

summer 2009



wittenberg
magazine

Coffee Break

Unique Field Trip to Guatemala Changes Students' Perspectives Forever

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*Wittenberg students enjoy sailing at the
Clarence J. Brown Reservoir near campus.*







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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Finding the Passing Lane in the Midst of a Traffic Jam *Investing Our Way to Excellence*



ROBBIE GANTT

As I begin my column for this summer's magazine, I can't help but think back one month to our Commencement and the profound emotions I felt watching our newest alumni cross the stage. That day always reminds me of the important work we do – transforming the lives of young people – and buoys my spirit even in the most challenging of times.

The past year has indeed been a very challenging and difficult one for the nation, the globe, for higher education, and, yes, also for Wittenberg. We are responding to economic forces that we would never have anticipated a year ago or certainly three years ago as we finalized our strategic plan.

In these tough economic times, the temptation is often to take a "bunker" mentality – to cut back on existing programs, eliminate new investments and wait for the economy to turn around. In driving terms this looks a little like pumping the brakes and slowing down to find oneself in the midst of a traffic jam where gridlock reigns supreme. Certainly if one looks at the landscape of higher education, there is ample evidence that a major traffic jam is developing. Moratoriums on hiring, new programs and campus construction are the norm among most institutions, including many of our direct competitors.

So what have we done? What should we do? The Board of Directors and I believe that we must continue to make smart, well-considered, strategic investments in the future of Wittenberg, and that is precisely what we are doing. In the midst of this difficult economic environment, we have made many tough decisions (no salary increases, some staff reductions and reduced benefits), but we have also continued to invest in technology, scholarships, key programs and activities envisioned in our strategic plan. These activities will ultimately propel us forward and place us in the passing lane bypassing the bumper-to-bumper traffic.

So what are these investments?

Visitors to campus will now see orange construction fencing surrounding Blair Hall as we work diligently to make the interior space reflect the dynamic, collaborative initiatives being spearheaded by our education department faculty. We are confident that this initial investment in the historic heart of campus will inspire countless education majors, encourage new and innovative thinking, and allow our education program to continue to serve as a model for others on a national scale.

We are also investing in our East Asian Studies program as we look to create the first-ever East Asian Institute on campus, which will expand global understanding by way of international partnerships in business, government and education. We will provide distinctive field-study experiences with leading firms conducting business in East Asia, and we will offer unprecedented experiential learning opportunities.

We have also created a new summer Screenwriting Institute and a new program in entrepreneurship that includes student-run businesses, where our students not only learn theory, but also put that theory to practice.

Additionally, The Center for Civic & Urban Engagement debuted this fall, shining a light on our longstanding commitment to community service and our preparation of students for lives of civic engagement. The list of examples of movement against our strategic goals goes on and on, even in this challenging time.

These are exciting and timely initiatives, but it is important that you understand them in their proper context. While generous gifts have funded a couple of these new activities, the rest have been funded through the realignment of existing resources, resources that are already stretched thin due to the economic downturn and the loss of value in our endowment. These initiatives are designed to position us in ways that will make us increasingly the first choice institution of larger, more diverse, and academically talented classes of new students. Our stewardship in working smarter and harder will have to be matched by new investments by a growing circle of our alumni and friends.

With your continued support, we will be poised for even greater success. With each gift received, we increase the value of a Wittenberg degree and move this university forward to claim our rightful place leading the race for excellence.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mark H. Erickson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark H. Erickson
President



Dove



Uhle

Board of Directors Welcomes Two New Members

On July 1, Martin J. Uhle '85 and Dr. James Dove '61 officially joined the Wittenberg Board of Directors.

President and CEO of Vantage Financial Group in Independence, Ohio, Uhle brings extensive expertise in financial planning and money management. Prior to his current position, he served as president and COO of Heartland Payment Systems Inc. of Princeton, N.J., where he helped establish the wholly owned subsidiary Heartland Payroll Company. Before that, he was senior vice president of Key Bank Payment Services Division in Cleveland, as well as the COO of Unified Merchant Services, a Nations Bank/First Data joint venture. Uhle's sons will both graduate from Wittenberg, and Uhle's father and brother are also alumni.

Founder of Prairie Cardiovascular Consultants Ltd, a non-profit, self-funded research foundation established in 1982 in Springfield, Ill., Dove has provided extraordinary patient

care as one of the nation's top cardiologists. In the 1990s, Dove played an instrumental role in the formation of Prairie Heart Institute at St. John's Hospital, and he is credited with creating the largest heart program in Illinois and one of the largest in the nation. Such innovative thinking coupled with his commitment to patient care and teaching earned him the presidency of the American College of Cardiology in 2007.

Dove, his wife Carol and his nephew Rick Dove '80 created the Dove Scholarship in 2001 to provide a one-half tuition scholarship to an outstanding junior pre-med student and a pre-law student at Wittenberg.

Board members are elected to three-year terms, and all are expected to foster the best-possible liberal arts education, ensure the financial viability of Wittenberg, support the institution's fundraising efforts and promote the university to the public. ■

African Refugees Benefit From Student's Compassion for Home Country

Harriet Kamakil '10 spent six years living and working in some of the most unforgiving terrains in Africa. In these most desolate regions, she worked among millions of people displaced by violence and living in refugee camps, helping them seek asylum or to reunite with their families, oftentimes in the United States.

Now heading into her senior year at Wittenberg, Kamakil has never forgotten the big impact that small gestures had on people with so little. A native of Kenya, Kamakil has organized a toy drive to benefit children in the Kakuma refugee camp in her home country. Currently, more than 30,000 people from across the continent live in desperate conditions at the camp.

"It's a tough place for anybody to be, but especially for a child," said Kamakil, a political science major. "I felt that if we could get toys, it would be something that would be so easy to do. I didn't want to do anything too big or too complicated. With this we can start small." ■



ERIN PENCE '04



Wes Bates '70

Board Member Issues \$500,000 Challenge

In his 40 years as a beloved coach, administrator and professor, Dave Maurer left a memorable impression on all those he coached and knew. To ensure that his legacy remains, Wes Bates '70, president and CEO of Stanley Steemer, a member of the Wittenberg Board of Directors and one of Maurer's former players, has challenged the Wittenberg family to cement Maurer's legacy through a scholarship initiative. Bates, who was on the 1969 national championship football team, has generously offered to match every dollar given to the Dave Maurer Endowed Honorary Scholarship Fund up to \$500,000.

The scholarship will be awarded annually to a sophomore, junior or senior male student with financial need who has demonstrated such qualities as self-discipline, teamwork, cooperation, hard work, self-confidence, pride in accomplishment, competitive spirit, and the ability to deal with adversity. It is a tuition scholarship that may be renewable on an annual basis or may be rotated, per the administering committee's discretion. For more information, contact Elizabeth Bonfield in the Office of Advancement at (937) 327-7980. ■

Witt Nation Awarded CASE Gold Medal

Last year, Wittenberg connected with more than 1,000 alumni on the first-of-its-kind cross-country tour that employed innovative multimedia technology and made national headlines. Now the one-time-brainstorm-turned-8,000-mile trek known as Witt Nation has garnered more national accolades, securing a coveted Gold Medal from The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Of the 127 entries judged in this year's CASE Alumni Relations Programs category, Witt Nation stood out in the

minds of those reviewing it, making the program one of only three to receive Gold Medals.

This latest recognition comes on the heels of more than 50 inquiries by other colleges and universities interested in coordinating their own unique road adventures, as well as two conference presentations by the Witt Nation team. Additionally, the unique road trip was the front-page story last summer in the No. 1 resource for news and careers in academia, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. ■

Student Wins Prestigious Boren Scholarship



Nicholas Steiner '11 has received a National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren Scholarship for International Study.

Boren Scholarships and Fellowships "provide unique funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to add an important international and language component to their educations," according to the organization's Web site. They also "focus on geographic areas, languages and fields of study that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad."

Steiner will attend the Central Nationalities University of China in Beijing where he will explore Chinese culture and languages. ■

ERIN PENCE '04

On The Cutting Edge University Names Ness Endowed Chair In Entrepreneurship

When the academic year unfolds this fall, a new face will be among the faculty in the Department of Management. Thomas E. Kaplan, former assistant professor of business administration at Mary Baldwin College and assistant professor of entrepreneurial studies at Fairleigh Dickinson University, has joined the Wittenberg community as the first-ever Ness Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship.

"I could not have been more impressed with the faculty and students I met when I interviewed for this position," Kaplan said. "The many innovative programs and efforts already underway at Wittenberg are great evidence of what higher education should be – and what it already is here. I am thrilled to be joining Wittenberg to help advance our efforts in preparing students to lead in meeting our greatest challenges and opportunities."

Established last summer by Robert E. "Bob"

Medvedkov Earns Second Fulbright Award

An expert on the changing urban landscape in Central and Eastern Europe, Olga Medvedkov, professor of geography, has been invited to share her ideas with researchers worldwide. The tradition will continue again as Medvedkov has been awarded a second Fulbright teaching/research grant in the country of Georgia.

Co-founder of Wittenberg's Russian immersion program, which allows 10-13 students biannually to study politics, history, communications, and Russian society and culture in-depth for four weeks in Russia following Commencement, Medvedkov will teach Geographic Information Systems for master students in the School of Social and Political Sciences at Tbilisi State University as a Fulbright Scholar.

"I will also collaborate on research on urban development in Georgia with my colleagues at TSU," she said.

Author of several books, numerous chapters and articles in professional journals, Medvedkov also recently earned The Excellence in Community Service Award at Wittenberg for her substantial involvement in community projects that contribute to the improvement of the quality of life in Springfield and Clark County. ■



ROBBIE GANTT



Ness '63 and his wife Lynn Noble Ness '64, the \$1.5 million endowed chair in entrepreneurship will enable the university to expand its commitment to developing well-rounded, out-of-the-box thinkers, who can not only paint a vision and design the path to achieve it, but also inspire others in the journey.

Throughout his career, Kaplan, who will also serve as an associate professor of management, has led several initiatives related to entrepreneurship, and family business education and management as a consultant, business owner, research fellow, engineer and professor. Widely published and engaged in numerous creative, innovative endeavors, Kaplan earned his B.S. in mechanical engineering at Ohio Northern University, his M.B.A. from Baldwin-Wallace College and his Ph.D. in management from Virginia Commonwealth University. ■

Future Jobs Funds Unique Partnership

In hopes of inspiring local high school students to pursue careers in coveted STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields, Wittenberg's Upward Bound program is collaborating with the university's fast-growing Computational Science Program to offer hands-on opportunities for its students in 2009, thanks to funding from Future Jobs, a regional workforce development project.

The pilot initiative builds on collaborations established a year ago by Upward Bound Director Eddie Chambers, Admission Counselor/Math and Science Recruiter Sarah Jusiewicz and Director of Computational Science

Eric Stahlberg. The intent is to encourage prospective college students to pursue careers in science-related fields that are so important to regional employers.

"We wanted to start where students are already interested and connect that interest with the skills that employers will be looking for," Stahlberg said.

Upward Bound is a pre-college preparatory program designed to provide academic skills for students from first-generation college and low-income families. The program provides mentors and tutoring programs during the academic year and a six-week program in the summer on campus. ■

Faculty Mentoring Program Receives Lilly Funding

Thanks to support from the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and Arts, Wittenberg's 2009-2010 faculty mentoring program will have a renewed mission-centered focus. Led by Associate Professors of English Ty Buckman and Lori Askeland, the program will pair five or six senior Wittenberg faculty members with new tenure-track faculty outside of their departments for one year. During that time the senior faculty, or mentors, will work with their mentees to realize the mission of Wittenberg and then integrate the mission into their classroom presence and their personal career goals.

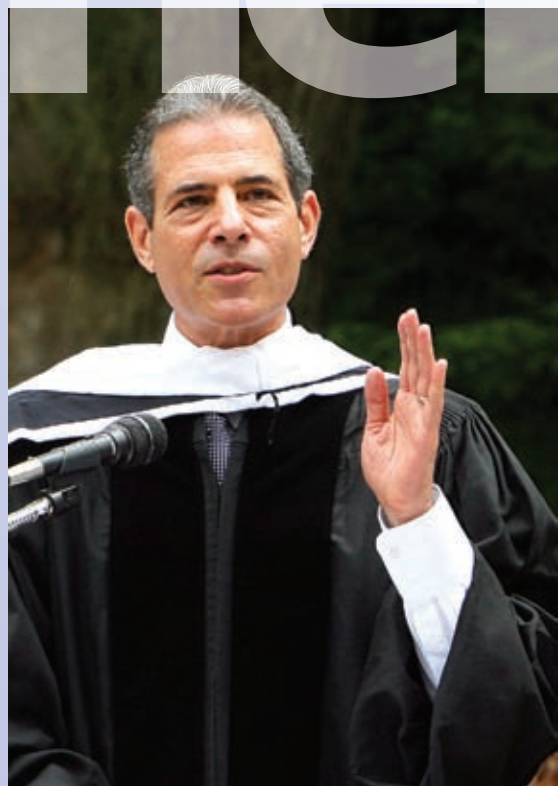
"We will talk about how Wittenberg professors deal with students in a small institution such as this," Buckman said. "You can't hide from students here like you can at a large

university." The program will consist of two formal lunch meetings, guest speakers and five seminars on specific topics and readings.

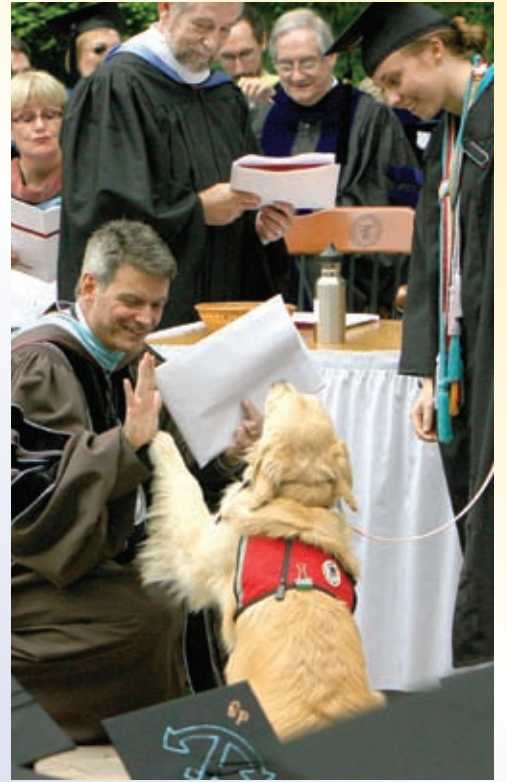
"At an institution like Wittenberg, faculty members often stay for their whole careers," Buckman said. "An investment in the faculty in the beginning can pay off in dividends over the next 30 years." ■



ERIN PENICE '04









From a world-renowned journalist to global humanitarians and social justice advocates, four distinguished guests joined the Wittenberg family during the university's Commencement ceremony, May 16 (photo below). David E. Behring, president of the Wheelchair Foundation, left, The Rev. Canon Dr. Michael Bourdeaux, founder of the Keston Institute, Bishop Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and keynote speaker Richard "Rick" Stengel, managing editor of TIME magazine, were each recognized with honorary degrees by President Mark H. Erickson, center.





Clark Tapped to Assist With Parent Relations

The Office of Advancement recently announced that Stephanie Clark, assistant director of capital giving, will also assume additional responsibilities as the coordinator of parent relations.

"I've had the pleasure of getting to know so many Wittenberg parents in my current position, and I'm excited about the opportunity to assist them even more in my new role," Clark said.

As coordinator of parent relations, Clark will work primarily with parents interested or currently participating in the university's Parents Executive Board and Parents Leadership Circle. Both organizations allow current parents of Wittenberg students the opportunity to

learn about campus initiatives underway, and they provide a forum for the sharing of ideas related to the Wittenberg experience. Members also contribute heavily to the college's welfare financially and in other voluntary capacities.

"These parents understand and generously support the university's mission in so many significant ways," Clark said. "I look forward to advancing our mission with them." ■

Rotaract Club Spearheads International Service Project

Chartered just two years ago, Wittenberg's Rotaract Club continues to inspire students, community leaders and individuals overseas. Sponsored by the Springfield Rotary Club and one of just five Rotaract Clubs in Rotary District 6670, which covers the southwest quadrant of Ohio, Wittenberg's student-run organization recently launched a "Shoes and Shades" project to distribute shoes and sunglasses in the impoverished

nations of Lesotho and Haiti.

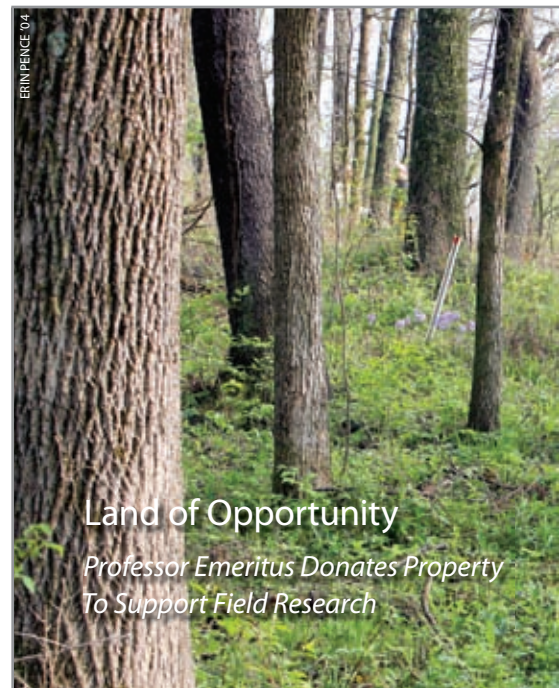
Co-sponsored by the class of 2010, the project united the campus and members of the community, which donated more than 100 pairs of shoes and 150 pairs of sunglasses.

"The support from Wittenberg was outstanding," said Leslie Chasteen '10, Rotaract president. "I'm also very grateful for the effort put forth by the Springfield Rotary." ■

CBS Celebrates 40th Anniversary

On April 18, the university celebrated 40 years of student initiative, social awareness and activism with the first-ever Concerned Black Students (CBS) anniversary brunch awards ceremony.

The 25 founders of CBS, an organization that empowers students of color while educating the university on diversity issues, were honored at the event, including 1969 graduates Muriel Mitchell Scruggs, Levi Wingard and Wittenberg board member Ronald Woods, first CBS president; Jim Bell, Tyrone Curry, Mary Foxworth, Margie Hemphill Peacock, Larry Peacock, Gregory Pratt, Selena Neal Singletary and Sandi Williams, class of 1970; and Beverly Andrews, Tom Catlett, Mary Dillard Daniels, William Hardin, Darryl Herring, Paul Hicks, Norman King, Leonard Lightfoot, Wendy Miller Woods, Alfonso Pearson, Charleyse Smith Pratt, Victor Sheppard, Mark Thomas and Jim Thrasher, class of 1971. ■



Land of Opportunity

Professor Emeritus Donates Property To Support Field Research

Throughout his career, Professor Emeritus of English Conrad Balliet, or "cb" as friends now call him, often traveled to his farm on Pitchin Road east of Clifton, Ohio, to escape the busy life of Springfield. Its 40 acres has woods, a prairie, a lake and a stream with the Little Miami River capping the property's northern border. "cb's place" became his respite and his passion as he improved the land to make it a welcoming retreat.

By planting more than 200 trees, adding a lake, building a small geodesic dome home, and then a Unibilt house with a *Yeatsian* tower, Balliet made the land his own and eventually lived there full-time beginning in 2000 following his wife Marion's passing.

The stories about the farm, purchased in 1977, fill an entire chapter in Balliet's memoir

Empty Bowls Raises Record-Setting Amount

The 15th annual Empty Bowls fundraising event brought members of the university and Springfield communities together on March 26 to raise a record-breaking amount of money to help area residents experiencing hard times.

The anniversary event raised more than \$27,000 – \$16,409 through sponsorships and \$11,205 in bowl and T-shirt sales – an increase of more than

\$6,000 total over last year. A total of 832 bowls, 200 more than any previous year, were sold before 7 p.m.

“I am very proud of the fact that, in a time of cut-backs and tough economic forecasts, the campus and Springfield community increased our giving efforts for the Second Harvest Food Bank,” said Associate Professor of Art Scott Dooley, who has coordinated the popular campus event since 2000. ■

University Hosts Ohio Academy of Science

On April 18, more than 400 scientists and students attended and presented various scientific papers, including more than 30 Wittenberg students and faculty, during the 118th annual meeting of the Ohio Academy of Science. The event marked the first time Wittenberg has hosted the meeting, which was held in the university’s modern science facility, the Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center. The day also concluded Professor of Biology Horton H. Hobbs III time as president of the organization, which “fosters curiosity, discovery and innovation for the benefit of society.” ■



Fulbright Leader

Already a recognized state leader in the number of professors who have won Ohio Professor of the Year Awards, new statistics released this spring show another impressive achievement. In the last 10 years, Wittenberg faculty members have won nine Fulbright awards, more than any other liberal arts college in the state of Ohio. Out of the 48 colleges and universities whose faculty members have won awards, Wittenberg ranks 11th.

Established in 1946, the Fulbright Program “aims to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and other countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills,” according to the Institute for International Education.

To date, more than 290,000 individuals have participated in the program, which awards approximately 7,500 new grants annually. ■



cb: Remembrances, now in the Wittenberg Bookstore, but his recent gift of the land to the university will inspire generations of students as a new field research station just a few miles from campus.

Officially dedicated April 29, “cb’s place, The Conrad Balliet Family Nature Preserve,” as it will be called, provided the perfect spring setting for the announcement. Surrounded by colleagues from Wittenberg, friends and family members, Balliet shared stories about the farm and his time at the university, where he taught from 1961-1991.

“This is my creative endeavor,” he said. “I’ve been in education all my life, and to have this land available for students to do research brings me joy in my old age.” ■

Police Chief Joins Elite List of Award Recipients

In recognition of his outstanding leadership and superior management skills in Wittenberg’s Department of Police and Security, *Campus Safety* magazine recently named Carl Loney, chief of police, the education division’s second runner-up in its Campus Safety Director of the Year Award program. In all, 18 campus security executives were honored during the presentation and reception on April 28 during the Campus Safety Conference in Tampa, Fla.

Loney, who joined the Wittenberg community in 2002 after retiring



from his post as the Clark County Sheriff’s Department’s captain and operations commander, adheres to a high-visibility, pro-active policing philosophy, which includes an uncompromising commitment to treat everyone with kindness, respect and dignity. His philosophy has played a

critical role in office operations and has made Wittenberg’s full-service department highly respected within the campus community and within law enforcement throughout the Tri-County region. ■

Campus Notes

FACULTY



Andrews
Professor of Statistics

Baker
Professor of Political
Science



Cline
Associate Professor of
Chemistry

Faber
Professor of Music



Lehman
Director of Thomas
Library

Martinez-Saenz
Associate Professor of
Philosophy



The Ohio State Highway Patrol crime lab contracted Professor of Statistics **Doug Andrews** to train its forensic scientists on methods of statistical sampling when testing confiscated materials, and to develop the staff members' intuition and understanding sufficiently to defend the methods in court.

Michael Anes, assistant professor of psychology, has published an article with Lindsey Short '08 titled "Adult-like competence in perceptual encoding of facial configuration by the right hemisphere emerges after 10 years of age" in *Perception*. He also attended the ninth annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society, where he presented a poster titled "Are Local Features in Faces Really Local" with Nicholas Del Grosso '10 and Darcy Dubuc '12.

The second edition of Professor of Political Science **J. Robert Baker's** textbook *The Lanahan Readings in State and Local Government: Diversity, Innovation, and Rejuvenation* was recently published. Baker also published an article on local government internships and the Wittenberg LGMIP program in the June edition of *PM: Public Management Magazine*.

Based on collaborative work with **Eric Stahlberg**, director of computational science, **Steven Bogaerts**, assistant professor of computer science, presented "Integrating Accelerated Computing into the Undergraduate Computer Science Curriculum" at the Symposium on

Challenges, Solutions, and Visions for the Future of Computer Science Education. Bogaerts was also an invited panel member at the Computing and Mathematics Across the Sciences workshop at Denison University.

Kristin Cline, associate professor of chemistry, attended the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy, March 9, where she discussed "Electrochemical Investigation of Aryl Diazonium Ion Reduction at Glassy Carbon Electrodes" based on her research with Rachel Saylor '10 and Lauren Baxter '09, the latter of whom also presented a poster.

Sheryl Cunningham, assistant professor of communication, attended the Rhetoric Society of America's Summer Institute's workshop "Women, Rhetoric, and Political Agency: What Do Women Need to Know About Their History in Order (Phronesis) to be Successful Politically?"

Trudy Faber, professor of music, spent a month in Sweden and Latvia conducting research on organs. She also performed in the Dom Cathedral of Riga, and she presented a recital at the Sandviken kyrka in Sandviken, Sweden. Faber was also an honored guest of the prestigious Goteborg Research Institute, where she interviewed top researchers including Johannes Landgren.

Alejandra Gimenez-Berger, assistant professor of art, recently completed a series of three lectures on Pre-Columbian Art at the Dayton Art Institute, where

she also collaborated on the creation of the upcoming exhibition titled *Ninety Treasures*. Gimenez-Berger also created and narrated the audio tours for the Mesoamerican collection, and she is currently teaching a program in Rome for students.

Randy Green, director of financial aid, volunteered to train employees with the I Know I Can organization, which gives every qualified Columbus, Ohio, Public School District graduate the opportunity to go to college. Green helped the organization assist hundreds of high school seniors and their families in completing the newly revised FAFSA forms in order to secure financial aid.

Douglas K. Lehman, director of Thomas Library, has been elected secretary of the College Library Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association.

Thomas P. Martin, professor of health, fitness and sport, was selected from more than 7,000 Fulbright recipients worldwide to be featured in the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board Annual Report 2007-2008.

Miguel Martinez-Saenz, associate professor of philosophy and assistant provost of the First-Year Experience, recently published "Hitting Bedrock, Practicing Ethics" in *Philosophy Now*. He also published "Creating Change: Arts, Activism and the Academy" in the Spring 2009 issue of *Diversity and*

FACULTY



McInnis
Assistant Professor
of Art

Millen
Professor of Religion



Shelburne
Associate Professor of
Computer Science

Tune
Matevia Endowed
University Pastor



Wood
Associate Professor of
History

Bin
Professor of Political
Science



Democracy. In addition, Martinez-Saenz jointly presented “A Helping Hand? Undergraduate Peer Mentors and First-Year Courses” at the AAC&U Conference with Ty Buckman, associate professor of English, and Tammy Proctor, professor of history.

Daniel McInnis, assistant professor of art, was awarded a Wittenberg Faculty Research Fund Board Grant to continue his two-year photography book project titled *Presence*, which involves taking portraits of people in New York City and in Ohio using an 8-inch-by-10-inch field camera. McInnis also had three photographs accepted into the Ohio Art League Gallery for its show titled “Here and Now.”

Rochelle L. Millen, professor of religion, participated in a three-day conference at Case Western University, May 24-26, titled “Jesus in the Context of Judaism and the Challenge to the Church.”

Medical Director **Kathryn McKee** and Student Health and Counseling Nurse Manager **Jill Vanuch** attended the American College Health Association 2009 Annual Meeting titled “Building Bridges by the Bay” in San Francisco, May 26-30. The conference is the only one of its kind to offer numerous courses and networking opportunities to improve the awareness of college health.

Brian Shelburne, associate professor of computer science, attended the spring meeting of the Ohio Section of the

Mathematical Association of America, April 3-4, where he presented a short talk titled “What if Archimedes had the Mean Value Theorem and used it to find the area under the parabola.” Shelburne was also elected “treasurer-elect” of the Ohio Section beginning fall 2010.

Andy Tune, Matevia Endowed University Pastor, presented a paper titled “Against the Gnostics: Irenaeus’s Doctrine of Creation in Adversus Haereses” at the North American Patristics Society meeting in Chicago, May 21-23.

Molly Wood, associate professor of history, presented a paper for the panel “The Languages of Diplomacy” at the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting at Harvard University. A member of the Executive Council of the Ohio Academy of History (OAH), Wood also attended the OAH Meeting, which followed her attendance at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting in New York City.

Forest Wortham, director of multicultural student programs, moderated a workshop for the National Black Student Union Conference and served as the Black History month speaker at Wilmington College, where he discussed “Roots and Significance of Barack Obama’s Presidency.” He also served as the closing speaker for the International Hip Hop Artist “Common” at the Regional Academic and Cultural Collaborative and attended the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education.

Heather Hadar Wright, assistant professor of political science, has published “Lucrezia in Mandragola: Machiavelli’s New Prince” in *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy* and “Irigaray, Luce” in *The International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to the Present*. Wright also attended the Western Political Science Association Meeting in Vancouver, Canada, where she presented “Gender, Pornography, and the Politics of Liberal Individualism in DeLillo’s *Running Dog*.”

Bin Yu, professor of political science, was invited to participate in two Shanghai-based conferences, The 9th U.S.-China Strategic Dialogue, and the “The China-ROK-Japan-U.S. Quadrilateral Dialogue: Security, Interests, and Identity in the 21st Century.” He has also recently published two articles, including “Russia and China: Between Crisis and Cooperation,” in *Comparative Connections* and “Soldiers and State: Civil-military Relations in the U.S. and Sino-U.S. Naval Faceoff in South China Sea” in *Shijie Zhishi*.

Michael Zaleha, associate professor of geology, presented a poster at the Annual Meeting of The Ohio Academy of Sciences, hosted by Wittenberg, titled, “Cave exploration using electrical resistivity ground imaging (ERGI).” The poster was coauthored by John Ritter, professor of geology, and students Dan McElwain ’10, Kelly Shaw ’11 and SCE student Heidi Tlachac.



Communication Leaders

New Program Offers Unique Experiential Learning Opportunities

A cross-campus collaboration between the Department of Communication and WittPath Career Services has resulted in an innovative approach to experiential learning, leading students from the classroom to the boardroom.

Called the Communication Leaders experience, the highly competitive program offers a year-long educational opportunity for 8-12 students, which involves field trips to various organizations and visits from business leaders. The program focuses on leadership qualities and styles as the students explore career opportunities in communication fields.

Spearheaded by Associate Professor of Communication Matthew J. Smith and Director of WittPath Career Services Karen Reynolds, the program is different

from any other class offered within the communication department in that it gives students opportunities to learn about real-world organizations, from Fortune 500 companies to small non-profit agencies.

A trip to Columbus has become an annual part of the program's curriculum. In 2008, the group visited Limited Brands and OhioHealth Foundation, thanks to the efforts of Tia Carter '08 and Amy Holden '07, both former program participants. Carter hosted the group at Limited Brands, while Holden created a learning experience for them at OhioHealth Foundation. In addition, the students visited FahlgrenMortine, one of the top public relations and advertising firms in the Midwest where

another alumnus Steve Drongowski '74 serves as president and CEO.

The Communication Leaders also participated in two challenging hands-on projects – one for Internet search engine Google, and the other for Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company. Divided into two groups, the students tackled actual communication-related issues that the two companies have faced. Tasked with providing solutions and recommendations, the students made presentations to senior leaders at both companies during what has become an annual trip to Chicago in April.

Business professionals from a variety of backgrounds have paid the Communication Leaders visits on campus as well. President and CEO of Sweet Manufacturing Alicia Sweet Hupp '82 visited during the 2008-09 school year as did Scott McCune '72, vice president and director of integrated marketing for Coca-Cola. They are among numerous guest speakers who have given their time to discuss workplace experiences and offer professional advice to the program participants.

Funding for the program also has an alumni connection. Margo Thomas Steinbaugh '74 helped to make the program possible with her generous support.

"I believe in the value of experiential learning," she said, "and I want to see the opportunities expanded." ■

—Jennifer Dick '10 and Ryan Maurer



The team recently presented solutions and recommendations to senior leaders at Google and Accenture during the program's annual trip to Chicago.



Arctic Adventure

Wittenberg Choir Selected for Unique 1963 Tour



Front, from left, Judy Ripper Flint '64, Jere Flint '65, Jackie May Burson '64, Sue Hesse '64 and Jan Printz Snyder '64; Back, from left, the late Pat Talcott Hagerty, Gary Pinter '65, the late L. David Miller, Jim Telfer, the late Fran Elizalde Haskins, the late Allan "Duffy" Johnston, Mary Lou Milliron Hudtloff '65, Doug Perry '65, Sandra Driscoll '63 and David Tursan '63 (not pictured).

During the dead of winter in 1963, 13 students, L. David Miller, choir director, and James Telfer, public relations assistant and performing member of the group, boarded a plane to begin a tour that would cover nearly 16,000 miles in little more than five weeks. The group's mission: to entertain troops at United States military posts on high alert in the Arctic, and to serve as the choir for Sunday church services in the local communities.

According to the *Torch*, the group, Sounds of Wittenberg, was one of only 20 entertainment packages selected by the USO and the National Association of Music Clubs from among the 300 college and university groups that auditioned. The round-trip and all overseas expenses were paid by the U.S. Department of Defense.

Thule, Greenland, 600 miles from the North Pole, equidistant from Moscow,

Seattle and New York, where temperatures hovered around 70 degrees below zero and darkness prevailed for 24 hours in the winter, was one stop on the unique tour.

"We had to stay indoors two to three days and eat K-rations," Jere Flint '65 remembered. "The exterior doors were like large meat locker doors, the sound was like a speeding freight train, and flesh would freeze in less than a minute."

"When the weather cleared, we were moved to the hospital and had to stay in again," said Mary Lou Milliron Hudtloff '65. "We gave several performances there."

The group traveled via the Gooney Bird – the C-47, a two-engine cargo plane that sits on its tail with seats facing backwards.

"They put in 15 seats just for us," recalled fellow traveler Doug Perry '65. "The weather was horrendous. On one rough flight, the plane dropped so quickly, the

coffee in my cup stayed in the air. It was like a cartoon."

Spirits high, the group entertained thousands of servicemen with a musical variety show that included solos, duets and combos of popular show tunes, dancing and joke telling. After the performances, the students would talk with the servicemen.

"It was phenomenal," Flint said. "I loved it. It was one of the highlights of my life."

"We were wined and dined so royally by the officers," Perry added. "It was an incredible experience."

A television performance, which reached an estimated 12,000 viewers, and a packed house at a public concert in Goose Bay, Labrador, added to the excitement.

"There were sacrifices along the way – taking exams early to allow for practice and catching up," Hudtloff said, "but it was well worth it. Everyone was kind and appreciative, and the camaraderie among the group was wonderful."

A follow-up letter to President Stoughton summarized the experience: "When the 15 enthusiastic entertainers from your school arrived in Argonia (Newfoundland), they presented the words 'Wittenberg University,' and they carried the name well. They will have a lasting impact upon all concerned. On stage, at the BOQ they were to us a pleasant reminder of home, and they shared their youth with us and lifted us momentarily out of the depression of loneliness. You may well be proud of the reputation, the dignity and the memories they spread so graciously while on their tour." ■

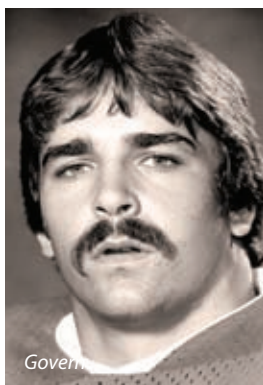
– Phyllis Eberts '00



Wittenberg Announces Athletics Hall of Honor 2009 Class



Clayton



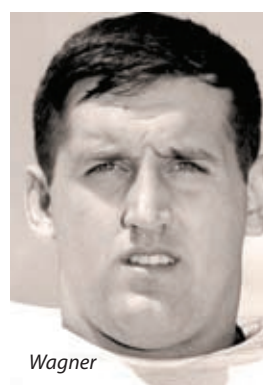
Govern



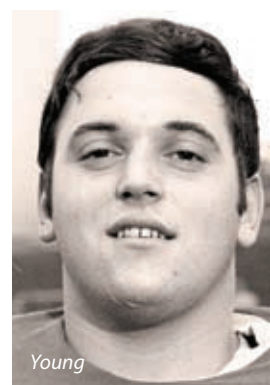
Jurewicz



Newlin



Wagner



Young

Joe Govern '80, Sarah Jurewicz '98, Sarah Newlin '96, Bob Wagner '69, Tom Young '70 and longtime statistician Joe Clayton have been selected to join 178 others in the Wittenberg Athletics Hall of Honor. The six members of the class of 2009 will be inducted at a banquet on Friday, Oct. 23, and will be introduced to Wittenberg's loyal fans during halftime of the annual Homecoming football game against Carnegie Mellon the next day.

Govern was a hard-working defensive tackle who led the Tigers to back-to-back appearances in the national championship game in 1978 and 1979. He was a two-time first-team All-Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) selection, and he earned the Hank Critchfield Award given to the top defensive player in the OAC, following his senior year.

Jurewicz was the first junior in the women's basketball program to reach 1,000-point plateau, and her career point total remains the best in school history. She returned to her alma mater to coach the women's basketball team in 2007 following the passing of her coach and mentor, Pam Evans Smith. As a player, Jurewicz was a four-time All-North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) honoree, three-time team MVP and three-year captain.

Newlin was the first student-athlete from the women's soccer program to earn All-America honors, and she remains the lone Wittenberg female to earn national player of the year honors after picking up that award in 1995. Still the school

record-holder for career and season saves, Newlin was a three-time All-NCAC honoree who led her team to a sparkling 51-23-3 record in four years in the Red & White.

Wagner was a two-time first-team All-OAC selection for this work on the football field, and a two-time all-region selection for his defensive work on the lacrosse team. He went on to a successful football coaching career, earning Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year honors in 1989 for his success as the head coach at the University of Hawaii.

Young was the captain and in many ways the heart and soul of Wittenberg's 1969 national championship football squad. He won the Golden Helmet award that year for his "toughness and leadership by example," according to Coach Dave Maurer. The Tigers posted a phenomenal 32-4 overall record during Young's collegiate career, which was capped by Associated Press All-America Honors following the 1969 season.

Clayton served as a statistician in Wittenberg's football and basketball pressboxes for nearly 30 years before his passing in March 2009. In addition to keeping statistics during hundreds of football, men's basketball and women's basketball games, he also helped track statistics for Wittenberg men's and women's soccer games and volleyball tournaments in recent years. Also a member of the Athletics Hall of Honor committee, Clayton did almost all of his work on a volunteer basis. ■ —Erin Slattery '10 and Ryan Maurer



Matt Borland '09

Two Men's Soccer Standouts Enjoy Professional Opportunities In Sport

Former Tiger men's soccer standouts Matt Borland '09 and Justin Jenkins '09 may have exhausted their collegiate eligibility, but that doesn't mean their soccer careers have ended. In fact, they may have just begun.

Borland, the first two-time North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) Offensive Player of the Year in program history, has been invited to practice and play scrimmage games with the Columbus Crew, the defending champions of Major League Soccer (MLS). Jenkins, a four-year starting sweeper for the Tigers, has earned a roster spot with the Cincinnati Kings, a semi-professional team that plays in the Premier Development League, a division of the United Soccer League.

Although he has not been offered a contract with the Crew, Borland has made the most of a golden opportunity to display his skills to the team's coaches. He has practiced regularly with the team since early April, and he has played extensively in scrimmages against NCAA Division I powerhouses Marshall University, Akron University and The Ohio State University. Borland has played midfield, frequently lining up with some of the Crew's top players, including defender Frankie Hejduk, who has earned more than 80 caps while playing with the U.S. national team.

Jenkins, the 2005 NCAC Newcomer of the Year, spearheaded a Wittenberg defensive unit that allowed just 10 goals during a school-record 13-game winning streak to start the 2008 season. He began practicing with the Kings in late March, and he was inserted as a starter before the team's 2009 opener, May 16. ■ —Ryan Maurer

Miller Inducted Into Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame & Museum

Wittenberg's illustrious basketball history continues to gain statewide notoriety as Eldon Miller '61 became the third former Tiger standout to gain entry into the Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame & Museum. Miller was one of 17 players, coaches and officials from around the state inducted during a dinner and ceremony on May 30 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. In addition, four boys' teams from Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School and six girls' teams from Pickerington High School were honored at the 2009 event.

Miller joins his former teammate Al Thrasher '64 and the late Head Coach Ray Mears, both of whom were inducted a year ago. The trio was further honored in 2006 when the 1961 Wittenberg men's basketball team, which captured the university's first national championship in any sport, was part of the inaugural Ohio Basketball Hall of



Fame & Museum induction class. Also at that time, Wittenberg's 1977 national championship men's basketball team was honored.

After earning four varsity letters as a player at Wittenberg, Miller moved

to the bench as an assistant coach for one year before assuming the head position at the tender age of 23. His first team posted a 26-2 record, won the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) and advanced all the way to the NCAA College Division championship game before losing by two points to South Dakota State.

It was the start of a highly successful 36-year coaching career. After guiding the Tigers to four more OAC titles through 1970, Miller moved on to Western Michigan from 1971-76, Ohio State from 1977-86 and Northern Iowa from 1987-98. At Western Michigan, he produced the school's first Mid-American Conference Championship in 1976. At Ohio State, four of his 10 Buckeye teams advanced to the NCAA Division I Tournament, with the 1986 squad capturing the National Invitational Tournament title. ■ —Ryan Maurer

American Volleyball Coaches Association Recognizes Baume

Once upon a time, Brittany Baume '02 thought her future was in the medical profession. Less than a decade later, Baume has been recognized as one of the top young volleyball coaches in America with a Thirty Under 30 Award from the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), announced in the February/March edition of the AVCA's magazine *Coaching Volleyball*.

After teaching and coaching in Japan and then at nearby Urbana University, Baume returned to her hometown in 2005 to serve as the Tigers' assistant volleyball and women's basketball coach.



ERIN PENCE '04

coach and player, Baume was a part of seven NCAC regular season titles, seven NCAC Tournament crowns, eight NCAA Division III Tournament appearances and three national semifinal finishes. She is

With Baume as a coach, Wittenberg posted a staggering 140-17 overall record between 2005 and 2008, including a North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) regular season mark of 53-

1. As a Wittenberg

also one of 12 student-athletes in program history to surpass the 1,000-kill plateau.

"The thing that makes Brittany a truly special coach is not just her excellent teaching and training style or her tireless work ethic, it's the intangibles, like how much she cares about each player, the extra mile she will go for her co-workers, the attention to detail in the office and her profound love of volleyball," said Head Coach Paco Labrador. "She faced quite a few challenges over the last few years and had to be more than just a coach to many Wittenberg volleyball and basketball players. She faces challenges with strength, poise and compassion." ■

—Ryan Maurer

Student-Athlete Publishes Research Findings In Leading Biological Journal



ERIN PENCE '04

Michael Condon '10 may be a fleet-footed, hard-working midfielder on the Tiger men's soccer team by night, but the three-year starter and 2009 team captain has also made a name for himself in the classroom and the biology laboratory during his collegiate career.

An aspiring medical school applicant, Condon's research with Professor of Biology Jay Yoder on giant Madagascar hissing cockroaches was published in a recent issue of the acclaimed scientific journal *Symbiosis*. They published findings about symbiotic interactions between two different organisms living together, specifically focusing on the Madagascar hissing cockroach and the effect of adding mites to the surface of the cockroach.

As Madagascar hissing cockroaches are frequently handled in classrooms, zoos and museums, Condon and Yoder realized the importance of removing the fungi-type mold that frequently accumulates on the surface of this particular species of cockroach. They focused on a way to decrease or eliminate the fungus and thus prevent mold allergies and asthma that sometimes develops among children interacting with these creatures.

Symbiosis is one of the world's leading biological journals, particularly in ecology, with a focus on interactions that involve how two different organisms live together and any benefits that result. It is relatively unusual for undergraduates to be published in such journals. ■

—Ryan Maurer

Football Team Organizes Competition To Benefit Wittenberg Relay For Life

Wittenberg's football coaching staff recently encouraged team members to stay up late and enjoy the party. The Tiger players competed against one another to raise money for cancer research through the American Cancer Society's annual Wittenberg Relay for Life event, April 25-26.

Wittenberg football players split into eight teams, with a total of 65 players and coaches collectively raising more than \$2,500. ■



TOM MESCHER



Softball Pitcher Earns All-Region Honors

Rachael Hatcher '09 capped her collegiate career with second-team All-Central Region honors and North Coast Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year honors. Hatcher was dominant at times in 2009, highlighted by a no-hitter against Wooster on April 25, the second of her career. Hatcher established school records for career victories (51), strikeouts (348) and innings pitched (469), and her career earned run average of 2.09 ranks second in school history. ■

Professional, College Greats Join Baseball Staff

A Wittenberg baseball coaching staff already spearheaded by veteran head coach Jay Lewis '94 and assistant coach Rick Gold, a member of both the Miami Valley Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame and the Ohio High School Coaches Association Hall Of Fame, was bolstered in 2009 by two more outstanding baseball minds.

Former Major League Baseball standout and Springfield native Rick White brought 14 years of professional pitching experience to the staff, while Craig Isaac '94 returned to his alma mater's dugout after eight seasons leading the baseball program at nearby Shawnee High School. The pair headed up the Tiger pitching staff in 2009, helping Wittenberg to records of 18-21 overall and 7-9 in the North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) West Division.

Isaac led one of the most successful high school baseball programs in the area, capping his career with three league titles before earning entry into the Clark County Baseball Hall of Fame earlier this year. During his collegiate playing days, Isaac earned three All-NCAC awards and was selected to the All-Mideast Region team as a senior in 1994. ■

—Ryan Maurer

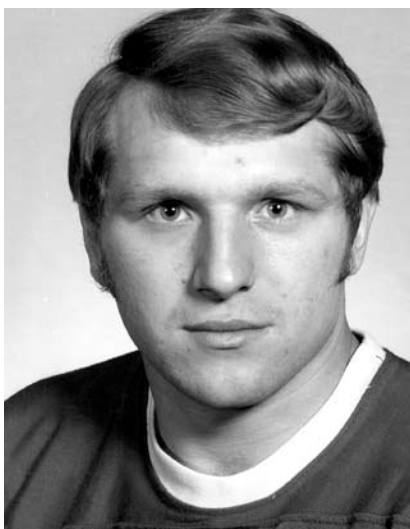


Scholar-Athlete Alumnus Inducted Into Ohio Lacrosse Foundation Hall of Fame

Ron Klawitter '73 became the first Tiger men's lacrosse player to gain entry into the Ohio Lacrosse Foundation Hall of Fame when he was inducted during a dinner and ceremony, June 13, at The Ohio State University.

Klawitter was one of five members of the class of 2009 to be inducted into the Ohio Lacrosse Foundation Hall of Fame, founded in 1994. Female and male high school All-America honorees were also recognized during the event.

Just the second two-sport All-American in Wittenberg history, Klawitter was a standout in both football and lacrosse. As a linebacker, he was a second-team



Associated Press Little All-America and a first-team Lutheran All-America honoree as a senior on the 1972 squad. In addition, he earned the Hank Critchfield Award, and he earned Most Valuable Player honors in the All-Ohio Shrine Bowl following the season.

A CPA, Klawitter currently serves as the executive vice president of administration, CFO and treasurer of Key Tronics Corp in Spokane, Wash., and he has held several other senior leadership roles in a career that reflects not only the discipline required in athletics, but also the strong academic foundation he received at Wittenberg. ■

—Ryan Maurer

Coffee Break



A class on a cup o' joe connected students to another culture, but the accompanying field experience changed their perspectives forever.

*by Gabrielle
Antoniadis*

*photo by Ross
Ballinger '07*

High in the mountains of Guatemala during the early evening hours, eight first-year students sit under the fading sun with two professors listening to the story of Rigoberto, an ex-guerilla-fighter-turned-organic-coffee-and-banana farmer. A short time later, the students gather under the stars in the Santa Anita Cooperative's coffee-drying patio after a home-cooked meal and cold showers to reflect on Rigoberto's words.

The experience proved to be just one of many perspective-changing ones the freshmen encountered during the optional travel component of their fall WittSem course, "Making Coffee: Culture, Capitalism and Consumption." After visiting coffee farms and plantations of every imaginable size and type, along with a diverse group of farmers, the students returned to campus with a deeper understanding of what they learned in the fall — a simple cup of coffee is not so simple.

For these first-year students, the fact that Rigoberto had only three fingers

was not the most compelling part of his story. Rather, it was his description of the struggles of being an organic farmer in the highlands.

"It is easy to go into the mountains and pick up a gun to fight oppression; but it takes courage to come down and make a life as a community," he said, moving many students to tears.

It was not the kind of experience a student could ever get from reading a book or even watching a film, and for Tammy Proctor, professor of history, and Nancy McHugh, associate professor of philosophy, that was the point. After spending the fall semester teaching the history, politics, economics, culture and ethics of coffee production, Proctor and McHugh traveled with eight of the 37 students in the unique WittSem to Guatemala, so the students could experience firsthand much of what they had learned.

"The trip allowed the students to expand their understanding of the connection between the various parts



of the global coffee cultures that we studied,” Proctor says. “They were able to see those connections at work in a unique way.”

Ellen Kortesoja '12 jumped at the chance to travel when she read about the class. “I have always wanted to go everywhere,” she says. “I was very impressed that Witt gave me this opportunity so early.”

“I knew I wanted to travel,” added Katie Minter '12, “and Guatemala was especially intriguing because it is not the typical country you think of going to, which made it even more interesting.”

For Proctor and McHugh, coffee was the perfect vehicle to explore a whole range of issues. And having

The travelers saw with their own eyes exactly how the choices they make on a daily basis affect people in small communities around the world.

students trace the journey of a coffee bean from distant places to the Starbucks or local coffee shop helped students see the “human face” behind their morning cup of joe. It wasn’t long after coming up with the concept for the class that they hit on the idea of traveling to a coffee-producing country. What better way to really grasp the connections than to actually visit coffee farms, and meet coffee growers and producers? The two had already traveled to Guatemala and established the feasibility of such a trip. They then wrote a proposal that was eventually accepted as a pilot project for Wittenberg.

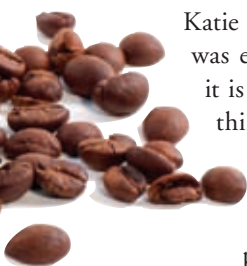
“There has been a surge in media coverage on issues around coffee, so it was a timely topic,” Proctor says.

Both professors are excited to be part of a pilot at Wittenberg and, based on their experience, are even more convinced of the value of the relatively new idea of travel abroad for first-year students.

“It was exciting to see a shift in thinking in those who traveled – something definitely happened because of what they experienced,” McHugh says. “Everyone who took the class in the fall recognized themselves as part of a larger global system. But the travelers saw with their own eyes exactly how the choices they make on a daily basis affect people in small communities around the world.”

After nine days visiting Guatemala by van, truck bed, “tuk-tuk,” boat and plane, the students also felt a lot closer to people they could once barely imagine. One of those individuals was Julio Cuy, the man who processed the coffee they drank all fall at Un Mundo Café in downtown Springfield. They had seen him in a mural painted on the café’s wall, but they now stood in his very humble home, where he processed the coffee beside his hanging laundry.

“It was mind-blowing to see how people lived there,” Minter says. “Actually talking to the farmers and seeing what we studied made it so much more real.”



First-year students who traveled to Guatemala included:

Lizzie Ballinger, Danielle Jacobson, Jessica Konczak, Ellen Kortesoja, Declan McBride, Katie Minter, Andrew Saba and Parker Wright.



hiking up the side of a volcano and visiting spectacular Mayan ruins, they also gained much more than a travel experience. For most, it seems to have ignited a fire to do more and see more. And having this experience as freshmen gave many a heightened sense of purpose that might not otherwise have come so early in their college careers.

"I see how much I have compared to the people I met in Guatemala, and I want to give back," said Wright, whose interest in joining the Peace Corps post-college was solidified because of the trip.

Kortesoja and Minter echo Wright's enthusiasm for more travel and for making a difference. Barely home from Guatemala, Minter is getting ready to study conservation research in Costa Rica this summer. Kortesoja now says



The extreme poverty was also shocking for most of the student participants.

Minter recalls that the hardships were made clear when Julio explained that it had been difficult to clean the coffee because they had not had fresh water for two days. Such experiences are likely to stay with these students and have already influenced their decisions about issues large and small – from what kind of coffee they choose to drink to what academic path they choose.

"It is one thing to read about poverty in a book and another thing to see it," Parker Wright '12 says. "It was extremely humbling."

McHugh and Proctor saw this evolution of perspective as the trip went on, especially as the group gathered in the evening for reflection. This



unstructured time to share thoughts on the day's experiences led to discussions of privilege, culture and other questions of life that sometimes lasted more than two hours.

"Those reflection times gave them the space to really talk about things that they would not have talked about otherwise," McHugh says.

While the eight students who spent their spring break in Guatemala enjoyed walking through lush rainforests,

she has a better sense of where her true interests lie: "I want to know about the world and why people are the way they are."

The success of this trip has Proctor and McHugh hoping to do another trip next year, possibly with an added service component where the students stay and work on a farm. Says Proctor, "There is nothing like seeing something for yourself to help you make a connection between learning and how you live." ■



Distinguished Teacher

The phrase
“kid at heart”
may describe

Matthew J. Smith, but it’s what he does in the classroom that truly defines him. Since joining the Wittenberg faculty in 2001, the associate professor of communication has turned his own childhood interests into powerful teaching tools that help demystify media messages.

by Karen Gerboth '93



The ability to teach what I'm passionate about is infectious to students, and it's what I love about teaching at Wittenberg," Smith says. "I can demonstrate my own passion for learning, and students see that I'm teaching because I want to do so."

And clearly they do, considering Smith recently received the university's most prestigious faculty prize, the Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Teaching, thanks to nominations from students, colleagues and alumni.

Reflecting on the recognition, Smith, who teaches courses on media literacy, television criticism, media law and graphic storytelling, says it was a tremendous honor and a big surprise.

"Those who know me know that I talk a lot about Wittenberg moments I've had," Smith says. "These moments are the distinctive experiences I've had here—my first convocation, the senior banquet for our communication majors, the senior class picnic. Receiving this award is one of those moments. It ranks as one of the two great honors of my career. The other was being asked to join the Wittenberg faculty."

The appreciation and pride he feels emanates throughout his Hollenbeck Hall office as he begins to discuss the path that brought him to Wittenberg and the individuals who influenced his career. One such person was Dave Thomas, whom Smith quickly differentiates from the late Wendy's restaurant chain founder. Thomas, an English professor at West Liberty State College, where Smith earned his B.A. in the same discipline, enters Smith's mind every time he walks into the classroom.

"He had such a rapport with students," Smith says. "He was so clear, so passionate and so precise, and he wasn't artificial. He was lively and organized, and he fit with me and became my model for teaching."

The way Smith engages with his own students in the classroom affirms these characteristics, as does his out-of-class conversations, many of which have led students to consider options that they might not have without his intervention.

"Wittenberg offers that ability to help students rethink their potential and then take it and guide it," Smith says. "There is no greater reward than seeing a student discover his or her passion."

The methods Smith employs to help in the journey of discovery have also inspired students and colleagues. Whether it be analyzing *American Idol* to uncover the underlying values being taught or teaching comics as communication to decode the visual messages, Smith brings humor and contemporary twists to his teaching so students understand pop culture's impact on their lives.

"Because media interfaces are so commonplace, many assume that they are as natural as the air we breathe rather than the products of human activity subject for review," Smith explains.

To make that realization come alive for his classes, Smith works to develop a point of common ground, delving into popular culture as a unifying source around which his students can relate.

"It's about making people more conscious about the decisions they are making in their media consumption," Smith says. "I also want them to understand pop culture's appeal, and more importantly, its affect on them."

The first person in his immediate family to go to college, Smith also reflects a sincere gratitude for the opportunities he has received, and he works diligently to provide opportunities for others.

"I push myself to create experiences for my students that I never had," he says, and the results of his efforts are clear as evidenced by the number of students who regularly seek out his advice and by a gift he received from members of the communication department following the Distinguished Teaching award presentation.

Reaching up on his organized bookshelf, Smith pulls down the gift, a framed photo of him with his family. The inscription simply reads: "We are proud to call you friend and colleague."

Smith would say the same of them and his students.

"People care so much here," Smith says, "and it has meant so much to me." ■

Smith Stats

Birthplace:

Wheeling, W. Va.

Education:

Ph.D. in Interpersonal Communication, Ohio University, 1998

M.A. in English, Ohio University, 1995

B.A. in English, West Liberty State College, 1993

Academic Honors:

Top Paper Award in Human Information Technologies, Eastern Communication Association, 1999

Claude E. Kantner Research Fellow, Ohio University, 1997-1998

Hazlett A. Cochran Award for Excellence in Journalism, West Liberty State College, 1993

Professional Activity:

Published, reviewed and presented more than 60 monographs since 1995

Developed summer field study program for students attending the annual Comic-Con International

Current President, Ohio Communication Association

Member, Eastern Communication Association, and current chair of its Ethics Ad Hoc Committee

Co-developed new Communication Leaders program at Wittenberg (see page 16)

Published four textbooks, two of which were "firsts" in their fields: *Online Communication* for computer-mediated communication courses, and *The Power of Comics* for courses in graphic storytelling

Fun Facts:

Proud father of 6-year-old twins, Trevor and Kent

Married in 2000 so the math would always be easy when remembering his anniversary



Throughout her youth, Alicia Sweet Hupp '82 watched her father contribute his time, talent and treasure to his company and his community. She saw how he positively affected people, and she admired his tenacity and his compassion. Yet, she never envisioned being a part of his career until the day her father's manufacturing company came calling. Now, 27 years later, including 13 as the company's president, Hupp continues to take Sweet Manufacturing to new heights, all the while remembering her hometown.



Sweet

During an afternoon drive down Springfield's Leffel Lane, a casual passer-by might not realize that one of the world's top providers of material handling solutions resides just off the two-lane road. With its country surroundings and signature green logo atop a green metal roof, the company conveys a personal, approachable, down-to-earth aura consistent with its business philosophy and the leadership style of its CEO and president Alicia Sweet Hupp. A walk inside confirms the hometown feel as Hupp heads back to her corner office.

There, inside her windowless, dark-paneled room, guests immediately understand Hupp's inspiration, not only in business, but also in life. For her, success is not measured solely in dollars, but in an uncompromising commitment to her employees, her clients and her community.

"I want to be able to contribute to this community to the best of my ability," Hupp says. "I also surround myself with great people, and together we do a great job."

For more than 50 years, family-owned Sweet Manufacturing has been recognized around the globe as an industry leader for "The Quality Line" of bulk material handling and processing equipment, conveyor support systems, structural support towers, stairs and grating. With nearly 30 international dealers and roughly 50 domestic ones in its network, Sweet is poised to be the world's first-choice provider in its industry.

"Innovation, high-quality products and unparalleled customer service have been Sweet's hallmark for half a century," says Hupp, whose initial introduction to the industry occurred at the tender age of 3.

Back then, Sweet developed and produced the "Sweetheart" elevator bucket, which Hupp's father and company founder, W. Dean Sweet, marketed using his daughter's toddler photo. Known as "Miss Sweet" in all the promotional materials, Hupp soon became a household image within the industry.

Yet, as time passed and Sweet Manufacturing continued to enjoy success, Hupp found herself looking outside her hometown for her career path. While at Wittenberg, she saw herself in Chicago working at a marketing firm, but then the phone rang. It was her father's successor at Sweet, and he asked Hupp if she would be interested in interning at the company during the holiday break, specifically in the marketing division.

She agreed and soon thereafter was offered an entry-level role at Sweet Manufacturing.

"I thought it would be temporary," Hupp recalls, noting the lack of women in administrative capacities within the industry when she began.

More than two decades later, Hupp has never forgotten her journey to the top. Having worked in numerous administrative roles at Sweet before being named president and CEO, Hupp knows that success of Sweet's magnitude is not the result of one, but rather the result of everyone who embodies the company values, which include being consistent and fair; acting with integrity, honesty and respect; being responsible for internal and external customer needs; striving for excellence; embracing challenges; and being a good teammate and citizen.

"I'm very team-oriented, and I'm humbled when people look at our company and tell us they like doing business with us because 'we're like family,'" says Hupp, who regularly serves as a role model for bridge-building.

"I work very hard at relationship-building," she continues. "It has been challenging at times, but I've learned to just be myself, and in so doing, I've earned the respect of others."

The same can be said of Hupp and her respect of others in the industry. For example, this past January, she hosted the company's top worldwide dealers at a reception in Atlanta. An award-winning company in its own right, having twice secured the Governor's E Award for excellence in exporting by the State of Ohio, Sweet took time to recognize others at the celebration.

"The people in this industry are just wonderful, real people," Hupp says. "It's a privilege to recognize them."

Hupp's desire to give back has also inspired those closer to home, where she has served her community through service on several boards, including Wittenberg's Board of Directors, and where she has followed her father's philanthropic footsteps as well as his professional ones.

"I never realized the magnitude of what he did when I was younger," Hupp says. "The success of Sweet Manufacturing is pretty amazing when you stop and think about it. He was an inspiration and an advocate for education, and he also respected so many people in this community. I inherited all of this from him. I love this industry and the people in it, and I'm proud to be a part of this community." ■

Success

by Karen
Gerboth '93
photos by Erin
Pence '04

Witt Nation 2009 Hits The Road

The Office of Alumni Relations' award-winning alumni tour kicked into high gear June 19 with new faces and a new theme. Titled "Witt Nation-Engage," this year's tour introduces the full-time traveling duo of Ashley Manson '09 (below left) and Ben McCombs '09 (middle). Both will be joined throughout the trip by Director of Alumni Relations Linda Prain Beals '87 (right) and fellow members of the inaugural Witt Nation

team Bob Rafferty '02, director of new media and webmaster, and Ashley Petersen '07, assistant director of alumni relations. This year's trip also has a significant faculty component with more than 25 faculty members signed up to participate at one or more stops.

"The enthusiasm and excitement about this year's trip has been overwhelming," Beals said. "We are thrilled to be on the road again."

While on tour for 33 days, the 2009 Witt Nation roadies will travel more than 8,000 miles, host events in 27 cities, conduct several service events and meet more than 1,000 Wittenberg alumni, students, and future students, all the while capturing their Wittenberg memories and stories as they discuss what it means to be a Wittenberger.

To learn more about this year's trek, including the generosity of alumni throughout the trip, click on the tour's Web site at www.wittenberg.edu/wittnation. For questions, contact Beals at (937) 327-6374. ■



Witt Nation 2009 Tour Stops

June 19
Springfield, Ohio
June 20
Pittsburgh, Pa.
June 28
Cincinnati, Ohio
June 29
Indianapolis, Ind.
June 30-July 1
Chicago, Ill.

July 2
Milwaukee, Wis.
July 3
Minneapolis, Minn.
July 5
Rapid City, S.D.
July 7
Jackson, Wyo.
July 8
Missoula, Mont.

July 9
Seattle, Wash.
July 10
Portland, Ore.
July 11-12
San Francisco, Calif.
July 14
San Diego, Calif.
July 15-16
Las Vegas, Nev.

July 18
Denver, Colo.
July 20
St. Louis, Mo.
July 21
Nashville, Tenn.
July 22
Atlanta, Ga.
July 23
Raleigh, N.C.

July 23-24
Washington, D.C.
July 25
Philadelphia, Pa.
July 25
New York, N.Y.
July 26
Fairfield, Conn.
July 28
Cleveland, Ohio

July 29
**Akron/Canton
Youngstown, Ohio**
July 30-31
Columbus, Ohio

For more on the events
at each stop, log on to
[www.wittenberg.edu/
wittnation](http://www.wittenberg.edu/wittnation)

Mark your
calendars.

Homecoming Weekend
Oct. 23 - 25, 2009



Young Alumni Tour Europe

Shortly after graduation, Ashley Petersen '07, assistant director of alumni relations, joined 12 members of the class of 2009 for a 17-day tour of Europe, May 22-June 7. Sarah D'Andrea '03 and Allen D'Andrea '03 also traveled with the group, which caught up with Robert Kihlstrom '66 and Jim Wade '69 while on tour. ■

Alumni Gather in Florida



More than 30 alumni reconnected in and around Deerfield Beach, Fla., during Wittenberg's first East Coast event in the Sunshine State. Those attending included Florence Tannenbaum '39 and the family of Jacques Watters '89. ■



Dallas Alumni Welcome President

Hosted by Lewis Shaw '66 in his home, Wittenberg's event in Dallas, April 20, brought numerous alumni together. Those gathered included Stephanie Zorn '07 and her parents, John '73 and Marcia Garman Zorn '73, Linda Weber Collins '80, as well as President Mark H. Erickson, below, with Shaw. ■



Sarasota Event Reconnects Alumni

Hosted by Georgiana Albright '40 and Don Hillerich '61, Wittenberg's annual Sarasota, Fla., event on March 11 attracted more than 120 alumni. Those in attendance included 1962 alumnae Marcia Franke Manter, Joan Ramsdale Hofelich and Elisabeth Dodds Vinson. ■

'49 |

David L. and Bonnie Huprich Scharf '47 live in Akron, Ohio. In February 2009, David retired as pastor emeritus at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church after 60 years in the ministry.

'50 |

Peter L. Berger, Brookline, Mass., is professor emeritus

in the department of general instruction and research at Boston University.

'65 |

M. Earl Chadwick '69S retired after 30 years of service with the Montgomery County Common Pleas Court in Dayton, Ohio, where he managed an employment program, helped develop a community

prison and oversaw the implementation of a justice information system. He lives in Miamisburg, Ohio.

David A. Mann has retired from his position as supply pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Traverse City, Mich.

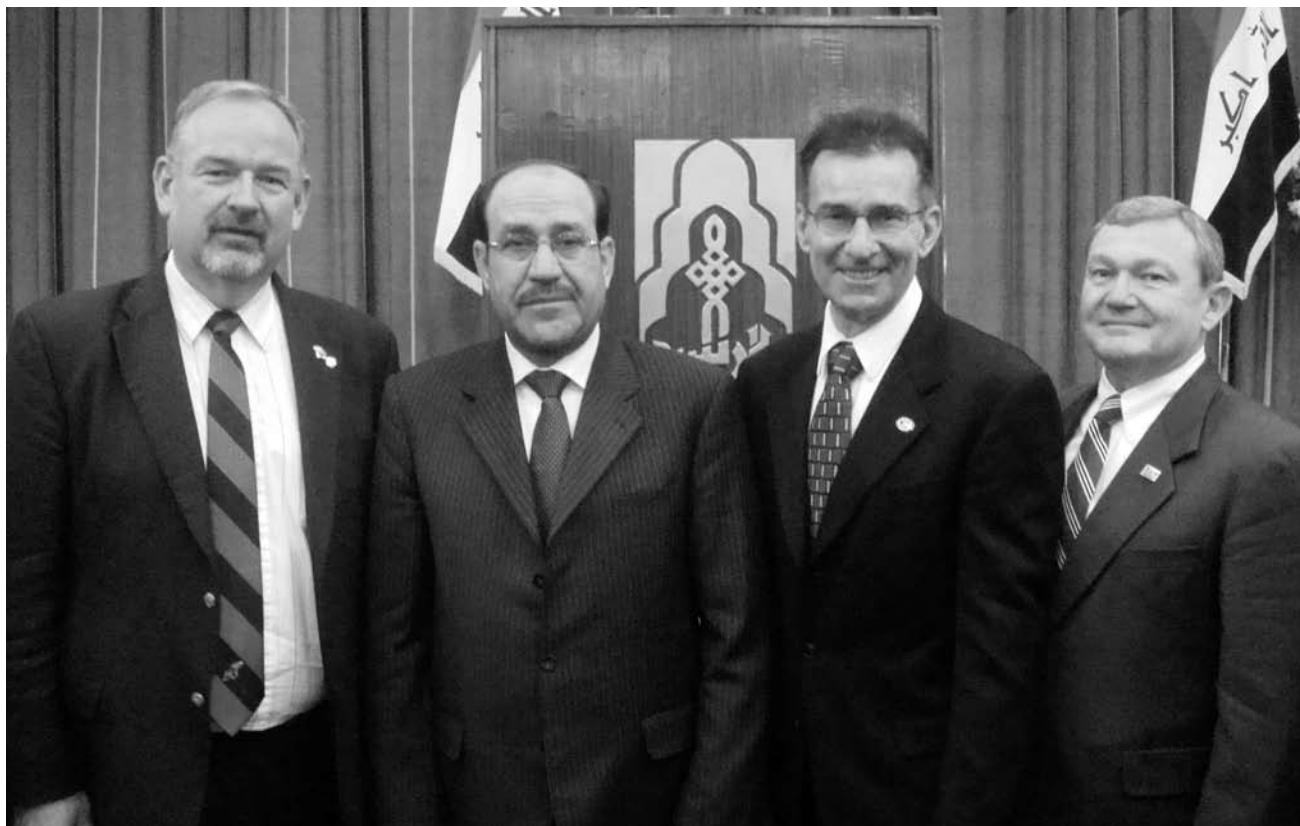
'66 |

Samuel W. and Elise Hendrixson Barnhart

recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. They live in Fond du Lac, Wis., where they enjoy golfing, traveling and spending time with their family and friends.

'69 |

Robert R. Brown III, Brookfield, Wis., is a private banking underwriter with Wells Fargo, Milwaukee, Wis.



Mark Algren '76 joined Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki, James Harter, assistant vice president for International Education, Emporia State University (Kan.), and Earl Ingram II, vice chancellor, Troy (Ala.), University Global Campus, during the recent launch of the Iraq Education Initiative.



P. Kay Carl '59

Chronicles Education Under The Lights Of Las Vegas

The birth and growth of a county school district might not sound like the stuff of books – unless that school district is the nation's fifth largest and includes Las Vegas, “the entertainment capital of the world.” P. Kay Carl '59 thought it was a story worth telling, and she would know. For 30 years, Carl worked in the Clark County School District in Nevada and presided over its phenomenal growth.

“I really felt we needed to preserve that history,” she says. “So I hooked up with colleagues who had gathered mementos for the county's 50th anniversary, and we put it all together.”

The result is *Education in the Neon Shadow: The First 50 Years of the Clark County School District* published in May 2009 and co-authored by Carl, Rick Watson, John R. Gallifent and Jonathan Peters. In her career as guidance counselor, principal and, eventually, assistant superintendent, Carl wrestled with the challenge of accommodating a student population that typically grew 12-15 thousand every year. She still remembers one year when they opened 18 new schools.

Carl says her liberal arts education at Wittenberg provided her with the fundamental skills necessary for success in every position she held and, perhaps most importantly, encouraged the development of her curiosity. She vividly recalls how her professors were always pushing her to ask questions.

“I am so grateful for my time at Wittenberg and for all it provided me – from the professors, to my sorority, to the many different opportunities I had there,” she says.

A native Ohioan, Carl made her way to Las Vegas years ago because “they were hiring, and I was ready for a change.” From those first days as a counselor at the nation's only accredited night school and throughout her career, she made quite a mark on the lives of thousands of children. In 2001, the district honored her by naming the Kay Carl Elementary School after her, an experience she calls “humbling and a bit scary.”

Nine years after retiring, she continues to be involved in the education of young people of all ages – from college students to the children at Carl Elementary.

“I come from a family of educators and education is what I'll be doing all my life,” she says. “It's in my blood.” ■ — Gabrielle Antoniadis



The Rev. David Hinkelman '66 and Professor Emeritus of Religion Cora Dice celebrated at a holiday concert at Paul's Run Retirement Community in Philadelphia.

Nancy Shepherd Kickertz, Richmond, Calif., has retired from her position as associate director of neuroscience marketing at Bristol-Myers Squibb.

Allen D. Jr. and Mimi Midboe Lodge live in Cypress, Texas. Allen has retired from Marathon Oil.

David E. Vlasak, Grosse Pointe, Mich., is manager of global investigations, corporate security and fire with the Ford Motor Co., Dearborn, Mich.

'70 | Jeffrey E. Anthony is president and chief executive officer with Heritage Capital Management Inc., Boston, Mass.

Stephen L. Patrick, Dover, Ohio, is with Emmanuel Lutheran Church, New Philadelphia, Ohio.

'71 | David P. Jr. and Dorothy Scott Anderson '70 live in Lebanon, N.J. After a 39-year teaching career, Dotty retired on Jan. 1, 2009. The last 35 years, she taught fourth

grade at the Bragg School in Chester, N.J.

James M. Funk, president of J.M. Funk & Assoc., an oil and gas business consulting firm in Sewickley, Pa., is a member of the board of directors with Range Resources Corp.

'72 | Julia Reinberger Bates of Toledo, Ohio, has served as the prosecuting attorney for Lucas County, as an executive committee member of the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association and as a member



Earl Chadwick '65, '69S



Abigail Bader, 11-17-08



Callie Bottoms, 1-29-09



Paige Caldwell, 12-3-08



William Devecchi, 2-12-09



Abigail Groth, 12-30-08



Annaserra Hofe, 8-22-08



Drew, 3, and Grant Kuhnle, 9-23-08



Miles Leman, 1-17-08



Kate Lowry, 11-15-08

Li'l Tigers

Abigail Elisabeth, daughter of Kim Copeland Bader '01 and husband Greg

Callie Jane, daughter of Kim Warner Bottoms '91 and husband Dave, joins big brothers Connor and Tate

Paige Catherine, daughter of Dave Caldwell '97 and wife Cheryl

William Giacomo, son of Elizabeth Stickney Devecchi '92 and husband, Fausto

Abigail Grace, daughter of Aaron '99 and Jennifer Majcher '00

Annaserra Rose, daughter of Chisholm Hofe '98 and wife Sarah

Drew and Grant, sons of Jason Kuhnle '98 and wife Kathryn

Miles David, son of David '99 and Lee Anne Davidson Leman '97

Kate Skidmore, daughter of Jonathan Lowry '86 and wife Carolyn

of the board of Crime Stoppers of Toledo. The governor of the State of Ohio has appointed her to the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Committee.

Kristin McLaughlin Culp has been named vice president of advancement at Clark State Community College in Springfield, Ohio. She continues as executive director of the Clark State Foundation and is responsible for marketing and college, legislative and public relations.

Kristin has completed a term on the national board of the Council for Resource Development and serves as scholarship chair for the local Rotary Club.

'75 | Kenneth C. Robinson is with FTI Healthcare in Brentwood, Tenn.

'76 | Mark S. Algren is associate director of the Applied English Center at the

University of Kansas in Lawrence. He represented the university at ceremonies in Baghdad to launch the Iraq Education Initiative.

F. Thomas Lichner was honored by the Moravian Theological Seminary, Allentown, Pa., for his parish ministry at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Pa., his counseling ministry with the Moravian Church, Northern Province, and his programs in spiritual direction and

counseling in the Lehigh Valley. Thomas lives in Macungie, Pa.

John P. Tafaro has been named president of Chatfield College in St. Martin, Ohio.

Milton O. Thompson lives and works in Indianapolis, Ind. He is president of Grand Slam Companies, vice president of corporate affairs with PinPoint Resources and a practicing attorney with SweetinBleeke.



Kevin Kutz '84

Shares Microsoft's Story

Originally intent on pursuing a career in foreign policy in Washington, D.C., Kevin Kutz became a bit sidetracked while earning his master's degree at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. With the energy and excitement of Boston beckoning at their back door, he and his wife, Karen Kirchhoff Kutz '83, decided to stay there, and Kutz's rewarding career in public relations began.

"My first real public relations job was working for Massachusetts Governor Weld in economic affairs," Kutz says. "I really liked it for the fun, challenge and impact."

After a few years, including some time in D.C., Kutz headed to Chicago, where he would spend the next 10 years working for Burson-Marsteller, a leading global public relations and communications firm, Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, as well as a small Internet consulting firm called Lante.

In 2005, another opportunity unfolded, this time with Microsoft, where Kutz took the helm as the director of public relations for Windows, "one of the world's best-known and most profitable brands, an incredibly sophisticated software product, the foundation for most of the global information technology industry, and an object of scrutiny for competitors and regulatory agencies," the political science major explains. "As such, there is an intensity of press interest around Windows that is unlike anywhere I've ever worked, including politics."

Last summer, Kutz was named Microsoft's director of public affairs, where he now focuses on communicating the company's work and perspectives on a range of social and public policy issues.

"Everything from international policies on freedom of expression to the swine flu outbreak to online child safety, and to more arcane matters like privacy protections in the European Union and fighting the Conficker worm – Microsoft is engaged across all these issues, and my job is to make sure the right audiences understand and support what we're doing," he says.

Looking back, Kutz is convinced that his Wittenberg education not only helped shape his faith in God, but also his future.

"My time at Wittenberg also changed me as a person and opened up career opportunities I never would have imagined," he says. "I'm grateful for all of it." ■

– Karen Gerboth '93

'77 |

William H. Bunnelle and **Leslie Evans** live in Mundelein, Ill. Leslie is an HR manager with Convergent Technologies in Schaumburg, Ill.

Carl R. and Deborah Burton Coburn '78 reside in Cincinnati, Ohio. Carl, a CPA, has been named president of Clark, Schaefer Hackett and Co., a regional accounting firm.

Sue Robinson Schneider is a band director at Greece Arcadia High School, Rochester, N.Y.

'78 |

Keith A. and Katherine Ruhmkorff Wegner '79 live in Golden, Colo. Katherine is an information developer at Hewlett Packard Co., Boulder, Colo.

Kathleen Hartley Wold is minister of music at First United Methodist Church, Gulfport, Miss.

'81 |

Scott F. and Lizbeth "Betsy" Gast Rechel live in Worthington, Ohio. Scott



Stephen Shanor '90

is president of SOLUT! in Lewis Center, Ohio.

Ann E.C. Rinderknecht has married Ronald Miko. They live in Columbia, S.C.

'82 |

Peter L. Newcomb, Summit, N.J., is a contributing editor with *Vanity Fair Magazine*, New York, N.Y.

'83 |

Jennifer Hufnagle Coldiron is project manager, bids and proposals with CompassLearning, Austin, Texas.

Paul T. and Laurie Baxter DeLong '85 live in Fairport, N.Y. Paul is director of Anixter, Rochester, N.Y.

'84 |

Class Reunion, Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend 2009

David T. Jr. and Jenny Miller Estle '83 live in Tybee Island, Ga. David is a radiologist with Chatham Radiologist PA, Savannah, Ga.

Kimberly B. Hogan is principal/national corporate partnerships with KHoganMedia, San Francisco, Calif.

Lee A. and Doris Sullivan Stockhaus '85 live in Lima, Ohio, where Lee is the instructional building coach at West Middle School. Doris, who teaches first grade at Independence Elementary School, earned her master's degree in education from Bluffton University on Aug. 22, 2008.

'85 |

Michael R. Henry is a partner with vistrin in Westlake, Ohio.

Be sure to check out our online wedding album
at www.wittenberg.edu/weddings



Wedding Album

Jeannette Messich '00 married Matt Loretitsch on Dec. 27, 2008. The couple resides in Akron, Ohio.



Jessica Stor Paumier '03 married Lewis Warren Biscamp on Sept. 27, 2008. They reside in Chicago, Ill.



Gina Aldridge '99 married Brian Clear on April 5, 2008. The couple lives in Radcliff, Ky.



Andi Kramer '02 and **Brad Zitzner '02** were married Nov. 3, 2007. The couple resides in Springfield, Ohio.

'86

T. Brian Fahy works for the Berkshire Insurance Group in Great Barrington, Mass.

Richard A. Fuchs, Laguna Beach, Calif., is a senior vice president with United Healthcare, Cypress, Calif.

Gayle Morton Holtman, vice president for programs with VSA arts of Indiana in Indianapolis, Ind., has been honored by the National Arts Education Association and the Art Education Association of Indiana as Indiana's Special Needs Art Educator. She lives in North Salem, Ind.

Jonathan E. Lowry and his wife, Carolyn, welcomed the birth of Kate Skidmore on Nov. 15, 2008. They live in Indianapolis, Ind.

Kristine K. Rittichier is a pediatrician in Boerne, Texas. She has been selected as a member of the 2008 class of the Wauseon Athletic Hall of Fame in Ohio.

Eric G. and Diane Avers Saupe live in Lewis Center, Ohio. Diane is the church visitation director with Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Services, Columbus, Ohio.

'88

*Class Reunion, Homecoming/
Reunion Weekend 2009*

Larry K. Homan is a sales executive with the Derringer Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Sarah Hettinger Wallace, Dublin, Ohio, is the office manager and bookkeeper at TechnoPlas Inc., Columbus, Ohio.



Mike Markson '89

Blazes His Own Trail As Entrepreneur

When Mike Markson graduated from Wittenberg with a degree in economics, he surely didn't know that 20 years later he would be on the brink of launching his third Internet start-up company. In fact, as he says, "I had no idea what I was going to do then."

More than one college graduate has wrestled with that feeling, but Markson still felt ready for whatever path presented itself. He credits Wittenberg with preparing him and giving him much more than an educational experience.

"It was a great place to grow – academically, but emotionally and socially as well," he says. "You might not know it when you leave Witt, but you are better positioned than you might think you are because of those four years of learning."

After a year of waiting tables, he enrolled in law school and received degrees from Capital University and Georgetown University. Then it was on to Washington, D.C., and New York City to practice. Recalling the long hours (and numerous all-nighters), he says he knew his days as a corporate attorney were numbered.

His quest for something new coincided with the first dot-com bubble, and Markson found himself swept up in it. Despite having no technology background, he moved to the heart of it all – Silicon Valley – and launched Terraspring Inc., his first start-up.

When the dot-com bubble burst, and he sold his company to Sun Microsystems, Markson found himself again at a crossroads of sorts.

Instead of panicking, however, Markson traveled for a year. But it wasn't long before he was back in the saddle launching Topix LLC, an automated news and community aggregate, with a group of high school friends. After selling it in 2005 to newspaper publishers Gannett, Knight-Ridder and Tribune, he eventually took his core team and is now in the process of launching Blekko, a search engine start-up.

There is no doubt that Markson has found his calling as an entrepreneur. As the only non-engineer at his company, he is technically the vice president of marketing, but he calls himself "the VP of everything else." And that is exactly what he loves about his work – it's challenging, fun and he has the chance to learn everyday by doing.

"There is no typical day in the life of an entrepreneur – every day is new and different," he says. "And, I get to make decisions way above my pay grade." ■

—Gabrielle Antoniadis

'89 |

*Class Reunion, Homecoming/
Reunion Weekend 2009*

John G. and Susan Batty Birle live in Lake Mary, Fla. John is a business manager with Entec Polymers LLC, Orlando, Fla.

Gregory M. Klaben of Scotts Valley, Calif., is vice president of investor relations with Plantronics Investor Relations, Santa Cruz, Calif.

'90 |

*Class Reunion, Homecoming/
Reunion Weekend 2009*

Stephen S. and Heidi Koenig Shanor '91 live in Roswell, N.M., where Stephen is associated with Atwood, Malone, Turner P.A. He has been sworn in as president-elect of the State Bar of New Mexico 2009 Board of Bar Commissioners. In October 2008, Heidi was awarded her master's degree in education technology from Lesley University, Cambridge, Mass. She teaches third grade at Military Heights Elementary School.

'91 |

Kimberly Warner Bottoms, Burlingame, Calif., and her husband, Dave, announce the birth of their third child, Callie Jane, on Jan. 29, 2009.

Michelle Hill Stevens, Mason, Ohio, is a chartered financial analyst with Riazzi Asset Management LLC, Dayton, Ohio.

'92 |

Megan Saum Brantley of Babson Park, Fla., is with the SYKES Corp., Tampa, Fla.

Elizabeth Stickney Devicchi and her husband, Fausto, announce the birth of William Giacomo on Feb. 12, 2009. They live in Wausau, Wis.

Gregg S. Fulmer is a hospitalist, emergency room physician and director of the Coumadin Clinic at Mary Rutan Hospital in Bellefontaine, Ohio.

'93 |

Erica Workman Gonzales is director of Christian education at the Karl Road Christian Church, Columbus, Ohio.



Horton H. Hobbs III, professor of biology, caught up with some alumni during the annual meeting of the North American Benthological Society held in Grand Rapids, Mich., May 17-23. From left, they included Mary Wilson Ogdahl '00, Kevin Simon '91, Hobbs, Rob Payn, Dan McGarvey '97 and Nick Jeremiah '94. Sherry Rainery Martin '95 and Andy Turner '85 also attended.



Karen Potts Vazquez '87 and Cathy Sagraves Krizner '87, their husbands and nine children enjoyed vacation in Nags Head, N.C., in 2008.

'94

Eric W. VanAtta, Olive Branch, Miss., is an outsourced operations manager with XO Communications, Memphis, Tenn.

Kelly Evans Wilson of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, owns and operates Seniors Helping Seniors, a new franchise which has developed a network of seniors to help one another to stay as self-sufficient for as long as possible in their own homes.

'95

Brenda Eagan Brown of New Castle, Pa., worked as a private brain injury educational consultant before becoming Brain STEPS School's re-entry statewide program coordinator.



Tommy and Nina Goforth Kearns '97 with their sons, William, 2, and Thomas, 4

Gregg E. Savage, Huntington Beach, Calif., teaches with the Newport Mesa Unified School District in Newport Beach, Calif.

'96

Manuel and Christa Mansholt Choy live in Flemington, N.J. Manuel is a director with Johnson and Johnson Health Care Systems, Piscataway, N.J.

Tracy L. Clements, Boston, Mass., is an audio script/copywriter with Silverlink Communications, Burlington, Mass.



Cindy Wetzel Lentol '90

Finds Success On The Big Screen

For Cindy Lentol, the opportunity to work alongside such stars as Matthew McConaughey and Tommy Lee Jones probably never entered her mind while at Wittenberg. Although interested in acting, Lentol never pursued the field during her college days, preferring instead to play field hockey, work in the sociology department and immerse herself in college life.

After graduation, however, Lentol officially caught the acting bug when she began auditioning for commercials and voiceovers. To pay the bills, Lentol used her graphic design skills to design educational games, electronic magazines and Web sites, which allowed her to squeeze in auditions during her lunch breaks. Yet, the more acting she did, the more she realized that it was her true calling, especially after working the teleprompter for a game show.

"I knew I had to be in front of the camera because when I was watching this actor having such a good time and getting paid for it, I realized I could do what I love and make a living doing it," she says.

Determined to succeed, Lentol took a vacation day to attend an audition for a national Bob Evans' commercial. When she landed the spot, she knew she had finally arrived.

"I'm in; I get it now," Lentol recalls. Nearly two decades later, Lentol has appeared in numerous films, commercials, industrial videos and print campaigns. Her voice has also been featured in national radio and television commercials. She has also appeared in several television shows, including *Providence*, *Empire Falls*, and the pilot *Bunker Hill*, and she has landed roles in such blockbuster movies as *The Departed*, *Mona Lisa Smile* and *Prozac Nation*. More recently, Lentol played "Amy, the Stewardess," with McConaughey in *Ghosts of Girlfriends Past*, and she will soon appear in the upcoming film *The Company Men* starring Tommy Lee Jones.

A double winner at the ninth Annual Chlotrudis Film Festival in Massachusetts, Lentol was awarded first and second place, respectively, for her roles in the films *Well-Founded Concerns* and *Mind the Gap*.

"I have managed to create a career for myself by researching what needs to happen next for me and contacting the proper people along the way," Lentol says. "I am very open to opportunities that present themselves and keep striving for bigger and better roles." ■

—Jennifer Dick '10

Kimberly Yandora Matthews is an environmental scientist with RTI International, Raleigh, N.C.

Aaron A. and Angela McLarty Seamon '98

live in Upper Arlington, Ohio. Aaron, a financial services lawyer with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P., Columbus, Ohio, has been named a principal with the firm. He has also been selected as a "Rising Star" by Ohio Super Lawyers.

'97 |

Seth C. and Shelley Nelson Bridger '99

are Lutheran pastors serving E.L.C.A. congregations in southern Georgia. Seth is with Abundant Life Community Church in Pooler, Ga. Shelley is pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church in Springfield, Ga., where they reside.

David H. Caldwell and his wife, Cheryl, announce the birth of their third daughter, Paige Catherine, Dec. 3, 2008. They live in Batavia, Ohio.

Tommy N. and Nina

Goforth Kearns live in Fort Thomas, Ky., where they coach the Highlands High School girls' varsity soccer team. The team, which has been in the state title match several times, was the 2008 Kentucky state runner-up.

'98 |

Kelly J. Blanton,

Indianapolis, Ind., is an advanced human resources representative with Speedway SuperAmerica LLC, Merrillville, Ind.

Stuart J. and Erika Johnson

Hayes '96 reside in Canton, Conn. Stuart is an actuarial consultant with Towers Perrin.



Aaron A. Seamon '96

'99 |

Class Reunion, Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend 2009

Gina K. Aldridge married Brian Clear on April 5, 2008. They live in Radcliff, Ky., where Gina is associated with the Hardin County Schools at North Hardin High School. In 2007, she earned her master's degree in education administration from Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Ky.

In 2008, **Kelly M. Branam** received her Ph.D. in anthropology from Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. She is an assistant professor in anthropology at St. Cloud University in Minnesota.

Bryan D. Craig heads the advertising, Web site maintenance and service management at Mershon's World of Cars, Springfield, Ohio.

Aaron T. and Jennifer Majcher Groth '00

announce the birth of Abigail Grace, Dec. 30, 2008. They live in Springfield, Ohio. Aaron is a family practice physician in Enon, Ohio. Jen teaches elementary school in Urbana, Ohio.

Be sure to check out our online wedding album
at www.wittenberg.edu/weddings



Wedding Album

Rebecca Barry '03 and **John Arsena '04** were married on Dec. 20, 2008, and live in Cleveland, Ohio.



Cary Brown '01 and **Jonathan M. Simon '02** were married on June 9, 2007, in Lexington, Ky. The couple lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

David A. and LeeAnne Davidson Leman '97 announce the birth of Miles David on Jan. 17, 2008. They live in Worthington, Ohio.

'00 | Nicki R. Herd married Steve Walker, Sept. 4, 2008. They live in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where Nicki is an account executive with TBWA Abu Dhabi.

Matthew O. Hutchinson is an attorney with Shindler, Neff, Holmes, Schlageter and Mohler LLP, in Toledo, Ohio.

Jeannette A. Messich married Matt Loretitsch on Dec. 27, 2008. They live in

Akron, Ohio, where Jeannette teaches sixth-grade science at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts.

Carey L. Oakes, Covington, Ohio, is a development/real estate manager with Cash America International Inc., Dayton, Ohio.

Elisabeth L. Wade is deputy director of the graduate partnerships program in the Office of Intramural Training and Education at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. Betsey lives in Washington, D.C.

'01 | Kimberly Copeland Bader, Gahanna, Ohio, and her husband, Greg, welcomed a daughter, Abigail Elisabeth, on Nov. 17, 2008. Kim is an academic counselor at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Krista A. Eyler married Kenneth Strickland on Sept. 13, 2008. They live in St. Petersburg, Fla. Krista is an immigration attorney with Neil F. Lewis, P.A., Tampa, Fla.

Michael P. and Jane Curtis Falcone live in North Caldwell, N.J. Jane is an HR generalist with Nestle Infant

Nutrition-Gerber Products in Florham Park, N.J.

Kyle E. Kirkpatrick is an operations executive with Target, Columbus, Ohio.

Scott M. and Deanna Carlson Ness '99 live in Grove City, Ohio, where Scott is an associate pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Shannon J. O'Keefe, an attorney, has been appointed to represent the First Ward on the Greece Town Board in New York. Shannon was an assistant district attorney for the Monroe County District Attorney's Office before she entered private practice.



Michelle E. Stevens '91 Earns Top Rankings As A Fund Manager

Michelle E. Stevens says “it felt great, but was kind of surprising” when she was named the No. 2 fund manager out of 8,000 by *Forbes Magazine* last fall. Perhaps she should not have been so surprised; after all, one of the mutual funds she had been managing at Transamerica Investment Management LLC had been ranked No. 7 out of 100 by Barron’s earlier in the year.

After more than 15 years working in the investment world, Stevens may be starting to get used to some fame and respect. But what she has always most enjoyed about her work – from her early days as an analyst to her current position as principal and CIO at Riazzi Asset Management – is doing research and finding the right investment opportunities.

“It’s like going to school everyday,” she says. “You find yourself researching businesses or industries that are new to you, and all the while, you have to keep your eye on the global economy and what’s happening because that will have an impact on any business you review.”

She says studying economics at Wittenberg was critical to her success as a fund manager because it helped her to examine the bigger picture. It was at Wittenberg where she first learned to “connect the dots” between what is happening in the economy to what will happen with an individual company or sector.

“I really enjoyed my economics classes and still use the analogies I learned then with my clients today,” she says. “In this business, without that broader perspective, you can miss whole trends.”

One of the things she found most valuable about being at a liberal arts school was that it gave her the flexibility and time to seek out her true passion. Today, she is enjoying her new status as a small business owner after joining Riazzi Asset Management this past fall. And her fame has followed her: Early in 2009, *Forbes Magazine* called her a “superstar manager” and featured a Q & A article that offered her predictions on the economy and stock market, as well as her thoughts on where to invest in a recession.

“Being a small business owner is definitely a whole new world, but a very exciting one.” ■

—Gabrielle Antoniadis

Before moving to Ballston Spa, N.Y., **Amanda Hurst Treadwell** received her master’s degree in education from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. She is a senior academic review specialist at Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

'02 |

Amanda Peters Barth is associate director of M.B.A. admissions at the College of William and Mary, Mason School of Business, in Williamsburg, Va.

Brian L. Gratsch is manager of the flagship service center with Dayton Freight Lines in Ohio.

Ann Gentile Murdock, Westerville, Ohio, is a researcher at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio.

'03 |

Class Reunion, Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend 2009

Rebecca A. Barry has married **John V. Arsena** '04. They live in Cleveland, Ohio. John is an estimator with ACME Arsena.

Andrew M. Buss, Powell, Ohio, is with Keller Williams Realty, Worthington, Ohio.

Heather Phillips Fischer teaches at Monroe Elementary School in London, Ohio.

Debra J. Jackson, Columbus, Ind., is a human services consultant with the State of Indiana Department of Child Services, Indianapolis, Ind.

Brian C. and Erin Gallagher Kuhn '04 live in Springfield, Ohio. Brian is principal at Hustead Elementary School with the Greenon Local School District.

Lucinda R. Morgan, the coordinator of language development at the Grand Canadian Academy High School in Nanjing, China, received her master’s of education in educational policy studies degree from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in December 2008. She is now pursuing her Ph.D. in educational policy studies there.

LaRissa A. O’Neal, Aurora, Ill., is a district manager with RadioShack, Lombard, Ill.

Jessica S. Paumier married Lewis W. Biscamp on Sept. 27, 2008. They live in Chicago, Ill., where Jessica is a freelance editor.

'04 |

Class Reunion, Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend 2009

Richelle Pfeifer Heilmann is a vault teller with USBank, Vancouver, Wash.

Elizabeth A. Hines is a GIS analyst I with the City of Thornton, Colo.

Luke T. Martinson is a field biologist/wetland specialist with Western Ecosystems Technology Inc., Cheyenne, Wyo.

Paul B. Wilson lives in Pittsburgh, Pa., where he is a manager of demand planning with Del Monte.

'05 |

Class Reunion, Homecoming/ Reunion Weekend 2009

Lindsey M. Cheek, Chicago, Ill., is pursuing her master’s degree in elementary education at DePaul University School of Education.

Jennifer M. Fleming is director of investment operations with Berlin Atlantic Capital AG, Atlanta, Ga.

Miranda R. Hoover married Adam Kerr on Jan 2, 2009. Miranda attends Florida Atlantic University and is employed by Ocean Research and Conservation Association in Fort Pierce, Fla.

Marilyn Weese Kissell is a business transformation consultant with IBM working at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Fairborn, Ohio. She lives in Springfield, Ohio.

Blair B. Ufer is with the career center at the American University in Washington, D.C.

'06 |

Jennifer Brubaker DeCerro, Dayton, Ohio, is a materials chemist at Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

Megan R. Hottle teaches at the Wilbur Wright Middle School in Dayton, Ohio.

Graham H. Ketcham announces the birth of Kaylee Grace, Dec. 10, 2008. They live in Ashland, Ohio, where Graham is a research biologist with the WIL Research Laboratories.

Jonathan G. Scruggs is a coach with the Maryland Hurricanes, a regional girls' AAU basketball club in the Baltimore area.

Eric M. Shonkwiler, Springfield, Ohio, is a quarterfinalist in Amazon.com's Breakthrough Novel Award contest. His entry is titled *Long Way Home*.

'07 |

Christopher H. Keller is a member of City Year Corps, a federal program that gives youths the opportunity to tutor, mentor, and serve as role models for children in 18 U.S. locations and Johannesburg, South Africa. He resides in Bucyrus, Ohio.



Rachel Tune, Matevia Endowed University Pastor, served as sponsor for 2004 alumnus Mark Huber's ordination, May 29, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, Mass.

Jessica L. Knepp, Huber Heights, Ohio, is with the Tecumseh Local Schools, New Carlisle, Ohio.

Sarah K. Knueven, Lewis Center, Ohio, teaches kindergarten with the W.C. Cupe Family of Schools, Columbus, Ohio.

Anne D. Nichols is a family services and faith relations representative with Habitat for Humanity, Springfield, Ohio.

'08 |

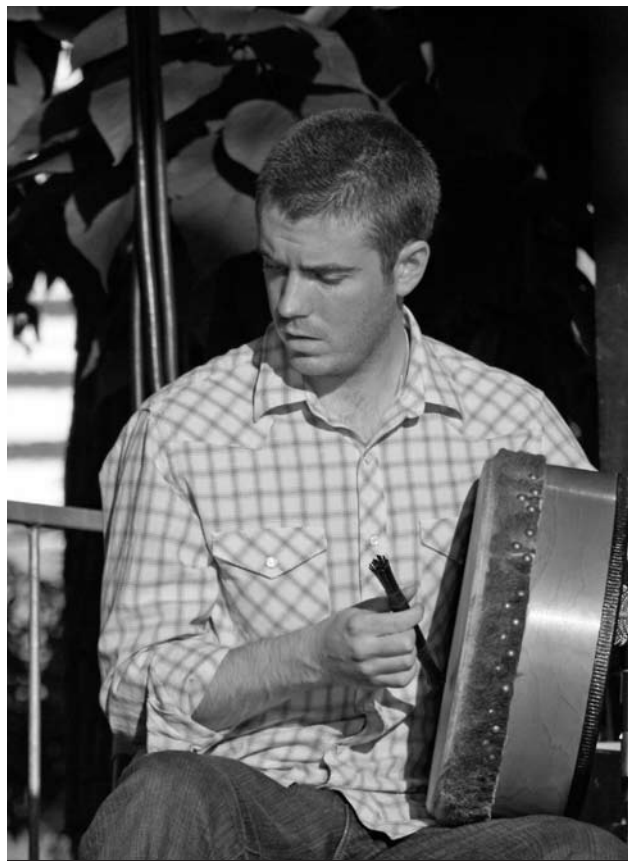
Catharine B. Downing is an administrative assistant with George K. Baum & Co., Columbus, Ohio.

Gregory A. Harris is an assistant hall director at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind.

William W. Lampkin, Los Angeles, Calif., is an executive assistant with Irwin Entertainment, West Hollywood, Calif.

Robert P. Mansour II teaches Spanish at the Eisenhower Ninth Grade Campus in Houston, Texas.

Bradley M. Wilson, New Carlisle, Ohio, is a marketing communications specialist with Qbase Inc., Dayton,



Patrick J. Foley Jr. '05 performs with The Kells, a traditional Irish music band.

In Memoriam

'27 |

James M. Schooler Sr. of Durham, N.C., died Jan. 1, 2009. A retired principal with the Durham Public Schools, he was the recipient of the Durham Public Education Network's 2006 Josephine Dobbs Clement Award for his many years as an educator. He was active with the John Avery Boys and Girls Club, and White Rock Baptist Church.

'29 |

Emilie Sollars Lemen died Dec. 8, 2008, in Springfield, Ohio. A lifelong member of High Street United Methodist Church, she was also active with Gamma Phi Beta sorority and the Young Woman's Mission. Early in her life, she was a teacher with the Washington Court House School System.

'33 |

Julia Enck Sharrock Geary, formerly of Ashland, Ohio, died Aug. 8, 2008, in Columbus, Ohio. A member of First Christian Church and Alpha Delta Pi sorority, she was the first woman president of the Ashland United Appeals Board.

'34 |

Mary Catharine Grisso Geeting died Feb. 21, 2008, in Springfield, Ohio.

'36 |

Formerly of Mansfield, Ohio, **Florence Gunsett Heffner** passed away Nov. 2, 2008, in Haslett, Mich. An owner and operator of the Travelodge Motel, she also served 15 years as a substitute teacher with the Mansfield City Schools. Her memberships included St. Luke's Lutheran Church, the Democratic Party and the American Association of University Women.

'38 |

Jeanne Harris Roberts of Fredericksburg, Va., died Jan. 26, 2009. She was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and Chi Omega sorority. During her career, she was a teacher, a price assistant with OPA and the alumnae adviser to the Chi Omega chapter at the University of Buffalo.

'39 |

G. Alice Crauder, formerly of Fort Myers, Fla., passed away Jan. 15, 2009, in Kettering, Ohio. She was a teacher, principal and assistant administrator with the Mad River School System for 28 years. In 1969, she retired from Southdale School in Kettering after seven years and was a member of Southern Hills United Methodist Church and Cypress Lake United Methodist Church.

Emma Heck Taussig died Feb. 12, 2009, in Westport, N.Y. She had a successful career as a social worker in child welfare and retired in 1984 from the Graham-Windham Child Care Agency, New York, N.Y. She was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Manhattan.

'40 |

Gordon A. Carlson, formerly of Wadsworth, Ohio, died Oct. 10, 2007, in Bradenton, Fla. A member of the Presbyterian Church and Beta Theta Pi fraternity, he retired in 1982 as a senior research associate with PPG Industries, Barberton, Ohio. He authored several technical papers and held 10 U.S. patents.

William E. Carlson of Accident, Md., died Nov. 1, 2008. He worked at Artisan Metal Works, the Federal Reserve Bank and the Brush Development Corp., before serving in the 99th infantry division and first infantry division with the U.S. Army during World War II. As a Lutheran minister, he pastored

the three churches of the parish in Accident for 35 years before his retirement as pastor emeritus in 1989. He held many positions in the old West Virginia Synod and the Western Pennsylvania-West Virginia Synod, and was very active in community activities before and after his retirement.

Jean Hair Snell, formerly of Troy, Ohio, died Jan. 11, 2008, in Ft. Myers, Fla. A homemaker for most of her life, she taught business education with the Bethel Township and Troy school systems. Her memberships included the First Congregational Church of Christ in Sanibel Island, Fla., Delta Zeta sorority and the Troy chapter of the American Association of University Women.

'41 |

Robert J. Marshall died Dec. 22, 2008, in Allentown, Pa. He was a professor of the Old Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Ill., before becoming president of the Illinois synod of the Lutheran Church of America in 1962. He was later elected president of the Lutheran Church of America. After 10 years, he stepped down to teach at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, S.C. He was also a president of Lutheran World Relief, a finance moderator of the World Council of Churches and served on boards of various colleges, hospitals and social service agencies. Honorary national chair of "The Campaign for Wittenberg" between 1979-82, he was twice awarded honorary degrees and received the Class of 1914 Award. In 1978, Wittenberg established a scholarship in his honor.

Mary Crocker O'Shaughnessey passed away Feb. 11, 2009, in Columbus, Ohio. A homemaker, she held membership at First United Presbyterian Church, Alpha Xi Delta sorority, Daughters

of the American Revolution and the United Way among other organizations. She also volunteered with many service organizations in her community.

'42 |

Suzanne Bulkley Baker, Zanesville, Ohio, died Feb. 27, 2009. Her memberships included St. John's Lutheran Church, Gamma Phi Beta sorority, the Zanesville Art Center, Daughters of the American Revolution, Pioneer Historical Society and the Bethesda Guild. She was a substitute teacher with the Zanesville Public Schools and volunteered at the local hospital.

Alleen A. Johnson of Urbana, Ohio, died Aug. 23, 2008. A former teacher, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

'43 |

Nedra Daley Dils, Dolores, Colo., passed away Jan. 21, 2009. She is one of 10 alumni who for more than 65 years continued a round robin letter tradition begun at the time of their graduation. Her rich and full life included being a homemaker, teaching English as a second language, writing stories, quilting, gardening and traveling.

Mary Crockett McClure died Feb. 1, 2009, in Springfield, Ohio. A member of Oakland Presbyterian Church and Delta Zeta sorority, she was a teacher with the Springfield Local School District, retiring from Possum Elementary School in 1978.

'44 |

Wray C. Smith '46S, '68H, Mansfield, Ohio, passed away Oct. 10, 2008. He was ordained in 1946 and accepted his first call as pastor at Second Trinity Lutheran Church in Dayton, Ohio. His second call was to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Mansfield, Ohio, where he served from 1948 until his retirement in 1989. He was also

the founder of Good Shepherd Lutheran Home in Ashland. Following his retirement, he served as interim pastor and supply pastor at numerous congregations in northeastern Ohio. An active member of the community, he received many awards throughout his lifetime, including Outstanding Citizen of Ohio in 1988 and an honorary doctorate of divinity from Wittenberg in 1968.

'46 |

John W. Boyer, formerly of Ohio and Wisconsin, died Oct. 3, 2008, in Jacksonville, Fla. A member of the Catholic Church and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, he served as a corporal/map draftsman with the intelligence section at Gen. MacArthur's headquarters in Manila during World War II. He was a vice president of sales with Sunoco Products Co. in Waukesha, Wis.

William D. Schaffer '49S, a Lutheran minister, died Jan. 17, 2009, in Amherst, Mass. He served two churches in Detroit, Mich.: Advent for nine years and Cross of Glory for 33 years, retiring in 1991. He then moved to Massachusetts where he served as a supply preacher with several churches and became a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Holyoke. He was also a member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity.

'47 |

Allan H. Hauck, Racine, Wis., passed away Feb. 16, 2009. As a Lutheran minister, he served churches in Michigan, Kentucky and Indiana. He was professor of religion and philosophy at Midland Lutheran College, Fremont, Neb., before becoming professor of religion at Carthage College, Kenosha, Wis., retiring in 1989 as professor emeritus. An author and lecturer, he was an internationally recognized authority on reply coupons. He served as editor of *The Reply Coupon Collector* and published

a number of specialized catalogs and contributed regularly to philatelic journals and magazines. President of Collectors of Religion on Stamps and active in the Association of Lutheran Faculties, he was a devoted member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Kenosha.

Rachel Fralick Leimer of Slater, Iowa, died Feb. 15, 2009. She was a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. From 1950-53, she was an instructor in biology at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minn. From 1972-74, she was a member of the faculty at Des Moines Area Community College. For 14 years, she served as a staff nurse in the special care nursery at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, retiring in 1986. From 1991-96, she was an employee of Slater Public Library.

Hamlin A. Smith of Palm Harbor, Fla., and Indian Head Park, Ill., died July 7, 2008. A member of the Lutheran Church and Beta Theta Pi fraternity, he served as a first lieutenant with the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific during World War II. He retired in 1990 as president of FCS Industries Inc., Chicago, Ill.

'48 |

Jean Sieck Misch, formerly of Wapakoneta, Ohio, died Dec. 19, 2008, in Otterbein, Ohio. A homemaker, she retired as a librarian and monitor with the Wapakoneta City Schools. A member of First English Lutheran Church, Chi Omega sorority, and the Helen Hunt Circle, she volunteered with the Lima Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

'49 |

Edward T. Bloom passed away Jan. 19, 2009, in Avon Lake, Ohio. A member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and American Legion Post 211, he served with the U.S. Army Fifth

division during World War II in North Africa and Italy. For more than 30 years, he was a manager with Fisher Body, a division of General Motors. He was an active volunteer with Avon Lake High School athletics.

'50 |

T. Robert Bergman, Temecula, Calif., died Dec. 29, 2008. A member of Dorm League, he served as a seaman first class with the U.S. Navy during World War II. As an ordained Lutheran minister, he served churches in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and California.

John W. Brown of Alliance, Ohio, died Dec. 19, 2008. A member of Hilltop Lutheran Church, St. Timothy's Lutheran Church and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, he served with the U.S. Navy during World War II as a torpedoman first class in the Pacific Theater, Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima. He was formerly employed by the Franklin County Treasurer's Office, General Motors, Westinghouse and Metal Forge Co., where he was a quality control manager.

Robert L. Whitenack, Evansville, Ind., died Jan. 21, 2009. A member of St. Luke Lutheran Church and Dorm League, he served with the U.S. Navy during World War II in the Pacific Islands. As an ordained Lutheran minister, he served as a parish pastor with the Indiana/Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 40 years, including churches in Madisonville, Ky., and Batesville, North Liberty, Hoagland, and Evansville, Ind. He retired in 1992.

'51 |

David H. Clingman of Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 1, 2009. During World War II, he served as a yeoman third class with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific. He retired from Shawnee High School as a band and orchestra director after

32 years. His memberships included Central United Methodist Church, Beta Theta Pi fraternity, BPO Elks Lodge and the American Federation of Musicians.

John E. Robinson died on Dec. 25, 2009, in Springfield, Ohio. A member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, he enjoyed a successful career as a corporate attorney with Hughes Aircraft for 35 years.

'52 |

Jeanne Wright Nichols died May 26, 2008, at her home in London, Ohio. For many years, she taught at Norwood and Frey Elementary Schools in West Jefferson, Ohio. Her memberships included the First Presbyterian Church, Chi Omega sorority, Delphian Literary Society, Friends of the London Public Library, the Madison County and Ohio Retired Teachers Associations and The Ohio State University Women's Medical Service Board.

Clayton D. Rockhold Jr. of Springfield, Ohio, passed away Jan. 20, 2009. He was a sergeant in the military police for two years with the U.S. Army. His career included serving as a probation officer in the Clark County Juvenile Court, the athletic director at the Center Street YMCA, the assistant director for Camp Evergreen, a basketball official and a counselor at Clark County Joint Vocational School from where he retired in 1988 after 21 years. He was a member of Covenant United Methodist Church, the Ohio Vocational Association and Elderly United of Clark County.

Patricia Graham Soquel died Jan. 26, 2009, in Akron, Ohio. A former employee of The Ohio State University Hospital and Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Mary Sue Stegmier Welch, Cedar Springs, Mich., passed away Jan. 30, 2009. An elementary school teacher

in East Grand Rapids and Cedar Springs, she continued to volunteer in the classroom following her retirement. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

'53 |

Richard T. Archer, Johnson City, Texas, died Jan. 3, 2009. A member of First Christian Church and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, he served as a sergeant with the U.S. Marines during the Korean War. He retired as manager of physical distribution from The Trane Co., Tyler, Texas.

'54 |

Jean Degenhard Godard of Akron, Ohio, passed away on Feb. 17, 2009. A member of Faith Lutheran Church and Alpha Delta Pi sorority, she enjoyed her many years of teaching in the Akron Public School System. As a volunteer, she was active with the Junior League of Akron, Keep Akron Beautiful and Hospice Care Center.

Marilyn Maus Scribner of Billings, Mont., died Nov. 26, 2008. Most of her career was spent in Dayton, Ohio, working at the YMCA and serving as director of aquatics with the City of Dayton and as a senior swimming instructor at Sinclair College. She moved to Billings in 2001, where she was a member of Atonement Lutheran Church. She was also a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

'55 |

Donna Metzger Funk, Toledo, Ohio, died Dec. 18, 2008. She began her teaching career in Shelby, Ohio, before moving to the Maumee Schools. A member of Kappa Delta sorority, she became a world traveler following her retirement.

Richard R. Johnston passed away Jan. 2, 2009, in Springfield, Ohio. He was a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Army, who served two combat tours in Vietnam and numerous overseas assignments in Korea, France

and Germany. After retiring from the Army, he joined the family business, Don Johnston Insurance Agency. He was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, the Lions Club and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

William E. Norman of Springfield, Ohio, died Jan. 23, 2009. A member of St. Teresa Catholic Church and Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, he served as a U.S. Navy hospital corpsman in the South Pacific during World War II. His ribbons included the presidential unit citation with one star, the Asiatic-Pacific campaign ribbon with two stars and the Guam liberation ribbon. He retired from the Springfield News-Sun where he was a reporter for many years and later retired from the J.C. Penney Co. An active member of his community, he received the Lt. Henry Addison Beckley Award for distinguished service to community, state and nation with an emphasis on military and aviation-related activities. He played a leading role in establishing and supporting the Marine Corps Junior R.O.T.C. detachment at Springfield South High School, volunteering more than 4,000 hours of classroom time, assisting financially and serving as mentor to many.

Lucille Percier Thompson of Charlotte, N.C., died Feb. 24, 2009. She held several secretarial positions during her career, but her passion was art. She was a longtime member of the Guild of Charlotte Artists and the Charlotte Art Guild. In 1974, her piece titled "Charleston Flower Ladies" won Best in Show. Other memberships included the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte and Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

'56 |

James H. Beck, Canton, Ohio, died Feb. 9, 2009. He practiced law for more than 50 years, volunteering his services for the A.C.L.U. His memberships included Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Beta Theta Pi fraternity,

the Lions Club, the U.S. Power Squadron and numerous professional organizations.

Edward E. Huston of Naples, Fla., and Mariposa, Calif., died Nov. 16, 2008. A member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, he served as a captain with the U.S. Army at Fort Polk in Louisiana during the Vietnam War. He began his medical career in obstetrics and gynecology in Mansfield, Ohio, before moving to California in 1972 to continue his career with Kaiser Permanente. He retired in 1999.

A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity, **Frederick C. Michelson** of Waverly, Ohio, died Jan. 31, 2009. He was a member of the Calvary Lutheran Church of Chillicothe, where he began his ministry in June 1959. He also pastored in Streetsboro, Canton, Akron and Austintown, Ohio, before retiring in 1999.

Carol Tygun Schutt of Sun City West, Ariz., and McFarland, Wis., passed away March 10, 2009. A speech therapist and high school English/study skills teacher, she worked for Racine County, the Racine Vocational School, St. Bonaventure High School and St. Catherine's High School. She was a member of McFarland Lutheran Church.

'58 |

John D. Lammi, Rockledge, Fla., died June 27, 2008. A former teacher and coach, he had been an addiction counselor for 20 years. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

Thelma Steele Streber of Springfield, Ohio, died Feb. 27, 2009. A registered nurse, she was a shift supervisor at Community Hospital, retiring in 1989 after 40 years of service. She was a member of Trinity Missionary Church and active with the Community Hospital School of Nursing Alumni.

'60 |

James E. Kunde, a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, died Feb. 10, 2009, in Arlington, Texas. His career in public service began with an internship with the city manager's office in Dayton, Ohio, where he became the city manager. He was the first administrator of Jackson County, Mo., development director for Kansas City, program director for the Charles F. Kettering Foundation, director of the Public Service Institute of North Central Ohio and executive director of the Coalition to Improve Management in State and Local Government. He taught strategic planning, conflict management and other courses for the School of Urban and Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington. He served as a trainer/consultant on overseas assignments for SUPA in the Ukraine, Serbia and Montenegro. Also a consultant with countless city and county governments, he was a fellow of the National Academy for Public Administration. During his retirement, he operated an ESL program at Northwest Christian Church, where he was also a member. A Texas master naturalist, he volunteered at the Molly Hollar Wildscape in Veterans Park in Arlington.

'61 |

Carl E. Beers of Englewood, Ohio, died March 9, 2009. In the 1960s, he was an educational adviser at the Advanced Teachers College in Kano, Nigeria, where he established an instructional material department. He taught school in western Pennsylvania for seven years and retired from the Dayton Board of Education in Ohio as an administrator after 28 years of service. A member of numerous professional organizations, St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Englewood American Legion Post, he received the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award

in 1996 in recognition of his extensive volunteer service.

'62 |

William R. Werst, Springfield, Ohio, died Nov. 24, 2008. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Mariana Islands and Saipan. He retired from the supply department at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. His memberships included Central United Methodist Church, St. Andrews Lodge #619 F&AM, Springfield Kiwanis, Sons of the American Revolution and the Clark County Historical Society.

'64 |

Ned W. Landis, Roseburg, Ore., died Feb. 27, 2009. He served his country as the executive officer of the Coast Guard station on Yerba Buena Island in San Francisco, Calif. For most of his career, he served as a Lutheran minister at parishes in Oregon and Washington. An active member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, he retired in 2005 from the Children Services Division.

'66 |

Mary Smith Bruner passed away Jan. 9, 2009, in Springfield, Ohio. After a successful business career, she began teaching in the Northeastern School District. During her 31 years as an elementary school teacher, she pioneered several classroom programs and was the recipient of a Martha Holden Jennings Scholarship Honor for exemplary teaching.

Robert E. Patterson Sr. of Marietta, Ohio, passed away Jan. 3, 2009. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army. After working at B.F. Goodrich Tire Shop, he began his teaching career in New Carlisle, Ohio. He moved to Marietta Junior High School, retiring after 25 years. His memberships included the American Legion, Ohio Retired Teachers Association and the Church of Christ where he preached and was an elder.

'68 |

A member of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, **Lynne Harvey Grandstaff** died Nov. 23, 2008 in Manassas, Va. Her career included working as a specifications writer and editor at the CH2M Hill engineering firm. She was a staff reporter, editorial page editor and managing editor with the Potomac News, winning four Virginia Press Association awards for editorial writing. She also was an information officer with the Northern Virginia Community College and an English teacher at Osbourn Park High School before joining the Washington Business Journal as a copy editor and Washington Technology Magazine as managing editor and production editor.

Allen M. Lehmkuhl of Springfield, Ohio, passed away Dec. 6, 2008. A practicing attorney, he had also served as a magistrate. He was considered a historian on the Civil War and World War II.

'70 |

Linda Kransteuber Howe, Venice, Fla., died Nov. 6, 2006. The former owner of Office Outfitters, she recently worked in the health care field. She was a member of the Lutheran Church.

James E. Lear, Alliance, Ohio, passed away Feb. 28, 2009. A teacher and swim coach at Alliance High School for more than 31 years, he was the recipient of numerous teaching awards. He also coached the Elks summer swim team and little league baseball. A member of Phi Mu Delta fraternity, he had been active with the Ulster Project for many years, including two years as a director.

'71 |

Charlotte Swann Nelson, Webster, N.Y., died Oct. 6, 2008. A member of Webster Presbyterian Church and Kappa Delta sorority, she taught biology for several years before

becoming a homemaker. She was an active volunteer with many organizations in her community, including the Webster School District, Young Audiences and the Leukemia Association. In recent years she was a volunteer coordinator at the Hill Haven Nursing Home.

'72 |

Jon R. Koppenhoefer of Springfield, Ohio, passed away March 8, 2009. A former interior design instructor at the Springfield Museum of Art, he had been a grants coordinator with the Springfield Urban League and Community Center.

Susan A. Schuyler died Feb. 8, 2009, in Columbus, Ohio, where she had been a travel agent for the past 20 years. She was a member of Maple Grove United Methodist Church, the Maple Grove Players Drama Group, the PAWS ministry and a choir.

'76 |

Gregory A. Shannon passed away Jan. 31, 2009. He was self-employed as an accountant at Greg Shannon Accounting Services in Avon Lake, Ohio, for the past 30 years. His memberships included Holy Spirit Church and the AMVETS Club.

'78 |

Phyllis L. Gresham, Ridgeland, S.C., passed away Nov. 7, 2008. She was an active member of Briarwood Church. An internal medicine and hypertension physician, she amassed many advanced degrees and honors.

'79 |

Sissel A. Ekaas passed away June 24, 2005. Before her laudable service as the deputy special representative of the secretary-general for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea, she had a distinguished career in the Food and Agriculture Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, as

well as with her country's government.

'81 |

Anne Lipe Zielenbach, Hilliard, Ohio, died Sept. 1, 2008. A member of North Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Sigma Kappa sorority, she was employed by the J. Jill Store.

'82 |

Florence Southerland MacLean passed away Nov. 20, 2008, in Springfield, Ohio. A business secretary, she was a clerk and legal secretary in the U.S. Civil Service at military bases in Alabama and South Carolina during World War II. In the early 1960s, she worked at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in the Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center. Later she was a secretary in the Dept. of English at Wittenberg. She was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and the Woman's Town Club.

'94 |

Judith Kading Marlow of Howard, Ohio, passed away Feb. 9, 2009. Ordained as a Lutheran minister in 1998, she served the congregations of Messiah Lutheran Church, Moundsville, W.Va., and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, New Martinsville, W.Va., for 10 years until her retirement in 2008. In 2007, she opened Judy's Place, a transitional home where women and their children are lifted out of domestic violence.

'02 |

Brandon L. Barnett of Springfield, Ohio, died Dec. 6, 2008. A warranty administrator with Konecrans, he loved baseball, and played and sang with a gospel group.

calendar of events
calendarevents



Homecoming, Oct. 23-25



IMAGE COURTESY GREG MORTENSON, CENTRAL ASIA INSTITUTE.

Greg Mortenson, Oct. 1



Volleyball Camp, July 28

July

1-2	Girls' Basketball Camp
6-10	Young Women in Science 2009 Day Camp
6-10	Boys' Soccer Camp
10-12	Girls' Soccer Camp
18	Boys' Basketball Camp
24	Upward Bound Banquet – 6:30 p.m. CDR
19-22	Field Hockey Camp
28	Volleyball Camp

August

3-7	Alumni College 2009, Chautauqua Institution, New York <i>Richard Brown and Friends; Movies 101</i>
7	2009 Rosy's Golf Outing
20-23	New Student Days
24	Classes Begin

September

9	Witt Series Event – 11 a.m. Weaver Chapel, Opening Convocation, David Rusk
25-27	Family Weekend
27	Faculty Artist Recital – 7 p.m. Krieg Hall, Lawrence Pitzer, guitar
25	Wittenberg Choir Variety Show – 8 p.m. 300 Krieg Hall

October

1	Witt Series Event – 7:30 p.m. Weaver Chapel <i>Leventhal Lecture, 25th Anniversary, Greg Mortenson</i>
9	Wittenberg Symphonic Band Concert – 7:30 p.m. Weaver Chapel
11	Faculty Artist Recital – 3 p.m. Krieg Hall, Stephen Siek, piano
19-20	Fall Break
23-25	Homecoming/Reunion Weekend
25	Witt Series Event – 7:30 p.m. Weaver Chapel <i>Festival Choral Eucharist for the Reformation</i>
26	Witt Series Event – 7:30 p.m. Weaver Chapel <i>Sauer Symposium, Dr. Deanna Thompson</i>

November

10	Witt Series Event – 7:30 p.m. TBD <i>Literary Figure: Joseph O'Neill, author, 2009 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction</i>
15	Faculty Artist Recital – 3 p.m. Krieg Hall, Daniel Kazez, cello

Love Knows No Borders

Alumna Shares Personal Story of International Adoption

Twice in my life I have flown to countries halfway around the world. The cultures have been foreign to me, the language, even the alphabet. But in both places I was given the most incredible children. My son Carter is from Bulgaria, and my daughter Jordan is from China.

International adoption had its difficulties, but I believe my children were always meant for my family, no matter where they were born. Eventually Carter and Jordan were the inspiration for the project that became like my third child, a documentary called *Love Knows No Borders (LKNB)*.

In January 2008, Jordan had been home a year, and we had no plans for more children. But then, out of the blue, my adoption agency called. What I heard at the other end of the line would change my life, but not the way I'd expected. Two years before, in 2006, we gave up our plans to adopt a second child from Bulgaria. The government had essentially closed adoptions to Americans. It broke my heart, but I realized our daughter would be found somewhere else, and we laid the groundwork for China.

But now the agency was telling me the paperwork we'd had to abandon was still good, and Bulgaria was opening back up to international adoptions. Even though we had completed our second adoption in China, did we want a third child from Bulgaria? After we got over the shock, my husband and I joked it was the only way we could "accidentally get pregnant" through international adoption. But I knew his answer before we spoke; our

family was complete with Carter and Jordan.

At the time I was sure the phone call was a sign that we should bring home a third child and that my husband would see that in time. But as our chaotic life continued with an 8 and 2-year-old, I knew it as well as he did, that for us, two was enough. So why had I gotten the call? I struggled with that for weeks.

It came to me all at once in the dawn hours of a Monday morning before the typical mayhem of my house began. I knew exactly what I had to do; I needed to tell this story. The story of the children left behind in the oversized orphanages of my son's birth country; the story that could turn into homecomings for these children. I was a television reporter, and this would be the story of my life.

The next eight months were the toughest of my career, but I didn't mind. For a project this important, there had to be some sweat. I raised \$10,000 in two months, negotiated for a crew from my old TV station and got my contacts in Bulgaria. Finally it was a go.

Shooting the documentary was incredible. Our crew was given unprecedented access to the orphanages around the country. Our cameras went where no television camera had ever been, and I saw more than 1,000 children, newborn to 18 years old, during those 10 days. *LKNB* featured the changes in the Bulgarian systems that offer new



Kolpek at the Dobritch orphanage in Bulgaria with 4-year-old Petue, a little boy mistakenly placed in an orphanage for 8-18 year olds.

hope for adoptions, and it examined how Bulgaria's systems have failed older children who will never be adopted.

When *LKNB* aired in December 2008, it accomplished exactly what I had hoped. Parents were moved to explore adoption, not just from Bulgaria, but other countries and even domestically. *LKNB* showcased the spirit of service, and how if people couldn't adopt, they were moved to volunteer and make a difference in some other way.

The journey is not over. Every day I am reminded of the amazing journey of international adoption when my kids wake up, and the chaos begins. And every day, I look for more ways to share the story. ■ —*Mariah Gray Lange Kolpek '91*



To see a clip of Kolpek's documentary, visit www.wittenberg.edu/magazine. More information is also available at www.loveknowsnoborders.org.

Philanthropy in Action



If fun had a face, it might just be Ben McCombs '09. For the last four years, Ben immersed himself in campus life, taking advantage of all Wittenberg had to offer and sharing a friendly smile along the way with everyone.

As a new member of the Wittenberg alumni family, McCombs is on the road with the 2009 Witt Nation traveling team.

"I have the chance of a lifetime this summer being part of Witt Nation, and I'm enjoying traveling the country meeting alumni."

He is also sharing his own Wittenberg story, one made possible because of the generous support of alumni and friends.

"Wittenberg provided me with countless opportunities," McCombs said, "and I'm extremely grateful for the scholarships I received because they allowed me to go to such an amazing college."

Support scholarships now so that students like Ben can have a life-changing Wittenberg education.





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Cynthia Richards, professor of English, and
Michael McClelland, associate professor of English