, Biology  
 Joshua Paul Anderson, New Albany, MS, Physics  
 Joshua Ryan Arant, Charlotte, NC, Chemistry  
 Emily Frances Bach, Baton Rouge, LA, Biology  
 Agnes Carsen Eileen Bahn, Cape Girardeau, MO, Biology  
 Jason Andrew Ballard, Pinson, AL, Biology (also received BA degree)  
 Katherine Claire Bandoroff, Lexington, KY, Biology  
 Cynthia Regina Bitters, Millstadt, IL, Computer Science  
 Tiara Danielle Brice-McGee, Memphis, TN, Biology  
 Yuriy Viktorovich Brodskiy, Memphis, TN, Chemistry  
 Christian N. Butler, Memphis, TN, Biology  
 Maria Elena Cartagena Gacitua, Houston, TX, Biology  
 Jenkin Chan, Hong Kong, , Chemistry  
 Rachel Ann Chassan, Boca Raton, FL, Chemistry  
 Brittany Kirsten Chavez, Owens Cross Roads, AL, Biology  
 Anthony Chi-Kwong Chiang, Germantown, TN, Biology  
 Stephen Walter Cohen, St. Louis, MO, Biology  
 Allison Marcher Conn, Houston, TX, Biology  
 Jeffery Blake Copeland, Adams, TN, Biology  
 Jessica Linnette Cowan, Olive Branch, MS, Computer Science  
 Khang HaiVan Dang, Southaven, MS, Biology  
 Eleanor Marie Davis, Emigrant, MT, Physics  
 Claire Elise DelBove, Memphis, TN, Chemistry  
 Christopher Riley Dorsett, Gadsden, AL, Neuroscience  
 Kelsey Rae Dudziak, Williamstown, MA, Physics  
 Daniel Todd Eastlack, Sewell, NJ, Biology  
 Jessica Rae Fawer, Covington, LA, Neuroscience  
 Jordana Marie Feldman, Dallas, TX, Biology  
 Charles James Ferebee, Scarsdale, NY, Biology  
 Katelyn Elizabeth Foster, Vestavia Hills, AL, Biology  
 Joshua Thomas Fuchs, Austin, TX, Physics



John Bryant, foreground, intent on the ceremony



Doug Gordon, master of science in accounting, receives his hood from Prof. David Jeter

Shannon Marie Fuller, Chesterfield, MO, Biology  
 Matthew Joseph Gilbert, Germantown, TN, Physics  
 Lindsey Taylor Gurkovich, Eldersburg, MD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Guy Hartwell Handley IV, Vestavia, AL, Biology  
 Elizabeth Largent Hansen, Dallas, TX, Chemistry  
 Sandy Henin, Cordova, TN, Biology  
 Rachel Leigh Hickey, Granby, CT, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Alice Clara Hilgart, Leander, TX, Biology  
 Joseph Michael Hollenbeck, Canton, MS, Chemistry  
 Elizabeth Anne Hook, Nashville, TN, Physics  
 Rina June Ishii, Memphis, TN, Biology  
 Matthew Scott Jacobs, Houston, TX, Physics  
 Elizabeth Belle Jeans, Scottsdale, AZ, Chemistry  
 Anna Luisa Johnson, Birmingham, AL, Biology, Spanish (double major)  
 Lee Anna Ashley Juenger, Jonesboro, AR, Chemistry  
 Aya Kato, Nagoya, Japan, Chemistry  
 Robert John William Koehler, Oak Ridge, TN, Biology  
 Anna Kolobova, Huntsville, AL, Neuroscience  
 Lydia Anne Lancaster, Dexter, MO, Biology  
 Caroline Elizabeth Lee, Mandeville, LA, Chemistry  
 Wilfreda Johnice Lindsey, Olive Branch, MS, Biology  
 Kayla Kristine McCrury, Cedar Park, TX, Biology  
 Matthew Ryan McCulloch, Little Rock, AR, Neuroscience  
 Margaret Janice Meehan, Huntsville, AL, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Andrew Charles Meier, Chesterfield, MO, Physics  
 Jonathan Francis Mervine, Stafford, VA, Computer Science  
 Michael Andrew Millis, Hinsdale, IL, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Micaela Ruth Moen, Carrollton, TX, Biology  
 Alyssa Dominique Nucaro, Valhalla, NY, Neuroscience  
 Amber Renee Owens, Newbern, TN, Neuroscience  
 Geewon Paeng, Clarksville, TN, Biology  
 Gregory Michael Palm, Merrimack, NH, Biology  
 Christopher Chun-Herng Pan, Little Rock, AR, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Punam Jagadish Patel, Memphis, TN, Chemistry

Michael James Pluta, Cordova, TN, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Melissa Kay Porter, Newburgh, IN, Biology  
 Allison Marie Price, Austin, TX, Biology  
 Curyona Leslie Pritchard, Cordova, TN, Biology  
 Kenneth Steven Scott, Dallas, TX, Physics (also received BA degree)  
 Michelle Catherine Shroyer, Homewood, AL, Chemistry  
 Daniel Allen Smith, Cordova, TN, Computer Science  
 Justin King Stradley, Burleson, TX, Physics  
 David Henry Strossner, Conway, AR, Neuroscience, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (double major)  
 Joseph James Svejkosky, St. Louis, MO, Physics, Computer Science (double major)  
 Alexander Andrew Tong, Ellicott City, MD, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Hoang-Vu Doan Tran, Lakeland, TN, Chemistry  
 James Evan Tyler, Pascagoula, MS, Neuroscience  
 Ferrell Elliott Varner, Memphis, TN, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Nicholas Andrew Volgas, Bartlett, TN, Computer Science  
 Nadia Comaneci Winston, Memphis, TN, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
 Kevin Ling Wu, Germantown, TN, Chemistry  
 Brian Louis Yuan, Kirkwood, MO, Computer Science  
 Jiyuan Zhang, Memphis, TN, Biology

## CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ACCOUNTING DEGREE

Alexander Michael Aubel, Marco Island, FL  
 Emily Angelina Barber, Chesterfield, MO  
 Parks Thomas Barker, Union City, TN  
 Joshua Ryan Bourland, Arlington, TN  
 Blake Allen Branum, Charleston, MO  
 Matthew Lee Childs, Memphis, TN  
 Sara Tinnin Gochnauer, Memphis, TN  
 Douglas Scott Gordon, Winter Park, FL  
 Joshua Kyle McMurray, College Grove, TN  
 Allen Joseph Orgeron Jr, Memphis, TN  
 Clark Noble Ruppert, Dallas, TX  
 Thach Hoang Truong, Memphis, TN  
 Kimberly Anna Tryon, Gulf Breeze, FL  
 Brandon Barrington Valentine, Austell, GA  
 Logan Gerald Walker Welk, St. Louis, MO  
 Alison Marie White, Memphis, TN  
 Carleen Rhianna Woodard, Memphis, TN  
 Adam Martin Wright, Prairieville, LA



# OVER THE TOP

BY SARAH ROGERS '11

Setting goals is one thing, wildly exceeding them is quite another. This year, members of the class of 2011 decided their class gift would go not to a physical object on campus, but to the Annual Fund. They even earmarked their donations for financial aid and scholarships, and in support of campus life. Setting a modest goal of 35% participation, it would be an understatement to say they were astonished when the final tally came to an over-the-top 51%.

Rhodes has a well established tradition of senior classes making a gift in honor of their graduation. There are visible legacies of past classes. One of the first is the coach light over a southeast door of Palmer Hall from the class of 1924, the year before the college moved to Memphis. Much more recently, there is the Rhodes mace, given by the class of 2000, and the newly planted grove of 10 trees between Fisher Garden and the Rollow Avenue of Oaks, courtesy of the class of 2010.

It's been several years, though, since a class has chosen to provide financial support to Rhodes, which can have an immediate impact on students, faculty and staff.

The Senior Gift Committee worked hard throughout the year to make it happen. Led by Amber Owens and Sarah Rogers, committee members—including Hunter Chandler, Ellie Connick, Jordan Cook, Jessica Fawer, Jenni Frierson, Joseph Hiller, Rina Ishii, Stephanie Mingos, Jessie Pearson, Anne Schaumburg, Dev Varma and Drew Wagstaff—met



face-to-face with classmates, driving home the importance of the Annual Fund while aiming to create lifelong Rhodes supporters. That personal interaction was vital to the success of the campaign.

Also, several new efforts were implemented, including a live radio show broadcast over Rhodes Radio in the Lair featuring two station DJs.

There was a more visible presence during Annual Fund Week, including a poster that showed up everywhere on campus, depicting a large puzzle. Seniors could add their name to a puzzle piece when they made a gift or pledge. Always on hand were members

of the committee to talk about the senior gift. The All Stars trading card game, picturing senior contributors, figured into the week as well.

Having gone over the top in its campaign, the class celebrated with a Senior Gift Party in the Rollow Avenue of Oaks, a great way to mark a successful year and prepare for graduation.

Volunteering for and participating in the Senior Gift Campaign offered seniors opportunities to learn about the college, how it works, and the importance of giving back, no matter the size of the gift. By making a personal commitment, members of the class of 2011 hope to inspire other classes to reach new heights in giving by their support of the Annual Fund. **R**

## From the Alumni Relations Office

Dear Alumnus/α,

### Greetings from the Alumni Relations Office!

This issue of *Rhodes* captures the spirit of our community's support of students, like Brian O'Neill '94, pictured on the inside back cover, along with the many parents of current students listed in Class Notes who have hosted Rhodes events. They all know how the Rhodes education changes lives in such positive ways, and they act on that knowledge, day in and day out.

Also, please find other features about several of the many aspects of the college that enrich us all. The new building project in "On the Horizon," for example, will enhance students' residential experience for years to come. Rhodes' recent acquisition of the Shelby

Foote Collection will be a boon to students and scholars, and opportunities for students and the community to make music just keep coming.

You'll find an article about some of our Teach for America alumni who became interested in the program while students at Rhodes; a salute to two beloved faculty who are retiring; and of course, "Summer Reading," books recommended by faculty keyed to our tradition of lifelong learning.

The last article, "Over the Top" on page 41, is particularly revealing of how our students feel about the college. It tells the story of how the class of 2011 decided to make their Senior Gift to the Annual Fund. They started out with modest expectations, but worked hard



Bud Richey



all year to encourage their classmates to participate. And they did—51% of the class pledged to the Annual Fund, a figure the college encourages all alumni to aspire to reach!

None of the good things at Rhodes could happen without your help, whether it's recruiting students, hosting and attending college events in your area, providing internships and job leads, and giving to the Annual Fund to support the activities of students and faculty. Those of us on the faculty and staff thank you greatly for all your efforts.

Let us thank you in person at Homecoming/Reunion Weekend, Oct. 21-22. I look forward to seeing you there.

Best regards,

Bud Richey  
Associate Vice President and  
Director of Alumni Relations



## Class Notes

By John Bryant '11

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

### 1950

Reporters: Ann DeWar  
Blecken  
355 Caraway Cv.  
Memphis, TN 38117  
901-683-4737.  
Jim Williamson  
733 University St.  
Memphis, TN 38107  
901-276-3989

**Bill Coley**, who established the volunteer dental practice at Memphis' Church Health Center, was one of 10 recipients of this year's Jefferson Awards, sponsored by *The Commercial Appeal*. The awards recognize those who improve society through voluntarism.

### 1957

Reporters: Eric Mount  
trulyanderic@earthlink.net  
George Morris  
drgeo@gate.net

Send news to your new class reporters!

### 1958

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

In June 1961, **John Quinn**, **Mike Cody** and **Richard Dortch** graduated from University of Virginia Law School. In April that group celebrated its 50th anniversary. The three have practiced law continuously since '61.

News from **Jack and Jane Alexander Biedenharn '59** in Vero Beach, FL, is that

they have moved to a new condo. Jack is an assistant tennis pro at Orchid Island Tennis Club and thrives on his work. Their son Joe is the head tennis pro at the John's Island Tennis Club in Vero Beach. The Biedenharns have a granddaughter who received a master's degree in Marketing and Advertising from Syracuse University. They also have a grandson at the University of Central Florida at Orlando, as well as two younger granddaughters who enjoy lacrosse and volleyball. Jane and Jack celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary this year.

It was with sadness that we learned that classmate **Marilyn Olds Crichfield** of Bartlett, TN, died Feb. 27, 2011. Our sympathy goes out to her husband L. Stuart Crichfield and her son John S. Crichfield and his family.

**Mary and Buddy Whiteaker** in Pine Bluff, AR, stay busy. Mary enjoys a tutoring program she helped organize at their church. She works with English as a second language children on their homework. Buddy had surgery for a torn rotator cuff in early February and is doing physical therapy to get it back in shape.

On Feb. 7, 2011, our friend and classmate **Bobby Rose** died in Memphis after a lengthy illness. We heard from **Sam Cole** that he, **John Dunlap** and **Chuck Blake** "were part of the crowd at Bobby's memorial service at Mullins United Methodist Church. How marvelous it was for us all to have had a man such as Bobby among us."

**Mary Jane** and **Paul Roberts** of Kiawah Island, SC, took a lovely Caribbean cruise in late February and early March. "The highlight was a full day through the Panama Canal from



## 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 .....	5.8%
75 .....	6.4%
80 .....	7.2%
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—

## Class Notes

Atlantic to Pacific. The lectures in advance helped us understand the fascinating history of its construction.” The Canal is being enlarged and should be finished in 2014. The Robertses thoroughly enjoyed the Crystal Cruise food and scenery along the way, and were delighted to return and find that spring had come to Charleston and its gardens.

Also finding themselves in the Low Country were **Milton and Mary Joy Prichard Knowlton '61** of Memphis, who joined some family and friends for a few days in April in Sea Island, GA. The weather was in mid 70s, so they enjoyed the beach, the food and the spa.

**Jane Sohm** wrote from Memphis on the occasion of Dr. Robert Patterson's death in the spring: “We grieve at Evergreen Presbyterian Church. He was a gentle man and a real friend ... we miss him.”

This spring, I headed north from Richmond, VA, to participate in a Road Scholar (used to be Elderhostel) program on the mansions in the Hudson River Valley in New York. I'm combining that with a visit with one of my three daughters, who lives in Hoboken, NJ.

Thanks for sending us your news.

## 1959

Reporter: Sara Jean (Shiney) Jackson  
sji1022@earthlink.net

Joining the list of the recently retired is **Frank Splann**, soon to leave his 40+ years of urologic surgical practice in Dallas and transition with wife Susie to Maui. Our congratulations, Frank!

It was good to receive a fun report from Rev. **Sally Stockley Johnson**, traveling

with her husband, Carlos Lopez, on a Mediterranean cruise with stops in Italy, Greece, Turkey and a visit with friends in Barcelona. Sally will return to Little Rock to perform her daughter's wedding!

**Mike and Shirley Lupfer's** wanderlust continues unabated. They traveled to Nepal in November: touring Kathmandu and Pokhara, tracking one-horned rhinos through the Chitwan National Park on the back of an elephant, rafting the Seti River and flying around Mt. Everest. Best of all, they report, were the days they trekked along the Annapurna Sanctuary Trail, stopping for a day to visit a native village and school. Whew!

**Ed Stock** can always be counted on to provide a report on his goings-on, much of which includes the time spent with wife, Martha Dale, as she continues to require regular physical therapy. Ed also stays busy with board and trustee responsibilities at the William Black Lodge in Montreat, NC, and Presbyterian Homes. He says he is “real rusty” but is enjoying choral singing for the first time in 23 years. A grandchild will graduate from Ole Miss this year and another has been accepted to Rhodes. I think Ed is pleased about that!

Bill and **Nancy Wooddell Warlick** will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Family will gather at Cocoa Beach to “have fun, tell stories and cut loose, especially with our four grands.” Nancy writes of re-connecting with Rev. Walk Jones, son of **Sissy Raspberry Jones**. Walk has recently moved to the Orlando area.

The news of Dr. Bob Patterson's death sparked a number of responses

from classmates. **Barbara Bondurant Pelot**, having served many years on the Knoxville city council, writes of how her Southwestern experience influenced her life in so many ways. She is “forever grateful for those experiences and memories, and for that opportunity to take away rich and challenging experiences which I still try to employ as I continue to serve Knoxville.”

**Princess Van Hooser** and I remember the oh, so daring and funny thing our freshman Bible class did when we threw rice at Dr. Patterson on his return to the classroom after his honeymoon. We both recall that his response was to give the class a lecture on the subject of fertility! Not the response we were expecting. (Wonder where we got the rice?) Princess also remembers another class moment when she was asked to provide an answer that would have required her using the word “rape” in class. No, she just couldn't bring herself to say the word, and yes, she still remembers the embarrassment.

Lots of good memories ...

## 1960

Reporter: Kim Baxter  
Henley  
kbaxhen@comcast.net  
427 Colonial Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38117  
901-761-1443

**Jim Webb** was the co-recipient of the Sanford J. Cohn Lifetime Achievement Award presented during the Arizona Association for the Gifted & Talented Annual Conference Feb. 4, 2011. The conference recognizes programs for gifted children and their families and educators. Jim, who is president of Great Potential

Press, publisher of books and videos for parents and teachers of gifted children, has been recognized as one of the 25 most influential psychologists nationally on gifted education.

## 1961

### 50th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22  
Reporter: George Awsumb  
wawsumb@gmail.com

**Mary Adams Castor** retired in December 2002, after 26 years in social services management. “I married Don Castor, a retired judge, and moved to Tampa. I'm active in volunteer work—president of the League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County and a Stephen minister and leader at Grace Lutheran Church. We each have three children, and together we have nine grandchildren. Don's oldest, Kathy Castor, is a third term Democratic congresswoman from Tampa.”

**Ken Barker** writes: “I am professor emeritus from D'Youville College (Buffalo) where I taught for 25 years and was chairman of math/natural sciences for 10 years. My wife Marilyn practices pediatrics and is struggling with electronic medical records. I have two living children, Ray, a history major who graduated from Rhodes in 1994 and teaches full time at Erie County Community College in Orchard Park, NY. A second son, an English major, graduated from D'Youville College and works for Geico. We live in Buffalo where we expect a Super Bowl any season now. My memories of the college are all warm ones. I am thankful for the many fine professors, especially Dr. Baker, from whom I learned biology and life.”

**Jerry Duncan** reports:



“Last December we had a visit with **Barbara Swaim Ensrud** when she returned to Oxford, MS, for a visit with her nephew. She invited **Allen** and **Marilyn Davis Hughes** and Martha Ann and me to have a superb dinner and some of her special stash of wines from her cellar. Barbara lives in Durham, where she maintains her oenology pursuits, teaching classes and the like. She also invited Duke Goza and his wife to dinner, and all seven of us had great reminiscences laced by libations. Additionally, I can report that since retirement from Franklin Bone and Joint Clinic, **Shannon Curtis** and wife Diane have been spending time on their farm in Franklin with a large garden project and seeing family and friends on regular basis.”

## 1963

Reporter: Charlie Rich  
gsrcar@juno.com

**Bob Morris** recently released his book, *The Faith of a Seeker: Integrating Science and Scholarship with Christian Experience*. It is available only on his website, seekerfaith.com. Dr. **Larry Lacy '59**, emeritus Rhodes professor, was one of his readers prior to its release. Bob's B.A. is in French, his M.A. in Biblical Literature is from Oral Roberts University, and he completed three years of doctoral-level studies in Midrash at Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

**Susan Hunter Suggs** retired in December from The Coca-Cola Co. after a 20-year career as a law librarian, and most recently as a senior research analyst in Mergers & Acquisitions. “I continue to serve on the session of Central Presbyterian Church in downtown Atlanta, and

am active in my condo's homeowners' association. Enjoy frequent visits with my son **Welch '95** and his family in nearby Athens: Keeping up with four-year-old Molly and two-year-old Alex is a joy and a test of my agility, both mental and physical. Also visit my daughter Darby Armont in Austin, TX, as often as possible; we recently returned from a Caribbean cruise. So I'm easing into retirement, trying to slow down enough to experiment with life in the slow lane, and, on occasion, to take Auden's advice: ‘Read *The New Yorker*, trust in God; And take short views.’”

## 1964

Reporter: Mary Lou Quinn  
McMillin

maryloumcl@comcast.net  
Hope this finds you enjoying a “slower pace” and some grand adventures! We will look forward to hearing about them this fall. In the meantime, put your feet up, grab an ice-cold drink and “catch up” with your classmates.

**Anne Merhling** writes, “I don't have any news, but it seems rude to keep getting your notes without responding. [*Others might take the hint!*] We had several big snowstorms in New York that were lovely. Having snow days from work are as much fun now as missing school when we were children. Guess some things never change.”

**K.C. Ptomey** reports that he continues to enjoy serving on the faculty at Austin Seminary and will be teaching a course in June in the Doctor of Ministry Program. The senior class honored him by choosing him as the baccalaureate speaker this year. After serving as coordinator of

chapel music and seminary organist for the past two years, his wife Carol has received a call to become associate pastor of Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield Hills MI. She begins her ministry there Aug. 1. K.C. will continue in his teaching position and the two of them will be learning about negotiating a commuter marriage!

**Jim and Ervin Haas Bullock** are awaiting the birth of their first grandbaby. Their daughter is working on her doctorate in New York and she and her husband are expecting their first child in June. Jim and Ervin “inherited” their grandson Noah three years ago at the age of 13 when their son Chris married Karen in Pensacola. Karen and Chris are both pastors at Central Presbyterian Church in Mobile. A trip to New York is planned for July, then in September, Jim and Ervin are planning a trip to Guilford, England (just outside of London) to visit friends there. This year Jim became more involved as a youth detention chaplain in Ocala; and in St. Augustine at Memorial Presbyterian Church helping start and develop a Food-4-Kids program at South Woods Elementary School. The program now provides 85 kids food for the weekend, taking food home in a backpack. Ervin has been working in interfaith work in Ocala and St. Augustine. She has helped Memorial Presbyterian have two interfaith worship services with Christians, Muslims and Jews as leaders and participants. She also developed a senior high panel made up of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish youth sharing their faith and answering questions. The

panel has already led two events in Marion County. Jim and Ervin were at their beach house for a week in April, a week with Swedish friends in May, and a week with their Mobile family at the end of May. So, Jim says, “Retired life gets complicated, but being an activist, I would have it no other way.”

**Ronnie Splann** reports, “We are planning two trips this summer: first to Corinth, MS, to a family reunion; then, hopefully to either Maui or Florida to see two of my military buds. I have been through two or three strokes but am still alive and kicking. I must be ornery! My wife Diane is an accomplished artist! She cannot go anywhere without a camera. We have several of her great paintings from Costa Rica, Hawaii and the Ouachita mountains.”

**Eleanor Lawrence Geiger** sends greetings from warm, windy Tucson and reports: “Tom and I are here until early June this year—staying a little longer every year because it's so hard to leave the fun. **Tom and Jim Fall '65** hiked again in the Grand Canyon in late May, going from the North Rim to the South Rim. This is the ‘other half’ of the hike they did in October when they went South to North Rim. Tom and I enjoyed a wonderful evening in Tucson with **Sally Cunningham Gay '63**. She has been living in Tucson for several years and teaches ESL at a local college. Frequent trips to Mexico keep her fluent in Spanish. I also have been in touch with **Jane Coburn McManus '63** who lives in Dallas. A psychologist in private practice, Jane also devotes time to a new ministry for special needs children she began at her church.”

From **Jo Cox Kenny-Sanders**: “Max and I spent

## Class Notes

nine days in Costa Rica in March, practicing our Spanish, observing the flora and fauna, hiking and generally enjoying ourselves.”

**Dossett Foster** writes: “Linda is walking like a lady again after her second knee replacement. Also, we have had our empty nest invaded in a wonderful way. Our oldest granddaughter, Alexis, from Murfreesboro, TN, has come to live with us while she attends the University of Memphis School of Nursing. We told her we were offering her a room and board scholarship, and she immediately accepted. Both of us highly recommend this type of arrangement to help fend off the vagaries of aging. It is like raising the daughter we never had without having to suffer through her teenage years. We would be interested to find if any of you other classmates have had this type of opportunity in your lives.”

Two wonderful handwritten notes were received. [*Another hint for those without email ... it can be done!*] from **Marilyn Easterling Turnley** and **Pat Bowen Butler**, respectively.

**Marilyn** reports: “Most of my time is spent enjoying our six grandchildren, ages two to 13, and hoping for one more. However, in May I was privileged to go with the Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church in Tulsa—along with my brother and sister-in-law—on a mission trip to Mwanza, Tanzania on the shores of Lake Victoria. They have gone multiple times in the past 10 years so I feel like I already know the people. For the past 60 years I have wanted to go on a mission trip to Africa. The closest I have come is local volunteering, Kiroso Outside, and now a local prison ministry each Tuesday

afternoon. You can imagine my excitement; I’d been packed for two months!”

From **Pat Bowen Butler** we hear: “This has been a busy year. My mom passed away in late February. We have remodeled her house and it is up for sale in Memphis. My husband and I took a trip to Israel with our oldest son and his wife in late May. I keep my two-year-old granddaughter for our second son and his wife. We have three sons and three granddaughters. I started playing the harp 10 years ago and currently direct a harp ensemble, which has produced a CD, ‘Praise Him with Harp and Lyre,’ which we provide to cancer patients, those bedridden, etc. I also play in the church orchestra, teach Bible studies, research genealogy and travel with my husband, who speaks to various groups.”

**Mary Lou Quinn McMillin** had a wonderful trip to England (London, Durham and the Holy Island of Lindisfarne) and Scotland (Edinburgh) in January accompanying **Ann Reed Held ’73** and her daughter Eleanor. Eleanor’s graduation from the University of Durham with a M.A. degree in Religion and Society was the impetus for the trip. Mary Lou recently completed teaching a five-week course on Mary Magdalene for James Madison University’s Life Long Learning Institute—challenging and fun! **Judy Moody Daniel LePera ’65** was a participant in the class and **Peggy Early Williamson ’68** put me in touch with John Baur at the University of Memphis, who graciously shared the libretto and a scene from his opera “Magdala” with the class. The opera is still “in production,” however, I encourage those of you in

the Memphis area to watch for its debut. It carries a powerful message.

Enjoy your summer and let us hear from you!

## 1965

Reporter: Virginia Lowry Ives  
virginiaives65@bellsouth.net

Jerry and **Lou Ellyn Hindman Griffin** enjoyed a great trip in April 2011. “Nine days in Israel and Jordan. Highlights were: The green hills and avocado, mango and banana farming around the sea of Galilee. Two nights in a kibbutz on the sea of Galilee looking across at the lights of Tiberius at night. The ongoing archaeological digging sites at the temple in Jerusalem. Petra in Jordan and meeting the New Zealand woman there who was ‘Married to a Bedouin’ (her book), had three children, lived in a cave, was a nurse for the community. Hearing the story of Masada from our Israeli tour guide there. Hearing the Scripture accounts of Jesus from our minister leader at the actual sites. The contrast between news we get in the U.S. and the peacefulness of the Israeli, Palestinian and Jordanian people we actually saw and met.”

## 1966

**45th Reunion**  
Homecoming: Oct. 21-22  
Reporter: Sammy Primm Marshall  
sammyannmarshall@gmail.com

**Larry Del Daniel Martin** writes: “Busy here! We at Atlanta Habitat have served more than 1,100 families in their efforts to build and buy a home. Our goal in 2011 is

to provide home ownership opportunities for 60 or more families. Of course, along with that construction comes one year of required homebuyer education classes to support successful home ownership.” She adds that she hopes to see a big group at the reunion.

The State Library of Kansas has released a list of the 150 Best Books of Kansas of all time in celebration of the state’s sesquicentennial. Among them: Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood*, William Inge’s *Picnic*, Laura Ingalls Wilder’s *Little House on the Prairie*, William Allen White’s *Autobiography*, Frank Baum’s *The Wizard of Oz* and **Richard Jennings’** *The Great Whale of Kansas*. Richard writes that although he has published 10 novels for middle readers, some of which have won highly competitive awards, he is trying something different. “I’ve found a modern patron in the pet supply retailer, drsfostersmith.com, which is introducing a new section on its site (‘Kids’ Center’) with a series of 12 connected short stories I’ve created about kids and their love for pets. The release schedule covers an entire year, after which they’ll produce a bound collection.”

**Ginny Taylor Drash** and George Gannaway (Georgia Tech ’61) married Jan. 16, 2011, in the chapel of First Centenary United Methodist Church in Chattanooga, TN. **Carol Pickens White** was Ginny’s matron of honor. All of Ginny’s and George’s children (6) and grandchildren (6) attended, with the exception of George’s youngest grandson (10 months old). Ginny and Sam and George and Pat were in the same Sunday school class in Memphis. They had many



mutual friends but were never close couple friends. The same thing happened in Chattanooga at First Centenary Church. They had a lot of mutual friends but did not know each other very well. Pat died in 2008 and Sam, in 2009. George married Gail Coulter in 2009 and Gail died in 2010. In December 2010, Ginny retired from her financial position at Church of the Good Shepherd where she had worked for 10 years. The happily married couple enjoyed a 30-day honeymoon, visiting friends and relatives in Florida, then going on a 10-day cruise to the Panama Canal. George has been retired for several years. He was a civil engineer and worked for Ma Bell for 30 years. He loves golf and GA Tech. Ginny now has golf clubs.

Marvin and **Betty Walker Hudson** moved to Martinsville, VA, in January. They enjoy seeing their grandchildren, who live nearby in Roanoke.

**Judy Ries Dale** was presented the annual Human Rights Award given by Church Women United in Louisville, KY. She was honored for her work with and advocacy for people with disabilities through the years. Judy writes that she is planning on attending the reunion in October and is looking forward to seeing everyone.

**Isabell Van Merlin** writes that she is also planning to attend the reunion. She is teaching Spanish for the first time in her life, plus ESL, plus GED preparation, plus a creative writing class at Newburyport Adult Ed, and North Shore Community College in Lynn, MA. At the end of March, she installed bamboo "Rainbow Arches" on the campus of North Georgia University and

State College, for a yearlong exhibit ([northgeorgia.edu/Outdoor\\_Sculpture/](http://northgeorgia.edu/Outdoor_Sculpture/)). Her daughter married in a "modified Hindu" ceremony in Playa del Carmen, Mexico, on Feb. 12. The setting was beautiful. The couple own a motel in Fort Bragg, CA.

**Bill Cobb's** six grandchildren keep him busy with biking, skiing, little league baseball, football, basketball, soccer, hunting, fishing and choir performances.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 45th reunion!

## 1967

Reporter: Jeanne Hope Jacobs Buckner  
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Winter Harbor, ME 04693  
[jhbuckner@aol.com](mailto:jhbuckner@aol.com)

**Joe Clarke** writes: "**Anne Fraser** and I reconnected and were married in December 2008. I'm retired after practicing law in East Tennessee for 30+ years, and Anne recently retired as an architect with the state of Tennessee. Late last year, we took a two-week trip to western Colorado and southern Arizona, visiting with two of Anne's wonderful daughters and their families. Then we enjoyed seeing the rest of the family over Christmas. We live out in the country north of Knoxville and are thoroughly enjoying retirement together."

**Aaron Foster** has retired from his job as a customer service rep at Continental Traffic Service Inc., where he had worked for the last four years. "Went on my first cruise in October 2010. It was great! I am still organist at Mullins United Methodist Church in Memphis. This is my 46th year as a professional church

musician."

**Charlie Murphy** "would like to share some post-65 thoughts with our classmates. I am still pastor of Windsor Avenue Presbyterian Church in Bristol, TN. My wife of almost 41 years and I are up to five amazing grandchildren now. I have been doing some reminiscing as most of us probably have. The longer I go, the more thankful I am for the folks who helped shape us (like college friends) and for the education and opportunities we have been given. I look forward to our next get-together."

**George Abraham** is teaching Business Communication at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC. "We focus on all aspects of business, especially entrepreneurship. F.I.T., part of the State University of New York, teaches students all aspects of retail having to do with clothing, managing department stores, marketing, starting a business (local or international), exporting and importing products and finding new international trading partners. I am teaching a Saturday morning class, and I think of how we used to attend class on Saturdays at Rhodes."

**Rosie Gladney** would like everyone to know that she and Marcia celebrated their 25 years together by getting legally married last spring, May 21, 2010, on the mall near the WWII memorial in Washington, DC. Congratulations!

**Jim Hays** emailed from his boat in Florida: "Hello to you! Trust all is well. I'm living on my boat, getting ready to sail to the Bahamas, then hopefully to Trinidad for the summer. Starting to feel older, can't get grayer, and somehow becoming

roundlike. Go figure. By the way, forgot to mention my motorcycle trip from NY to Texas, Prudhoe Bay, AK, Guatemala and South Carolina in 61 days. 22,000 miles. Ho hum."

**Billy Heiter** writes: "Well, Judy and I planned to take the grandkids skiing. Mardi Gras holidays seemed the appropriate time—Sugar Mountain, NC, sounded good. If you haven't skied for 18 years, listen up: It ain't like riding a bicycle. I remembered all the good stuff like flying down hill at 40 mph—I just didn't remember how. After 90 minutes of refresher lessons I was off. Five minutes later, I pulled the heck out of a big leg muscle. I got to ski the rest of that first morning with the granddaughters (cool), hoping they would get the hang of it (they did), then I simply went into rehab for the duration. Our condo neighbors (good Louisiana folks) deep-fried redfish, oysters and shrimp on their balcony and we traded them for Judy's cookies. Eating fried Louisiana oysters in the snow has got to be right up there. Judy and I hope to make it back to Alaska to fish with our son this summer."

**Beth Pevsner Polanka** has "come to the conclusion that these are wonderful years—none of the angst and drama of earlier life stages—I like it! Work, travel and play form the backbone of my life. I was in DC in April for one of my favorite conferences (the Psychotherapy Networker). I had a spectacular trip to Alaska in August 2010, to the Inside Passage and Denali (yes, the mountain appeared on cue). Since then, I have in moments of uncertainty asked myself the question: "What would Fanny Quigley do?" She is one of my new favorite characters. This fall I am planning a journey to

## Class Notes

the Grand Canyon—seemed important to do that while I still can! I had a brief visit to Memphis Memorial Day weekend for a family reunion and, of course, a visit with my brother, **Lee '66.**"

**Sam Highsmith** was installed as moderator of the Presbytery of Arkansas in February. With more than 70 churches to serve, he says he's excited and challenged as he begins this new job and looks forward to helping the Presbytery grow in membership and service.

**Connie Schorr Finch** says she is "doing great, still working, etc. The only news I have is about my kids. Wilson (26) finished his master's degree in European History at Cambridge University in England and is working for AmeriCorps in Pensacola this year before going on to getting a Ph.D. in history. Jessica (28) is district manager for Doc-U-Pak here in Birmingham and lives in Homewood. She went skiing in April in Aspen: She got the ski bug, like me. I will keep working as long as I can. I play tennis when I have time and sometimes golf. I also belong to the Sierra Club and go on some of their hiking trips here."

**Pam Richardson Hays** and her husband Al moved to Cedar Falls, IA, in 1979. "I never particularly wanted to live in the Midwest, but now I call myself a 'born-again Midwesterner.' Al teaches at the University of Northern Iowa. We love the quality of life here—the community engagement, schools, etc. Not particularly the weather." Pam and Al have a little stuffed flamingo friend named Fergus who appeared on Facebook recently. Al rides with a team in the Great Bike Ride Across Iowa every year and they call themselves "Team Flamingo." In 24 years of doing this

their allegiance to the flamingo theme has grown in silliness. They now dye their beards pink and start the ride in pink jerseys with pink feather boas flowing behind them. "Al and I love to travel, and having Fergus along (when we remember him) is always fun. He even went to our son's wedding (brought out only at appropriate times) last June." Pam says her son has concluded that his parents are a little disturbed.

## 1968

Reporters: Bob Morris  
bmorris68@comcast.net  
Drue Thom White  
drueboo@aol.com

**Ellen Plants Massey** writes, "I'm still heavily involved in acting—had a good year last year with some really great lead roles: 'The Second Act Is a Solo,' 'Foxfire' and 'Steel Magnolias.' I recently finished up a run with 'Don't Dress for Dinner.' Other than that, it's gardening, various hobbies and caring for Jim."

From **Bruce Cook**: "For a Christmas present I got an old tape from Principia College of a football game we played when we were sophomores, and sent the tape to **Billy Hendrickson** (played quarterback a few plays, safety and wide receiver), **Scott Arnold** (played defensive end and tight end on offense) and **Bubba Clark** (my roommate, who was injured before that game and couldn't play). I played quarterback. Principia was nationally rated for its defense, but Billy had a great game, winning it in the last few seconds by catching a fourth-down pass from me for a touchdown. Scott showed why he was selected for the Rhodes Athletic Hall of Fame. Great athlete!

It was fun to see everyone on old Fargason Field and how skinny and slow I was as a quarterback. Out of 41 players on the squad we had nine quarterbacks. We were and still are a band of brothers. I wouldn't take anything for the memories. I played ball with a great bunch off guys."

**Carol Colclough Strickland** recently went to Singapore to see the architect Moshe Safdie's latest design, Marina Bay Sands resort. "It's an amazing complex, very daring architecture. I'm also going to Washington, DC, to interview Safdie for a profile I'm writing on him for the *Christian Science Monitor* and to tour his U.S. Institute of Peace headquarters. The building, with a billowing, translucent glass roofs that evoke a dove's wings, is on the National Mall and opens in September."

**Jim and Peggy Early Williamson** have both moved in new career directions. Peggy is now director of Admissions at Memphis University School. Jim is a professor of architecture at the University of Memphis, where he teaches design and theory. In addition, they enjoy frequent visits to their cottage in Montreat, NC.

**Mike Richards** reports that he is still practicing law, specializing in business litigation, and still enjoying it. He has been with Baker Donelson for 40 years now. Mike has a daughter who also practices law in Austin, TX, and has a granddaughter. His son recently returned from a tour in Afghanistan as a pathfinder with the 101st Airborne Division.

**Jane Mando Meeks** writes: "I retired at the end of the 2010 school year. I have to admit that I miss my students and colleagues,

but not getting up before dawn and getting home at dusk! My time as a school counselor was wonderful; I loved my elementary babies, but it's definitely wonderful to have the chance to spread my wings and do something just for fun. My husband Ken is still serving as Northeast Georgia's general presbyter, but I plan to be so relaxed that he will begin to consider retirement for himself soon. Meanwhile, I will continue to enjoy the OLLI classes at UGA, book group, working on a children's book (needs a LOT of work) and staying in touch by email and Facebook. Our two sons left the nest some time ago. Josh works in the music industry. A classical guitarist, he teaches guitar, works in production and publicity, plays off and on with local bands—trumpet, guitar, sax, whatever. His most recent gig was at his younger brother Ian's wedding in North Carolina. Ian works as a counselor with children and families, and his bride teaches middle school. How fortunate we feel to get both a daughter-in-law and a delightful granddaughter (3) at the same time. When one lives in Athens, GA, it is almost impossible NOT to be a Bulldog, but I cling to my Carolina Blue Tar Heels and the Lynx at Rhodes! My time in Memphis changed the course of my life; I'll be forever grateful."

## 1969

Memphis attorney **Bill Abney** has been named Tennessee state treasurer assistant, Investment Division. He was previously in private practice and earlier, counsel to Regions, Concord EFS and First Data Corp.



# 1971

## 40th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22  
Reporter: Betha Hubbard Gill

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In April, **Bill Short**, public services coordinator for Rhodes' Barret Library, received the Memphis Area Library Council's Award for Excellence for 2011. The award is presented to a library staff member who has demonstrated notable accomplishments and dedication to the profession, contributed to professional organizations, and been involved in community activities. Memphis Mayor AC Wharton was the featured speaker.

**Nancy Lenox, Bill Short, John Rone** and **Betha Hubbard Gill** spent a week in Russia in March. The foursome toured historic sites in Moscow and St. Petersburg, including a lengthy visit to the Hermitage Museum. The group recommends traveling during the off-season as a wonderful way to avoid the usual crowds!

From **Barron Boyd**: "While that was a nice blurb on **Carol DeForest** and her recent marriage in the last magazine, I, her new husband, also graduated from Southwestern in '71 under the name of Barron Boyd, not John. Others in the class might be interested in (if not flabbergasted by) this bizarre turn of events after 43 years."

**Ron and Carmen Webb Anderson** have a new grandson, Declan Grey Sweazy, born April 14, 2010, to Caleb and **Melissa Anderson Sweazy '97**. Melissa and Caleb

have a daughter, Harlow (4). Carmen's and Ron's other granddaughters, Avery (4) and Dana (2), are the daughters of Neil and Lindsey Anderson Suber. Carmen has created a Facebook page for our 40th reunion and would love for our classmates to join it and contribute stories, photos, comments: facebook.com/group.phpgid=143788115658474.

Look for the April issue of *Art & Antiques* for a 10-page spread on **Daisy Craddock's** art and conservation work.

**Jim Cogswell** is installing a major commission this summer, an 80,000-square-foot window mural at the new Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI, where Jim is a professor in the School of Art and Design at the University of Michigan.

**Charlie Durham**, in his 22nd year as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa, enjoyed his second sabbatical last summer at the Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport, ME, to learn more about hand woodworking tools. Charlie's and **Sandy's '72** older daughter is also a Presbyterian pastor and reference librarian at Columbia Theological Seminary where Charlie also serves as a trustee. "Our younger daughter is a deacon in our church, director of fitness and membership at the Student Recreation Center on the University of Alabama campus, and mother of Durham (7), our grandson and a redhead. Sandy is a tax preparer as well as doing most everything in our church from elder, clerk of session, choir, teacher, mentor and friend." During Homecoming/ Reunion weekend they'll be staying with one of Charlie's two

brothers who both live in Memphis now: **Jim '67** or **Dave '78**. In all, 10 members of their family attended Rhodes.

**Bo Marley** has been an ob/gyn in Clarksdale, MS, for 32 years. "Delivered more than 10,000 babies and performed a few thousand other surgeries!" He married LeAnne in 2003 and lives in Helena, AR, just across the river from Clarksdale.

LeAnne teaches nursing at Phillips Community College and is a nurse practitioner with a master's degree in Women's Health. Bo's daughter, Minette, received her B.S. in Accounting at Millsaps and went on to get her master's at Rhodes with a 4.0 GPA. She and her husband Bo Townsend, a pediatric dentist, live in Knoxville with their three daughters, Marley Grace, Emory Katherine and Reed Lauren. Robi, the eldest of LeAnne's three daughters, has a baby daughter who was welcomed by brothers Dylan and Dawsen. Robi and her husband Larry live in Batesville, AR. LeAnne's younger daughters, Sarah and Rachel, will both attend the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville this fall. LeAnne and Bo are looking forward to the reunion in October. They would like to see the Florence, AL, folks and the Little Rock crew again.

**Marcia Swett Baker** is enjoying complete retirement, but busy volunteering with Young Life and Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis. She is happily married to Brad, and they love visiting their son Chris, his wife Kelli and grandchildren, Avery (5) and Witt (2) in Albany, GA, as often as possible. Their youngest son Drew and his wife Paige live in Memphis. This year got off to a fun start for Marcia and Brad

when Auburn won the NFL Championship. Both Chris and Drew graduated from Auburn and they are all avid fans!

**James Dobbins** spent the 2010-11 academic year as a visiting professor at Otani University in Kyoto, Japan. He will return to his position as Fairchild Professor of Religion and East Asian Studies at Oberlin College this fall.

Wally and **Hannah Simmons Pickworth** built a vacation house on the Chesapeake Bay, where Wally is raising oysters right in the "front yard." Hannah remembers it was at Rhodes that we had the best feasts of raw oysters, saltine crackers (a little red sauce) and beer!

**Bob Henry** has been in his adoptive state of Oregon, in the Portland area, since 1978, after schooling in Florida and Louisiana. He has been happily married to June for 22 years. They have "two lovely daughters, solid son-in-laws and two grandchildren, with one more soon to come." Bob, who has been working as a psychologist both in private practice and for the state of Oregon since moving there, anticipates retiring this fall.

**Jeff Crow** and his wife Paula have two semi-grown young adults: Their daughter Taylor, majoring in advertising at the University of Texas at Austin, recently graduated, and their son, Adam, has finished his first year at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Paula still flies with Delta, but Jeff is retiring from law practice this year after 37 years of trying cases.

**Frank and Cathie Dodson '72** are in Shreveport where Frank is still practicing law and working hard on a big church renovation project. One daughter and her family recently moved to Tupelo,

## Class Notes

and the other is in Boston, but plans a move south. They rejoiced with Barron and Carol when they wed in October, and are happy to have had a hand in the network of fellow Rhodes alum encouragers through Facebook in the months leading up to the wedding!

**Tim and Anne Cannon Crais '72** are planning to come to the reunion. They have three grown children. Their oldest, Andy, and his wife Aubrie have Tim and Anne's only grandchild, Whit. Daughter Christy lives in Washington, DC, and works for Research Triangle Institute. Both Andy and Christy graduated from Wake Forest. Their youngest, Matthew, an Ole Miss graduate, currently works for Empire Construction. Anne is still teaching first grade. Tim taught school and coached for seven years and then went into the wood flooring business for 27 years. Four years ago, they moved back home to Knoxville to be closer to family and friends. Tim has been doing a lot of church work, Red Cross work with veterans, and developing a nonprofit called Challenge Accepted for people with diverse disabilities.

After graduation, **Kim Kersey** entered the cable television industry and worked in marketing positions in Natchez, MS, Petersburg, VA, and Huntsville, AL. In 1977, he became general manager for the cable system in Tuscaloosa, AL, under Comcast and stayed there until 1992, then moved to Jackson, TN, to manage Jackson and a group of West Tennessee/West Kentucky systems under Time Warner and other owners. In 2001, he joined the Jackson Energy Authority, the public utility, as SVP to head up its fiber optic broadband network project. Kim retired from

Jackson Energy Authority in 2009 to open his own consulting business in the fiber industry, based in Jackson, and has been busy the past couple of years helping other communities get their fiber project going. His business gives him the opportunity to travel. His most interesting assignment, so far, was a project in New Zealand. He says his greatest achievement is his family. He met Dotti, his wife of 38 years, in Petersburg, VA, in 1973. Their son John works for the state of Oregon in Portland, and their two daughters, Clare and Lizzi, are schoolteachers in Knoxville. Kim is looking forward to seeing everyone in October.

**Susan McNeely Nicholas**, after being an eight-year breast cancer survivor, ran (actually jogged) for the first time, finishing the Germantown Race for the Cure in 44 minutes. Her granddaughters call it "Mimi's Pink Race." Susan recently closed a business (weight loss clinic), but still has a few clients. Her website, [lifestylewloss.com](http://lifestylewloss.com), is still up to date. Both her sons and their wives live in the Memphis area. Susan and her husband **Kevin '69** try to babysit as much as possible. The grandchildren, Ashlyn (6), Elaina (5), Austin (4) and Hudson (19 months) "are such a joy and keep us young!"

**Beverly Cole Hooker** retired from Memphis City Schools in 2007 after 36 years in education. She is now doing a variety of things—Jazzercise, volunteer work at the MED and with Collierville Literacy Council, Christian Education Committee at Balmoral Presbyterian Church and keeping her grandson, Jack, one day a week.

Nancy and **Jim Mulroy's**

youngest child, Lizzie, has been a lifeguard at Rhodes in the summers. She graduated in the winter semester from Lewis and Clark in Portland, OR, and "walked" in May. Lizzie will enter the master of nursing program at UT, and her older sister Cat is a M-4 at UT Medical School. Jim's son Colin lives with two other disabled men in a house in High Point Terrace, coincidentally, across the street from his sister Cat. Cat and Jules Munn, also a M-4 at UT, married last summer. Nancy teaches special education at Lester Middle School. Jim continues to practice law in Memphis and recently became a member of the Rhodes Alumni Executive Board and is even more impressed by the quality of the staff and the educational quality of the school. He is also serving on the advisory board for the Rhodes Institute on the Practice of Law, which will have four CLE programs this year. He highly recommends the Athletic Hall of Fame luncheon. **CW Stacks '70** and Jim attended together last year. The stories of the recipients were compelling and at times funny and nostalgic.

**Jim Moss** is happy to talk about his five wonderful grandchildren (just ask him). All three of his children are happily married, gainfully employed and live within walking distance of their home. Jim and his wife Durden, who he says "has tolerated him for 34 years," plan to be at the reunion in the fall.

**Hadley Hury** is happy to report that he and Marilyn will celebrate their 15th anniversary shortly after the class reunion this fall. After many years as a nonprofit executive working in environmental and women's and children's health organizations, he has now completed 15 years at

Hutchison School, first as chair of the department of English and more recently as college counselor. He writes occasionally, and has published a novel (2003), a collection of short stories (2007) and more recently, a few poems. He and Marilyn "enjoy as much time as we can at our house in the historic district of Rugby, TN, on the Cumberland Plateau; two intelligent and confident granddaughters in Atlanta; two forces-of-nature grandsons in Nashville; and we cohabit with one increasingly grouchy housecat whose name (Augusta Isabella Goodgirl) in its diminutive form, Izzy, was suggested by **Dan Hatzenbuehler.**"

**Duncan Currey** and **Barbee Smith '72** reconnected in '93, married in '99, and live in Duncan's old neighborhood near Vanderbilt, where Barbee has cut back to working two days a week as a research study coordinator in adult psychiatry. He is now working full time as a clinical psychologist for Tennessee Disability Determination Services. Duncan's oldest son, Mason, is now managing editor of *Metropolis Magazine* in NYC, and they are hoping his book (Knopf) will be coming out this year. Andrew recently graduated from MTSU and is exploring his options. It's been great for Barbee and Duncan to reconnect with their friends and classmates via Facebook, and they look forward to seeing everyone at the reunion.

**Stuart Kelly** is a church musician with 40 years' experience. He has served only one diocese and only three parishes. He is also an avid scuba diver and has dived all over the world. He looks forward to seeing everyone at the reunion.



## 1973

Reporter: Margaret Lawson Headrick  
margaretheadrick@comcast.net

Happy 60th Birthday to the members of the class of 1973!

**Larry Brown** has been called as rector to the parish of Trinity Episcopal Church in Fillmore, CA. Built in 1901 of solid redwood, Trinity was used for the interior shots of the Gillanbone, New South Wales church in the 1983 television miniseries "The Thorn Birds."

**Patricia Spears Jones'** second blog appears in The Tidal Basin Review's Basin Blog: [thebasinblog.wordpress.com/2011/04/06/be-my-guest/](http://thebasinblog.wordpress.com/2011/04/06/be-my-guest/).

**Meriwether Montgomery** spent the last eight months hosting two foreign exchange students, Emilie from Norway and Cecilia from Italy—17-year-old seniors. Now that the house is hers again, she is planning a trip to all the countries in the world that she has always wanted to visit. She just doesn't know if it will be by boat or by train.

Since grad school, **Clark Malcolm** has lived in Ann Arbor, MI. He has worked as writer and editor for Herman Miller Inc. for the last 28 years. He has edited, written or co-authored 16 books on leadership, design and architecture. He and Judy, his wife of 29 years, have no intention of retiring elsewhere. They have one son, who lives, works and goes to school in Chicago.

**Candace Keirns-Bitensky** and her husband have downsized from a big house in Newton to a two-bedroom apartment in Waltham. She can give no advice on cutting down on your acquisitions until

she figures out how to do it herself. She still interprets at Mass General Hospital from time to time, but mostly devotes her energies to caregiving.

**Keith Alexander** has a family of Rhodes graduates or soon-to-be graduates. His eldest son **Ben '07** graduated from University of Memphis Law School this spring. He is an editor of the U of M Law Review. Keith's son **Andrew '10** graduated from Rhodes last spring, Phi Beta Kappa, and is taking a year off before continuing his education. His youngest son, **John '12**, is a senior at Rhodes in pre-med. Keith's mother-in-law, **Frances Crouch Perkins '51**, is also a Rhodes alum.

After celebrating their 30th anniversary in November, **Jane Howze** and her husband spent three weeks in New Zealand and Australia. Her firm, The Alexander Group, has kept her busy with lots of travel. She was fortunate enough last year to be able to hook up with **Wing Chin** and **Pat Jones** in NY; **Amy Bailey Evans** in Denver; **Olivia Barton Ferriter '72** and **Hershel Lipow '72** in Washington, DC; **Edgar Underwood '72** in Park City and Birmingham; **Steve Sharpe '74** passing through Houston; a near miss with **Bruce Allbright '74** in Pebble Beach; and **Chip Ramsey** passing through Houston.

**Clifford Pugh** is the editor in chief of CultureMap, Houston's daily digital magazine ([culturemap.com](http://culturemap.com)), which delivers real-time coverage, breaking news, analysis and opinion on arts, fashion, dining, music, events, politics, sports and society. Jane Howze writes a column on golf called "the Hacker" and covers the Sundance Film Festival for the magazine. Thanks

to its success in Houston, CultureMap will launch in Austin this summer.

## 1974

**Bill Dolen** writes: "**Carolyn** is manager of the Augusta Choral Society, and is involved in the Rachel Longstreet Foundation and Jessye Norman School in Augusta. She is a faithful verger, eucharistic minister and chorister at Saint Paul's Church. I am a full professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) and program director for allergy-immunology. Having completed a term as president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, I am a member of the national Residency Review Committee for allergy-immunology. I have also been ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia, and serve as a nonstipendiary chaplain at GHSU and as a nonstipendiary priest at Saint Paul's Church. I still find time to sing in the church choir and with the Augusta Choral Society, where I am the assistant director."

## 1975

**Chuck McGrady** is now serving as a representative to the North Carolina General Assembly. He is a former president of the Sierra Club, a summer camp director and a Henderson County commissioner, "but this job is harder than the rest. I love the public policy and hate the politics."

## 1976

### 35th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22

## 1977

Rhodes athletic director **Mike Clary** was one of the inaugural inductees in the Memphis Catholic High School Hall of Fame in April.

## 1978

**Steve Masters** writes, "As there is a paucity of notes from our class, I thought I would throw in a word from me after 33 years. I am enjoying being a board certified family physician in Knoxville, TN, (25 years), married for 28 years with three children and have a lovely daughter-in-law."

## 1981

### 30th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22

**Sally Jones Heinz** has been named executive director of Memphis' Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association, an ecumenical organization founded in 1968 to find a solution for poverty and racial division in Memphis. Sally served as MIFA's vice president of development since 2007. She previously served as director of Communications/publications, and Alumni at Rhodes from 1994-2002, and director of development for Memphis Brooks Museum of Art from 2003-07.

Cathy and **Art Rollins**, parents of **Caroline '13**, hosted a yield party for accepted Rhodes students April 10 in Atlanta.

## 1982

**Mary Barrett Brewer** has been appointed chief counsel for the Nashville Field Office of HUD.

## 1983

Reporter: Margot Emery  
memery06@gmail.com

From **Trice Gibbons**:

“Paul, my partner of 18 years, and I are alive, well and living in Nashville. After 25 years in health care strategic business planning and marketing, last August I began a new adventure as a full-time student at Vanderbilt Divinity School working toward a M.Div. degree. Upon graduation in May 2013, I hope to apply my health care experience with that of working as a volunteer on social justice issues through the Presbyterian Church (USA) in ministry. In my ‘spare time,’ I serve as an elder at Nashville’s Second Presbyterian Church and as national co-moderator of More Light Presbyterians.”

**Lewis Kalmbach** and his partner Gregory Ott will celebrate their 20th year together by getting married this summer at their ranch in Mendocino County, CA.

After many years of working in labor and delivery and midwifery, **Gretchen Deeves** is on the faculty at the LSU School of Nursing in New Orleans.

**Perry Dement** is completing his 15th year at Memphis University School, where he is director of Advancement.

Class reporter **Margot Emery** is enjoying reconnecting with fellow alums and begs readers to send in news about their lives. You can reach her/me at 865-640-2055 or memery06@gmail.com. Margot earned her Ph.D. in information sciences and statistics back in '06 and finds its chief value in being able to find things on the web, help her mother with computer issues and handle a mean calculator. She

enjoys her work in marketing and communications with UT’s statewide Institute of Agriculture.

**Gail McKnight Kerr**

received the Jerry Thompson Communicator’s Lifetime Achievement Award at the 40th annual Community Nashville Human Relations Awards dinner. The honor recognizes Nashvillians who are making a difference in the community and pursuing an end to bias, bigotry and racism. Gail is the local news columnist for *The Tennessean* newspaper. Her columns fighting a proposed “English-only” city ordinance and protesting sexual discrimination were cited in the honor. Jerry Thompson was a beloved and respected longtime reporter and columnist for *The Tennessean* who infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan to expose its rituals and hate-based agenda.

**Lisa Lamb Marshall**

continues to enjoy pastoring at a small Presbyterian church in Low Moor, VA. Her husband Gary is pastor at nearby Mallow Presbyterian Church. They have two teenage children, Sarah (17) and John (14).

## 1984

Reporter: Tracy Vezina  
Patterson

2680 McVay Rd.

Memphis, TN 38119

901-624-6681

tvpaterson@bellsouth.net

**Elizabeth Sheppard**

**Hurley** has been named vice president for development of the Art Institute of Chicago, effective Feb. 14, 2011. Formerly the executive director of Chicago’s Grant Park Music Festival, she worked for more than three years as director of development at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City and 15 years

at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where she served as vice president of development from 2000-05.

## 1985

Reporter: Jim Golden  
jimatphi@hotmail.com

**Margaret Bryan Hakimian**

reports that after a wonderful time at our 25th reunion with the “youthful-looking class of ’85, I returned to Boston for the worst winter ever. My family and I spent the winter shoveling to the point that there was nowhere else for the snow to go. **Jim Golden** described it well, ‘moving glaciers from one side of the yard to another.’ My children, Christopher (12) and Megan (9), spent the winter playing basketball, both incredible athletes! Not sure where they got that? I discovered Facebook this winter and have enjoyed hearing about the lives of our classmates while becoming a bit addicted, especially with the snow piling up outside. My kids and I headed to Nashville for spring break where we enjoyed nice weather and caught up with brother **Felix ’88**, sister **Mary ’82** as well dad, nieces and nephews! I also took the kids to the Grand Ole Opry for the first time to hear Charlie Daniels. I want them to appreciate the Southern way of life! Great to see everyone at the reunion and hope to see more at our 30th!”

**Mitch Warren** writes to say that he had a fantastic time at the reunion. “Great to catch up with old friends and dance to The Generics again. Can’t wait for the 30th. I ran the Boston Marathon in April.”

**Karen Leslie Alley** has plenty of updates. She reports that her daughter Rachel graduated this year—

“yeah, I am that old. Son Ian is in college and thinking about what he wants to do. I am in graduate school through ASU and am looking for a teaching position in the Memphis area. I plan to move back in July. It is a new chapter in my life, and I am looking forward to it. If you are in the Memphis area, look me up. I’m on Facebook.”

**Ann Holmes** sent a wonderful update: “On Oct. 2, Glenn Burdeaux and I married in Houston. It was a very special day! I became a wonderful man’s wife and a stepmother and grandmother all in the same day. **Linda Parrott Coleman ’84**, **Nancy Shoaf Graesser ’86** and **Brian Meehan ’86** joined us for the celebration. Glenn wanted to see where I grew up, so we were in Memphis for part of our honeymoon. We had a great time touring Rhodes with **Tracy Vezina Patterson ’84**, and it brought back lots of wonderful memories. Work life has also been busy. I am still on faculty at Baylor College of Medicine and head of the Spinal Cord Injury Service at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC in Houston. I have been listed in *Best Doctors in America* the last few years, and I was recently featured in an article in the *Houston Medical Journal*.”

## 1986

**25th Reunion**

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22

## 1987

Reporter: Mimi Swords  
Fondren  
mimifondren@bellsouth.net

**Lem Gorden ’86** and his family visited **Mark Wells**



and his family in Atlanta in early March. They saw some sights, hung out and got reacquainted. Mark's son (3) was fascinated by Lem's one-year-old!

## 1988

Reporter: Brooke Glover Emery  
brookegemery@gmail.com

Heidi and **Eric Lindh** welcomed a son, Owen, July 9, 2010, in Dallas. Isaac (5) and Clara (2) love their little brother. Eric is in his sixth year serving as executive director of Project Transformation.

A note from **Sarah Wayland**, who lives with her family in Hamilton, Ontario, "where I may be the only Rhodes alum for miles (make that kilometres) around. I have been self-employed since 2003, doing research and writing projects on various social issues, especially immigration and settlement, employment, housing and poverty. One highlight has been making a presentation before a Canadian Senate committee; another was being invited to Australia to give a speech! I am also involved in various community and church-related activities and serve on the board of a local immigrant women's organization. In March, we traveled to Washington, DC, where we enjoyed sharing a wonderful meal with **Beth Blake**, **Meg McCully Neill** and **Nancy DiPaulo '87**."

Beginning with fall semester last year, **Brooke Glover Emery** began a new career as an assistant professor in marketing at Union University in Jackson, TN. (Dr. Planchon, who'd have ever guessed?) "I've been able to apply my years of marketing Dyersburg Mall and other nonprofits

to the classroom. It is very rewarding and I love being with this awesome group of students."

**John Cox** is a certified general appraiser in Franklin, TN. He and his wife Martha keep busy with John Jr. (4) and William (2). They enjoyed seeing fellow alums at the annual Rhodes Alumni Pool Party, hosted by **Jon Perry '89** and family.

## 1989

**Jamie Augustine**, senior vice president of fixed income at Raymond James, was interviewed about the Mideast crisis and bond markets on CNNmoney.com on Feb. 28, 2011.

Our deepest sympathy to **Eileen Ruffin Wood**, whose mother, Lindy Sparks Ruffin, passed away in March. Eileen's son **Daniel '14** is a second-year student at Rhodes.

## 1991

### 20th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22

**Michael Robbins**, senior adviser for Nonprofit Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Education, spoke on "Partnerships To Turn Around Our Nation's Lowest Performing Schools" at Rhodes in February. He focused on the role of community partnerships in education and how service initiatives, like the Rhodes Bonner Scholars program, are essential to help turn around persistently low-achieving K-12 schools. Michael works with Office of U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan and the White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, which is part of the White House Domestic Policy Council.

## 1992

Reporter: Sara Hawks Marecki  
saramarecki@sbcglobal.net

**Michael Couden** is an interventional radiologist in Nashville. Allison, his wife of 15 years, is a pediatrician in Franklin, TN. They have a daughter, Courtney (5), and a son, Drew (3).

**Drew Deckman** is the chef-owner of Deckman's ATHAVANA in San José del Cabo, Mexico (deckmans.com). He has lived in Mexico since 2006 and has been married to Pamela Avila Carbajal for five years. Drew writes: "I'm still trying to figure out what I want to be when I grow up ... but right now I am a restaurant owner. Cheers!"

**Lee Graham Morphis** is living in Greensboro, NC, with her husband Emmett and their two sons, Graham (12) and Liam (8). In December 2010, they opened their second restaurant called Emma Key's Flat Top Grill. The restaurant is named after Emmett's grandmother and has been converted from an old barbershop into a cool neighborhood burger joint. You can check them out on Facebook under "Emma Keys." Their first restaurant, Fincastles, is in downtown Greensboro and features hand-rolled burgers and hand cut fries. It's also on Facebook under "Fincastles." Lee and Emmett celebrated their 16th anniversary in May.

**Sonny Schow** is still in Knoxville, and is a partner with the Wolf, McClane firm. His law practice is primarily tax and business work. He has been married to Sarah for almost 17 years, and they have three kids: Evan (9) and twins Caroline and Mary Helen (both

6). Sonny writes: "I am occasionally shocked that I have real responsibility for raising actual children. It feels like there should have been a test or something. I don't get to see too many Rhodes folks here in Knoxville. I do see **Jason Hamilton '93** a bit, as he is an accountant in town, and lives down the street from me. Also, I am VERY glad we were in college before face tube, you book and all the other Internet stuff. The evidence of most of my indiscretions has either not been preserved, or has been destroyed (I hope)."

**Burton Stodghill** and **Catherine Brown Rivers '94** married April 16, 2011, in Mobile, AL. **Chris Emanuel** served as groomsman. Other Rhodes alums in attendance were **Liz Cotham Furman**, **Sara Hawks Marecki**, **John Marecki '90**, **Jennifer Dunn Long '91**, **Jay Long '93**, **Carl Vest** and **Jenny Marley '94**.

**Brad Todd** participated in a Dec. 13, 2010, panel discussion on the 2010 elections sponsored by the Annenberg Center for Public Policy at the University of Pennsylvania. It was televised on C-Span3, "which means of course that about 10 people had access to it and one person watched it." Brad is vice president of National Media Inc. in Alexandria, VA

Memphis attorney **Lane Southern Whitehead** has been named chairman of the board of the Mid-South Food Bank. Lane, who has been a member of the board since 2008, will serve a two-year term. She has been in-house counsel to G.A. Robinson Land Co. since 2001, and was previously with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, where she did pro bono work for the Mid-South Food Bank.

## Class Notes

### 1993

**John and Nancy Braam Little** had a son, Scott Holt, Nov. 17, 2010, in Atlanta. "Scott has been greeted enthusiastically by big sister Kate (2 1/2) and our border collie Sam, who is happy to have another one in the herd. We celebrated our fourth wedding anniversary the day after Scott arrived."

### 1994

Reporter: Judy Brown  
judy.brown@borax.com  
**Bernal Smith**, publisher of Memphis' *Tri-State Defender*, has been named to The Griot's list of history makers. The Griot is a news community website in partnership with the NBC television network. The list also includes first lady Michelle Obama and the NBA's Kevin Durant. Its managing editor said, "These are people whose names we will know in the next 10 or 15 years."

### 1995

Reporter: Sarah Sears  
sarahsears@live.com  
**David '94 and Beth Rodgers Mann** announce the birth of a daughter, Kate Rule, Jan. 7, 2011, in Germantown, TN. Kate was also welcomed by big sister Elizabeth Whit.  
**Brian Faughnan** has joined the Memphis law firm of Thomason, Hendrix, Harvey, Johnson & Mitchell. Brian chairs the Tennessee Bar Association's Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility and is serving a third term as West Tennessee governor on the TBA Board of Governors.  
**Welch Suggs** has been named a visiting associate professor in the Grady College of Journalism and

Mass Communication at the University of Georgia. Beginning in the fall, he will be teaching and developing a Center on Sports Journalism and Society at the college.

### 1996

**15th Reunion**  
Homecoming: Oct. 21-22  
Reporter: Jennifer Larson  
larsonj96@rhodes-alumni.net

**Loretta Lambert** was selected as one of New Orleans' 40 Under 40 for her leadership in animal welfare in 2010. Loretta currently serves as director of the Louisiana SPCA's Community Clinic which provided veterinary services for more than 8,000 companion animals in 2010.

Zack and **Brandi Barnes Kellis** welcomed identical twin sons, Holden Carter and Sterling Logan, Aug. 29, 2010. Holden and Sterling, who were born full term and healthy, joined big brother Walker (5) and big sister Campbell (4).

**Amy Hall and Scott Wells '94** welcomed boy/girl twins, Duncan Silver Wells and Clara Rose Wells, Aug. 5, 2010. The newly enlarged family continues to reside in Austin, TX.

**Mike Rosolino** recently finished a second master's degree. This one is in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University New Orleans. He was also elected secretary of the NAIA National Cross Country Coaches Association and will serve on the executive committee for the next eight years: secretary for two years, then second VP, then first VP, then president. Each for two years. He has been named Conference Coach of the Year for either cross country or track 14 times in the past six years. Mike also

recently began the process of becoming a deacon in the Catholic Church, a five-year program that ends in ordination in 2015.

**Marcie Allen**, president of MAC Presents, a New York City-based sponsorship and fulfillment agency, was named to *Billboard* magazine's annual Women in Music list, which honors the 30 most prominent women in the music industry.

**Becky Sanchez** was one of 13 "women of power in technology" who have broken the "glass ceiling" honored by Seattle's Women of Color Empowered at a January luncheon. Becky is senior manager at Accenture, where she works domestically and internationally within the industry to provide project delivery and quality assurance. She serves as Accenture's executive sponsor for Seattle's Cultural Awareness and Inclusion Network, Accenture's Seattle Hispanic American Initiatives Champion, and is active in Accenture's women's career development and networking initiatives.

**Daniel Klinghard** has been granted tenure at Holy Cross University, where he teaches in the Political Science Department. He received a National Endowment for the Humanities' We the People Grant in 2005, and the 2010 Newsmaker Award from the Holy Cross Public Affairs office. Daniel previously taught at the College of Charleston, Brandeis University, where he earned his Ph.D., and Clark University. His 2010 book, *The Nationalization of American Political Parties, 1880-1896*, was published by Cambridge University Press.

### 1997

**Tilghman McFadden**

**Aldinger** recently accepted a position as director of financial planning at Legacy Wealth Management in Memphis. She previously was employed as partner and vice president at Lifetime Planning Inc.

CB Richard Ellis Group has appointed **Afshan Dadabai** as manager, Research & Consultancy, in its Manama, Bahrain, office. Afshan has more than 10 years of research and consultancy experience in the Middle East with specialist skills in market appraisals, feasibility studies, best-use development studies and high-level financial modelling. Before joining CBRE, she was a manager in strategic consultancy at Cluttons, prior to which she worked in the consulting divisions of PricewaterhouseCoopers and BDO Jawad Habib.

**Mike and Amy Ledbetter McGinn** announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Anne, Nov. 18, 2010, in Towson, MD.

**Rob Marus** recently started a job as senior writer/editor in the communications office of the mayor of the District of Columbia, Vincent Gray. "I'll be writing and editing speeches, press releases and talking points for the mayor and his senior advisers and assisting the mayor's communications director in formulating media strategy."

**Alper Cetingok** and Leslie Murphy married Sept. 18, 2010.

On Nov. 3, 2010, the CFA Institute of Charlottesville, VA, conferred the CFA Charter upon **Justin Ankerman**, a portfolio manager with U.S. Trust.

Caleb and **Melissa Anderson Sweazy** are happy to announce the birth of a son, Declan Grey, April 14, 2010. Daughter Harlow (4)



and grandparents **Ron '71** and **Carmen Webb Anderson '71** are equally delighted.

## 1998

Reporter: Amanda Grebe  
Tamburrino  
tamburrino@rhodes.edu

**Nate Gentry** was elected to the New Mexico House of Representatives in November 2010, defeating an incumbent and receiving 58% of the vote. Nate lives in Albuquerque with his wife and two daughters.

**Frank Farmer** recently accepted a position as pro bono counsel at the Mississippi Center for Justice in Jackson. Frank previously was employed as lead attorney at Young Williams. In his new position he will “manage statewide and national pro bono recruitment and case management, as well the center’s student public interest volunteer program. The center is a nonprofit public interest law firm that pursues racial and economic justice through advocacy for systemic change.”

## 1999

Reporter: Leigh Powell  
powla99@gmail.com

**Mary Reid Tevis** and her husband Greg welcomed a son, Gregory Pierce, Oct. 22, 2010.

**Allison Rivera Metzinger** and her husband Matthew also welcomed a son, William Anthony, Dec. 9, 2010. Big sister Isabelle was excited about his arrival. The family lives in Houston, where Allison is a dermatologist.

**Kan Comkornruecha Gaston** and her husband Ryan announce the birth of a daughter, Gabriella Claire, Nov. 3, 2010. The family lives in Memphis, and Kan

is a clinical pharmacist.

“My wife Emily and I welcomed our son, Graham Hollis, Nov. 11, 2010,” writes **Kelly Ensor**. “Emily and I are loving being first-time parents.”

**Farrah Fite** and Gus Wagner wed Dec. 31, 2010, in the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City. **Julie Atkinson Smith** and her husband Jeremy were in attendance. Farrah continues in her role as communications director for the Republican Majority of the Missouri Senate. She also works with her husband who is president/owner of The Rocket Group, a communications firm in Jefferson City.

**Meredith Schember Caruso** recently accepted a position as in-house counsel for the Florida Association of Realtors in Orlando.

On Feb. 18, 2011, **Elise Evans Schudy** married Gustavo Ferriera. Elise is releasing a new record with her New York City band.

**Mary Allison Beasley Cates** started a new job in January as Presbyterian campus minister at the University of Memphis.

Austin and **Ashley Browning Pfister** married in December 2010. Ashley will be relocating to Austin, TX, this summer and will teach elementary school in the Austin area, where she hopes to reconnect with some Rhodes folks.

On Jan. 15, 2011, Jay and **Leigh Powell Mayfield** married in a ceremony in Knoxville, TN. **Helen Houston Wolter** was matron of honor, and **Allison Rantisi Gladden** was also a member of the wedding party. **Maria Balasis** attended the ceremony. The Mayfields live in Washington, DC, where Leigh teaches middle school in the metro area.

## 2000

**Nicki North Baxley**  
nickinp@gmail.com

**Josiah John Bender** was born Nov. 30, 2010, to Kyle and **Melissa Rall Bender**.

**Brad and Emily Slagle Dieringer** welcomed their second child, Patrick Joseph, March 9, 2011, just one day shy of Emily’s birthday. Big brother Henry is having a great time introducing everyone to his new baby.

**Mike and Shelby Reed Thompson**, along with big brother Jack, welcomed baby Mary Katherine May 26, 2010.

**Julie and Bryce Ashby** are happy to announce the arrival of their second child, William Woods, Feb. 4, 2011.

**Jessica Crawford Place**, a high school English teacher of 11 years, is currently writing her dissertation within the Curriculum and Instruction program at Capella University. She plans to graduate with a Ph.D. this fall. Jessica lives with her husband Russ and their three dogs and two cats in Cumming, GA.

**John and Jennifer Stefan Lindsley** had a daughter, Julia Anne, Dec. 26, 2010. “Big sisters Kathryn (5) and Lauren (3) adore our newest addition!”

**Barrett Hathcock’s** first book of short stories, *The Portable Son*, will be published this fall. He lives in Memphis with his wife and daughter.

**Rob Cole** is completing his final year of a cardiology fellowship at Emory University, where he is currently the chief cardiology fellow and the advanced heart failure and transplantation fellow. He will remain on faculty at Emory upon completion of his fellowship and will work in transplant cardiology and

cardiac critical care.

**Shadenn Zarur** and her husband Fernando Andrade are moving to Santiago, Chile, where Fernando will be working for the airline Lan Chile.

**Sejal and Devin Sherman** are having an eventful 2011. They welcomed their son, Anand, at the end of 2010. Devin is completing his medical training in St. Louis, and the family will move to Franklin, TN, this summer where he will begin practice as a pulmonary and critical care physician.

**Cyrille and Callie Summers Pannier** welcomed their daughter, Eloise Lyons, Jan. 27, 2011. Eloise arrived three weeks early (in great health)—mom and dad wonder what other future surprises she has in store for them! The Panniers still live outside London in the Hampshire countryside. Callie has enjoyed maternity leave and looks forward to traveling back to Houston this summer to introduce Eloise to family and friends.

**Jay Eckles** successfully defended his dissertation and earned his doctorate in Higher and Adult Education from the University of Memphis in March. He continues to serve Rhodes as director of Information Services.

Paul and **Rachel Bozynski Richey** and daughter Mary Ellen welcomed their second girl, Charlotte Anne, Nov. 29, 2010. They continue to live in Bryant, AR, where Rachel enjoys staying home with her two girls.

**Kevin '99 and Linda Lasselle Wendell** are enjoying life in Providence, RI. Last summer, Linda completed a fellowship in neurocritical care at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She is currently an attending neurointensivist at Rhode

## Class Notes

Island Hospital and has been appointed assistant professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery at the Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University. Kevin is owner of a successful dental practice in southern Massachusetts where he does family and cosmetic dentistry.

**Sarah Butcher Bryan** has accepted a position as associate counsel at QuikTrip Corp. in Tulsa, OK. She was previously employed as an associate attorney at Gable Gotwals.

## 2001

### 10th Reunion

Oct. 21-22

Reporter: Elisabeth Meyers Yoder  
elisabethyoder@gmail.com

**Allison Tetreault** and David Jarmolowicz married July 14, 2010, in Boscobel, Jamaica. **Monica Lewis Griffin** and her husband Andy were among the small wedding party in attendance. Says Allison: "In June, I am moving to Baltimore to take a position in the Neurobehavioral Inpatient Unit at the Kennedy Krieger Institute of Johns Hopkins. I will finish collecting dissertation data while there, and I hope to graduate from West Virginia University with my Ph.D. in Psychology next May."

Scott and **Shelley Stenshol Thompson** had a daughter, Callie Marie, Nov. 30, 2010, in Methuen, MA. Mommy, Daddy and big sister Emma are thrilled.

Sam and **Andrea Hutchinson Champion** welcomed their son, Samuel Miller Jr., Dec. 6, 2010, in Nashville.

**Anna Teekell Hays** has (at last!) finished her Ph.D. in English. In January, she

combined work with fun at the Modern Language Association, when fellow dissertation-writer **Virginia Benitez** took her out on the town in Santa Monica. Anna will be a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis for 2011-12.

**Becky Harper Dickey** had fraternal twin sons, Jacob Ryan and Zachary Thomas, Feb. 17, 2011. They are growing like crazy and their big sister, Olivia, loves her baby brothers. "We are still in Phoenix, where I work in HR for the state of Arizona."

**Michael Garibaldi** writes, "My wife Alison and I have a beautiful daughter, Mary Katherine, who was born in January 2009. I am still helping Dad run the family business, Garibaldi's Pizza, and have moved out to Oakland, TN, in Fayette county and love it!"

**Will Haven** and Jessica Rupe married July 18, 2010. Will has been practicing physical therapy at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital since September 2004.

**Shawn Kefauver** has moved to Barcelona, Spain, on a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship to finish writing his Ph.D. thesis with the University of California at Davis and the Autonomous University of Barcelona on the theme, "Remote Sensing of Bioindicators for Forest Health Assessment."

**Virren Malhotra** recently celebrated his fifth year at General Mills. This past year, he moved to Mumbai, India. He is director, Global Business Solutions, and is enjoying the expat experience and being a new dad. He and his wife Mosmi were recently blessed with a son, Krishna Dylan.

**Robert '99** and **Erin Mann Markel** had a second daughter, Louise Fleming, March 22, 2010. Big sister

Lillie turned four in October 2010.

**Erin VanCleve Nolen**, husband Corey and son Grayben welcomed baby Keilor Elias in September 2010.

Matthew and **Erin Massey Everitt** are happy to announce the birth of a son, William Massey, Oct. 22, 2010.

**Lise Taylor Pascoli** writes, "Bill and I welcomed our third son, Lucas 'Luke' Michael, Feb. 20, 2011, in Chicago. Will (4) and Tyler (2) are really enjoying their new brother!"

**Hannah Smith Mason** writes, "Marcus, Max and I have survived our first year living in the North in Pittsburgh, PA, where I'm a stay-at-home mom and artist. I have a new art blog as well: abneyink.blogspot.com."

**Michael Smith** writes, "In October 2010, I married Dora Mah in my hometown of Hot Springs, AR. After I finished my ob/gyn residency at Wake Forest University in 2009, and she finished her residency at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, I moved back to Little Rock and we both joined the ob/gyn faculty at UAMS, where we teach residents and med students and practice in the same department. No kids of our own; for now we're just delivering other people's babies."

## 2002

Reporter: John Ramsey  
jtramsay@rhodes-alumni.net

**Taylor Berger**, founder of YoLo self-serve frozen yogurt shops, now has outlets in East Memphis, Collierville and Overton Square.

Ronald and **Lizzie Ratcliff Dovich** married May 8, 2010, in Alexandria, LA. They

currently reside in Pensacola, FL. Alumni attending were: **Rob '93** and **Claire Cleveland Ratcliff '92**, **Susan Ratcliff Corbyn '04**, **James Ratcliff Jr. '51**, **Drew** and **Anya Breitmeyer Robinson**, **Stephanie Oakes** and **Michael Roach '04**, **Neal** and **Carol Durham Meyer**, **Annie Glover** and **Nadeem Malik**.

## 2003

Reporter: Kim Kirkpatrick  
kirkpatrick\_k@yahoo.com

**Anne Kathryn Rice** and Santo Larizza of Rapallo, Italy, married in December. Anne Kathryn is a first grade teacher at the International School of Genoa.

**Lauren Blalock Sefton**, still working in the Rhodes Admission Office, recently coordinated a professional conference for more than 700 people (and had flashbacks of her event planning days from RAB!) in Atlanta. She and her husband **Eric '02** are planning a trip to Peru this summer. They continue living in downtown Memphis with their dog Tippy.

**Brian** and **Rosalie Newton Osborne** welcomed a son, Lawrence James, Aug. 10, 2010. Larry joined his older sister, Leanne Rose (2). Rosalie is a stay-at-home mother who loves every day with her children, and Brian is now athletic director and head football coach at Calvary Christian School in Columbus, GA.

**Shawn McCarthy** has renewed for a third year to teach at Sungshin Women's University in Seoul, Korea. Serving as head teacher of the foreign faculty in the Department of General Education at Sungshin, working on her master's degree in Applied Linguistics part time and learning Korean are keeping



her busy.

**Josh '02** and **Sarah May Wilmsmeyer** had a daughter, Avery Michelle, Nov. 9, 2010. "Avery is such a doll and a great joy to have in our lives!"

**Crescent Rowell** graduated in May 2007 with her Doctor of Pharmacy degree, and in May 2011 with her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Sciences Administration, both from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She is currently living in Nashville and is an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy.

## 2004

Reporter: Kyle Russ  
ckylerruss@yahoo.com

For this update, class of 2004, we're not in Kansas anymore. Our own "Dorothy," **Julie Clary**, recently discovered that her lovely Midtown home had been turned into a nice resting place for the 100-year-old tree in her backyard following a few nasty straight-line winds that visited Memphis recently. Luckily, Julie, her attack dog Sophie May and her neighbors are all fine. For now, Julie is living the high life in Lakeland with her mom and Coach Clary while her home is being repaired. On the fortunate side of unlikely events, life is going well for the **Igoes** in New Orleans. Peter's wife Alyson recently received a special commendation from Gov. Bobby Jindal for finding and returning to the state \$17,000 that "fell" from a government armed truck.

Concurrently, several classmates have achieved a lot in the "brains" department over the year. **Lauren Ferrera** graduated in May with her MBA from

the University of Memphis. **Kimberly Bartmess Ulett** is currently a medical registrar (internal medicine) at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital in Brisbane, Australia. A bit closer to home, **Robert Edgecombe** received his master's degree in City and Regional Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill. He and **Sarah '03** are now back in New Orleans, where he works at a consulting firm. **Caitlin Knoepp** is currently living in NYC where she graduated in fashion design from Parsons/The New School for Design in May. She plans to work for a design house while simultaneously developing her own collection. **Elizabeth Townsend** is working on her master's in Educational Administration at the University of New Orleans.

**Catherine Harris** recently moved back to Tennessee and has her own private practice in art therapy. **Natalie DuMont** too has some big news in addition to her imminent graduation from her pediatric residency program in June. She will be chief resident next year at Children's Medical Center Dallas. She plans to pursue a fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology.

Kevin and **Leigh Coburn Flood** married in '08. They moved to Shreveport, LA, in '09 and she currently owns a store there called Bella Bridesmaid.

Leah and **Lloyd Paul** are in Oakland, CA, where she's in a nursing anesthesia master's program and Lloyd is working for a small architecture firm in San Francisco. Their neighbors, the Murphy-Browns of California are well, also. **Kevin Brown** and **Megan Murphy** married in November 2009 in Calistoga, CA. Rhodes alumni in attendance were **Bill Harden**,

**Tricia Hughes, Kathlene Caldwell Fox-Davies, Sezen Oygur, Daniel Head, Jack Baber, Sarah Hall Mitchell, Will Higginbotham, Chelsea Stevens, Jay Sulzmann** and **Nick Ball**. "Kevin made the transition from political campaign management and consulting to the world of consumer technology and is working with a strategic marketing and PR consultancy based out of Palo Alto. I am working for the Masons of California as their editorial services manager and also serve as assistant editor for their bimonthly member magazine."

**Elisa Devall Davis** and **Susan Ratcliff Corbyn** recently became mothers. Elisa and her husband Jonathan welcomed Ian Robert into the world last November and like the rock star parents they are, have continued to practice law in Lafayette. Susan and her husband Kevin had a daughter, Evelyn Durrett, Feb. 18, 2011. She is destined to be one well-dressed baby, as **Caitie Knoepp** is her godmother.

As for **Kathlene Caldwell Fox-Davies**, her bundle of joy is French. Having recently moved to Barnes (yes, that's still England), Kathlene and her husband James brought an adorable French bulldog puppy home. Kathlene adds that "work is ticking along and I am counting down the days until the next holiday. Bordeaux next, then Bali, baby!"

**Jennifer Hendrix** is still a regional sales manager for GE diagnostic cardiology and living downtown. She recently started volunteering as a baby hugger for Le Bonheur.

**Stephan Horbelt** chimes in that he just got his dream job: working for pop star sensation Rihanna. Granted he's only walking her dogs

while she's on tour, but nonetheless, he's in the mix. And of course, that's only his part-time gig. Stephan is still the "Director of First Impressions" (aka, a receptionist) at one of the major lots at Universal Studios. Living the dream.

Back to Atlanta, **Caitlin Goodrich** made a brave decision considering this economy: She recently left her job as an account executive at Jackson Spalding, an Atlanta PR firm. Luckily, she landed softly and is now director of financial aid and assistant director of admissions at Pace Academy. She writes, "I made it through my first admissions season and am loving the change of scenery—and school hours!"

Also, in Atlanta, **Matt Hoffberg** writes that he and his son Hershel are doing just fine. Hershel is gearing up for summer camp and Matt recently took a part-time job at the Punchline, a standup comedy venue downtown.

And before I forget, two more bits on the Memphis front: **Leslie Isaacman** has completed her second year as an associate at Glassman, Edwards, Wyatt, Tuttle & Cox (civil litigation).

Additionally, **Katie Walsh**, co-founder of Rhodes' Lipstick on Your Collar, recently performed in the world premier of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" a cappella opera at Playhouse on the Square. Katie was a member of the voicestra, along with **Abby Walsh '07, Toney Walsh '09** and **Teneice Stegall '09**. The cast recently recorded it at Ardent Studios in Memphis.

Of course, this update wouldn't be complete without learning about **Daniel Head's** interesting travels. But for those of you who don't follow him on

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Twitter, Daniel competed in (and finished!) the Ironman New Zealand in March. He stayed for a few weeks to tour the country, go skydiving and win a silver medal in the Asia OutGames 10 km before returning home. Other than Ironman training, work trips to Mongolia, Egypt and Thailand have kept him busy the past few months.

And this on **Maggie Goodman**: She passed her advanced level auditions for the Second City Conservatory, survived nearly three feet of snow and continues to write and perform in the Chicago area.

And before I forget, **Emily Sottile**, too, has an interesting report. She took a break from marketing at EverGreene (NYC) to travel to Kathmandu to attend a wedding, hike the Annapurnas and practice yoga with Himalayan masters.

To round it up, yours truly, **C. Kyle Russ**, returned from my six-month secondment in London safe and sound. Working and traveling in Europe was amazing and I didn't want to come back. (I now regret even more not having done British/European Studies.) That's it this go-round. Many thanks to **Maggie Goodman** for helping put this piece together and as always, keep in touch. Best, -ckyle

## 2005

Reporters: Brandon Couillard  
brandon.couillard@gmail.com

Molly Fitzpatrick  
mhfitz11@hotmail.com

**Laura Blanton** and **Brian DesGranges** married in Austin, TX, May 22, 2010. Fellow alums **Katie Cian** and **Jackie Ruick McCrary** were in the wedding party. The

couple resides in Chicago. **Laura** also earned her MBA from St. Edward's University in June 2010.

**Joanna Young** accepted a position as associate banker with JPMorgan Chase in Dallas in September 2010. However, after five months in Buenos Aires in 2009, she is itching to find a way to head out for another adventure. **Joanna** was also a very proud maid of honor to **Jessica Stewart Faris** in August 2010.

This spring **Leah Kaye** matched into the ob/gyn residency program at the University of Connecticut, where she began training after graduating from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in May. In between, she climbed to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, saw "the big five" on a Serengeti safari and lived on an Indian reservation in Crow Agency, MT.

After spending nearly a decade in Memphis and a year in Warm Springs, GA, working at the Roosevelt Institute, **Karen Dobyens** recently moved back to her hometown of La Jolla, CA, where she works as an occupational therapist in a local school district.

**Christine Coy Fohr** was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) at JustFaith Ministries in Louisville, KY.

**Katie Lipsmeyer** and **Latham Fink '03** married April 30, 2011, in Galveston, TX, where **Katie** recently became an event planner for the UTMB Health Alumni Office, and **Latham** is in the process of earning his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. **Dr. Christopher Johnson '03** presided over the ceremony; **Spencer Pharr '04** was best man; **Sandi Russom '04**, **Travis Williams** and **Bazile Lanneau** were attendants;

and **Zach Harris** was an usher. **Jeta Donovan**, **Joanna Young** and **Katie Richter '04** also helped celebrate.

**Katharine Etchen** was recently promoted to integrated marketing manager at *Bon Appétit* magazine, a Condé Nast publication. She continues to reside in New York City with her husband **Brandon Couillard** and dachshund longcoat, Brighton.

**Emily Furlow** wed Michael White June 5, 2010. **Emily** is finishing her first year of internal medicine residency and **Mike** is completing his fellowship in hematology/oncology at the University of Kentucky.

**Brian London** finished his final year of law school at Tulane University in May. He has accepted a judicial clerkship with the Hon. Carl Barbier, a federal district judge in New Orleans. After his clerkship, **Brian** plans to remain in New Orleans and work in labor and employment law.

**Marc '04** and **Georgianna Bowersox Lissauer** welcomed a daughter, **Jordan Briar**, Dec. 19, 2010, a full five weeks early. Mom, Dad and baby **Briar** are loving every minute.

**Ken Bode** and his wife welcomed a daughter, **Julia**, in early March 2011, as the first of an anticipated seven children. Congratulations, **Bode!**

**Maureen Miller** and **Jeremy Sorrells** married Nov. 6, 2010, right across the street from Rhodes at Evergreen Presbyterian Church. Bridesmaids included former Rhodes roommates **Meg Brodman**, **Lucy Waechter Webb** and **Liz Roads Upchurch**. **Maureen** and **Jeremy** continue to live in Memphis, where she works at UTCHS as a data analyst on a large longitudinal study of mothers and babies in

Shelby County.

**Andrew Trundle** graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law May 7, 2011.

**Justin Sampson**, who played soccer at Rhodes for four years and holds his J.D. from Georgetown University Law School, is working in Freetown, Sierra Leone, for the Society for Democratic Initiatives as creator and project manager of the Freetown HIV Awareness Cup, a youth soccer tournament and information campaign to be held later this year. Lynx Coach **Andy Marcinko** and the Rhodes Men's Soccer Team helped support the project through the Rhodes Soccer Challenge April 3. Additionally, former Rhodes soccer player **Brian Gonzales '99** and his sport for development consulting group, Good Football, are partnering with the Freetown HIV Awareness Cup to help facilitate fundraising efforts and management of the project. For more information, visit [hivawarenesscup.org](http://hivawarenesscup.org).

For **Evan Weinberger**, business is booming! He now has a new office for his academic coaching business in Houston.

## 2006

### 5th Reunion

Homecoming: Oct. 21-22  
Reporter: Caroline King Willson

**Laura Caroline Johnson** is currently living in Chicago and is in her second year of graduate school at The School of the Art Institute. She is pursuing dual master's degrees in Modern Art History, Theory and Criticism, and Arts Administration and Policy with an anticipated graduation date of spring



2012. She is also curating student exhibitions through the Betty Rymer Gallery at SAIC.

In January, **Marie Francis** started a new job in the communications department of the American Chemistry Council in Washington, DC. And she got a cat.

**Gretchen Bufo** and Mark Mercer married March 12, 2011, at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, CO. They live in Tyler, TX, and Gretchen is the director of Admissions at her alma mater, All Saints Episcopal School.

**Laura Britt Locke** passed the Tennessee bar in July 2010 and is an associate with The Law Offices of J. Vincent Perryman in Memphis.

**Rachel Haggerty** is assistant director of Wally Workman Gallery in Austin, TX. She has been there for four years now and loves working with the art community and its supporters. Loving the Austin life!

**Billy and Caroline King Willson** are happy to announce their marriage, July 10, 2010, at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Memphis. Rhodes alumni in the bridal party were **Celia Mutchnick**, maid of honor, and **Shelby Monning Patterson** and **Jacquelyn Blankinship**, bridesmaids. Groomsmen were **John Thomas**, **Mark Stratton**, **DJ Bentley** and **Tim McCrary '05**. Rhodes alumni and staff in attendance were too many to count! After the ceremony, the reception was held on the Memphis Queen Riverboat and guests danced the night away to Jesse and the Knights. Caroline and Billy enjoyed a 10-day honeymoon in San Juan, Puerto Rico. They currently live in Midtown Memphis.

**Richard '04** and **Alice**

**Turner Frost** moved to Birmingham for Richard's radiology residency at UAB. In February, Alice received an award as the Ambulatory Sales Executive of 2010 at her company, Allscripts Healthcare. This is Alice's third year as a regional EHR sales executive covering Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas.

**Jessica Graham** received her doctorate in Physical Therapy in May 2010, and moved to Baton Rouge, LA, shortly thereafter. Jessica is working in inpatient rehabilitation at The NeuroMedical Center Rehabilitation Hospital, where her work is "rewarding and challenging every day."

**Benton Ross** graduated from the Texas Tech University School of Law in May 2010. He graduated summa cum laude, Order of the Coif (top 10%) and National Order of Barristers (top courtroom advocates). He lives in his hometown of Wichita Falls, TX, where he works at the Anderson Law Firm. Benton's practice focuses on plaintiffs' work in products liability litigation, suing companies that make defective products. He also does criminal defense work for the indigent.

**Philip Ruppel** married in June 2010. He and his wife, Jennifer Borner, his high school sweetheart, were very happy to have their Rhodes friends join them down in New Orleans!

**Colin Strickland** graduated from the University of Memphis law school in 2010 and serves as assistant district counsel for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, on Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage.

**Marguerite King** moved from New Orleans to Salt Lake City earlier this year and is currently working

at the University of Utah's Moran Eye Center. Marguerite started Physician Assistant school there at "The U" in May, and is very excited.

**Jeremy and Sara Ash Jessop** married March 20, 2010, in San Antonio, TX. Sara opened a women's boutique, Aquarius, in October 2010.

**Katherine Stevens** completed her MBA and graduated from the Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University in May.

**Emily Davis Olson** is still living in DC and has wound down her first year of teaching 8th grade math applications at Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools for Public Policy through Teach for America. She says teaching has been the most challenging yet rewarding experience she has had in her life and she is absolutely crazy about her 88 "smarty-pants scholars!" Outside of work, she is cooking like crazy, she and her husband are training for the Marine Corps marathon, she is still serving as co-president of the Rhodes Washington, DC, Chapter and she is enjoying staying even more connected with Rhodes through her new role as a member of the college's Alumni Board.

**Allison Cox** joined JPMorgan Chase in June 2010 as correspondent and rural housing marketing assistant in Jacksonville, FL.

**Matt '05** and **Nancy Elizabeth Goodman Dement** have a daughter, Layla Elizabeth, born Aug. 26, 2010. The Dement family lives in Little Rock where Nancy Elizabeth is a writer for *Arkansas Life* magazine and Matt is a vice president with Stephens Inc.

Rob and **Claire Singleton Williams** are living in Minneapolis. Claire is

working as a HIV case manager at the Minnesota AIDS Project.

Correction: *Tom* and **Laura Dallas McSorley** were married.

**Erick Isaacson** graduated from the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in May 2011. In July, he will begin residency training in anesthesia at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

**Warren Boone** graduated from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Medicine, in May. In July, he will begin residency training in emergency medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

**Will Waring** graduated from Mercer University School of Law in May 2010, and from University of Denver with an LL.M. in Taxation in May 2011. He recently accepted a position in New Orleans with a small, private oil and gas company.

**Jenny Rogers** lives in Washington, DC, where she is a local news reporter for TBD.com.

**Haley Fults** is a grant compliance analyst with World Vision in Washington, DC. She enjoys work in the office and trips to the field. She was most recently in Yerevan, Armenia. Living in Washington never gets boring, and Haley continues to blog for DCstyleisreal.com.

Capt. **Marni Green Prenell** transitioned to an Information Systems/Cyber Warfare Officer in the U.S. Army. Marni and Riecharde Prenell married Aug. 19, 2010. She earned a master of arts in Information Technology Management from Webster University in St. Louis, March 9, 2011. Marni and her husband moved from Fort Bliss, TX, to Fort Gordon, GA, in December 2010. They will

## Class Notes

move to Fort Eustis, VA, in September.

**Becky Saleska Wolfe** will be retiring from middle school science after 5 years of teaching in Los Angeles. She will be pursuing a M.S. in environmental health science at UCLA next fall.

**Jake Cremer** is pleased to have accepted a seat on Rhodes' Alumni Association Executive Board. He is looking forward to being inducted at this year's Homecoming.

After many changes, **Nicole Vazquez** has finally settled into a new life.

In December 2010, she graduated with her master of science in Hospitality Management, and was quickly offered a position as the sales and marketing executive at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. She closed her event planning business in Houston, packed up her life and began her new adventure in January 2011.

**Anna Ivey** and Kevin Ritz married April 9, 2011, at Idlewild Presbyterian Church in Memphis. **Marie Francis** and **Callie Brooks Picardo** were kind enough to wear bright green dresses. Also in attendance were **Sarah Fairchild**, **Carrie Osborne Johnston**, **Stu Johnston '03**, **Ann Burruss**, **Missy Flinn '05**, **Jackie Ruick McCrary '05**, **Eric Mathews '02**, **John Weeden '97** and **Stiles '95** and **Ashley Hamilton Rougeou '95**. Anna and Kevin reside in Memphis.

Last fall, **Leigh Bonner** became a candidate for ordination as a minister of word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). She is in her second year in the M.Div. program at Vanderbilt Divinity School, interning at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Nashville, doing pastoral care, preaching and leading the youth group and young adult fellowship. This

summer, she will participate in the Clinical Pastoral Education program at the Saint Thomas Healthcare Consortium in Nashville.

## 2008

Reporter: Madoline Markham  
madolinemarkham@gmail.com

Here's a past-due catch-up for our class. Keep the updates coming!

**Taylor Butker** is excited to start her second year at the University of Arkansas Medical School in August. She also bought a house in Little Rock.

There are lots of reports of putting our liberal arts degrees to use in law school.

**Taryn Kaselonis** graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Law in May.

**Jennifer Coats** graduated from Mississippi College School of Law in May.

**Warren Campbell** graduated from the University of Memphis School of Law in May and is preparing to take the bar. He has been working as a law clerk at the Rice, Amundsen & Caperton firm.

**Erica Aquadro**, **Tom Mudd** and **Chip Mallin '09** are all entering their third year of law school at St. Louis University.

**Hilary Harper** finished her second year of law school at UNC-Chapel Hill and has an internship at the Office of Government Ethics in Washington, DC, this summer.

**Alison Williams** finished her first year at St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio, TX. She was inducted into the Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity and elected president-elect for the Women's Law Association.

This summer she is interning with TexasRio Grande Legal Aid for domestic abuse victims, as well as for the Gregg County district attorney's office.

**Joey Miller** graduated from St. Louis University School of Law with a concentration in intellectual property. He plans to spend the summer moving to Austin, TX, and preparing for the Texas bar exam.

**Lauren Dill** has been teaching fifth and sixth grade Latin at her alma mater, St. Andrew's in Austin, TX, since 2008.

**Bryan and Sarah Richardson Kile** married in June 2010. Sarah teaches at an Episcopal school in south Dallas and completed a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Texas A&M University-Commerce in May. Bryan is a police officer in the Dallas area.

**Chris '05 and Margaux Bray Glancy** married in June 2008 and now have a son, Henry Beckett (2). They live in Nashville, TN, where Margaux teaches preschool at Westminster School for Young Children and Chris is a senior research associate at Avondale Partners.

**Carrie Menist** graduated from the University of Memphis in August 2010 with a master of arts in speech-language pathology. She is currently a speech-language pathologist for Metro Nashville Public Schools.

**Haynes Kleimeyer Halbrooks** was accepted to Emory University's Physician Assistant Program and is thrilled to be starting in the fall. She and Andy Halbrooks married July 17, 2010, in Peachtree City, GA.

**Michael Towle** completed a master's in Geophysics at the Center for Earthquake Research and Information at the University of Memphis

in December 2010. While in Memphis, he also worked at Playhouse on the Square, performing in many plays. He is currently working for the Hampstead Stage Company, touring the nation and performing staged adaptations of literary classics.

**Stuart Martin** finished his third year of medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. He is planning to apply for residency programs in either emergency or internal medicine over the next year.

**Frannie Shellman** continues to live in New York City. Until December 2010 she worked at Condé Nast for *Lucky* magazine and is now the executive assistant to the vice president and publisher of *Marie Claire* magazine at Hearst. Frannie lives in the West Village.

**Alex and Lauren Brooks Foti** married June 5, 2010, in Memphis. Lauren is now earning a master of medical science degree through Mercer University's Physician Assistant Program.

**Emily Linden Bowden** is happy to announce the birth of a son, Charles Mosse Bowden, Dec. 29, 2010.

**Nici Thomas** graduated with a doctor of physical therapy degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in May and accepted a job in Richmond.

**Justin Palmer** recently became 1/3 owner and business developer of Eastmont Group, a website design and development, social media optimization and marketing consultation company in Atlanta.

**Brooke Poklemba**, 2009 Miss Maryland, spent a year traveling her state as a spokesperson for Pathfinders for Autism. While competing for Miss America 2010, she was featured on TLC's pre-show



“Miss America Behind the Curtain.” Since then, she has been working as a co-host for a local Comcast television show, “Wedding411 On Demand,” and as an emcee and vocalist at various fundraisers throughout Maryland and DC. She also works full time as the prevention coordinator for the Baltimore Child Abuse Center and resides in downtown Baltimore. “I have yet to find a barbecue place that comes anywhere close to Central BBQ’s standards!” she writes.

Tom and **Brynn Dickie Bowyer** married Sept. 4, 2010. “We met on a mountaintop in Switzerland one day,” she writes, “and the rest is history. We got married and have been having a blast ever since!” The couple lives in Livingston, TX, where Tom works as assistant summer camp director of Camp Cho-Yeh and Brynn teaches.

**Samantha Hurt** explored her affinity for Chinese culture by taking postbaccalaureate course work in Mandarin Chinese. This ultimately led to a yearlong contract with an Air China hotel in Inner Mongolia, where she worked as a translator. She is now a research assistant for a literacy study at Florida State University and is preparing to apply for graduate programs in Chinese language and literature. “It’s a far cry from what I thought I would study when I graduated!” she says. “Travel opened up new possibilities. Being in a completely foreign environment teaches you things about yourself that often surprise you.”

After working as an agent for Farmer’s Insurance in Memphis, **J.B. Luken** accepted an offer from an independent insurance

brokerage in Alton, IL, northeast of St. Louis.

**Nick and Barrie Gordon Cascella** married Jan. 2, 2011, in St. Pete Beach, FL. The reception was held at the Don Cesar Beach Resort & Hotel. Associate Professor Loretta Jackson-Hayes, **Rob Kneip, J.B. Luken, Tom Mudd, Chris Pope** and **Jase Moon ’09** were in attendance. Nick and Barrie reside in St. Louis, where Nick works in commercial real estate for Cassidy Turley, and Barrie is earning a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Washington University.

**Libby Mann** is earning second degree, in interior design, from Converse College in South Carolina. She plans to visit Memphis this summer.

**Evie Plumb** works for the U.S. Marine Corps as a family readiness officer in San Clemente, CA. She recently took a 10-day excursion with friends through Brazil and Argentina.

**Michael Campbell** opened Park Bell Properties, LLC in January, for which he owns three rental properties and manages one more. He lives in Florence, AL, where he works as the corporate operations officer for ICS Roofing & Construction Inc.

**Donna Smith** finished a master of fine arts degree from Washington University in St. Louis in May and is relocating to Northwest Arkansas. “I will miss St. Louis and the great Rhodes alumni here including: **Kris Schwetye ’07, Kathleen Perniciaro ’09, Lydia Hagedorn ’09** and **Deborah Rogers**, to name just a few!” she writes.

Speaking of **Deborah Rogers**, she graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a master of arts in history with a concentration in Eastern European studies.

Deborah is now a seventh grade English teacher in St. Louis Public Schools.

Also in St. Louis, **Zack Stovall** is the first mate on the privately-owned “Heartbreaks and Hand Grenades,” a catfishing vessel that regularly commutes into the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, even venturing toward Memphis occasionally. Zack was brought on specifically for his noodling expertise, which is catching catfish with one’s bare hands without the use of a line, reel, lures, etc. “A lot of times, the boat can’t get to some of the catfish in the shallower waters, so in I go,” Zack said. He said his closest call was when he had noodled a 12-lb. catfish, only to have a 20-lb. catfish attempt to devour the first fish—and Zack’s arms along with it. He also has a goldendoodle, Newman, along as an assistant deckhand on the crew.

**Sarah Brooks** recently returned from her Peace Corps service in Thailand, where she worked as a community-based organizational development volunteer, helped the local HIV/AIDS group start small businesses, wrote grants to install clean drinking water filters at schools and helped lead a girls’ youth group. “I loved Thailand and serving with my Rhodes classmate **Beau Gambold**,” she writes.

**Mia Colson** earned a master’s in Public Administration from American University, graduating with distinction in May. She accepted a job working for the National Association of Regional Councils in Washington, DC.

**Kelly Brier San Miguel** spent spring 2009 working in the Embangweni Hospital in Malawi. “I actually delivered a baby!” she writes of the experience. Kelly received

a master’s in Public Health and Tropical Medicine from Tulane University in May and will begin studying at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston in August.

**Jessica Lotz** is working as a project manager for the Gates Foundation Teacher Effectiveness Initiative in Memphis City Schools.

After completing a master’s in Education and Human Development at George Washington University, **Caroline Lindley** began working for the Fairfax County Public Schools teaching fourth grade special education. She enjoys hosting Rhodes alumni events and is currently a volunteer with the SPCA of Virginia and the PETA movement in the DC area.

**Claire Tonore** recently left her work in the management consulting industry to start ACT Billiards & Tobacco, a distribution company serving DC and Northern Virginia. Claire is also earning a master’s in public administration from George Washington University.

## 2009

**Desmond Hendricks** has been chosen to play for the Ljubljana, Slovenia, Silverhawks in the Central European Football League, which also includes clubs from Serbia, Hungary, Turkey and Austria.

Tory and Ken Mallin, parents of **Chip Mallin** and **Courtney Mallin ’13**, hosted a yield party for accepted Rhodes students April 10 in St. Louis.

## 2010

In October 2010, **Will Brooks** moved to Dodoma, Tanzania, where he is on-

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site coordinator for the Carpenter's Kids Foundation, a program supported by Anglican churches in the UK and Episcopal churches in the U.S. In Tanzania, all children are allowed to attend public elementary schools provided they wear a uniform and provide their own materials. The foundation's role is to supply these materials to children, such as AIDS orphans, who are unable to supply them, themselves. Will has committed up to two years to the program.

**Alex McWhirter** graduated from Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI, and was commissioned an ensign Jan. 7, 2011. He has been

assigned to the Pensacola Naval Air Station to receive training as a naval aviator.

### 2011

Cynthia and Kevin Allen, parents of **Sarah Allen**, hosted a yield party for accepted Rhodes students April 18 in Mobile.

### 2012

Hosting yield parties for accepted Rhodes students were: Kathy and Steve Papermaster, parents of **Jacob Papermaster** and **Hannah Papermaster '15**, April 14 in Austin, and Frances and Cooper Morrison, parents of

**Elizabeth Morrison**, March 6 in Jackson, MS.

### 2013

Hosting yield parties for accepted Rhodes students were: Jan and Bob Connor, parents of **George Ryan Connor**, April 3 in Birmingham; Bette and John Malone, parents of **Justin Malone**, April 13 in Houston; Cathy and **Art Rollins '81**, parents of **Caroline Rollins**, April 10 in Atlanta; Tory and Ken Mallin, parents of **Chip Mallin '09** and **Courtney Mallin**, April 10 in St. Louis; and Suzanne and Ashton Phelps Jr. and **Sanders Phelps '13**, March 20 in New Orleans.

### 2014

Hosting yield parties for accepted Rhodes students were: Romney and Scott Croft, parents of **Zander Croft**, April 3 in Nashville, and Ann Frances and Cliff Jury, parents of **Andrew Jury**, Feb. 17 in Dallas.

### 2015

Kathy and Steve Papermaster, parents of **Jacob Papermaster '12** and **Hannah Papermaster**, hosted a yield party for accepted Rhodes students April 14 in Austin.

## In Memoriam

'31 **Jennie Puryear Gardner** of Sewanee, TN, March 2011. She was a columnist and book page editor of the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* for 15 years. She and her late husband, Andrew Gardner, moved to Atlanta in 1950. There, she was active in church work at the Cathedral of St. Philip and in the real estate business. She also was active in the Variety Club's charities and other enterprises. She was aide to Mayor Hartsfield in his last campaign. The couple retired to Sewanee in 1973. She leaves a son and a sister.

'34 **Robert L. Jack**, of Arlington, VA, Oct. 2, 2010. The widower of Jane Magill Jack, he leaves a daughter, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

'36 **Richard Alexander Thomas Jr.** of Livingston, TN, Feb. 20, 2011. A veteran of the U.S. Navy during World War II, he was an advertising sales representative. He was a member and former deacon of Livingston Church

of Christ where he taught Sunday school for many years. He filled in as a minister in some of the local area churches in earlier years. The widower of Beula Alvilda Reed Thomas, he leaves three daughters, two sons, 13 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and a sister.

'37 **Frances Elise Hastings Bays** of Memphis, Jan. 13, 2011. A charter member of Christ United Methodist Church, she leaves two granddaughters, five great-grandchildren and two nephews.

'39 **Frank Merritt Campbell** of Memphis, Feb. 20, 2011. An officer in the 754th Tank Battalion during World War II, he served in the Pacific Theater for more than three years in the Solomon Islands, fighting at Bougainville and in the Philippines. After the war he moved to Memphis and joined the Edward LeMaster Real Estate firm, where he soon became a partner. He was a member of the founding board of

the Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association, a lifetime member of the Salvation Army board, a member of the Memphis Rotary Club and an elder at Idlewild Presbyterian Church, where he served as clerk of the session several times and taught Sunday school. He leaves his wife of 35 years, Flo Britton Campbell, a stepson, two grandchildren, three nieces and two nephews.

'39 **Georgianna Awsumb Ensminger** of Memphis, April 7, 2011. She was an active member of Idlewild Presbyterian Church, where she sang in the choir and served as an elder and on the Peacemaking Committee. She also was active in a number of social and civil rights organizations including the YWCA of Memphis, Church Women United's Women's Prison Ministry and King's Daughters and Sons Home, and held local and state offices in each. The widow of Maj. William

Lockwood Ensminger, she leaves three sons, Lockwood "Woody" Ensminger '67; Alan Ensminger '68; and George Ensminger '70; three grandchildren, including Natalie Ensminger '91; and three great-grandchildren.

'40 **Lillian Love Fisher** of Memphis, Jan. 8, 2011. A member of Second Presbyterian Church, she was also a member of The Junior League of Memphis and The Little Garden Club of Memphis. The widow of Daniel Franklin Fisher, she leaves two sons and four grandchildren.

'40 **Hamp A. Morrison** of Cookeville, TN, Dec. 11, 2010. During World War II he was a bomber pilot in the U.S. Army Air Force, flying 30 missions in a B17 in the European theater. At the conclusion of the war, he flew the famed Memphis Belle back to its namesake city. He was called into active service during the Korean War and remained active in the reserve



until 1978. A graduate of the Southern College of Optometry, he practiced in Greenwood, MS, and Memphis until he joined a practice in Cookeville. When he retired in 2007, he was the oldest practicing optometrist in Tennessee. The recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award of the Tennessee Optometry Association, he was a longtime member of the Cookeville Evening Lions Club. He was an active member of Cookville First Baptist Church, serving in many leadership roles, including Sunday school teacher, deacon and member of the Building Committee. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Betty Creamer Morrison, a son, two grandsons, a nephew and a niece.

**'41 Harriette Hollis McLoughlin**, longtime resident of Princeton, NJ, Dec. 31, 2010, in Washington, DC. A former honorary Rhodes trustee, she was active in the Princeton community, participating in the altar guild at Trinity Church, and as a member of and fundraiser for the Garden Club of Princeton. The organization that took up most of her time was the Princeton YWCA. In the mid-1980s she co-chaired the YWCA committee that raised funds to purchase Bramwell House, the living room of which is dedicated to her in tribute of her many years of leadership. The widow of John McLoughlin, she leaves a brother, three sons, eight grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**'43 Nell Wright Lara** of Memphis, Jan. 21, 2011. She traveled to Mexico in the early 1940s to study Spanish and work for the American Embassy during World War II. For nearly 20 years, she continued to live in Mexico, where she

married and started her family. In 1961, she returned to Tennessee to live and raise her four children. She was a social worker for the state's Department of Human Services in both Tipton and Shelby counties until retiring in 1987, after which she enjoyed volunteer work with a prison ministry and, later, the Church Health Center. A longtime communicant of St. Peter's Catholic Church and avid member of its Monday Study Group, she leaves two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**'46 Jean Hartzell Meacham** of Batesville, MS, Feb. 27, 2011. She was active in the community and a member of First United Methodist Church. She leaves her husband of 68 years, Dr. Marshall Page Meacham, two daughters, a son, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**'46 Estelle Marie Hinson Wills** of Memphis, Dec. 9, 2010. An avid tennis player, she was a former member of Belle Meade Garden Club and the Land Use Control Board, and enjoyed playing mahjongg with her Thursday group for many years. She also enjoyed politics and her pets. Married to Dr. John Ross Wills for 60 years, she leaves a son and grandson.

**'48 Julius Adams Johnson** of El Dorado, AR, Dec. 8, 2010, in Oxford, MS. Serving in the Sixth Marine Division of the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and attaining the rank of captain, he fought in the South Pacific, most notably in the Battle of Okinawa. He later served as a district manager for Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors for 30 years in Pine Bluff, AR, Greenwood, MS, and El Dorado. An active member of St. Mary's Episcopal

Church in El Dorado for 34 years, he leaves his wife of 62 years, Jo Alice Page Johnson '48, two daughters, a son, two granddaughters, two step-granddaughters, two great-grandsons, a step-great-granddaughter, three step-great-grandsons and a sister.

**'48 Thelma "Teddy" Ruth Ragland Scott** of Overland Park, KS, March 29, 2011. A licensed pilot, she became a member of The Ninety Nines Inc., an international organization of women pilots. The group was established in 1929 by 99 licensed women pilots for the support and advancement of women in aviation. Amelia Earhart served as the organization's first president. The widow of Marshall P. Scott, to whom she was married for 54 years, she leaves two daughters, two sons, four grandsons and a sister.

**'49 John Dominic Pera** of Memphis, March 29, 2011. A U.S. Army Air Corps meteorologist during World War II, he was employed at Buckman Laboratories his entire career, retiring as executive vice president in 1986. At Buckman Labs, he was responsible for numerous chemical product patents. He was a member of several honorary scientific fraternities, professional societies and civic and religious organizations, and chaired the Industrial Microbicide Advisory Committee to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A charter member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, he leaves his wife of almost 67 years, Eugenia Zanone Pera, three daughters, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**'50 Mary Clay Farr Beach** of Memphis, Feb. 4, 2011. She leaves her husband, Franklin F. Beach, two sons, a stepson,

two granddaughters and a grandson.

**'50 Lloyd Benton Smith Jr.** of Hickory, NC, Feb. 3, 2011. An Army veteran, he was a professor emeritus of Lenoir-Rhyne University, where he taught from 1967-97. His prior teaching experience included faculty positions at Louisiana State University, Elon University, Salem College and Gaston Community College. A member of First Presbyterian Church in Hickory, he leaves his wife of 52 years, Betty Jean Cash Smith, a son, two daughters and six grandchildren.

**'51 Lewis Christine Wilson** of Birmingham, AL, March 15, 2011. A longtime resident of Gainesville, FL, she was a piano teacher, a pianist and founding member of Trinity United Methodist Church. She moved with her late husband, Louis "Luke" Wilson, to Melrose, FL, where she continued to teach as a substitute in Interlachen and Keystone Heights. She was a member of The Dollings, a doll collecting club in Gainesville. She leaves a son, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**'53 Edith Wier Fallis** of Memphis, Nov. 4, 2010. A longstanding member of Second Presbyterian Church, she leaves three children, three grandchildren and a great-grandson.

**'53 Walter Baker Harris** of Jackson, TN, Dec 19, 2010. After four years of service in the U.S. Navy, he practiced law in the Jackson firm of Schneider & Harris. He was appointed Jackson city judge in 1967 and 1971, was a juvenile court referee, and in 1972 was elected Madison County judge, which included the duties of county executive. He was elected to the new position of General Sessions Division II judge

## In Memoriam

in 1982, serving until his retirement in 1998, at which time the court building was renamed in his honor. He continued as a part-time judge in Chester County, Madison County General Sessions Court and Jackson City Court. He served as chairman of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, was a member of the executive committee of the Tennessee Juvenile Judges Council and was president of the Tennessee County Judges Association and Tennessee County Services Association. He leaves his wife, Betty Y. Harris, two daughters, two sons and several grandchildren.

**'56 Hugh Burnett Chalmers Sr.** of Earle, AR, Feb. 8, 2011. He owned and operated Chalmers Buick-GMC and Hugh Chalmers Chevrolet-Cadillac-Toyota for more than 45 years in West Memphis. A former recipient of the Time Magazine Dealer of the Year Award, he was the past president of the Arkansas Automobile Dealers Association and past president of the Memphis Automobile Dealers Association. He served on the board of trustees of the University of Arkansas System for 15 years. More recently he served as vice president of the Living Hope Institute in Texarkana, AR. A leader of several civic, business and nonprofit organizations, he was appointed by then-Gov. Bill Clinton to the Democratic Central Committee of Arkansas, and elected to the Crittenden County Quorum Court. He was a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church in West Memphis and attended Bible study at Idlewild Presbyterian Church for many years. The widower of Janelle Brower Chalmers, he leaves his wife,

Joyce Ferguson Chalmers, two daughters, a son, four granddaughters and a sister, Betty Chalmers Peyton '58.

**'56 Sara Butterworth Clark** of Houston, Oct. 18, 2010.

**'57 Selma Ann Plowman Hobby** of Little Rock, AR, Jan. 22, 2011. A lifelong resident of Little Rock, she dedicated 44 years to education, teaching political science, history and education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels throughout the University of Arkansas system after beginning her career as an English teacher in the Little Rock School District. A mentor to young teachers, she was a published author and frequent guest lecturer. She retired as an administrator from the Little Rock School District in 2001. A lifelong member of Second Presbyterian Church, she leaves her husband of 53 years, Richard Brentwood Hobby, a daughter, two sons, a sister, a brother and four grandchildren.

**'58 Marilyn Olds Crichfield** of Bartlett, TN, Feb. 27, 2011. She leaves her husband of almost 56 years, L. Stuart Crichfield, a son, a grandson and a sister.

**'58 Robert Everett Rose** of Memphis, Feb. 7, 2011. A retired attorney, he signed with the Chicago Cubs after graduation, attended law school and served with the FBI before returning to Memphis to practice law. He was a member of Mullins United Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday school and attended the Men's Prayer Breakfast. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Carolyn Rose, a daughter, a son, a sister, a brother and four grandchildren.

**'60 Barbara Ashcraft Hooper** of Marietta, GA, Feb. 24, 2011.

**'61 Nancy Henson Daniel** of Memphis, Jan. 24, 2011.

A member of Scenic Hills United Methodist Church and president of the Pharmacy Wives Association, she leaves her husband of 52 years, Lewis H. Daniel Jr., a daughter, two sons, three grandchildren and a sister.

**'65 James E. "Jeb" Blount III** of Germantown, TN, Feb. 22, 2011. An attorney, he was a member of the Memphis Bar Association for more than 40 years. He also served honorably in the Air National Guard. He leaves his wife of 43 years, Barbara Cook Blount '65; two daughters; a son, James E. Blount IV '94; and a sister.

**'65 William Brent Casey** of Boca Raton, FL, Jan. 10, 2011. A U.S. Navy veteran who had retired from Blue Cross/Blue Shield after a long and successful career, he and his wife Susan Hartley Casey were the proprietors of Turn 3 Sports Bar in West Boca Raton. He also leaves two daughters, a son, five grandchildren, a sister and two brothers.

**'67 John Edgar Meeks** of Nashville, TN, March 13, 2011. He served with the 35th Combat Engineer Battalion in Vietnam in 1966-67. Afterward, he earned his B.S. and M.A. in history from The University of Memphis and taught history and coached football and girls' track at Collierville High School in Collierville, TN, for seven years. In 1983, he joined the district office of Shelby County Schools, where he served as director of purchasing and warehousing. He received his M.Div. from Memphis Theological Seminary in 2000 and was ordained an elder in the United Methodist Church in 2003. He pastored the United Methodist churches in Moscow and Rossville, TN, and St. Matthew's in Memphis. Most recently

he served as pastor of Andrew Price Memorial UMC in Nashville. He served as an alderman on the Collierville Board of Mayor and Aldermen from 1981-96 and was active in Kairos Prison Ministry for many years. He leaves his wife of 40 years, Marilyn Gates Meeks '69, three sons, two grandchildren, a sister and two brothers, including Douglas Meeks Jr. '63.

**'70 Lorraine Krista "Lorrie" Anker** of Nashville, TN, March 7, 2011. An educator and library media specialist with Nashville Metro Schools for 30 years, 27 of those at McMurray Middle School, she traveled abroad extensively and loved to do research on the computer, read and laugh.

**'77 Felecia Ann Denney-Kolshorn** of Dallas, March 20, 2011. She toured the country for a number of years as a puppeteer and was one of the founding members of the Dallas Children's Theater. She later was the sole costume contractor for all the Six Flags parks nationwide. She then became a full-time mom to raise, as she liked to put it, "my best works ever," her daughters Katya and Calista. For the last 10 years she taught drama to children ages 3 to 15 at Capers for Kids.

**'78 Kirk P. McGehee** of Parker, TX, March 1, 2011. A geologist and educator, he owned Marlin Oil and Gas Co. and served on the boards of several community organizations. He leaves a daughter, a son, his parents, Hobson and Bettie Payne, four siblings and several nieces and nephews.



# I Am an Employer

When **Brian O'Neill '94** attended Rhodes, the Economics major benefited from an internship that paved the way for his career in finance. Today, Brian is president of Cahaba Wealth Management in Atlanta, and, after attending an Atlanta Chapter career networking event, he worked with Career Services to hire a Rhodes intern, **Chris Conkell '11**. The internship was so successful that Chris assumed a full-time position at Cahaba after graduation.

Brian O'Neill understands that, as a member of the Rhodes community, we are all one. And it takes all of us to ensure that Rhodes remains the very best.

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The newly minted class of 2011 gets a welcome from fellow alums during the Commencement recessional.