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– The Sound of a Century –

# CONVERSE

## MAGAZINE

### Petrie School of Music Reunion

October 28-30, 2010

Including The Petrie School of Music Centennial Celebration

### Reunion Weekend

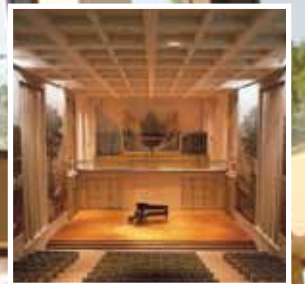
April 15-16, 2011

Class Years Ending in 1 & 6,  
The Class of 2010 and the Golden Club

Info & Registration: [Converse.edu/Reunion](http://Converse.edu/Reunion)



100 Years of World  
Class Music



Musical Mentors



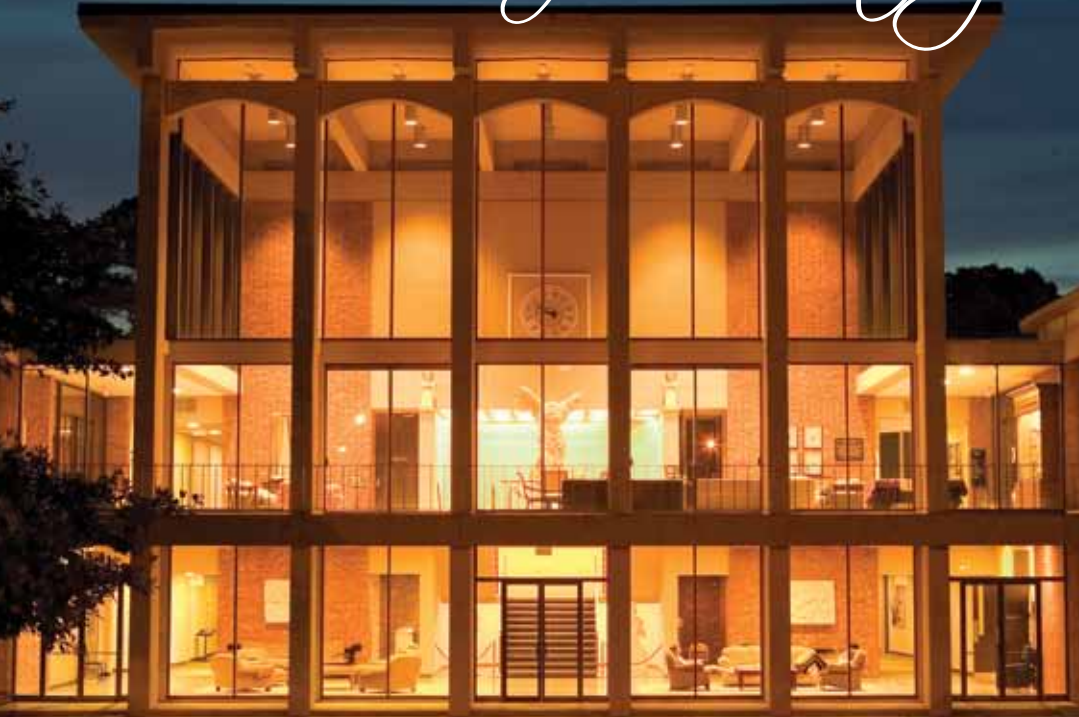
Collaborations





Help spread the word about our NEW scholarship program!

*The Sounds of a Century*



**1910 - 2010**

## PETRIE SCHOOL OF MUSIC CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION CONCERT

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7:30 PM

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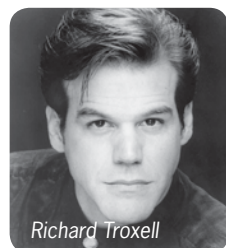
Wael Farouk



Elizabeth Child



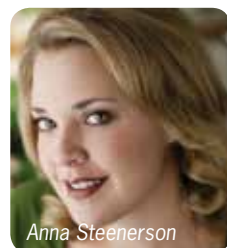
Kimilee Bryant



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# CONVERSE

Make Things Happen



# CONVERSE

## MAGAZINE



**100 Years of World Class Music** **Page 4**  
 Journey through the musical legacy that Converse has woven over the course of the last century as we celebrate our Petrie School of Music's rich history and our vibrant future!

### Celebrating the Petrie School of Music

**Chorus of Change** Page 14  
 Get to know four PSOM women who are making their mark through careers in opera, music therapy, music composition and even law.

**Musical Mentors** Page 18  
 Meet the rock star, world-renowned opera singer and founder of the SC Music Technology Institute who also happen to be innovative members of the PSOM faculty.

**PSOM Accomplishments** Page 21  
 From being inducted into the SC Music Educators Hall of Fame, to performing at the Kennedy Center, to premiering a commissioned composition by the Sri Lanka National Symphony, faculty and students are shining in a global spotlight.

### Features

**Collaborations** Page 22  
 Take a closer look at the artistic collaborations of *Quartet for the End of Time*, *Macbeth* and *Lying to the Sea Gypsy* made possible through the Creative Collaboration grant program.

**The Emerging Spirit of Berry Bate '75** Page 24  
 From hanging off a mountain with a blow torch in hand to starting a business out of a chicken coop, Berry Bate '75 has paved her own way to the top of the male dominated-field of metalworking.

**Richard Higgs: Renaissance Man Behind the New School of the Arts** Page 28  
 With his eclectic taste in music (Public Enemy, Sinatra and Chopin), his passion for single-gender education and dedication to advancing the arts, Richard Higgs is primed to lead the new School of the Arts.



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Fall 2010, Volume 122, No. 1  
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Photo: Martha Graham performing her own work in Gjon Mili's studio, 1943 (LIFE)

## “I CAN!”

Since first attending a performance by Martha Graham Dance Company in 1972, I have been captivated by the woman who revolutionized the world of dance. A pioneer driven by a passion to connect human emotion, expression and music, Graham asserted that “Some . . . have thousands of reasons why they cannot do what they want to, when all they need is **one reason why they can.**” With our economic, political and social environments in a state of uncertainty and flux, we live today in a climate that demands the active engagement of women who have developed the capacity “to see clearly, decide wisely and act justly.” It is an environment that cries out for the skills and experiences of Converse women committed to effect positive change. These women of purpose and passion shout, “I can” when others whisper, “I cannot.”

Throughout her career, Graham pushed boundaries. Her innovative, expressive and avant-garde performances challenged convention in dance and expectations of women in the twentieth century. Praise and disdain, respect and contempt, reverence and disregard, awe and even laughter were the contrasting responses to her work. Unwilling to let others’ perceptions limit her vision, Graham insisted “I can,” forging her own creative life path. She ultimately made history, recognized as “Dancer of the Century” and among the most important individuals of the twentieth century by *Time* magazine. Graham’s challenging life path echoes that of such creative Converse alumnae as Julia Mood Peterkin 1897 and Lily Strickland 1904.

Since our founding in 1889, the music program (officially named the School of Music in 1910) has been a cornerstone of the Converse community and a driving force for Converse women who say “I can.” The first college in the South to offer accredited undergraduate degree programs in music and the first college in South Carolina to offer a graduate degree in music, Converse has always been at the forefront of music education.

Today, the Carroll McDaniel Petrie School of Music continues to evolve to meet the needs of the twenty-first century student. The success of our graduates demonstrates the diversity of talent that flourishes on our campus. Tharanga Goonetilleke '05 makes her debut this fall as a member of the New York City Opera. She returns to Converse in spring 2011 to perform in The Carlos Moseley Chamber Music Series. Another example of the “I can” spirit of Converse musicians, Alison Watson '03 cultivates positive change daily as a music therapist at the New Day Clubhouse in Spartanburg.



As our trailblazing graduates demonstrate in their own creative life paths, Converse too has owned a mindset of “I can,” for over 120 years. This attitude allows us to evolve, realizing fully our promise to advance women for personal and professional success.

This year, we celebrate the rich history and bright future of the Petrie School of Music on the evening of October 28, with a celebration titled, *The Sounds of a Century*. The concert features current faculty and students as well as some of our most notable alumnae/i. They include: Kimilee Bryant '88 who performs the lead role of Christine in *Phantom of the Opera* on Broadway and beyond; pianists Elizabeth Child '77, Wael Farouk MM '06 and Ann Ratteree Herlong '51; composer Paul Schoenfield '67; Anna Steenerson '03 of the Des Moines Metro Opera; and internationally acclaimed tenor Richard Troxell MM '88. Please make plans to join us for this special occasion!

Also this fall, Converse expands our commitment to creativity and adaptability with the establishment of our new School of the Arts. This entity forges a collaborative synergy between the Petrie School of Music, the Department of Art & Design and the Department of Theatre & Dance. The new school provides a dynamic hub for cultivating creative intelligence, honing the skills and advancing the dreams of talented musicians, educators, artists, designers, actors and dancers.

With the launch of the School of the Arts, Converse offers eight major and minor programs in music, seven in art and design, and two in theatre and dance. Interdisciplinary collaborations between aspiring opera performers and composers, playwrights, thespians, choreographers, artists and interior designers among others promise to energize the greater Converse community. New technology in classrooms, theatres and recital halls provides a breadth and depth of training and understanding distinctive in the Southeast.

Converse is on the move. Facing twenty-first century challenges head on, accepting the twists and turns that our creative life path takes, enhancing our lives and our world with purpose and passion, the Converse community certainly embraces and embodies a collective spirit of “I CAN!”

Elizabeth A. Fleming, PhD  
President





1910 - 2010

# 100 Years of World Class Music

## A History of the Petrie School of Music at Converse College

Just a little more than 20 years after the Civil War, Spartanburg was enjoying a very active musical life with a downtown opera house, a large Music Association that brought good musicians to the city, and a significant number of music teachers and performers who lived here. Music was important to Spartanburg, and so it was natural for the citizens who founded Converse College to include a significant program in music.



Professor Paul S. Gaertner, first head of the Department of Music

When Converse opened in October 1890, three of the first faculty members were instructors in the Department of Music, adopting a curriculum that was described as the same as that used "in the leading European conservatories." Professor Carl S. Gaertner, who had taught voice for 10 years at a conservatory in Philadelphia, was head of the music department. His wife, Elise, a graduate of the Conservatory of Music in Berlin, taught instrumental music. And Miss Carrie MacMakin, an experienced piano teacher in Spartanburg, completed the three-person music faculty.



Through the generations that followed these first pioneers, scores of faculty, staff and students have woven distinctive Converse stories that comprise the vibrant history of our School of Music. Dean Emeritus Henry Janiec sets the stage for the indelible mark Converse has made upon the world of music with a tale in his own words of how the College created an early name for itself:



Henry Janiec, dean of the School of Music 1967-1994

*Who could imagine that a notable niche in the history of music in America was carved in the relatively small textile city of Spartanburg, SC? But it happened.*

*In 1889, Converse College opened its doors with the makings of a professional School of Music. By 1895, the Converse College Choral Society and other musicians in the area founded an annual music festival.*

*By 1898, just three years later, the venture was expanded to include visiting guest artists and the South Atlantic States Music Festival was alive. From 1898 to 1915, this small textile town would host the greatest names in the world at its festival. The New York Symphony under Walter Damrosch, the Detroit Symphony under Gabilovich, and names like Nellie Melba, Elizabeth Schumann-Heink, Simon Barere, and scores of others trooped to fabled Twichell Auditorium at Converse College for a week of music making.*

*And the people came from all over the Southland. The horse-drawn carriages delivered the young belles of the region, all of them carrying bouquets of long-stemmed roses to ring the edge of the balcony.*

*They all came. And their children and grandchildren came. And a love for music, which might never have been instilled in generations of Southerners, was fostered. The New Yorks and Philadelphias and Bostons knew that there was a Spartanburg, SC, and that music was alive and flourishing.*

*"They all came. And their children and grandchildren came. And a love for music, which might never have been instilled in generations of Southerners, was fostered."*  
~ Henry Janiec



Patrons of the South Atlantic States Music Festival would form a ticket line the day before sales began, holding their place through the night to get tickets before the box office sold out



## An Ever-Evolving, Innovative Curriculum

During Converse's early years, music study lasted for three years and led to a diploma, but no formal degree was awarded. The Associate in Music degree was established in 1895, and shortly thereafter music study was extended to four years and the Bachelor of Music degree was established. The first Bachelor of Music degree was awarded in 1899 to Mary Hart Law, who served as a member of the faculty until 1940 and began a music pedagogy program that was the precursor to the Lawson Academy of the Arts.



Mary Hart Law

The music department was expanded into a School of Music in 1910, with Arthur L. Manchester as its first dean. Over the next three decades, the School of Music modeled its degree requirements after the leading professional schools of music. Courses were added in the new field of public school music. To better meet the needs of students, three areas of concentration for the Bachelor of Music degree were created: applied music, theory and composition, and music supervisor (a predecessor of the music education program). And the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in music was established in 1932.

The School of Music was awarded membership in Pi Kappa Lambda, a national honorary music fraternity modeled after Phi Beta Kappa, in 1938. At the time, Converse was one of two institutions in the South to be granted a chapter. The same year, Converse established the first graduate music program in the South and began awarding the degree of Master of Music in two fields – applied music and composition.

In 1944, Alia Ross Lawson established the Pre-College Music Program to provide Converse music students experience in private applied teaching and in response to the community's growing demand for music instruction for youth.

Several new faculty positions were added in the 1950s to enrich course offerings in musicology, strings and woodwinds. The undergraduate music curriculum was thoroughly revised to offer more flexibility in the choice of courses. Majors in music theory, music history and literature, and music education all broadened the scope of the school and its base of prospective students. The graduate program also grew to include a Master of Music degree in musicology.



Alia Lawson and Pre-College Music Program students

The school's evolution continued into the 1960s with additional shifts in majors offered in response to changing marketplace demands. The Bachelor of Arts in music education, Bachelor of Music in music theory, Master of Music in music theory, and Master of Music in church music were all added to the curriculum. One of the most dramatic areas of growth during this decade was in pre-college

Left to right: Converse student and faculty Pi Kappa Lambda members in 1965, First Pi Kappa Lambda pin awarded to members of Converse's Rho chapter, established in 1938



Violin professor Jerrie Lucktenberg teaching



Legendary choral conductor Robert Shaw with the Converse Chorale



Converse Opera Workshop performance of Orpheus and Eurydice in 1968

instruction. When Montgomery Student Activities Center opened in 1960 with a dance studio, the pre-college program added dance classes to its curriculum. Pre-college music programs also expanded to include musicianship, guitar, harpsichord and harp.

Henry Janiec, who served as dean from 1967–1994, gave an overview of the music school's developments to the president in 1969, noting, "numerous changes in what the School of Music is and what it does" that he considered evidence of "a developing institution which is not only improving itself in broad ideological concepts but is also serving its generation in practical program structuring."

Converse honored Alia Lawson by naming the pre-college program as the Alia Lawson Pre-College Program of Music and Dance in 1998. A decade later, Converse announced another exciting development for the program – renaming it the Lawson Academy of the Arts. The new name encompasses the broader scope of instruction for students of all ages, reflects the multi-disciplinary summer Fine Arts Day Camp, and provides flexibility for future expansion into additional arts areas.

In 1999, Converse alumna Carroll Petrie gave \$3 million, the largest gift in the history of the music school, to be invested in the College's endowment and designated to support music operations and scholarships. The School of Music was named the Carroll McDaniel Petrie School of Music in recognition of her generosity.

As career demands in the field of music continued to shift in the early 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Converse responded as it always has – with innovations to its curriculum. The College launched the Upstate's first undergraduate degree program in music therapy in 2006. The program was established with the support and partnership of Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, where students complete clinical requirements of their degree. Full accreditation of the program was granted by the American Music Therapy Association in 2010.

At the beginning of this academic year, the Petrie School of Music joined with the Department of Art & Design and the Department of Theatre & Dance to form the Converse College School of the Arts, with leadership from Richard Higgs as Dean of the School of the Arts.



Students perform in Twichell Auditorium in 1962



Carroll McDaniel Petrie reads the dedication plaque at the naming of the Petrie School of Music in 1999



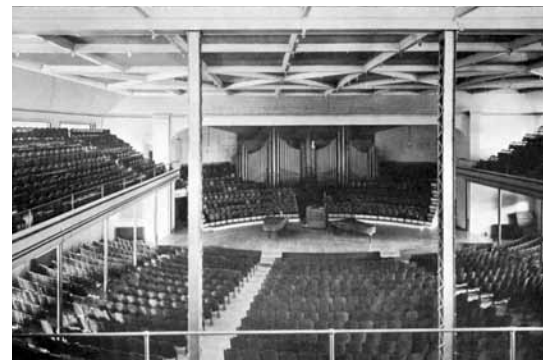
Voice Professor Glen Stables and Mary Emily Platt '42







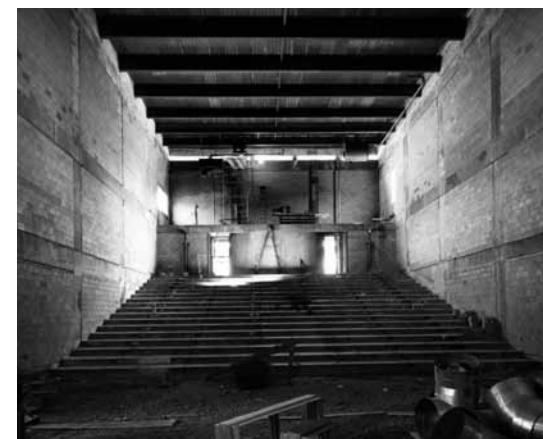
Earliest image of the Converse College Auditorium (later named Twichell Auditorium)



Interior of auditorium in late 1920s



Early teaching studio



Architect's renderings, construction and dedication of Blackman Music Hall

## Enhancing Learning Through The Finest Facilities

During the first decade of the College, the principal music performance hall was the auditorium on the second floor of the Main Hall. Edgar Converse gave funds for the installation of a fine organ on the stage, but it was destroyed along with the auditorium and the entire Main Hall by a fire in 1892. In little more than a year, a new enlarged Main Hall was ready for occupancy and once again Mr. Converse provided \$7,000 for the installation of a three manual Möller organ.

Thanks to the tremendous popularity of the South Atlantic States Music Festival and other Converse performances, the College's leaders were quick to recognize the need for a larger auditorium. The new Converse College Auditorium was completed in 1899 (it was renamed Twichell Auditorium in 1942). The Möller organ was moved from Main Hall to the new auditorium's stage and remained there until the current organ was installed in 1989. A three-story addition was constructed at the back of the auditorium in 1908 to satisfy the increasing need for practice rooms and teaching studios. For many decades, this facility served Spartanburg as a "municipal" auditorium, with seating for nearly 2,000 people (approximately a fifth of Spartanburg's population at the time).

In the fall of 1970 Converse completed construction of the first campus building designed and built expressly for music study, Blackman Music Hall. The facade of Blackman was modeled after Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York. The School of Music celebrated the opening of its new home with a festive dedication concert and ceremony. For the first time, all aspects of the music program were housed together in one building, creating a synergy that infused the School of Music with great energy and momentum.

By the late 1980s, the nearly one-hundred-year-old Twichell was in need of a comprehensive renovation in order to meet demands of the current day. From 1987–1989 Twichell underwent demolition and a rebuilding within its original exterior walls, transforming it into a modern performance facility. A 57-rank Casavant Freres organ with 2,600+ pipes was installed, and a large addition was constructed on the side to house the Pre-College Program of Music and Dance. The 1500-seat Twichell Auditorium was named as an historic John Philip Sousa site in 1997 to commemorate the many concerts that Sousa and his band gave there in the early part of the century.

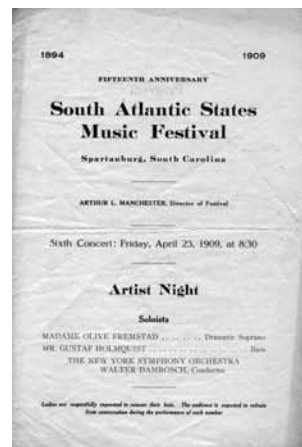


Twichell renovation and images of the performance hall today





## Marks of Distinction: World Class Festivals and Performers



Music festival program featuring the New York Philharmonic

The early success of the South Atlantic States Music Festival was a key component in establishing Converse as an acclaimed music center. The festival quickly acquired an international scope, attracting artists from major music centers in the United States and Europe. There was standing room only at every event, with many guests coming from the Northeast and other parts of the country.

However, the decline of our nation's economy took its toll on the festival. In 1930 Converse Trustees came forward to underwrite the event, but it would be the last of the festivals that began in 1895. The centerpiece for that year was a performance of *St. John the Beloved*, a new oratorio by Converse alumna Lily Strickland, Class of 1904. The Converse Choral Society of 300 voices rehearsed for months and was joined by a male chorus of 75 voices from the community. Lily Strickland attended the performance and the Spartanburg *Herald* reported "Converse College and Spartanburg are loud in their acclaim for Lily Strickland – foremost American composer and a woman of unusual charm."



Lily Strickland, class of 1904

When Ernst Bacon joined the School of Music as dean in 1938, he immediately founded the new Spartanburg Festival of Music and Drama, using only resources from within the Spartanburg community. Bacon's new opera, *A Tree on the Plains*, made its debut at the festival in 1942. Produced in partnership with the Spartanburg Lyric Opera Company, one of the roles was sung by Radiana Pazmor of the School of Music. Bacon was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in music for his First Symphony that same year.

With a mission to draw future generations through new avenues in musical programming and to provide financial support for the School of Music, a group of devoted Converse faculty, administrators, and community supporters joined to form The Friends of the Petrie School of Music Chamber Music Series in 1983. Spearheading the effort was Carlos Moseley, the first president and later chairman of the board of the New York Philharmonic; Henry Janiec, dean of the School of Music; Dicksie Cribb, Converse alumna and respected arts leader; and John McCrae, professor of voice and opera. The membership subscription series opened with a performance by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

Through the years, this series has continued to feature world-renowned chamber musicians. Included among these is Charles Wadsworth, founder of the famed Midday Concerts at the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy and of Spoleto USA's chamber music concert series, who has given numerous concerts for the series in which he includes the most promising up-and-coming artists. In 2004, the Friends of the School of Music renamed their music series the Carlos Moseley Chamber Music Series.

The list of artists who have appeared at Converse is a virtual catalog of the great names in music over the past century – from Ignace Paderewski, Leopold Stokowski, Artur Schnabel, Burl Ives and John Philip Sousa to later artists such as Van Cliburn, Beverly Sills, Itzhak Perlman, Yo Yo Ma and Tony Bennett – just to name a few. This mark of distinction is one of Converse's finest, and continues to set Converse apart today.



Carlos Moseley, chairman emeritus of the New York Philharmonic and founder of the Friends of the School of Music

## Significant "Firsts" and Leadership in Music

Converse is undoubtedly a pioneer in most every aspect of music education, forging many "firsts" in the field and playing a key role in the development of music within the state and region.

William C. Mayfarth, who became dean of the School of Music in 1921 and was a founder of the South Carolina Music Teachers' Association, led Converse in playing a major role in establishing the curriculum for music programs in the South Carolina public schools. In appreciation of this and Converse's many other early contributions in music, the Carnegie Corporation gave \$25,000 (equivalent to \$220,000 today) to the School of Music's endowment in 1927.

Converse led on a national front during the 1920s, when many colleges and universities began to offer music programs and a national movement to establish accreditation standards ensued. A small group of institutions, including Converse, were invited to study the matter. In 1928 Converse was one of 17 schools – and the only from the South – who became founding members of the National Association of Schools of Music, which provides national accreditation for schools of music.

With the arrival of a dynamic duo on the music faculty in 1952, Converse took another significant step in propelling local and regional music centers forward. Henry Janiec conducted the Spartanburg Symphony Orchestra and served as artistic director of Brevard Music Center. John Richards McCrea founded the Converse College Opera Workshop, the first such workshop in the region and a regular participant in the annual Spartanburg Festival of Music and Drama, and directed the operas at Brevard Music Center. Along with other Converse faculty members who taught at Brevard during the summer, they established a valuable connection with young musicians from across the country.

Converse played another role in developing music within the public schools in 1953, when faculty members Janiec, Peggy Gignilliat and Joan Mack partnered with Spartanburg School District 7 to restructure its strings and orchestra programs. The new programs expanded into all of the local school districts and have since been replicated nationally.

Forging another first on the national and international music scene, Converse became host of the inaugural Ellis Competition for Duo-Pianists, co-sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs, in 1991. The bi-annual Ellis competition is the only recognized American duo-piano competition supported by a national music organization, and continues to be held at Converse today. The College honored its partnership with the National Federation by presenting a fully-staged performance of the opera *Susannah*, written by distinguished Converse alumnus Carlisle Floyd, in celebration of the Federation's centennial anniversary in 1998.



The 21<sup>st</sup> Century brought a renewed focus to honing programs, facilities and other resources that prepare students to lead in their careers and communities. Under the leadership of Dean Joe Hopkins, who joined the Petrie School of Music in 2002, Converse launched a \$1.3 million fundraising campaign to attain All-Steinway School designation. Thanks to an overwhelming response from supporters, the campaign goal was met within only one year. In 2005 Converse became the first women's college in the world and the first college in the Carolinas to join the prestigious All-Steinway school roster. With this distinction, Converse joined a select group of 50 other All-Steinway institutions, including The Juilliard School, Yale University's School of Music, The China Conservatory of Music and the Oberlin College Conservatory. In conjunction with this honor, Dr. Douglas Weeks, Babcock Professor of Piano at Converse, was accepted into the worldwide roster of Steinway Artists.



Opera performance with voice professor Perry Daniels



Converse Opera Workshop rehearsal



Steinway Artist Dr. Douglas Weeks (at piano) with Converse President Betsy Fleming, Dean Joseph Hopkins, Converse trustee Kurt Zimmerli, and Steinway & Sons President Bruce Stevens



The grand finale of the Steinway celebration concert was "Fantasie on Themes" from Bizet's *Carmen* for 16 hands on four pianos



## Today's Petrie School of Music: Alive with Energy and a Bright Future

Today, the Petrie School of Music is the nation's only comprehensive professional school of music within a liberal arts college for women. Our faculty is comprised of gifted performers, conductors, composers and scholars—extraordinary musicians with national and international reputations. The 7:1 student-faculty ratio guarantees individual attention for students, who are treated as aspiring professionals from the moment they arrive on campus. The Petrie School's performance facilities are among the finest in the nation. And performance opportunities are prolific beginning in the freshman year.

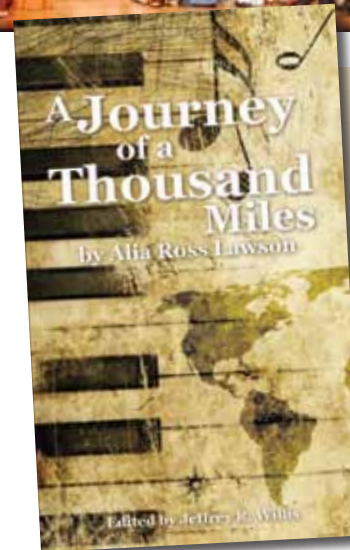
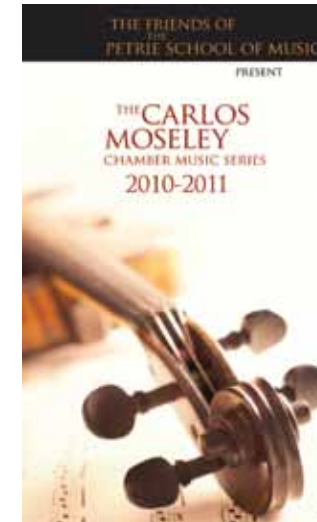


### First-Class Facilities

Blackman Music Building features new smart classrooms, teaching studios, a piano lab, music media lab, electronic music lab and 30 individual practice rooms. Our instrument collections include 70 Steinway pianos, 2 practice organs, a fully-equipped percussion studio, and string, wind and brass instruments for student use. Blackman also houses the 340-seat Daniel Recital Hall, which was cited in *Chamber Music America* as an "exemplary performance facility."



THE Sounds OF A Century  
PETRIE SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
1910 - 2010



The 1500-seat Twichell Auditorium houses a 57-rank Casavant Freres organ with 2,600+ pipes. Twichell is home to Petrie School concerts and operas and also to performances of community groups such as the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra and Ballet Spartanburg.

Converse's music library, located in Mickel Library, houses one of the largest music collections in the Southeast.

### Master Classes and More

Each year, Converse brings world-famous artists to perform and conduct master classes. Students meet and learn from musicians such as the Emerson String Quartet, the King's Singers, the American Chamber Players, and many more.

The annual concert season includes more than 150 events ranging from Converse Opera Theatre productions to performances by ensembles such as the Converse Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, and from faculty and student solo recitals to the Carlos Moseley Chamber Music Series.

The Lawson Academy of Arts, directed by Paula Sigler Morgan '73, enrolls nearly 1,000 students from preschool age to adults, offering Petrie students experience as private music teachers or as instructors in the academy's summer Fine Arts Day Camp.



### Graduates who Grace the World's Stages...and Classrooms

Converse has been making a name in the world of music for more than 100 years. From some of the grandest opera houses and major orchestras around the globe, to starring roles on Broadway, to private and school music teachers who are influencing the next generation of young artists, there are scores of Converse success stories.

In the words of recent graduate and Sri Lanka native Tharanga Goonetilleke '05, who earned her Master of Music at the Juilliard School and makes her debut with the New York City Opera Company this year, "Converse prepared me for greater endeavors, helping me to better my skills, nurture my gifts and grow into a person of knowledge, strength, courage and sensitivity. Most of all, Converse taught me to be myself. Converse is my home away from home."

## A Journey of A Thousand Miles

The extraordinary life of Alia Ross Lawson,  
edited by Dr. Jeffrey R. Willis

Order your hardback copy today - \$20 plus \$3 shipping  
All proceeds benefit the Lawson Academy of the Arts  
Make checks payable to Converse College and send to: Dr. Jeffrey R. Willis, Converse College, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg SC 29302

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# CHORUS OF CHANGE

Alison Watson, Donna Gallagher, Katelyn Ridenour and Kiya Heartwood are four Converse women who are affecting positive change in the world through their talent, passion and love of music. From pursuing careers in opera, music therapy, composition and even law, these women demonstrate the diversity of talent that is flourishing in the Petrie School of Music.



## Healing Harmonies

Alison Watson '03, Bachelor of Music in flute performance and currently pursuing a second degree in music therapy

As the membership chair of the Music Therapy Association of South Carolina, will you explain how our society benefits from music therapy?

“Music therapy can address such a wide variety of goals among multiple populations and treats the whole person, touching aspects that pharmaceutical medicine often cannot reach alone. Since music is pervasive in our world, and most people have a positive relationship with music, music therapy may help individuals live healthier, more fulfilling lives through non-threatening and enjoyable approaches. My hope is to empower individuals to this extent so they may become more involved in society.”

After completing your flute performance major at Converse in (2003), you entered the music therapy program as a Converse II student. What attracted you to music therapy?

“Music has always played a central role in my life, helping me through sad times and celebration. In teaching flute lessons and preschool music classes, I came to love the moments when music facilitated self-expression and learning. During this time, I also had the opportunity to experience a sound healing session, which further piqued my interest in the use of music in healing. Soon after, I used music for self-expression and distraction when I had a painful back injury. In the midst of that healing process, I met Amy Gower '08 who shared her experience and knowledge as a music therapy student. As I learned more about how I could use my love of music and helping others, I became determined to become a music therapist.”

How has your Converse experience impacted you as a performer and as a woman?

“My experience at Converse has increased my knowledge, ability and enjoyment of performance and existence as a woman. While my experiences varied greatly

between studying flute performance and music therapy, they taught me the value of diligent practice, patience, passion and listening to others. During my involvement in the production *Finding Voice*, I had the opportunity to speak, sing and play for battered women whose voices are often not heard. This experience particularly helped me find my own voice and realize the responsibility of continued advocacy for women's rights. I am currently a member of C.A.R.M.A. (Chicks Advocating Regional Music and Artists) and work with this group to organize and implement benefit concerts. There's a certain magic in a group of empowered women working together; I first learned this lesson at Converse.”



## Model Musician

Katelyn Ridenour '10, Bachelor of Music with double major in piano performance and clarinet performance

You were home-schooled from elementary through high school. Did you experience any challenges transitioning into a college environment?



“I actually found the transition to college quite easy. I had participated in classes with other home-schoolers throughout my school years, so I was accustomed to a classroom setting. The biggest advantage of being home-schooled, I found, was that I became very disciplined. Thus, when I got to college, I was already used to managing my time and learning independently.”

You served as the Secretary General of the 2010 National Model NATO, what initially drew you to join the debate team?

“I had experience in policy debate during high school, and knew that I wanted to continue debating when I got to college. I have always been very interested in politics and current events, and participating in Converse's Model Programs not only gave me an outlet for these interests, but also gave me valuable leadership opportunities, such as being Secretary General this year.”

Baylor Law School has awarded you a full scholarship where you will pursue your Juris Doctorate this fall. How will you take what you have learned in your music education and apply it to your career as a lawyer?

“As a double performance major, I had to organize my time very carefully and limit my commitments. There were still many times, however, that I wondered why I had undertaken such a heavy load. During the times when I wanted to quit, I learned to focus on the most immediate tasks and postpone the rest. Although those experiences were not pleasant at the time, they have given me confidence in my abilities to achieve difficult tasks.”



How do you feel music will influence your life in the years to come?

“I know that music will always be a part of my life. I have actually found that since I made the decision to attend law school, my love for music has increased. I will always be looking for the closest symphony concerts to attend, and plan to continue teaching music lessons.”

How has your experience at Converse impacted you as a performer and as a woman?

“Converse provided me with a multitude of opportunities to explore and discover new interests. As a result, my goals are completely different now than when I entered college. My participation in Model Programs was one of the most influential decisions that I made, and was key in my decision to attend law school.”





## Vocal Vixen

Donna Gallagher '10, Master of Music in vocal performance

You are from Ireland; what brought you to Converse?

“The short answer is Facebook!”

“Auditions, auditions, auditions. I think every young singer has to face the fact that we will be auditioning for the rest of our lives. However, I also have creative aspirations. I'm thinking of developing a one-woman show (with pianist, so I suppose it will actually be a two-person show).”

As a recent graduate with the degree of Master of Music in vocal performance, what are your plans?

How has your Converse experience impacted you as a performer and as a woman?

“I have loved my time here at Converse. I know for a fact I have grown as a performer, and a lot of that is because of my teacher and the performance opportunities I have had. Because the Petrie School is relatively small, every student gets a lot of attention – much more so than they would in a larger music school. I think it's wonderful to be exposed to young women who all strive for excellence. That is definitely infectious.”

You have performed in countries all over the world. Who have been your most memorable audiences?

“One of my most memorable audiences was here in Spartanburg. As part of the opera program, we sang for the School for the Deaf and Blind. To see those children react to our music was very humbling.”

Have you ever experienced “stage fright”? If so, how did you overcome your fear?

“My mother likes to tell me the story of my very first stage performance in a ballet show at the age of 4! She had tried to explain to me about the audience and not to be scared and my reaction was ‘I know, Mammy, I knooow!!!’ Of course, when it actually came to it, I was the child who came onstage and completely froze! I have gotten better since then. I actually get very nervous even still, but I try to pretend to others I'm full of confidence. I think a certain amount of nerves are necessary in a performance for the adrenaline you need. If I ever get to a stage where I don't feel nervous at all, it may be time to give up.”



To read more about Donna, visit her website at [www.donnagallagher.com](http://www.donnagallagher.com)

## Guitar Gypsy

Kiya Heartwood '10, Bachelor of Music in music composition

You have been working professionally as a performer for more than 20 years. What made you decide to go back to school?



“I received a commission from the Denver's Women's Chorus and found I really enjoyed writing for choirs. I went back to school so I could learn the skills necessary to become a good composer.”

In 1988, your band Stealin' Horses' single, *Turnaround*, topped #32 on the charts and appeared on MTV. What was it like to hear your song and see your video for the first time?

“Overwhelming fear and happiness...all at the same time. I was so proud and we all had worked so hard that it was an overwhelming joy. It also made me want to work harder.”

You have performed all over the United States. Who have been your most memorable audiences?

“Three that stick out were playing at the Kennedy Center and the Philadelphia Folk Festival with *Wishing Chair* and at Farm Aid with *Stealin' Horses* in the Hoosier Dome for 43,000 people.”



You have toured with a diverse group of artists including Wang Chung, James Brown, The Smithereens and The Stray Cats. Any memorable backstage stories?

“I never kiss and tell. No, seriously, I've met a lot of my heroes and backstage is mostly all business, eating and getting ready to perform.”

In 1995, you were hired to teach sound, guitar and songwriting at the National Guitar Summer Workshop in Toronto. When were you more nervous—walking on your first stage or in front of your first classroom?

“I'm very comfortable in both roles. I try to help my students reach their potential and on stage I always try to give my best in as honest and real a performance as possible. It's kind of the same thing in a way. You serve the song and serve the student.”

You received a Converse Creative Collaboration grant and an Alice C. Patterson Scholarship from the Emrys Foundation to write *Lying to the Sea Gypsy* in 2008. What was your inspiration behind the musical?

“I got the idea for the opera from a composition assignment with Dr. Scott Robbins. He asked me to write a clarinet and violin piece and I thought of the title, *Lying to the Sea Gypsy*. The information on the creativity grant had just come out and I thought the title would make a good story and project. I hoped to write a longer work that could be done at the community or classroom level. I wanted the audience to have a bit of magic and a chance to look at themselves and their own dreams.”

To read more about Kiya, visit her website at [www.kiyaheartwood.com](http://www.kiyaheartwood.com)



# MUSICAL MENTORS

What do a rock star, world-renowned opera singer and the founder of the South Carolina Music Technology Institute have in common? They all give life-changing performances from the front of the classroom. Professors David Berry, Rebecca Turner and Patti Foy are using their real-world experiences and imaginative, innovative teaching methods to create a dynamic learning community that is thriving.

## Technically Speaking... Patricia S. Foy '77, Associate Professor of Music Education

Dr. Patricia Foy '77 has been a member of the Petrie School faculty since 1990. The founder and director of the South Carolina Music Technology Institute, Foy has received nearly a half-million dollars in grants from the South Carolina Department of Education and the South Carolina Arts in Basic Curriculum Project since 2001 to educate the state's music teachers in the use of instructional technology.

When you look back at your 20-year career as a member of the Petrie School of Music, what accomplishments make you most proud?

"I am most proud of the outstanding music educators we have produced who are now making a difference in the lives of children all over our country – from Florida to Alaska!"

As the founder and director of the South Carolina Music Technology Institute, will you explain the importance of instructional technology in music education?

"Technology is a wonderful tool that enables us to individualize education for our students. Instructional software enables young students to learn music at their own pace in a fun way; sequencing and notational software enables them to create music in innovative ways; and the Internet allows us to experience the world of music in ways we never imagined."

Earlier this year you were inducted into the South Carolina Music Educators Hall of Fame. What do you consider to be your legacy – something you hope to instill in your students that they will pass on to others?

"I hope I've instilled in them the philosophy that true self-fulfillment comes from knowing that you've done your best and made a difference in the lives of others. Zoltan Kodály once said, 'It is much more important who is the music teacher in Kisvárda than who is the director of the opera house in Budapest... for a poor director fails once, but a poor teacher keeps on failing for 30 years, killing the love of music in 30 batches of children.' Music teachers are entrusted with a very important task and should take it very seriously."

How has music education evolved over the last 30 years?

"Lots of things have changed, but I'd say that technology has made the biggest impact of all, allowing us to present music instruction in ways we never imagined."

Explain how music education is relevant in the 21st century.

"Music is an important part of cultures all over the world and should be in the curriculum for that reason alone. However, the study of music and the other arts also enables people to learn to consider many solutions in solving problems, a life skill that is very important to our very survival as we move forward in a rapidly changing world."



Dr. Foy (on right) with music education major Kara Wroten '10 at commencement



## Guitars, Guns and Nylon David Berry, Professor of Musicology and Composition

From serving as an American Idol judge, to touring professionally with his band Anthem, to shooting a starter pistol in one of his classes...Dr. David Berry is never short on stories. A BMI-affiliated composer and publisher, Berry has experience and national recognition in commercial music as well as classical. His other specialties include computers in music, musical aesthetics and unexpected creative twists for teaching about music's impact upon the world through lenses such as the entire Beatles anthology.

As a professional composer, describe your process for creating music.

"When I start to compose, I must answer a few critical questions. (1) What is the medium (voices, instruments, etc.)? (2) How much time must it consume? (3) What is the overall mood or collection of moods? (4) What form(s) should I use? How should I structure the piece? If it is a song, the lyrics may be created first, after or during the composition process. Composition is more craft than inspiration."

Describe some of your current and most recent projects.

"Last year I had two new songs, *Spring Promises* and *The Lily* performed by Dr. Susan Lyle with texts by her husband, Pat Edwards. Converse alumna Therese Akkerman '07 recorded my six-movement piano suite *Cordair Gallery* that I am currently editing to offer for sale on CD and as digital downloads. Maestra Sarah Ioannides has requested a new work for the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra. It is titled *Overture to The Search for Stephanie Thayn*, and the premiere will be on January 22, 2011 in Spartanburg."

In the 70's you formed the rock band Anthem. What was it like to hear your music on the radio? Do you ever bust out the nylon jumpsuits?

"I was lucky enough to hear my songs on a number of stations. It was an awesome experience, just like they portray it in books and movies. All of us are too fat for the suits now, even the skinny beautiful boys. I don't know what happened to my suits, I lost them long ago, but I think some of the guys still have some of theirs."

Describe your most memorable performance.

"There were many, so it is hard to choose. Two come immediately to mind. My high school concert band was very fine. When I was a junior, I got to rehearse and conduct in concert the *Rienzi Overture* by Richard Wagner. Much later my rock band shared a concert bill with Cheap Trick and Foreigner. Oh yeah, and I played horn twice for Peggy Lee."

With such a varied career, you must have faced a few roadblocks along the way. What lessons did you learn as a result?

"I learned from Peggy Lee and my band experience that consistency in presentation and maintaining high quality are necessary for success. I like to tell people that I was close enough to rich-and-famous to know what it smells like. I learned that many people and groups work hard enough and get good enough to be stars. The final selection comes down to luck. That also means that you shouldn't beat yourself up if you don't get everything you want. Sometimes it's just not up to you."

Describe a few of the innovative, if not unconventional, techniques you have brought to your classroom.

"Right now I'm questioning the value of traditional assessment tools. I also want to get involved in online classes because I believe that classrooms without walls is a trend that is here to stay. I guess my most outrageous technique was when I taught that the Romantic movement in music was clearly established with Beethoven's *Eroica* symphony. I played the first two chords and fired a starter pistol and yelled: 'They're off!' I doubt my students ever forgot that experience."



Dr. Berry far right



## All the World's a Stage

Rebecca Turner, Associate Professor of Voice,  
Director of Converse Opera Theatre

Described as the 'Pied-Piper' of the Petrie School of Music, everywhere Rebecca Turner goes to sing or teach a master class, students follow her back to Converse. Look no further than page 15 for a perfect example in Donna Gallagher '10 with whom she performed at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland this summer. With over 500 performances to date, Turner has performed on a number of the world's most recognized stages, including the Shanghai Grand Theater in China, where she was the first soprano in China's history to perform a Wagner opera, and most recently, the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

When were you more nervous—walking on your first stage or in front of your first classroom?

"Without question it was my first classroom, specifically my first opera rehearsal at Converse. For many years as an actress, I had been on the 'receiving' end in a stage-rehearsal situation; but, being on the 'giving' end as a stage director is a whole other ball of wax. It's one thing as a performer to be responsible for your own personal product; however, a stage director is responsible for the entire process. I was obsessed with thoughts of wanting to be as clear and concise as possible, and inspiring each performer to reach their highest potential."

With over 500 performances to date, which are the most memorable for you?

"Well, my first was certainly memorable. Others include my performances of Senta in Richard Wagner's *Der fliegende Holländer* at the Grand Theater in Shanghai, China, where I was the first soprano in China's history to sing in a Wagner opera; and my last performance in Bremen (June, 2003) of Elsa in Wagner's *Lohengrin*."

With such an impressive career, you must have faced a few roadblocks along the way. What lessons did you learn as a result?

"I have learned that the only person one can really depend upon in this business is oneself. Ultimately, performers (specifically singers) want to be in complete control of their environment, hoping to ensure the highest possible performance level. But, what is hard to embrace is the fact that one cannot control the actions and perceptions of others, whether they are our colleagues, agents, conductors or audiences. The only thing/person we can control is ourselves and what we are willing to bring and/or sacrifice to the process."

Explain how music education is relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

"As it always has been. The arts are essential in developing well-rounded citizens, and I believe music, specifically, has a way of reaching people on so many different levels. In equipping young artists with varying tools of communication, they will find ways of changing and enhancing lives, and at the end of the day, isn't that the goal for which we should all be striving?"

Your students have sung in major opera companies around the globe. Can you describe how you help each one reach their highest potential?

"Each performing artist is unique and special. Therefore, no performing journey can, or should be, the same. My job, as a teacher, is to not only guide my students on their journey, but to inspire them. I believe a teacher's primary objective is to render him or herself obsolete. Ultimately, these young artists are going to have to stand on their own before many types of audiences, and my task is to help them develop their own tools to be successful in their endeavors."



Above: Rebecca Turner, Donna Gallagher '10 and Director of Accompanying Mildred Roche

## Selected Recent Accomplishments of Petrie School of Music Faculty & Students

### Faculty

- **Patricia Foy '77**, associate professor of music education, was inducted into SC Music Educators Association Hall of Fame. She also appeared on the session "Profile of a Career Music Educator" at the Music Educators' National Conference Biennial Conference in Anaheim, CA.
- **Beverly Hay**, Daniel professor of voice, served on the faculty of Operafestival di Roma in Italy.
- **Miles Hoffman**, associate professor of viola, was host of South Carolina and nationwide radio broadcasts of *Chamber Music from the Spoleto Festival USA*.
- **Keith Jones**, associate professor of voice and choral activities, appeared as tenor soloist with the Norfolk Cantata Singers in Virginia.
- **Susan Lyle**, associate professor of voice and director of choral activities, was guest soloist with the Bach Consortium in Freiburg, Germany.
- **Siegwart Reichwald**, associate professor of musicology, published an article in *Performance Practice: Issues and Approaches* and gave a presentation at the Felix Mendelssohn International Musicological Congress in Leipzig, Germany. He also edited *Mendelssohn in Performance* (Indiana University Press), which was a finalist for the 2009 American Musicological Society Solie Award, and presented a lecture at the *Lyrica Dialogues* at Harvard University.
- **Scott Robbins**, associate professor of musicology and composition, had his *Two Songs for Baritone and Guitar* performed nationally and internationally in prestigious sites such as St. Martin-in-the-Fields. The Prague Radio Symphony's recording of his composition *Spooky Does the Bunny-Hop* is scheduled for release on the *Masterworks of the New Era* series.
- **Rebecca Turner**, associate professor of voice, appeared as guest artist with American Chamber Players and as master teacher in Dublin, Ireland, where she gave a concert at the National Concert Hall. She also performed in Arthur Roach's version of *Redd Reidenhude* with the Washington Shakespeare Company at the Kennedy Center.
- **Chris Vaneman**, associate professor of flute and musicology, was elected president of the South Carolina Flute Society and, together with **Kelly Vaneman**, associate professor of oboe and musicology, performed in concert at the Royal Jordanian Conservatory.
- **Doug Weeks**, Babcock professor of piano, was a Fulbright Senior Specialist at the Conservatory of Music in Cairo, Egypt. He performed *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Cairo Symphony in a concert of Fulbright teachers and students, which included **Wael Farouk MM '06**.
- **Elizabeth York**, associate professor of music therapy, presented a course with colleagues from the AMTA Ethics Board entitled *Working in Harmony: Music Therapy Ethics*, at the American Music Therapy Association National Conference in San Diego, CA.



### Students

- **Katherine Bowen '10** attended the summer institute of the University of Miami in Salzburg, Austria.
- **Donna Gallagher MM '10** performed the role of Norina in *Don Pasquale* in Viterbo, Italy and of Queen of the Night in *Die Zauberflöte* in Dublin, Ireland.
- **Joyce Jin '12** sang the role of Barbarina in *The Marriage of Figaro* with Operafestival di Roma in Italy.
- **Audrey Rose '10** composed an anthem for children's choir, *Now We Worship*, which has been selected for publication by Augsburg Fortress Publishers in *ChildrenSing For Worship*.
- **Sara Rossi '11** attended Yale University's Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.
- **Natasha Senanayake's '12** commissioned composition, *Of Shores Near and Far*, was premiered by the Sri Lanka National Symphony.





# COLLABORATIONS

In 2008, Converse established the Creative Collaboration grant program to develop innovative thinkers and leaders who stretch the boundaries of knowledge and human interaction and who apply their creative energies to broad benefit. Faculty, staff and students across all disciplines are encouraged to submit proposals for consideration.

Creative Collaboration grants support adventurous and imaginative ideas. Projects range from a team-taught course in Science Theatre to a regional Conference on Popular Culture to three recent artistic collaborations: the productions *Lying to the Sea Gypsy*, *Quartet for the End of Time* and *Macbeth*. In celebration of the Petrie Centennial and the launch of Converse's School of the Arts, the *Converse Magazine* takes a closer look at the artistic collaborations of these last three Creative Collaboration grant projects.



## Quartet for the End of Time

In January, The Converse Trio (pianist Doug Weeks, violinist Sarah Johnson and cellist Kenneth Law) and clarinetist Karen Hill teamed with fellow faculty members to create a multi-media and multi-disciplinary performance of Oliver Messiaen's landmark chamber work, *Quartet for the End of Time*. The unforgettable performance incorporated elements of theatre, art, philosophy, musicology and religion. Following a packed performance on the Converse campus, the faculty members are taking the production on the road to perform at Limestone College, the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and Samford University (AL).

Messiaen wrote *Quartet for the End of Time* in a WWII German prison camp. He was a white, Catholic Frenchman imprisoned with Jewish captives who were neither musicians nor shared his cultural background. In this dire environment he created a work that demonstrates the deep need of the human spirit to defy bitter circumstances. Scott Robbins, professor of musicology and one of the project's collaborators, noted, "This piece is really an exercise in human integrity and the power of character in making daily decisions about survival."

The concert began with a historical introduction and commentary on the nature of imprisonment by Robbins and vice president for academic affairs and philosophy professor Jeff Barker. The audience's emotional connection to the music was deepened through multi-sensory and multi-dimensional artistic elements incorporated throughout the performance. Theatre professor Brent Glenn gave readings from noted historical figures and studio art professor Teresa Prater created several works of art to serve as a visual backdrop.

Prater describes her creative experience, "I literally had no idea what to expect. Even the day we all came together to practice for the first time and I showed my artwork with the music I had no idea if it would come together. It stretched me as a visual artist and expanded my understanding of how my work can be viewed in venues other than a gallery setting."

The experience also gave students and faculty across the disciplines a glimpse into the incredible possibilities that are being forged through the new School of the Arts. "I had been hearing about the performance to come, but didn't realize what a collaboration it would be on behalf of the arts here at Converse," said Victoria Hand '13, a music major who attended the production. "Theatre, drama and music were all exquisitely represented. I could tell, as a student of these fine faculty members and as a listener in an attentive audience, that this was the product of many long hours of rehearsal, thought, planning, study and expression. I was awed by the unity of the group of performers. They breathed together and sounded as one. It was fascinating."



Clockwise: Interlude 2 by Teresa Prater, Oliver Messiaen, *Stalag VIII A winter 1939-40*

## Macbeth

Featuring an all female cast, Converse presented its own version of *Macbeth*, William Shakespeare's classic tragedy of ambition, murder and deceit. The fully-staged production was performed on the patio of the Blackman Music Hall this past April, with attendees packing the back campus lawn to enjoy the spring evening treat.

The first Shakespearian play to be performed at Converse in 29 years, *Macbeth* was a collaboration between the Department of Theatre & Dance and the Petrie School of Music. "It is always thrilling to work with my colleagues in disciplines outside of theatre," said director Brent Glenn, assistant professor of theatre. "I value it as an opportunity to learn how other artists interface with their medium. I often come away with ideas for new approaches to my own work."

Glenn, who adapted the script, maintained the language and storyline of the original but streamlined the content for the purpose of this outdoor event. "Since Converse is a College for women, I wanted to offer our students the opportunity to perform Shakespeare in this setting—particularly since it has been decades since Shakespeare has been performed at Converse," he said. "Shakespeare's plays never featured women in his day as they were not allowed to perform on stage, so I suppose we had a bit of revenge on those antiquated notions."

## Lying to the Sea Gypsy

With the support of her Creative Collaboration grant, Kiya Heartwood '10 wrote and produced *Lying to the Sea Gypsy*, an eleven-song operetta about taking chances, dreaming responsibly and understanding that our daily choices determine the person we become. The performance targeted pre-teens and young adults and was produced in partnership with the Spartanburg Repertory Company.

The project provided Converse music majors a unique opportunity to perform and work on an original music production from the ground level up, and enabled Heartwood to gain experience writing for the theatre and having that work produced. "It meant so much to envision a project and then work with a team of artists to make the vision a reality. I learned a tremendous amount about writing for the theatre from the collaboration with my professors, and about what is actually involved in making a production happen."

To bring *Lying to the Sea Gypsy* to life, music students worked collaboratively with art and theatre students, handling management and marketing, exploring entrepreneurial opportunities and making professional contacts. "The theatre department became the technical staff for the show," said Dr. Susan Lyle, associate professor of voice at Converse and Spartanburg Repertory Company's artistic director. Lyle, who directed the production, added, "The students designed the set, lighting and costumes and were the stage managers. They performed their duties in a thoroughly professional manner."



Scott Robbins, professor of musicology and composition, wrote an original score for the play. He approached recording the soundtrack with a creative twist. Robbins electronically altered his voice for the singing during the witches' scenes, he recorded and electronically altered a grand piano for the creepy main theme music, he broke out his ukulele and a pizza box for a drum in the banquet scene, and used heavy metal guitars for the battles. "Brent was happy with all these odd stylistic influences, which are probably not the sounds he was imagining when he envisioned the play set in medieval Japan. Collaboration was key here because I don't think any one person would have thought up the crazy blend of stylistic elements that went into making the production interesting."

*Lying to the Sea Gypsy* also gave Converse students the opportunity to work with the Spartanburg Repertory Company, connecting them with the community arts organization. "The production was extremely meaningful to me as an artist and as a member of the Spartanburg community," said Lyle. "The Repertory Company uses the Petrie School of Music for our rehearsals and wanted to give back a little by helping to pay for the production."

The show inspired young people to consider who they want to become and how they are shaped by their daily decisions. Those attending with their schools were encouraged to have conversations afterward about adventure, responsibility, courage and living honorably. The show left them with its recurring question to ponder: *Who might YOU be?*





# The Emerging Spirit of Berry Bate '75

Not many people can say they have lived in a tee pee, negotiated a job on someone's rooftop, or hung off a mountainside with a blow torch in hand...all while in pursuit of their dream. But, to put it simply, not many people are like Berry Bate '75. Throughout her career, this accomplished artist, business owner and entrepreneur has distinguished herself in the male dominated-field of metalworking by fearlessly navigating uncharted ground to create her own success.

Bate's creative life path began to take shape when she entered Converse as a music major, and took an unconventional turn the moment she walked into a welding class. "Never in my wildest dreams or in my parent's wildest dreams did I think I would fall in love with iron at this women's college in South Carolina, but I have made my living as a sculptor for more than 30 years." The story of Bate's success is as interesting as the woman herself...

## From opera singer to heavy metal artist

In 1971, Bate left her parents and Bronxville, NY behind and made the journey south to study opera at Converse. As a voice major, Bate spent countless hours practicing in the music building. One day she and her voice simply needed to take a break. She wandered over to the art building where she met a friend for life, Professor Mac Boggs, who introduced her to metal sculpture. "Mac was, and still is, an inspiration to me. He took me under his wing and taught me the technical skills I needed to get started and then left me alone to create."

Bate started composing metal sculpture as though she were composing music – creating melody and harmony, and transposing them to another space instead of another key. "Music gave me the basis for my art and my career. In that welding class I found I had another gift. Everything Converse gave me created my character...or some people might say the character that I am," she said with a sly smile.

## A ladder, a bus and a one-room schoolhouse

After graduating from Converse in 1975 with a major in vocal performance and a minor in music education, Bate headed west with her classmate, Vic Moore. After a few weeks of vacationing she felt it was time to get a job. "I kept feeling there was a job with my name on it in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. When I got to Jackson Hole, I called the principal of the school...and got no answer. So Vic and I decided to go on to Oregon. Sitting on the beach, staring at the Pacific Ocean, I again had this strong, unexplainable feeling that there was a job in Jackson Hole. So we drove for two days, going back to Jackson Hole."

This time, Bate decided to take more definitive action and went straight to the principal's home. "There was a ladder leading to the roof of his house and since I assumed he was on the roof, I climbed up the ladder. As I peaked my head over the edge, a slightly startled man said, 'Who are you?' My response, 'I am your new music teacher.' He shook his head and replied, 'We have never had music in our county...and believe it or not the board just voted it in last night. You've got the job to create a music curriculum and teach in the four outlying one-room schoolhouses in Teton County.'



From top: Berry in her studio, Converse graduation in 1975, first job in Jackson Hole, WY



Ironically enough, Bate's senior thesis at Converse was about teaching music in an open classroom. Three months later she was living the thesis. Equally remarkable, Bate had to use her welding skills on a school bus they gave her to travel to each school. "I cut out all the seats with my cutting torch and made art tables and hooks for instruments. I called my bus the Sight and Sound Express."

The next year, Bate moved back to the east coast and became a related arts teacher in New Jersey. This opportunity presented a new kind of freedom for both Bate and her students. Not one to follow tradition, she got rid of the desks and went on to create dynamic activities that related to music, art and drama, all in one classroom experience.

Even though her unconventional classroom environment was a success, Bate felt unfulfilled. She was doing what was expected of a woman with a music degree. But the iron was calling. She decided to leave her teaching career and commit herself fully to becoming an artist in metal.

## Hanging by a thread... or in this case a really strong rope

In 1978, Bate followed her calling to North Carolina to attend graduate school in metal sculpture at Western Carolina University and the John Campbell Folk School for blacksmithing.

After completing her graduate studies and without sufficient funds to start her own business, Bate began her business out of an old chicken coop. "I knew I wanted to be a self-supporting artist...I never intended for my craft to be a hobby. In order to achieve that goal I did what I had to do and took on a number of jobs, all of which were building blocks for my very first business."

In 1980, after a year of blacksmithing gates, railings, fire tools and fire screens under difficult circumstances, Bate moved to Asheville, NC and founded Asheville Ironworks, Inc. The first thing she realized was that she had to introduce herself to architects and contractors – the people who would be buying and selling ironwork. "Although I did not learn marketing at Converse, Converse taught me confidence in myself. This was another tool I needed for my business."

One of the first jobs she landed was to create the fence on top of Chimney Rock Mountain in North Carolina. Bate had to hang off the 2,480 foot rock on ropes to weld the fence sections together. The fence had many angles and Bate had a very short amount of time to install. "My men and I worked from 8:00 a.m. to midnight, returning each morning again at 8:00 a.m. By the time it was finished I had no employees left. The endurance required was incredible. I always say that this is where I lost my youth!"

"I knew I wanted to be a self-supporting artist...I never intended for my craft to be a hobby. In order to achieve that goal I did what I had to do and took on a number of jobs, all of which were building blocks for my very first business."

The Chimney Rock fence went on to receive national coverage in newspapers and on television, establishing Bate as a female artist to be reckoned with in a male-dominated field. "I entered a man's field but never felt uncomfortable because I knew I could do the job. I have always been as sensitive to men's feelings as I am to women's. The men I worked with saw my passion and my sense of responsibility. I am a leader because of my parents and Converse."

Over the years, Asheville Ironworks went from a one-woman show to a business of 18 employees. Bate's excellent reputation and creativity led her to become a consultant for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and



From top: Working on the fence at Chimney Rock Mountain, starting her first business out of the chicken coop



From top: Berry working on *The Emerging Spirit*, showing Converse students the base of the sculpture, work in progress



to handle restorations for the Historic Charleston Foundation. Bate credits the leadership skills she learned at Converse as a residence hall president and vice chair of judicial board in helping her grow and manage her company. However, in 1995 the time came for Bate to again chart a new path. After 15 years of designing, quoting jobs, seeing customers and supervising the work schedules of her employees, Bate again found herself at a crossroads—continue on with a successful, proven business or follow her passion and start over with a new venture. She decided to sell Asheville Ironworks so she could return to creating art without the distractions of running a company.

In 1995 she set out on her own again, opening “Sculpture by Berry Bate” and focusing her attention on creating sculptural gates, sculptures for cities, corporations, private owners and universities. Over the years, her creativity and ingenuity have led her work to become heirlooms among private collectors and sources of pride for corporations and the public. Her work is included in collections at the Biltmore Estate, Brookgreen Gardens, the South Carolina Governor’s School, the Billy Graham Training Center and the City of Spartanburg. In 2009, Converse came calling with a special invitation to be featured in a year-long exhibition on the campus.

“I entered a man’s field but never felt uncomfortable because I knew I could do the job.”

### Back to her roots

In 2009, Bate began work on *The Emerging Spirit*, a series of 12 metal sculptures varying in shape and size up to nearly 18 feet. The exhibition launched in April 2010 in conjunction with Bate’s 35<sup>th</sup> reunion and the centennial celebration of the Petrie School of Music. The works will be displayed across the campus grounds through spring 2011. To watch an online audio tour of the exhibition and view a photo slideshow of Converse students visiting Bate’s studio as the pieces were being created, visit [converse.edu/theemergingspirit](http://converse.edu/theemergingspirit).

*The Emerging Spirit* is rooted in Converse’s mission and core values. According to Bate, each sculpture represents an aspect of the experiences and qualities that are unique to the women of Converse. “This show was an opportunity for me to bring to life a vision that has been quietly evolving within me for many years. The pieces reflect the virtues instilled at a women’s college, and specifically those at Converse where the unique atmosphere provides a foundation for a lifetime sense of unity, support, spirituality, strength and self-actualization.”

The message behind Bate’s exhibition has resonated strongly with the women of Converse. Both students and alumnae have posed for impromptu photos in front of *The Emerging Spirit*, exuberantly mimicking its form with their arms raised and ready to fly. “Berry’s exhibition not only showcases the exceptional talents of a gifted Converse alumna but also the unique benefits and opportunities of the Converse educational experience,”



said President Betsy Fleming. “Berry’s entrepreneurial spirit and artistic talent demonstrate the strengths of the Converse creative community.”

“Berry’s exhibition not only showcases the exceptional talents of a gifted Converse alumna but also the unique benefits and opportunities of the Converse educational experience.”

~ Betsy Fleming

In conjunction with the exhibition, Bate is going back to where it all began; welding class. Only this time she is playing the role of teacher, serving as a visiting artist for the 2010-2011 academic year and teaching a workshop for Converse art students. She will also provide walking tours and lectures for campus visitors.



Several pieces from this exhibition are available for acquisition. For pricing and information, please contact Ms. Bate at 828.508.6667 or at [berry.bate@gmail.com](mailto:berry.bate@gmail.com).



# The Emerging Spirit

A Sculpture Exhibition by Berry Bate '75  
Ongoing through Spring 2011

Learn more about *The Emerging Spirit* at [converse.edu/theemergingspirit](http://converse.edu/theemergingspirit). To schedule a guided group tour, contact Kathryn Boucher, director of Milliken Gallery, at [kathryn.boucher@converse.edu](mailto:kathryn.boucher@converse.edu). Self-guided tour brochures are available at *The Emerging Spirit* sculpture on Wilson Circle.



Photos by Glen K. Peterson



# Richard Higgs: Renaissance Man Behind the New School of the Arts

In May, Converse announced the appointment of Richard Higgs of Waukesha, WI, as dean of the new School of the Arts. Along with 30 years of service and leadership in higher education, Higgs complements the Converse community with his eclectic taste in music (Public Enemy, Frank Sinatra and Chopin are among his favorites), his passion for single-gender education and a fierce dedication to advancing the visual and performing arts.



When you look back over your 30 years of service in higher education, what stands out as your greatest accomplishments?

With such an impressive career, you must have faced a few roadblocks along the way. What lessons did you learn as a result?

Your academic career began at one of the nation's leading women's colleges and now, having gone full circle, will reach its pinnacle at another. What do you believe are the virtues of an all-women's college?

What attracted you to Converse?

"There have been many achievements of which I am proud, but there is one thing that has made them all valuable and that is that they are based in a group decision-making process that draws on the talent, expertise and dedication of faculty, staff and students."

"There are four items that are critical: building trust through performance; avoiding the development of personality-based programs; creating a learning environment that encourages faculty, staff and students to excel; and ensuring participation in the process by the people who will be impacted by decisions. Almost all roadblocks are illusionary if you remind yourself to include others in the process and remain eternally optimistic."

"My career as a teacher and administrator began at Alverno College where I was introduced to cross-disciplinary group decision-making and the idea that leadership is not simply an allusion to a skill or ability, but rather a way of life that engages others. The wide engagement of others in all decision activities is in my view a very distinct quality of the women's college. It is this quality that sets the women's college apart as the prime incubator for addressing the enormous challenges that our world, nation and culture are confronted with. I see Converse College as one of the places where solutions to these global obstacles will be found."

"First and foremost it is a women's college; a place where expansive thinking is common nature. This is critical to me because I believe that education must make a shift toward inclusive processes if it is to remain healthy. Second, the opportunity to help the departments, disciplines, faculty and students create greater access to their future through partnerships under the umbrella of a new School of the Arts. Finally, the qualities, skills, abilities and dedication that the faculty has demonstrated in their partnering with students."

What do you see as primary opportunities and obstacles facing the visual and performing arts today? How can colleges and universities best prepare students to take advantage of these opportunities and overcome the obstacles?

"The visual and performing arts are currently experiencing a precarious life on the blade of a double-edged sword. Education is becoming a very expensive endeavor. There is great emphasis being placed on ensuring that students graduate with employable skills, while at the same time we are asking our faculty and students to dream, explore and lead the process of discovery. The pressure to provide employability skills and unfettered searching creates what on the surface appears to be a deep contradiction. What is missed is the role that technology and entrepreneurship play in merging these two forces into powerful solutions. When the normative trend toward unfettered searching is applied it often leads to numerous failures. Many other disciplines may see failure as the antithesis of achievement, but in the arts failure is an essential passage toward discovery. I do not accept the idea or the reality of obstacles when it comes to meeting the needs of faculty and students. There is always something positive, a new direction that can be taken from every action. Occasionally the necessity to make rapid shifts can cause stress, but in our current digital world possessing the flexibility to eagerly engage change creates enormous advantage."



How will Converse benefit from the new School of the Arts?

"The School of the Arts is an umbrella under which each discipline will be able to expand its own level of recognition, while supporting one another in reaching higher levels of success. All of the disciplines are unique, yet all deal with the common experience of 'sensory understandings.' This is what sets the arts apart. We share a deeply physical-emotional understanding. We rely on muscle memory and the non-verbal learning processes. I envision the School of the Arts as playing a dynamic role not just for Converse but also in assuming a leadership role in the wider arts community."

What excites you about your new position?

"The Converse and the Spartanburg communities have both been open and warm. There is a sense of being on the verge of something truly great, ready to happen. I am encouraged by the openness with which topics are discussed and problems are engaged. Each meeting, each conversation and each opportunity to listen has reaffirmed my decision to be part of this community."





# CONVERSE NEWS

## Leading the Charge, and the Nation, in Lacrosse

In July, the NCAA announced that lacrosse midfielder Bridget Dullea '13 led the nation in goals per game for the 2010 season. Dullea averaged an institution-record 4.29 goals per game while starting in all 17 games for the Valkyries in 2010. She is the first student-athlete in Converse College history to finish the season leading the NCAA in a statistical category. "This is a tremendous accomplishment for a program that has only completed two competitive seasons, and it reflects the hard work Bridget put in during her first year at Converse," said Head Lacrosse Coach Julie Redman. "The best part about it is that Bridget is only a sophomore, so we can build on this over the years to come."



The Peabody, MA native has garnered a long list of accolades in her short time at Converse, being named Conference Carolinas Rookie of the Year, First-Team All-Conference and a womenslacrosse.com Division II All-Rookie team selection following this past season. In addition, Dullea was ranked 14th for NCAA Division II in caused turnovers, while her team finished 8th in the same category. "I'm extremely honored to receive these awards as a freshman. I could not have won these without the support of my team and all of us having the same goal to make conference tournament," responded Dullea. "Making conference tournament was our goal all season and we were in the hunt up to the

end. The team and I are ready for this year so we can achieve that goal."

Dullea contributed both offensively and defensively, averaging 1.81 caused turnovers per game and racking up 47 drawl controls and 46 ground balls on the season.

Coach Redman cites Dullea's leadership and fierce determination as key contributors to her success. "Bridget has been such a wonderful addition to our program. She is a leader on the field and is willing to do whatever she can to help her team succeed." Redman added, "Bridget possesses a rare combination of athleticism and street smarts that makes her a threat all over field. I am so proud of everything she has accomplished this year—she has done everything we have ever asked of her and more!"



## Celebrating Outstanding Scholar Athletes

During Founder's Day 2010, Converse made the second annual presentation of the Weisiger Cup to an outstanding senior athlete and the presentation of two scholarship awards to incoming freshmen who have been named Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athletes.

### Weisiger Cup

Rachel Wilkes '10 was presented with the Weisiger Cup for her leadership and community building skills and in recognition of her value as a member of the campus community and as an asset to her team. Wilkes' name will be added to the sterling silver trophy that is permanently housed in the Weisiger Center.

A vocal performance major who was active in music productions at Converse, Wilkes also led the Valkyries tennis team as captain and was recognized as Scholar-Athlete of the Year and Academic All-Conference. As a musician, Wilkes was a two-time section-winner and regional qualifier for the South Carolina competition of the National Association of Teachers of Singing.



Converse Athletic Director Joy Couch, Agnes Binder Weisiger '63, Rachel Wilkes '10 and President Betsy Fleming

Academics were first priority throughout Wilkes' Converse career, resulting in her induction into the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society as a freshman and her selection as a Junior Marshal. Writing is also among her many talents and she has won a creative nonfiction award and serves as a peer editor in the Writing Center.

Wilkes volunteered for the College Town Service Initiative, the Make-A-Wish Foundation service project, The South Carolina School for Deaf and Blind's HALTAR program and Converse's Girls Day event. She also served as vice president of Mortar Board during her senior year.



President Betsy Fleming, Kandace Griffin '14 and family

### Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athletes

Incoming freshmen Kandace Griffin from Birmingham, AL and Jessica Pope from Kennesaw, GA were announced as the 2010 Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athletes. Recipients of this scholarship have a proven record of academic success, aspire to major and pursue careers in the sciences and are dedicated to playing an NCAA Division II sport during their college career. Candidates compete in the annual Dexter Edgar Converse scholarship competition in order to be selected. Both of the 2010 recipients were accepted into Converse's Nisbet Honors program and plan to major in biology.



## Making Waves...and History

The Converse swimming program made great strides during its first full season in 2009-2010 by producing the first athlete in the history of the College to qualify for a NCAA National Championship, freshman swimmer Jenni Russell '13 of Tega Cay, SC. "This is a momentous occasion that validates our hard work in building Converse Valkyries athletics," said Joy Couch, athletic director. "We have been looking forward to having a national championship athlete and are thrilled that the day has come."

Russell qualified for the national championships in the 200 Breast, 200 IM and 400 IM. She swam close to all of her seed times for the events. "From the beginning, I wanted to make the NCAA championship. To make it and have this opportunity as a freshman was incredibly exciting," Russell said. "The meet gave me a lot of experience that I know will help in my future as a Converse swimmer. My goals for the next few years are much higher now."

In addition to garnering national recognition, Russell was named All-Conference and won the All-Conference Academic award, as well as being part of the team All-American Academic award. "I couldn't be more pleased with the team results and accomplishments this year," coach Corey White said. "We set high goals at the beginning of the season and accomplished those goals. With the incoming class we have, I am looking forward to our performance and achievements for the 2010-2011 season."



**MAKE THINGS HAPPEN**



VISIT THE NEW [www.converse.edu](http://www.converse.edu)





Sara Fisher, SCICU board chairman, with Mirko Hall and Jeff Barker

## Mirko Hall Honored for Excellence in Teaching

Known for his dynamic approach to student learning and for bringing high levels of excitement to his foreign language classes, Dr. Mirko Manfred Hall, assistant professor of German studies, was honored with the Excellence in Teaching award from the South Carolina Independent Colleges this spring.

Dr. Hall joined the faculty in 2007 as assistant professor of German studies and teaches all levels of German language, literature and culture. He also teaches Modern Standard Arabic. "Mirko Hall teaches difficult, demanding subjects with an élan that delights students and makes them want to learn," says Dr. Jeffrey Barker, vice president for academic affairs at Converse. "He is an outstanding teacher who links his subject to the world encountered by his students, and a highly successful scholar who crosses disciplinary boundaries on a daily basis."

## Converse Leads in Funded Research Projects for Third Year in a Row

When the 20-member South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) consortium announced its summer research funding campaign, Converse College students led the way with more projects and funding awarded than any other private college or university in the state, for the third year in a row. Seven of eight Converse proposals were funded, and Converse funded the eighth proposal.

Kaleea Lewis '11 and Lauren Jurgensen '12 spent the summer studying the effects of phytoestrogens found in soy on the sexual development of frogs to determine the implications for humans. The student-designed project was sponsored by Dr. Edna Steele, associate professor of biology. Lewis sees her experience as a great stepping stone for graduate school, where she plans to continue research in the field of public health. Jurgensen, who is interested in teaching, hopes the project will inspire other Converse students to develop their own unique research ideas. Read more about the soy project at [converse.edu/soyresearch](http://converse.edu/soyresearch).



Research grant recipient Kaleea Lewis '11

## Tammy Stokes Named Converse II Director

Inspired by her fervent dedication to the advancement of women and unwavering support of the Spartanburg community, Converse College welcomed Tammy Stokes as its new Converse II director in March.

"I am incredibly excited about being a member of the Converse team and part of a program that is not only transforming women's lives, but also impacting our community at the same time," said Stokes. "In addition to receiving an excellent college education at a reduced cost, Converse II students do so at an institution where they have the guidance, support and encouragement they need to be successful. Converse II is a unique opportunity for women in our community and I am proud to be part of it."

Prior to joining Converse, Stokes served as director of the Opportunity Scholars Program at University of South Carolina-Union. She managed the federally-funded TRIO Program designed to assist first-generation and low-income students in the completion of college, played a pivotal role in writing grants, and counseled students in regard to their academic and personal challenges.



Eve Blossom



Carol Perkins-Rawle



Cynthia A. Hartley

## Advancing Women in Entrepreneurship

Converse and the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a series of three innovative women for the inaugural ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) Forum for Advancing Women in Entrepreneurship this spring. Funded through a Converse Creative Collaboration grant and organized by the Converse Department of Economics, Accounting & Business, the ICE Forum featured professional women with real-world stories of success and failure.

From founding a textile company that promotes systemic social change to prevent human trafficking in Southeast Asia, to launching an environmentally-friendly pet product company inspired by a life-changing battle with a brain tumor, to leading internal innovations within the human resource function of a \$4.1 billion packaging company, guest speakers Eve Blossom, Carol Perkins-Rawle and Cynthia A. Hartley shared their personal stories with students and the public. Each demonstrated in her unique way how innovative, creative and entrepreneurial ideas benefit organizations, their customers and their communities.

Founder of Lulan Artisans, which designs, produces and markets sustainable textiles globally, Eve Blossom explained how her company integrates design with systemic social change. Carol Perkins-Rawle shared her inspirational story about starting her pet product company, Harry Barker, which sells online and in 35,000 stores internationally. Cynthia A. Hartley, senior vice president of human resources for Sonoco Products Company, talked about her journey from secretary in a human resources office to reaching the top of the corporate ladder as the only woman on the executive management team.

"We hope that sharing the extraordinary experiences, expertise and success of some of our nation's most innovative women will enhance the entrepreneurial spirit of Converse students and encourage local entrepreneurship within the Spartanburg community," said President Fleming.

## Grammy-Award Winner Headlined Spring Concert

Converse's 2010 Spring Concert featured Grammy-Award winning singer-songwriter, Colbie Caillat on the back campus lawn, drawing a crowd of more than 2,000!





# Extraordinary Women, Growing Together, Bonded Forever to Make the Perfect "10!"

Converse College conferred 147 bachelor's and master's degrees during its 118<sup>th</sup> commencement ceremony in May. The commencement speaker was alumna Carol Puckett '74, director of special projects for Viking Range Corporation and founder of the Everyday Gourmet and the Everyday Gardener.

In addressing her fellow Pink Panthers, Puckett expressed how her personal journey at Converse went beyond receiving a top-quality education, and was a life-changing experience. "It was here that I was transformed from a girl to a woman, from a student to a life-long learner and from a follower to a leader. It was here that I learned to think for myself, and believe in myself. It was here I found my voice, and the values that would carry me forward."

Puckett challenged the graduates to be forces of positive change. "We can't sit around and wait for change to happen, you...we...must be the agents of change. As you climb the ladder, you must remember to leave the ladder down. Not only leave the ladder down, but reach down and pull up other women—whether they are next door, in the next office or in Pakistan or Afghanistan."

The Class of 2010 leaves Converse with plans to pursue exciting careers and post-graduate study in prestigious programs. Members of the class have been awarded graduate school placements from the following institutions, among others:

- Auburn University
- Baylor Law School
- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- Emory Divinity School
- Florida State University
- McAfee School of Theology
- Medical University of South Carolina
- Winthrop University
- Converse College



Above from left: Sally McNair Long '75, Elizabeth Brown Sims '77, Carol Puckett '74 and Anne Roberts '75

## 2010 Commencement Award Presentations

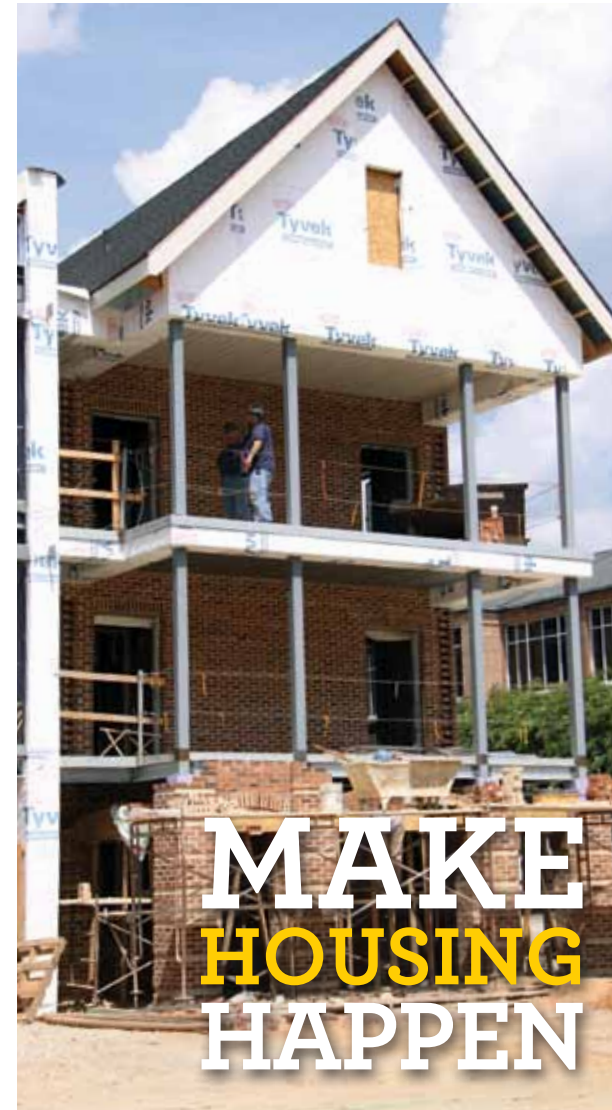
(1) **Katelyn Ridenour** of Spartanburg, SC received the Mary Mildred Sullivan Award for Community Service.

Converse Trustee (2) **Marsha Gibbs** was awarded the Mary Mildred Sullivan Award for her contributions to the Spartanburg and Converse communities.

(3) **Rachel Wilkes** of Chapin, SC and (4) **Anna Grace Strange** of Hendersonville, NC were presented the Pi Kappa Lambda Award for the highest academic records in the Petrie School of Music.

(5) **Ingeborg Haddox** of the Netherlands earned the Elford C. Morgan Award for the highest academic record in the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Dr. Mirko Hall**, assistant professor of foreign languages, was honored with the Kathrynne Amelia Brown Award for Excellence in Teaching.



## Apartment Construction Progress Generates Excitement

The Converse student housing project is on schedule to welcome the Class of 2011 as its first residents in Spring 2011. The senior-apartment configuration consisting of Howard Hall and Kate Hall includes 96 single rooms and 16 double rooms. In addition to bedrooms, each apartment will include a kitchen and a living room, along with a host of modern amenities. The apartment housing is Converse's second LEED-certified building project, following the 2009 renovation of Kuhn Hall, and further advances Converse's commitment to sustainability.

## Beam Signing Party

In May, Converse students were invited to "leave their mark" on the new senior housing project by signing a beam that will be placed in the structure of the upcoming gathering place called The Pavilion.





Save any room?



Instead of saving room for dessert, Converse alumnae are saving room in their budget each month to support the Converse Annual Fund

Join the "89ers" today...a simple, affordable way to impact the future of Converse College! The "89ers" are alumnae like Catherine Woodrum Pogue '05 and Jennifer Wahl Settle '06 who have pledged to skip one or two small luxuries each month – perhaps a Starbucks® coffee or a dessert while out for dinner – so they can redirect those funds to support deserving young women at Converse.

The "89ers" are taking their place in continuing the legacy of alumnae who make education possible for the next generation, just as those who came before them have done. Named for the year of Converse's founding, 1889, the group welcomes any alumna who commits to giving an amount ending in ".89" (minimum of \$5.89) per month through the convenience of a bank draft or credit card.

Join the "89ers" today...a simple, affordable way to impact the future of Converse College! For more information contact Allyson Tesh at 864.596.9053 or allyson.tesh@converse.edu.

## Empowering Converse Generations to Come Mary Martin Witt '71



Mary Martin Witt '71 immediately felt at home when she arrived at Converse College in 1967. "I went to a really large high school in Charlotte and was looking for a smaller college where I wouldn't be just a number. Most of my friends were going to large universities in North Carolina but I knew that wasn't the right fit for me. I wanted to have the opportunity to explore many different areas before landing in my major field, so a liberal arts college seemed the best choice."

Thirty nine years later, on the eve of her 40th Reunion, Mary has never regretted that decision. "Converse is the place that took me from being a girl to an adult. I learned to be a self-confident, independent woman knowing I could do whatever I put my mind to." Mary developed a love of travel during London Term and later worked in the travel industry before deciding to devote her time to her family and community. Although active in the lives of her five children, church and community, Mary has never forgotten Converse among the organizations she considers most important to support.

For over 30 years, Mary has supported Converse through gifts to the Converse Annual Fund. "Converse made me part of who I am today and I feel the responsibility to give what I can, to make sure this type of education is available for other young women in the years to come. I want others to have the same opportunity for growth and learning that I had. If everyone would just give a little it would mean a lot!"

"I want others to have the same opportunity for growth and learning that I had. If everyone would just give a little it would mean a lot!"



Mary's senior portrait 1971

## Honor and Memorial Gifts

July 1, 2009 - May 31, 2010

### HONOR GIFTS

SHAYNA R. ABRAMS '91  
Brian Tatro

MORGAN ANDERSON '10  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Anderson

ARLYN BETTY BAER '10  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven A. Baer

CAROLINE BATSON '10  
Marsha Brannon Batson '86

MARTHA PAXTON BEALE '49  
Margaret R. Beale

JANE HARLAN BESON '87  
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Harlan

ANDREW M. BLANCHARD  
Hub-Bub.Com

JENNIFER LEE BROWN '10  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dykemon Brown

SARAH CAROLINE BURNETT '10  
Ellen Miller Burnett '80

SALLY HARMON CAUGHMAN '68  
Linda Frierson Perrow '81

CLASS OF 1955  
Jo Ann Guyton Davison '55

CLASS OF 1960  
Freda Stokes Summers '60

CLASS OF 1975  
Anne Roberts '75

CLASS OF 2010  
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Anderson  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven A. Baer  
Marsha Brannon Batson '86  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dykemon Brown  
Ellen Miller Burnett '80  
Ann M. Collins '02 MAT  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Luke Dumouchel  
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Green, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. William Michael Keiser  
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred LeBlanc  
Mr. and Mrs. George Bernard McBride, Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ricky W. McKinney  
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Howard McQueen III  
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Oczkowski  
Mr. and Mrs. Joel M. Owens  
Lisa Presnell  
Dr. and Mrs. Billy R. Price II  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott Rawles  
Dr. and Mrs. Hubert Stanley Reid  
Ramona J. Richardson  
Mr. and Mrs. K. Mark Ross  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lee Shearsmith  
Barbara M. von Hauzen  
Mr. and Mrs. William Michael Warren  
Mark Allen Williams

KATHERINE COLLINS '10  
Ann M. Collins '02 MAT

CONVERSE COLLEGE CAMPUS  
TECHNOLOGY STAFF  
Nancy Bain Coté '79

NANCY BAIN COTÉ '79  
Amy Tibbals Morales '86  
Polly Hill Woodham '51

ROBERTA TIMMONS DANIEL '71  
Mary Myatt Bowman '70  
Carol Owens Campbell '72  
Sue Wyatt Holmes '72  
Catherine Clarkson Robertson

JANIS I. DENGLER  
Patricia J. Bell  
Valerie A. Burnie  
Mary T. Caley  
Deborah D. Dawsey '87 MED  
Sydney C. Harris  
Genevieve H. Hull  
Theresa G. Lassiter  
Joe Ann Lever  
Kathryn J. Long  
Margaret S. Moore  
La Homa A. Nigh  
Doris P. Painter  
Sally S. Pilley  
Christine Williamson Pringle '93  
Betty Gay Roberson  
Dr. Martha Elaine Rogers  
Mary M. Savko  
Katharine Stephens Slemenda '66  
Ann Marie Sullivan '95 MED  
Marie-Claude Wall

NICOLE DUMOUCHEL '10  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Luke Dumouchel

FLEMING FAMILY  
Nancy Oliver Gray

PRESIDENT BETSY FLEMING  
Dr. Mary E. Duesterhaus  
Dr. Alan P. Duesterhaus  
Nancy Oliver Gray

EDMUND R. GANT  
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Gant, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. John Quintin Gant  
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Olson  
(Charlotte Gant '87)  
Mr. and Mrs. John Wittenmyer  
(Betsy Gant '80)

NANCY HARLAN GOODING '83  
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Harlan

EMILY GREEN '10  
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Green, Jr.

ELIZABETH CRANE GRIFFITH '72  
Susan Nash McClellan '72

## Miss Gee Society

Honoring Those Who Provide A Lasting Legacy

The Miss Gee Society is comprised of individuals who also support the mission and traditions of Converse and who share a desire to leave a lasting legacy to Converse by including the College in their will or by making a planned gift. The Society includes some of Converse's closest and most generous friends, and the College is profoundly honored and grateful to be remembered by them.

*Over the years, Miss Gee became a second mother to everyone at Converse. She was a wonderful person who cared deeply about her students. You see, Converse was more than her home, it was her family. I am proud to be a member of the Miss Gee Society, and will forever treasure having the honor of being one of "her girls."*

Becky Ramsaur Pennell '53

To join the Miss Gee Society, please contact Dianne Ansley at 864.577.2088



MARY LIB SPILLERS HAMILTON '57  
Mr. and Mrs. Pascal S. Boyd II  
Jane Powell Crowder '57  
Allison Leggett

GLADYS TAPP HANCOCK '80  
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## Alumnae Association President's Message

It continues to be such an honor to serve as your Alumnae Association President. I have enjoyed the opportunity to experience firsthand the amazing improvements and energy that President Betsy Fleming has brought to our campus. And, I am happy to report that there are wonderful things happening at Converse!

New construction has been seamlessly integrated with the historic character of the campus and the results are simply stunning. I believe the completed Kuhn Hall renovation serves as a perfect example of this. The apartments for senior housing are under construction and will be ready for occupancy in early 2011. Meanwhile, plans are being developed to renovate Pell and Dexter Halls as the next phase of our master housing plan. If you have not been to campus lately, please make arrangements to do so. You will be amazed at the transformation and how wonderful everything looks.

The Petrie School of Music will celebrate its centennial with "The Sounds of a Century" concert on Thursday, October 28, 2010. Another "must see" on campus is The Emerging Spirit exhibition by Berry Bate '75, which features 12 metal sculptures across the Converse grounds through Spring 2011.

Elizabeth Oswalt '02, our alumnae director, has been busy bringing us into the twenty-first century with technology and the Alumnae Association is now on Facebook and LinkedIn! I encourage you to use these tools to connect with other alumnae and Converse.

There is also an innovative opportunity for all alumnae to volunteer with Converse in your local communities. Check out the information on page 43 about the first Alumnae Impact Service Day on October 30, 2010.



It is an exciting time at Converse. There are many collaborative efforts being undertaken for the changing times we live in, while continuing the tradition of being a strong institution that prepares women to lead in their professions and communities. Come back to campus for your reunion and other events and see all that is happening!

All best,

*Grazier*

Grazier Connors Rhea '74

## Travel with Converse

Please contact the Alumnae Office for more information or to reserve your spot today!

Travel Contact: Elizabeth Oswalt '02, director of alumnae  
E-mail: elizabeth.oswalt@converse.edu  
Phone: 864.596.9055



### Australia and New Zealand March 17 – April 5, 2011

Pack your bags for an exciting 20-day tour of Australia and New Zealand! Destinations include:

- Melbourne: This beautiful Victorian city is set around the shores of Port Phillip Bay and boasts a lively and cosmopolitan pulse.
- Alice Springs: Explore the region, located in the heart of Central Australia and the Outback, and learn about Aboriginal people.
- Ayers Rock: Experience the majesty of sunrise on Ayers Rock as you make your way there via the back of a camel.
- Cairns: Explore the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef.
- Sydney: From the famed Sydney Opera House to Darling Harbor, you will enjoy three days of unbelievable sights and sounds.
- New Zealand's Southern Alps: Marvel at the spectacular, snowcapped peaks and beautiful river gorges as you wind your way past waterfalls and rugged mountain scenery.
- New Zealand's famous wineries: Take part in a wine tasting and visit a working farm where you will view a demonstration by a skilled New Zealand "strong eye" sheep herding dog.
- Fiji: Enjoy an optional two-night post tour extension in Fiji.

Approximately \$5,999 per person, based on double occupancy, includes round trip airfare from Charlotte Douglas International Airport.



## Stay Connected with Converse

The sense of community you felt as a student at Converse shouldn't diminish after you receive your diploma. The Alumnae Office is excited to offer new opportunities to stay connected with Converse!



Get LinkedIn to the worldwide Converse network! The Alumnae Office is leveraging the professional networking site LinkedIn to create a worldwide network for alumnae, graduate alumni, current students and faculty members. The group enables the Converse community to network and reconnect, share experiences and "pay it forward" to fellow members of the Converse family. Browse job opportunities, read recommended news articles and start discussions with fellow Converse members.

Connect with us on LinkedIn by searching for "Converse College Alumnae and Alumni Network."

### Alumnae Events

And don't forget our traditional alumnae events including luncheons, cocktail parties, the annual Alumnae Day at Riverbanks Zoo and more! Look for invitations in your mailbox soon. Alumnae events are wonderful opportunities to get an update on the College, meet President Fleming and other Converse faculty and staff members, and connect with fellow alumnae!

See all upcoming alumnae events at [converse.edu/calendar](http://converse.edu/calendar) or call the Alumnae Office for more information at 1.800.584.9098.



The Converse Alumnae Association Facebook Page launched this year and we now

have over 1,600 people connected! Through our Facebook page, the Alumnae Office shares updates about what's going on around campus, features fun Converse trivia and is THE place for all alumnae and alumni to share memories, photos and news. Make sure you're in the know and connected to this page.

Connect with us on Facebook by searching for "Converse College Alumnae Association" and then clicking "Like" to receive updates in your news feed.



## Converse Alumnae Make a Global Statement with a Local Impact!

The Alumnae Office is excited to announce a new event taking place this fall—Converse's Alumnae Impact Service Day! On Saturday, October 30, 2010 alumnae across the country will volunteer and serve their local communities at various organizations. This is an exciting opportunity for Converse women to make a global statement, yet a very local impact.

The Alumnae Impact Service Day is based on the Impact Service Day for Converse students sponsored by the Division of Student Life and Project Serve, an on-campus student community service organization. The student Impact Service Day began in 2002 as the kick-off event for 1889 Week, a spirit week celebrating the College's founding and it encourages students to volunteer for Spartanburg community organizations.

For the inaugural Alumnae Impact Service Day, alumnae volunteer coordinators have selected a deserving organization in their local community where alumnae may volunteer. Participants will enjoy serving together, followed by a group lunch to socialize and reflect on the day's work. Following Alumnae Impact Service Day, participants will be encouraged to load photos and videos of their day to the Converse website, Facebook and YouTube.



Want to participate in the Alumnae Impact Service Day and/or coordinate the effort in your town? Register online at [converse.edu/alumnaeserviceday](http://converse.edu/alumnaeserviceday) or call the Alumnae Office for more information at 1.800.584.9098.



# Alumnae Mentoring Program

Building Connections, Strengthening Sisterhood



The Converse network of creative thinkers and doers serve as role models for current students and future generations of Converse women. And for the third year in a row, the Alumnae Mentoring Program (AMP) is dedicated to building connections and fostering relationships between alumnae and students for their professional and personal development.

"The mission of the Alumnae Mentoring Program is to facilitate the career development of Converse juniors by matching them with an experienced professional for the purpose of collaboration and the exchanging of ideas," said Elizabeth Oswald '02, director of alumnae. "The program also offers alumnae and graduate alumni an opportunity to strengthen ties to Converse by sharing their time and talents with current students. It really is a win/win situation for everyone involved."

Recently, interior design student Shekeyse Jones '11 and her alumna mentor, interior designer Amy Schmidt Christie '02 reflected on their experience. For Christie, the AMP provided the perfect opportunity to support Converse, "When the opportunity to serve as a mentor came about, it was an instinctual decision to step up and make a tangible imprint on someone's life by inspiring, coaching and empowering them." For Jones, the mentorship presented an opportunity to take a closer look at her field of study and gain insight on what it takes to become a businesswoman as well as a successful interior designer. Jones said, "The mentoring program changed my perspective on life after college. I didn't know I had so many options."

By being conscientious of the mentor-mentee pairings, meaningful relationships can be formed easily. Oswald said "We match alumnae and students based on similar professional or personal interests, so they start with a common bond. By the end of the mentoring program, the relationship usually goes beyond that commonality into a long-term substantial relationship."



For Jones and Christie, the experience was mutually beneficial. "It is rewarding to know my leadership in Shekeyse's life symbolizes the art of paying it forward with praise for and support of a future leader, and a fine, young talent." Jones is equally enthusiastic, saying, "I gained A LOT! I learned to develop bigger goals in interior design, stay encouraged and not give up just because things do not go as planned. I have made a great friendship with my mentor and really value having Amy in my life."

## Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68 Energizes Alumnae Mentoring Program Kick-Off

Alumna Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68 was the guest speaker during the 2010-2011 AMP kick-off event in September. Marchant discussed the importance of building relationships with women both personally and professionally, supporting women in executive positions and her own professional journey. "It was thrilling to welcome Elisabeth back to the campus and have her launch this year's mentoring program!" said Elizabeth Oswald. "Her diverse background, trailblazing attitude and willingness to mentor and support other women so they can succeed professionally epitomize the goals of the Alumnae Mentoring Program."

Marchant is founder and CEO of Womenetics, a multifaceted organization that unites women in the workplace and beyond through shared knowledge, community and events. Recognized by ForbesWoman in 2010 as one of the "Top 100 Websites for Women," Womenetics was launched in 2009 to address the changing needs of today's professional woman.

To learn more about Marchant, visit [www.womenetics.com](http://www.womenetics.com)

### Become a Mentor

Converse alumnae and graduate alumni are encouraged to participate in the 2010-2011 Alumnae Mentoring Program.

Mentors commit to:

- Attending the training session on campus on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2010
- Serving as role models for students
- Nurturing the mentoring relationship, either in person or phone/email
- Assisting their mentee in establishing professional development goals
- Maintaining confidentiality in the mentor relationship
- Participating in a review of AMP

Mentors are not expected to:

- Provide job opportunities
- Review resumes
- Interview students
- Participate in extended communication
- Recruit students for open positions

If you would like to participate in AMP, please complete the mentor application online at [converse.edu/AMP](http://converse.edu/AMP) or call the Alumnae Office at 864.596.9011 for more information.

# Reunion 2010



All Class Cocktail Party and BBQ



Alumnae line up for the "Parade of Classes" into the Founder's Day service



Founder's Day keynote speaker, Berry Bate '75 with President Fleming



The Class of 1960 processes into the Founder's Day service for induction into The Golden Club



All Class Cocktail Party and BBQ



Young Alumna Award Winner, Elizabeth Moore Pearson '00, with friends and family



All Class Cocktail Party and BBQ



The Class of 1960 enjoys their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion class dinner at the President's House



Alumnae line up for the "Parade of Classes" into the Founder's Day service



The Golden Club



# Save the Date!

## Two Reunion Opportunities for 2010-2011



### Petrie School of Music Reunion

October 28-30, 2010

Including The Petrie School of Music Centennial Celebration



### Reunion Weekend

April 15-16, 2011

Class Years Ending in 1 & 6, The Class of 2010 and the Golden Club

Info & Registration: [Converse.edu/Reunion](http://Converse.edu/Reunion)



### How to get your news in Life Events and Class Notes:

Send your news to the Class Representative(s) listed with your class. If your class has no representative listed, send news to the Alumnae Office, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC, 29302 ([nancy.gage@converse.edu](mailto:nancy.gage@converse.edu)).

Class Representatives are volunteers elected by their class and are responsible for the accuracy of their Life Events and Class Notes.

Make sure we have your correct E-mail address! Please send E-mail addresses to: [nancy.gage@converse.edu](mailto:nancy.gage@converse.edu).

Class Representatives may submit notes for every issue of the magazine. Class Notes includes information submitted to the Alumnae Office by May 7, 2010.

## 20's 30's

### IN MEMORIAM

- Katherine STALLINGS Dunlap '29, October 11, 2009
- Betty TATE Motley '29, September 28, 2009
- Anna POMEROY Mayo '30, December 11, 2009
- Olive SINGLETON Ballenger '30, May 8, 2009
- Gladys Jean PHILLIPS '31, November 23, 2009
- Elizabeth KING Long '32, November 16, 2009
- Mary GRAHAM McGeary '33, November 2, 2009
- Sara HUNTER Mallady '33, December 17, 2009
- Pauline BELSER Riley '36, December 29, 2009
- Ernestine HOLLAND White '36, December 22, 2009
- Louise MILLER Whitehead '36, April 28, 2010
- Corinne PIPKIN Giles '36, December 20, 2008

- Margaret PITTS Kleiber '36, July 10, 2008
- Hope POTEAT Gietzen '36, October 24, 2009
- Julia Mae SWEDENBURG '36, July 17, 2009
- Elizabeth WHITEHEAD Taylor '36, May 22, 2010
- Lloyd WILLIAMS Moore '37, February 20, 2010
- Mahalie KING Brown '38, March 31, 2010
- Elizabeth ROGERS Hamner '38, May 9, 2010
- Marguerite Mason ANDERSON '39, December 10, 2009
- Sara BROWN Dickson '39, February 22, 2010
- Betty FARLEY Price '39, January 2, 2010
- Elizabeth "Bessie" HEYWARD Clarkson '39, November 26, 2009
- Anne NASH Quillian '39, April 1, 2010

### SYMPATHY

- Eleanor THOMSON Roy '36 on the death of her husband, Charles Thomson Roy, October 3, 2009
- Katherine GWATHMEY Swann '37 on the death of her husband, The Rev. Sydney Chaille Swann, Jr., February 16, 2010
- Sara Louise HEARON Manning '37 on the death of her daughter, Sallie Hearon Manning Claybough, December 19, 2009
- Irene WESTON Croft '38 on the death of her husband, Edward S. Croft, Jr., January 3, 2010



Senior Class photo at the Crow's Nest 1920

### ALUMNAE EVENTS



Charleston, SC Alumnae Event hosted by Matt and Susannah Gramling Hubbell '92 on February 11, 2010



# 40's

## IN MEMORIAM

Myrtle CRAVER Bradham Riggs '40, January 30, 2010  
 Mary Reed CROOK '40, January 2, 2010  
 Mary BEEBE Woodside '41, February 20, 2010  
 Anne KNIGHT Shuler '41, November 10, 2009  
 Louise BOATWRIGHT Alexander '42, February 22, 2010  
 Virginia MCDOWELL Blanton Harris '42, December 23, 2009  
 Elizabeth HARRIS Southers '42, November 22, 2009  
 Harriett BULL Wilder '43, December 23, 2009  
 Hazel HOLLAND Belk '43, April 30, 2010  
 Patricia RANKIN Kirby '43, April 16, 2008  
 Marjorie WORTHINGTON Powell '43, October 3, 2008  
 Nell MOSER Hitt '44, April 5, 2010  
 Nora Alice WALSH Johnson '44, May 11, 2009  
 Pretto BRUNSON Cuttino '45, January 30, 2010  
 Kathleen MORGAN Donnelly '45, April 27, 2010  
 Helen O'QUINN Miles '45, July 13, 2009  
 Ann PLESS Lunger '45, July 11, 2009  
 Barbara HALL Hanning '46, May 8, 2009  
 Dorothy HARTIN Rhame '46, October 24, 2009  
 Virginia Whitridge MITCHELL '46, March 31, 2010  
 Mary POULNOT Neff '46, April 29, 2010  
 Marguerite WILLAUER Yannopoulos '46, November 15, 2008

Mildred JONES Ruelke '47, January 9, 2010  
 Ann DAVIS Klinker '48, May 24, 2010  
 Peggy BRADFORD Long '49, January 5, 2010  
 Ann Fripp JONES Hampton '49, October 26, 2009  
 Margaret REESE Owen '49, April 10, 2009

## SYMPATHY

Dorothy HOLLAND Snyder '40 on the death of her husband, George William Snyder, September 6, 2009  
 Dorothy HOLLAND Snyder '40 on the death of her sister, Ernestine HOLLAND White '36, December 22, 2009  
 Dorothy HOLLAND Snyder '40 on the death of her sister, Hazel HOLLAND Belk '43, April 30, 2010  
 Frances HOLLAND Hardy '40 on the death of her sister, Ernestine HOLLAND White '36, December 22, 2009  
 Frances HOLLAND Hardy '40 on the death of her sister, Hazel HOLLAND Belk '43, April 30, 2010  
 Alice MOORE Harrelson '42 on the death of her husband, James Dow Harrelson, January 5, 2010  
 Virginia OGLETREE Ashmore '42 on the death of her husband, Dr. Charles DeLoach Ashmore, September 9, 2009  
 Virginia OGLETREE Ashmore '42 on the death of her son, Richard Fielding Ashmore, May 1, 2010  
 Mary Emily PLATT Jackson '42 on the death of her husband, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010  
 Mary Frances MORGAN '43 on the death of her sister, Kathleen MORGAN Donnelly '45, April 27, 2010

Elizabeth RODMAN Jones '44 on the death of her husband, William Alfred Jones, April 20, 2009  
 Margaret CARLTON Edwards '47 on the death of her husband, Dr. W. Everett Edwards, January 24, 2009  
 Ida Jo GRAHAM Allegood '48 on the death of her husband, James L. Allegood, Jr., July 20, 2009  
 Peggy ROOHAN Schmitz '49 on the death of her husband, Clifford W. Schmitz, Jr., August 17, 2009

Next Reunion for the 1940s will be April 15-16, 2011. Mark your calendars now.

## CLASS OF 1943

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Barbara Brown Lee  
 706 N Summit Crest Court  
 Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864.582.4668

## CLASS OF 1944

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

Thanks to Anne Crook Smith '43, who wrote that Kent Siegnious Freeman looked great, and still has that sparkle, as one of the "pin-up girls" on the Bishop Gadsden Community 2009 calendar! Hope you in the Charleston area saw it. Cacie has heard from Margaret Goodman Allen, who lives in Cincinnati near her son. She is in an attractive retirement home with plenty of activity. She still gets to Black Mountain in the summer, where she catches up on family news. Both she and Anne bemoaned not getting to Edisto Island anymore – obviously a special place. Julia Bridger Cox writes: Bob and I retired here (Amarillo, TX) fifty years ago. They did a lot of traveling and cruising, but age, has taken care of that. They have four children and six grands. Bob and Catherine Gant Powell are fortunate to be in the house they built here 21 years ago, with a son 25 miles away. Daughter Catherine is a priest at Church of the Servant in Wilmington, NC. She comes for short visits.

## CLASS OF 1945

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Mary Fabisinski Roberts  
 1506 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Way  
 Gainesville, FL 32605, 352.376.7175  
 Margaret Fulton Walker  
 208 Crest Drive  
 Mt. Olive, NC 28365, 919.658.2167  
 mfultonwalker@bellsouth.net

## CLASS OF 1946

65<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Mary Helen Garrison Dalton  
 3064 Ridgewood Road NW  
 Atlanta, GA 30327, 404.355.0434  
 mhdalton7@aol.com

Mark your calendars now for our 65<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion in Spartanburg on April 15-16. Plan to join the Class of 1946 on campus for Reunion 2011.

## CLASS OF 1947

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Mary Young Cousar  
 4615 Arlon Lane  
 Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904.387.1793  
 cousarj@bellsouth.net

## CLASS OF 1948

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Eleanor "Skippy" Herbert Hale  
 499 Hale Farm Road  
 Waynesville, NC 32210, 828.456.5284  
 skippyhale@gmail.com  
 Alice Mobley Lipscombe  
 107 Conyers Street  
 Sumter, SC 29150, 803.773.8265  
 elipscombe@sc.rr.com

Skippy had a fun chat with Betty Anne Welch Warren. The Warren Library at Palm Beach Atlantic University, named for B.A. and her husband Don, was opening its second phase that week. Don was instrumental in and did a great deal of the fund-raising for the start of this university, which has become a wonderful Christian College in West Palm Beach. Don has written a book, MIRACLES AND WONDERS, to tell the story of the beginnings of the school. B.A. is sending Skippy a copy. Jean Sackett Warren lives in Winter Park, FL and enjoys spending time with her two granddaughters. The oldest one is at the UGA and the youngest at Wake Forest. Her daughters, Leigh '80, lives nearby; Elise '75, has done so much for Converse, lives in Birmingham, AL; Amy '81 lives in Richmond, VA. Mary Barker Warren says she eats, watches TV and enjoys playing Mah Jong. Her son and his wife live nearby and are a great help to her. Her daughter was coming soon with her three children. When Skippy called Mary Jane Hildebrand Stone, she had the privilege of speaking with husband, Billy, also. He has been retired as a manufacturing representative

for about ten years. Their daughter lives nearby and their grandson is a pilot in the Naval Air Force. Joan Schlaudt Wheeler and Skippy had a delightful political discussion since they are both Republicans. Joan is a very active one having been Republican Party chairman in her hometown of Gaffney for seven years. She writes letters to the editors and calls her representatives and senators. She does what we should all be doing. Sumter was well represented at an alumnae gathering in Columbia hosted by Madge Graydon Major '45 and held at Still Hopes. May Bynum Sharp and Alice Mobley Lipscombe attended—driven over by Alice's husband, Doug. Annabel Cribb Moses was there, escorted by her husband Herb, who stayed for the festivities. It was great to see Bess Wolfe Hill and Lucy Davis Coleman. The event ended with singing Converse songs, accompanied on the guitar by Madge. Send an email to Skippy as she recovers near her mountain home from a fall in late May.

## CLASS OF 1949

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011  
 Kitty Peeler Carson  
 401 Springdale Drive  
 Union, SC 29379, 864.427.3353  
 ladykc@bellsouth.net

Martha Paxton Beale and husband celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 19 – how wonderful. A celebration so many of us are not blessed with! During the summer, they vacationed at the Avon, NC beach. Martha has two new grandchildren. Paxton Eppes was born in Texas in March and Camilla Madeline Eppes was born in Chicago, IL on August 3. Martha's grandson Nelson Beale is attending Furman University this fall. Betty Wilson Patillo enjoys tennis with Sara Stonesifer Airheart and Nancy Weld Wise '56. Betty substitutes for the teachers/interpreters in the hearing-impaired program. Betty and her husband



Miss Gee as Dean of Students, a position she held from 1916-1944

enjoyed being "snow birds" for two months in Bonita Springs, FL. I (Kitty) attended the Golden Club luncheon on the Converse campus on December 6. I was delighted to see Mary Johnson Nanney Brady and Marianne Ellison Bartram at Golden Club at this year's reunion weekend. I did hear a very disappointing statistic at reunion. It is that only 18% of alumnae had given to the annual fund this year. That is a very low showing. If it is not increased, corporations will not be very impressed. I plead that any of you who have not given this year to the annual fund, please do so, if even a little, to help with that percentage. I am just back from my 15-day time-share in Puerto Rico, followed by a Caribbean cruise. Now I look forward to time at Litchfield Beach, going to a grand's graduation in Winston Salem and dancing' as fast as I can to enjoy what's left of this one life! Please send me some news for the next magazine. It will only cost you the price of a stamp and give priceless pleasure to your old buddies.

## Remember when...1945



## Alumnae Events



Rock Hill, SC Alumnae Event at the home of Martin and Harriet (Sister) Marshall Goode '59 on October 15, 2009. Event was co-hosted by Toy and Grazier Connors Rhea '74, Woody and Laura Goettee Livingston '71, Albert and Judy Bell Oliphant '73 and Mark and Teresa Miller Thomas '83



Festival of Lessons & Carols, Converse College on December 3, 2009



## IN MEMORIAM

Rose Marie PLATT Edwards Ellison '50, March 16, 2010

Agnes COATES Riddle '51, August 29, 2009

Nancy PHIFER Rainer '51, October 24, 2009

Louise WARREN Fuller '52, October 8, 2009

Jean OVERTON Derring '53, July 26, 2009

Patricia RAMSAY Oliver '54, April 26, 2010

Eugenia "Genie" HOOD Temple '55, January 21, 2010

Mary Jane BULLUCK Daniel '56, June 13, 2009

Louise WITHERS Huggins '56, March 7, 2010

Sandra CROSS Mamoulides '58, January 3, 2010

## SYMPATHY

Ann RATTERREE Herlong '51 on the death of her daughter, Anna Kate HERLONG '78, March 14, 2010

Margaret BURKS Fishkin '52 on the death of her husband, Henry W. Fishkin, September 15, 2009

Virginia VANCLEVE Cassell '52 on the death of her husband, John W. Cassell, June 15, 2008

Diane DEWEY Leyburn '53 on the death of her husband, Boyd H. Leyburn, Jr., June 5, 2009

Marjory POULNOT MacLean '54 on the death of her sister, Mary POULNOT Neff '46, April 29, 2010

Nancy BOSTICK Parks '56 on the death of her husband, The Rev. Dr. Robert Ray Parks, October 18, 2009

Mary OELAND Alexander '56 on the death of her husband, Thomas Herbert Alexander, November 6, 2009

Eleanor WEST Stalvey '56 on the death of her son, Vic Ruble, March 6, 2010.

Bettie Jane WOODWARD Grant '56 on the death of her husband, Hoke S. Grant, Jr., January 2010

Eleanor CULLUM Studley '57 on the death of her husband, Robert V. Studley, Sr., August 26, 2009

Julia HENDERSON Oates '57 on the death of her sister, Rosa Henderson Murray, January 11, 2010

Kay HEDRICK Parker '58 on the death of her husband, William Freeman Parker, Jr., January 19, 2010

Wesley SMITH Poe '58 on the death of her husband, Alvis Bynum Poe, Jr., December 13, 2009

## CLASS OF 1950

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Mary Alice Ingram Busch  
1509 Cherokee Road  
Florence, SC 29501, 842.662.1622

Barbara Bedenbaugh Jeffords, Carolyn Duer Pennell and Dorothy Ormond Grier attended the Golden Club Luncheon on April 23 for Reunion 2010. Over 60 Golden Club members attended and welcomed the Class of 1960 to the Golden Club.

## CLASS OF 1951

60<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Priscilla Beard Blosser-Rainey  
Post Office Box 706  
Timberville, VA 22853, 540.896.9931  
prisrainey@hughes.net

Make plans to join the Class of 1951 on campus for Reunion 2011. Hope to see you then!

## CLASS OF 1952

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Suzie Earnhardt Smith  
370 Montgomery Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.582.2415  
sesmas@charter.net

## CLASS OF 1953

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Marilyn Mateer Sherrill  
114 Briarwood Court  
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.583.8066

## CLASS OF 1954

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Betsy Shepherd Ancrum  
35 Honeysuckle Woods  
Lake Wylie, SC 29710, 803.831.0205  
or 704.585.7784  
bancrum@bellsouth.net

☛ Margaret Jackson Bundy  
518 Briarwood Road  
Lancaster, SC 29720, 803.285.6002  
mjbundy@comporium.net

☛ Ann Douglass Nichols  
205 Birchwood Drive  
Union, SC 29379, 864.427.3647

Becky Beam Chamberlain and Don are moving into a retirement home, and thinning out her books has Becky in a stew. Marjorie Williams Erich broke her wrist in April but happily, the cast comes off in June, as there are wedding bells in her future. In late July, she will become Mrs. John Fiorilla, and afterwards she and John will travel for three weeks in Europe by train. Marj has sold her old family home in Jacksonville and they will live in Cinnaminson, NJ. Frances McDaniel volunteers as a docent for the Jamestown-Yorktown (VA) Foundation and sings in the choir of Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg in addition to being involved in a number of music associations. Dee Miller Williams has a master florist degree and belongs to the Texas State Floral Association. Jane Fleming Brennecke does volunteer work at her church and a hospital in



Reunion 2010  
Class of 1950

Greenville, SC, and is active with Meals on Wheels. Margaret Jackson Bundy is busy with her church and with garden clubs; plus she is on the Lancaster County (SC) Library Board and is chairman of the SC State Library Board. After Converse, Liselotte Schmidt went to the University of Munich, Germany, as a Fulbright Scholar. For 43 years, Dr. Schmidt was on the music faculty of universities in NY, IL, MI and PA, and is retired now. She belongs to so many musical associations it would take the whole column to name them, but those of us who heard her organ recital during our 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion weekend can attest to the fact that she deserves every accolade she has received. Tunk and I (Bet), having recently lost both of our elderly Golden Retrievers, have been dumb enough to start over with a pair of eight week old Golden Retrievers in January – and are loving every tail-wagging minute.

## CLASS OF 1955

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Jo Ann Guyton Davison  
1722 Peggio Lane #1  
Missoula, MT 59802, 406.829.6376

Our 55<sup>th</sup> reunion...can you believe it? Fifteen of our classmates gathered on April 23-24 to celebrate. They were Harriet Reid Anderson, Frances Anne Carpenter Anderson (and husband Whit), Floride Gullede Carter, Nancy Brown Duke, Amaryllis Doar Duvall, Dorothy Hunter Ellis, Jane Davis Griffin, Amy Anderson Higgins, Jane Marie Hancock Jennings, Sara Bull Perrow, Pat Swetenburg Pickens, Jane Gray Williams Suggs, Eleanor Breazeale Troutman, Dorothy Kirkpatrick Trowell and Anne Orvin Yarborough. On Friday at the Founders Day Convocation, Nan Brown Duke introduced the Class of 1960, the newest members of the Golden Club. That evening there was a cocktail party and BBQ picnic on the campus for all reunioning classes. Saturday morning Floride Gullede Carter presided over our class meeting. Floride chaired the drive for our gift to the Converse Annual Fund in honor of our 55<sup>th</sup> reunion. Later, at the Awards Luncheon, it was announced that the Class of 1955 had the largest percentage of class members who had donated to the annual fund. After the luncheon, everyone adjourned to Nan Brown Duke's house to visit. Saturday evening there was a lovely class dinner at the Piedmont Club, which Nan had graciously arranged. Sounds like a good time! Let's all plan to attend our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2015. (A new reunion feature that may come in handy – there were vans to shuttle you around the campus.) Please let me hear from you. Your classmates want to know how and what you are doing.

## CLASS OF 1956

55<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Ann Hudgens Karegeannes  
137 Mabry Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864.579.3801  
karja56@aol.com

☛ Peglie Price Walter  
616 Wotan Road  
Columbia, SC 803.419.0986  
walter@umcsc.org

The Class of 1956 has experienced several losses in recent months. It is always a sad day when we have to give you this kind of news. There is a good news report from Maggy Combs Holland. As many of us are starting to count great grandchildren, we report the birth of Alexander Augustus Hideo Knott (Auggie), the son of her daughter Suzuko. We rejoice with Maggy and Al. Carolyn Byers Brockwell and husband Brock moved in January of 2009 to Cypress of Raleigh, a continuing care community. Carolyn continues her church music activities, and they still love seeing their beloved Duke basketball team play. Tolly Gilmer Shelton and Barrett continued their traveling ways in 2009, including a visit to Japan, including people and places she knew while living there in 1955. They saw Louise Green Winders during 2010 Rose Bowl events where their Alabama football team played. What a great time we had at Reunion 2010 when Christine Williams Hammond, Margo Hester Roff, Mary Oeland Alexander, Peglie Price Walter and Ann Hudgens Karegeannes enjoyed lunch together at one of the Golden Club tables on the Wilson Hall patio. We visited with friends from the Class of 1955 as well as from other classes. Peglie and Ann also attended the showing of the Julia Peterkin documentary in Twichell. Ann wishes some of you could be with her to enjoy all of the music events she attends at Converse. The Petrie School of Music is a Spartanburg treasure. We count on you, our classmates, to send your news so that we can share it. Get in touch and stay in touch.

## CLASS OF 1957

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Marguerite Gignilliat Old  
314 Jackson Avenue  
Lexington, VA 24450, 540.463.5436

Julie Henderson Oates lost her sister, Rosa Henderson Murray, in January 2010. Rosa chaperoned a group of us at Pawley's Island the summer of 1958. Julie and "Monty" have one granddaughter and four grandsons. Two of the five are in college. "Monty III," the oldest grandson, graduated from Christ School near Asheville, NC in May and will be a freshman at Hampden-Sydney this fall. Ruthie will be a junior at Wofford this fall. Ruthie made her debut in Spartanburg at The Assembly in December 2009. Stephen Colbert, son-in-law of Patti Moore McGee and husband, Peter, won a Grammy award for best comedy album in late January. Stephen was pictured by the press accompanied by his daughter, Madeline. Nancy Barron Smith's grandson Talley Smith graduated from Clemson with a degree in civil engineering in May. Tapp Latta Hancock, her grandson Alex, and son Frank attended the 2010 Awards Luncheon at Converse in April where Tapp's daughter, Tapp Hancock '80, received the 2010 Career Achievement Award. Daughter Tapp lives in California. Tapp's grandson Alex, from Tampa, FL, will be a freshman at Wake Forest this fall.

## CLASS OF 1958

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Elaine Finklea Folline  
740 Kilbourne Road  
Columbia, SC 29205, 803.254.9503



☛ Nancy Hayes Wilkerson  
2122 Norton Road  
Charlotte, NC 28207, 704.376.4776  
nwilkerson@bellsouth.net

To show that our class is still deeply appreciative of how well our College encouraged us in leadership training, you will read about some of us who worked for Converse in different ways. Jackie Mapp Farlow, past alumnae president, and husband Wray have two daughters living in Greensboro and a son in Charlotte, all of whom have children. Jackie said her 13-year-old is beginning to be serious about tennis, after being taught by her grandmother; but last fall she also caught two passes in touch football! Jackie enjoyed working with the Greensboro Opera Company and helped find ways to spend less money planning economical costumes, less furniture for sets, different musical equipment, and fewer players in the orchestra! Jackie loved being our alumnae president and felt honored to be asked; it could not have been better and she encourages others to enjoy a similar responsibility. Jackie had talked with Gene Goley Pruitt and Lynn Peterson Jones. Jackie and Ann Ward Houck enjoyed serving on the Alumnae Board together last year. Ann gets exercise with aerobic swimming and walking. She and Billy have 13 grands and some of their Christmas gifts were from The Doll Barn (Ann's store). Daughter Jackie teaches aerobics in Florence, and her son is on a running scholarship at Georgia Tech. Nancy Hayes Wilkerson's mom Elizabeth (at 98 years) and her helper won second place in the Halloween costume party dressed in opposite rolls! Daisy Barron Leland recently enjoyed meeting Anne Ferguson Caughman for lunch at Gilligan's in Charleston. With Anne were her daughter Mary from California with two of her children and son James from Tennessee. Joining them from Pawley's Island were Madeleine Caughman Ritchie and her younger sister Lee. Madeline said that her grandson and his wife were going to bless her with her first great-grandchild. Madeline is one of these ageless people. She just stays so young looking that it is hard to believe that she is going to be a great-grandmother.

## CLASS OF 1959

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ Sister Marshall Goode  
131 East Main Street  
Rock Hill, SC 29730, 803.327.4746  
harrietgoode@comporium.net

☛ Mary Jane Pearce Holland  
814 Greenway Drive  
Florence, SC 29501, 843.665.2003  
mjh@sc.rr.com

Rock Hill's alumnae party was at the home of Martin and "Sister" Marshall Goode, co-hosted by Grazier Connors Rhea '74, Laura Goettee Livingston '71, Judy Bell Oliphant '73 and Teresa Miller Thomas '80 and their husbands. Jayne Callahan Burton and husband Tom attended, plus 35 other Converse alumnae representing Classes of '46 through '06. Three music majors provided entertainment with piano, vocal and viola selections, confirming what we knew already: Converse continues to attract and educate extraordinary musicians! President Betsy Fleming reviewed academic news of the College and announced the new student apartments under construction. Jean Watkins Bay reports she had a visit from Ann Ledbetter Chamblee and husband Larry. Jean has lived in the Mobile Bay area for 30 years where she is still teaching English as a second language. Rosann Ferguson Hooks went to Belize again on a benevolent mission trip. She and her daughter enjoyed the Converse trip to Scotland last year. Not content to stay put for very long, Rosann also attended a PEO convention in San Diego and to Jackson Hole. Your class reporter (Sister) is pleased to report three successful art exhibitions in Atlanta, Columbia and Charlotte. Maybe the economy is turning the corner! Jayne Callahan Burton said she loved being our class rep for five years and is happy we are now Golden Girls! Roberta Thomas Smith attended the 150<sup>th</sup> year celebration of the Episcopal Church in St. Thomas and met former Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey and his wife. Roberta also visited Gee's Bend Alabama to see the quilts and met John McCain while there. In April, Anne Argo Sanders was presented the 2010 Sustainer of the Year Award in recognition of her professional accomplishments.



# 60's

## IN MEMORIAM

Anne LAURIE Smith '60, May 2, 2009  
 Barbara THOMAS Stone '60, August 11, 2009  
 Judy COGGINS Deyerle '61, October 2, 2009  
 Bettie Gatewood RODDEY Kistler '61, January 6, 2010  
 Carey SIMMONS Glover '61, October 28, 2009  
 Lucia MOIR Williams '62, November 25, 2009  
 Anne WATTS Rogers '63, January 12, 2010  
 Rebecca EAGERTON Willcox '64, April 25, 2010  
 Rosanne MAYBRY '64, August 18, 2009  
 Susan MILLER Houston '64, September 4, 2009  
 Earline Tapp McKown '65 MEd, January 19, 2010  
 Bettie MUNDEN Tulloss '65, September 12, 2009  
 Sally HARMON Caughman '68, July 15, 2010  
 Marigall MCCREARY Mathis '69, April 20, 2010

## SYMPATHY

Jo HARTNESS Guinn '60 on the death of her father, Thomas Signor Hartness, December 3, 2009  
 Carol ROTHROCK Bleser '60 on the death of her husband, Edward Johnson Bleser, March 18, 2010  
 Helen BRADHAM Furnans '63 on the death of her mother, Myrtle CRAVER Bradham Riggs '40, January 30, 2010  
 Patricia SLOAN Pace '63 on the death of her husband, Joe Robert Pace, February 18, 2010  
 Eleanor "Lyn" ROY Douglas '64 on the death of her father, Charles Thomson Roy, October 3, 2009  
 Clara SMITH Carter '64 on the death of her husband, Samuel Booker Carter, Jr., January 19, 2009  
 Beebe WOODSIDE '64 on the death of her mother, Mary BEEBE Woodside '41, February 20, 2010  
 Elizabeth "Lib" BURNETT Fleming '65 on the death of her husband, Dr. Harold E. Fleming, November 7, 2009  
 Elaine ELDER McCarrick '65 on the death of her husband, William Anthony McCarrick, February 8, 2010  
 Mary Emily JACKSON Vallarino '65 on the death of her father, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010  
 Susan PHIFER Johnson '65 on the death of her mother, Mary Adair Edwards Phifer, November 23, 2009  
 Fran TINSLEY Kay '65 on the death of her husband, James Edward Kay, February 8, 2009  
 Catherine ROY Stone '66 on the death of her father, Charles Thomson Roy, October 3, 2009  
 Laura JACKSON Hoy '67 on the death of her father, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010  
 Betty SCHMITZ '67 on the death of her mother, Elizabeth A. Schmitz, December 1, 2009  
 Ellen MCMASTER Nicholson '68 on the death of her mother, Frances Simpson McMaster, January 18, 2010  
 Fran TRACY-Walls '68 on the death of her mother, Jane Ellis Tracy, January 3, 2010

Kathleen MAYES DuBose '69 on the death of her sister, Patricia MAYES Hines '70  
 Floride OWENS McKoy '69 on the death of her mother, Harriett Norris Bull Wilder, December 23, 2009

## MARRIAGE

Elaine SMITH Thompson '63 to Donald Raymond Hrazdil, March 20, 2009

## CLASS OF 1960

Next Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

📍 Donna Culbertson Fritz  
 105 Sunline Place  
 Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864.579.3986  
 maximum1983@cs.com

We are Golden! The 29 "girls" and one "guy" who attended our Reunion had a great time. Virginia Dyson Hooper brought five life-size cutouts of Elvis Presley; he was with us at all of our events. All but three of us are retired, very involved with children, grandchildren and volunteering in various activities. Dean Guy received the Career Achievement in Music Award. His career in music spans from playing bands, clubs, and concert halls. A quote from Dean: "the years I spent at Converse were four of the happiest of my life." Diane Schenck Phillipott and husband Eric have a get-away apartment in the French Quarter in New Orleans. Connie Herbert Vinson works part-time in a health store; she and Ed have been on many mission trips. Paula Tribble Moseley and Jim traveled from Little Rock, AR. Martha Twitty Erwin, still as pretty as she was in 1960, and Bob live in Greenwood, SC. Emily Littlejohn Israel is retired but volunteers while husband Charles teaches at Columbia College. Dottie Waters Bryan, Anne Acker Childs, Mary Louise Rutledge and Betty Ann Land Hughes all live in Greenville, SC and are very involved in church work and other activities. Dottie serves as a Deacon at First Baptist; Betty Ann is an Elder at 4<sup>th</sup> Presbyterian Church. Frances Moffet Thackston, Jane Spratt McColl, and Leanna Young Parker live in Charlotte, NC. Mary Nance Koon and Frank live on Watts Bar Lake in Kingston, TN. Kaye Lemon Clark, Happy Henry, Martha Dowling Redick, Virginia McGowan Smith, and Robyn Lovvorn Gibson all live in the Columbia, SC area. All are retired but are very active in church and other activities. Betty Adams Morrissett and husband retired and moved to Chapel Hill, NC. Joyce Seeley Barnett is the Administrative Assistant at The Boys Latin School of Maryland. Betty Sykes Henderson volunteers at the Montreat Conference Center Book Store and Gift Shop. Jane McCutchen Brown lives on James Island, SC and volunteers with SC Archival Assoc., and other associations. Suzanne Butts Ferguson lives in Ft. Myers, FL and remains active in music. Henrietta Odell Humphreys has moved back to her home in Edgefield, SC. Susan Martin Hawkins enjoys living in Hilton Head, SC and working in the arts. Jackie Hackler Hollis, Janice Hudson Janiec and I all live in Spartanburg. Jackie loves painting and volunteers at her church and other associations. Janice is still

very involved in music. I am still in sales and active with the Charles Leas Center. Many thanks to the 11 husbands who attended our events and listened to all of our Converse memories. Stay in touch with me and all of our classmates.

## CLASS OF 1961

50<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

📍 Betsy Blythe Frazer  
 324 Nottingham Drive  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27517, 919.402.0409  
 ebfrazier@earthlink.net  
 📍 Frances Taylor Meissner  
 Post Office Box 274  
 Seaford, VA 23696, 757.898.4277  
 franmeissner@verizon.net  
 📍 Laura Simpkins Stock  
 4376 Hope Plantation Road  
 John's Island, SC, 29455, 843.768.9933  
 Lss3640@live.com

Franklyn Noll Skidmore and Rodger live in a tropical paradise with a giant Banyan tree, live oaks and other tropical plants in Sarasota, FL. She is a private voice coach working in her home and for professional theater. Franklyn is on the Apprentice Scholarship Selection committee of the Sarasota Opera. She plays the clarinet in two concert bands and chamber groups and plays tennis on two USTA teams. Diane Vandervoort Asbill and Carter have a beautiful new mountain vacation home near Grandfather Mountain. They enjoy hiking, exploring the mountain trails and entertaining their children and grandchildren. Last August, Betty Lake Orr attended a Women's Connection Conference in Montreat, NC, and she was pleasantly surprised to see her Converse Big Sister Sally Mason Maynard '59. Please keep Betty's daughter, Elizabeth, who had a double lung/heart transplant a few years ago, in your prayers. Betsy Blythe Frazer and Don went to Ireland in September to see their granddaughter Clara Elizabeth, born July 28, 2009 in Dublin, and then they toured Wales by car for 12 days with friends. Before leaving, they returned to Ireland to visit Clara again. Betsy said that seeing old castles and Iron Age tombs in Wales was almost as fascinating as baby watching. In November, Betsy saw Peggy Wilson Schneider at a charity luncheon. Although both live in the Chapel Hill area, they had not seen each other since Converse days. Laura Simpkins Stock and Ken have moved to John's Island, SC. They have a vacation home in Nelson County, VA, so that they can visit their grandchildren. Laura and Ken have six grandchildren including new grandson Jackson Edward Stock born in May 2009. Last fall Sally Watkins Marshall and Allen had a wonderful Converse-sponsored trip to China! They walked on the Great Wall, were awed by the terra cotta warrior excavations and loved the Yangtze River gorges cruise. Patsy Preacher DeBorde has a twelve-year-old granddaughter and lives in Columbia. Charlotte Gower Murray visited her aunt in California over Thanksgiving and went whale watching! She spent Easter in Houston visiting her daughter and grands.



## CLASS OF 1962

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

📍 Dixie Crum Stone  
 9419 Owl Trace Drive  
 Chesterfield, VA 23838, 804.748.4755  
 dixiestone@comcast.net

Jo Anne Plyler has lived in Jacksonville, FL since 1984. She previously lived for seven years in New Orleans, where she received her MSW from Tulane and worked as a Psychiatric Social Worker. In retirement Jo Anne especially looks forward annually to a week in Waynesville, NC with friends. In early October of 2009 Julie Blackwood Stevenson, Claudia Jowitz McCollough, Michael Holt Crawford, Mary Louise Chandler Kilroy, Randy New Armstrong and Dottie Henderson Wise gathered in Highlands, NC where Randy and Dottie have homes. (Terrell Cook McMillan, one of the regular attendees, could not come this year because she had the H1N1 virus.) The friends spent a long weekend together just catching up. This tradition started years ago when the late Bonita "Sister" Padgett McLaurin '60 invited them to Ocean Isle, NC. They look forward to this renewal of their friendship every year. I (Dixie Crum Stone) am very proud to announce that I have a new grandson, Peyton Steven Stone, who was born on November 20, 2009. Peyton is very healthy and joins his cousins Brinkley (17), Dylan (13) and his big brother Henry (3)! This past summer (2009), Claudia McCollough had the wonderful adventure of going to Israel. She went with her brother Tom, who is a theologian and a professor at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. He is also a widely known archeologist who leads digs in Israel. Tom took Claudia and nine of her friends on an absolutely fabulous inside look at Israel. They stayed in Jerusalem and Tiberius, traveled all over Israel, met with other archeologists, had great discussions with Israeli academics and got to know some of Tom's close Palestinian Christian friends. Claudia says, "It was incredible!"



## CLASS OF 1963

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

📍 Lou Hoffer Bright  
 1103 Sourwood Circle  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27517  
 919.968.1455 (H), 919.923.7367 (C)  
 📍 Betty Moore Henderson  
 13302 Tosca Lane  
 Houston, TX 77079  
 713.465.0940 (H), 713.254.8328 (C)  
 eliza.henderson@att.net  
 📍 Emily Kerr Stay  
 9619 Pekin Road  
 Novelty, OH 44072, 440.338.8221  
 estay@windstream.net

2009 was the year of the 50<sup>th</sup> high school reunion for most of us! Jean Montgomery Carney attended hers at Salem; Jean enjoys keeping up with friends on Facebook. Elaine Smith Hrazdil went to hers in Clemson. Anne Waters Green went to Greenville for hers. Eula Ligon Rosenberger had high school classmates as houseguests during their reunion in Roanoke. Nancy Thayer Jennings had a blast at hers in Greenwood. (Nancy and Larkin enjoy having son Larkin IV's family - with their two grandchildren - back in Greenville.) Marsha Bradley Brannen, Barbara Browne Langhorne, Henrietta McNeal Smith and I (Betty Moore Henderson) were the Savannah High contingent at Converse our freshman year. Our mutual reunions have traditionally been on Thanksgiving weekend - one reason I've never gone. The 50<sup>th</sup>, however, is a milestone, so Marsha, Henrietta and I attended in a reunited blaze of glory! (Marsha and husband Perry live in Savannah, where Perry has been a judge for 30 years. They enjoy sharing a vacation home in north Georgia with their four grandchildren. Henrietta is also a long-time Savannah resident and businesswoman. Barbara and husband Chill have lived in Washington, DC, forever. Barbara took a trip to Venice with both their sons last July, proclaiming it "Heavenly, but HOT!") Ann Farmer Lascell and husband plan to spend retirement

traveling to music festivals, playing their hammered dulcimers. Retired Mary Brooks Upchurch enjoys gardening, volunteering and occasionally relaxing at her NC lakeside condo. Susan Speare Durant lives in Lexington, KY and works for the Kentucky Attorney General. Becky Ellis moved to NYC after graduation, married a New Yorker, worked for IBM for 30 years and has lived on Staten Island since 1978. She wants us to visit on our next trips to the Big Apple! (But, we must now call her by her given name, Rebekah.) A 2010 update: Anne Waters Green, her husband Jim, my friend John Miniutti and I took a wildly adventurous trip to Peru and Ecuador this past April/May. Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands were the prime attractions and involved some serious clambering over Andes boulders and island lava beds. Send us your news. Communicate! "Converse ladies" need to stick together. Betty

## CLASS OF 1964

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

📍 Liz Harkins Biosca  
 807 S Mountain View Circle  
 Johnson City, TN 37601, 423.926.9897  
 ehbiosca@hotmail.com  
 📍 Sarah Miller McDaniel  
 1140 Pilot Boy Road  
 Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487, 843.559.7267  
 Sarahmcdaniel@bellsouth.net

More from our 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion: Rosanne Dargan Brasington retired two years ago and has five grandchildren. Reecie Smith Wilkes retired after 36 years at Spartanburg Day School and has four grandchildren. Dorothy Correll Wellons loved seeing her Converse friends who came to her wedding in slips and overcoats! Pat Parsons Hickerson retired after 32 years in the Army. She is our class two star Major General! She and Dennis live in Arlington, VA. Sandy Pickens Wagner is in Atlanta and has a home with husband Paul in Gramling. She gets to see B. Kennedy Durham and Ellen Holmes Gramling. She visits with her former roommate Dottie Pratt-Thomas Leonard. June McIntosh Uhler and Burnham announced the arrival of their sixth grandchild. Liz Harkins Biosca and Rod have their first grandchild named Tripp. Liz's son is doing a residency in Birmingham, AL. B. Kennedy Durham's son is also in Birmingham doing a fellowship in Hemopathology. Ann Glascock Lindsay is in Atlanta, has three grandchildren and has taken up painting. She gets to see a lot of Lynn Perry Young who lives in Atlanta and has 11 grandchildren. Sally Riddle Marsh and Howdy are in Greensboro and have four grandsons. Debbie Cameron lives with husband Jeff Hallett in Del Ray Florida and Corolla, NC. She has eight grandchildren. Ellen Holmes Gramling has six of those very "grand" children. She continues to be very involved in the Hospital Foundation and newly formed Hospice. Barry Mitchiner Caldwell and husband Went divide time between Nashville, TN and Boca Grande, FL. Their four daughters have eight grandchildren. Henrietta Hughes Ouzts is in Hickory, NC. Her husband

(Continued)

## CLASS NOTES



(Continued)

retired from the ministry. **Sally Kerr Overcarsh** is in Spartanburg. She is painting and is blessed with four grandchildren. **Sarah Evans Allen** has a grandson in NC so we know where to find her and Mitch. **Anne Mayo Elliott** and Stewart were at the reunion. Anne is still working part time at the law firm and does mentoring in a scholar program in Spartanburg. Send News! Sarah and Liz

## CLASS OF 1965

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

☛ **Peggy Clotfelter Allen**

733 Glenwood Drive  
Athens, GA 31606, 706.540.6082  
margaallen@charter.net

☛ **Anne Coffey**

805 Northern Shores Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27455, 336.303.2496  
annecoffey2@aol.com

Our 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion in April was wonderful! Attending were: **Peggy Clotfelter Allen, Caroline Beattie Bowen, Cathy Holman Callahan, Marion Rivers Cato, Lib Burnett Fleming, Anne Rogers Gregory** and daughter (who looks just like Anne), **Ann Trammell Holmes, Ginger McKinney Jernigan, Harriet Scurry Johnson, Lovey Daniel Mottern, Mary Ann Remaklus Ready, Betty Rose Townsend Sexton, Mary Stewart Trogdon, Kathy Cohen Willard, Susan Brabham Des Portes, Nancy Asbill Falls, Carol Blackman Johnson** and myself (**Anne**). Ginger and Lovey accepted the "It's a Class Act" award for the most-money-raised. Lib Fleming received the Distinguished Alumna Award. We were excited to hear the announcement of the **Rene Sifly Nalley** and husband Jim's \$50,000 challenge. Marion and Wayland Cato gave our fabulous Saturday night Piedmont Club dinner. Heartfelt thanks for a wonderful ending to our Reunion! **Susu Phifer Johnson** and family were traveling and she was greatly missed. **Pam Harris Bilyeu** was to attend but illness intervened. Betty Rose and Mary Trogdon had their husbands with them, Tim and Bob, as well as Kathy Willard's husband, Ben. All were glad to see Kathy looking so very well after recovering from a stroke last summer. Peggy Allen baby-sits Martha's daughter Ella and son David is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation dentist in Athens. Caroline Bowen, President of The Connaught Group and The Carlisle Collection, stays busy in NYC. Ann Holmes is expecting her ninth grandbaby. Mary Trogdon has her pilot's license! Ginger Jernigan is getting ready for son Frank's wedding in July. Lovey is still the life of the party! Mary Ann Ready is busy traveling and spending time in Boston with her daughter. She sees **Cindy Clay Brunon** in Maine during the summers. **Anne Gordon Dickerson Harrison** is in Richmond, retired and assisting elderly people. **Nina Ross Cobb** teaches piano in her Clemson home. **Toler Yates Edwards** and Tony are in Charlotte after



Reunion 2010  
Class of 1965

spending 16 years in England. **Muff Caffey Harner** is a part-time instructor at Roper Mt. Science Center. **Thomasine Harvin Rogas** lives in Santa Monica, CA. **Elaine Elder McCarrick** has retired from Mary Baldwin College. My granddaughter Morgan (10) received an honorable mention in the Piedmont Young Writer's Celebration in Greensboro, NC. There are those in our class who have courageously met health and life challenges. Please keep those known to you close to your hearts. Anne

## CLASS OF 1966

45<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ **Carol Geyer Furtwangler**

822 Robert E. Lee Blvd.  
Charleston, SC 29412, 843.795.8314  
zandria60@hotmail.com

☛ **Dianne Kennedy McLees**

275 Gunning Road  
Tryon, NC 28782, 828.859.6145  
rmclees@windstream.net

**Robin Langston Gorman** recently "retired" from Still Hopes Episcopal Retirement as Director of Development and Public Relations, deciding it was time to build her own business and seek flexibility in her schedule. She is doing fund-raising and public relations under Langston-Gorman & Associates, LLC, writing for business publications, and, "I love it! Thank you, English Department." Robin is currently president-elect of the Columbia Rotary Club with the responsibility of booking speakers for a year. President Betsy Fleming spoke in October. "Of course, she wowed the members! We are so fortunate to have her as our President." Robin and her husband Mike have been empty nesters for quite a while. Son, Hunter, is a physician in Baltimore and son, Langston, is the CEO of Columbia Cardiology Consultants, but they are thrilled to have four grandsons and a granddaughter on the way. "One should never underestimate the joy of being a grandparent. I hope our granddaughter will attend Converse." **Jane Pitts Autrey** writes she returned from Belgium where she spent Thanksgiving with her daughter Dawn and family. They prepared a

Thanksgiving dinner on Friday, complete with turkey and stuffing, for a combination of Americans, Belgians and Brits. Granddaughter Gracie "is precious, crawling everywhere now, still a happy baby." **Cleo "Chippy" Everhart Graham** and her husband Bill have retired from Graham's Flowers, the family business in Union, SC. They have a mountaintop vacation home overlooking Tryon, NC, and they occasionally see Ray and Dianne McLees at various art and music events. Late last July, **Dianne Kennedy McLees** and husband Ray spent a week in the Colorado Rockies visiting with their three children and enjoying a few days at the Lyons, CO, RockyGrass bluegrass festival. Ladies, Dianne and I would be so grateful if you would e-mail or snail mail your news and comments. If not, we know where you live and will haunt you and your family until you contact us! Love to all, and here is to a happy summer. **Carol G. Furtwangler**

## CLASS OF 1967

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

☛ **Margot McCord Campbell**

204 Glenroy Court  
Flat Rock, NC 28731, 828.697.8435  
margotcampbell@mindspring.com

**Elvy Talley** is still knee deep in settling her mother's estate. She and her sister are quite a team – all that Converse training plus good parenting. She is a grandmother again; Bradley Banks Bryan was born in May. That makes three little grandsons. **Lucia Cleveland Johnson** had lunch with **Nancy McCall Poyner, Judy Gordon Collier** and **Theo Newsom Greene** in Birmingham a few months ago. She also had lunch with Polly Hill Woodham '51 while in Asheville, NC during the summer. She is now getting ready to participate in a five mile walk for the March of Dimes on November 22. Lucia's stepson, Brad Johnson, was inducted into the Western North Carolina Hall of Fame during a ceremony at Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC. **Ginny Cleveland Walker** is still living in Columbia, SC with her two boys near by, Bryan Jr. and Cleve. She sees **Memi Speth Kinard** and **Ansley Williams Strifling** often.

**Nell Stevenson Chastain** and her husband will be celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on December 6 and will take a trip to Bermuda. **Becky Gould Gibson** read her poetry on November 3 at Converse College and has been named North Carolina's Gilbert-Chappell Distinguished Poet for 2009-2010. **Richie Wilkinson** reports that last summer she spent four months in Cedar Mt., NC, enjoying her completed art studio as well as the Brevard Music Festival. November was also busy for her in the Carolinas because she joined the Brevard Antiques Mall. At the mall she maintains a space of interesting old things as well as antique furniture similar to what she has in Country Antiques in Travelers Rest, SC on Highway 25. The second week-end of November she participated with her recent paintings in the Greenville Open Studios event at Magnolia Inn also in Travelers Rest. She returned to CA to enjoy the holidays with her son and husband. She is working at Drum and Company in San Francisco about three times a month.

## CLASS OF 1968

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

☛ **Barbara Baker Kennedy**

4400 Dewees Court  
Raleigh, NC 27612, 919.782.9459  
BKennedy8@nc.rr.com

☛ **Carol Early Graham**

727 Alta Vista  
Vista, CA 92084, 760.758.7615  
earlygram@earthlink.net

☛ **Caroline Grimball**

109 Walden Court  
Columbia, SC 29204, 803.782.5828  
caroline5828@bellsouth.net

☛ **Ann Wallace Nichols**

6607 Greenville Highway  
Brevard, NC 28712, 828.884.7762  
AVWallace@bellsouth.net

**Elisabeth Marchant** has launched a new enterprise in Atlanta, GA. "Womanetics" www.womanetics.com is an online magazine, organizing live events that provide a forum for open discussions and thought-provoking new perspectives on women's issues. **Ada Anderson Snow** and husband Borden made their annual trek from their Westport, MA home to Brevard, NC, for Thanksgiving holidays. Ada teaches Adult Basic Education at a community college where she prepares English-as-a-Second-Language students to take the GED. Daughters Kate and Sara work for the US State Department. Sara is studying Serbian in preparation for a two-year assignment in Montenegro, and Kate is back in Washington after serving for three years in Afghanistan and India. Stephanie works for the UN and lives in New York with her husband and two daughters. **Dr. Pam Johnson Drummond**, retired math professor, has been singing with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus for the past 18 years. They have been invited to go to Germany to sing with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra for the third time!!! They will be singing Brahms "A German Requiem" in

German. **Ann Wallace Nichols** visited Converse to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new apartment-style senior dormitory. Contributions to "The Class of 1968 Capital Initiative" are still accepted so if you have not made your pledge please contact me (Ann Wallace Nichols) for information on this class project. We hope to name a suite of rooms in this lovely new building.

## CLASS OF 1969

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

☛ **Cathy Riley Howle**

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Darlington, SC 29540, 843.393.7317  
chowle47@aol.com

☛ **Ashley V. Fine Nagle**

301 Kirk Lane  
Media, PA 19063, 610.565.4483  
avfnagle@hotmail.com

☛ **Cissy P. Smith**

3015 Rhodenhaven Drive NW  
Atlanta, GA 30327, 404.352.5249  
csmithstepahead@aol.com

If you did not attend our 2009 reunion – it was spectacular! We hope you will consider coming to the next one. There is so much news to tell we will have to send it to you as an e-mail or snail mail. Here is a sampling of just some of the news we have gathered. **Janice Mayo Spessard** tells us she is a

"retired golfer." **Betsy Daniel Sellers** is head of the Math Dept at Ashley Hall. **Dottie Missbach Kurtz** has moved to Madison, GA to be close to family. **Julie Huhn Michau** and her husband are owners of The Old Point Inn in Beaufort, SC. **Fran Lentz Beaty** is still teaching and is the proud grandmother of four boys. **Margaret Shore Roark** had open-heart surgery in late May and is doing well. **Carole Johnston Cumming** is a piano teacher and pianist for her church and has three grandchildren. **Bambi Dobbins Martin** is retired, but keeping busy and young with her grandchildren in Greenville. **Sally Lesesne** lives at Daufuskie Island, SC and is self-employed. **Caroline Lemley Hedrick** moved to Williamsburg, VA this past summer. **Maxie McDuffie Haltiwanger** is the Director of Marketing and Communications for Haynsworth, Sinkler, Boyd PA in Columbia, SC. **Adelaide Capers Johnson** still works at Converse and has two grandchildren, Addie and Sam. **Melissa Daves Johnson** continues to serve Converse on a part-time basis. Melissa and her husband entertained us royally at their home in May. Even Modine was there! **Sally Evans Lockwood** and Melissa represented our class well at the 2009 reunion – Sally received the Career Achievement Award and Melissa was the recipient of the Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award! We are so proud of you! Send us your news and your e-mail address so we can include you in the next class notes and e-mail the latest news from your classmates to you!

## In Memoriam

### Sara "Sally" Williamson Harmon Caughman '68 1946-2010

Interior designer and businesswoman Sara 'Sally' Williamson Harmon Caughman '68, beloved wife of Marvin Jennings Caughman and mother of Joe and Sara, died Thursday, July 15, 2010.

She had been an active interior designer at Pulliam-Morris Interiors in Columbia since 1972, acquiring the company in 1985. She served as the company president and chief executive officer, growing the company along with her three partners from eight employees to as many as twenty-five.

At Converse, Sally served as president of the Alumnae Association (1992-1994) and a member of the Board of Trustees (1993-2003) where she served as a member of the Buildings and Grounds committee of the Board. She served as a panelist for 'Focus on Women' during the Centennial Year Celebration (1988) and was named a member of 'The Converse 100' (1989). She served as a consultant in the renovation of several buildings at Converse and assisted with the redecoration of Blackman Lobby in the Petrie School of Music and Twichell Auditorium. In 2008, Sally was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award from Converse College.





# 70's

## IN MEMORIAM

Hazel Keaton LINDER '70 MEd, July 1, 2009  
 Patricia MAYES Hines '70, May 29, 2010  
 Bonnie ASHLEY Harris '71, May 19, 2009  
 Willie Elizabeth O'Shields CRAIN '71 MAT, August 29, 2009  
 Wanda P. GARRETT '72 MEd, April 2, 2010  
 Amy Jo ESTES '73, August 11, 2009  
 Julia MCLENNAN Izlar '76, August 29, 2009  
 Alice FLOWERS Cobb '77, October 17, 2009  
 Anna Kate HERLONG '78, March 14, 2010  
 Steven W. Linder '78 MAT, September 23, 2009

## SYMPATHY

Patty DOWNES Johnson '70 on the death of her mother, Mary "Bernie" Bergdall, December 9, 2009  
 Keysie FEREBEE Maddox '70 on the death of her father, Oscar B. Ferebee, Jr., May 21, 2010  
 Keysie FEREBEE Maddox '70 on the death of her mother, Mary Elizabeth Keys Ferebee, May 16, 2010  
 Sue MORPETH Clark '70 on the death of her mother, Babs Morpeth, November 26, 2009  
 Robin BOYLE McLeod '71 on the death of her mother, Nancy Robinson Ruff Boyle, May 27, 2010  
 Lyn ESTES '71 on the death of her sister, Amy Jo ESTES '73, August 11, 2009  
 Lanie KELLY Trout '71 on the death of her brother, David Michael Kelly '05 MAT, March 11, 2010  
 Katrina S. RILEY '71 on the death of her mother, Kathryn Sprott Riley, November 22, 2009  
 Candace FLEMING Chazen '72 on the death of her brother, Dr. Harold E. Fleming, November 7, 2009

Candace FLEMING Chazen '72 on the death of her mother, Marie Williams Fleming, May 12, 2010  
 Ann Richards MCCALL Crenshaw '72 on the death of her mother, Carolyn Elizabeth Heriot McCall, May 6, 2010  
 Nancy Welcome PHIFER '72 on the death of her mother, Mary Adair Edwards Phifer, November 23, 2009  
 Mary Gwathmey SWANN '72 on the death of her father, The Rev. Sydney Chaille Swann, Jr., February 16, 2010  
 Sue WYATT Holmes '72 on the death of her mother, Harriet Bertine Wyatt, November 29, 2009  
 Glenda ATKINSON Coker '73 on the death of her father, Dr. William James Atkinson, Jr., March 28, 2010  
 Katherine KLIM Lischerong '74 on the death of her husband, Mathias "Matz" Lischerong, April 13, 2009  
 Betsy Allsobrook MCCALL '74 on the death of her mother, Carolyn Elizabeth Heriot McCall, May 6, 2010  
 Deborah MOORE Haydon '74 on the death of her husband, Robert Alan Pollock, February 20, 2010  
 Mary ASHMORE Hagan '75 on the death of her father, Dr. Charles DeLoach Ashmore, September 9, 2009  
 Mary ASHMORE Hagan '75 on the death of her brother, Richard Fielding Ashmore, May 1, 2010  
 Sandy KOPP Roberts '75 on the death of her mother, Mary Schildknecht Kopp, October 18, 2009  
 Lynn EDWARDS Hrubik '76 on the death of her mother, Rose Marie PLATT Edwards Ellison '50, March 16, 2010  
 Rachel JACKSON Gandy '76 on the death of her father, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010

Susan BECKHAM Zurenda '77 on the death of her father, Henry Gooch Beckham, Jr., December 13, 2009  
 Susan CAUBLE Brown '77 on the death of her father, Dr. Herman Woodrow Cauble, Sr., April 25, 2010  
 Susan MCCALL Britt '77 on the death of her mother, Carolyn Elizabeth Heriot McCall, May 6, 2010  
 Mary PEARCE Wilson '77 on the death of her father, Phillip Edwards Pearce, October 22, 2009  
 Sheridan SIMS Mann '77 on the death of her father, Henry R. Sims, September 19, 2009  
 Kay FERGUSON Theis '78 on the death of her sister, Lisa Ferguson Arrieta, February 1, 2010  
 Jeanne JACKSON Mize '79 on the death of her father, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010  
 Susan "Woozie" JONES Dell '79 on the death of her husband, Allan Cooper Dell, Jr., July 31, 2009  
 Margaret PLASTER Stovall '79 on the death of her father Harold Edwin Plaster, Sr., January 2, 2010

## MARRIAGES

Laura RANDLE Gainey '77 to Sterling Hancock, April 17, 2010  
 Brenda LADD Moore '79 to John Woodcock, November 1, 2009

## CLASS OF 1970

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

Janice "Smack" Mack  
 6 Indigo Cove  
 Greensboro, NC 27455  
 janicesmack@bellsouth.net  
 Lynn Hicks Mitchell  
 1004 Mulberry Road  
 Martinsville, VA 24112, 276-632-4232  
 ethmitch@gmail.com

Our class reunion was GREAT! LOW in turnout, HIGH in fun! The Six Chicks attending thoroughly enjoyed being together and we all agreed: returning to Converse is rejuvenating! Those attending had the following news. Anne Jones Dickerson lives on a 35-acre horse farm and works for an auto transporter as both a rep and an office manager. She and her late husband, George, have two daughters, Katie and Megan, who live nearby. After snowplowing 52 inches of snow this winter, Anne hopes to retire to a warmer place one day! Dianne King Gossett and husband, Holman, are as happily married as ever and live in Spartanburg. They have six children, one of whom is deceased, and two grandchildren. Diane works part-time for Holman's law office and they both share a deep faith. Mary Hope Glascock Rhodes and husband, Richard, live in Spartanburg. They have two sons and a daughter and enjoy being involved in church activities, gardening, and playing golf and tennis. She is most appreciative of our class's 45% participation in "It's a Class Act" fundraiser. Good job, everyone! Betsy Lingo Wooten is living in Mobile, AL, and has a 19-year-old daughter, Chelsea. She is a freshman at Auburn University. Betsy plans to return to the workforce soon as a Licensed Professional Counselor. Patty Downes Johnson and husband, Steve, added a lot to the reunion! They traveled to Sicily and the Amalfi Coast in May. Patty had updates on the following classmates: Bonnie Morgan Iseman's son, Hunter, will be married in Columbia, SC, in June 2010. Bunny Hicklin Johnson and husband, Pope, took a three week trip to Europe in May. Ann Owens has formed a team "The Irish Belles" to walk in the "Race for the Cure" in Washington, DC, on June 5. Susan Shaw Hulham is excitedly planning her daughter's wedding planned for this fall. Lynn Hicks Mitchell and husband, Roy, will celebrate their thirty-second anniversary in July. Older daughter, Mary Lyons (29) lives in Raleigh and Laurie (28) will attend graduate school this fall to study Urban and Regional Planning. Smack Mack and Claire Hailey Hall were unable to attend due to last minute health issues. You were missed! Please stay in touch, Classmates!

## CLASS OF 1971

40<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

Jane Byrd Melton  
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 janemelton@triad.rr.com  
 Mindy Thompson Orman  
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 Nashville, TN 37220, 615.373.5965  
 ormanphoto@comcast.net

In Asheville, Liz Lesesne hosted Lynda Booth Corn, Russell Holliday, Page Parsons, Nancy Lide and Genie Cox Mann for a delicious lunch. Lynda Booth Corn and her husband George, who live in Montana, were coming to Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina to attend George's



Wofford reunion and decided to tie in visiting family and friends while in this part of the world. They decided to gather so they could all see each other while Lynda was visiting. Liz is cooking and entertaining for different functions in Asheville, NC. Lynda is teaching school in Montana. Russell and Hal are enjoying staying in their mountain home in Cashiers, NC and traveling a lot. Page is involved in antiques in Blowing Rock, NC. Nancy Lide is busy in Winston Salem, NC drawing and producing her own line of note cards and bridge items (they are great!). Genie and Bud Mann are busy working on their new mountain home in Cashiers, NC. They found their new home while visiting Russell for her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Bud says it was the most expensive birthday party he ever attended. Debby Daniel Swartz completed 31 years of teaching deaf children, with the last 14 years at a high school in Brunswick, GA; Debby and husband Don retired to Colorado in 2002, where they lease part of their land to cattle ranchers in return for them allowing them to help with the gathering and working each spring and fall. They have a log cabin in southwestern CO called Cotopaxi, along the Arkansas river. Debby, her husband Don, and two friends started a cowboy band 6 years ago. Bobbie Daniel talked with Tricia Armstrong Dressler. Tricia is still in Westport, CT but has a second home in Charleston, SC and hopes to eventually move back to SC. Tricia's brother is still in Greenville and she visits often. Mindy and Scott Orman are in Nashville, TN; Scott has retired from the Metro Health Dept and begun work for a non-profit United Neighborhood Health. Mindy is completing her 12<sup>th</sup> year selling real estate for Prudential and loves relocating everyone to Nashville so send your relatives her way. Their daughter Martha Grace works in Raleigh in the HR industry; Alice lives in New York where she rides her bike and juggles about four jobs; Will just completed his sophomore year at Boston University majoring in Italian and linguistics. Make plans now to attend our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion on April 15-16.

## CLASS OF 1972

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Jill Rushforth Coker  
 17 Collins Ridge Drive  
 Greenville, SC 29607, 843.281.0314  
 Florence Twitty  
 525 Woodland Street  
 Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.585.5018

Happy Summer! I (Jill Rushforth Coker) am delighted to return as our class representative. My thanks to Sissy DeWitt Carroll for all of her great work taking care of our class. I would like to welcome Florence Twitty to join me as our class representative. Please write or call us to let us know all of your news, trips, jobs, hobbies, weddings, grandchildren, seeing fellow alumnae, and whatever happens in your life, that you would like to share with us. Sally Williams Thompson is happily enjoying her first grandchild - a beautiful baby girl, Alexis, born in February. Alexis is enjoying the mural of jungle animals that her grandmother Sally painted in her nursery. Suzanne McCoy Young lives at Pawley's Island, SC and is preparing for her daughter's wedding in August of this year. I am delighted that she will be marrying my husband Tom's first cousin's (Martha Twitty Erwin '60) grandson Robert. Florence is also a distant cousin. We are looking forward to seeing the family and many fellow Converse friends. Florence Twitty continues her volunteer work in Spartanburg as well as sharing her special gift of arranging flowers at so many events. Please send Florence and me your news for the next magazine. Jill

## CLASS OF 1973

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Peggy Kelly Lancaster  
 510 Connecticut Avenue  
 Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.582.0587  
 plancaster@spart7.org

## Alumnae Events



Charlotte, NC Alumnae Event hosted by Marian McGowan Nisbet '62 on October 29, 2009



Johnson City, TN Alumnae Event hosted by Rod and Liz Harkins Biosca '64 on March 9, 2010



# 70's

## CLASS OF 1974

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Ⓡ **Amanda Horton Dorman**

6 Marsh Point Drive  
Savannah, GA 31406, 912.957.5809  
ahdorman@comcast.net

Ⓡ **Libba Elmore Rhoad**

308 Laurel Drive  
Lexington, SC 29072, 803.957.5809  
zqueen123@aol.com

## CLASS OF 1975

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

Ⓡ **Libby Knight Borders**

102 Marsh Spring Court  
Greer, SC 29650, 864.968.1429  
864.303.7041 (C)  
libbo04@yahoo.com

Well, if you missed our reunion, you really missed a grand time! There were about 25 of us and we did everything from talking ourselves silly (imagine that!) to lunches, dinners and lectures. The highlight had to be seeing **Berry Bate's** magnificent sculptures and hearing her describe how she created each one. The College has them on loan until March 2011. I hope you will have a chance to view them! **Sandy Kopp Roberts** lives in New Jersey and works in NYC. She had a visit with **Missy Moser Rankin** and **Robin Richards Hutchison** while on a trip to Chapel Hill. **Victoria Moore** lives in the San Francisco Bay area and is working on a masters in Sport Psychology. **Kathie Brewer Sherwin** wrote that her oldest daughter, Katie, is studying Biomedical Engineering at Cal Poly and her youngest, Elizabeth, is learning to drive! Missy Moser Rankin thinks she may be busier than ever now that her children are grown and living between Boston and Nashville. **Fran Barr Strickland** became a wedding planner for a few brief months! Her two daughters were married within ten months of each other! **Betsy McPhail Weathersbee** welcomed her first grandchild, Elizabeth Grace Barksdale, on July 23, 2009. Ford and I welcomed Bennett Davis Borders on April 16, 2010. Betsy and I are loving our new roles! It had been a while since hearing from **Elise Mullins Evans**. She wrote that she lives in Columbia and she and her husband have two daughters, Sydney, who is a student at USC and Carson, who is in high school. **Julie Forbes Lybrand's** daughter Leigh Ellen works in DC for Sen. Lindsay Graham; her twins, Laura and Rebecca, graduate next May on the same date but two different schools and states! What is a parent to do? I have agreed to remain your class representative so please keep me informed! I love hearing from you!

## CLASS OF 1976

35<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

Ⓡ **Rachel Jackson Gandy**

561 Old Field Road  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576, 843.651.3649  
gandyhouse@aol.com



Reunion 2010  
Class of 1975

Ⓡ **Christi von Lehe Sellars**

Post Office Box 132  
Pauline, SC 29374, 864.573.5099  
psellars@wildblue.net

My (**Christi von Lehe Sellars**) daughter and her husband are doing great! Katie is now over half way through her masters in nursing anesthesia. **Rachel Jackson Gandy's** daughter and son-in-law had another little boy that was born in February. Their son is engaged to a wonderful young lady that he met at Wofford. I teach **Janny Rawls DeLoache's** darling son, Thomas. I saw Janny and her husband at Wofford's Family Weekend. She looks great and is as cute and full of life as ever! **Jeannie Nissen King** is doing well and was college hunting with son, Davis. (Can Janny, Lee and I suggest Wofford?) **Lee Taylor Boyd** completed the National Capital Triathlon in Washington DC last summer. The entire US team helped raise \$2,500,000 for leukemia and lymphoma research treatment. There were 6,000 participants and our Lee was one of them. **Aline Allston Ferguson** was in front of **Haidee Clark Stith** at the drive-thru in Columbia. Aline's son Sam is at NC State after completing his last two years of high school at a pre-college in New England. Her daughter Amy is a horse-lover and is in high school in Blythewood, SC. Aline works at the SC Supreme Court. **Louisa Amis** is living and working in California. Her son Rob is in fifth grade and busy with soccer. Haidee's daughter Evelyn is in fifth grade too. Evelyn is being home-schooled and she is into contemporary dance and musical theatre. Who would think Louisa and Haidee would be doing the "soccer mom" routine at this age? When Haidee's daughter sang for the Robert Burns Society, she befriended another vocalist, classmate **Melinda Spencer!** Melinda teaches in Lee County and is president-elect of the Burns Society. Haidee received "Outstanding Woman of Achievement" award from Representative Nikki Haley for 2009. Haidee has left her position as executive director of the SC Business Initiative/Women's Business

Center and is now "Principal" at Stith Consulting Services in Lexington, SC. Please write when you have some news...and even when you do not! Christi

## CLASS OF 1977

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Ⓡ **Donna Kaiser Croft**

1110 Summersill Lane  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, 843.881.2924  
closjune@aol.com

Ⓡ **Lucy Hudson Stembridge**

5595 Sequoia Drive  
Forest Park, GA 30297, 404.361.7304  
lucysoprano@att.net

## CLASS OF 1978

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Ⓡ **Blanche Gramling Weathers**

Post Office Box 489  
Bowman, SC 29018, 803.829.3137  
blanchee@oburg.net

Ⓡ **Lee Ullman Hutson**

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lhutson@sc.rr.com

We lift **Barbara Duffy Feemster** up in prayer as she courageously, graciously and successfully fights a battle with breast cancer. A group prays for Barbara daily while we brush our teeth. **Sarena Dickerson Burch** reports a Converse group gathered last summer: **Susan Taylor Harris**, **Betsy Brewer Grimes '77**, **Ann Hendrick Moore**, **Julie Gaw Armstrong**, **Mimi Gabriel Compton**, **Margaret Lyles Rambish**, **Diane Buchan Whiteside**, **Marion Roberts Andrews**. Sarena loves being on the Converse Board of Visitors and thinks Betsy Fleming is doing a wonderful job. **Stacy Sumner Jesso** works for the Mint Museum in Charlotte, NC as director of development & marketing. Stacy talked to **Louise Strickland Wells** and saw **Ellen Simmons Schrum**. Ellen's son Davis is getting married in June; her

youngest married last year. Ellen is excited to have some girls added to her family of boys. **Julia Webb Davis**, **Jo Ellen Shiver**, **Suzanne Hughes Sullivan**, **Annie Horne Collins**, **Nancy McLendon Boynton** and **Page Morton** attended the Atlanta alumnae gathering in the home of **Sandra Shearouse Morelli** in October. Go on Facebook to see Suzanne Sullivan's paintings. Julia Webb Davis' Kathleen graduated from UGA; Piper will be a UGA freshman this fall; son, Alex, is a junior at UGA. **Mary Potts Foster's** daughter Landon married last year. **Suzanne Pickens** co-owns an on-line scrapbooking business, Flamingo Scraps, in Palatka, FL. **Kaki Manning Zeigler's** son Sanford is at MUSC in Charleston, SC. Son Townsend is abroad in graduate school; he plans to teach art history at the college level. **Cathy Propst Bourne** has two beautiful red-headed children at Clemson. **Jeannie Davis Powell's** son, Davis, graduated from Ben Lippen School; he'll attend Clemson this fall. **Susan Poston Shirley's** son Hugh is a rising junior at Heathwood Hall in Columbia, SC. **Julie Purcell Thompson** has her own interior design business. I have run into **Martha Chandler** a couple of times recently - she looks great. **Lib Laney Peebles'** last Christmas card had daughter Laney as Taylor Swift - cowboy boots and all! **Cathy Propst Bourne**, **Becky Airheart '76** and I ate dinner with **Linda Saunders** in February. Linda works in a research capacity for UGA. **Melinda Benson** attended an alumnae event on Pawley's Island, SC. We need to visit **Dawn Williamson Wilbanks** for a big reunion event. **Laura Dew Smith's** son Mills graduated from Wofford in 2009; Sarah is finishing her business degree from Johnson and Wales; Parrish is at Ole Miss. **Jane Taylor Lassiter** and Bob traveled to Italy in September to visit their daughter Ann Mills. Jane's son Robert graduated from Davidson and lives in Raleigh, NC. **Lee**

## CLASS OF 1979

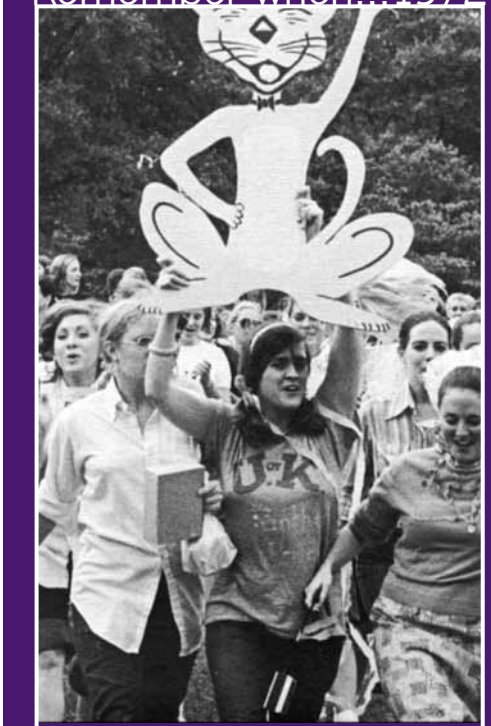
Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Ⓡ **Margaret Horne Darr**

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Happy Summer! Facebook gets credit for our Red Devil information! Hope it's correct! **Carolyn Moore Atkinson** is in Hartsville selling real estate and creating collage art and couture cards (she will be featured in SHE, a PeeDee area publication-look her up), **Vera Lynn Kellum Sheets** teaches junior high ELA (through music?) in Mobile, and **Nancy Bain Cote** found **Marjorie Polk Burnett** in her family-run outdoorsy store near Sewanee, TN. **Dianne Deaver Snodgrass** has been absent so long she's decided to invite us all to Savannah to hang out and catch up. We can stop by Sea Island in search of her roomie **Leesa Land Ray**, who otherwise makes her home in Decatur, AL. **Sarah Mercer Chatel** lives in Atlanta where, I understand, she has shown up in commercials. GO SARAH! I can tell through cyberspace that **Leigh Ann Mize** hasn't changed a bit! She is in Huntsville teaching, cooking, and dancing to rock and roll...gotta love the spirit! **Katherine Fragassi Eickson** was furiously stitching costumes in December for *The Nutcracker*, in which her daughter danced. **Monta Moody Anthony** and **Hunter McClintock Bell** decided at age 50 that living out their dreams must become reality, so they...drum roll...went sky diving in search of George Clooney's home. I just don't know which home they were seeking!! **Mildred Ragis Roche** is no doubt the busiest of us all keeping up with SIX children! **Ellerbe Page Halligan** and I cross paths every now and then...I don't even have to look up once I hear her precious laugh! Ken and I had a wonderful visit with **Anne Cushman Prettyman** and Jim at their mountaintop

## Remember when...1972



home in Ooltewah, TN recently! I understand **Mimi Wimberly Brown** is still in Roswell, close to **Kent Walters Pryor**. **Martha Chandler** and I have SAE sons at Clemson and share notes on them cute boys!! She is in Columbia working at USC Medical School. Be in touch and will share notes about our children next time. Best wishes for good health. Pray for each other. Love, Margaret

## Alumnae Events



Norfolk, VA Alumnae Luncheon at the Norfolk Yacht and Country Club on March 18, 2010. Event was organized by Debra Griggs '75



Birmingham, AL Alumnae Event hosted by Hank and Gina McGinnis Long '75 on March 4, 2010



## IN MEMORIAM

**Kelley HOLLABAUGH Bartses** '80, January 21, 2010

**Mildred NEAL Scott** '81, March 4, 2010

**Shirley Page POTEAT** '81 MAT, October 11, 2009

## SYMPATHY

**Dawn GILLESPIE Pierce** '80 on the death of her husband, James Kent Pierce, December 29, 2009

**Ann KIESAU** '80 MEd on the death of her son, Christian Anders Kiesau, August 9, 2009

**Karen CORBETT Cheatham** '81 on the death of her brother Cecil Clifton Corbett III, September 24, 2009

**Sally E. HERLONG** '81 on the death of her sister, Anna Kate HERLONG '78, March 14, 2010

**Susan MCDONALD Davis** '81 on the death of her mother, Cornelia Wright McDonald, January 3, 2010

**Kathy BAKER** '82 on the death of her mother, Nellye M. Baker, November 28, 2008

**Becky NUTTER Cassidy** '82 on the death of her mother, Delores Bacorn Nutter Deangelis, February 6, 2010

**Nancy PIERCE Lamberson** '82 on the death of her brother, James Kent Pierce, December 29, 2009

**Pamela J. WATSON** '82 on the death of her grandmother, Elise Quattlebaum Watson, January 17, 2010

**Robin WICKS Robinson** '82 on the death of her father, Wallace Wayne Wicks, January 15, 2010

**Hall HAYNSWORTH Bickmann** '83 on the death of her mother, Linda Mayes Haynsworth Osborne, January 27, 2010

**Barbara LINDSAY Hines** '83 on the death of her father, James S. Lindsay, November 25, 2009

**Elizabeth MCDONALD Dunn** '83 on the death of her mother, Cornelia Wright McDonald, January 3, 2010

**Lucie J. OWSLEY** '83 on the death of her brother, William Reese Owsley III, April 30, 2010

**Ouida PAGE Black** '83 on the death of her mother, Doris Downing Page, March 11, 2010

**Kathryn POE Duff** '83 on the death of her father, Alvis Bynum Poe, Jr., December 13, 2009

**Jan COTTER Jenkins** '84 on the death of her father, Leslie Arlen Cotter, February 4, 2010

**Teri TEMPLE Kirkland** '84 on the death of her mother, Eugenia HOOD Temple '55, January 21, 2010

**Marsha CUBBAGE Somheil** '85 on the death of her sister, Sandra Cubbage Greene, May 10, 2010

**Brenda HOLT Reiber** '85 on the death of her husband, William Stanley Reiber, February 25, 2010

**Kelley MALONEY Liggitt** '85 on the death of her father, James Matthew Maloney, October 12, 2009

**LeAnne ROWLAND O'Donnell** '85 on the death of her sister, Jane Elizabeth Rowland, May 23, 2010

**Angie KERHULAS Stanland** '86 on the death of her mother, Juliaette Burts Kerhulas, March 13, 2010

**Betsy MAMOULIDES Hockaday** '86 on the death of her mother, Sandra CROSS Mamoulides '58, January 3, 2010

**Alice FULLER Littlejohn** '88 on the death of her mother, Louise WARREN Fuller '52, October 8, 2009

**Bethea JONES Smith** '89 on the death of her father, Frederick Arthur Jones, June 10, 2009

**Ashley MACFIE Goodlett** '89 on the death of her father, Dr. Jefferys Ashe Macfie, Jr., December 7, 2009

## MARRIAGES

**Mindy MOORE Lanigan** '84 to John Glenn Barker, May 31, 2009

**Anne Connor GRAY** '85 to Mark Roberts, August 29, 2009

**LeAnne ROWLAND** '85 to Richard O'Donnell, October 10, 2009

**Angela Ruth BLACK** '87 to Cordes Lucas Drake, June 13, 2009

**Julie Marie POOLE** '88 to Dennis Martini, May 16, 2009

## BIRTHS

Melissa Townsend Mikell, January 15, 2010, daughter of Lee and **Emily FOLLINE Mikell** '84 Elizabeth Weishuhn, November 2009, daughter of Will and **Margaret Linn MOISE Weishuhn** '88

## CAREER CHANGE

**Katrina AUSTIN** '82, Catalog Librarian, Spartanburg County Library, Spartanburg, SC

## ADVANCED DEGREE

**Cathy FRONEBERGER Siarris** '84, DMA, University of SC, 2009

## CLASS OF 1980

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2015

📍 **Holly Holstein Caprell**  
205 Wagoncreek Drive  
Simpsonville, SC 29681, 864.963.5857  
holly.gcyo@gmail.com

📍 **Liz Hughes**  
6520 Benridge Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28226, 704.364.5205  
ncclassicdesign@aol.com

📍 **Margaret Craig Schafer**  
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Atlanta, GA 30327, 404.705.8562  
ga.schafers@comcast.net

Reunion Weekend 2010 was a huge success and everyone had a great time catching up. We finished our weekend together at **Lee Anne Davidson Williams'** beautiful home in Spartanburg. A special thanks, as well, to **Sissy Swann Ivey**, **Laura Satterwhite Hodge** and **Margaret Craig Schafer** and **Laura Correll** for their help with the food and the planning of our weekend. **Tapp Hancock** gets

the prize for traveling from California. She received the career achievement award at the luncheon on Saturday. Congratulations to Tapp! **Susan Secord Marion** received the Mae Kilgo Spirit Award. Susan lives in Chester, SC and is an interior designer at New South Interiors in Rock Hill. Stop in for a fabric swatch and a nice chat. **Leigh Warren Mycoff** and husband Bob are still happily living in Orlando, FL and continue to stay busy running the family plumbing business. **Margaret Capers Spratlin**, in Atlanta, has been to Haiti several times since the earthquake. She is actively involved in the relief effort. It was great to finally see **Holly Holstein Caprell** at a reunion. She and husband Jim live in Simpsonville, SC; they have two boys. Holly teaches music in the Greenville area. **Liz Hughes** has extended her creative talents into web design. What do a dentist, an interior designer, an accounting firm and a railroad have in common? Liz! **Laura Correll** has returned to Converse to pursue a degree in art history while continuing her work as a middle school guidance counselor. Hooray to **Carol Cowan Webb** for making it to a reunion! She has not changed a bit. She lives in Atlanta, GA and has a daughter who is attending college in the area. Several people have heard from **Anne Adams** who is alive and doing well in Nashville, TN. Facebook has turned out to be an amazing way for so many classmates to reconnect. We have a class page on Facebook - Converse College Class of 1980. Look us up and stay connected by becoming a member of the Class of 1980. Liz Hughes and Holly Holstein have agreed to help Margaret with class news. See you in five years.

## CLASS OF 1981

30<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

📍 **Lanie Folline Epting**  
146 River Birch Lane  
Columbia, SC 29206, 803.787.5359  
Lepting@mindspring.com

📍 **Martha Bell Smith**  
124 Hampton Crest Trail  
Columbia, SC 29209, 803.783.6684  
mbsmith458@sc.rr.com

Hi Red Devils! **Lanie** and I (**Martha**) had lunch with **Linda Frierson Perrow** and **Donna Broyles Glazer**. Linda, Donna and I all have high school seniors who will be heading off to Clemson, Tulane and Furman in the fall leaving us all with empty nests. Lanie is not far behind with a high school junior, who is already being recruited to play basketball in college. My family and I enjoyed staying with **Leslie Townsend Cottrell** and family in Carrolton, Georgia last summer while touring colleges with my son. Leslie's daughter, **Lara**, just finished her freshman year at Wofford and is in the same sorority as Linda Perrow's daughter, Charlotte. **Sally Herlong** has been at York Technical College in Student Services for 22 years; she teaches an accounting class, is president of the Habitat for Humanity board and will be going on a mission trip to Guatemala. **Constance Deal** lives

in the middle of a cornfield and is on the faculty at Black Hawk Community College in Illinois. She stays busy teaching violin lessons and playing with a piano trio and a string quartet at various events. **Glen Sumrell** is director of finance for Amgen, a large biotech company headquartered in California. She completed her MBA at UCLA in 2007. Glen's older son graduated in 2008 from the University of California and her younger son plays football at the University of San Diego. **Libby Campbell Patterson** lives in Hilton Head where her husband, Russell, just opened his own law practice. Libby has one daughter at Clemson and also has a high school senior and will be joining the empty nest club. **Kathy Young McDowell** and husband, Jeff, live in Slidell, Louisiana where Kathy is an assistant principal at an elementary school. They have two children, one in law school at William and Mary and the other at Ole Miss. **Kim Waugh Gravlee's** youngest-of-three started PC last fall. For those of us soon-to-be empty nesters, Kim says it definitely has its advantages. She and husband, Steve, ran away one night to attend a concert in Charlotte, NC. I recently caught up with **Nancy Stuckey Johnson** and found out she and my sister have been teaching together in Georgetown for years.

## CLASS OF 1982

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

📍 **Becky Nutter Cassidy**  
3320 Calumet Street  
Columbus, OH 43202, 614.261.6401  
bcassidy@hrblock.com

📍 **Holly Beach Hussey**  
12735 Morris Road Ext, Suite 300  
Alpharetta, GA 30004, 770.619.3369  
hbh123@bellsouth.net

**Jan Faggart Ashley**, husband Wallace, and their twins live in Smithfield, NC. Elizabeth and Wallace graduated from high school and are looking forward to college in the fall. Wallace earned his Eagle Scout Award and plays soccer and baseball. Elizabeth earned her Gold Award for Girl Scouts, is

on the swim team, and plays volleyball and soccer. Jan is already wondering what she'll do next year when they are gone! **Lara "Missy" Wheless** lives in San Francisco where she works as a Chaplain at the local Veterans Administration Hospital and at a local Hospice. She finds her work very fulfilling and hears some fascinating stories. In her spare time, Missy enjoys attending theatre. **Toni Guzzi Erdman** and her family live in Deltona, FL. Toni works with husband, Robert, in their dental office, and is also taking courses to earn her Master's in religious education. They have two boys in college and one son who just graduated from high school. After getting her Masters of Library and Science degree, **Katrina Austin** now works as a catalog librarian for the Spartanburg County library system. In addition to those responsibilities, she assists in collection development, specifically of sports books. Katrina raises pure-bred Chow Chows and enjoys music. She plays the flute, recorder and hand bells. **Missy Claytor Parris** lives in the Old Village of Mount Pleasant where she grew up. Her twins, Sam and Amie, are rising high school juniors. Both are great students. Sam is an outdoorsman and Amie's interest is art. **Cathy Richardson Sawyer** has so much to be proud of and thankful for this past year. Her son, John, returned from Iraq in October and will continue with college. Her husband, Don, got home from Afghanistan at midnight on Thanksgiving Eve! Their younger son, Andrew just graduated high school. Cathy works for Chesterfield County schools in VA as an Educational Diagnostician. Happy summer!

## CLASS OF 1983

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

📍 **Barbara Lindsay Hines**  
440 N. Cooper Lake Road SE  
Smyrna, GA 30082, 770.438.2018  
robbarb@bellsouth.net

📍 **Lou Pittman Lindsey**  
1122 Edisto Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.573.9191  
lou@eatatwades.com

Hi there friends. Can you say ROAD TRIP? **Cheryl Kirby Walter**, **Genie Eaton Weekley** and I took a very memorable ride down to Birmingham, AL to see our good friend **Mary Stricklin Lovell**. If anyone heard rumors of seeing two blondes and a red head dining on pizza on North Highland Avenue in Atlanta in mid March, they are true. I think Genie may have put pictures on Facebook. Anyway, we found Mary gorgeous and full of laughter as always and her sweet husband John played the perfect host to three women that still think they are in their early twenties. Mary continues to manage her brother's dentist office and John sells fire trucks. We hated to leave, but we vowed to make a return trip. We love you Mary! The road trip ended with Genie heading back to Charlotte to handle a massive dinner event for the YMCA and check on her husband John and children, Anna (18) and John John (15). Physical Therapist extraordinaire Cheryl headed back to Lake City to husband Ted, and children, Ben (20) and Grace (17). News flash to all of you 1983 grads, some of us are turning 50 this year! Yikes! Let us know if you have any exciting birthday celebrations or trips. If I recall the agreement Barb and I had, then this is the last installment of the 1983 Red Devil news that I will be submitting. Please feel free to send me or Barb emails, snail mail or phone calls and we can coordinate getting all the news that is news to all of you. Thanks! Love, Lou.

## CLASS OF 1984

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

📍 **Jody Cole**  
308 Jones Street  
Ukiah, CA 95482, 707.468.5811  
wildfair@aol.com

📍 **Lynn Gully Orlando**  
7205 Mira Mar Place  
Wake Forest, NC 27587, 919.554.8118  
lynn.orlando@magellancharter.org

📍 **Kevin Jenkins Plonk**  
3004-C Misty Harbor Circle  
Cramerton, NC 28032, 704.824.7827  
kjplonk@yahoo.com

Our class was well represented at John and **Liz White Calvert's** Memorial Service in January. **Palmer Davison Ball** writes, that before the service, **Marilyn Mery** hosted lunch bringing **Mary Witherspoon**, **Gayle Schrier Smith**, **Renee Rankin Jones**, **Michelle Nooney**, **Pam Buriemek**, **Marie Ireland Aimone** and **Karen Abele DeVore** together, sharing in their memories of Liz and John. **Mary Ruth Senn** works for Naval Facilities Engineering Command Atlantic, as a Physical Scientist/Environmental Engineer, Air, Asbestos and Lead. Who will be cutting, coloring and styling hair as a professional after graduating from cosmetology school in July? **Suzanne Hay Keim!** Suzanne's daughter, Ellis, at Wofford, hangs out often with Mary Hunter Beasley, **Mary Wood Payne Beasley's** daughter. Mary Hunter is at Clemson; she and Ellis get together often with Karen Abele DeVore's daughter, Amy and **Cara**

(Continued)





(Continued)

Lynn Desern Cannon's son, Will. Lou Springs Smith hosted a couple of "girls' weekends" with Kim White O'Quinn, Mary Milling Alexander, Laura Campbell Brown, Martha Lee McCutchen Cherry and Jan Cotter Jenkins. When Kim had foot surgery in January, they spent the weekend at Kim's house in Columbia, cooking for her. Kim is Director of Marketing for The Mungo Companies, a family-owned homebuilder in NC and SC. Kim's son Kevin is at Wofford and son Jason starts Duke graduate school this fall. Allison Sutton Fuqua ran into Penny Crocker Wasmund, who owns and operates a coffee shop in Summerfield, NC. Allison says that Penny's shop is adorable and FUN! Allison's daughter, Caroline, just finished her first year at Clemson. Daughter Sarah Randall will be a senior at Saint Mary's in Raleigh. Allison is busy traveling to South Beach to assist with the BB&T and Colonial Bank merger. Mindy Lanigan Barker got married after a ten year run with single motherhood. Lisa Bell Weisiger and her husband, Ed, are now empty nesters! Daughter Amanda is a sophomore at Vanderbilt; she is interning this summer with Alberta Ferretti in New York City and spending fall semester in Rome. Daughters, Marshall (17) and Grace (15) are at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA. Lisa encourages everyone to visit the Converse campus soon; that the new senior housing is incredible! Join our Facebook page at "Converse Class of 84".

## CLASS OF 1985

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

- Ⓡ **Krisila Newman Foster**  
225 Mountain Range Road  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864.814.4476  
krisilafoster@charter.net
- Ⓡ **Vandy Major McFaddin**  
201 Clamp Road  
Blythewood, SC 29016, 803.333.8174  
vmcfaddin@bellsouth.net
- Ⓡ **LeAnne Rowland O'Donnell**  
901 Willow Oak Court  
Nashville, TN 37221, 615.289.3907  
lrodonnell@comcast.net

Reunion 2010, our 25<sup>th</sup>, was amazing. Ellen Lanford Asherman is a new Converse College Trustee. The BBQ was the first gathering of everyone and we were the last to leave. Saturday at the Alumnae Luncheon, Pamela Woods announced Monica Rogers Smith as a recipient of the Converse 100 Award. The class dinner highlight was the awards show. Natalie Hill Knott surprised us at the last minute to drive up from Columbia for our class dinner. We had 31 classmates attend the weekend. Everyone looks younger every five years. Celly Padgett Kahn's daughter, Celly Marshall, just completed her freshman year at Converse. Missey Yergey Daly and Steve flew up in their plane on Friday and he was our class photographer. Janie Brooks McQueen and Josh live



in Atlanta, GA with their four children, (12), (10) and one-year-old twins. They own a bonnet business. After Converse she transferred to USC in Columbia and graduated with a BA in English. Amy Salyers Ady's oldest son, Matthew, will be attending Stetson University in the fall. Beth Austin Willingham's son, Thomas, graduated from Christ School and will be a Wofford Terrier next year; daughter, Austin will be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Floria Thomas Washington's son, Malcolm Morgan graduated from Ohio University and husband, Howard, from Ashland Univeristy. Aileen McCormick lives in Nashville and is CFO of West End Restaurants. She is quite the golf and tennis guru. Dina Haney Stevenson and Jeff live in Nashville and have four in college this year with one graduating in May. Anne Eberhart, MD is an ophthalmologist and assistant professor of surgery at East Tennessee State University. Lora Scott Diaz and Dean live in Frederick, MD and have two daughters, Sarah (15) and Caroline (10). Lora teaches at Frederick Community College. Treva Thomas Hamlin visited with Buffie Tronnes Wong and her children, Ian and Lydia, over spring break in Winston-Salem, NC. Lilli Montes sent a great picture of Lilli, Shannon Weatherall Cope and Frances Hardwick in St Simons last summer. Rachel Cauthen Rohrer and Phil's son, Philip, will be attending Wake Forest in the fall. LeAnne Rowland O'Donnell and Richard went on a scuba diving trip to Mexico. Her stepson, Adam, is at Hampden-Sydney College.

## CLASS OF 1986

25<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

- Ⓡ **Kristy Gillmann**  
2325 Hurst Drive NE  
Atlanta, GA 30305, 404.281.2571  
kristygillmann@hotmail.com
- Ⓡ **Betsy Mamoulides Hockaday**  
103 Tenbury Wells Drive  
Cary, NC 27511, 919.387.0177  
betsyhockaday@nc.rr.com

Anne Leland Moore Hayslip reports that her husband, Carson, has returned from a year in Afghanistan at the end of 2009. I extend heartfelt

thanks for their family's service. Anne's eldest son is finishing exams at Coastal Carolina University while their middle son plays rugby for Arkansas State University Their youngest son, Will, turned 17 and daughter, Amy, is graduating from 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Anne is looking forward to a great summer with everyone home for a change. Josie Norwood Cox's daughter, Reid, graduates from high school and will move to LA to pursue acting. After driving her to CA, Josie will hike with friends to CO! Her daughter, Mary Connor, is finishing 7<sup>th</sup> grade and will be involved with a mission trip to MS. Debbie McCrory Pannell will be completing her elementary teaching credentials in CA in December. She loves teaching! Her husband, Jim, is working for Muskoka Capital in San Francisco. Her eldest son, Charlie (17) finished his junior year at Concord Academy (MA) and will spend the summer with mom & dad in Tiburon, CA. Her youngest son, Ethan (12) will spend the summer in NH at camp. Anne Lanier Jackson's sons Robert (8) and Joseph (7) are keeping Anne busy with carpooling, science projects, birthday parties, sports events. Youngest son, William (3), will be starting school in the fall. Laura Green Hollowell remains Director at Camp Greystone. Daughter Leland graduated from Wofford and plans to teach school in Spain; daughter Kathleen is spending the summer researching shrimp in Charleston, SC. Husband, Gervais, is opening another coffee shop, Little River Roasting, in Spartanburg. In March, Laura hosted Mary Boone Kerfoot, Dinya Floyd Norris, Monica Rowland Loving, Laura Jennings Schulman, Elizabeth Jones Beal and Hunter Stabler Cantey. As a vice president of Global Recruiting and Associate Services for Cerner Corporation, Angie Kerhulas Stanland and her husband, Cy, spend most of their time in Kansas City, although still enjoys being back in North Carolina. Cy still owns his own company and according to Angie – probably will never go back to corporate America. I agree – because I now work for myself representing company offering detection & restoration ID services. I'm enjoying working in Atlanta for a change and not on a plane weekly. Kristy & Betsy

## CLASS OF 1987

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

- Ⓡ **Elizabeth Smoak Groce**  
123 Woodland Way  
Greenville, SC 29601, 864.232.2641  
egroce@woodwardmedical.org
- Ⓡ **Lynn Dye Smith**  
3067 Walton Way Ext.  
Augusta, GA 30909, 706.737.2886  
lynnsmith@comcast.net

## CLASS OF 1988

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

- Ⓡ **Kristi Klim Holler**  
900 Raven Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29732, 803.327.0712  
jandkholler@comporium.net
- Ⓡ **Alice Fuller Littlejohn**  
225 Randall Street  
Greenville, SC 29609, 864.467.9580  
alikenlj@charter.net

Our class now has a Group on Facebook. It is "Converse College Class of 1988." We would love to hear from anyone who shared time at Converse, even if you didn't stay all four years. For example, Alice recently heard from her freshman roommate, Jenny Legard McManus. Jen earned her Pharmacy Doctorate at MUSC in 1995. She now lives in The Woodlands, a suburb of Houston, TX, where she works part-time as a pharmacist at a community hospital. She and her husband Mark have a son, Ethan (9). Melissa Mathews Levitt, Barbara Metzger, and Ann Pond Lupton met in Las Vegas in October for a girls' weekend. They shopped, dined, enjoyed the spa and saw Phantom and Barry Manilow. Ann says they had a wonderful time reconnecting, and Melissa even won \$400! Melissa is a Senior Training Developer for Publix Super Markets in Lakeland, FL. Barbara has a PhD in psychology

and teaches graduate students at Sam Houston University. She specializes in treatment of autistic children. Ann is a senior human resources manager for Boddie-Noell Enterprises in Rocky Mount, NC. Margaret Linn Moise Weishuhn and her husband Will welcomed their fifth child (five weeks early) in November. Baby Elizabeth came home on Thanksgiving Day to a very thankful family. Kim Davis Buchanan is taking care of her three growing daughters in Columbia, SC. Her oldest, Katherine, was chosen for the SC All-State Chorus. Kim and Furman celebrated their 19<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in northern California wine country. Page Poston Sullivan, along with her husband Michael and their two children, moved from Lynchburg, VA to Atlanta, GA last summer. Michael became the Rector of Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church in Atlanta. Laura Graham is reviving one of our class's favorite social scenes with an infield parking spot at the Colonial Cup in Camden. Alice Fuller Littlejohn accepted Laura's invitation for 2010! Alice and her husband Kenny were chaperones to a group of six high school girls on a ten day trip to Italy and Greece in June 2009. It was Alice's first trip back to Europe since London Term of 1987!

## CLASS OF 1989

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

- Ⓡ **Wallace Davison**  
1720 Wandering Way Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28226, 704.366.1631  
wallacedavison@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ **Joy Johnson**  
1850 N Elm Street  
Greensboro, NC 27408, 336.370.9709  
nisajoyj@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ **Rawles Terrell Kelly**  
3139 Shillington Place  
Charlotte, NC 28210, 704.552.8604  
k\_rawles@bellsouth.net

Hello 89'ers! A smattering of updates this month – check out our Centennial Class Group on Facebook (FB), many of us are online now! Chris Hull Manley (FB) is in Columbia SC with husband of 17 years, James. Three of their five daughters and three of their grandchildren live with them. Chris is a very involved Avon representative and recruits hard. Damita Bogan Frost (Dede) is in Spartanburg with husband Gary and three children – Aaron is a freshman at PC and Brett (10) and Chad (7) attend Pine Street. Dede works part time as an academic instructor at USC Upstate. Becky Chambliss Lane (FB-Atlanta) and Doug have been married 18 years and have two daughters, Halle (8) and Madde (5), adopted from China. Becky's business, Lane Collection, designs jewelry for boutiques and home shows. Becky completed three half marathons and works at an orphanage in China for special needs children, and just returned from vacationing in China. After 16 years as a marketing executive in the book publishing industry, Ginia Hairston (FB) recently changed careers. In the last year, she traveled to Ethiopia and Russia for her new job working for a non-profit supporting orphanages in Russia, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Swaziland. Elizabeth Hyatt Robinson (FB) has three boys (14, 11, 7) and a private law practice in Lancaster, SC. She served as Attorney Coach for her sons' Middle School Mock Trial team. They won the regional competition and advanced to the State Competition! And she is addicted to Facebook! Bet Cantey Rhodes (FB) saw Rawles on Charlotte's Link Train going to the Taylor Swift concert with our daughters in November! She and Vinnie are still in Beaufort. Rawles visited Parker Derrick Knapp (FB) at her beautiful new Houston home in October. Tyler (11) plays football and Callie (6) is an artist. Parker and Ken run a Tutor Doctor franchise. Texas fits Parker perfectly! Mary Pinson Sullivan earned her EdD in educational leadership. Becky Register Redmond is in Gainesville, FL home schooling her five kids (whew!). Keep in touch!

## Alumnae Events



Atlanta, GA Alumnae Event hosted by Peter and Sandra Shearouse Morelli '78 on October 6, 2009



Chattanooga, TN Alumnae Event hosted by John and Ashley Dover Sorrow '94 on March 10, 2010



## IN MEMORIAM

Jan Carter BRIDGES '93, April 24, 2010

## SYMPATHY

**Carolyn MCDUFFIE Anderson** '90 on the death of her father, Roger Atkinson McDuffie, Jr., March 16, 2010

**Carolyn MCDUFFIE Anderson** '90 on the death of her husband, James Howard Anderson III, May 6, 2010

**Star VISE Kiesau** '90 on the death of her husband, Christian Anders Kiesau, August 9, 2009

**Carol BECKMANN Bartlett** '91 on the death of her father, Dieter Beckmann, May 20, 2010

**Elizabeth WAGSTAFF Middleton** '91 on the death of her father, James Allen Wagstaff, October 14, 2009

**Tracy WILLIAMSON Dart** '91 on the death of her son, William A. Dart, August 13, 2009

**Louise Tinsley KAY** '92 on the death of her father, James Edward Kay, February 8, 2009

**Kathleen BINDER Turner** '94 on the death of her mother, Judith Schmidt Binder, August 28, 2009

**Catherine SWANN Dunn** '94 on the death of her grandfather, The Rev. Sydney Chaille Swann, Jr., February 16, 2010

**Michele BURNS Fowler** '95 on the death of her grandmother, Joyce Early, May 19, 2009

**Kathleen MOONEY Bradshaw** '95 on the death of her father, Honorable William R. Mooney, February 24, 2009

**Cindy WILLIMON Serson** '95 on the death of her grandmother, Louise McClure Willimon, February 7, 2010

**Holly HEPFER Reed** '96 on the death of her grandfather, Luther Cameron Howell, November 4, 2009

**Stephanie EASTERDAY Bartuch** '98 on the death of her father, Robert McQuay Easterday, December 15, 2009

**Kathryn HOY Kauffman** '99 on the death of her grandfather, Nelson Jackson II, February 1, 2010

**Ann MULLINS Johnson** '99 on the death of her father, Benjamin Robertson Mullins, III, December 13, 2009

**Sarah POWERS Love** '99 on the death of her infant son, Matthew Evan Love, August 4, 2010.

## MARRIAGES

**Laura Kate JONES** '93 to Jonathan Brandstein, November 15, 2009

**Alison Marie MURPHY** '94 to Kevin Smock, December 19, 2009

**Hannah Brock ROBERTS** '96 to Frederic Brockow, August 22, 2009

**Amelia Denise GARRETT** '97 to Dr. Christopher Lillis, June 21, 2009

**Margaret Ann Jennings JACKSON** '97 to Robert Perry King III, June 13, 2009

**Amanda Cheryl MESSER** '97 to Matthew Hartman, January 9, 2010

**Benay Shayle ABELKOP** '98 to Todd Adrian, June 27, 2009

**Carol Ann KERSTIENS** '98 to Patrick Lee Vinzant, October 25, 2009

**Mindy Hancock CULLER** '99 to Jason Arthur DeLano, April 24, 2010

**Carla Renae EVANS** '99 to Robin Oscar Lovi, April 24, 2010

## BIRTHS

Georgia Grace Newman, April 13, 2010, daughter of Jason and **Kristen LAVELLE Newman** '90

Sarah Elizabeth Hembree, August 15, 2009, daughter of Richard and **Katherine MCKOY Hembree** '90

Samuel Charles Crumly, June 29, 2009, son of Jonathan and **Kim UNDERWOOD Crumly** '90

John Michael Straughn III, January 8, 2010, son of Michael and **Heidi KNEDLIK Straughn** '91

Sadie Joyce Swann and Joel Doss Swann, November 15, 2009, twins of Christopher and **Dianne PRINCE Swann** '91

Evelyn Walker McCombs, January 16, 2009, daughter of David McCombs and **Julie SIMONTON** '91

John Deaderick Scott III, December 16, 2009, son of John and **Natalie AUDISH Scott** '92

Lucille "Lucy" Porter Morrison, October 19, 2009, daughter of Comer and **Eleanor LABORDE Morrison** '92

Clementine Adele Fortier, April 15, 2010, daughter of Patrick and **Annemarie SHEEHAN Fortier** '92

Luke Dunn, June 2009, son of Benjamin and **Maureen ZEEFF Dunn** '93.

Charlie Frericks, July 2009, son of Ted and **Kristen KEIDEL Frericks** '93

Amy Faye Pepper, September 1, 2009, daughter of Joe and **Julie MESSIER Pepper** '93

Lela Kate Sorrow, August 17, 2009, daughter of John and **Ashley DOVER Sorrow** '94

Reed Allen Nelson, November 2, 2009, son of Bryce and **Kathy PARRISH Nelson** '94

Ella Baxley Monk, October 31, 2008, daughter of Stephen and **Megan BAXLEY Monk** '95

Fisher Hobbs Welborn, December 29, 2009, son of Brent and **Mary-Cameron CLECKLEY Welborn** '95

Adam Imad Maalouf and Lana May Maalouf, December 7, 2009, twins of Imad and **Rania SUKKARI Maalouf** '95

David Barksdale McIntyre, November 11, 2009, son of Roy and **Cheryl WOODY McIntyre** '95

Leland McKaughan Elliott, December 3, 2009, daughter of Jamie and **Catherine CRANFORD Elliott** '96

Cade David Hummel, August 14, 2009, son of Devin and **Heather STEAD Hummel** '96

Elika Rachel Girard, October 6, 2009, daughter of Jerry and **Catherine ALEXANDER Girard** '97

Graham Pierce Giavedoni, November 5, 2009, son of Eric and **Jane BRACKETT Giavedoni** '97

Mitchell Doyle Proctor, May 5, 2009, son of Lee and **Katie DOYLE Proctor** '97

Gage Luthi Breakfield, September 15, 2008, son of John and **Astrid LUTHI Breakfield** '97

Cole Thomas Jacques, December 17, 2008, son of Roy and **Angie ROGERS Jacques** '97

William David Lake, October 15, 2009, son of Bryan and **Stephanie SHELLEY Lake** '97

Charlotte Walker Herlong, October 13, 2009, daughter of Michael and **Kellie WALKER Herlong** '97

Campbell Shaw Parsons and Graham Sullivan Parsons, April 17, 2009, twin sons of Kent and **Shannon CAMPBELL Parsons** '98

Catherine Renee Farmer, August 24, 2009, daughter of Ken and **Brooke CHAMPION Farmer** '98

Anna Catherine Hook, November 25, 2008, daughter of Jamie and **Elizabeth CURRENT Hook** '98

Thomas Nathan Breinig, November 14, 2009, son of Patrick and **Emily FLETCHER Breinig** '98

Gray and Wells Phillips, March 11, 2009, twin daughters of Chris and **Marti GLENN Phillips** '98

Henry Samuel Walton, January 23, 2009, son of Brandon and **Clayton KEARSE Walton** '98

Emerson Jane Greiner, June 12, 2009, daughter of Dave and **Angela MILLS Greiner** '98

Sarah Margaret Corcoran, July 9, 2009, daughter of Bryan and **Aubrey NEWELL Corcoran** '98

Samuel Henry Strickland, February 9, 2010, son of Chris and **Erin RICH Strickland** '98

Lucas Michael McGevna, September 22, 2009, son of Keith and **Katy SHEPPARD McGevna** '98

Andrew John Agila Caswell and Peter John Agila Caswell, born December 28, 2006 and welcomed home October 26, 2008, twin sons of RJ and **Rebecca SMITH Caswell** '97

Felix Thomas Kent Charney, January 5, 2010, son of Felix and **Olivia Lee THORNTON Charney** '98

Emma Leigh Jane Burbage, September 18, 2009, daughter of Jason and **Christina WILLINGHAM Burbage** '98

James McIntyre Ward and Weston Slater Ward, September 1, 2009, twin sons of Mack and **Michelle FAW Ward** '99

Cecelia Hammond Crawley, November 13, 2009, daughter of Frank and **KC HAMMOND Crawley** '99

Charles Kenneth Reynolds, January 13, 2010, son of Chaz and **Nikki MAPLES-Reynolds** '99

Silas Richard Cook, October 26, 2009, son of Andrew and **Allison MARTIN Cook** '99

Mary Caroline Jones, July 4, 2009, daughter of Charles and **Julie PADGETT Jones** '99

Matthew Evan Love, March 10, 2010, son of Donnie and **Sarah POWER Love** '99

Bailey Elizabeth Coggins, September 30, 2009, daughter of Phillip and **Laurie RINGER Coggins** '99

Addison Grace Cooper, February 10, 2010, son of Jon and **Beth ROBBINS Cooper** '99

## CAREER CHANGES

**Shannon ROBINSON Barbuto-Lewis** '91, Director of Food Sourcing, City Harvest, Inc., New York, NY

**Dr. Zenobia EDWARDS** '92 MEd '94 EdS, Dean of the Metropolitan College, Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC

**Starr LOCKHART Carr** '96, Owner and Speech Language Pathologist, Lowcountry Therapy Services, LLC, Hilton Head Island, SC

**Dawn Davis DECK** '99, Membership Manager, ETV Endowment of SC, Spartanburg, SC

## ADVANCED DEGREES

**Andria MAY Duncan** '90, JD, John Marshall Law School, May 2009

**Dianne PRINCE Swann** '91, EdS, Mercer University, July 2009

**Jo-Ne CLAXTON Bourassa** '92, EDD, Georgia Southern University, 2009

**Barbara GEHLMANN** '97, MAT, Converse College, May 2009

**Melanie Ann WILIFORD** '98, MA, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, 2009

**Desiree BRADLEY House** '99, MEd, Charleston Southern University, May 2010

**Julie PADGETT Jones** '99, PhD, Clemson University, December 2009

**Beth ROBBINS Cooper** '99, BS, Strayer University, March 2010

## CLASS OF 1990

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

**Rosemary Glaze Sullivan**

14 Southington

Overton, Hampshire RG25 3DA, England

mamiesullivan@hotmail.co.uk

**Cheryl Owens Verdell**

138 Samantha Drive

Inman, SC 29349, 864.814.0440

dverdell@bellsouth.net

We had a wonderful time at our 20<sup>th</sup> reunion. I think this was our best one yet with over 30 of us in attendance: **Lynn Pettus, Barb Bishop, Lesa Underwood, Julie Hennecey, Rebecca Lesto Shunk, Stephanie Train, Adele McLean, Stephanie Kee, LeNoir White Medlock, Katharine Simmons Bryan, Mary McDaniel Ridgeway, Lee Reese, Rosemary Glaze Sullivan, Karen Richardson Wright, Beverly Milstead Markle, Lucy Clower Norris, Mickie Riley, Sid Taylor, Winnie Brown King, Sheri Starnes Balcerzak, Margaret Norris Downs, Jackie Daniel Hyche, Beth Wallis Ellsworth, Claire Bramlett Dehmer, Mary Kenyon Robards Jones, Meridith Moorhead Venturella, Ginger Wood Pickren, Debbie Currin Conner, Lisa Burks Clark, Lisa Lyle Fields, Tricia Berry Hensley, Gwynne Brown Goodlett and Cheryl Owens Verdell.** Claire Bramlett Dehmer and husband celebrated their second anniversary with a trip to Scottsdale, AZ. Julie Hennecey joined 38,000 other runners for this year's Cooper River Bridge Run. Lesa Underwood has been racking up frequent flyer miles with trips to San Francisco and DC. Rebecca Lesto Shunk has been keeping busy with family, work and lecturing throughout the US. **Page Huss Curlee,**

husband and four kids have been enjoying time with family and friends while in NC. They are going back to Taiwan in May. **Kristen Ewing Lopez** and family are moving back to GA after living in France for two years. **Susan Wexler Ellis** and family are living in MN. **Tina Archer Hope** and family are in IL staying busy with their two children. **Missy Smith Reid** is teaching in Spartanburg and stays on the go with her girls (mostly on the tennis courts). Cheryl Owens Verdell is also teaching in Spartanburg along with **Missy Reid McMahon** (a great 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher). They sometimes run into **Angela Johnson Moss** whose son attends their school. Thanks to our outgoing representatives Sherri Starnes Balcerzak, **Katherine B. McKoy** and Lesa Underwood for keeping us updated for the last five years. Please keep in touch via Facebook to let Rosemary Glaze Sullivan and Cheryl Owens Verdell know all of your news and reunions with friends and classmates. Happy 2010, Pink Panthers!

## CLASS OF 1991

20<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

**Dorsey Daugeette DeLong**

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**Dianne Prince Swann**

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I certainly hope this finds everyone well in 2010, just one year shy of gathering for our 20<sup>th</sup> class reunion! Make plans now to attend on April 15-16. I am sure everyone (most) celebrated his or her 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays in some devilish fashion in 2009—as we all deserved it, of course! **Susanne Caraway Strickland** and **Dee Marzullo Schwarzmann** helped **Dianne Prince Swann** celebrate her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. **Charlotte Page** and **Jenny Howard** had their birthday parties in Italy in September – which wasn't a bad way to go! Many gathered once again at Murrell's Inlet in September, where the weather forecast was rain (and ultimately floods in Atlanta), but we had total sunshine! **Julie Simonton** rejoiced in the finalization of the adoption of her precious little girl, Evie, this fall. Julie started



a job last September as the Assistant for Family Ministries at Grace Episcopal Church in Alexandria, VA. Her Judicial Board experience has certainly served her well in her current occupation! Unfortunately, the death of parents and even children have brought some together in recent months. In those hard times, the bonds we have as sisters become even stronger. It is so important to know what is going on in the lives of our classmates, even if a distant prayer is what you can offer. Let's stay in touch on Facebook – lots of classmates are on there. May you and your families be healthy and happy. Dorsey

## CLASS OF 1992

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2012

**Anna Wimberly Pierce**

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I hope this newsletter finds you well. I have lots of news to impart and an award for most news items sent. That award goes to **Susannah Gramling Hubbell** who was lucky enough to be at Converse for Founder's Day. She reports that the campus looked great, and the new apartments for seniors are well under way. Susannah had a Converse party for Charleston at her house. **Melissa Koger Watson, Paige Pooser Merrill and Elizabeth Lesto Zadig** all came. She also happened to be in Columbia when **Cami Burton Hutchinson** was hosting the Converse Columbia chapter at her house. **Brandon Davidson Shives, Marcy Hinds Swan, Ashley Burnside Brantley** and alumnae from other years had a great time catching up. Susannah reports that Cami's house looked as smashing as she did. **Amanda Reeves Campbell** asks for your thoughts and prayers as she works with orphans at The Global Orphan Project in Haiti. Many were orphaned in the January earthquake. **Annemarie Sheehan Fortier** adds a little girl to the family, joining brother Roscoe. I received a lot of news about how everyone was celebrating his or her 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays. **Ashton Bozard** is heading to Vegas. **Rebie Mayes Bland** had a big party. **Traci Dozier Waite** and husband John celebrated in the California wine country. **Sheila Clark Crossley** gets the award for finest accomplishment (not including babies!). She shares that she finished her MEd last year and is now the guidance counselor at Savannah Christian Preparatory School. She plans to start the doctorate program at Georgia Southern University in the next year or so. Kudos, Sheila! **Shana Munn Herndon** reports that she is doing really well—"homeschooling her children (ages 8, 7, 5, 2), teaching piano, running, praying for guidance and loving life!" **Anna Wimberly Pierce, Natalie Audish Scott, Marcy Hinds Swan, Cami Burton Hutchinson, Susannah Gramling Hubbell** and **Ashley Burnside Brantley** met for a girls' weekend this past March in Amelia Island. It was just what we all needed—food, friends and relaxation! Sheila Clark Crossley has offered to set up a Facebook page for our class. Look for that on the web in the next month or two!





## CLASS OF 1993

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

☛ **Maureen Zeeff Dunn**

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☛ **Erica P. "Candy" Moore**

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**Lawana Furtick Marchant** has moved to the Isle of Palms! She and her husband Jami have an auction business—Rolling M Auction Co. Anyone wanting to have an auction should reach out to her. **Kristen Keidel Frericks** saw **Gaby Sifter** and **Ann Moses Middleton** in September, when she was in NC for her brother's wedding. Kristen reports that they had fun and that no one has changed. Apparently, Gaby is still running all over the world for Coke and made her way to the West Coast to celebrate **Laura Kate Jones Brandstein's** wedding. Check out Laura Kate's website: [www.laurakatejones.com](http://www.laurakatejones.com). **Hope Spruell** was promoted to Director at Camp Gravatt in Aiken. Go Hope! **Holle O'Kelley Kennerly** and her family have re-located to Columbus, GA, where her husband Brian will be headmaster at Brookstone School. **Candace Nichol** says she is heading to Cayman Brac Island, survived H1N1, is still working with Smith & Nephew Orthopedics in sales and living her dream life. **Nancy Rogers Hirschl** checked in briefly and says everything is going well in Chicago. **Donna Hines White** and **Cathy Iannazzone Ellett** are in the Spartanburg League together and having a blast getting to know each other again. They spent a week at Seabrook Island last summer while their 10-year-old girls went to Camp St. Christopher! **Jane Manning Hyatt** was recently elected to be a Deacon at Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. Also, finally bought that pool table she has always wanted. **Candy Moore** was honored on March 31 because of her selection into Who's Who in Black Atlanta. It is a publication that spotlights the achievement of African Americans in culture, arts, finance, education, etc. **Paula Greer** is still teaching the deaf in Germany and is now a homeowner in Germany. Be sure to join our group on Facebook—Converse College Class of 1993.

## CLASS OF 1994

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

☛ **Kristen Harris Cavin**

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☛ **Holly Miller Smith**

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☛ **Mary Ames Voyles**

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We are thankful for Facebook and the ability to keep up with our wonderful classmates on a daily (if not hourly) basis! **Kathy Parrish Nelson** and husband Bryce relocated to Greenville last summer. Kathy and Bryce both work for the Greenville Hospital System; Kathy is a pharmacist; Bryce is a pediatric endocrinologist. Speaking of Greenville, **Holly Miller Smith** came for a visit from MD right before Thanksgiving. **Katie Abbott Klutz**, **Kelly Richardson Weekes**, **Cathy Goodman Tate**, **Erin Zickos Smiley**, **Susanne Jones Norwood** and Holly gathered to celebrate Erin's birthday and to visit with Holly. Kelly trained like crazy and ran in several smaller events in order to prepare for her first half marathon on December 12<sup>th</sup> at Kiawah Island. Recently, she placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in her age group in a 5K. Go Kelly! What an inspiration. **Susan Bean Candee** and husband Mike moved into a new home in Greenville. **Katie Abbott Klutz** is a teacher with the SC Virtual School Program. This is her third year and she really enjoys it. **Libby Wells Crye** is as active as ever in Knoxville with her precious three children. **Kristen** hopes to make a trip there soon to visit her and her sweet husband, Jason. **Lori Loyless Stathakis** is a successful business owner in Spartanburg. If you have not visited Three Little Pigs, you must do so! She offers cute clothing and accessories for all your children. **Mary Ames Voyles** and **Wendy McElmoyle Cont** are both busy in Spartanburg teaching in various capacities with active children. Mary Ames was thrilled that her Converse classmate Wendy taught her child last year. **Clea Fields Schiffmacher's** daughter, Anna, is an honor student. Clea lives in NY and is busy with her banking career! SO proud of her! **Alison Murphy Smock** married Kevin Smock last year in Atlanta. Converse friends in attendance were **Angel Stewart Young** and **Kaysi Hasden Dixon**. **Martha White Waters**, **Elizabeth Burnette Killen**, **Hope Daniel Johnson**, **Ashley Gross Millinor**, **Kirsten Kerr** and **Ashley Dover Sorrow** had a mini-Panther-reunion weekend at the Isle of Palms, SC in April. Blessings to each of you and keep in touch!

## CLASS OF 1995

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

☛ **Laura Kate Moore Garner**

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What a fantastic turnout for the class dinner on Saturday night of Reunion Weekend! We had 33 fabulous looking women from the Class of 1995 join us at the Four Seasons for dinner and live music. Our farthest traveler was once again **Ashley McCabe Mowat**, who lives in London. Other long distance travelers were **Cindy Willimon Serson** from CO and **Kendall Armstrong Robinson**, who recently moved back to TX. Earlier in the day, **Christi Lewis** and **Laura Kate Moore Garner** participated in the Alumnae Recital and enjoyed catching up with old professors. Listening and cheering them on was **Betty Richards Wilson** and **Erica Broadnax Pauly**. On Friday, our own **Dr. Missy Stuart Dillmon** gave an informative lecture on the latest breast cancer statistics and research. She is a practicing oncologist in Rome, GA and was made an honorary member of the Beta Beta Beta society at Converse for her financial support of a research project done by current Converse students after her lecture. Thanks to everyone who traveled to Sparkle City to reunite with us! If you are not already a member of the Converse College Class of 1995 Facebook page, please join and you can see the great pictures from the weekend, including the terrific class picture so you can see who all was there. Anyone else who has any good pictures, feel free to add them so we can all enjoy! Laura Kate has graciously volunteered to take over as our new class representative, many thanks to her and I now pass the torch on with Red Devil Spirit!

— Ray Piper Bryant

## CLASS OF 1996

15<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

☛ **Pam Hughes Foster**

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☛ **Jenny Williams**

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Greetings class of 1996! Everyone seems to report a busy summer and a full fall. **Cindy Greene Goldsmith**, **Erin Jones Ross**, **Kirstie Waugh Tucker**, **Katherine Colburn Fulmer**, and **Patricia Doty Bradshaw**, husbands and children spent a weekend gathering in Litchfield in October. They had a ball and braved nineteen people in one house! **Heidi Ruehl** reports that she spent a couple of hot summer days helping **Elizabeth McLean Brown** and husband, Matthew, move to Charleston. She claims "Good times, but hot ones"! Other Connies reunited last summer. **Jennifer Stokes** visited Sparkle City and spent time with **Susie Sparrow Dekle**, **Jenny Williams** and **Dawn Willis Durham**. **Shelli Latham** also made the pilgrimage back to the 'burg from Davidson to visit and have lunch with Jenny, Dawn, Susie and Heidi. **Alethea DeWeese Cooper '97** was a bridesmaid in **Hannah Roberts'** wedding. **Hannah** and husband, **Frederic Brockow** are living in Montreal. **Kristin Johnson Welsh** has taken a new job with Grants and Contracts at the Duke Institute for Genome Science and Policy. Last November, **Dee Dee Gardner White**, **Emma Carmichael Harrill**, **Emily Watson Chariker**, **Charlotte Smith**, **Jill Rogers Foster**, **Claire Marie Benedict Huff**, **Mani Wallace Reed** and **Jenny Williams** traveled to Lake Lanier for a second annual Connie gathering. **Mani Reed**, **Cindy Goldsmith**, **Rhett Boyd Leake** and **Kathryn Fish Tinsley** also enjoyed a visit in Charlotte, NC. Please do not forget to read the Life Events section for more information on weddings, births, career changes, etc. Please continue to send us news, updates and your goings-on. Plan now to attend our reunion on April 15-16, 2011!

## CLASS OF 1997

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

☛ **Catherine Alexander Girard**

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☛ **Shannon Gosnell Bishop**

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☛ **Jennifer Coggins Reese**

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**Kim Finney Carmelich** is running a grant writing business from home. Kim and **Shannon Gosnell Bishop** are constant competitors on Facebook games! **Hadley Rowland** is teaching 3's while working on her Master's with the help of **Missy Van Doren's** skills. **Daphne Robinson Petros** went to Savannah to visit **Helen Alderman Fitzgerald** and to the beach with **Jennifer Griggs Schulze**. **Donna Pallasino Evans** is back in Myrtle Beach as a Nurse Practitioner. **Karen Berlin** is working on her

black belt in Tae Kwon Do along with her 7-year-old son. **Kim Varnadoe Kent**, **Ginger Crawford Phillips**, **Rachel Chartrand**, **Stephanie Shelley Lake**, **Caroline Taylor Player**, **Jennifer Schwartz Henderson**, **Sarah Montgomery McSwain**, **Katie Fort Smith** and **Laura Marchant Williams** all gathered at the beach for sun and fun this past April. **Stephanie** moved to Ft. Leavenworth, KS this past July. **Leslie Anderson Cline** and **Katie Doyle Proctor** got together this past summer. **Katie** also saw **Nina Couch Cardona**. **Katie** is still busy with LaLeche League. **Leslie** also got to show off new son **Declan** to **Marlo Taylor Nall**. **Amy Garrett Lillis** is teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Fredericksburg, VA. **Barbara Gehlmann** is teaching at Colleton County High School. **Bubba** already has four albums out and is working on another. **Astrid Luthi Breakfield** is helping husband **John** with his new law firm. **Casey Thompson O'Dell's** son started kindergarten this year. **Casey** enjoys volunteering at his school. **Amanda Taylor Meyers** has moved to Cincinnati, OH with husband **Kurt** and sons **Will** and **Hayden**. **Angie Rogers Jacques** is teaching in Charleston and loves being a mom to three boys. **Emily Gowdy Canady** has moved to New Bern, NC with husband **Paul** and son **Ollie**.

## CLASS OF 1998

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

☛ **Shannon Gordy Haynes**

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☛ **Laura Matthews Pappas**

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**Kristi Hines Hagood** enjoyed a trip out west last summer with her husband and parents. The two-week trip took them through many states, where they were able to visit a number of our national parks and monuments. As well, in October she completed the Army Ten Miler in Washington, DC and completed a half-marathon in Kiawah in December! **Kristi** works for Tetra Tech. **Laura Matthews Pappas** is excited to become president of the Junior League of Baltimore in June. **Shayle Abelkop Adrian** is currently living in northern NJ and still working at Seton Hall University in the Teaching, Learning and Technology Center as an instructional designer. She supports faculty in integrating technology into their courses. **Aubrey Newell Corcoran** and her family are still living in Japan and they continue to take advantage of the travel opportunities. This past year they traveled to South Korea for sightseeing in Seoul! **Kristen Pruitt Taylor** ran the Disney World marathon in January 2009 and qualified for the Boston Marathon. She then ran (and finished) the 2009 Boston Marathon! **Kristen** is also very proud that her son, **Clayton**, was chosen to be in a commercial for the University Hospital System in Georgia. He beat out a lot of great competition! **Stephanie Easterday Bartuch** completed the Chicago marathon in October! **Laura Matthews Pappas** and **LeAnn Beaver Woodard** and their families spent the day at Sesame Place, back in

August. They had a great time catching up and riding rides! Many of the updates that I received are located in Life Events. Please make sure to look for them!

## CLASS OF 1999

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

☛ **Mrs. Stephanie Eldridge Avakian**

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☛ **Dr. Emily Harbin**

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☛ **Ms. Jennifer Nockels**

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**Jaime Powell** hiked 1/3 of the Appalachian Trail with her husband **Brandon**. She recently wrote a song about forgiveness and performed it at a concert for Girls Rock NC. **Alvetta Smith** is living in LA and has appeared in two web series: *Going for Broke* and *Sir Glen of Glenwood*. **Rebecca Roland Hyleman** moved from Guatemala and is in Cameron while her husband attends grad school at USC. **Monica Baylor Andrews** is living in VA after being in Germany for the past few years. **Angel Gainey Eicher** relocated to York, PA. **Marjorie Pierce Wright** just returned home from serving overseas in Iraq. We could not be any prouder! Classmates gathered in Atlanta to celebrate two baby showers (for **Beth Robbins Cooper** and **Nikki Maples-Reynolds**) and a divorce shower for **Marcie Vance Porter**. Attendees were **Alison Block**, **Carol Cancienne**, **Kimberly Howell Clobes**, **Shwetha Gupta**, **Sarah Farnaby**, **Erin Randle Foil**, **Jennifer Nockels** and **Jennifer Lovett Rackley**. Alumnae gathered at **Deanne Tyner Frye's** wedding, where **Emily Early League** and **Kathryn Hoy Kauffman** were bridesmaids. **Sarah Farnaby** fulfilled her dream of traveling to Barbados and spent time with vacationer **Shwetha Gupta**. **Christina Hendrix Gossett** and **Allison Vaughn Shaver** attended the baptism of **Laurie Ringer Coggins'** youngest daughter, **Bailey**, in September. **Allison** and her husband are the proud Godparents! Many alumnae attended the April wedding of **Carla Evans Lovi**. Her sister, **Pamela Evans '89**, was her attendant. Guests included **Michelle Faw Ward**, **Isbell Irick Barnes**, **Stacey Kelley Bannister**, **Susanne Atkinson Elvington**, **Julie Johnson Babb**, **Brooke Eubanks Williams**, **Marilu Bloodworth Metherell**, **Ramsay Barr Bokinsky** and **Lucy Heath Lee**, whose son, **William**, served as the ring bearer. Spartanburg alums are getting together once a month for dinner including **Katy Krueger Corbin**, **Erin Addington Gaines**, **Rebecca Roland Hyleman**, **Sarah Power Love**, **Julie Padgett Jones**, **Rachel Segars '96** and **Dr. Melissa Walker**! Our thoughts and prayers are with **K.C. Hammond Crawley**. She has undergone multiple rounds of chemo and radiation for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and is back at home with her family in Melbourne, FL. We wish her much love.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Laura Littlefield JUTZI** '03, July 19, 2009  
**David Michael KELLY** '05 MAT, March 11, 2010  
**Flora Ann MCABEE** '07 MEd, June 23, 2009

## SYMPATHY

**Ginger BECKMANN Rogers** '01 on the death of her father, Dieter Beckmann, May 20, 2010  
**Caroline Brunson CUTTINO** '01 on the death of her grandmother, Pretto BRUNSON Cuttino '45, January 30, 2010  
**Amanda LENTZ Lozada-Hernandez** '02 on the death of her grandmother, Harriet Bertine Wyatt, November 29, 2009  
**Laura BURGESS Martin** '04 on the death of her son, Campbell Swann Martin, November 22, 2009  
**Blair HOLMES Brown** '04 on the death of her grandmother, June S. Stewart, December 13, 2009  
**Meredith Kate MCCORMICK** '07 on the death of her father, Patrick Dean McCormick, August 4, 2009  
**Joslyn Rachel EMMEL** '08 on the death of her grandmother, Rachel Rodenbach Emmel, February 24, 2010  
**Elizabeth Marie JONES** '09 on the death of her father, Ronald D. Jones, September 18, 2009

## MARRIAGES

**Annalise Davis HELM** '00 to Chad David Jones, July 5, 2008  
**Lisa LO** '01 to Patrick J. Guthrie, August 8, 2009  
**Virginia Ruth REDMAN** '01 to Mark Ryan Comer, September 26, 2009  
**Rebecca Ruth CHILES** '02 to Bob Medina, September 6, 2009  
**Gretchen Leah HATOWAY** '02 to Michael Salomone, June 19, 2009  
**Kathy Renee SEAY** '02 to David Allen Welborn, October 11, 2009  
**Amber Valerie DILLARD** '03 to Jeff Hammond, May 17, 2009  
**Brooke Fair LOWN** '03 to George Heyward Barnes, December 5, 2009  
**Katharine Claire FISHER** '04 to John Mark Woodard, August 1, 2009  
**Kathryn Anne KUERSTEINER** '04 to Ryan Ellison LaRue, April 10, 2010  
**Eugenia Stone MILLER** '04 to Chad Robert Marshall, April 24, 2010  
**Danielle Renee BECK** '05 to Nicholas Wayne Wegener, November 21, 2009  
**Ann Leland BOMAR** '05, '06 MEd to John Lawrence Caudle III, October 17, 2009  
**Susan Elizabeth LEVER** '05 MAT to Jennings McKittrick Tanner, August 22, 2009  
**Danielle Victoria ROMANO** '05 to Matthew Grant, October 24, 2009  
**Toni Laurel SMITH** '05 to Shane R. Stilling, September 19, 2009

**Claire WALTER Soudani** '05 to James Ensor, December 18, 2009  
**Jessica Ann BLOUNT** '06 MEd to Bernard Wolff, May 9, 2009  
**Amber Lee CAMPSEN** '06 MEd to Bo McDonald, December 5, 2009  
**Jessica Blair CARVER** '06 to Matthew Kuney, October 10, 2009  
**Alissa Currie MANSBACH** '06 MAT to Benjamin Johnstone Edwards, August 1, 2009  
**Ashley Renee O'BRIEN** '06 MAT to Patrick Timothy Predmore, November 21, 2009  
**Hollis Elisabeth ROBERTS** '06 to Mark B. Hammonds, August 29, 2009  
**Mary Grace BOSWELL** '07 to Matthew Sanders Mungo, January 23, 2010  
**Jessica Marie CALLAHAN** '07 to Greateon W. Sellers, Jr., June 13, 2009  
**Camille Dorothy MILES** '07 to Mark Daniel Rosier, November 7, 2009  
**Brittney Dawn OGEZ** '07 to Quinton Kraeer, June 12, 2009  
**Kelly Marie WEIR** '07 to Tommy Morgan, December 27, 2008  
**Grace Adair Aberneth WEPNER** '07 to Timothy Ludtke, May 30, 2009  
**Chastity B. BOTT** '08 to John David Evans, October 10, 2009  
**Katie Danielle HAMMETT** '08 to Brian McKay Williams, August 1, 2009  
**Amber Leilani ATTRIDGE** '09 to Stephen Brandon Ratliff, October 24, 2009  
**Kathryn BERGSTRESSER** '09 to Justin Smith  
**Sarah Elizabeth BRACEY** '09 to Charles James Johnson, August 16, 2009  
**Cassandra Lynn MORROW** '09 to Joshua William Harris, July 25, 2009  
**Sarah Ann MOSER** '09 to Andrew M. Beason, June 26, 2009  
**Elizabeth Anne RODELSPERGER** '09 to Jason Andrew Curry, June 6, 2009  
**Tabitha Dawn SCARBOROUGH** '09 EdS to Matthew Hall Talley, March 27, 2010  
**Kimberly Renee SHORTER** '09 to Joseph Michael Lara, June 13, 2009

## BIRTHS

**Morris Leon Hazzard**, June 16, 2009, son of Noel James and **Angela ABRAMS Hazzard** '00  
**Elizabeth Rhodes Crabb**, June 2, 2009, daughter of Clayton and **Amy BAER Crabb** '00  
**Violet Cecilia Sumire Craft**, October 1, 2009, daughter of Gabe and **Stephanie ELIZONDO Craft** '00  
**Wyatt Tucker Jones**, September 18, 2009, son of Heath and **Rebecca HICKS Jones** '00  
**Blakely Banks Roberts**, December 7, 2009, daughter of Keith and **Susanna KNIGHT Roberts** '00  
**Grayson Lowder Sanders**, November 21, 2009, son of David and **Allyson LOWDER Sanders** '00  
**Kathryn Elise Rife**, August 25, 2009, daughter of Jason and **Erin RADSON Rife** '00  
**Lillian Ella-Statia Atchley**, February 12, 2010, daughter of Kevin and **Ashley ROGERS Atchley** '00

**Jack Alan Phillips**, November 2, 2009, son of Josh and **Brooke BURTELLE Phillips** '01  
**Sadie Noelle Jones**, January 27, 2009, daughter of Keith and **Jacqueline DELONG Jones** '01  
**Beckett Reid Wesol**, June 19, 2009, son of Nick and **Erin STONE Wesol** '01  
**Nadia Sydney Tate-Fletcher**, December 8, 2009, daughter of Geoff Fletcher and **Jessica TATE** '01  
**Clayton Cartwright Haddock**, May 2, 2010, son of Ashley and **Erin CARTWRIGHT Haddock** '02  
**Andrew Chadwick Cochran**, April 2009, son of John and **Amy CHADWICK Cochran** '02  
**Martha Kate Edwards**, November 22, 2008, daughter of Matthew and **Sara HILL Edwards** '02  
**Ruth Ellyn George**, December 30, 2009, daughter of David and **Sarah MCMULLEN George** '02  
**Lila Marie Richardson**, September 24, 2009, daughter of Ted and **Lauren MELE Richardson** '02  
**Eliza Pearl Terry**, January 11, 2010, daughter of Zac and **Leigh Anne MITCHELL Terry** '02  
**Thomas Patrick Moran IV**, April 5, 2010, son of Trey and **Sara Jane NICHOLAS Moran** '02  
**Bayla Roe Harbert**, December 4, 2009, daughter of Bill and **Johnna WEATHERS Harbert** '02  
**Benjamin Patrick Stepp**, February 16, 2010, son of Bryan and **Jodi ARROWOOD Stepp** '03  
**Juliette Delphine Leopard**, February 11, 2010, daughter of Ken and **Gabrielle CHAPMAN Leopard** '03  
**Addison Renee Martinez**, May 27, 2010, daughter of John and **Nicole GIRAUDIN Martinez** '03  
**Robert Marshall Donahue**, April 26, 2010, son of Christian and **Rachel HUNT Donahue** '03  
**William David Buchanan**, December 23, 2009, son of Christopher and **Emily KNAPP Buchanan** '03  
**Kathryn Jane Cruickshank**, March 23, 2010, daughter of Keith and **Cheryl MOORE Cruickshank** '03  
**Nathan Patrick Bates**, November 12, 2009, son of Bryan and **Megan RUSSELL Bates** '03  
**Campbell Swann Martin** and **Joseph Killough Martin**, October 31, 2009, twin sons of Scott and **Laura BURGESS Martin** '04  
**Mary Katherine Saleeby**, December 29, 2009, daughter of Wilson and **Quinn BURGIN Saleeby** '04  
**James Carlisle Conschafter**, April 30, 2010, son of Mike and **Amanda CARTWRIGHT Conschafter** '04  
**John Lansford Brown**, November 28, 2009, son of Lance and **Blair HOLMES Brown** '04  
**Richard Blake Maynard**, November 2, 2009, son of Blake and **JeanAnne PATE Maynard** '04  
**Lila Elizabeth Davis**, November 17, 2009, daughter of Murray and **Holly EARNHARDT Davis** '05  
**Kyleigh Marie Sturkie**, November 16, 2009, daughter of Raymond and **Anne Marie HARNETT Sturkie** '05  
**Annebelle Faythe Sanford**, August 7, 2009, daughter of Adam and **Amanda SHIPMAN Sanford** '05  
**Michael Anthony Berry**, June 29, 2009, son of Jared and **Danielle DE VILLIER Berry** '07

## CAREER CHANGES

**Ashley ROGERS Atchley** '00, Registered Nurse, Cleveland Regional Medical Center, Shelby, NC  
**Dr. Neal MILLIKAN** '01, Assistant Project Director, Digital Edition of the Papers of Eliza Lucas Pinckney and Harriott Pinckney Horry at the University of South Carolina  
**Dr. Marlee BECKHAM Marsh** '02, Assistant Professor of Biology, Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville, GA  
**Chelsea JACCARD** '03, Foreign Service Officer, USAID, Washington, DC  
**Brandi MCGEE Polatty** '03, Independent Agent, Aflac, North Augusta, SC  
**Carla NELSON Martin** '03, Accounting Supervisor, MTC Federal Credit Union, Greenville, SC  
**Chrissie PRICE** '03, Head Tennis Professional, Medlock Bridge Tennis Center, Johns Creek, GA  
**Hunter GILBERT** '04, Equestrian Instructor, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC  
**Rebecca POSTON** '04, Attorney, Pincus Loomis Family Law, Columbia, SC  
**Carolyn Marie BONE** '05, Attorney, Parise Law Firm PA, Columbia, SC  
**Brittany Amber JONES** '07, Math Teacher, Emberson Prep School, Washington, DC  
**Joslyn Rachel EMMEL** '08, Customer Service Representative, Wilson's, Greenville, SC

## ADVANCED DEGREES

**Kiley E. RIKARD** '00, MA, Walden University, June 2010  
**Ashley ROGERS Atchley** '00, ADNN, Gardner-Webb University, May 2009  
**Alyson GEERY** '02, MA, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, May 2009  
**Casey Elaine ROBERTS** '02, MEd, Coastal Carolina University, May 2009  
**Shawna COWART Simmons** '04, MEd, Southern Wesleyan University, May 2010  
**Carolyn Marie BONE** '05, JD, University of SC School of Law, 2008

**Bethany NICHOLS** '05, JD, George Mason University School of Law, May 2009  
**Mallory BECKETT** '06, MPA, Clemson University, May 2010  
**Jessica CALLAHAN Sellers** '07, MPAcc, Clemson University, 2008  
**Monique JOHNSON** '07, MMFT, Converse College, 2009  
**Taylor Louise JOHNSON** '07, MM, Florida State University, 2009  
**Brittany Amber JONES** '07, MS, College of William and Mary, 2009  
**Katerina Anne LEWIS** '07, Mmus, Georgia State University, May 2009  
**Kate MCCORMICK** '07, Mmus, Manhattan School of Music, 2009  
**Brittney OGEZ Kraeer** '07, MS, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, 2009  
**Bianca-Martina ROHNER** '07, MPA/MPP, Sciences Po Paris/ Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
**Stacy Anne THRALL** '07, MS, Clemson University, 2009  
**Ashley Lauren CARRY** '08, Certificate in Pharmacology/Toxicology, VCU/MCV, 2009

## CLASS OF 2000

### Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

📍 **Amanda Crane Cox**  
 8 Grouse Ridge Way  
 Greenville, SC 29617, 864.294.6403  
 acranecox@yahoo.com  
 📍 **Kiley Rikard**  
 708 East Church Street  
 Monroe, GA 30655, 404.520.0868  
 kileyrkard@hotmail.com

As I write these updates, our fabulous ten-year reunion is still on the brain! It was so amazing to see all of you. For those of you who could not make it, we had almost 50 people at our Saturday night dinner! **Stephanie Borick Grace** won the prize for most dedicated by leaving her little five-week old, Moxie, to join us! If you are

interested in seeing pictures of the weekend, check out the Class of 2000 Facebook page! Now for a few updates... **Deanna Fults** was installed as president-elect of the Knoxville Junior League, and was selected for the 2010-2011 Leadership Knoxville class. She was also able to see **Molly Davis Veness** and **Katie Landon** '02 at the JLK Spring Gala in Knoxville! **Erin Patterson Joye** has moved to Montgomery, AL where her husband, Jay is an assistant pastor. She enjoys life as mom to Elijah Brooks (1 1/2), and continues to sing when she can! **Kate Bemis** has been working on her Master's in opera performance at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, MA. She lived in the Boston area working as a kitchen and bath designer for The Home Depot and was the paid soloist at the First Congregational Church. However, in August she moved to San Antonio, TX and continues to work at The Home Depot. **Ashley Rogers Atchley** graduated from Gardner-Webb in May with a nursing degree and passed her boards in June. She is working at Gaston Memorial Hospital in Gastonia, NC as an emergency department Nurse. I just finished my Masters in reading and literacy and am looking forward to a quiet summer! I hope you have a good one too! Kiley

## CLASS OF 2001

### 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

📍 **Andrea Boltz**  
 1300 Longcreek Drive, Apt 1812  
 Columbia, SC 29210, 864.238.6947  
 andi330@gmail.com  
 📍 **Stephanie Livesay Winkler**  
 114 Grindstone Way  
 Anderson, SC 29625, 864.287.4088  
 livesaywinkler@hotmail.com  
 📍 **Jennifer Woodruff**  
 125 Wood Street, Apt. 1F  
 Lewiston, ME 04240  
 jenny.woodruff@gmail.com



Hello Class of 2001! **Jocelyn Buckner** was recently awarded her doctorate. **Marion Yates** is an RN living in the Los Angeles area and pursuing her Master's. **Andrea Boltz** recently moved to Columbia, SC where she is pursuing a Master's in library and information science. **Laura Massey Crawford** spent the month of February in Spain for a work assignment. She had a fantastic time exploring the Andalusia region on the weekends, went to Gibraltar, and even had a Barbary ape climb on her shoulders. Laura saw how sherry is made and then attended a flamenco show. Laura also was able to miss all those feet of snow that buried the DC area. **Ami Price** and **Laura Massey** got to spend a day touring Georgetown this spring with **Stacey Mulligan**. Make plans now to attend our 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion on April 15-16! Andrea Boltz





## CLASS OF 2002

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

- Ⓡ Laura L. Causey  
450 Orion Avenue  
Metairie, LA 70005, 504.813.9413  
llcausey@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ Kerri L. Olson  
2213 NE 13<sup>th</sup> Place  
Renton, WA 98056, 612.730.6087  
kerriolson@nwa.com

Laura Causey and Elizabeth Oswalt traveled to Seattle, WA to visit Kerri Olson! Laura & Elizabeth also met up with Tiffany Thornton in New Orleans, LA for Mardi Gras. Katie Landon moved from Spartanburg, SC, to Knoxville, TN and after exciting travels and work with Rice Bowls, she has accepted a position at with Children and Family Ministries at Second Presbyterian Church. Elizabeth Oswalt moved from Atlanta, GA back to Sparkle City to take the Alumnae Director position at Converse. So far, she's seen lots of '02 ladies at Alumnae Events across the country—make sure you go to the next event in your area to say hello! Gretchen Hatoway married Michael Salomone on June 19, 2009 at St. Mary's Help of Christians Catholic Church in Aiken, SC. Connie in attendance included: Erin Jennings Martin, Carrie Page Drake, Kristin Cheesman Dittman, Lena Belcher, and Suzanne Byrum Walker. Gretchen and Michael traveled to Malaga, Spain for their honeymoon. Emily Threatt Guenther's husband, Paul is finally finished with Pilot Training and they are now stationed at Charleston AFB with their dog, Scooby! She transferred her job with Bank of America to Charleston. Kathy Seay married Dave Welborn in October 2009 and enjoyed seeing Garrison Howard, Leigh Anne Mitchell Terry, Sara Hill Edwards, Laura Causey and Elizabeth Oswalt at the wedding. Kathy and Dave are thrilled to be in their new house on John's Island! Alyson Geery moved back to Mexico City to begin working as a volunteer missionary and recently got married to Saül Abdiel Flores. Rebecca Chiles married Bob Medina on September 6, 2009 and they honeymooned in Italy. They currently reside in Puerto Rico. Leigh Anne Mitchell Terry is an Administrator at Hillcrest High School.

## CLASS OF 2003

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

- Ⓡ Megan Russell Bates  
208 Wilson Road  
Anderson, SC 29625, 864.231.7687  
gem1813@hotmail.com
- Ⓡ Melissa Heatherly Brannen  
225 Timbergate Drive  
Lexington, SC 29073, 803.338.7999  
melissia\_heatherly@yahoo.com



Reunion 2010  
Class of 2005

- Ⓡ Allison Turner Watson  
24 H Street  
Inman, SC 29349, 864.472.5809  
alisonwatson@gmail.com

The Katy Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association selected Nicole Giraudin Martinez as Woman of the Year. Alisha Wilson Bridges was honored as 2009–2010 Teacher of the Year at Jesse Bobo Elementary School in Spartanburg, SC. After six years of working at Florida State University in leadership education, Carrie Tucker has moved back to SC! She now lives in downtown Greenville and is the director for leadership education and development at Clemson University. Imelda "Mel" Shoffner is the new ESOL instructor for Edgefield County School District. Cara Potts teaches 6<sup>th</sup> grade music in Springfield, MO. Chrissie Price is the Head Tennis Professional at Medlock Bridge Tennis Center in Johns Creek, Georgia. Amber Dillard Hammond is the director of catering at Paul Kennedy Catering in Savannah, Georgia. Jodi Arrowood Stepp and husband took a road trip last summer to see Holly Gilmore Hayes and Libby Whatley. Eden Long vacationed in Greece and is doing marketing among tech support at QS/1, and enjoys it. Alison Turner Watson is a Board Certified Music Therapist (MT-BC) and serves as the membership representative for the Music Therapy Association of South Carolina. Alison Turner Watson, Laura Jones Chumley and Kristen Arthur attended their 10<sup>th</sup> year Broome High School reunion in September. Maria Perry Allen is working towards an International Steiner Education Certificate in New Zealand. On the way to NZ, she and her husband visited Valerie Brock Naglich and husband in South Africa before visiting Sarah Rowan Dahl and family in Australia. While painting in NZ, Sarah and her family went on quite an adventure: they swam in glacier water, took a Lord of the Rings tour, and went bungee jumping! Sarah is doing as much art as possible these days.

Kate Ford also traveled around New Zealand with Maria Perry Allen. Chelsea Jaccard is moving back to Washington, DC for USAID training and plans to work overseas indefinitely thereafter. Brandi McGee Polatty received the 2010 Founder Day Award as an Independent Agent Representing Aflac. Share your pictures and news via posts to our Facebook "Converse College c/o 2003" group!

## CLASS OF 2004

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

- Ⓡ Casey Addis  
1301 U Street NW #817  
Washington, DC 20009, 864.425.8565  
claddis@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Kate Carr  
900 Greenwood Avenue NE, Apt. 8  
Atlanta, GA 30306, 404.805.6596  
kateecarr82@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ Jennie Zehr  
245 Cool Water Court  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864.415.7563  
Jennie.04@hotmail.com

It has been a busy spring for the Pink Panther Class of 2004! A few of our fellow classmates just can't seem to stay away: Kelly Wilson Hall was back on campus in May as the Sophomore Ring Ceremony Speaker for the Pink Panther Class of 2012. Myra Green Taylor is headed back to Converse this fall to start her Master's in marriage and family therapy. Rae Schultz Barnes, Brandi Markt, Courtenay Mims, Jane Marion Wilson, Rachel Jones Brown and Tasha Tucker met in Tallahassee, FL to watch Katie Kuersteiner become Katie LaRue. Erin Poston Stone was recently elected to the Board of Directors for Community Health Charities in Columbia, SC. Erin is now the director of development for the Alzheimer's Association of SC. Frances Cate took some much-needed time off from her residency in pathology and laboratory medicine to visit Susan Byrnes Long in Dallas, TX. Genevieve Leaman Strickland recently opened

Magnolia Counseling Associates with Red Devil business partner Gabrielle Chapman Leopard '03. In May, Quinn Burgin Saleeby and her husband Wil finalized the adoption of their baby girl, Mary Katherine. Laura Burgess Martin and her husband Scott's twin boys were born 4 months early. Campbell blessed their lives for 23 amazing days and Joseph has had several surgeries. They are very grateful to their Converse classmates for their outpouring of support over the past months. Adelaide Green finished a degree in Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University and will begin active duty service in the United States Army this fall. Rae Schulz Barnes and her husband moved from Saranac Lake, NY to Philadelphia, PA. Haley Brown is currently a supervisor at the South Carolina Department of Social Services in Child Protective Services in Greenville, SC.

## CLASS OF 2005

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

- Ⓡ Danielle Beckford  
194 Stone Mill Lane  
Marietta, GA 30064, 713.446.0351  
daniellesbeckford@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Heather Engelmann  
435 Willowdale Drive, Apt. 6  
Spartanburg, SC 29303, 864.415.0631  
hengelmann@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Libby Long Richards  
5720 Loyal Avenue  
Durham, NC 27713, 919.758.9734  
Libby.L.Richards@gmail.com

The Class of 2005 will have our senior picture placed in the Beacon. Placing a senior picture at the Beacon Drive Inn of Spartanburg was a tradition that Converse girls started many years ago. Over the years many class pictures of Converse girls were hung and the Class of 2005 would like to bring back this special tradition. Whether you live in Spartanburg or you are visiting, look for the Class of 2005's picture at the Beacon!



Reunion 2010  
Class of 2009

## CLASS OF 2006

5<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

- Ⓡ Mallory Beckett  
925 Cleveland Street, Unit 194  
Greenville, SC 29601, 864.419.2215  
mallorybeckett@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Tracy Huskey  
10 Sweetbriar Lane  
Spartanburg, SC 29301, 864.497.8907  
tehuskey513@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ Melissa Meyer Hewitt  
3300 Hwy 56  
Pauline, SC 29734, 901.262.2921  
mhewitt@spartanburg3.org

Kara Cook Turner passed the National Council of Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) and is employed by McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture, Spartanburg, SC. Mallory Beckett graduated in May 2010 from Clemson University with a Master in public administration. Amanda Burgess George and her husband moved to Myrtle Beach in last August and are both enjoying new jobs and the sunny weather. Make plans now to attend our 5<sup>th</sup> class reunion on April 15–16 in Spartanburg. We look forward to seeing you there!

## CLASS OF 2007

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2012

- Ⓡ Grace Bagwell  
136 Hermon Street, Apt. E  
Athens, GA 30601, 864.909.3207  
grace.bagwell@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Valerie Dowling  
510 E. Windsor Avenue  
Arlington, VA 22301, 803.331.7847  
Valerie.L.dowling@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Deidre D. Tindal  
430 Crosell Drive  
Sumter, SC 29150, 803.983.0711  
dtindol09@gmail.com

Valerie Dowling is the political director for the National Federation of Republican Women in



Alexandria, VA. I (Valerie) enjoy getting to see the Converse ladies who are in the Washington, DC area on a regular basis. Brittany Jones is teaching high school math at Emerson Prep in Washington, DC. Stacy Thrall is a math instructor at Central Carolina Technical College in Sumter, SC. Mary Carolyn DeBruhl Frith just finished her first year of pharmacy school at the University of South Carolina. Asemina Georgiadis is a deaf education teacher at Millwood Elementary School in Sumter, SC. Angela Bollo is "across the ocean studying a different language and home schooling some kids." Kay Sherer is graduating nursing school in December. Chrissy Scheid is in graduate school at NC State for a PhD in biophysical chemistry. Jennifer Jones was recently accepted into veterinarian school. Kate McCormick is teaching music at Henderson Community College in Henderson, KY. She is an active freelance musician playing all over the tri-state area. Valerie

## CLASS OF 2008

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

- Ⓡ Elizabeth Martin  
200 Heywood Avenue, Apt. 703  
Spartanburg, SC 29307, 803.468.4970  
Elizabeth.martin.sc@gmail.com
- Ⓡ Erin McGraw  
4319 Preston Point Way  
Cumming, GA 30041, 678.595.0809  
emcmcgraw@pinecrestacademy.org
- Ⓡ Johanna Whitmer  
4823 Innisbrook Court, Apt. 705  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579, 843.457.1373  
jnwhitmer@gmail.com

As young alumnae, the Class of 2008 has been very successful in our endeavors! Many of the class members are currently working in cities across America and the world in fields relating to their degrees. Other 2008 class members are furthering their education through graduate studies at Indiana University, Mercer Law School, Peabody Conservatory, USC and Converse, just to name a few. Members of the Class of 2008, as you accomplish new and exciting things, please remember to keep your representatives updated! Keep an eye out for a new Class of 2008 Facebook page where you can submit updates and find news about Converse and our class. Also, feel free to contact Elizabeth Martin, Johanna Whitmer, Erin McGraw, Nancy Beth Clark, Nora Nassri or Sarah Marion.

## CLASS OF 2009

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

- Ⓡ Daniela Burrows  
3420 Rawlinson Road  
Columbia, SC 29209, 803.331.8787  
burrows.dmarie@yahoo.com
- Ⓡ Katie Mayes  
235 Forest Green Drive  
Columbia, SC 29209-28150, 803.983.4138  
mayes.katie@gmail.com

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# 00's

(Continued)

**Anna Sharp**  
 1020 Butler Street, Apt. 7  
 Columbia, SC 29205, 336.749.8656  
 als1224@gmail.com

**Meredith Bransford** lives in Camden, SC and works with the Kershaw County Humane Society and Kershaw Health Medical Center. **Rachel Harmon** is a graduate student at Western Carolina University, pursuing a MA in literature. **Sadie Barlow** has been in Spain teaching English as a second language since graduation. She plans to move to Blacksburg, VA this summer. **Gabriela Arosemena** works in construction administration in Panama City, Panama, at a 24-story LEED (green) building. She is in charge of the green certification and has a two-year contract with a successful contractor (RIPARD Holding Corp.) She hopes in a few years that she can pursue a Master's in Spain. **Marybeth Sanders** will be moving to Dallas, TX in the fall to pursue a Masters of sacred music at Southern Methodist University. **Brooke Franklin** teaches in Moscow, Russia. This summer she will be working with the Republican Party in Denver, CO. In the fall, Brooke will be attending The Catholic University of America. **Mallory Begley** works in Belize in Punta Gorda as a Peace Corps volunteer. She is living in a Mayan community and learning Mopan Maya. Mallory is involved in an organization called COMPAR, which deals with the developmental needs of disadvantaged children up to age three who do not have formal access to early childhood education. **Erica Harper** works in North Charleston as a 3-D art teacher at Windsor Hill Infused Elementary School. **Marian Bryce Hanna** lives in Columbia, SC and working on a Master's in language and literacy at USC. **Emily Burns** teaches fourth

## Class of 2004



and fifth grade at Thomas Sumter Academy in Sumter, SC. **Elizabeth Rodelsperger Curry** teaches fifth grade in Charleston. **Anna Sharp** works at a Christian School for inner city children in Columbia, SC. **Katie Mayes** works at Eastminster Day School in Columbia, SC. **Sarah Bracey Johnson** and **Charlie Johnson** live in Yonkers, NY. **Jennie Elizabeth Dempsey** teaches at Denmark-Olar Elementary School. **Cassandra Morrow Harris** has worked as an itinerant teacher with the Spartanburg County Hearing Impaired Program. This fall, she will serve as the teacher of the inaugural preschool class for hearing impaired children. **Chevelle Walsh** is currently working in Daegu, South Korea as an English as a second language teacher.

## CLASS OF 2010

1<sup>st</sup> Reunion - April 15-16, 2011

- Ashley Shearsmith**  
 921 Steadman Farms Drive  
 Inman, SC 29349, 803.494.9827  
 Cc\_chick\_10@windstream.net
- Amanda Stillinger**  
 500 Carlen Avenue, Apt. 6212  
 Lexington, SC 29072, 803.445.3247  
 Amanda.stillinger@gmail.com



"1...0...you know!" Make plans now to attend our first class reunion on April 15-16, 2011 in Spartanburg. Be sure to call or email Ashley or Amanda with your news for the next alumnae magazine.

## Alumnae Events



Greenville, SC Alumnae Event hosted by Lee and Pam Hughes Foster '96 on October 22, 2009



Dallas, TX Alumnae Event hosted by Kay Ferguson This '78 on February 25, 2010