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WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE MEMORY OF LIVING IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS?

ALUMNI

► “Sitting in the hall until all hours of the night talking. Everyone was afraid they’d miss something if they went to bed.”
  Dale Meyer ’79

► “Men ‘streaked’ in spring of ’75. My one and only time ...”
  Gary Klug ’81

► “The weekends when most people had gone home, a group of us stayed almost every weekend. One night of the weekend we would order take-out and watch movies all night long. We would talk and laugh and relax after a busy week.”
  Elizabeth Wagner ’12

STUDENTS

► “My sophomore year I stayed in Morrow Hall and I had a roommate from Wuhan, China, for the second semester. It was really neat to be able to experience a whole semester living with someone from another country and seeing the cultural differences and similarities that we had. One time she went home with me and experienced all of the animals that we have on our farm; she was scared of most of them, but yet was pretty excited to be able to see them all in person.”
  Hillary Bark, senior

► “My favorite memories were the pranks. We would screw with each other’s microwave rooms when we lived in Pickard Hall. You would microwave rotten food or bad smelling stuff in other microwave rooms. It was a different way of living, I guess.”
  Kyle Alvis, junior

► “Getting to know my resident assistant. She is still a really good friend of mine.”
  Lindsey Peet, senior

The Q & A next issue will be, “What was your favorite class in college?”
Send your answer to alumni@uwplatt.edu or Alumni Services
UW-Platteville, 1 University Plaza,
Platteville WI 53818-3099
Pratt Volunteer of the Year award. Each college also seeks alumni for the awards program they hold at Homecoming each year. These awards need your help by making award nominations for exceptional UW-Platteville alums. If you have a person in mind, please nominate them. You will find nomination forms on the Alumni Association’s website.

Throughout my term as president, I have been continually impressed by constant improvement to campus facilities, curriculum, administration, faculty, staff, activities, and events that make UW-Platteville the outstanding university from which we come. These improvements are the direct result of hard work. Please consider volunteer opportunities, reconnecting with campus, attending an alumni event, or simply thanking a professor for their efforts.

In closing, I thank each of you for taking the time to read this. I ask that you strongly consider becoming a member of our great Alumni Association. It is this association, with your help, that will take us into our next 50 years.

Forever. Pioneers.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Skwor ’01
GREETINGS,

As UW-Platteville’s Alumni Association celebrates its 50th anniversary, it is a perfect time to recognize its important role in the continued success of the university. The Alumni Association predates and was in fact the genesis of the university Foundation and its members have a longstanding history of engaging in academic, social, and philanthropic activities that have a direct impact on the quality of education that we offer our students.

The university is doing well. Our enrollment continues to grow and we remain committed to providing our students with an outstanding education that gives them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in today’s global economy. Our dedicated faculty and staff consistently accomplish above and beyond what is expected, with many of them receiving awards for excellence in teaching, research, service, teamwork, professional development, and other academic achievements.

The university’s more than 44,670 living alumni hail from all 50 states and 56 countries across the globe, from China to Chile, from Bangladesh to South Africa. This is a testament to the education they received from our university, for it gave them the knowledge, skills, and expertise they needed to have the confidence to explore and pursue their career endeavors, unbound by geographic area.

In November, I had an opportunity to do some exploring of my own by participating in the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. A presidents’ and chancellors’ delegation traveled to Brazil to build relationships with Brazilian public and private universities. The group met with Brazilian state and federal governmental agencies to set up an educational exchange program called Science Without Borders. This program will enable over 101,000 Brazilian undergraduate students to study science, engineering, mathematics, and technology-based disciplines at higher education institutions outside of Brazil. Given UW-Platteville’s strengths in STEM fields, this presents our university with a unique opportunity to have an impact globally and we plan to aggressively pursue bringing a number of students from Brazil to study STEM fields at UW-Platteville.

The future of this university holds much promise. As we move forward, I encourage you to stay actively involved with the university. Thank you for your stewardship over the years and for the legacy that you have created at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Every day is a great day to be a Pioneer!

Dennis J. Shields

Number of Alumni

- 1–100
- 101–200
- 201–350
- 351–500
- 501–1,000
- 1,001–4,000
- 25,000+
Ex-CIA agent is Distinguished Lecturer
As a covert Central Intelligence Agency Operations Officer, Valerie Plame Wilson worked to protect America’s national security. In 2003, she found herself at the heart of a political firestorm when senior White House and State Department officials revealed her secret status to several national journalists, including a syndicated newspaper columnist who published her name. On April 17, Plame Wilson will share the story of her exposure and the subsequent investigation at an all-campus event as the 2013 Distinguished Lecturer. The lecture is open to the public and begins at 10 a.m. in Williams Fieldhouse. Plame Wilson will also be available at 11:45 a.m. in the Markee Pioneer Student Center Heritage Hall to sign copies of her New York Times best-selling autobiography, *Fair Game: My Life as a Spy, My Betrayal by the White House.*

Art students take skills to the field
Last fall, seven art education majors practiced their teaching skills. Led by Assistant Art Professor Barbara Westfall, students taught preschoolers a comprehensive bilingual art lesson at the UW-Platteville Children’s Center. They later traveled to the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery at UW-Madison to teach Madison Metropolitan School District students a science and art lesson during the Wisconsin Science Festival.

“The lessons were a huge success,” Westfall said. “These types of collaborations between groups both on campus and at other UW System universities provide rich and rewarding experiences as they prepare our art education majors for a professional career in teaching PK-12 art in the public schools.”

Chemistry department offers camp
For high school students interested in understanding things at the atomic level, cutting-edge technologies, materials science, solar power, drug delivery, and green technology, UW-Platteville has the perfect camp—Chemistry and NextGen Tech. This weeklong chemistry immersion program is being offered for the first time in summer 2013. College-level credit is available upon completion. For more information, e-mail mendisc@uwplatt.edu or call 608.342.1692.

Telethon raises $62,000
December 2012 marked the 39th year that the Christmas telethon, in support of Wisconsin Badger Camp, was held at UW-Platteville—and it raised $62,615. “This year’s production was a wonderful success,” said Colleen Garrity, Director of UW-Platteville Media Technology Services. “We had great support from the community and raised enough money to send over 100 campers to camp next summer.”

Wisconsin Badger Camp’s mission is to serve people with varying developmental abilities by providing quality outdoor recreational experiences. The camp is located 10 miles south of Prairie du Chien, Wis.
Campus thanks longtime leaders

Lomax blazes trail
During nearly 40 years of service, Joe Lomax led the transformation of the university’s criminal justice program. He retired at the conclusion of the fall 2012 semester.

In 1963, Lomax was hired as an officer with the Beloit Police Department, the first African-American to hold the title.

In 1969, he joined the UW-Platteville faculty, where he was the first African-American faculty member.

Lomax launched the Criminal Justice Career Day, developed the department’s internship program, and introduced new classes and programs during the formative years. He formed an ongoing relationship with the Wisconsin Department of Justice, worked to add forensic investigation, the online criminal master’s program, undergraduate online program, and established the Criminal Justice Alumni Reunion.

He served 17 years as chair of the criminal justice department and as a member of the Arts and Sciences Council, and also three terms on the Faculty Senate.

The Wisconsin Racial Disparities in Criminal Justice and Education Task Force came together under Lomax’s leadership. The group included volunteers interested in increasing education and reducing incarceration for persons of color.

“I am proud that we made a significant contribution to the field of criminal justice,” said Lomax.

Van Buren leaves important legacy
Dr. David Van Buren has been an instrumental figure in the success of the university and many of its programs. He serves as the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of the School of Graduate Studies. His retirement will be official at the end of the spring semester.

Van Buren earned his undergraduate degree at St. Bonaventure University. After being persuaded to get involved in a new field called criminal justice, he came to UW-Platteville. “I fell in love with the students, the environment, and the campus, and 37 years later I am still here,” he said.

Van Buren joined UW-Platteville as an assistant professor in criminal justice in 1976. Over time, the program took on a more systematic view, guided by theories. “It’s an art as much as it is a science,” he said.

Van Buren was a key figure in establishing a relationship with the South-Central University for Nationalities in Wuhan, China, which later led to the Confucius Institute on campus. The initial agreement established a master’s program in English education at Wuhan. Van Buren has visited China 20 times since 2001. “That opportunity became life changing for me,” he said.

In retirement, Van Buren hopes to travel and cross items off his bucket list. –Dan Wackershauser ’97
It's a great day to be a Pioneer

Rachel Sims
Grade Level: Senior
Area of Study: Software Engineering
Hometown: Inver Grove Heights, Minn.

What has been the most challenging part of college?
The most challenging part has been being involved with my job as a resident assistant and being involved in the extracurriculars I want to be in, all while still maintaining a balance with academics.

What are the strengths of the software engineering major?
The applications for software engineering are almost limitless. They can be applied to business situations with payroll, all the way to mobile applications. In one of my senior level classes, we’re working on designing a mobile app for the university. We’ve looked at things like virtual/self-guided tours, and access to information about the residence halls and academic buildings. We’ve also thought about how to allow students to order food from dining services on campus as well as an app that tells the students how many computers are available in each computer lab at a time.

Who has been the most influential person in your life?
My brother has been a huge influence in my life because I didn’t know what I wanted to do or where to go when I graduated high school. I decided on my area of study and going to UW-Platteville because of him and his decision to come here. I have some ideas of what I’d like to do after college but I’m not sure, so I’ll try to get my feet wet before diving in.

What are your plans for the future?
I plan on graduating in May, and I hope to be able to work for the company I interned with this summer. I would like to stay close to home and work at the company for a while, then we’ll see.
Tyler Fisher
Grade level: Senior
Area of Study: Business Administration with an emphasis in sales and marketing
Hometown: Rock Island, Ill.

What has been the most challenging part of college?
Sorting out what I want to do with life and what career path I want to take has been the most challenging. I have a very close relationship with family, so being away from them was difficult my freshman year. I adjusted well to campus though because I had a good support group here. They created a sense of community, and the people I met here are willing to help us figure out who we are and what we want to do in college and afterwards.

What are the strengths of the business administration major?
In the department, we have awesome faculty and staff who are more than willing to help out and go above and beyond their duty as professors. They're interested in and invested in our personal lives and want to keep relationships with their students even if we aren't in their class for a few semesters.

The business administration major is versatile enough that I can do a lot of different things with it. I believe that regardless of which field you go into, business can help out with that in many different ways.

Who has been the most influential person in your life?
My dad has been the most influential person in my life because we are very fortunate to have a really close relationship. I'm close with my whole family, but I consider my dad my best friend and he is always the person who I can turn to for everything because I know he will always be there for me.

What are your plans for the future?
I would like to pursue the field of student affairs and hopefully become a hall director. I want to pursue a master’s degree in student affairs through the Oshkosh Placement Exchange program and work my way up through a residence life department to hopefully be a dean of student affairs. I’m not looking at anywhere in particular but I would like to start off my career at a different university. Ultimately, I would like to end up back at UW-Platteville. I love it here, and I love everything about it.
Alumni Association turns 50

1963
On May 21, 1963, the Grant County Register of Deeds certified that the Alumni Association of Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology at Platteville Inc. was received and accepted for record in the Articles of Incorporation.

1960
The Distinguished Alumni Award was started.

1963
The first alumni newsletter was sent. The name has changed several times, from Pioneer Alumni newsletter to Pioneer News and Pioneer Press to UW-Platteville Today. It is now known as the Alumni Today.

1963
The Alumni Association of the Wisconsin State College and Institute of Technology at Platteville was formed. Clarence Brockert was the first president.

1965
The first lifetime honorary membership was given. Pictured above are the 2012 December recipients.

1969
The fifty year class reunion for the class of 1919 was held in 1969.

1972
Athletic Hall of Fame was established.

1989
The Outstanding Alumni Award was established. The first recipients were Ross Buchberger and Richard Byrd.

1996
Friends gathered for the African-American Alumni Reunion.
1992 championship football team gets together at Alumni Weekend.


1995 Miners of 1940 at the Alumni Reunion Weekend.

1995 The Alumni Lounge was created in the Markee Pioneer Student Center.

2000 The Denny Pratt Spirit Award was established.

2004 The Board of Directors allocated $25,000 to fund 50 scholarships in the amount of $500 each to be issued to incoming freshmen with preference given to children of alumni.

2004 The Alumni Association has supported constituent alumni chapters for decades. The names of the chapters have changed as our university has changed and grown. Each of the following chapters is funded by Alumni Association membership dues and exists to support the best interests of their college or department.

Our current alumni chapters are:
- The College of BILSA Alumni Chapter
- The College of EMS Alumni Chapter
- The College of LAE Alumni Chapter
- The Distance Education Alumni Chapter

2007 AluMnation, the online alumni community, was launched.

2009 The Alumni Facebook page was started.

2009 The first Homecoming Hustle 5k was held with all proceeds going towards Alumni Association scholarships.

2010 The Alumni Association partners with Culver’s for the first Custard Creation Challenge at Homecoming.

2012 An Evening in Monte Carlo was held for the first time.
Alumni in Alaska
Conquering the Final Frontier
Alaska is known as the Final Frontier. Several alumni have accepted the challenge of conquering that frontier. Here are some of their stories.

**Rita (Roe) Behl**

Rita (Roe) Behl is a native of Watertown, Wis. She earned a bachelor’s in elementary education in 1981 and taught in Wisconsin for 10 years before relocating to Texas and later to the Northwest. Now living in Alaska, she is currently teaching kindergarten for the Annette Island School District in Metlakatla, Alaska. “I am here for a reason,” said Behl. “It is beautiful. It is God’s country.”

Behl sees similarities between Wisconsin and Alaska that piques the interest of alumni. There are many outdoor activities for Alaskan residents, including hunting, fishing, hiking, and exploring, among others. “The moment I saw the snowcapped mountains, the salt water, starfish, people crabbing off the docks, and the beaches, I knew there was no turning back,” she said.

In order to leave the island, Behl either uses a ferry or a floatplane and the weather changes by the hour. “It’s adventurous. There is no whining,” she said.

According to Behl, local residents are always willing to share their art, stories, and cultural heritage, especially their native dancing. They also generously share gifts of fish, paintings, jewelry, jams, and other items.

Behl learned valuable life lessons at UW-Platteville. “Living on your own in a community of people you don’t know, and learning to live alongside and interact with them was important,” she said. “It helped me build more confidence and maturity. The whole college experience is good preparation for moving on.”

**Gary Apperson**

Gary Apperson was born in Baltimore, Md. His father was in the U.S. Air Force, which meant his family lived in various locations including New Jersey, Japan, Colorado, Florida, Alaska, and Virginia.

Apperson retired from a 25-year police career with the Anchorage, Alaska, Police Department in 2002. “After a year of decompressing, I went back to school and finished my bachelor’s degree in human services...”
with a minor in criminal justice at Wayland Baptist University-Anchorage campus,” he said.

Apperson graduated in 2006 from UW-Platteville with a 4.0 G.P.A. and a master’s in criminal justice.

The expansive outdoors of Alaska and all the advantages of that lifestyle continues to intrigue Apperson. “Alaska is truly the ‘Great Land’ that offers so many opportunities, activities, and quality of life,” he said. “My wife, Deb, and I love the outdoor activities in summer and winter. We enjoy hiking, mountain climbing, snow shoeing, birding, berry picking, photography, flying small airplanes, snow machining to cabins, road trips on our motorcycles, and camping.”

Apperson noted there is a UW-Platteville alum who lives across the street. “One look at Alaska’s infrastructure and you can see plenty of UW-Platteville alumni contributions in many of the civil engineering projects,” he said. “In fact, some of the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport runways and parking lots were designed by alums.”

“Since graduating from UW-Platteville, I have been invited to teach criminal justice courses in the Distance Education degree program,” said Apperson. “So, as a retired police officer, I am still able to contribute by teaching, thanks to my UW-Platteville master’s degree.”

Maggie Laufenberg

Maggie Laufenberg is a fairly new transplant to Alaska. She grew up in Mt. Hope, Wis., and graduated from River Ridge High School in 2002.

Laufenberg earned a bachelor’s in biology with a minor in biotechnology in 2006. After graduation on a Saturday, she began studying to become a physician assistant at Arcadia University in Philadelphia, Penn., the following Monday. She graduated in two years and took a position in Chicago, Ill. “Growing up in Wisconsin you get used to having a lot of open space and enjoying the outdoors,” she said. “That is something I didn’t have in Chicago.”

Laufenberg visited a friend in Alaska during the winter and really enjoyed it. She moved there in 2009 and is currently working at a family practice clinic in Anchorage. “I’ve always wanted to do women’s health,” she said. “It’s really rewarding and it’s fun to interact with my patients.”

Laufenberg conducts many visits with the native population, who fly in from villages for their medical care. “They have primitive ways of handling medicine,” said Laufenberg. “Trying to get medicine out to them is really tough.”

“I could see myself getting into more of the educational part of medicine or even at some point being able to
travel out to the villages and work as a provider there,” said Laufenberg. “It is such an underserved population.”

Laufenberg enjoys living in Anchorage, which provides a diverse population. “There is a lot of culture here,” she said. “Many people come here right out of school to practice medicine, because there are a lot of benefits to working in rural areas here. I have met many medical people from around the world who have different backgrounds.”

Laufenberg’s knowledge of Alaska was limited before she found her way there. She has now taken on the role of educator when it comes to Alaska. “Some of my friends and family still ask me if I live in an igloo,” she joked.

The transition to Alaska from Chicago hasn’t been difficult for Laufenberg. “Everyone here is pretty friendly and accepting,” she said. “There is a sense of community and they are always inviting me to do activities.”

“If you can brave the cold and being a little more remote, it’s a really great place,” said Laufenberg.

“UW-Platteville is a pretty unique university,” she said. “The class sizes are fairly small. The community is smaller too so you get a good sense of support from the faculty. Platteville has a lot of really good values compared to other schools where you are just a number. I never felt that way at UW-Platteville. I have carried that over with my patients. Instead of thinking of them as just another patient or paycheck for myself, it’s really important for me to be involved in the patients’ lives and making them feel important.”

Jerry Hendrickson

Jerry Hendrickson grew up in Monona, Wis., and earned a bachelor’s in mechanical engineering in 1981. Following graduation, Hendrickson joined the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Korea before being sent to Alaska. “We had a 5-year-old son and figured this was a great place to raise a child and it was,” he said. “We really enjoy the outdoors and what Alaska has to offer, so we’ve stayed on 25-plus years so far.”

Hendrickson is proud of the education he received at UW-Platteville. “The personalized training and teaching that I got at UW-Platteville reinforced that anybody can learn this stuff,” he said. “I’ve worked with folks with fancy Ph.D.s from fancy schools and it often reinforces the fact that the training and teaching I got at UW-Platteville was as good as any of those guys and I could hold my own with them on most subjects.”

Alaska is a top draw for people who see themselves as independent, according to Hendrickson. “Alaska is a different place, no matter what they tell you,” he said. “Most of the folks up here are very independent and want to do their own thing. I think for the most part your hard work will get rewarded here and you can do more if you want.” –Dan Wackershauser ’97

“One look at Alaska’s infrastructure and you can see plenty of UW-Platteville alumni contributions in many of the civil engineering projects.”

Gary Apperson
’PARRFECT’ BUSINESS
David Parr’s business idea takes root

As a young boy growing vegetables in his own garden, David Parr never thought that he would one day own a small distribution business. Parr grew up in Monroe, Wis., and is currently working to finish his degree in agriculture business with a food marketing minor at UW-Platteville. His business, Parrfection Produce, works primarily with Amish and Mennonite farmers in southwest Wisconsin. It was started in 2010 after a school district wanted to buy local produce but lacked a staff to process it. The business now provides services as far north as Wisconsin Rapids in Wood County and the greater Madison, Wis., Chicago, Ill., and Dubuque, Iowa, areas.

“I always wanted to make sure that small farms have a market for their products,” said Parr. “This business is something that has grown over time. I always heard that owning your own small business is something you should do while you’re young, and it’s something I have been doing for a while.”

Parr began selling his produce at a local farmers’ market when he was only 16. At 19, he opened his own produce stand by renting an empty building off the side of the state highway.

“When the stand opened, I had a card table full of vegetables, a few hanging baskets and a couple of flats of flowers,” he said. “I was hauling vegetables around in the back of my car, but now we have four trucks and our sales have increased 40 to 60 percent in the past couple of years. There is a lot of interest in local food and local produce, and we want to continue to provide our customers with what they want and need. Produce is a low-margin business, so you really have to watch where every penny goes, but we are currently working to move the business forward.”

Parr has plans to centralize his storage for his produce in Monroe, as well as continuing to work on volumes of produce, growing customers, and acquiring new ones.

Follow Parrfection Produce on Facebook for pictures, recipes, gardening and decorating ideas, and more. –Angela O’Brien
Just as UW-Platteville is known as the oldest normal school in Wisconsin with the beginning of Platteville Normal School in 1866, the university band is also credited as the oldest band in all the normal schools in Wisconsin with an impressive history.

Looking back at its birth in October 1899 with 18 members, and comparing it to the 170 members of the current Marching Pioneers, growth has been a large part of the band’s journey.

The Marching Pioneers have had many large performances, such as playing for Ulysses S. Grant’s birthday celebration in 1900, participating in the music program at the World’s Fair in Seattle, Wash., in 1962, and more recently providing halftime entertainment for Packers fans at Lambeau Field in 2003 and 2009.

A guest at Grant’s birthday party was quite impressed and wrote a letter to the band director expressing his compliments: “My Dear Sir: I take pleasure in saying that at the Grant birthday exercises at Galena, I greatly enjoyed the music of your band. I thought their playing was excellent,” wrote then-governor of New York, Theodore Roosevelt.

With so many eyes on this historically impressive band, it is hard not to notice the band has gotten rather large.

“When I first got here in 2004, the band was 77 people,” said Matthew Gregg, Associate Director of UW-Platteville bands. “At the end of last summer we ended up with 170 students who wanted to participate in marching band.”

It is no surprise the growth of the band and other student organizations is directly correlated to the growth of UW-Platteville as a whole. The number of undergraduates alone over the past 10 years has increased from 5,649 students in 2002-03 to 7,820 students this year. –Eileen McGuine ’11

Student organizations see exponential growth

In 2002-03 students had 158 clubs and organizations from which to choose. Today, students have 201 options for clubs and organizations at UW-Platteville. “The benefits to students who participate in clubs and organizations on campus far outweigh the disadvantage of not being involved,” said Valerie Wetzel, Manager of the Pioneer Involvement Center.
HISTORY AND GENEALOGY: GOOD BLEND IN CLASSROOM PROJECTS

Dr. Paula Nelson, UW-Platteville History Professor and amateur genealogist, regularly encourages students to look into their family histories or reconstruct the lives of local citizens through projects in her American history courses.

Students begin by selecting an ancestor or individual to research after visiting a local cemetery and then utilize the resources in the UW-Platteville Southwest Wisconsin Room to write a biography.

Nelson said successful biographies include three key parts: who the individuals were, who they wanted to be, and how their lives turned out. “Their real lives as lived is what really matters most,” she said.

The project not only gives students a tangible history of their ancestors or a better understanding of someone who lived in a previous time, but also often serves as the catalyst that inspires conversation with relatives. One student, after talking with his parents, discovered a rich family history with the temperance movement.

“He knows things now about his family that he hadn’t known before,” said Nelson. “That history became real to him.”

ALUMNA CO-FOUNDS GENEALOGY AND HERALDRY SCHOOL

Dr. LaWanna Lease Blount, a 1957 elementary education alumna, has co-founded the American School of Genealogy, Heraldry and Documentary Sciences, where she is a Professor and Vice President. The school, which is located in Como, Miss., seeks to raise the study of genealogy to a scientific discipline, and teaches the skills to accurately document family history and theoretical background to understand genealogy’s relationship with other fields.

Two programs are offered: The Basics in Applied Genealogy, an accredited certificate program, and a
postgraduate diploma, which is anticipating accreditation this month.

After graduating from UW-Platteville, Blount taught in Venezuela, Libya, Australia, Oklahoma, California, and Wisconsin before launching ASGHDS in 2010 with her partner, Dr. Carl Lindgren. She also completed her master’s and doctorate at UW-Madison.

Blount said it was her late husband, John, who sparked her interest in genealogy. “He and his brother were looking for one of their ancestors, and I didn’t pay too much attention at first,” she said. “Then I started getting interested and began traveling around with him. He enjoyed it, and we worked on his genealogy together throughout the 1990s.”

Blount published a more than 500-page family history on John’s family in 1996, a second edition in 2001, and then her own family’s history that same year.

When starting a family history project, Blount recommends talking with relatives and looking at original documents, such as wills, birth certificates, and letters. “Don’t try to do everything yourself, though,” she said. “Get someone to help you who will stick with you. And collect data from the various branches of the family.”

**NELSON’S COURSE SPARKS GENEALOGY INTEREST**

Calvin Bergan, a history and social sciences comprehensive major from Elkader, Iowa, said he was so immersed in a family history project for Dr. Paula Nelson’s History of the United States 1492-1877 course that he continued it on his own.

“I think that genealogy will be a lifelong interest for me,” Bergan said. “I am always learning new things about my family tree, and I am likely to need much more time to learn more about individual ancestors.”

Bergan, whose family has lived in eastern Iowa and southwest Wisconsin for generations, said his main goal is to trace his tree as far back as possible, expanding on the basics and adding enough details from obituaries and other sources to write brief biographies for each person.

“Our very existence hinges on every decision that our ancestors made,” said Bergan. “While we might not learn what all of those decisions were, by doing family research we might at least get a general idea of why we are the person we are today.”

**WANT TO DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH?**

Designated as the region’s Area Research Center by the Wisconsin Historical Society, UW-Platteville’s Southwest Wisconsin Room holds original physical documents dating back to 1836 for six counties in the tri-state area and attracts about 2,000 visitors annually, including genealogists of all levels, students, faculty, and community members.

James Hibbard, university Archivist since 2000, said he’s had people come all the way from England and the Isle of Man to do research, and even had two gentlemen, one from Cornwall and one from Yorkshire, visit on the same day without knowing each other previously.

Popular items include naturalization and circuit court papers, tax rolls, maps with mine locations, and birth, marriage, and death records. An on-site genealogist and staff well versed on the collection are available daily to help visitors navigate through resources.

“It’s so enjoyable to help people find what they are looking for,” said Hibbard, who has 25 years of archival experience. “It’s a natural high. When you figure something out, there’s nothing like it.”

The facility, which also contains university archival materials, accepts donations in the form of historical documents, photographs, and artifacts, as well as local material like scrapbooks and personal letters.

—Barb Weinbrenner ’09
On the Wisconsin banks of Lake Michigan sits a breathtaking oasis. Nate and Mary Calkins, both UW-Platteville alumni, are the current owners of the Lake Orchard Farm Bed and Breakfast in Sheboygan, Wis. Nate ’01, B.S. in civil engineering, and Mary ’01, M.S. in counselor education, are continuing the family tradition at Lake Orchard, which serves as a working farm, and bed and breakfast.

Lake Orchard is a family business with roots at UW-Platteville. Mary’s father, Warren Wunsch, is also an alumnus of UW-Platteville, earning a bachelor’s in civil engineering in 1968. “We have fond memories of Platteville,” said Nate. “It was a small family environment.”

The farm has been in Mary’s family for six generations. Her ancestors arrived in the United States from Germany and settled the farm in 1848. “There is a lot of history here,” said Nate.

Mary was raised on the family dairy farm in Sheboygan, Wis., while Nate’s youth was spent enjoying nature and the outdoors on a hobby farm in Elroy, Wis.

Nate originally enrolled at UW-Madison to study structural engineering. Near the end of his college career at Madison, Nate decided to transfer to UW-Platteville, where he eventually earned his engineering degree. He opted for more of a personal touch from professors at UW-Platteville compared to the large group setting at UW-Madison, where he was taught by teaching assistants in most cases.

Nate and Mary met in Madison. Shortly after meeting they enrolled at UW-Platteville. “We fell in love and didn’t want to be apart from each other,” said Nate.

“It was a really great experience,” said Nate. “UW-Platteville was a true benefit because of the amount of lab time we received; the time with the professors was something that I hadn’t experienced to any degree at UW-Madison.”

Nate and Mary graduated in spring 2001 and were married one month later. After being out of college for four years, the couple decided to move onto the farm and take over operations at Lake Orchard. “It was a unique opportunity for all of us here on the farm to expose the lay person to what country life can be like,” said Nate. “It also gives them a deeper respect for the work behind it.”

The couple tends to the operations of the farm on a daily basis, in addition to managing the bed and breakfast, along with the nine-hole golf course. “It was definitely a transition,” said Nate. “There is endless amounts of physical labor, but we enjoy every minute of it. The biggest reward for me in this career is having people appreciate the effort we put into it.”

The property encompasses 300 acres and a half-mile of prime Lake Michigan real estate. Visitors can stay in the family-friendly cottage or one of the adult only rooms in the bed and breakfast.

–Dan Wackershauser ‘97
Outstanding alumni honored

At commencement ceremonies in December 2012, UW-Platteville honored four recipients of the Outstanding Alumni Award. The winners contribute to a body of knowledge that advances a profession through research or professional activities, have made a significant contribution to society in the form of philanthropic contributions, or have demonstrated visionary thinking and actions.

“Honoring alumni for their accomplishments is a fundamental part of the mission of the Alumni Association,” said Kim Schmelz, Director of Alumni Services. “We have so many alumni who have positively impacted the world around them.”

This year’s award winners include Bryan Michael Mergen, Dean E. Meinholz, Michael W. Payne, and William K. Shores.

Bryan Michael Mergen | Mergen graduated in 2001 with a bachelor’s in agribusiness. He earned a master’s degree from the University of Indiana–Kelly School of Business and another from Purdue University–Krannert School of Business, both in 2008. He works at Pfizer Animal Health as the Senior Territory Manager.

Mergen is active in his church in Wausau, Wis., and is a member of the Foundation Board at Ministry St. Clare’s Hospital in Weston, Wis.

Dean E. Meinholz | Meinholz graduated in 1997 with a bachelor’s degree in animal science with an emphasis in dairy. He is currently a Partner/Herdsman at Blue Star Dairy Farm in DeForest, Wis., where he and his family are leaders in educating the public on dairy production and management.

Meinholz has long supported local FFA and 4-H groups as well as the UW-Platteville Foundation, and is actively involved in Catholic Knights and his church in Waunakee, Wis.

Michael W. Payne | Payne graduated in 1997 with a bachelor’s in civil and environmental engineering. He previously worked in various engineering positions for the city of Janesville, Wis., and since 2008, he has worked as an Engineering Manager.

Payne serves as member of several local committees and clubs that support the community of Janesville, and spends his time volunteering. He is a past member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and is a lifetime member of the UW-Platteville Alumni Association.

William K. Shores | Shores earned his bachelor’s in criminal justice in 1998 before continuing on to graduate first in his class at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. He works at NASA-Kennedy Space Center in Florida as a Criminal Investigator, where he has won many awards.

Shores actively encourages youth membership in his church in Cocoa, Fla., and volunteers at the Humane Society and Habitat for Humanity.

–Dan Wackershauser ’97
Cheer and Stunt Team Sparkles

At some of the UW-Platteville basketball games there were some new members on the Cheer and Stunt team, the Pioneer Sparkles. The Pioneer Sparkles team is a group of six from ages 11-21 with differing needs and abilities from the tri-state area and is fully integrated with the Pioneer Cheer and Stunt team.

The idea of starting the Pioneer Sparkles came from freshman Shelby Swanson. She was a member of the nation’s first high-school based inclusive cheerleading squad at Pleasant Valley High School in Bettendorf, Iowa, and has brought The Sparkle Effect to Platteville. She received recognition from the National Residence Hall Honorary for her commitment to the program. The Pioneer Sparkles is the first university team to join The Sparkle Effect, which has more than 80 fully inclusive high school and middle school teams throughout the country.

Swanson brought the idea of joining The Sparkle Effect to head Cheer and Stunt Coach Patti Mitch in November 2012. Mitch took the idea to Athletic Director Mark Molesworth to get his approval to create the fully inclusive cheer squad. With the okay from Molesworth, the UW-Platteville Cheer and Stunt team started the Pioneer Sparkles in the beginning of December 2012, and received a $1,000 grant from The Sparkle Effect for uniforms for the new members to the squad.

“We are all one big team,” said Mitch. “Each of them has such courage and is willing to try anything. They are amazing to work with and bring a smile to everyone’s face because they always have a smile on theirs. It has been a gift to work with the program.”

Each Sparkle has a mentor from the UW-Platteville Cheer and Stunt team who cheers beside them during the game and helps them during their weekly practice.

The Pioneer Sparkles is open to individuals with differing needs and abilities from ages 9-23. As the program is funded by donations, the only cost to the Sparkle athletes is that of getting to practices and games. –Justin Bohn ’11
Volunteers are the heart of our organization

The UW-Platteville Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of 24 members representing the College of BILSA, College of LAE, College of EMS, and Distance Education. Each board member serves a three-year term, attends quarterly meetings, participates in at least one standing committee, serves as an ambassador for the university through volunteer opportunities, and supports the mission of the Alumni Association.

What it means to be a board member ...

- I’m able to visibly promote the idea of being a pioneer, show the pride I have in this institution, and be a voice for other alumni.
  
  **Betty Loeffelholz**

- I serve so I can give back to an institution that provided me with a quality education and instructors that really did care about me—a university that makes me smile when I talk about it.
  
  **Phil Moldrem**

- I get to stay connected to the university that has given me so much.
  
  **Kate O’Connor**

- I can help fellow alumni connect, reconnect, and meet new friends.
  
  **Allen Poppe**

Interested in volunteering? E-mail alumni@uwplatt.edu

Members of the Alumni Board of Directors include: front row (left to right): Christine Wunderlin ’90, Tom Laufenberg ’96, Andrew Skwor ’01, Bobbie (Coons) Boettcher ’94, Deb Rice ’75, Betty (Wilson) Loeffelholz ’68, Kristin (Shimpach) Determan ’05, and Kathryn (Crawford) O’Connor ’06; back row: Amy (Addison) Nemmetz ’99, JoAnne (Utke) Utke-Gibson ’73, Tricia (Kruser) Reuter ’70, student Tina Holst, Allen Poppe ’91, Doug Wetzel ’91, Brian Day ’97, John Krinke ’97, Phil Moldrem ’70, Melissa Gavin ’08, Cris Proctor ’90, and Elizabeth Wood ’07; and not pictured: Greg Bies ’96, Richard Burgermeister ’69, Gary David ’77, Jenna (Walsh) Harpole ’09, Dan Paulson ’92, Jodi Pluemer ’96, Jonathan Strand ’91, and JoAnn (Feist) Wiederholt ’79.
Winter was fast approaching when Josiah Pickard, the new principal of the Platteville Academy, arrived in Platteville in November 1846. What awaited Pickard at the academy disheartened him. The academy’s academic standards were low, it had a student body of only five students, and applications for enrollment were for “children of a tender age.” If standards were not raised, Pickard admitted, his “plans for a school of high grade must fail.” Remarkably, during Pickard’s 13-year tenure, he turned a failing institution into an influential teachers’ institution.

Founded in 1839, the Platteville Academy was located in a small two-story frame building at the northeast corner of Bonson and Cedar streets. Constructed in 1842 by the Presbyterian Church, the academy occupied the second floor, and the church used the first floor.

Pickard viewed the academy’s situation as a problem in standards. He recognized that until there were qualified teachers at the public schools, incoming students at the academy would not be prepared for higher academic standards. Pickard addressed the problem in two areas. At the academy, he emphasized teaching, or normal school instruction, by establishing a “Teachers’ Class” to instruct students on how to teach students; and had the first catalogue of the Platteville Academy printed for the 1846-47 school year, conveying institutional stability and permanence.

His second area was the public schools. Pickard organized an educational convention held at Platteville in June 1847. Among other things, the attendees agreed to standardize classroom textbooks, support the “profession of teaching,” and call themselves the Mining Region Teachers’ Association, the forerunner of the Wisconsin State Teachers’ Association.

Over the next decade, the Platteville Academy’s standards were raised, enrollment was increased to over 300 students, and a new academy building was built and opened on the west side of town on Oct. 3, 1853. Part of Pickard’s success was due to his outreach. In 1846, he began with students from the tri-state area, but by 1859 he had students from as far away as New York, Ohio, Minnesota, and Nebraska.

Pickard’s most lasting achievement, as he would recall later, was making instruction for teachers “a prominent feature in the work of the academy.” In doing this, Pickard prepared the Platteville Academy for the next stage in its development, becoming Wisconsin’s first normal school.

By the time Pickard left Platteville at the end of 1859 to take up the duties as the state superintendent of public instruction in Madison, he had not only revived the Platteville Academy, but he also established the tradition of Platteville being the region’s leader in education. –James Hibbard
Pioneers make soccer history

“This was an incredible season, marked by many broken records. It was a season the players will never forget,” said UW-Platteville men’s soccer Coach Enzo Fuschino.

The Pioneers began their season like any other and finished it as the best season in the program’s history, making it to the Sweet 16, the farthest any UW-Platteville soccer team has gone in the national tournament.

After Sept. 11, 2012, they captured their first regional ranking since 2008, eighth in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Continental Tier NCAA Division III Men’s North Regional Rankings. The team proved its ranking, outscoring its first six opponents by a 19-3 margin.

Capturing the conference title was only too sweet after significant wins over UW-Oshkosh and UW-Whitewater.

The team moved its way up through the national rankings as high as 13, leading them to a national bid. In opening tournament play, a save from UW-Platteville’s junior goalkeeper, and Oregon, Wis., native Ian Christensen secured a Pioneer victory against Gustavus Adolphus, and they advanced to Carroll College. The Pioneers won the match 2-1 to advance to the Sweet 16 for a re-match against nationally fourth ranked Loras College.

“The support we received at the Loras Duhawks versus UW-Platteville game was incredible. It gave us the strength to represent the university in a very positive way,” said Fuschino.

Earlier in the season the Pioneers won the match against Loras, handing the Duhawks their only loss of the season.

The Duhawks took an early lead, scoring a goal nine minutes into in the first half. In the 34th minute, UW-Platteville’s Chris Brown, a senior from McFarland, Wis., made a free kick to tie the game. In the second half, Loras scored in the 64th minute leading to the end of the Pioneers run in the national tournament before 1,200 fans in Dubuque, Iowa.

The Pioneers finished with a 15-4-2 record, with many players earning WIAC, All-Wisconsin State team, and NSCAA North Region postseason honors.

Fuschino was selected as the Coach of the Year and North Region Coach of the Year from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division III.

–Eileen McGuine ’11
Iowa City West Head Volleyball Coach Kathy Bresnahan, a 1980 UW-Platteville physical education graduate who led the Trojans to a second consecutive Iowa 4A championship last fall, was PrepVolleyball.com’s National Coach of the Year for 2011–12. She was an easy choice.

When Bresnahan, known as “Bres,” submitted Iowa City West’s information sheet for the 2011 fall season to PrepVolleyball.com, she had to feel good about her team’s chances to defend its 2010 Iowa 4A title, the first in her 23-year coaching career.

“We should be title contenders by the end of the season,” she wrote.

One day later, none of that mattered anymore. Rising senior setter Caroline Found, the heart and soul of the team, was killed in a moped accident.

The team was devastated. Bres was shattered. Compounding the tragedy, Caroline’s mother, Ellyn, died of pancreatic cancer 12 days later, two days before the Trojans were slated to open the season.

Iowa City West lost its first and second match. Bresnahan wasn’t focused on the scoreboard. She was trying to save her players.

With Caroline’s best friend, senior Kelley Fliehler, stepping into her shoes at setter, West High started winning. The Trojans won 17 matches in a row, including two wins over Wahlert, which was ranked No. 1 in Iowa’s 3A class at the time. Still, all was not well.
“To be honest, [Caroline’s] death made the season grim,” Bresnahan said. “At the two-month anniversary, we were still struggling. Grief manifests itself.”

Somehow, Bres held the team together and West qualified for state with a 36-6 record.

The players and Bresnahan were not done, however, not even when they faced a two sets to none deficit to nationally-ranked Iowa City High in the state final. Together they found a way. The title was the second in a row for Iowa City West and for Bres and the 625th win in her career.

What mattered was her team and the individual players were becoming whole once again, comforted by playing a sport they loved, for themselves, sure, but also for Caroline.

“I am awed by my players,” Bres noted. “What they were able to accomplish is beyond my comprehension. The wins were irrelevant—this was a season of survival. This wasn’t a season about coaching and competing, but rather a season in which we clung to each other and helped each other move forward one day at a time.”

Dr. Ernie Found, Caroline’s father, said that coach Bresnahan is a deserving choice for National Coach of the Year.

“I would describe her as a rock—somebody you can turn to and put your faith in,” he said. “She is there for the players, to make the players better people and make the team a better team. She is not in it for herself.”

“Kathy is, above all else, a wonderful mentor for young people,” said Tom Keating, the current principal at Cedar Rapids Xavier and National Coach of the Year recipient in 2003 while at Dubuque Wahlert. “She uses volleyball as a vehicle to guide young women through the struggles, challenges, trials, and tribulations of life. This was no more evident than it was during this most difficult season.”

PrepVolleyball.com has, in the past, often honored co-Coaches of the Year, as so many wonderful mentors make a lasting imprint every volleyball season. In 2011, however, Coach Bres stands alone.

This article was written by John Tawa and reprinted after editing with permission from www.prepvolleyball.com.
In higher education, it’s all about earning credits. But Lisa Cousins won’t take all the credit for being the first graduate of UW-Platteville’s first online degree program nearly a dozen years ago.

“I’m proud of that, but I don’t have a right to be,” she said, “UW-Platteville did me a favor and made it easier for me to get my degree. So I feel grateful.”

The start of good things to come

Cousins graduated on May 5, 2001 with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice, UW-Platteville’s sole fully web-based program at the time. The university’s online programs were in their infancy, but Cousins predicted the “phenomenal” potential of making college courses and degrees more flexible and accessible.

“I knew immediately it would grow because it made so much sense. People have different personal circumstances,” she said. “Distance learning took off once universities got over the ‘fear’ that students were sitting at home having their friends write their papers and take their tests.”

Cousins was an ethics investigator for Motorola’s law department when she enrolled as the lone student in the criminal justice master’s program in March of 1999. Unlike today’s online students who experience tremendous diversity and interaction in every course, Cousins’ experience was different.

“Class discussions didn’t take very long. It was usually me talking to myself,” joked Cousins.

Today, all of UW-Platteville’s online courses are designed to ensure regular communication between students, instructors, and classmates.

Cousins is now Director of Export/Import Compliance for General Dynamics, a defense contractor that operates around the world. She manages the organization’s international trade function and ensures General Dynamics follows complex laws and regulations pertaining to exporting and importing its products and technology.

Continued on page 32
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship celebrates 50 years

The UW-Platteville InterVarsity Christian Fellowship chapter was established in 1963 by basketball coach Dick Wadewitz and a few eager students.

InterVarsity is an evangelical campus mission serving students and faculty on college and university campuses nationwide. The vision is to see students and faculty transformed, campuses renewed, and world changers developed.

In the early years, a small but growing group of students met weekly at the home of Dick and Marian Wadewitz until they outgrew that space and needed to move on campus. The addition of full-time InterVarsity staff over the years helped the chapter to grow in size, impact, and influence. Current InterVarsity staff and UW-Platteville alumni Brandon ’09 and Hannah ’09 Pepin help to give direction to a group of more than 200 students meeting regularly on Thursday nights in Velzy Commons in Ullsvik Hall. Many alumni will remember it as the Beaux Arts Room of the Student Center. Many smaller groups also meet across campus throughout the week, particularly in residence halls, to study the Bible and live out their Christian faith.

Dick and Marian, other faculty, and InterVarsity staff from throughout the chapter’s 50 years invite all UW-Platteville InterVarsity alumni to celebrate the 50th anniversary with an event scheduled for July 26–27 on the UW-Platteville campus. To find out more information about the 50-year anniversary or to get involved with the current chapter, send an e-mail to alumni@uwpiv.org or visit www.uwpiv.org/alumni.

–Dr. Dwight Klaassen, Faculty Emeriti

Rural Education Class of 1954

The 1954 rural education graduates meet twice a year in Dodgeville, Wis., to reminisce. The group began meeting in 1997 and continues to meet every year in April and October. The two-year rural education degree prepared women to teach grades one through eight in a rural schoolhouse. The Wisconsin State College at Platteville stopped granting the degree in 1960.

Front row (left to right): Eleanor (March) Bennett, Delores (Wehnke) Nicholas, Delores (Stivarius) Udelhoven, Inez Olmoen; back row: Beverly (Knudson) Schwierske, Barbara (Parkinson) Lewis, Peggy (Seeley) Rice, Shirley (Rielly) Leu, Ruth (Colden) Ziehr, Virginia (Campbell) Bunbury, and Meredith (Knoble) Strang; unable to attend: Ruth (Helmid) Moll, Patricia (Bach) Gilbertson, Shirley (Bennett) Novinski, Delores (Bohn) Murphy

Join us for a Weekend in the Dells at the Wilderness Hotel!

May 3–5, 2013

Rooms are $109/night for a family of 4 and there is no minimum stay! Additional family members are $15 each. $9 from every room night booked will be rebated back to our school.

Call the Wilderness directly at 800-867-WILD to make your reservation. Just mention you are with the UW-Platteville Alumni group # B07798.

WILDERNESS

HOTEL & GOLF RESORT
Marilyn (Draeger) Frey ’66 looks back fondly on her time at UW-Platteville, and rightfully so. During her sophomore year in 1962, she was selected as the Homecoming queen. Between her sophomore and junior years, at the age of 19, she earned the title of Alice in Dairyland, the 16th Alice in the program’s history. Finals were held in Manitowoc, Wis., that year.

Preparation for the “Alice” finals didn’t require anything out of the ordinary for Frey. She had an extensive agriculture background, having been a 4H member and showed cattle at many state and national fairs. She also had experience in the theatre and singing.

Frey described her year as “Alice” as very glamorous. She had the opportunity to travel to large media markets for radio and television interviews, including Los Angeles, Calif.; Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati, Ohio; and Seattle, Wash., among others. She made appearances on The Steve Allen Show, The Lawrence Welk Show, and was on the same panel as the Rev. Billy Graham. “I had some fabulous opportunities to meet people,” she said.

During her time as “Alice,” Frey traveled throughout the country with a chaperone, always adorned with the crown and flowers. “It was pretty much a fantasy year,” she said. “Every day was wonderful. People looked at you like you were somebody special.”

Frey earned her bachelor’s in art in 1966. Following graduation she worked as a high school art teacher. Later, she and her husband, Dick, managed several hotels for the La Quinta Inn and Suites hotel chain until retirement. The couple currently resides in Oxford, Miss.

Frey returned to campus for a visit a couple of years ago, after having not been back for decades. Her stepson, step-granddaughter, brother, and nephew, are all UW-Platteville graduates. “My family is connected with this campus,” she said. –Dan Wackershauser ’97

We apologize for omitting Marilyn Frey from the Alice in Dairyland article in the January issue.

First online graduate
Continued from page 30
Cousins attributes her online learning success to the support of family, friends, and coworkers, as well as UW-Platteville’s faculty and staff, especially Dr. Cheryl Banachowski-Fuller, Director of UW-Platteville’s criminal justice graduate programs. “She was my advisor, professor, and number one cheerleader,” Cousins said.

The same traits Cousins used to succeed as an online student—discipline, time management, communication, and conscientiousness—she now calls upon daily to succeed in life’s real-time lessons. “So, in that way, UW-Platteville is contributing to the preparation of the next generation workforce,” Cousins said. –Thomas Jensen

The 2013 edition of U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges named UW-Platteville’s engineering program one of the “Best in Undergraduate Engineering.”

We apologize for omitting Marilyn Frey from the Alice in Dairyland article in the January issue.
A CASE FOR COLLEGE

You’re better off with a degree: according to a Georgetown University Center on Education study. Americans holding a bachelor’s degree or higher avoided the worst of the Great Recession and fared better as the economy began to recover.

2.2 million jobs requiring at least a bachelor’s degree have been created since December 2007.

5.8 million jobs requiring a high school diploma or less were lost in that time.

6.8 percent of recent U.S. graduates with at least a bachelor’s degree were unemployed in 2012.

24 percent of recent U.S. high school graduates were unemployed in 2012.

Source: The College Advantage: Weathering the Economic Storm, August 2012

1954

Lon Weber, native of Cuba City, Wis., and recipient of the 1993 UW-Platteville Distinguished Alumnus Award, has been appointed a member of the Board of Governors for Shriners Hospital for Children—Philadelphia, Pa., one of the largest of the 23 hospitals and burn centers in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Weber and his wife Judith (Jones) ’54, reside in Williamsburg, Va.

1969

Frank Friar received the Honorary American Degree at the National FFA convention in October 2012 in recognition of the contributions he has made to Wisconsin farms throughout his career.

1970

Peggy Dettwiler is the Director of Choral Activities at Mansfield University in Mansfield, Penn. The Mansfield University Concert Choir was one of two American choirs to receive three gold medals in the fifth World Choir Games, which were held in Cincinnati, Ohio, in July 2012.

1971

Dr. Mick Pechan visited the UW–Platteville campus in December 2012 to give a talk about nanophysics and spintronics. Pechan recently retired from Miami University in Ohio, where he was chair of the physics department. His nephew, Brian Pechan ’02, who works for GE Healthcare in Madison, Wis., visited campus with Mick.

1975

After 27 years of state service, Dr. Robert Ehlenfeldt retired as State Veterinarian and Division Administrator at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. According to DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel ’72, “Dr. Ehlenfeldt has been a superior state veterinarian. His scientific knowledge of animal health, his rapport with his counterparts in other states, and his personal demeanor have helped him address difficult issues over the years in a thoughtful and timely manner.”

1986

Ann Johnson, a Professor at the University of Minnesota, received the Donald C. Stone Award for Excellence in Education, which recognizes outstanding achievement of individuals assisting in the areas of continuing and graduate professional education for public works professionals. Johnson also owns a professional engineering consulting firm and works with the Minnesota Airport Technical Assistance program.

The names of Alumni Association lifetime members are identified with blue text and annual members are identified with orange text. Thank you to everyone who continues to support us in creating relationships that last a lifetime.
Class Notes

1988

Joseph W. Peikert has been named President/CEO of Wolf River Community Bank in Hortonville, Wis. Prior to this position, he served as executive vice president and chief financial officer of the bank since 2007.

1990

Kevin Mushel has been appointed as the new District Manager for Combo Products, which includes music production, live sound, guitar, bass, and drums, at the Pro Audio and Combo Division at Yamaha Corporation of America. He will be responsible for combo sales in parts of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

1993

Dr. Michael Retallick, an Associate Professor of Agriculture Education and Studies at Iowa State University, received the New Teacher Award at the Food and Agricultural Sciences Excellence in College and University Awards program at the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities in November 2012. This award recognizes teaching excellence and success in engaging and preparing students for their future.

2005

Greg Smith’s students from West High School in Davenport, Iowa, won the Real World Design Challenge in 2012, a victory they repeated at the Iowa State Championships that will send them to Washington, D.C., in April. The aviation contest is an annual competition that provides high school students the opportunity to work on real-world engineering challenges.

2006

Daniel S. Anderson completed his Ph.D. at Iowa State University in agriculture engineering in 2012 and is now an Assistant Professor there. He works with manure management and water quality as well as anaerobic digestion systems, nutrient separation and recovery, and biological waste treatment methods in agriculture systems.

Missy (Klein) ’06 and Matt Lipska ’07 were married Sept. 15, 2012. The wedding party included Brandon Lipska ’04, Maria (Perry) Krajco ’08, Stacey (Geyer) Rogers ’06, Emily (Tuttle) Timmerman, Sarah Leute Lipska ’08, Casey Droeszler ’05, Andy Robson ’06, and Ryan Mockler.

The Alumni Association annually awards $5,000 in legacy scholarships to incoming freshmen who are related to UW-Platteville alumni. Please call the Alumni Services office at 1.800.UWP.ALUM for more information on legacy scholarships for the 2014-15 academic year.
### 2013 UW-Platteville Alumni Association Membership Campaign

- **New Member**  
- **Renewing Member**

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#### Form Details

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**Grad. Year**: 

**Major**: 

**Distance Ed. Degree**: □ Yes □ No

**Home Address**: 

**City/State/Zip**: 

**Home Phone**: 

**Spouse’s Name**: 

**Is spouse an alum**: □ Yes □ No

**Spouse’s Grad Year**: 

**Make check payable to UW-Platteville Alumni Association OR charge**: □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Discover

**Total Enclosed**: $ _______

**Card #**: 

**Exp.**: 

**Signature**: 

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### 2010

**Basia (Borzecki) Menning ’10** and **Brad Menning ’09** were married June 9, 2012, in Mosinee, Wis. The wedding party included **Justin Palbrach ’11**, **Steven Cate ’10**, **Tanya DenBoer ’10**, Joanna Borzecki (current student), Michael Caraway (current student), and **Tomasz Wisniowski ’06**.

The couple now lives in the Wausau area, where Basia works for Greenheck Fan Corporation as a Manufacturing Engineer, and Brad works at Wisconsin Public Service as a Maintenance Supervisor.

The Alumni Association has a growing online community.

Join us today!

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/UWPlattevilleAlumni](http://www.facebook.com/UWPlattevilleAlumni) or become a member of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville Alumni group on LinkedIn.

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This is the year to become a lifetime member of the Alumni Association. To celebrate our 50th anniversary we’re reducing the price of membership from $400 to $365. So, for a dollar a day you can become a member for life.

* Lifetime membership dues are put into an endowment to sustain the Alumni Association.*
IN MEMORIAM

1934
Josephine N. Grunewald, Blairstown, Iowa
1937
Roselyn R. Caveny, Longwood, Fla.
1940
Loveina McReynolds, Walworth, Wis.
1941
Robert F. Devine, Anderson, S.C.
1942
Robert J. Ivey, Mineral Point, Wis.
1943
Daniel W. Daughhetee, Gresham, Ore.
1945
Anna J. Richardson, Monroe, Wis.
1946
Ruth E. Steinback, Platteville, Wis.
1947
Mary A. Simonson, Lake Mills, Wis.
1949
Phillip Helgesen, Oregon, Wis.
Joyce W. Kirschbaum, Beaver Dam, Wis.
1950
Charles E. Piper, Jefferson County, Tenn.
Paul Walther, Middleton, Wis.
1951
William C. Smillie, West Salem, Wis.
Eugene T. Francis, Cuba City, Wis.
Roland W. Luchsinger, Verona, Wis.
1953
Dr. Wallace W. Rogers, Dodgeville, Wis.
Lester W. Meyer, Cecil, Wis.
1954
John R. Engels, Shullsburg, Wis.
1955
Ruth A. Cherry, Janesville, Wis.
Marilyn J. (Menamin) Nerhaugen, Verona, Wis.
1956
Amelia H. Heal, Gays Mills, Wis.
Elaine M. Edge, Fond du Lac, Wis.
1959
Ruth Gathright, Richland Center, Wis.
1960
David E. Mergen, Madison, Wis.
1961
Ronald G. McNutt, Janesville, Wis.
1962
Thurman D. Hesse, Cottage Grove, Wis.
1963
Alletta Ritchie, Boscobel, Wis.
1965
R. Pegram, Greensboro, N.C.
Marvin Wurster, Stockton, Ill.
1966
Carol L. Cox, Birmingham, Ala.
John E. Callahan, Marshfield, Wis.
1970
Frank E. Rear, New Glarus, Wis.
Janis K. Stanek, Norwalk, Wis.
1971
Michael E. Krogman, Washington, Ill.
Beverly J. (Bartels) Ayen, Urbandale, Iowa
1972
Calvin F. Suthers, Platteville, Wis.
1973
Gary G. Rott, Shoreview, Minn.
1976
Gloria (Squier) Sens, Platteville, Wis.
Jeffrey W. Thomas, Palm Harbor, Fla.
1977
Kirk J. Foley, Superior, Wis.
1982
Jerry A. Johnston, Clayton, Calif.
1989
Marjorie E. (Banfield) Bernhardt, Cuba City, Wis.
1993
Ricky J. Sime, Ferryville, Wis.

Faculty Emeriti
Dr. Alva H. Jared, Sun City West, Ariz.
Dr. Ralph H. Bjork, Platteville, Wis.

Employees
Janet Luhman, Lancaster, Wis.
LOST ALUMNI Those people listed as “Lost Alumni” either graduated from or attended what we now know as UW-Platteville. If you have an address or contact information for any of the alumni listed below, please contact Alumni Services at 1.800.897.2586 or send an e-mail to alumni@uwplatt.edu.

1971 Thomas Banfield • Christin (Lewis) Beauchene • Charlene Boynton • Patrick Buckley • Cynthia Cnare • Karen (Harrison) Cornell • Michael Edwards • Glen Foster • Sherry (Oimoen) Harpold • Jessie (Gierhart) Hawley • Peter Hiatrides • George Hoyman • William Hudson • Alan Jakusz • Jewel (Defreese) Knapp • Dennis Larsen • Patricia (Kemerling) Malzhan • Leonard McPherson • Laurie (Clements) Olson • Robert Rasmussen • Ronald Reck • Gloria Reeg • John Rockwell • Patrick Salwolke • William Schmidt • Charles Schultz • David Schultz • Norman Sorenson • Janet (Bullis) Stola • Wayne Swanson • Jane (Needham) Wilhoit • Polly (Nyman) Wright
1. **Greg Gauerke ’06** and his wife Terri welcomed Peter Gregory on May 18, 2012. The family resides in Appleton, Wis.

2. **Duane ’98 and Sarah (Peterson) ’98 Heller** welcomed their first baby, Matthew Elliot, on Sept. 3, 2012. Matthew weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 19.75 inches long.

3. **Gloria (Gutiérrez) Marzell ’98** and her husband Jesse welcomed son Preston Vincent on April 6, 2012. He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Gloria is an Air Traffic Controller in Chicago and Jesse is an Airline Pilot, so Preston is very likely to have aviation in his future.

4. Abrielle Grace Shirek was born Jan. 20, 2013, to **Greg ’99** and Jennifer Shirek. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and joins big sister Elise, 3.

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**OUTFIT YOUR LITTLE PIONEER**

with a brand-new onesie and toddler T-shirt from the UW-Platteville Alumni Association.

- **onesie:** 6M, 12M, 18M
- **toddler T-shirt:** 2T, 3T, 4T

Clothing can be ordered online at alumni.uwplatt.edu/store.

If you have a birth announcement or photo of your little Pioneer, send it to us and we’ll use it in a future issue of the Alumni Today as space permits.
Did you work at the UW-Platteville Student Center during your college days? We’re hosting a Student Center Reunion during Homecoming 2013, on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Open to anyone who worked in any building referred to as the student center during their time here, including employees who were involved with activities, the art gallery, dining, operations, and retail services at the student center.

Please contact Katie Friar at alumni@uwplatt.edu or 1.800.UWP.ALUM (897.2586) to R.S.V.P.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

Saturday, April 27
An Evening in Monte Carlo
The Concourse, Madison, Wis.

MAY

Friday, May 3–Sunday, May 5
Wilderness Weekend
Wisconsin Dells, Wis.

Saturday, May 4
UW-Platteville Pub Crawl
UW-Platteville campus, Main St. and Second St.

Sunday, May 5
Athletic Hall of Fame–1995 Men’s Basketball Team Induction Ceremony
Bo Ryan Court, UW-Platteville campus

Wednesday, May 8
Emeriti Luncheon
UW-Platteville campus

Friday, May 10
Distinguished Alumni and Commencement Recognition Dinner Celebration
UW-Platteville campus

Saturday, May 11
Pioneers Through the Years: Celebrating the Classes of 1953, 1963, and 1973
UW-Platteville campus
190th Commencement Ceremony
UW-Platteville campus

Thursday, May 16
Happy hour at the Walkabout
Sheboygan, Wis.

Friday, May 17
Sheboygan Area Golf Outing
The Bull at Pinehurst Farms,
Sheboygan Falls, Wis.

Tuesday, May 21
UW-Platteville Alumni Association’s 50th Anniversary
Celebrate worldwide, show your Pioneer pride

JUNE

Friday, June 14
Music Department Golf Outing
Scholarship fund raiser
Platteville Golf and Country Club

July

Friday, July 12
BILSA Alumni Chapter Golf Outing
Platteville Golf and Country Club

Sunday, July 14
Alumni Night at Heartland
Dinner and a Show
Frankly Scarlett, You’re Dead
Center for the Arts,
UW-Platteville campus

Friday, July 26–Saturday, July 27
50th anniversary of the founding of the Platteville InterVarsity Chapter Celebration
UW-Platteville campus

Saturday, July 27
2013 Pioneer Basketball Golf Outing
Platteville Golf and Country Club

AUGUST

Thursday, Aug. 1
Mallards Baseball Tailgate and Game
Madison, Wis.

Thursday, Aug. 15
La Crosse Ice Cream Social
La Crosse, Wis.

Thursday, Aug. 29
Bridgeway Commons Grand Opening
UW-Platteville campus

SEPTEMBER

Friday, Sept. 6
Soils and Crops Alumni Golf Outing and Brat Picnic hosted by Roger Higgs
Apple Canyon Lake, Ill.

Saturday, Sept. 21
UW-Platteville Pioneer Football versus Lewis and Clark College
Portland, Ore.

OCTOBER

Saturday, Oct. 5
2013 UW-Platteville Homecoming
Homecoming Hustle
Distance Learning 35th Anniversary Celebration
Student Center Reunion
UW-Platteville Alumni Association’s 50th Anniversary Celebration

If you would like more information about any of our upcoming events go online at alumni.uwplatt.edu or call us at 1.800.897.2586.