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Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302  
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**Joyce Carol Oates**  
**Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Visiting Writer**  
Reading and Book Signing

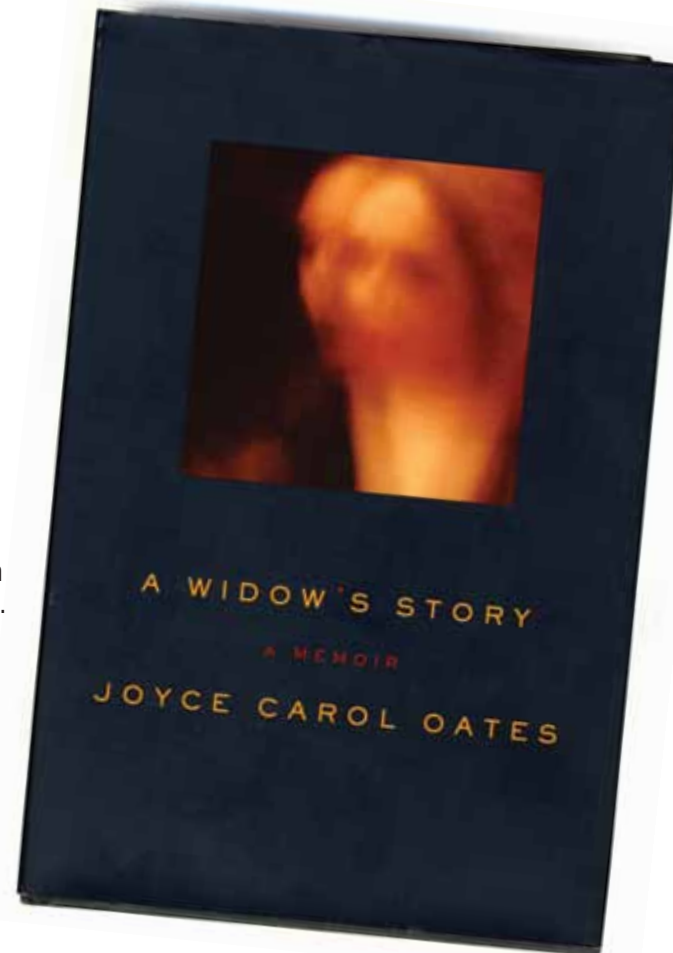
April 27, 2012  
3:00 pm, Twichell Auditorium  
Free Admission

Joyce Carol Oates is one of America's most distinguished authors. John Gardner has called her "one of the greatest writers of our time." In a work unlike anything she's written before, Oates unveils a poignant, intimate memoir about the unexpected death of her husband and its wrenching, surprising aftermath. *A Widow's Story* illuminates one woman's struggle to comprehend a life without the partnership that had sustained and defined her for nearly half a century.



**Exhibition & Artist's Talk**  
Featuring  
Jane Yarborough Creech '60

An art exhibition featuring Converse alumna Jane Yarborough Creech '60, whose work was selected for the cover of *A Widow's Story*, will follow in Twichell lobby.

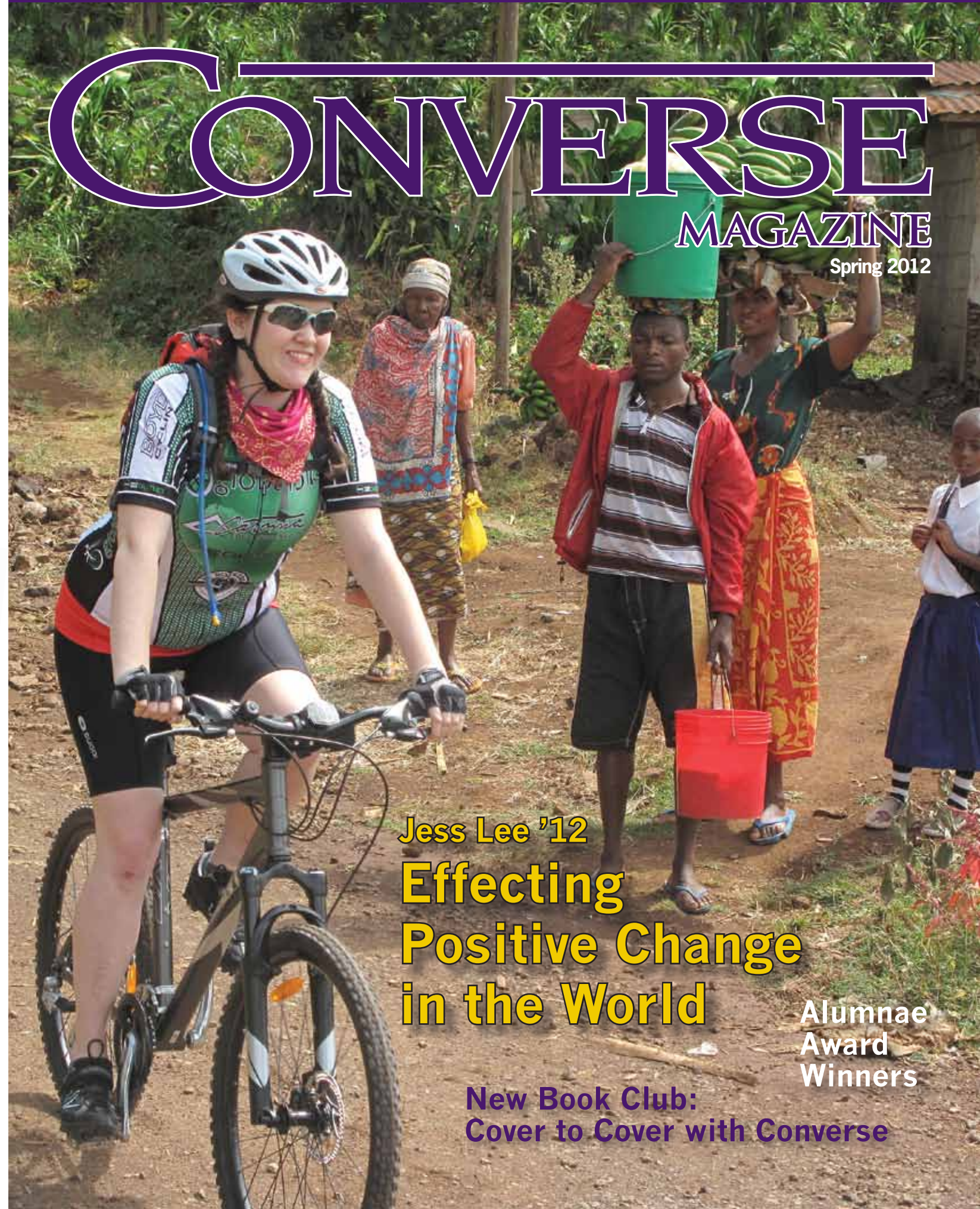


Info: 864.596.9114  
converse.edu/reunion

# CONVERSE

## MAGAZINE

Spring 2012



**Jess Lee '12**  
**Effecting**  
**Positive Change**  
**in the World**

**Alumnae**  
**Award**  
**Winners**

**New Book Club:**  
**Cover to Cover with Converse**



**Claudia Jowitt  
McCollough '62**

“Our alumnae understand the treasure they were given by receiving their education. It is important for us to thank Converse for all of this by supporting her through our gifts.”



**Erin Rich  
Strickland '98**

“If grant foundations look at our alumnae giving participation and see that it’s critically low (as ours is now), they won’t be motivated to support us. By raising our participation rate, we can make an even bigger impact with what we give.”



**Betsy Crane Griffith '72**

“The Board challenges our graduates to Come Home to Converse—attend alumnae gatherings and Reunion and restart giving to the annual fund. Participation is key, no matter how large or small.”

## We are ONE.

### The ONE Challenge.

For every percentage point above last year’s giving percentage (23%) the Converse Board of Trustees will give \$10,000 to our annual fund. Our participation right now is about 10%.



**Angela Stinson-  
Adams '82**

“I believe in paying it forward. It is important to me to give back to the school that provided me with so many great opportunities.”

### Your ONE gift helps:

- Provide \$3000 toward the tuition of every student on campus
- Support the beautification and restoration efforts of our breathtaking grounds
- Provide funding for Converse II and Graduate programs
- Provide work study opportunities for students on campus
- Supply funding for campus life programming and student activities

**Want to give?** [www.converse.edu/giveone](http://www.converse.edu/giveone) or mail your donation to Allyson Tesh, Director of the Annual Fund, Converse College, 580 E. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC, 29302.

**Want to help?** Once you have given, contact ONE friend and encourage her to support the Converse Annual Fund. Ask 10 friends to call 10 friends. See if your class can be the first to increase our giving percentage by 1%!



## Thousand Thanks Gala

Once a year, Converse leadership donors of \$1,000 or more are celebrated for their financial contributions to the College. Speaking to the Thousand Thanks guests, President Betsy Fleming applauded their generosity: “The magic of this annual event, indeed the magic of this place, is nurtured by your love and loyalty to Converse.”



# CONVERSE

## MAGAZINE

### Effecting Positive Change in the World

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Jess Lee '12 and Sally Jeter Hammond '81 form "Team Converse" and cycle to break the cycle of violence against women in Africa.



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**Model Arab League Stars of the Middle East**

Our nationally decorated MAL is chosen to train others in Model League.



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She circumnavigated the globe and reaffirmed her passion for democracy and the expression of freedoms.



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The breadth of their accomplishments is the stuff that makes eyes pop and jaws drop.

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Editor  
Cynthia Faber Smith

Art Director  
John Pryor

Production Assistant  
Donna Phillips Gardner

Alumnae News  
Nancy Smith Gage '82

Contributors  
Beth Farmer Lancaster '96, Jess Lee '12,  
Sally Jeter Hammond '81, Dr. Joe P. Dunn,  
Michelle Fleming '12, Ron Bailey Photography,  
Hot Eye Photography

On the Cover:  
Jess Lee '12 in Tanzania.

The *Converse Magazine* is published by the Office of Communications, Converse College, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.596.9704. Converse College does not discriminate in admissions or employment on the basis of race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, religion or disability. Converse admits only women to undergraduate programs and services in accordance with its historical mission.

Spring 2012, Volume 124, No. 1  
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## Calling all Alumnae!

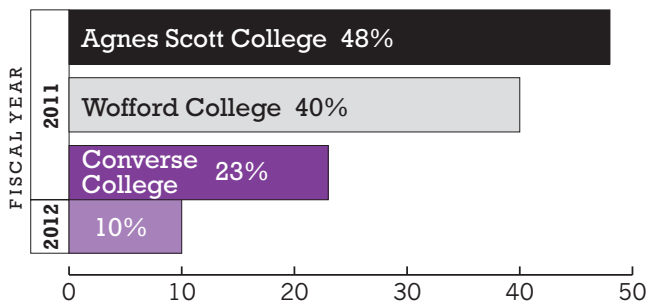
Each day, as I see the lives of our students burgeoning with new discoveries and possibilities, it is evident that Converse is well on her way to becoming a leading center for creative thinking and learning, and a community known for producing engaged citizens who effect positive change. In the classroom, in student organizations, in leadership positions, in studying abroad and on the playing field, Converse women are honing their capacity as creative thinkers and doers. They are expanding their global awareness and engagement. They are nurturing a personal vision of integrity that involves making a difference in the world.

This issue of *Converse Magazine* celebrates students and alumnae who, because of their experience at Converse, have activated their aspirations and voice. These women have achieved success while simultaneously working to advance a greater good. Reflecting upon the personal journey of each Converse woman within these pages, I am impressed by the clarity with which she attributes her growth, her connections and her accomplishments to her Converse experience.

During the past six years of my presidency, I have grown alongside Converse women in deepening my own commitment to building community through the advancement of women and girls. I have invested my full self in positioning Converse as a distinctive, affordable environment that empowers creative leaders for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. My days have been energized by conversations with and stories about you—alumnae sharing with me your love and appreciation for Converse, her single-gender mission, her recent advances and, of course, your incredible lasting friendships. I adore these discussions, but am also saddened by the striking disconnect between your affections and alumnae support of the College.

Alumnae giving to the annual fund at Converse is notably low when compared to such institutions as Wofford and Agnes Scott but even more when considered in the context of your individual and collective love and pride for Converse—the place that cultivated your

## “Alumnae giving is notably low.”



Participate in the ONE campaign by giving to the annual fund at [converse.edu/giveone](http://converse.edu/giveone), by calling 864.596.9053 or using the enclosed envelope.

“Over the last six years of my presidency, I have grown alongside Converse women in deepening my own vision and commitment to advancing women and girls.”

lifelong friendships, and that nurtured in each of you the confidence, courage and conviction to craft lives of personal and professional success. The Converse Annual Fund—when you were a student as well as now—provides absolutely integral funding to support student scholarships, to attract and retain faculty, and to keep lights on in the residence halls well after midnight.

Concerned about this disconnect between alumnae affection and investment, the Converse Board of Trustees has issued a challenge. For every one percent increase in alumnae giving participation this fiscal year (ending June 30), the Board will collectively give an additional \$10,000 to the Converse Annual Fund. A total of 100 alumnae comprise one percentage point. Every gift matters in this challenge. My challenge to you is, quite simply, to give.

Give because of the incredible Converse friendships that have sustained you in both good and difficult times. Give because you received a scholarship as a student—without which you could not have afforded the Converse experience. Give because of a beloved faculty or staff mentor who helped you to find a true calling in life. Give because of your pride in the Converse women featured in this magazine and the difference that they are making in the world.

Step up to the challenge. Invest in Converse for her past, her present and her future.

Join the Converse ONE campaign—ONE gift. ONE fund. ONE challenge. Let’s come together as ONE Converse, showing the Board, the community, our sisters and each other the depth of our affection for this institution and our commitment to her continuing to advance girls and women.

The ONE campaign is about the power of the possible. My dream is that this challenge can grow to encompass EVERY ALUMNA, EVERY YEAR. Start today. **Be the ONE.**

With all best wishes,

Elizabeth A. Fleming, PhD  
President

## President Fleming speaks at TEDx

TED is a nonprofit that started in 1984 as a conference to bring together people from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment and Design. TED believes passionately in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and ultimately, the world. TED.com is a free clearinghouse of the best talks and performances that offer knowledge and inspiration from the world’s most inspired thinkers, building a community of curious souls to engage with ideas and each other. Today, TED is best thought of as a global community welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world.

The TEDx program gives communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at the local level. In September 2011, President Betsy Fleming spoke at a TEDx Spartanburg event about the impact of art in her childhood and why it continues to play a major role in her life.



Watch the video of President Fleming’s TEDx presentation, “Why I Love Art,” at [converse.edu/video/president-fleming-speaks-tedx](http://converse.edu/video/president-fleming-speaks-tedx).

# POSITIVE CHANGE

## Two To Tanzania

Converse senior, Jess Lee and Sally Jeter Hammond, Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing and a 1981 alumna, recently stepped out in a big way to speak up for women. The two spent nine days cycling in Tanzania with globalbike, an international non-profit organization founded in Spartanburg. Committed to the idea that bicycles can be transformative in remote regions of the world, globalbike has made a number of trips to Africa. Each time, the funds they raise in the United States allow them to provide bikes for organizations that support the needs of women and families. In their latest venture, globalbike challenged representatives from key organizations and institutions in Spartanburg to go along for the ride.



As a newcomer to the cycling scene, Hammond had heard about this ride and learned it would be a targeted effort to raise awareness about issues of violence against girls and women. President Fleming and Hammond agreed that Converse should be involved. Fleming encouraged Hammond to go, and to take a student. “Jess is a Converse student who is passionate about being a global citizen,” said Hammond. “I have seen that in her work with the College’s Diversity Club.” Jess and Sally formed “Team Converse” and began earnestly training up to two hours per day.

From February 26–March 6, Jess and Sally rode mountain bikes alongside 10 other cyclists from Spartanburg and a dozen riders from Tanzania and Kenya to complete the 150-mile journey around the base of Mt. Kilimanjaro. This unlikely community of Americans and Africans not only changed each other’s lives, they also put more than 100 new bikes in the hands of Tanzanians working to advance the lives of women and girls. The following are excerpts from the journals that Jess and Sally kept while they were in Africa.





Read Jess and Sally's blog about their adventure at [converseinafrica.tumblr.com](http://converseinafrica.tumblr.com)

*Clockwise from top: Our team of cyclists preparing for morning stretches; a beautiful African woman; an average day of riding involved steep hills and muddy, rocky paths; we handed off our flag to a team that would climb Mt. Kilimanjaro (left).*



# POSITIVE CHANGE

"This trip has changed my entire perspective on life. I now have more patience and a deeper appreciation for all the blessings in my life."

-Jess



## Jess's Story

### Traveling Light

I brought an open heart to Africa. I think that's the very the best thing I could have packed. There is a peace here that seems to be in the very soil. No cell phone signals, loud static or even heavy traffic. Life is certainly not easy here but there is an appreciation for every single breath.

### Mama Sally

Several times during our ride Sally has slowed down to meet me as I was trying to take on a hill she had already conquered. I'm not sure if she will ever know how important she has been in my life. Her patience, love and fun spirit are a beacon of hope for me as I attempt to balance life, school and my new sport. I couldn't do this trip without her.



### Priceless

Several of the girls we are traveling with have stopped going to school because their families cannot afford the \$150 in annual tuition. My education is the single most important element to my success. The words "Thank you" will never adequately describe how grateful I am for the experiences I have had at Converse. As I start off on my journey after college, I am strengthened by the investment that so many have made in my future.

### The Boss

We are riding with a group of boys who were selected from their villages to learn the sport of cycling. This opportunity will give them chances they would never otherwise have. "Boss" is a 16-year-old from Kenya and we have spent many miles learning from one another. When I feel like there is absolutely-positively-not-a-chance that I am going to make it up one of the hills, Boss tells me I can and we do it together. Boss is an incredible coach and an unexpected one.



### Change and Face the World

In order to eliminate some of the violent methods against women, there has to be a change in the way men see women. As we ride with the African boys and we speak to a number of men along the way, we are laying the groundwork for an understanding that not only do women have a stake in the success of a community, they have a role in which to develop it. These boys and men can be a part of the solution.



The girls of the group



## Sally's Story

### *From Here to There*

Our first daylight drive through the remote villages of East Africa affords us a glimpse of the "back woods" as we say in America. But, Americans don't know back woods like the ones in Tanzania. We pass women clad in colorful clothes with buckets of bananas on their heads. The homes we see have no electricity, no running water, no indoor kitchen. I can't imagine the hardships of the women who live here.

### *The Road Least Travelled*

It won't be long before our bus stops and spits us out to cycle up and down the hilly terrain of Tanzania. It's hard to believe I am mountain biking at 53, in Africa no less. I have to wonder what I signed on for and how physically hard this trip will be. We got on our bikes today only to maneuver around volcanic rocks (small boulders, really) and navigate what look like pre-historic jungle paths. By nightfall, we'll have ridden 27 kilometers in 95-degree heat with a monsoon thrown in for good measure.

### *Jess*

Jess is a testament to what happens at Converse. She has been empowered by the experience that comes from a women's college and she reminds me of me who I was when I was a student. Jess has only been riding for a month, but she is determined to be strong. I am in awe of what she is contributing here.

### *Jabitha and Iddha*

I have come to know two girls from Kenya. They are poised and articulate for their ages. They say their self-confidence is the result of an after-school program called Box Girls. "Boxing," they tell me, "can give you focus and discipline and an outlet for fitness." They say women in East Africa are voiceless.

The women cook over open fires, and wash clothes in buckets and streams. They are often abused at the hands of an intimate partner. How can I keep these precious girls from the same fate?

### *"We" Power*

We leave Tanzania better for having been here: one hundred bikes for five organizations that help women and girls. We leave knowing that jargon like "cultural collaboration" and "transformative tourism" can mean something when descriptors like "them" and "us" take a back seat to "we." Our team of cyclists broke through language, ethnic and cultural barriers to become a singular community working for a common goal. I am bringing home lessons in courage, lessons about the power of what people can do together.



*"Our team of cyclists broke through language, ethnic and cultural barriers to become a singular community working for a common goal."*

*- Sally*



*Lake Chala*



# POSITIVE CHANGE

## Converse Model Arab League Stars of the Middle East

The Converse College Model Program is the national power in Model Arab League and on a world scale in International Model NATO. Now the College has taken on a global role as trainers of how to run and participate in diplomatic simulations. Converse seniors Hilary Berry and Sarah Warrick travelled to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where they spent four days training students how to be successful delegates in a high school-level Model Arab League which will be held in November, 2012 in Dubai.

This past October, Berry and Warrick traveled with Converse Model Programs sponsor, Dr. Joe P. Dunn, to Amman, Jordan and Dubai where they conducted two days training in each city. Last year, three Converse students helped organize and run the first Mubadara Model Arab League in Aqaba, Jordan. The Mubadara MAL is sponsored by Beyond Discovery, an Amman-based company that

specializes in programs to address issues facing today's youth. The company focuses on three components—creativity, action, and service. The Mubadara MAL is the new flagship creativity activity.

This was not Converse's first time running Model Arab Leagues in the region. In 2004 and 2005, Converse students ran high school models that took place at the Modern Montessori School in Amman, Jordan. When the teacher who organized those models left the school, the MAL waned. In 2010 Beyond Discovery resurrected the MAL and took it to a larger scope.

"The skills I've learned through Model League extend far beyond the debate floor.

This program has taught me leadership, self-reliance, and initiative," said Berry, who

serves as the Secretary-General of the National Model Arab League and the Secretary-General of International Model NATO, both held in Washington, DC. Converse administers International Model NATO as the permanent Secretariat that supplies all the committee chairs and other model officers. Warrick is the Secretary-General



Warrick and Berry with students in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

of the Southeast MAL, held annually at Converse. Both women serve as co-head delegates of the Converse delegation, which has an unbroken record of Outstanding Delegation awards at both models for more than a decade.

Berry and Warrick found their two trips to the Middle East fascinating. Each location was unique in the issues working with young students. In all three venues, they were particularly impressed with the talents, energy and personalities of the young women. "I see a future for myself that involves many work-related trips to the Middle East," said Warrick. "Having traveled to the region twice now, I am fully invested in it. I have the itch to continue my travels to the Arab world and help promote positive change throughout the region."

On the heels of this trip, the Converse delegation hosted the Southeast MAL in March. More than 200 participants comprising twenty-one delegations from schools in Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Massachusetts competed. As usual, Converse's Morocco delegation received the Outstanding Delegation Award; the Converse's second delegation, representing Kuwait, composed of primarily first-year delegates received Honorable Mention distinction.



Hilary Berry (left), Sarah Warrick and Dr. Joe Dunn in Amman, Jordan.

# Semester at Sea Scholar Studies the World

Converse student Ashley Blount '13, traveled from her hometown on the Gulf Coast of Alabama and circumnavigated the globe. As a Tutu Scholar for Semester at Sea this past fall, she also met Desmond Tutu and toured parts of South Africa with Bishop Peter Story, prison chaplain to Nelson Mandela. "I still can't believe I did all that," gasped Blount. "I had not even been to much of the US!" Blount was nervous when she started the first leg of her tour but there was camaraderie amongst the students. "We were all in the same boat," she laughed.

Blount heard about the Semester at Sea program when a representative came to campus. The non-profit Institute for Shipboard Education has launched 100 Semester at Sea voyages, educated more than 50,000 students from 1,500 institutions, and traveled to more than 60 countries. As the world's premiere shipboard education program, the organization's mission is to educate individuals with the global understanding necessary to address the challenges of our interdependent world.

Determined to be a part of the next voyage, Blount repeatedly applied for many scholarships that she didn't receive. "Lots of prayer went into my efforts and then I heard I was selected for the Tutu Scholarship." The Desmond Tutu Program in Global Understanding honors the Nobel Laureate Archbishop Tutu's lifelong contributions to global awareness and intercultural understanding. Each fall semester, only one Tutu scholarship is awarded. "Wow. Me?" Blount thought. She was surprised and grateful. The Tutu scholarship combined with her Chapman scholarship and other scholarships from Converse transferred to complete her tuition costs.

Semester at Sea's unique shipboard program integrates multiple-country study, interdisciplinary coursework, and hands-on field experiences for meaningful engagement in the global community. "Being in the places we were studying was like living a part

of history," said Blount. "For my Ethics and US Foreign Policy course we went to Hiroshima and the Peace Museum. In South Africa we saw the lingering remnants of apartheid."

Blount knew Semester at Sea would change her life. "I started the voyage wondering how I would incorporate my skills and passions in my career." Her experiences reaffirmed her decision to study Politics at Converse. "I now know the reason why I am studying these materials. I have a passion for democracy and the expression of freedoms. I learned first-hand how democracy in America relates to other countries in the world."

This summer, Blount will attend the prestigious Ralph Bunche Summer Institute at Duke University. An elite group of twenty minority students are selected annually for this powerful program designed to recruit and prepare minorities to pursue graduate work in political science at the top graduate programs in the field.

## Ashley's Semester at Sea Ports of Call

- Montreal, Canada
- Casablanca, Morocco
- Accra (Tema), Ghana
- Cape Town, South Africa
- Port Louis, Mauritius
- Chennai, India
- Penang, Malaysia
- Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- Hong Kong, China
- Shanghai, China
- Kobe, Japan
- Yokohama, Japan
- Hilo, Hawaii
- Puntarenas, Costa Rica (Panama Canal Transit)
- Roatan, Honduras



As the Tutu Scholar, Blount introduced Desmond Tutu before he spoke to the shipboard community.



Blount volunteered with children of the village school of Senase, Ghana.



A sunrise view from the Semester at Sea ship as it approached the port in Casablanca, Morocco.

# POSITIVE CHANGE

## Where in the World Are the Women of The Model League?

The success stories of Converse students and alumnae never cease to wow us. The breadth of your accomplishments and the depth of your professional expertise is the stuff that makes eyes pop and jaws drop. We spoke with four young alums that made a name for themselves in the College's highly-renowned Model Arab League. Today, these globetrotting women, with jobs in the world of high-level diplomacy, are proof positive that the most competitive playing fields in the world are stomping grounds for Converse graduates.



CASEY

Casey Addis '04—Came to Converse from Gaffney, SC



YOSI

Yosabeth "Yosi" Zewde Weldemedhin '08—came to Converse from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



TINA

Tina Rohner '07—Came to Converse from Kaufbeuren, Germany



MAHAL

Mahal Woldetsadik '08—came to Converse from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### Catch us up on where you are right now and what you are doing.

**Casey** I am a Foreign Service Officer with the US Department of State at the US Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. I work on human rights in the Middle East, but I also cover a variety of thematic issues including Freedom of Assembly, Human Rights Defenders and LGBT issues. I often find myself saying, "I can't believe this is my life."

**Yosi** I work for the African Development Bank, an international development institution that invests in poverty reduction and economic growth within the continent. I provide support on results measurement and reporting for the bank's investments in various sectors including agriculture and food security, health, education and state capacity building.

**Tina** After Converse, I received a degree in Public Policy and Public Affairs at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore and at Sciences Po Paris. For the past three years, I have been working for Goldman Sachs on the Asia Equities sales desk in Singapore, covering all Asian markets excluding Japan. It is a fast-paced career where one always has to stay on top of what is happening in the world, hence a great fit for me!

**Mahal** I am currently working at the UN Women's Liaison office for the African Union and UN Economic Commission for Africa in Ethiopia. I am doing field research on the role of health providers in the fight to end violence against women and the obstacles that prevent them from providing appropriate reproductive health services to women survivors of violence.

### What (about the real world) has been the biggest surprise to you since graduating?

**Casey** I continue to marvel at how four years at a small liberal arts women's college in South Carolina prepared me to take on everything from The University of Texas to Capitol Hill to the US State Department to the United Nations!

**Tina** To be honest, Converse has prepared me exceptionally well for the "real world," so I don't think there have been too many major surprises!

**Yosi** Watching the wave of demonstrations and protests unfold in the Arab world (known as The Arab Spring). Autocratic leaders who rule for decades, the absence of basic political rights and freedoms, high unemployment and the catalytic effect of social media—has finally culminated in a transnational revolution. I was able to connect the dots because of my role and experience in Model League.

## What are the most valuable lessons you've learned since leaving Converse?

**Casey** Be audacious. Be confident. Dream big. An enormous university like The University of Texas, the halls of the US Congress, the White House and the United Nations can all be intimidating places for a small town, Southern girl! Converse gave me the tools; it was up to me to use them. This world is no place for timid women.

**Mahal** In whatever you do, be honest and dependable. Invest in friendships and people that matter to you and do your best to be in their lives. Travel the world and see new places. Challenge your preconceptions and convictions. Take risks for things you believe in but above all, never settle for something that doesn't make you happy.

## What about being a "Model Leaguer" has contributed to your success?

**Tina** Converse is an institution that enables students to think big and exceed their own expectations. Model League trains students in the art of debating, defending a view and speaking up for themselves, all of which are crucial for succeeding in the real world. Coming from a small town in Germany to attend college in South Carolina, I could never have imagined that I would find myself sitting on a trading floor in Asia!

**Mahal** When we want to learn about something new and want to explore further, we leave behind the books in the libraries and immerse ourselves in countries and situations we are trying to understand. That opens a whole new door of understanding and enlightenment and shapes us to be who we are becoming every day.

## What do you miss most about life on the Converse College campus?

**Casey** I miss the people most of all. My friends (now scattered around the world), my professors (most of whom are still working hard shaping the women leaders of tomorrow), and the staff contribute to a place that is so much more than just an educational institution.

**Tina** Now that we are all doing great things in different parts of the world, I have come to realize how precious those four years at Converse really were when our friends were just down the hall.

**Yosi** I miss my friends, the simplicity of college life and the excitement of a school dance. I miss the classroom environment where students are encouraged to form and voice their opinions. I miss the chocolate chip cookies in Gee dining hall!

## Dr. "Model League" Dunn

Dr. Joe Dunn has been the sponsor of the Converse Model Programs for 25 years. He tirelessly advances the program and the lives of its student participants. "The remarkable young women who are involved in the Model Programs are difference makers and they will be for the rest of their lives." Revered by his students, who use words like inspiring, iconic and irascible to describe him, Joe Dunn is as much an institution at Converse as the award-winning debate program that has become synonymous with his name. "Dr. Dunn, is a unique combination of teacher, father and friend," said Yosi Weldemedhin '08. The Converse Model League has earned a reputation for slaying competitors such as University of California-Berkeley, United States Military Academy, and Harvard. A member of the Converse faculty since 1976, Dr. Joe Dunn is the Charles A. Dana Professor of History and Politics and Chair of the History and Politics Department. He has a long list of former students he now counts as friends, women, he says, who will always be a source of joy and pride.



Dr. Joe Dunn, is a popular photo-op with his former students at Reunion Weekend.

# NEWS & EVENTS

## School of the Arts Launches with Mozart Comedy

With a unique community celebration, Converse introduced the new School of the Arts on November 18–20 at Chapman Cultural Center in Spartanburg. The event featured a sampling of talents in the visual arts, music, theatre and dance and Converse Opera Theatre's production of Mozart's comic opera, *Così fan tutte* (sung in English).

"*Così fan tutte* is one of the last comic operas that Mozart produced and time has proven it to be among the most endearing," said Becky Turner, Director of Converse Opera

Theatre. "Our performance was designed to shift people's perception about opera and make it relatable and accessible to all audiences."

"I had never been to an opera before but it looked like fun so I went. Who knew I would like opera?" remarked Cveta Picarova, Director of Residential Life and First Year Programs.

"That's exactly what we wanted to accomplish," said Director Stafford Turner. "Who would have thought of Mozart in a contemporary West Texas diner? The story is timeless, adaptable, and very funny." Turner adapted the comedy to take place in "The Roasted Armadillo" where waitressing sisters, "Flodalucy" and "Dorabeulla," are thrown into despair as their fiancés, "T-Frankie" and "Bill Bubba," are suddenly called away on business. However, it is all part of an elaborate charade facilitated by their friend "Darlena" and boss, "Mister Marlow" to challenge the sisters' fidelity. The men return in disguise to woo each other's intended, and while at first the ladies are steadfast, their resolve begins to slowly melt away.



"The traditional *Così fan tutte* translation is over 50 years old and antiquated," said Turner. "It's also rather boring for such a funny piece. My adaption omits the more risqué and sexist story lines and some small additions

added to the spirit of the humor. It was a blast to see something I've been chewing on for 10 years come out exactly as I had envisioned it." Dual casts allowed double the number of students to participate. Stafford explained that *Così* was a great ensemble production for students because the roles were equally weighted and the music was accessible for young singers.

"*Così fan tutte* was a perfect centerpiece for our launch celebration because it embodies our belief that the arts flourish most when they are more than standalone activities," said Richard Higgs, Dean of the School of the Arts. "This was a major step toward realizing our goal to engage more deeply with the broader cultural community. Our focus is on creating new collaborations that are grounded in common goals, such as building on our successful opera and theatre programs to introduce a musical theatre major this fall."



Dual casts perform in the contemporary West Texas adaptation of *Così fan tutte*.

## All in the Timing was All-Out Fun!

In September, Converse faculty and staff presented *All in the Timing* by David Ives. This collection of six short plays blended wit, intellect, satire and just plain fun into an evening of great comedy! Director Brent Glenn said the short plays were a perfect fit for demanding schedules. "This was the first time we dedicated a production to an all-faculty and staff cast. We assigned parts last year so they would have the summer to learn their lines."

Meredith Hardwicke, Converse Admission Counselor, said, "It was great interacting with the faculty and staff on a completely different level, and I know that it was fun for the Converse community to see us in roles outside of our daily routine." Was it strange to perform in front of the student body? "Not at all," said Dr. Kevin DeLapp, Professor of Philosophy. "Teaching IS a kind of performing."

"Everyone was marvelous," Glenn said of the cast. "It was all about coming together and having fun."

*All in the Timing* is "Theatre which aerobicizes the brain and tickles the heart. Ives is a comic who has put the play back in playwright."  
~Time Magazine



"Words, Words, Words" Three chimpanzees attempt to write Hamlet.



"Sure Thing" A couple have an awkward first-time meeting until, finally, they romantically connect.



"Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread" Minimalist composer Philip Glass tries to buy a loaf of bread.



"The Universal Language" A woman takes a fraudulent learning course and finds herself learning an invented language.



"English Made Simple" A man and a woman meet at a party and struggle to free themselves from common party talk.



"Variations on the Death of Trotsky" Revolutionary Trotsky wonders why there is an axe stuck in his head!

# NEWS & EVENTS

## BIG Youth Summit Inspires Youth to Believe in College

The Converse campus welcomed Spartanburg District III middle and high school students to the first Believe in Greatness (BIG) Summit in March. It was a day led by area college students to provide their younger peers leadership and character development opportunities while reinforcing the role of higher education in their futures.

“The BIG Summit is based on building a ‘yes, I can’ attitude about going to college,” said Ashley Page ’13, BIG founder and leader of the student planning committee. “BIG embodies four principles: Education, Character, Leadership and Confidence. We want students to believe they can go to college. Then we can help them with the tools to reach their goals.”



The summit held education sessions covering topics such as “Healthy Body, Healthy Minds,” “Goal Setting” and “Getting Involved on Your High School Campus and Broader Community.” College admission representatives were also on hand for a mini college fair.

“The BIG Summit offers something new and unique to Spartanburg, with a program planned and presented by college students specifically for their community,” added College Hub Executive Director and BIG adviser Carrie DuPre. “Adults can tell students all day long that they can be successful, but at the end of the day, having college students who were right where they were not too long ago will make the most impact.”

High school students attended a panel discussion of local residents who remained here after earning their college degrees. Questions covered the spectrum of college life, from picking the right school and talking to professors, to time management and balancing social pressures with academics.

Kimberly Smith '06 enjoyed serving on the panel. “We illustrated many different college experiences and showed students that college is what you make of it; everyone has a different path.” Jacob Powell, 15, a Broome High School student said the panel was his favorite part of the day. “They taught the importance of education and how it’s the key to a bright future,” he said.

The theme of believing in your own greatness and staying true to your goals continued throughout the day. “I learned to never stop trying,” said Josh Morgan, 14, a student at Middle School of Pacolet.

Participants may engage in follow-up social and community service activities to reinforce the peer-to-peer connections established at the summit. “The students are excited and already asking when we will meet again,” said Page. “They are ready!”


BIG Summit organizers plan for future summits to rotate among area colleges and universities to highlight Spartanburg county efforts to increase higher education attainment. BIG was sponsored by Converse College, College Hub, the Spartanburg County Foundation and Sodexo.



“BIG is my dream coming true,” said founder Ashley Page.



Part of the BIG Summit included a mini college fair. Partner schools included Spartanburg Community College, Spartanburg Methodist College, University of South Carolina Upstate, Wofford College and Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine.

For more information, email [B.I.G.spartanburg@gmail.com](mailto:B.I.G.spartanburg@gmail.com) or visit Believe In Greatness on Facebook. 



# Love-In Photo Contest



1<sup>st</sup> place:  
*Anushka Senanayake*



2<sup>nd</sup> place: *Jasmine Middlebrooks*

Love-packed February sparked a Love-In photo contest sponsored by the Diversity Initiatives Coalition and Student Government Association. Arnisha White '14 and Jess Lee '12 spearheaded the event. "We wanted people to use their creativity through pictures to express their love for diversity and how they viewed it here at Converse," said White. "I loved looking at the photos and seeing how diversity at Converse was captured through their eyes. It was a phenomenal experience to be on the other side looking in."

White explained that behind the great photos were the fun collaborations with friends and residence halls to create some of the images. "So many were excited to participate in a person's piece and to really grasp their ideas of diversity."

The winners of the contest were announced at a "Giving Back Love" reveal party. Admission to the event was one canned good item to be donated to the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen.



3<sup>rd</sup> place: *Laura Feltner*



4<sup>th</sup> place: *Anushka Senanayake*



5<sup>th</sup> place: *Maya James*

# NEWS & EVENTS

## Black History Month: AAAS Leads Month of Recognition

Recognition of Black History Month was organized by the African-American Student's Association (AAAS). Kara Lee-Deloatch '13, President, said the focus this year was to have relaxed, fellowship-building events throughout the month. "We began with a scavenger hunt during 'Montgomery by Moonlight' at the start of the term. We also presented movies produced by or starring African-Americans, Girls Night In, Game Night and a 90s Party. Our centerpiece was a Pathways performance by Brenda Porter."

Pathways is a one-woman multi-media presentation that tells the stories of exceptional women in American History who accepted life challenges and made a difference. "Pathways introduced the audience to a diverse group of African-American women such as Mary Fields, Edmonia Lewis, Wilma Rudolph, Bessie Coleman, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells and Barbara Jordan," said AAAS advisor Rev. Jason Loscuito, College Chaplain.

"Our goal was to have fun and to invite everyone to participate. AAAS is open to anyone who has an interest in African-American



A highlight of Black History Month was a multimedia production about strong women in American History.

history or culture," said Lee-Deloatch. "We also enjoy service projects such as working at the Habitat for Humanity Restore and assisting Spartanburg's Soup Kitchen."

## Converse Offers Energy and Climate Change Online Studies

For more information about Converse online graduate studies, visit [online.converse.edu](http://online.converse.edu)



*"Energy and climate change education should be a priority in public education,"*

~ Dr. Wayne Cheser

Converse education professor Dr. Wayne Cheser is passionate about advancing elementary school children's awareness of energy and climate change issues—so much so that he spent two years researching and filming a set of DVDs for teachers that provide models of best teaching practices. The DVDs are a centerpiece of his graduate-level course, EDU 585—Advanced Methods in Elementary Science: Energy Education and Climate Change, which will be part of

Converse's online graduate curriculum for the first time this summer.

"Energy and climate change education should be a priority in public education," Cheser said. "Here in South Carolina, trains loaded with coal that are headed for coal-fired steam power plants, seven nuclear power stations that dot the countryside, and hydroelectric dams that shape the landscape are sources of

energy not clearly understood by most elementary students and teachers. Methane from local landfills fuel local industries, and wind turbines and solar panels are more frequently appearing in this area," Cheser explained.

"Teachers need to be equipped with the knowledge and tools to energize students. Most adults in our culture have very little information about the science of carbon-based fuels, the effects of the industrial revolution on our atmosphere, the strategic role of ice in moderating the planet's temperature, etc. My goal is to shed as much non-political light on these topics and concepts as possible."

Shelley Robbins of Upstate Forever, a nonprofit organization that promotes sustainable communities and clean air and water, praised the course noting, "Dr. Cheser's work is much needed in South Carolina, where per capita energy consumption is higher than the national average. And there is no better place to start teaching these systems and scientific relationships than in our elementary schools and junior highs where students are first learning biology, chemistry and physics as well as what a complex biological system our planet is. These kids are South Carolina's future leaders, policy makers and voters. They need to understand that they are not powerless and that daily decisions do matter."

# ATHLETICS



## Converse Swim Team Ranks 25<sup>th</sup> in the Nation

For the first time in Converse College history, an athletics program is ranked top 25 in the nation. The College Swim Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) ranked Converse swim team as the number 25 team in all of NCAA Division II. Coach Corey White credits team unity for achieving this goal. "The team competes with a common vision," he says. "They worked hard and they deserve it. I am so thankful to be a part of this group and for all the support we've received."

### Season highlights:

- Nine new school records
- Fifth straight semester Team Scholar All-American Award
- Seven All-Conference Academic Swimmers
- Six swimmers named to the fall Dean's List
- Two All-Academic All-Americans
- Two All-Academic All-American Honorable Mentions

The Valkyries finished the year 5<sup>th</sup> in the conference out of 14 teams and had the most ever qualify for the NCAA National Championships. At Conference, Meghan Calvaruso '15 placed 5<sup>th</sup> in 200 Backstroke; Rhiannon Gluhosky '14 was 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400IM and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 200IM; Jenni Russell '13 placed 5<sup>th</sup> in 100 Breaststroke and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200 Breaststroke; and Jess Mason was 3<sup>rd</sup> in 100 Backstroke. Russell and Gluhosky both earned All-American.

"The team's devotion to training builds time-management in a student," said White. "These are confident, independent women who will go out into the world and make a difference."



Follow the Valkyries Swim Team on Twitter @ ValkyriesSwim and on Facebook at Converse College Swimming.

## Trumpets Herald a Banner Year for Equestrian Team

The Converse College Equestrian Program's second year in the ring proved an outstanding showing for the young team. Converse hosted the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Region 5, Zone 2 competition at their training facility, Motlow Creek Equestrian Center in Campobello, SC in March.



Cate Billings qualified for nationals and will compete in the Cachionne Cup Equitation Class.

The overall team ranking for the year was 5<sup>th</sup> out of 18 teams. Three riders qualified for regionals: Meredith Walker '14, Kathleen Coker '14 and Cate Billings '15. Four riders qualified for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association All-Academic Team: Meredith Walker and Christa Martin qualified for team one. Kathleen Coker and Cate Billings qualified for team two. Billings also qualified for zone competition, as well as nationals. She was region high point winner in the most competitive open division and automatically qualified for the IHSA National Horse Show to be held in May. She will compete in the prestigious Cachionne Cup Equitation Class. "Only the top collegiate riders are invited to ride in this event. As a freshman, Cate brings to Converse a level of riding that most colleges never achieve," said Sally Frick, Equestrian Program Director.

"Our future is very bright," said Frick. "Recruiting for the fall of 2012 is going well because of our excellent show record. Good riders want to come to Converse and ride with our team and coaching staff."

# BOOKS

## Introducing the New Converse Book Club: Cover to Cover with Converse

This fall we are excited to kick-off our Converse book club! Each year Converse will invite alums all over the country to read the C2C book selection and host a discussion in their area. Meetings will take place in the month of October and information regarding dates, times and locations will be mailed to alumnae/i.

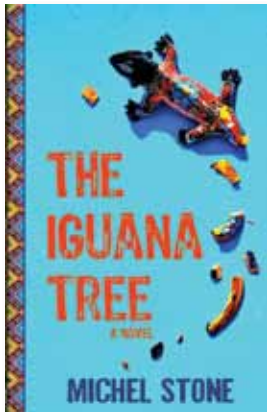
“We are very pleased that our first C2C selection is *The Iguana Tree*, the debut novel by Converse alumna Michel Smoak Stone '99 MEd. *The Iguana Tree* has already received national attention with fabulous reviews and has been selected by the Converse faculty as the Freshman Read for the incoming Class of 2016,” said Sally Spencer, Donor Relations Manager. “We will be reading along with the Converse freshman class!”

Stone is thrilled by the selection, “I treasured my time at Converse; several of my Converse instructors were instrumental in my becoming a writer. To have my book selected is a bit dreamy for me. I’m incredibly honored and grateful.”

If you are interested in hosting a Cover to Cover event in your area, please call the Office of Alumnae and Donor Relations at 800.584.9098 or email Carrie Coleman at [carrie.coleman@converse.edu](mailto:carrie.coleman@converse.edu). To purchase a copy of *The Iguana Tree* please visit the Hub City Bookshop at [www.hubcity.org/bookshop](http://www.hubcity.org/bookshop).



*New York Journal of Books* says Michel Stone '99 is “an author to watch.”



### The Iguana Tree

by Michel Stone '99  
Hub City Press, 2012

Michel Stone’s debut novel, set against the backdrop of illegal immigration, is one family’s story of fateful decisions, risky border crossings, and a struggle for humanity. With a dream of a more prosperous life for his family, Héctor crosses into America on a harrowing

journey that leads to a job on a tree farm on Edisto Island, SC. He tells his young wife, Lilia, to stay behind with their newborn until he can pay for their travel. Impulsive and impatient, Lilia abandons her village, hands off her baby to a smuggler, and swims the dark Rio Grande. The tragedy unfolds across the southern United States. *Kirkus Reviews* calls *The Iguana Tree* “exceptional... a haunting tale of hope and heartbreak.” Stone’s tale shows the devastating consequences of Lilia’s and Héctor’s decisions and also the consequences of decisions we have made as a society and as a nation.

Stone has published more than a dozen stories and essays in journals, magazines and books. Her work has appeared numerous times in the *Raleigh News and Observer’s* emerging Southern writers series. She is a 2011 recipient of the South Carolina Fiction Project Award, given by the South Carolina Arts Commission. She is an alumna of the Sewanee Writers’ Conference. *The Iguana Tree* is her

first book and it’s a winner, according to *Library Journal*—“Stone successfully conveys her characters’ sense of hopelessness, betrayal, and loss and their struggle to preserve their integrity against all odds. This compassionate yet unsentimental story recalls the works of John Steinbeck.”

*The Iguana Tree* is a spring Okra Pick by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance and is the Converse College Freshman Read.



### Artists Among Us: 100 Faces of Art in Spartanburg

Ed. Edward Emory and  
Stephen Stinson  
Hub City Press, 2011

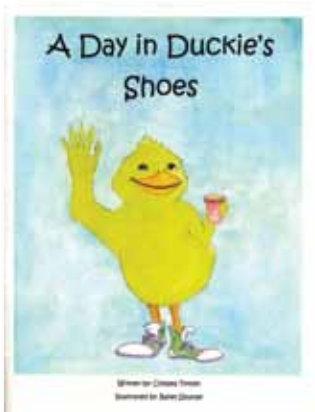
Nearly a third of the artists included in *Artists Among Us* are Converse alumni or faculty members. The 224-page book features their photographs, artwork and their personal stories. Editor Edward Emory conceived of the photo project as a way to give attention to Spartanburg visual arts. He enlisted local photographer Stephen Stinson to bring it to life

and Hub City Press turned their project into a book.

“What’s startling about this group of artists is how widespread their backgrounds are,” said Betsy Teter, Hub City Executive Director. Emory said he selected these 100 because “as a group, they contribute day-in and day-out to our collective efforts in Spartanburg. This book is a striking calling card for our arts community and an important historical document.”

Alumna Vivianne Carey '81 summed up the sentiment of many of the book’s participants: “As I find myself sharing the vision of a revitalized Spartanburg and sense the obvious positive impact that the arts make in this community, I feel honored that I can contribute to it.”

For more information, visit <http://www.hubcity.org/bookshop>



## A Day in Ducky's Shoes

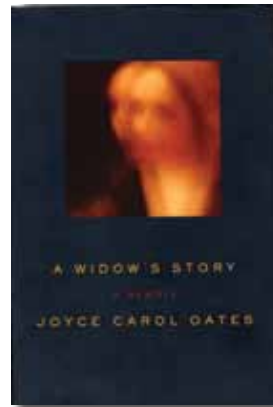
By Chelsea Totten '12  
illustrated by  
Bailey Szustak '13

Converse students Chelsea Totten '12 and Bailey Szustak '13 created *A Day in Ducky's Shoes* for children age three to nine who are struggling

to manage their diabetes. “We are hoping to see a positive correlation between the use of our book and improved results for patients,” author Totten said.

The book introduces children to Ducky, a friendly, relatable character illustrated by Szustak. Readers accompany Ducky through a healthy daily routine and good meal choices. The book includes a diabetes dictionary, which gives young patients easily understandable definitions to medical terminology.

The Medical University of South Carolina contacted Dr. Janice Nashatker with the idea of working with Converse students to create a book for children coming to the clinic. Converse faculty recommended Totten and Szustak for the project and it evolved into a South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities grant involving MUSC, Nashatker and Dr. Lisa Schoer.



## A Widow's Story: A Memoir

By Joyce Carol Oates,  
Cover Photo Illustration  
by Jane Yarborough  
Creech '60

Converse alumna Jane Yarborough Creech '60 has travelled the country making photographs of some of the greatest 20<sup>th</sup> century American writers including Pulitzer

Prize nominated and National Book Award winning author, Joyce Carol Oates. One of her latest works, *The Haunting*, was selected as the cover of Oates' memoir, *A Widow's Story*.

In a work unlike anything she's written before, Joyce Carol Oates unveils a poignant, intimate memoir about the unexpected death of her husband and its wrenching, surprising aftermath. *A Widow's Story* illuminates one woman's struggle to comprehend a life without the partnership that had sustained and defined her for nearly half a century. Here is a frank acknowledgment of the widow's desperation—only gradually yielding to the recognition that “this is my life now.”

Creech first met and photographed Oates during a speaking engagement at Converse. A few years later, Creech had the opportunity to photograph the famous author again. Oates was impressed with one blurry, dual image of herself that was taken while she was speaking. In an interview with Kristi Eaton of the *Greenville Journal Watchdog*, Oates described Creech's photo of her as “a recognizable image and yet a powerful poetic expression of an inner state, in this case the sense of a shattered or disintegrating self following an unexpected shock. There was no other image that I saw that even came near this one in terms of identification and eerie, unnerving beauty of form, tone and color.” It is quite an honor to have her photo selected, Creech said, as it puts her in good

company with other well-regarded artists whose work has appeared on previous Joyce Carol Oates' covers.



Jane Yarborough Creech '60 will exhibit her work following the reading by Joyce Carol Oates.

During Reunion Weekend, Joyce Carol Oates will offer a reading from *A Widow's Story*. An art exhibition featuring Creech will follow the reading. This creative writing program event is free and open to the public. For more information visit [converse.edu/reunion](http://converse.edu/reunion).



Samantha Nicholson, Kaylee McMullan and Taylor Madill agree that the best feature of apartment living is the kitchen!



Apartment living allows for private and shared spaces.

## Happy Birthday Heath!



*"I've had a chance to learn to cook and to get along with others to run a home." ~Meiha Maxwell '12*

January 2011 heralded the opening of The Heath apartment living at Converse with champagne and balloons. A year later, the campus is still celebrating one of the most sophisticated residential environments in the country. Ask the seniors who live there and you'll hear a list of superlatives from "cool" to "cozy" to "contemporary."

Briana Mattison and her friends picked out their preferred apartment while the Heath was still under construction. "We didn't end up in that apartment but we love our apartment even more." Even if her roommate, JoAnne Switzer, is getting a tan on the balcony or another roommate, Marissa Griffin, has spread out her studies in the living room, they often come together in the kitchen.

am going to enjoy every minute of it," said Lisa Stewart. "I know how much better it will be than anything we will have when we first graduate."

Lisa Ryan said living in The Heath has been "a stepping stone to real life." Amy Peele agrees, "I feel like now I will be able to take on the responsibilities of a place of my own."

Current juniors are excited, too, as they anticipate their senior year in the apartments. "I

## A Courtyard is Born

Lauded as the College's Centennial Class, the alumnae of 1989 have formally laid claim to that name with the establishment of a new Centennial Courtyard on back campus. Class members Elisabeth Kinney McNiel and Tania McDuffie, (who helped lead the \$52,000 fundraising effort) are thrilled with the space they have created. "We look forward to seeing it being enjoyed by the College, by alumnae and donors and most especially, by current students." With temperatures rising, it won't be long before the grill gets a workout and the nearby hammocks, donated by the Class of 2010, are already in full swing!



# Honor and Memorial Gifts

July 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

## HONOR GIFTS

SHAYNA R. ABRAMS '91  
Brian Tatro

ELIZABETH BULL BALTHAZOR '95  
Mr. and Mrs. William Haynsworth Bull

MARY BRADFORD BARRY '55  
Hagood Huckabee Potter '55

MORGAN ELIZABETH BYRN '10  
William Womack Byrn, Jr.

JOSEPHINE P. CAPERS  
Johanna Woods Dantzler '69

MARION RIVERS CATO '65  
David Cato  
Joseph Cato  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Cato

GINGER CORBIN CHURCH '92  
Elisabeth Kinney McNeil '89

MELANIE MEYER CLARK '11  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gregory Meyer

CLASS OF 1949  
Mary Ellen Sitton Yeargin '49

CLASS OF 1957  
Jane Powell Crowder '57

CLASS OF 1968  
Blair Blackwell Cooper '68

CLASS OF 2007  
Laura Caroline Goodman '07

CLASS OF 2010  
Nicole Marie Dumouchel '10

CLASS OF 2011  
Ashley Danielle Raines '11

JENNIFER GEORGE COOK '74  
Jackie Fowler George '64

POLLY BUTLER CORNELIUS '91  
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Butler, Sr.

KATHARINE RUTH CRAWFORD '02  
Elizabeth Anne Oswalt '02

JULIA JONES DANIELS '53  
Harriet Taylor Ramsey '51

ELIZABETH MCARVER DAVIS '12  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Warren Davis III

DOTTIE GRANTHAM DEGLMANN-  
SCHWARZ '69  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth S. Johnson

JANIS I. DENGLER  
Sharon Gould Boyd '72  
Mary Rebecca Boyter '72  
Deborah D. Dawsey '87  
Sydney C. Harris  
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder  
Mr. and Mrs. Dana Moore  
Pamela J. Nienhuis  
Doris P. Painter  
Betty Gay Roberson  
Dr. Martha Elaine Rogers  
Katharine Stephens Slemenda '66  
Ann Marie Sullivan '95  
Rita Vinson

MR. AND MRS. CARLTON DUGGAN  
Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar Chancellor III

PRESIDENT BETSY FLEMING  
Charlotte Smith Purrington '69

KATHY FOSTER  
Marianne M. Apple

CATHERINE ELIZABETH GIFFORD '08  
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Gifford

GINNA GILBERT  
Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar Chancellor III

MR. AND MRS. KIRVEN GILBERT  
Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar Chancellor III

MR. AND MRS. PIERCE GILBERT  
Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar Chancellor III

MARY LIB SPILLERS HAMILTON '57  
Langhorne Lewis McCarthy '57

SALLY JETER HAMMOND '81  
Dr. and Mrs. W. Mac Davis

RACHEL NG HANSEN '08  
Paul Tuan Tee Ng

MELISSA MEYER HEWITT '06  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gregory Meyer

KENNETH B. HOWARD  
Charlotte Smith Purrington '69

MARTHA BEACH HOWARD '80  
Charlotte Smith Purrington '69

CATHERINE C. INABNIT '68  
Gelene Duncan Ellsworth '63  
Frances Balling Little '66

INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT STAFF  
Robertta Timmons Daniel '71

CAROL JOHNSON ISLER '77  
Mrs. James R. Johnson  
(Irene K. Johnson)

KATE SWANN IVEY '80  
Margaret Capers Spratlin '80

GEORGE DEAN JOHNSON, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. Louie W. Blanton  
Dr. and Mrs. James O. Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Jody Traywick  
(Donna Wise '82)

SUSAN PHIFER JOHNSON '65  
Mr. and Mrs. Louie W. Blanton  
Dr. and Mrs. James O. Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Jody Traywick  
(Donna Wise '82)

KIRSTEN SUZANNE KERR '94  
Ashley Gross Millinor '94

DR. AND MRS. WILLIAM J. KIMBALL  
Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh

CLAIRE GIANNASI KURTZ '98  
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Giannasi

MR. AND MRS. AARON WHITNEY LELAND  
Nancy Smith Gage '82

GAYLE G. MAGRUDER  
Mary Rebecca Boyter '72  
Elizabeth Blanton Lewis '72  
Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh

DR. NATHANIEL MAGRUDER  
Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh

(Continued)

ELIZABETH CLOUD MALLOY '48  
Louise Malloy Bonner '75

MARLEE BECKHAM MARSH '02  
Elizabeth Anne Oswald '02

RON MARSH  
Mr. and Mrs. James Edgar Chancellor III

KATHLEEN C. MATTIL '12  
Luverne Mattil

CHARLES MORGAN  
Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh

PAULA SIGLER MORGAN  
Anonymous  
Wendi White Arms '93  
Suzanne W. Brown  
Patricia Valentina Crisan '03  
Julia Ohlson Eldred '96  
Kathleen E. Foster  
Sharalynn E. Hicks  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Hill, Jr.  
Mary Calvert Irwin '80  
Sarah. J. Johnson  
Brenda Leonard  
Dr. Paul Cameron MacPhail  
Dr. Valerie Kaye MacPhail  
Aine Mulvey  
Breanna Brock Plount '03

Mr. and Mrs. Duane Keith Ridenour  
Bonnie A. Rini  
Mary Rosinski  
Lisa Sharer  
Dr. Catherine Froneberger Siarris '84  
Suzanne Marie Smith '87  
Carol Doxey Starnes '75  
Dr. Brennan Szafron  
Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh  
Julia Turnbull  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Turner, Jr.  
Dr. Christopher Vaneman  
Dr. Kelly McElrath Vaneman  
George Wenger

LUCILLE PORTER MORRISON  
Frances Hasell LaBorde '58

ELIZABETH ANNE OSWALT '02  
Susan Oswald

MARJORIE RUCKER POLCHOW '11  
Evelyn S. Rucker

DR. ROBERT W. POWELL, JR.  
Captain Jane Murray Hartley '68  
Dr. Nina Zouck Waite '68

BRIDGET NICOLE RICHBURG  
Roberta Timmons Daniel '71

JANIS CLAIRE RIDENHOUR '69  
Dr. Marsha Katz Chisolm '69

DR. SARAH RUEFF RYAN '94  
Ashley Gross Millinor '94

DENISE HOWARD STEVENS '92  
Justine Mason

FRANCES JETER STOWE '91  
Margaret Virginia Hill Tuggey '91

JENNIFER BRADSHAW TILLEY '02  
Major and Mrs. James S. L. Bradshaw

THEODORA WARREN TRUESDALE '74  
Theodora Gregorie Warren '48

BRENNA VON HAUZEN '10  
Barbara M. von Hauzen

ELIZABETH ANN WALKER '14  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Lee Walker

MARTHA WHITE WATERS '94  
Ashley Gross Millinor '94

DR. JEFFREY R. WILLIS  
United Daughters of the Confederacy

PERRY TISON WILSON '78  
Martha Haslett Ladd '78



## Joe Ann Shearer Lever 1936-2011

In the life of any institution, one can identify a handful of individuals whose contributions have shaped and defined the nature of that institution and whose presence has left an indelible mark upon it. Such a person is Joe Ann Shearer Lever, who retired from Converse in 2002 following 40 years of service. Joe Ann's passing on November 23, 2011 is a great loss to Converse College and the broader community; but more importantly, it is an important opportunity to celebrate a life well-lived.

recalls Sharon Lambert, Associate Professor Emerita of Chemistry. "It was my job interview and that was my first impression of Converse!" laughs Lambert. "She became my mentor, friend and partner in crime. We were always on the same wavelength so we were able to accomplish a lot for the College."

Dean Lever's contributions were built on a record of day-by-day and year-by-year subtle but significant actions and decisions that made a difference in what the College is and how it sees itself as unique. What makes Dean Lever's accomplishments especially noteworthy is that she was—by inclination and experience—a teacher at heart. This daughter of Mississippi came to Converse in 1962 as an instructor in the Biology Department. She advanced to Associate Professor of Biology and made her mark on hundreds of students who have gone on to influential lives. Bonnie Bailey Webster '94, a biology alumna, remarked, "It has been said that a teacher can shape a student, and a student can shape the world. The world is a better place for the countless number of women Joe Ann Lever has shaped—among them mothers, nurses, doctors, teachers, scientists and community leaders."

"The first time I met Joe Ann Lever was in 1973, she was wearing a lab coat, red vinyl go-go boots and a blond wig,"



KYRA LEIGH WOODYARD '14  
Mr. and Mrs. John Oliver Woodyard, Jr.

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

BARBARA SHEPPE ALLEY '51  
Laura Alley Dietrich '74

DR. CHARLES D. ASHMORE  
Elizabeth Blythe Frazer '61  
Mary Adams Hemsworth '76

DR. AND MRS. HENRY W. BAILEY  
Dr. Grace Bailey Heck '76

HARRIET ANCRUM BALLENGER '47  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Lehner  
(Sara Ellis '74)

MARY J. BARKER  
Friends of the Petrie School of Music

THOMAS WALSH BARTRAM, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Duke  
(Nancy Brown Foster '55)  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier  
(Dorothy Ormond '50)  
Elisabeth Kinney McNeil '89  
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Rhea III  
(Grazier Connors '74)

JERRY BELCHER  
Palmer Davison Ball '84

JANE MCNAIR BELL '51  
Victor E. Bell, Jr. and Jane McNair Bell Family  
Foundation

ELIZABETH LYLES BLACKWELL '35  
Blair Blackwell Cooper '68

MILDRED FLOWERS BONDURANT '49  
Sophie Riddick Parker '49

WILLIAM G. BOTTJER, PhD  
Carol A. Bottjer '89

BETTY HARVARD BRAY '50  
Laura Hill Bowles Cook '50

JENNY KIMBREL BUNN '67  
Cassandra Jones Husted '67  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68  
Susan Van Dorsten King '68

ELIZABETH WHITE CALVERT '84  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Tweddle

JOSEPHINE P. CAPERS  
Roberta Timmons Daniel '71  
Mr. and Mrs. James C. Rhea III  
(Grazier Connors '74)

LOUISA BOBO CARLISLE '15  
Lou Carlisle Horne '44

SALLY HARMON CAUGHMAN '68  
Elizabeth Morris Howell '68  
Susan Van Dorsten King '68  
Louise Woods Priest '68  
Robbie Louise Taylor '68  
Kay Feighner Van Allen '70  
Kurt Zimmerli

MIN MURRAY HASELDEN CHEVES '68  
Elizabeth Morris Howell '68

CAROLYN MARY FAWCETT CONVERSE  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Lehner  
(Sara Ellis '74)

PATRICIA PECHE CORNELIUS '62  
William F. Cornelius, Jr.

DR. POLLY BUTLER CORNELIUS '91  
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Butler, Sr.

MILDRED HAMRICK COULBOURN '28  
Elizabeth Coulbourn Hanigan '64

EMMA PALMER COVINGTON '47  
Florence Covington Fitzgerald '80

TENNESSEE CALHOUN CRAWFORD '23  
Martha Williams DeCaro '70

(Continued)



Along the way to her position as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, she served the College in a meritorious fashion as president of the Faculty Senate, Chairwoman of the Tenure and Promotions Committee, Adviser to pre-

medical and pre-dental students, Chairwoman of academic advisers, Director of the Office of Career Services, and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In every role, she was an effective leader, a tireless worker, a congenial colleague, and a defender of both liberal education and the absolute right of capable women to step to the front of the line. "There was not a single decision she made that wasn't in the best interest of the College," remarks Dr. Joe Dunn, Charles A Dana Professor of History & Politics. "She was incredibly frugal. When cell phones first came out, Joe Ann used her personal cell phone minutes to make calls on behalf of Converse so that the College would save money. She made sure she used every minute every month."

Those who had the privilege of working with Joe Ann know of her boundless energy, can-do attitude, unwavering dedication to Converse and complete commitment to the students. "We called her *The Little Dean*," Thomas R. McDaniel, Senior Vice President remembers. "But that was a frivolity that she welcomed and appreciated since everyone knew that her influence was far from *little*."

The Converse community is profoundly grateful for what she meant to this institution as a colleague, administrator and friend. Joe Ann Lever left her indelible mark on each of us.



Read the eulogy given by Dr. Joe Dunn at Dean Lever's funeral at [converse.edu/node/9019](https://converse.edu/node/9019).

HONOR/MEMORIAL GIFTS

(Continued)

LOUISE HUNT CROSLAND '55  
Hagood Huckabee Potter '55

DORIS LAVIN CUDDIHEE '90  
Donald Francis Cuddihee, Sr.

CORNELIA WATSON DASHER '65  
Suzanne McMillan Johnson '67

EMILY MCDOWELL DAVIS 1915  
Anne Davis Rigby '48

LOUISE DILLON  
Susan Dillon '68

ROY DILLON  
Susan Dillon '68

FRANCES MARSTON DUKE '52  
Margaret McGowan Robertson '52

JOHN ERICKSON  
Joan Foster McKeown '64  
Lucy Wilde Warren '72

HARRIET BREEDEN FAIRFIELD '31  
Dr. Suzanne Linder Hurley '61  
Virginia McKinney Jernigan '65

BLANCHE WALKER FAUST 1892  
Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56

MERILYN MELTON FIELD '95  
Genevieve Leaman Strickland '04

JOYCE W. FINCH  
Joe Anne Lever

GENEVIEVE MILLS GALLIVAN '44  
Harold F. Gallivan, Jr.

PEGGY THOMSON GIGNILLIAT '34  
Marguerite Gignilliat Old '57

GEORGIA LEE MULDROW GILMER '30  
Tolly Gilmer Shelton '56

BRADLEY W. HAMMOND  
Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.  
(Susan Phifer '65)

VIVIENNE ROSER HAMMOND '48  
Sybil Creighton Stewart '48

JEANNE SMITH HARLEY '73  
Anne Rogers Gregory '65  
Janet Horton '76  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Lehner  
(Sara Ellis '74)

EADDY WILLIAMS HAYES  
Eve J. Bacon  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Marion Crowley  
Dr. Nicholas F. Fleming  
Friends of the Petrie School of Music  
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon F. Grimes  
Mr. and Mrs. James. W. Ivey

JANE BALL HEGGIE  
Marjorie L. Heggie '83

ELIZABETH TURNER HERBERT '22  
Elodie Hale Craig '74

DR. WALTER HESS  
Dr. Nina Zouck Waite '68

BERTA H. HOYLER  
Bertonia H. Hoyler Trust

MARY EMILY PLATT JACKSON '42  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68

DR. HAROLD H. JETER  
Martha Denny Jeter '52

JUDY VOSS JONES  
Camille Hernandez Velez '92

SUSAN HOPE JORDAN '65  
Anne Rogers Gregory '65  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68

DORRIE DUKE KELLER '68  
Captain Jane Murray Hartley '68

PEARL SIBLEY LAW  
Polly Hill Woodham '51

ALIA ROSS LAWSON  
Helen Rachel Lamb Jones '58  
Jeannie Nissen King '76  
William John Lang

SHIELA SHORE LESTER '58  
Nancy Hayes Wilkerson '58

JOE ANN LEVER  
Altrusa International, Inc. of Spartanburg  
Mr. and Mrs. Deward Gaston Boyd, Jr.  
Dr. Nancy S. Breard  
Marguerite Callahan '77  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edward Cauthen  
(Hazel Peery '57)  
Anne Palmer Cromer  
Roberta Timmons Daniel '71  
Ann Comstock DeGroat '66  
Janis I. Dengler  
Dr. Karen Abele DeVore '84

Dr. and Mrs. Joe P. Dunn  
(Jeanette Ruth Dunn '99)  
Sally Walker Franz '64  
Beth Cunningham Gault '82  
Elizabeth Moore Glenn '76  
Gillian White Goodrich '68  
Sandra Bridges Goolsby '64  
Dr. Charlotte Boone Halicioglu '64  
Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57  
Dr. James G. Harrison, Jr.  
Captain Jane Murray Hartley '68  
Sue Wyatt Holmes '72  
Dr. Jerry J. Howe  
Dr. Woodrow W. Hughes, Jr.  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68  
Jennifer Marie Jackson '97  
Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.  
(Susan Phifer '65)  
Jane Gault Johnson '57  
Melissa Daves Johnson '69  
Mary Ann Kunak  
Dr. Sharon E. Lambert  
The Reverend Rachel B. Lever  
Ann Marion Lorenz '80  
Dr. Martha T. Lovett  
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder  
Lorene Maxwell  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Maybank  
(Beatrice Smith '66)  
James F. McClain  
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas R. McDaniel  
(Suzanne H. McDaniel '79)  
Erin McGee '93  
Elisabeth Kinney McNiel '89  
Sally Bates McWilliams '74  
V. Caroline Dilworth Minicozzi '95  
Mr. and Mrs. Dana Moore  
Robin Colyer New '75  
Fanya Couchell Paouris '68  
Carolyn Duer Pennell '50  
Mr. and Mrs. John G. Phillips  
Ami E. Price '01  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lloyd Price  
Kathryn Doyle Proctor '97  
Lilith Quinlan '69  
Nancy Robinson  
Dr. Martha Elaine Rogers  
Margaret Roldan  
Dr. Alfred O. Schmitz  
The Elza Shearer Family  
Katharine Stephens Slemenda '66  
Dr. Gayle Schrier Smith '84  
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Story  
Dr. Heidi Knedlik Straughn '91  
Jean F. Sydnor  
Shayna R. Abrams '91 and Brian Tatro  
Catherine Hawkins Thompson '88  
Linda G. Walker  
Nancy Fowler Willis '69  
Cynthia Bates Woodrum '72

Dr. Kay E. Woodward  
Sarah Elizabeth Legare York '02  
Debra C. Young

MRS. GEORGE LITTLE, JR.  
Gray B. Little '72

DR. JERRIE C. LUCKTENBERG  
Anne Johnson Kaplan '72

GEORGE MACBAIN III  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier  
(Dorothy Ormond '50)

CAROLYN ARNOLD MADDEN '32  
Joan Carolyn Madden '59

GEORGE K. MANOS  
Lucia Manos Morfesis '57

VIRGINIA MANOS  
Lucia Manos Morfesis '57

JOHN RICHARDS MCCRAE  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Crow Glenn  
(Linda Jefferson '71)

ROGER A. MCDUFFIE, JR.  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Lehner  
(Sara Ellis '74)  
Ellen Bryant Voigt '64  
Lucy Wilde Warren '72

KATHERINE FAUST MCLAUGHLIN '22  
Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56

GARNET CLEAR MOLIENGO  
Rosemary Hark Clear '42

PETER G. MORFESIS  
Lucia Manos Morfesis '57

MARY POULNOT NEFF '46  
Marjory Poulnot MacLean '54

DONALD W. OSWALT  
Kerri Lynn Olson '02

SUE BAXTER PICONE '57  
Neltie Sanders Linker '57

DR. FRANK T. PLATT  
Janet Johnston Saczawa '79

JANE WINN POLLITZER '53  
Lillian Lindsay Sachs '53

DEBBIE POWERS  
Elizabeth DeBrule Wilkinson '91

EUNICE SULLIVAN PRACHT '51  
Dr. Doris Marley Laird '51  
Ann McCaskill Leonard '51  
Nell M. Taylor

DELORES SPELL REEVES '81  
Adelaide Capers Johnson '69  
Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.  
(Susan Phifer '65)

HARRIET MAYER REID '21  
Harriet Reid Anderson '55

LAURICE W. RICH  
Erin Rich Strickland '98

HOLLY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON '78  
Phillip E. Richardson, Jr.

MARGUERITE WHITLOCK WELLS ROGERS  
'33  
Laura Wells Huff '02

ELEANOR THOMSON ROY '36  
Frederick G. Robbe, Jr.  
Bettie Kell Runnion  
Catherine Roy Stone '66

FRANCES SANDERS SCHUMPERT '54  
Ann Schumpert Foster '83

CLARA RAVENEL SMITH '38  
Clara Smith Carter '64

SARAH MAYO SMITH '83  
Wynne E. Smith '83

DR. GEORGE M. SPEED  
Barbara Farnsworth Austin  
Palmer Davison Ball '84  
Sarah Greene Butrum '70  
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Fruit  
(Mary Ann Alford '63)  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger A. F Habisreutinger  
Dr. and Mrs. William W. Halligan, Jr.  
Dr. James G. Harrison, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hilsman  
Dr. and Mrs. Jerry J. Howe  
Katherine Halligan James '74  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Walter King  
Joe Anne Lever  
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F Magruder  
Cynthia Pickard McCredie '67  
Betty B. Howard Pitman  
Rosa Gressette Reid '71  
Jamie M. Roberts  
Dr. Alfred O. Schmitz

CHRIS B. STAUBES, JR.  
Robbie King Staubes '67

DR. JOHN W. STEVENSON  
Kay Scott Vipperman '68

JANE BARRON GRAY STILWELL '85  
Terry Grier VanderMyde '64

DR. C. DOWNING TAIT, JR.  
Catherine Culler Inabnit '68

SARAH FEARNESIDE TANNER '68  
Susan Van Dorsten King '68

MALINDA ANN TRAPHAGAN '87  
Rebecca Seeger Eller '87

MARY LIB DAVENPORT VAUGHN '35  
Palmer Davison Ball '84  
Dr. Elizabeth Vaughn Sharpe '76

ADA JEAN HORNE VICKERS  
Ronald L. Vickers '82

LEIGH ANNE WARD '97  
Susan M. Miskelly '97

JEAN SACKETT WARREN '48  
Sybil Creighton Stewart '48

HELEN R. WATKINS 1897  
Lu Lynn Galt Sexton '58

JULIA ROGER WATT '41  
Anne Rogers Gregory '65

MARJORIE ANDERSON WEBB '51  
Ann McCaskill Leonard '51

RITA LIGHT WELLS '56  
Laura Wells Huff '02

PROFESSOR ELIZABETH WILLIAMS  
Jane Taylor Patterson '48

MYRA FAUST WYMAN '32  
Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56

# ALUMNAE NEWS

## Alumnae Association President's Message

### A.C.T. ONE: Alumnae Coming Together



Converse College continues to serve as a catalyst for positive change on campus with current students and in the greater world through alumnae. This is not surprising given our College's rich history of enabling women "to see clearly, decide wisely and act justly." Just browse through our class notes and you will see extraordinary women committed to living creative and collaborative lives through study, leadership, service and travel.

Converse afforded us well-documented advantages—the room to think and grow in an environment where opinions are valued and

sought after, strong academic programs in the arts and sciences, an uncommonly low undergraduate student–teacher ratio of 10:1 and many occasions for student–faculty collaboration and research. These benefits have been enjoyed by students for decades and have allowed us to seek opportunities throughout the globe to affect positive change. How wonderful to be a part of such a dynamic and exciting, evolving and influential force in the world!

Collectively, we can act as ONE. Let's come together to exceed the alumnae challenge. Will your class ONE UP another class in participation? ACT now and go to [converse.edu/giveone](http://converse.edu/giveone). Your contribution makes a world of difference.

I look forward to seeing you on campus April 27–28 for Reunion Weekend!

Elisabeth Kinney McNiel '89  
President

## Carrie Hill Coleman '96 Named Director of Alumnae and Donor Relations

Carrie Hill Coleman '96, newly appointed Director of Alumnae and Donor Relations, was welcomed back to campus with familiar open arms, including three chocolate-chip cookies from Miss Bert in Gee (because she remembered Coleman's undergraduate cookie habit). "It's the people that make Converse so special. It's my greatest honor to have been a part of Converse history, to be a part of Converse today, and to help create a future Converse," said Coleman.

The Alumnae and Donor Relations team will focus on all aspects of donor relations, including reaching out to non-alums. "It is my hope to strengthen our existing alumnae connections while at the same time attracting new friends to the College," said Coleman. "I'm determined to make sure everyone feels as though they are a part of the Converse family and the excitement we're currently experiencing."

"It takes a team approach to create an alumnae engagement program," said Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Bobby Stewart. "Having a team leader like Carrie who is truly collaborative and inspirational to those around her is a huge asset to making sure we serve our alumnae the way they deserve to be served."

Coleman will be working hard to find ways to get every alumna back on campus. "I want alumnae to see how far we've come but also to see that the integrity of our founder's ideals are still very much alive and well. This should be a place to come home to, no matter how long it's been. I am passionate about Converse and all that we have done for our women and our community. I want to use that passion to build new opportunities for engaging alumnae and friends near and far."



Photo caption: The Alumnae Office Dream Team (left to right, from top) Sally Spencer, Elizabeth Simons, Adelaide Capers Johnson '69, Nancy Smith Gage '82, Carrie Hill Coleman '96 and Emily Collins.

## Alumnae Slate

### President-Elect

Amy Tibbals Morales '86, Jacksonville, FL

### Nominating Committee Chair

Deanna Fults '00, Knoxville, TN

### CARE Chair

(Converse Alumnae Recruitment Effort)

Haidee Clark Stith '76, Columbia, SC

### Secretary

Laura Bingham Ritch '75, Hartselle, AL

### Planned Giving Representative

Austin Faulk Hardison '95, Charlotte, NC

### Converse II Representative

Melissa Parrish Pittman '00, Spartanburg, SC

### Graduate Degree Representative

Shannon Gosnell Bishop '97, Spartanburg, SC

### 2010's Decade Representative

Amanda Ripley '11, Springfield, VA

### 2000's Decade Representatives

Melissa Heatherly Brannen '03, Lexington, SC

Sarah Marion '08, Chester, SC

### 1990's Decade Representatives

Molly Fortune '93, Atlanta, GA

Jennifer Covington McElveen, '94, Mt. Pleasant, SC

### 1970's Decade Representatives

Elise Sharp Moore '76, Pawleys Island, SC

Gail Duffie Stebbins '76, Augusta, GA

Emily Jones Rushing '73, Birmingham, AL

### 1960's Decade Representatives

Anne "Pokey" Van Every Glenn '63, Charlotte, NC

### 1950's Decade Representatives

Anne Argo Sanders '59, Spartanburg, SC

Agnes Wallace Williams '57, Greenville, SC

### 1940's Decade Representatives

Eleanor Herbert Hale '48, Jacksonville, FL

### At-Large Members

Helen Mitchell '86, Spartanburg, SC

Wanda Moore McDowell '91, Inman, SC

## Jeffrey Willis Named Honorary Alumnus



*Dr. Jeff Willis is currently on the board of the Spartanburg County Historical Society and the Greenville County Historical Society. "That's my secret double life," he admitted.*

Time Capsule and 1400 acid-free storage boxes, Dr. Willis looks right at home. Does he know off the top of his head what's in each box? "Some I do," he said, as he correctly identified the contents of box 201 with the ease of a parlor magician.

Dr. Willis remembers his first impression of Converse: "I admired the lovely historic buildings and was impressed by the then new Carmichael classroom facilities. Baby-boomers were causing a rapid expansion in higher education. Colleges and universities were packed. Carmichael offered faculty individual offices and that was virtually unheard of at the time."

Dr. Willis was nominated by Converse alumnae for the Honorary Alumna/Alumnus Award. Chair of the Records and Recognition Committee of the Alumnae Association Board, Pamela Woods '85, wrote to Dr. Willis when notifying him of the award, "We feel that you, through your many years of association with Converse, exemplify the finest qualities of our alumnae." The award will be presented at the Alumnae Leaders and Legends Luncheon on Saturday, April 28, 2012, during Reunion.

"Reunions are my favorite time at Converse," said Dr. Willis. "Lasting friendships are formed here. I am so happy to be a part of Converse and the environment and education that make it unique." At Reunion, Dr. Willis will offer a seminar on "Royal Weddings" during Alumnae College. "I'll start with Victoria and Albert, a royal wedding that went all wrong since they fell madly in love," said Dr. Willis with his endearing smile. "And, of course, I will speak about Catherine and William and a few other weddings in between."

Dr. Jeff Willis has known the Converse campus for 43 years. He taught history for 38 years at Converse; serving for 15 years as chair of the History Department. At the time of his retirement in 2005, he became the Andrew Helmus Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus. Since his retirement from teaching, Willis has served as Director of Archives & Special Collections. "I still work full-time," he said. "The benefit of retiring from teaching is that I now have Saturdays and Sundays off."

Surrounded in the archives office by Hazel B. Abbott's megaphone (with which she directed early Converse theatrical productions), the contents of the 1899 Twichell

# Alumnae Award Winners



Victoria Hunt Cox '72, Falls Church, VA

The **Distinguished Alumna Award** is given to those alumnae who merit special recognition for their loyalty to Converse, outstanding achievement in their fields, and service to their communities.



Novie McCree Greene '62, Orlando, FL

The **Career Achievement in Music Award** recognizes the alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession in music and notable achievements credited over a continual period of time.



Sandra Sherard Bethea '67, Georgetown, SC

The **Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit of Converse Award** is given to an alumna who, by her constant and loyal service to Converse College, has kept the College visible to other alumnae and her community.



Gail Rawls Jeter '77, Columbia, SC

The **Converse 100 Award**, first presented during the College's Centennial Celebration, is given to a representative alumna who clearly embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal.



Marian McGowan Nisbet '62, Charlotte, NC

The **Community Service Award** recognizes the alumna who displays the qualities of a vibrant citizen through her active involvement in her community, church, and state.



Leigh Anne Mitchell Terry '02, Fountain Inn, SC

The **Star Award** is given in recognition of an alumna who actively and admirably serves Converse in the area of student recruitment.



Margaret Hazel Merriss '82, Decatur, GA

The **Career Achievement Award** recognizes the alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession and has distinguished herself by notable achievements credited over a continual period of time.



Kimberly Varnadoe Kent '97, Greenville, SC

The **Young Alumna Award** is given to an alumna (within 15 years of graduation) who embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal.

# Granddaughter's Club



**Emily Kennell**, daughter of Kimberly Durham Kennell '85



**Anna Cathryn Olle**, daughter of Lynda Olle '88



**Lydia Dorn**, daughter of Jennifer Youles Dorn '83



**Susan Hendley**, left, daughter of Janet Cable Hendley '78



**Juliet Edwards**, daughter of Amy Dudley Edwards '88

## Missing photos:

**Carrie Ann Culbertson**, daughter of Carolyn Brooks Culbertson '96 MED

**Kaelyn Ireland**, daughter of Katherine Ostrander Ireland '86

**Katy Pell**, daughter of Julie Todd Pell '87

**Hanna Kate Warrington**, great-granddaughter of Kate Montgomery Ward '18

**Elizabeth Warrington**, great-granddaughter of Kate Montgomery Ward '18

**Melissa Lawter**, step-daughter of Tania McDuffie '89

## Submit Your News

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).

Class Representatives may submit notes for every issue of the magazine. Class Notes includes information submitted to the Alumnae Office by February 8, 2012.

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 Email address! Please send Email addresses to: nancy.gage@converse.edu.

 Class representative

# 30's

IN MEMORIAM

**Harriet Winston Breeden Charles Fairfield** '31, August 15, 2011

**Margaret Hart Cannon** '31, January 16, 2012

**Elizabeth Hoyle Rudisill** '32, July 31, 2011

**Jean Hall Wessell** '34, December 30, 2011

**Anne Macomson Rivers** '35, October 2, 2011

**Miriam Reeves Jones** '35, August 24, 2011

**Martha Elizabeth Anderson Goldsmith** '36, November 28, 2011

**Ruth Foster Hendley** '37, August 8, 2011

**Elizabeth Murrell Smith** '38, August 25, 2011

**Rosalie Richardson Poe** '38, September 22, 2011

**Doris Godwin Moore** '39, September 17, 2011

**Adela Holmes Stony** '39, February 11, 2012

**Elise McKey Whitaker** '39, December 5, 2011

## SYMPATHY

**Althea Foster Mitchell** '34 on the death of her sister, Ruth Foster Hendley '37, August 8, 2011

**Virginia McMillin McCown** '37 on the death of her sister, Lucile

**Sarah Curry Page** '39 on the death of her sister, Dora Curry Burns '41, September 19, 2011

# 40's

## IN MEMORIAM

- Frances Colvin Wells '40, February 12, 2012  
 Catherine Blowers Ivy '41, February 6, 2011  
 Jessamine Woodward Boyce Bowles '41, August 26, 2011  
 Dora Curry Burns '41, September 19, 2011  
 Frances Davis Haslett '41, February 3, 2012  
 Sara Boyd Scott '42, September 2, 2011  
 Bettie Jenkins Senter '42, October 9, 2011  
 Ann Montgomery Fitch '42, November 29, 2011  
 Mamie Caughman Williamson '44, November 4, 2011  
 Edith Compton Thach '46, January 3, 2012  
 Betty Lewis Burnett '46, September 19, 2011  
 Lucile McMillin Atkinson '46, December 21, 2011  
 Marianne Hayworth Post '47, August 6, 2011  
 Ann Krulien Woodside Whetstone '47, December 26, 2011  
 Jane Epps de Witt '48, February 3, 2012  
 Martha Tew Woods '48, January 10, 2012  
 Mildred Flower Bondurant '49, November 27, 2011

## SYMPATHY

- Polly Leonard Jernigan '41 on the death of her daughter, Sally Holland Jernigan, February 9, 2012  
 Rosa Anderson Keith '46 on the death of her sister, Martha Anderson Goldsmith '36, November 28, 2011  
 Mary Sanders Parsons '46 on the death of her husband, Harrison Morgan Parsons, May 11, 2010  
 Lucy Davis Coleman '48 on the death of her sister, Frances Davis Haslett '41, February 3, 2012  
 Marianne Ellison Bartram '49 on the death of her husband, Thomas Walsh Bartram, Jr., November 22, 2011  
 Sophie Riddick Parker '49 on the death of her husband, Charles W. Parker, Jr., January 23, 2012

All Golden Club members are welcome to reunion each year following their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.

## CLASS OF 1943

- Barbara Brown Lee  
 706 N Summit Crest Court  
 Spartanburg, SC 29307-1546, 864.582.4668

## CLASS OF 1945

- Mary Fabisinski Roberts  
 1506 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Way  
 Gainesville, FL 32605-4840, 352.376.7175

## Margaret Fulton Walker

208 Crest Drive  
 Mt. Olive, NC 28365-2620, 919.658.2167  
 mfultonwalker@bellsouth.net

## CLASS OF 1946

- Mary Helen Garrison Dalton  
 3064 Ridgewood Road NW  
 Atlanta, GA 30327-1937, 404.355.0434  
 mhdalton7@aol.com

## CLASS OF 1947

- 65<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012  
 Mary Young Cousar  
 4615 Arlon Lane  
 Jacksonville, FL 32210-8127, 904.387.1793  
 james5357@att.net



We will celebrate our 65<sup>th</sup> reunion on April 27-28, 2012. Go to [converse.edu/alumnae/events/reunion](http://converse.edu/alumnae/events/reunion) for details of the Reunion 2012 weekend.

## CLASS OF 1948

- Eleanor "Skippy" Herbert Hale  
 5171 Yacht Club Road  
 Jacksonville, FL 32210-8323, 904.387.9592  
 skippyhale@gmail.com

## Alumnae Reunite Daughters with a Mother's Memory

It was by chance that Jane S. Armstrong met Gelene Duncan Ellsworth '63. As they began a casual conversation, Gelene mentioned that she was an alumna of Converse. Jane commented that her mother, Blanche Moore Harrison '40, also attended Converse. Tragically, Blanche died in 1951 when Jane was just 18 months old. Jane has no memory of her mother and no information about her time at Converse. Gelene took an immediate interest in Jane and Blanche's story. She contacted the Alumnae Office and received lists for the Classes of 1939, 1940, 1941 and 1942. Gelene wrote letters to these 155 alumnae, enclosing a picture of Blanche from the 1940 yearbook, asking if any of them could share information with Jane about her mother's years at Converse. Letters and phone calls from over twenty classmates resulted, but one was extraordinary. Margaret Elizabeth Burgwyn Cooley '40 of Tarboro, NC, contacted Jane to say that she was her mother's Converse roommate! Amazingly, Margaret lived only 20 miles from Jane's and Blanche's hometown of Williamston, NC.



Blanche Moore Harrison '40



Margaret Elizabeth Burgwyn Cooley '40

Jane tried to describe the emotional day in July 2011 when she and her sister, Elizabeth, met with Margaret. "What a joy it was to meet someone who knew and lived with my mother, to hug and laugh with Margaret, who most assuredly had hugged and laughed with my mother! We formed an extraordinary bond that day. In my heart and soul, I knew Mother was there with us in spirit and was proud of her girls."

"I owe Gelene such gratitude," says Jane. "She is a true gem—a fun-loving, caring individual who derives pleasure from helping those around her. I shall be forever grateful to Gelene and to Converse for enabling my sister and me to connect with our mother's experiences as a member of the Class of 1940."



## ® Alice Mobley Lipscombe

107 Conyers Street  
Sumter, SC 29150-3203, 803.773.8265  
elipscombe@sc.rr.com

The highlight of my report is a joyful conversation with **Jo Graham Lewis**. Following her husband's death, she sold her house and moved to a retirement home in Marietta, GA. Shortly after her arrival, she met Tom Lewis, who had lost his wife. They had much in common and in January 2011, they were married. Her son, mayor of a nearby town, officiated. They are having a marvelous time; they went to France for a riverboat cruise and to his high school reunion in Tennessee. Congratulations, Jo, from all of us. Retirement homes seem to be the thing for our age group these days. Glen and **May Bynum Sharp** have moved into Covenant Place in Sumter, SC, a retirement home that Glen was instrumental in bringing to Sumter. Bill and **Robin Robins Watson** have moved from Oxford, NC to a retirement home in Raleigh to be near their daughter. **Jane**

**Nowell Cameron** is living in a retirement home in Wilmington, NC to be near her son. **Caroline Brown Bumbarger** says she is "alive and kicking" and enjoying her two children and four grandchildren, all of whom are in Hickory, NC. Lucky Caroline! Moreover, **Martha Griffin Evans** tops us all with 15 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

## CLASS OF 1949

### ® Kitty Peeler Carson

401 Springdale Drive  
Union, SC 29379-1835, 864.427.3353  
ladykc@bellsouth.net

**Marianne Ellison Bartram** attended the January meeting of the Alumnae Board. She remains at Summit Hills in Spartanburg and is happy about a grandchild transferring to Converse for spring semester. **Libby Harper Hopkins** has her traveling boots securely on! She has just returned from a 10-day California trip after a 16-day South American Cruise from Santiago, Chile to Rio. March 2012 will

find her setting sail for San Diego on a 14-day Panama Canal Cruise after which she plans to visit her son in California. Her grandson has recently been accepted at Vanderbilt. In 2009, **Jane Long Douglas** of Athens, Georgia, received the Junior League of Athens' Community Service Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2011, she was presented the J.W. Fanning Humanitarian of the Year Award that celebrated her volunteer work with Recording for the Blind, the Athens Symphony, the Athens Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Athens Community Council on Aging. Yet, there is still room for her bowling league, golf and her great grandson Miles! My personal news refers to three back issues that have stymied some of my activities of recent weeks. I was able to enjoy a seven-day Christmas cruise with a son and family and am just back from a bridge buddy beach stay. I am headed to a doctor to see what can be done about my back issues. This problem just denied me attendance at the January meeting of the Alumnae Board, which I missed terribly.

converse.edu/alumnae/events/reunion for details of the Reunion 2012 weekend.

email address at top of this column, and send news there from now on.

## IN MEMORIAM

Kay Horton Taylor '50, May 20, 2011  
Marjorie Nan Anderson Webb '51, October 13, 2011  
Nancy Widenhouse Barrow '54, September 13, 2011  
Mary Taylor '57, March 1, 2011  
Eleanor Brown Joerden '58, August 29, 2011  
Emilie Foster Haskin '58, September 24, 2011

## SYMPATHY

Beverly Lang MacBain '50 on the death of her husband, George MacBain III, November 13, 2011  
Frances Boykin Maynard '56 on the death of her husband, James Leslie Maynard, Jr., January 15, 2012  
Christine Williams Hammond '56 on the death of her son, Bradley W. Hammond, August 9, 2011  
Lucia Manos Morfesis '57 on the death of her husband, Peter George Morfesis, November 27, 2011  
Ann Ward Houck '58 on the death of her sister, Juliet Ward Brice, December 10, 2011  
Donna Garland Mize '59 on the death of her son, Richard Smith Mize, September 27, 2011

All Golden Club members are welcome to reunion each year following their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.

## CLASS OF 1952

60<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

### ® Suzanne Earnhardt Smith

370 Montgomery Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-3447, 864.582.2415  
sesmas@charter.net



Join your classmates for your 60<sup>th</sup> reunion on the Converse campus on April 27-28, 2012. Go to

## CLASS OF 1953

### ® Marilyn Mateer Sherrill

114 Briarwood Court  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-2125, 864.583.8066

## CLASS OF 1954

Next Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

### ® Betsy Shepherd Ancrum

35 Honeysuckle Woods  
Lake Wylie, SC 29710-7067, 803.831.0205  
bancrum@comporium.net

### ® Margaret Jackson Bundy

518 Briarwood Road  
Lancaster, SC 29720-1802, 803.285.6002  
mjbundy@comporium.net

### ® Ann Douglass Gibson Nichols

205 Birchwood Drive  
Union, SC 29379-1803, 864.427.3647

**Marjorie Williams Fiorilla** and husband John—both train fanatics—had a marvelous trip aboard the Orient Express last summer, and loved every luxurious minute of it (who wouldn't?). For summer 2012, they hope to put together a train trip in South Africa and environs. **Mary Joe Erwin Worth** and Tom, who seem never to age, enjoy visiting their children and grandchildren whenever possible. Beth's girls are 22, 20 and 15 now, and Molly's boys are eight and 12. MJ and Tom couldn't stay dogless for long, and got a new Yorkie puppy last fall. That will either keep them young or age them fast. My own trips (**Bet Ancrum**) are less exotic. This winter I am making the 32-mile round trip to Rock Hill, SC and back daily, to visit poor Tunk in a rehab facility where he is recovering from a broken hip. What a bumper of a Christmas we had, but spring should find him happily home again. By the way, please note my new

## CLASS OF 1955

### ® Jo Ann Guyton Davison

1722 Peggio Lane, Unit 11  
Missoula, MT 59802-3627, 406.829.6376

**Jane Marie Hancock Jennings** says that she does not have any exciting news to share about the Class of 1955. She does have good news about her husband, Jacob, who suffered a stroke before Christmas. Although he has a problem with balance, his mind is fine. They celebrated Christmas at a rehab hospital in Columbia, SC. Jacob is gradually returning to his law practice. Jane Marie mentioned that she had talked recently to **Nan Brown Duke**, **Sara Bull Perrow** and **Jane Davis Griffin**. Jane was back from a trip to Turkey. You will be distressed to learn that **Dorothy Hunter Ellis'** house burned down. Happily, Dot escaped harm. By the time you receive these class notes, we hope her life will be back to normal. **Nantce Wright Biggs** has remarried and moved from Columbia, SC to Charleston, SC. Best wishes, Nantce! That's about all the news I have. When I took this job, I said I would have a report about the Class of 1955 in every issue of the magazine. I cannot keep my promise unless you let me know what's happening in your life. Please let me hear from you.

## CLASS OF 1956

### ® Ann Hudgens Karegeannes

137 Mabry Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29307-2613, 864.579.3801  
karja56@aol.com

### ® Pegilie Price Walter

616 Wotan Road  
Columbia, SC 29229-3350, 803.419.0986  
walter@umcsc.org

(Continued)

## CLASS NOTES

(Continued)

Your class reps offer our greetings in this year 2012. We wish you well and hope you all are well. We had minimal communication with you across the 2011 holidays, but it was not for lack of trying. **Tolly Gilmer Shelton** and her extended family visited often with each other, and Tolly and husband, Barrett, went to Australia for fun and Scotland for a family wedding and some touring. She sent a picture of her handsome family at a Florida beach. Ann had a visit with **Carolyn Belcher Hansard** and husband Bill at the Thousand Thanks gala on the campus in October 2011. We celebrated with a lovely dinner and great entertainment from some of our fine Converse musicians. What a treasure we have in the Petrie School of Music! **Mary Oeland Alexander** has moved to Florence, SC, and can be found at 3113 Combray Circle, 29501. Pegilie and Ann thank those in attendance at our spring 2011 reunion for your kind words about the events we arranged outside of the campus schedule. It was our pleasure and we had a good time.

## CLASS OF 1957

55<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

® **Marguerite Gignilliat Old**

314 Jackson Avenue  
Lexington, VA 24450-2010, 540.463.5436



Celebrate our 55<sup>th</sup> reunion on the Converse campus on April 27–28, 2012. Go to <http://www.converse.edu/alumnae/events/reunion> for details of Reunion 2012. The Class of 1957 will gather at the Piedmont Club on April 28<sup>th</sup> for our class dinner.

## CLASS OF 1958

® **Elaine Finklea Folline**

740 Kilbourne Road  
Columbia, SC 29205-2048, 803.254.9503

® **Nancy Hayes Wilkerson**

2122 Norton Road  
Charlotte, NC 28207-2138, 704.376.4776  
nwickerson@bellsouth.net

**Betty Anne Nelson Richardson's** granddaughter, Margaret Deans Fawcett, is close friends with **Muff Hilderbrand Morton's** granddaughter, Mary Catherine DuBose. The girls are cheerleaders for Wofford College and just returned from New Zealand! Over Christmas, **Shinger Hasell LaBorde** heard from **Betsy Richardson Cathcart**. The Cathcarts have moved to Greenwood, SC, where two of their children have families and the son is an orthopedist, which is very convenient for people our age! **Gretchen Eskew Hendrix** took all her children and grandchildren to Lake Superior to ski in February. Her daughter lives nearby and when the families went last year, they all learned to ski! Thanks to Daisy for helping with class notes. **Daisy Barron Leland** enjoys the Ashley Hall Christmas play, even after seeing it over 30 times, but especially when her granddaughters are in it. Granddaughter Erin was one of the jesters, having fun doing cartwheels down the aisle and standing on her head to entertain the kings, while granddaughter Elizabeth sang in the seventh grade choir. Daisy was not the only proud grandmother in the audience. **Barbara Johnson Baker's** granddaughter Annie was one of the "big angels," while **Susan Massengill Mood's** granddaughter Cameron sang in the Red Choir. **Alice Howard McClure's** son Sam took her to see Clemson in the Orange Bowl. Unfortunately, they didn't enjoy the game as much as they did being

together. **Nancy Hayes Wilkerson** wrote that both her brother and his wife had died during the summer. Daisy called Nancy to express her sympathy and had a nice telephone visit in spite of the reason for the phone call. Daisy said that one of her blessings of the Christmas season was seeing Mary Jane Pearce Holland '59 walk into the Christmas Eve service at First Presbyterian Church in Florence, SC with members of her family. Daisy had not seen Mary Jane since her stroke in March 2011. Mary Jane looked so wonderful that it brought tears of joy to Daisy's eyes.

## CLASS OF 1959

® **Harriet "Sister" Marshall Goode**

131 East Main Street  
Rock Hill, SC 29730-4539, 803.327.4746  
goodeharrietm@comporium.net

® **Mary Jane Pearce Holland**

814 Greenway Drive  
Florence, SC 29501-5568, 843.665.2003  
mjh@sc.rr.com

**Rosann Ferguson Hooks** will have returned from a trip to China by the time we read the class notes, but before she left, she sent me a note encouraging all of us to contribute to Converse. First class education for women, Rosann noted, is essential in this day and time and in order to attract students the physical plant needs to be first class. The senior apartments are a major step in the right direction, and Pell and other areas are now under renovation. Rosann has pledged to help and she implores the rest of us to do the same! A lot of our classmates and spouses have endured some serious health issues in the last year, and this includes my co-reporter, **Mary Jane Pearce Holland**, but I believe most are on the mends now. Sister



Festival of Lessons & Carols, December 2011



Cemetery Tour led by Dr. Jeff Willis, October 2011

## IN MEMORIAM

**Virginia Bass Galloway** '60, May 25, 2011  
**Jane Oliver Moncure** '61, September 10, 2011  
**Julia Cooley Garris** '62 MMus, August 10, 2011  
**Laura Bunte Tucker** '64, August 23, 2011  
**Rena Noel Everett** '64, July 20, 2011  
**Brenda Hubbard Furr** '67, January 1, 2012  
**Sallie Scott Matlack** '67, October 17, 2011

## SYMPATHY

**Monnie Cannon** '60 on the death of her mother, Margaret Hart Cannon '31, January 19, 2012  
**Mary Beth Dunbar Landess** '61 on the death of her husband, Thomas H. Landess, January 9, 2012  
**Mary Sims Gressette Gue** '61 on the death of her brother, James Hill Gressette, Jr., August 17, 2011  
**Sylvia Harley Arant** '61 on the death of her mother, Raymel Matthews Harley, October 27, 2011  
**Lillian Coleman Darby** '62 on the death of her mother, Jane Hunter Coleman, August 27, 2011  
**Mary Lemon Townsend** '62 on the death of her husband, Richard Taylor Townsend, November 5, 2011  
**Anna Lineberger Stanley** '62 on the death of her mother, Anna Boyce Rankin Lineberger, February 10, 2011  
**Jane McDowell Tidmore** '63 on the death of her father, John Boyd McDowell, January 12, 2011  
**Pat Crow Bartee** '64 on the death of her mother, Mary Jane Edgar, November 4, 2011  
**Kathi Reynolds Brown** '64 on the death of her mother, Margaret Bowles Reynolds, August 4, 2011  
**Frances McDowell** '67 on the death of her father, John Boyd McDowell, January 12, 2011  
**Barbara Trent Kimbrell** '67 on the death of her mother, Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans, January 25, 2012  
**Fanya Couchell Paouris** '68 on the death of her husband, George Emmanuel Paouris, October 14, 2011  
**Adelaide Capers Johnson** '69 on the death of her mother, Josephine Philson Capers, October 30, 2011

## CLASS OF 1960

Next Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

📍 **Donna Culbertson Fritz**  
105 Sunline Place  
Spartanburg, SC 29307-3824, 864.579.3986  
maximum1983@cs.com

**Emily "Stick" Littlejohn Israel** is a docent at the Columbia Museum of Art, which combines her love of people, art and teaching. Husband "Is" will retire in April from Columbia College. Her son "Chuck" teaches creative writing at Queens College and had his first book of poetry published. **Frances Moffett Thackston** reports that husband, Barry, four children, their spouses, and 11 grandchildren (ages 4 to 23) are all well. She and Barry built a retreat on their farm in Virginia and visit there as often as possible. She and Barry spent Christmas in Kansas with their son Tee and his three boys. Nancy is the only one of their children in Charlotte, NC, and Frances keeps the grandchild that is in preschool one day a week. Frances and Barry

introduced **Virginia Dyson Hooper** to Virginia's husband, Sam, who was a pilot in the Air Force with Barry; they had a reunion in Virginia in 2010. Max and I attended a 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for **Jackie Hackler Hollis'** husband, Richard, who graduated from Wofford in 1958; both are doing well and Jackie continues to enjoy her painting. Max and I both work and enjoy volunteering at the Charles Lea Foundation and Bethlehem Center.

## CLASS OF 1961

Next Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

📍 **Elizabeth Blythe Frazer**  
324 Nottingham Drive  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-6575, 919.402.0409  
ebfrazer@earthlink.net

📍 **Marietta Williams Gordon**  
310 Laurens Street  
Camden, SC 29020-3630, 803.425.4118  
gogogrammy310@gmail.com

📍 **Frances Taylor Meissner**  
Post Office Box 274  
Seaford, VA 23696-0274, 757.898.4277  
franmeissner@verizon.net

**Penny South Kosztolnyk Ham** and Joe will celebrate their first wedding anniversary in March. They've taken cruises to Costa Rica, the Baltic States and across the Atlantic to visit the UK, Iceland, Greenland and NS. They've toured Oman and, this summer, will spend a month in South America and take a cruise of Alaska. Penny continues teaching and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and Former Fulbright Scholars. They both volunteer at the George H.W. Bush Museum and the AARP TaxAid program. They enjoy playing music for two pianos and attending operas and concerts. **Peggy Wilson Schneider** has a new grandson, Thomas Henry Jablonski, born August 24, 2011, the son of her youngest daughter Anne. Congratulations to **Susanne Cameron Hurley** on her new book *From the Highlands to High Finance: The Carolina McColls*. The book came out in December and is available at Amazon. Last August, **Betsy Blythe Frazer**, **Betty Lake Orr** and **Sylvia Harley Arant** spent an enjoyable weekend in the North Carolina mountains catching up on 50 years of news. **Frances Taylor Meissner** and Chuck had a nice visit with **Lorraine Mahaffey Waterfall** and Gail at the wedding of Frances' daughter, Leslin, in November.

## CLASS OF 1962

50<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

📍 **Dixie Crum Stone**  
9419 Owl Trace Drive  
Chesterfield, VA 23838-8919, 804.748.4755  
dixiestone@comcast.net

**Ruth Hemingway Mitman** and her husband have been married for almost 50 years. He is The Reverend Canon John Mitman, an Episcopal Priest. Ruth and John have a son, who is married, and he has two children. They live in the western mountains of Maine. They also have a daughter, whose children who are in Cincinnati. The Mitman family has lived all over the world including New Hampshire, Michigan, Iowa, England and Hong Kong. **Bibs Sheorn Hurt**

and her husband Henley live in Columbia, SC. He has retired from his practice in Internal Medicine. Bibs enjoys playing duplicate bridge and spending time with their daughters, Leddy and Betsy. Leddy and her family live in Columbia, SC, while Betsy and her family live in Nashville, TN. Bibs and Henley enjoy traveling with **Jean Hamrick Haas** and Bob and with Dr. Larry Ligo. Dr. Ligo is the art history professor at Davidson College.

## CLASS OF 1963

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

📍 **Lou Hoffler Bright**  
1103 Sourwood Circle  
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-4913, 919.968.1455

📍 **Betty Moore Henderson**  
13302 Tosca Lane  
Houston, TX 77079-7121, 713.465.0940  
eliza.henderson@att.net

📍 **Emily Kerr Stay**  
9619 Pekin Road  
Novelty, OH 44072-9743, 440.338.8221  
estay@windstream.net

It is heartwarming to hear from you girls! Happy news or sad news, share it with us. **Hattie Liddon Andersen**, **Henrietta McNeal Smith**, **Gibbie Scott Walters**, **Barbara Browne Langhorne**, **Elaine Smith Hrazdil** and **Anne Waters Green** sent Christmas greetings. Gibbie and husband John have moved back to north Georgia after a spell in Alabama. **Peggy Rainwater** finished her chemo and headed to Rome with husband Leo last fall. Hooray! **Betty Reynolds Oare's** plans include a March trip to Houston, TX, to judge the Pin Oak Horse Show. Betty and husband Ernie spend much of the winter in Florida with their horses. **Emily Kerr Stay** reports enjoying lunch with **Carolyn Morrow Wynn** and **Wallace Johnson** during a trip to North Carolina and South Carolina. We will continue to send you email updates as we receive word from classmates, so please communicate with **Betty Moore Henderson** and Emily to share your news so that we can support and keep in touch with each other. Remember to put April 2013 on your calendar for our big 50<sup>th</sup>! It will be a grand time to renew old friendships and develop new ones with classmates you might have barely known when we were in college. Big changes on campus, too!

## CLASS OF 1964

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

📍 **Elizabeth Harkins Biosca**  
807 S Mountain View Circle  
Johnson City, TN 37601-3462, 423.926.9897  
ehbiosca@hotmail.com

📍 **Sarah Miller McDaniel**  
1140 Pilot Boy Road  
Wadmalaw Island, SC 29487-6993, 843.559.7267  
sarahmcdanielw@bellsouth.net

Margaret Edmunds, youngest daughter of **B Kennedy Durham** and Hayward Edmunds is engaged to Vann Evans of Raleigh, NC. They met at Presbyterian College, went their separate ways and 10 years later are tying the knot. They will marry in May at

(Continued)

(Continued)

Valle Crucis, NC. **Lynn Perry Young** is taking her granddaughter, Libby to Paris and Barcelona in April to celebrate her 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. In September, Lynn and Mac will travel to Africa with **Nancy Eakin Dickins**. Nancy lives in Arkansas and works with Poe Travel—get in touch with Nancy to design and coordinate a trip for you. **Judy Fessey Bradley** was inspired at Converse to become a writer. She has written her first children's book that will be published this year and she is already working on her second one. There will be more about the books when published. Judy, **Annie Herbert Daniel** and Nancy Dickins will go to New York in September to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> birthdays. Can you believe that we will all be septuagenarians this year?

## CLASS OF 1965

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

### ® Peggy Clotfelter Allen

733 Glenwood Drive  
Athens, GA 30606-4627, 706.546.9960  
margaallen@charter.net

### ® Anne Wing Coffey

805 Northern Shores Point  
Greensboro, NC 27455-3459, 336.286.4717  
annecoffey2@aol.com

**Perry Russell Gilreath's** daughter Kay was married to Johnathan Hill in Greenville, SC at Christ Church, and I (Anne) attended. Kay wore her aunts', Sally Thomason Russell '66, Brussels lace veil. Kudos to **Betty Byers Mastley** for completing her first triathlon! She writes her husband and son also joined in the June 19<sup>th</sup> event at Calloway Gardens, GA. She writes, "I actually won a medal in my age group. I was first, last and the only one in my age group!" She was also the oldest female runner and was very proud she finished without having to crawl to the finish line on her knees. Betty trained for an entire year. **Peggy Clotfelter Allen** has a new grandson, Watts Allen. **Susu Phifer Johnson** writes **Kathy Cohen Willard** is out and about again! In addition, **Ann Trammell Holmes** stays on the road visiting all her grandchildren. **Lucy Robertson Aldridge's** husband John has published a children's book *Isabella Propeller and the Magic Beanie* under his pen name Jonathan Graves. A wonderful book and my granddaughters love it! **Toler Yates Edwards** and Tony have welcomed their sixth grandchild.

## CLASS OF 1966

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2016

### ® Mildred Gee Akers

970 Sandpiper Lane  
Orange Park, FL 32073-5330, 904.264.8854  
geeakers@aol.com

### ® Linda Whitnel Crimm

4445 Silverwood Lane  
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6241, 904.737.6172  
thecrimms@gmail.com

**Dianne Kennedy McLees** and husband Ray spent much of October traveling through south and western

France. They enjoyed the history, wineries and friendly people. The fall weather was great and tourist crowds had thinned even at popular tourist sites. Dianne and Ray spent Christmas in snowy Denver with the "McLees Clan West"—their daughter, two sons, a granddaughter and their families. **Donna Perry Vandiver** enjoys playing violin and singing with her church choir. Donna has recovered from knee surgery with the help of a "Physical Terrorist" and much effort on her part. Her daughter Perry Vandiver Henson '98 EdS is a college counselor at Wofford College. **Chippie Everhart Graham** and husband Bill enjoyed an after Christmas Disney Cruise with their daughter and granddaughter. They wanted to go while the granddaughter would still be awed by the fantasy. **Kathryn Ingram Lyon** and husband Rick traveled to south Florida after Christmas. A bout with the flu kept them from meeting **Linda Whitnel Crimm** and **Mildred Gee Akers** in Jacksonville, FL and from visiting their new granddaughter Ann Carter Lyon in Memphis, TN. Kathryn and Rick have six grandchildren. **Ann Sienknecht Humbracht** visited **Kitty Oldham Young** in Greenville, SC. Donna Vandiver met them for lunch. They have been having these annual visits for years.

## CLASS OF 1967

45<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 27-28, 2012

### ® Margot McCord Campbell

204 Glenroy Court  
Flat Rock, NC 28731-9561, 828.697.8435  
margotcampbell@mindspring.com



Don't forget our class reunion April 27-28, 2012! **Margot McCord Campbell**, **Judy Coe**, **Lee Tabb Lauterbach**, **Jane Moody Galbraith** and **Beth Brewer Franz** all had a wonderful trip to Fort Myers, FL to visit **Karen Stratton Schlag** in November 2011. **Connie Carefoot Durrence** left Converse her sophomore year but has kept in touch through the Converse magazine. She was on a trip to Peru and Jane Moody Galbraith happened to be on her trip; so they were reacquainted after 45 years. **Suzanne Wallace Casey** and **Sandra Jones Husted** enjoyed a birthday lunch together last August. **Judith Klasen Tolbert** sold her accounting practice a few years ago, but still works as Director of Parish Music/Organist at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fort Mill, SC.

## CLASS OF 1968

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2013

### ® Carol Early Graham

727 Alta Vista Drive  
Vista, CA 92084-5511, 760.758.7615  
earlygram@gmail.com

### ® Caroline Gordon Grimball

109 Walden Court  
Columbia, SC 29204-4043, 803.782.5828  
caroline5828@bellsouth.net

### ® Barbara Baker Kennedy

4400 Dewees Court  
Raleigh, NC 27612-3501, 919.782.9459  
Bkennedy8@nc.rr.com

### ® Ann Wallace Nichols

6607 Greenville Highway  
Brevard, NC 28712-6400, 404.580.4975  
WallaceNichols@gmail.com

**Mary Calton** now has 12 grandchildren and spends a lot of time with her eldest daughter, Maria Elena and her daughter, Sophia, in Miami, FL. So Scottie has four, Miguel has five, John has one and Clyde has one. That's a houseful! **Mary Everett Pierce** and husband Charles have been making buying trips to England and France in search of antiques for their occasional showings at home and now their own booth at the Riverside Mall called "Millstone Antiques," named after her family farm. Charles loves running most of the operation, a welcome distraction from his busy pediatric practice. **Barbara Baker Kennedy** had a wonderful Converse connection this fall at the Grand National Waterfowl Hunt in Cambridge, MD. She ran into Becky Stowe Ruff '69 and Marion Allen Stowe '67. They are both good friends of **Emily Monk Davidson** and Mary Everett Pierce. To take it one-step further, **Amanda Coffey Demarest's** son married Becky Ruff's daughter. That's a trip around the block! **Blair Blackwell Cooper** is retiring this year! About a year ago, **Carol Early Graham** and **Joan Hemphill** visited their former Converse music history professor and illustrious cellist Luca DiCecco and his wife Arlene in Palm Desert for an elegant luncheon.

## CLASS OF 1969

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2014

### ® Cathy Riley Howle

808 Law Plantation Road  
Darlington, SC 29540-7607, 843.393.7317  
chowle47@aol.com

### ® Ashley Fine Nagle

301 Kirk Lane  
Media, PA 19063-2217, 610.513.0239  
avfnagle@hotmail.com

### ® Sydney Patricia Smith

3015 Rhodenhaven Drive NW  
Atlanta, GA 30327-1225, 404.352.5249  
csmithstepsahead@aol.com

**Elinor Banks McLaughlin**, "Pookie" and husband Woody traveled this past year visiting family across the US and visited **Lee Ann Lowry** in Waynesville, NC with other Converse buddies and had a fabulous time! **Patti Hodge Croft** retired from teaching and enjoys her son and family living next door in Sumter, SC. **Anita Parker Zeigler** and husband, Charlie, live in Charlotte, NC, where three of her four children also live. She volunteers as Area Director of Greater NC Community Bible Study, which she recommends to all! **Sally Evans Lockwood** sends news that son Jay has begun medical school at Emory while son Chip is at Harvard pursuing a doctoral degree in religion. **Carole Johnston Cumming** had 12 days of Christmas with family visiting, lots of food and fun! **Elizabeth "BooBoo" Lide** lives in Atlanta, GA, with husband Paul and 16-year-old daughter, Emma. She teaches art at Paideia School and Paul works for CNN. **Julia Bowman Martin** has retired as speech language pathologist. She was diagnosed with viral encephalitis in February 2010 and was critically ill causing her to lose some of her long-term memories. She hopes to be at the next reunion. We are looking forward to seeing you, Julia! **Becky Stowe Ruff's** daughter, Stowe and family are moving to Augusta, GA where **Floride Clarkson Dickert** lives.

# 70's

## IN MEMORIAM

**Wilma Baker Brown** '70 MEd, September 17, 2011  
**Ginny Legare** '70, October 10, 2011  
**Pattie Tuggle Miller** '70 MEd, September 12, 2011  
**Martha Boone McGarry** '74, May 30, 2011  
**Camilla H. Deyton** '74, February 9, 2011

## SYMPATHY

**Janice "Smack" Mack** '70 on the death of her mother, Lorraine L. Mack, November 26, 2011  
**Betty Arthur Hardaway** '71 on the death of her mother, Daphne Woodham Arthur, January 20, 2012  
**Leila Cottingham Thorne** '71 on the death of her brother, Charles Daniel Cottingham IV, December 18, 2011  
**Lucy Haslett Evans** '71 on the death of her mother, Frances Davis Haslett '41, February 3, 2012  
**Sarah Levi Freeman** '71 on the death of her husband, Charles Pace Freeman, Jr., July 31, 2011  
**Page Parsons** '71 on the death of her father, Harrison Morgan Parsons, May 11, 2010  
**Pamela Scurry** '71 on the death of her mother, Harriet Porter Johnson, December 8, 2011  
**Mary Berry Johnston** '72 on the death of her mother, Nancy Womble Berry, September 13, 2011  
**Amanda Dargan Zeitlin** '72 on the death of her mother, Frances Edwards Dargan, December 15, 2011  
**Nancy Atkinson Patch** '73 on the death of her mother, Lucile McMillin Atkinson '46, December 21, 2011  
**Lynn Holder Looper** '73 on the death of her son, Samuel Frederick Looper, October 13, 2011  
**Sarah Dargan Cornejo** '75 on the death of her mother, Frances Edwards Dargan, December 15, 2011  
**Renie Hollis Adair** '75 on the death of her father, Thomas Francis Hollis, January 13, 2012  
**Deborah Bradley Trusty** '77 on the death of her mother, Anna Louise Bradley, August 4, 2011  
**Betsy Brewer Grimes** '77 on the death of her son, Patrick Hawley Grimes, December 20, 2011  
**Anne Prentice Graham** '77 on the death of her mother, Isabel Orr Graham, June 18, 2011  
**Martha Haslett Ladd** '78 on the death of her mother, Frances Davis Haslett '41, February 3, 2012  
**Jean Arthur Hungerpilller** '79 on the death of her mother, Daphne Woodham Arthur, January 20, 2012  
**Helen Farmer** '79 on the death of her brother, Frank Hunter Farmer, Jr., February 4, 2012  
**Meg Plaster Stovall** '79 on the death of her mother, Helen Spough Plaster, August 2, 2011

## CAREER CHANGES

**Stacy Sumner Jesso** '78, Director of Development and Marketing, Council for Children's Rights, Charlotte, NC

## ADVANCED DEGREE

**Carol Owens Campbell** '72, MFA, Pine Manor College, July 2011

## CLASS OF 1970

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2015

® **Janice "Smack" Mack**  
6 Indigo Cove  
Greensboro, NC 27455-3424, 336.282.0520  
janice.smack@gmail.com  
® **Lynn Hicks Mitchell**  
1004 Mulberry Road  
Martinsville, VA 24112-5218, 276.632.4232  
ethmitch@gmail.com

Written by Smack in January from Christmas cards or fall-winter get-togethers. **Jan Rorebeck Dees** enjoyed trips in 2011 to North Carolina mountains, fishing in Alabama, and had a mini-reunion with classmates at Gulf Shores. **Patty Downes Johnson** sees **Bunny Hicklin Johnson** often. On an annual Pawley's Island summer trip, she saw **Ann Owens** and **Susan Shaw Hufham**. All are well. **Perry Hicks Jordan** likes the warm weather in Texas. **Marion Brooke Philpott** married Charlie—congratulations! **Eileen Nolen Rampey** spent Christmas at Disney World. **Barbara Holman Stith's** son Boyd is in Ghana working on water purification. **Susan Dukes Webber's** husband, Johnny, had heart surgery and she is busy with three grandchildren under the age of five. **Thayer Cheatham Willis** wrote an excellent article in her newsletter on motivating children. I had dinner with **Nancy Jane Stedman Calloway**, **Ann Joyner Cross** and **Lynda "Smitty" Smith Swann**. Nancy Jane had an insightful conversation on mind-body health. Ann is working part-time for her husband. Smitty is a busy CEO and relaxes on weekends in Blowing Rock, NC. I also had lunch with **Howard Brown Millican** and **Lynn Hicks Mitchell**. Howard's son graduated from Davidson. Lynn is involved in church work and visits her daughters in Minneapolis and Raleigh. Smack spends long hours at school teaching. Take care and send news!

## CLASS OF 1971

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2016

® **Nancy Lide**  
2032 Sussex Lane  
Winston Salem, NC 27104-2208, 336.722.6882  
nancyclide@alumni.wfu.edu  
® **Jane Byrd Melton**  
115 Bickerstaff Road  
Clemmons, NC 27012-9053, 336.778.1760  
janemelton@triad.rr.com  
® **Mindy Thompson Orman**  
1040 Gateway Lane  
Nashville, TN 37220-1043, 615.373.5965  
orman@realtracs.com

## CLASS OF 1972

40<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

® **Jill Rushforth Coker**  
17 Collins Ridge Drive  
Greenville, SC 29607-3775, 864.281.0314

## ® Florence Twitty

525 Woodland Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-2762, 864.585.5018

**Pamela Seignious Chambers** left Marriott International in October of 2010 after 32 years and began her own home care company in the Charleston area. **Sarah Brown Stewart** has been appointed to serve as a federal Administrative Law Judge and assigned to Jackson, MS. Sarah's husband, Bill, has retired from his teaching career at USC in Columbia, SC. Looking for gardening tips? Be sure to go to [www.goupstate.com](http://www.goupstate.com) and read articles written by **Betty James Montgomery**. Hope everyone saw **Betsy Crane Griffith's** video to Converse alumnae in January. We hope to see everyone in the Class of 1972 at our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion April 27–28.

## CLASS OF 1973

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2013

® **Peggy Kelly Lancaster**  
510 Connecticut Avenue  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-2127, 864.582.0587

## CLASS OF 1974

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2014

® **Amanda Horton Dorman**  
6 Marsh Point Drive  
Savannah, GA 31406-3218, 912.352.9853  
ahdorman@comcast.net  
® **Elizabeth Elmore Rhoad**  
308 Laurel Drive  
Lexington, SC 29072-3542, 803.957.5809  
zqueen123@aol.com

**Sara Emma Hall** has a design and decorating business out of her home in Meridian, MS, and loves to travel. **English Johnson Folsom** and commercial real estate husband, Johnny, enjoy having their daughter, son and three grandchildren live nearby in Columbia, SC. **Frances Smith McLean** and husband, Dave, live in St. Simons, GA, where she has a darling dress shop called *Beechers*. **Peggy McKewen Kyzer** enjoys visiting her daughter's family in Lakeland, FL, where she can be a part of her two grandchildren's lives. She is looking forward to a visit from her son who is a landscape artist and art professor at Utah State University. Her sister, **Debby McKewen Ferguson**, lives in High Point, NC, and has a home business, *The Paper Lady*. Her two sons are married and live in Hilton Head, SC, and Atlanta, GA. **Ellen Forde Grigsby** lives in Dallas, TX, and works in development for Open Doors, a non-profit serving persecuted Christians in 60 nations. Her son, Russell, is a pastor in Minneapolis, MN, and her daughter, Mary Hayes, is a ballet instructor in Seattle, WA. Ellen and **Martha Tonnisen Mayberry** recently visited each other. Martha and husband, Richard, live on Lake Norman, commuting to their jobs in Charlotte, NC. Martha has been with the Mint Museum for 35 years. They plan to retire next year to their mountain home near Brevard, NC.

(Continued)



# 70's

(Continued)

## CLASS OF 1975

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

® **Libby Knight Borders**

102 Marsh Spring Court  
Greer, SC 29650-3274, 864.968.1429  
libby.borders@gmail.com

We are in the “grandbabies phase” of life! **Missy Craver Schenck** welcomed grandson “Phen,” short for Stephen, and **Betsy McPhail Weathersbee** welcomed grandson, Sutton in July 2011. In September, **Joy Joyner Poe** became a grandmother to “Tripp!” **Kitty Gary Hotchkiss** and Charlie have had four weddings in four years and two grandchildren, Ella and Izzy! **Martha Mason Gibson** and Margaret Allen Tyson '76 joined Kitty for a wedding in Charleston, SC. “**AB**” **Pearce Stewart** and Tim celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary by traveling to New Zealand, Australia and Fuji! **Mary Alice Timberlake King** is a school psychologist with the challenge of 1200 middle school students. **Patty Richardson Ennis** works at an art gallery, South Windermere Center, in Charleston, SC. In Cashiers this fall, I literally ran into **Betsy Wigington** and **Becky Meadors!** **Sarah Dargan Cornejo's** daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, will be attending Davidson in the fall. Sarah saw **Harriett Swink Pharr** and **Frances Green Swink** at the “annual winter games” in Effingham. **Missy Moser Rankin** spends time when she can with Betsy Weathersbee, Joy Poe, **Louise Malloy Bonner** and **Lillian Montgomery Lawrence.** **Ruthie McCutchen Knight** and Bud had a wonderful trip to Merida, Mexico, and visited their daughter, Taylor, who was spending a semester there; they felt they had a wonderful Spanish speaking tour guide!

## CLASS OF 1976

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2016

® **Lisa Williamson Anderson**

3301 Russell Road  
Alexandria, VA 22305-1725, 703.686.2448  
LawHunt2@aol.com



Rebecca Poston Bomar, Ann Preston Carey, Betty Barrett Robertson Rogers, Marlene Partlow Willings, Val Powell Cranford, Margaret Rinehart Smith, Caleb Fort, Nancy Boatwright Holt, Val Nielsen Sherer, Julia Keenan Willcox

® **Elizabeth Gordon Martin**

4528 Ivy Hall Road  
Columbia, SC 29206-1229, 803.960.9138  
lizgm@aol.com

® **Claire Connors Wharton**

105 Thousand Pines Lane  
Tryon, NC 28782-3540, 828.817.3688  
ccwharton@mac.com

Hello to the Class of 1976! Here it is 2012, most of our children have left the nest, some of us are grandmothers, some continue to work and some are retired. It is time for us to get in touch. We want to know what you are doing, and we want to find those of you we have lost like **Jane Simpson Weltner** and **Doreen Pepper.** Surely, there are other lost classmates you have thought of over the years. It is a small world after all. One of our Converse Alumnae Board representatives, **Haidee Clark Smith,** has a lake house just above where Claire lives in Tryon, NC. We run into Converse graduates of all ages all the time. I keep up with **Catherine Rhea-Darby** (who retired from the protective services court rounds) because our siblings are married. Send news of yourself as well as of those who you have seen or heard from or heard about. It is fun to make new kinds of connections. Contact any of your three class reps.

## CLASS OF 1977

35<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012



® **Donna Kaiser Croft**

1110 Summersill Lane  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464-5167, 843.881.2924  
dkcroft@gmail.com

® **Lucille Hudson Stemberidge**

5595 Sequoia Drive  
Forest Park, GA 30297-4080, 404.361.7304  
sopranolucy@att.net

We are looking forward to gathering at our 35<sup>th</sup> Reunion the last weekend of April! **Joy Nanney Finch** directed and played keyboards with the band in the Spartanburg Little Theater production of *Honky Tonk Angels.* **Jane Boatwright Schwab,** **Harriet Wilson Newton,** **Susan Hull,** and **Jean**

**Parks Bunch** had a great visit in Atlanta, GA; then Jane, Harriet and Jean went to Newnan, GA, where they gathered for cocktails and had a ball. **Josie Rudolph Stokes** is fortunate to see her grandchildren Tess and Jack often, as they live close by. **Lucy Hudson Stemberidge** has sung soprano next to Carol Rawlinson '68 and performed in a Broadway review accompanied by Kathy Ireland '86. **Rhondy Huff Valdes** and Charles have moved full-time to Kiawah Island as empty nesters. **Susan Saye Honaker's** oldest son, Douglas, married on December 3 in Las Vegas. **Rhonda Logan Wills** flew out for the occasion. Following the wedding and the SEC football Championship the same day, they partied up and down the strip! Susan and husband, Tom, are moving from Pennsylvania to middle Georgia. Susan is happy to be moving south again.

## CLASS OF 1978

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2013

® **Lee Ullman Hutson**

3128 Oakview Road  
Columbia, SC 29204-3502, 803.782.4980  
lhutson@sc.rr.com

® **Blanche Gramling Weathers**

Post Office Box 489  
Bowman, SC 29018-0489, 803.829.3137  
blanche@oburg.net

**Martha Haslett Ladd** is retired but still working. She has four grandchildren. **Deidre Perot Lightsey** and Frank are in Polk County riding horses with the Sheriff's Mounted Patrol and have Neverest Farm in Rutherford, NC, with everything from horses to beehives. **Laura Dew Smith's** family has become our class celebs as their business, Blue Ridge Log Cabins, was featured on *Extreme Home Makeover: Home Edition* last September. Michelle Obama was there with Laura dancing on the front porch of the house to the sounds of “Brick House,” even though it was made of logs©. Seriously, this home was built for female homeless vets to live in while they are trying to rebuild their lives. Good job, Laura, Chip and Michelle! Both of Willie and **Libby Pennell Lowndes'** children got married this past year. **Martha Anderson** was ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church! You go Sista! **Rilla Thomas** is active in Conway, SC, in her sustaining role as “caregiver” for someone in her sphere. **Annie Horne Collins** is in Roswell, GA, and is so excited to have a 2 1/2 year old granddaughter, Annie! **Julie Gaw Armstrong** and her youngest daughter have been to Burma and Thailand; they worked with a group of Christians trying to protect abandoned women and orphaned children.

## CLASS OF 1979

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

® **Margaret Horne Darr**

234 Beechwood Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29307-2949, 864.583.7464  
buddymoonshine@charter.net

Send Margaret your good news for the next issue!

# 80's

## IN MEMORIAM

Laurie Joan Moore '82, January 13, 2010  
Joyce Henson Sams '86, September 22, 2011  
Deborah Tate Webb '88, November 18, 2011

## SYMPATHY

Ellen Efirid Gould '82 on the death of her father, Hugh Martin Efirid II, October 2, 2011  
Pamela Watson '82 on the death of her mother, Jean Evans Watson, December 18, 2011  
Marsha Cabbage Somheil '85 on the death of her mother, Betty Neale Brunson Cabbage, November 27, 2011  
Cathy McAllister Watson '86 on the death of her mother, Catherine Mae Harter McAllister, November 2, 2011  
Anne Cheek Bailey '89 on the death of her father, William Bingham Cheek III, November 10, 2011  
Kathryn Owens Johnson '89 on the death of her step-father, Richard Taylor Townsend, November 5, 2011

## MARRIAGE

Pam Sims Mosley '87 to John H. Rutledge, August 2011

## ADVANCED DEGREE

Evangelin Chapman-Wall '85, '88 MEd, PhD, University of South Carolina, August 2011

## CLASS OF 1980

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2015

- ® Holly Holstein Caprell  
205 Wagoncreek Drive  
Simpsonville, SC 29681-3920, 864.963.5857  
holly.gcyo@gmail.com
- ® Liz Hughes  
6520 Bentridge Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28226-6106, 704.364.5205  
ncclassicdesign@aol.com
- ® Margaret Craig Schafer  
260 Danbury Lane  
Atlanta, GA 30327-3406, 404.705.8562  
ga.schafers@comcast.net

Susan Brubaker Roquemore currently works in Special Education one-on-one in Cumberland Valley School District. Husband and Wofford graduate, Dr. David Roquemore, is Senior Pastor at Camp Hill Presbyterian Church. Their oldest, Sarah, is married and works in DC; oldest son John works in California; Peter works in DC; Emily is a freshman at Eastern University; Madeline is a sophomore at CVHS and their youngest, Courtney is a 5<sup>th</sup> grader! Wow, what an impressive, and large, family! Sarah Holloway Moore's daughter Maddie graduated in May and is now an Auburn freshman. She has turned into a devoted fan attending every football game and had her mom yelling War Eagle at the Homecoming game. It was great fun and brought back happy memories from college days. Caroline continues to cheer at middle school and loves it. Carol Cowen Webb is loving life in Roswell, GA. Daughter Casey

just turned 24 and lives with Carol while working on her business major. Carol has just changed jobs at the request of a former boss and since October works for Scientific Games. Way to go Carol! Please check out our group page on Facebook! —Margaret Craig Schafer

## CLASS OF 1981

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2016

- ® Cornelia D. Christian  
3021 Cardinal Place  
Lynchburg, VA 24503-3301, 434.386.4348  
cornelia.christian@comcast.net
- ® Libby Campbell Patterson  
18 Widewater Road  
Hilton Head, SC 29926-2064, 843.342.2580  
libbs.pat@gmail.com
- ® Marianna MacIntyre Taylor  
100 Bellwood Lane  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-2818, 864.597.1622  
mommainsin@charter.net

What the Pell? Vote our classmates off *Devil Island!* They shamefully missed our 30<sup>th</sup>: Allyson Culbreth Ware is involved with weekend work – Children's Music Ministry. Amy Moss Jones' son and daughter were getting married. Edith Hopkins Collins was a judge for the Charleston Race Weekend. Kathy Young McDowell had family trips from New Orleans to Charlotte. Gay Parks Dilz went to son's baseball game. Glenn Sumrell said something about California and the long trip. Cindy Patrick Brust is the Communications Director of Anglican Missions in the Americas. Lisa Johnson Bentley and Danny moved from St. Louis to 6407 Province Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Drop Lisa a line as she plans a daughter's wedding. Ann Moorman Price and husband Bill treated Marianna to a delicious lunch in Columbia, SC. Lisa, give her a call—she's "in" event planning! Carol Upchurch Campbell sent a package last week to get her name in print. Her husband, Sam, sent all those Moon Pies for our 30<sup>th</sup> reunion! Jane Rinehart Crosby and Jimmy climbed Mt. Leconte! What about Sally Jeter Hammond biking through Africa! Devil Doer to the 10th power...you go girl! Ruthie Jones Soliday is a drug representative in Charleston. Facebook us: Converse Class of '81 (Right, Sally Herlong?)

## CLASS OF 1982

30<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012

- ® Becky Nutter Cassidy  
3320 Calumet Street  
Columbus, OH 43202-1242, 614.261.6401  
racassidy@sbcglobal.net
- ® Holly Beach Hussey  
2910 Roxburgh Drive  
Roswell, GA 30076, 770.619.3369  
hbh123@att.net

Anne James Meadors wrote that daughter, Weatherly (24), graduated from Wofford and is back in Charleston, SC studying Marine Biology through the College of Charleston. James, Jr. (22) will graduate from Wofford in May with a degree in business economics. Jack (18) is a freshman at Wofford enjoying being an SAE and participating in intramural sports. Anne stays busy tutoring, volunteering, playing tennis and

doing payroll for her husband's construction company. Caroline Wyman Edwards still teaches middle school chorus in Darlington, SC. Her daughter, Hannah, got married in November. Caroline said she loved being the mother of the bride! Her son Hank is majoring in marketing. Debra Baldi Matz got a chuckle out of all her classmates with college age children. She is staying active with her 11-year-old son, Jarod. Evie Davis Bunge's daughter, Hannah, is working and taking classes in Columbia, SC while Rick is a freshman at Clemson in the Engineering program. Evie's parents relocated from their home of 40 years in Florence, SC, to Columbia, SC, where they now live near their children. Looking so forward to seeing you at our 30<sup>th</sup> reunion!

## CLASS OF 1983

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

- ® Barbara Lindsay Hines  
4400 N. Cooper Lake Road SE  
Smyrna, GA 30082-4600, 770.438.2018  
robbarb@bellsouth.net
- ® Lou Pittman Lindsey  
1122 Edisto Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-4407, 864.573.9191  
lou@eatatwad.es.com

It has been a very slow news collection time! Other than hearing that Elizabeth McDonald Dunn's family was not hurt in the severe weather that swept through Birmingham, AL, I have not heard from any of our '83 Red Devil sisters. PLEASE send me information...it is so nice to hear about what everyone is doing! Our daughter Lindsay Kate is in her second year at Georgia College and State University. She has decided to study Special Education. Tori is 16, and a junior in high school. She spends most of her time at the dance studio. I am in my 11<sup>th</sup> year working at Covenant Christian School, currently as the Director of Admissions and Instruction. Okay ladies, I do not want to have to write another article about me, so please send in your news! —Barbara

## CLASS OF 1984

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

- ® Jody C. Cole  
308 Jones Street  
Ukiah, CA 95482-5412, 707.467.9676  
wildfair@aol.com
- ® Lynn Gully Orlando  
7205 Mira Mar Place  
Wake Forest, NC 27587-5346, 919.554.8118  
lynn.orlando@magellancharter.org
- ® Kevin Jenkins Plonk  
3044 Misty Harbor Circle, Apt. C  
Cramerton, NC 28032-1496, 704.824.7827  
kjplonk@yahoo.com

Happy 50<sup>th</sup> birthday girls! We love and miss you all. In other news Margaret Peach is still the Principal of a middle school in Spartanburg and enjoys her new yellow lab, Hank. Allison Sutton Fuqua and husband Randy recently celebrated 27 years of bliss. They have one daughter at USC and the other at Clemson, who is also studying abroad at Lorenzo de Medici University

(Continued)



# 80's

(Continued)

in Florence, Italy. **Margaret McElroy Goatley** and husband Greg are empty nesters with daughters in three different colleges, Centre College in Danville, KY, Westminster College in Fulton, MO, and Western KY University. **Renee Rankin Jones** had lots of fun seeing **Carolyn Malone Buchanan** over Thanksgiving. Hollywood has been saying that 40 is the new 30... well, Carolyn makes 50 look like the new 35! **Gayle Schrier Smith MD's** practice finished a three-year re-design and received an award from The Children's National Medical Center for Innovation in Design of the Medical Home! **Kim White O'Quinn**, Director of Marketing for The Mungo Companies in Columbia, SC, recently celebrated her oldest son's wedding, and on-hand to keep her sane was **Mary Milling Alexander, Kate Hinton, Lou Springs Smith** and **Laura Campbell Brown**. Love, Jody, Kevin and Lynn.

## CLASS OF 1985

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

® **Krisila Newman Foster**

225 Mountain Range Road  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316-6852, 864.814.4476  
krisilafoster@charter.net

® **Vandy Major McFaddin**

201 Clamp Road  
Blythewood, SC 29016-9751, 803.333.8956  
vmcfaddin@bellsouth.net

® **LeAnne Rowland O'Donnell**

901 Willow Oak Court  
Nashville, TN 3722-39851, 615.673.6302  
lrodonnell@comcast.net

**Kelley Maloney Liggitt** sent me the Columbia gals' news: Vandy, Kelley, Kelly, Marsha, Suzanne, Gigi, Julia, Deans, Becky, Karen, Blair, Amy, Ellen, and Paula had their annual beach trip in February and are planning their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday bash for next year. Kelley's daughter, Kate, turned 11 in March and again was the top fundraiser in the Downs Syndrome Buddy Walk. Son, Kent is a high school freshman and ready to get his driver's license! Thanks for the Christmas cards with your beautiful families: **Jeanne O'Neill Robinson** sent a creative picture of her family with an Elvis impersonator; **Annie Gray Roberts** and Mark pictured with cat, Gracie; **Melissa Cureton Pricketts'** family at one of Austin's football games; **Teresa Shuman Clements** with hubs and three grown girls; **Suzanne Crosswell Short's** three gorgeous girls; **Sandra Morris Welch**, Jody and college senior, Elise; **Cindy Bruce Bryant** and David with their three children; **Ellen Lanford Asherman** always sends a great beach picture of her three young men (it is fun to see how tall they are); **Marie Elam Soutter's** cute girls; Mike and **Happy Smith Mason** with their three boys; **Rachel Cauthen Rohrer** with Kathryn & Philip; and **Tammy Gossett Graves'** son, Daniel and graduating senior, Becca.

## CLASS OF 1986

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2016

® **Kathryn Donald Shook**

105 Delmar Terrace  
Birmingham, AL 35213-3112, 205.871.5561  
kdshook@att.net

® **Catherine Pittman Smith**

215 E Edgewood Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35209-3913, 205.871.3340  
cpittmansmith@att.net

® **Julie Staggs**

1521 Custis Court  
Atlanta, GA 30388-6985, 571.970.7895  
jstags4@gmail.com

**Anne Moore's** boys, Scott (22) and Will (18) have both joined the Marine Corps this year. Will is training in Pensacola and Scott in North Carolina. Middle son, Robert, is at Arkansas State University playing rugby, so Amy (13) is the only one at home now. **Julie Staggs** started her doctorate degree at UGA in Higher Education Management. **Ann Lanier Jackson** and her husband Brian are raising their three boys, ages 9, 8 and 5. **Kristy Gillmann's** company changed its name to LegalShield, so with a new ad campaign, she is busier than ever. **Angie Stanland** and Cy now live in Kansas City permanently. She is the Vice President of Associate Services, a Recruiting for Cerner Corporation, a global healthcare IT company. **Cheryl Barber** has two daughters at Wofford and one that already graduated. She directs a college program at Rabun Gap boarding school. **Libby Ann Inabinet** hired Madison Webb '11, as the Development Associate at the American Red Cross. Libby's son, Walker, is graduating from USC this May but will play one more year on the USC Football Team. Her son, Gus, is a KA at USC and is coaching football and baseball at Hammond School. **Catherine Pittman Smith** has re-niched her photography business by adding custom coffee table books. It is called Art(full) Creations.

## CLASS OF 1987

25<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 27-28, 2012

® **Elizabeth Smoak Groce**

123 Woodland Way  
Greenville, SC 2960-38391, 864.232.2641  
egroce@woodwardmedical.org

® **Lynn Dye Smith**

3067 Walton Way Ext.  
Augusta, GA 30909-3472, 706.737.2886  
lynnsmith@comcast.net

**Kathryn Schilling-Oakes** lives in Knoxville, TN with her husband and 11-year-old daughter, Clara, where she is a substitute teacher/commissioned artist. **Rachel Hean Dobson's** daughter just got married in Rome, Italy, where she will live with her new husband. The whole Dobson family was there for the Italian celebration! **Wendy Rogers** moved back to Spartanburg and is looking for old Converse buddies in the area. **Ellen Creech Nordstrom** is now in Charlotte, NC. **Melanie Clyburn** recently had foot surgery, and was nursed by **Terri Minton**. She should be fully recovered to dance at our reunion in April! In October, **Teresa Gagnon Maino** joined **Pam Sims Rutledge, Mary Redmond Hutson, Molly Levy Campbell** and **Adele Penland Boyce** for a weekend at Pam's lovely home in Spartanburg. **Martha Lynn Mercer Gaskins** saw **Sherrie Moss Board** over the holidays. **Andrea Lyles Hueble** enjoys volunteering and taking care of her husband and three children. **Lynda Navratil Garrett** has been



teaching high school biology (Dr. Powell would be proud!) and middle school science in St. Augustine, FL for 23 years. She and her husband have two daughters and she is a breast cancer survivor for over five years! **Wallis Crum Bond** loves her new teaching career. See everyone in April!!! —Lynn

## CLASS OF 1988

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

® **Kristi Klim Holler**

900 Raven Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29732-9331, 803.327.0712  
jandkholler@comporium.net

® **Alice Fuller Littlejohn**

225 Randall Street  
Greenville, SC 29609-5406, 864.467.9580  
alkenlj@charter.net

Christmas card photos gave annual testament to the passing of time, and our growing children! Cards arrived from **Becky DuBard Grantland, Kristin Austin Smith, Barbara Dekle Lauff, Sydney Jordan Warren, Cindy Hume Kirschner, Ginny Agee Speirs, Stacie Olexy Sharp** and **Ashlin Blanchard Potterfield**. Cindy's cards are always creative and entertaining. She reports that their lives are busy in Beaumont, TX, and they enjoyed a two week Disney trip in 2011. They are looking forward to a multi-state two-week trip in summer 2012. Stacie and family are well and happy to be back in their home following the long ordeal of rebuilding after the fire that destroyed their old one. Ashlin's card included photos from a New Orleans trip and daughter Linsy (12) cheerleading. Ginny's card had gorgeous shots of their family in Pisa and the Italian Alps. From the photos, it is also clear that she has passed along her artistic genes to her children! Please send news of your lives, and find the Converse Class of 1988 on Facebook to keep in touch.

## CLASS OF 1989

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

® **Wallace Davison**

1720 Wandering Way Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28226-5736, 704.366.1631  
wallacedavison@yahoo.com

® **Joy Johnson**

1850 N Elm Street  
Greensboro, NC 27408-6604, 336.370-9709  
nisajoyj@yahoo.com

® **Rawles Terrell Kelly**

3139 Shillington Place  
Charlotte, NC 28210-4245, 704.552-.8604  
k\_rawles@bellsouth.net

It's complete!! The Centennial Courtyard, funded by generous donations from members of our class, is now finished and looks great! It's a gathering place, a hang out place, a party place, a cookout place. And it is beautiful! Stop by the campus soon and have a visit. And a great big THANK YOU to all those who helped make this happen! We should all be proud to have such a nice area on campus— our way of giving back to our alma mater. We will definitely be utilizing this area in two years when we meet up for our 25<sup>th</sup> reunion (ouch). Come join us on our Facebook Group page, and remember to send in your updates to Rawles, Joy or Wallace.



# 90's

## IN MEMORIAM

**Doris Lavin Cuddihee** '90, March 7, 2011  
**Joe Ann Shearer Lever**, Honorary Alumna,  
November 23, 2011

## SYMPATHY

**Brandy Belk Long** '90 on the death of her father, John Maxwell Belk, November 22, 2011  
**Frances Jeter Stowe** '91 on the death of her husband, Joseph Scott Stowe, August 29, 2011  
**Beverly Moore Willis** '91 on the death of her grandmother, Nell Mason Barr, October 7, 2011  
**Joy Adams Bethea** '93 on the death of her grandmother, Christine Eloise Dudley Iseman, January 22, 2012  
**Amanda Townsend Coble** '93 on the death of her father, Richard Taylor Townsend, November 5, 2011  
**Dori Davis Helms** '98 on the death of her grandmother, Mildred Cope Salters, August 6, 2011  
**Kimberly Howell Clobes** '99 on the death of her mother, Karen Diane Howell, October 10, 2011  
**Nikki Maples-Reynolds** '99 on the death of her grandmother, Mildred L. Rigsby, December 29, 2011  
**Beth Robbins Cooper** '99 on the death of her grandfather, Nelson Ray Upton, July 30, 2011

## MARRIAGES

**Elizabeth Fleet Hudnall** '96 to David Edward Bogan, October 15, 2011  
**Aimee Welch Waldrop** '99 to Kevin Dehlinger, August 17, 2011

## BIRTHS

Simeon Richard Hembree, November 6, 2011, son of Richard and **Katherine McKoy Hembree** '90  
Amelia Wesley McCombs, August 22, 2011, daughter of David McCombs and **Julie Simonton** '91  
Ella Aminah Washington, October 27, 2011, daughter of George and **Kathi Phillips Washington** '95  
Merritt Reese Jones, January 4, 2011, daughter of Paul and **Marie Rhodes Jones** '95  
Cooper Murphy Hummel, October 1, 2011, son of Devin and **Heather Stead Hummel** '96  
Arden Marie Tolar, October 14, 2011, daughter of Jeffrey and **Merri Christy Harmon Tolar** '97  
Heyward Hunt Williams, August 17, 2011, son of Greg and **Laura Marchant Williams** '97  
Wayland Banks Wilkins, March 7, 2011, son of Marshall and **Christine Brown Wilkins** '98  
Carson Scott Champney, April 13, 2011, son of Greg and **Heather Godsey Champney** '98  
Michael John Pappas, Jr., November 22, 2011, son of Mike and **Laura Matthews Pappas** '98  
Mary McIntyre Tolar and Oliver Mills Tolar, December 3, 2011, daughter and son of John and **Helen Walker Tolar** '98  
Savannah Barri McCaskill, December 17, 2010, daughter of Scott and **Heather Lybrand McCaskill** '99  
Jacob Herbert Watson, August 17, 2011, son of **Sharaiah Choice Watson** '99

## CAREER CHANGES

**Ginger Corbin Church** '92, Senior Account Executive, Specialized Fundraising Services, Spartanburg, SC  
**Austin Faulk Hardison** '95, Operating Budget Manager, Charlotte Area Transit, Charlotte, NC  
**Kelly Wuzzardo** '95, Director of Education and Out-reach Initiatives, Shubert Theater, New Haven, CT  
**Kerry Ashley Easler** '96, Community Development Planner, Spartanburg County, Spartanburg, SC  
**Carrie Hill Coleman** '96, Director of Alumnae and Donor Relations, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC  
**Heather Stead Hummel** '96, Family Facilitator, Columbia County School System, Evans, GA  
**Neal E. Millikan** '97, Assistant Editor for the Adams Papers, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, MA  
**Paige Eubanks-Barrow** '98, Associate Vice President of Donor Relations, Oklahoma State University Foundation, Stillwater, OK

## CLASS OF 1990

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

☎ **Rosemary Glaze Sullivan**  
14 Southington  
Overton, Hampshire RG25 3DA, England  
441.256.7714  
mamiesullivan@hotmail.co.uk  
☎ **Cheryl Owens Verdell**  
138 Samantha Drive  
Inman, SC 29349-9149, 864.814-0440  
dverdell@bellsouth.net

Hello ladies! Here are a few updates on our class. **Katherine McKoy Hembree** says big sister Sarah Beth is a huge help with her new baby brother (see Life Events). **Miriam Drennan** has a new book *Devotions for the Beach and Days You Wish You Were There*. Congratulations! **Brandy Belk Long** will be speaking on couponing at the Home and Garden Show in Greenville, SC, this spring. **Lesa Underwood** celebrated Thanksgiving in New York City. She will begin working with the Spoleto Festival again in the spring. She enjoyed a girl's weekend with **Julie Hennecey** and **Claire Bramlett Dehmer** when they came to visit her in Charleston, SC. They also took on Austin, TX with **Rebecca Lesto Shunk**. **Tina Archer Hope** and family have moved to Waterville, ME. **Page Huss Curlee**, husband, and kids (a junior, freshman, 6<sup>th</sup> grader and 3<sup>rd</sup> grader) will be moving back to North Carolina in June after being in Taiwan for six and a half years. Please keep in touch on Facebook-Class of 1990.

## CLASS OF 1991

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2016

☎ **Dorsey Daugette DeLong**  
3070 Greendale Drive NW  
Atlanta, GA 30327-1609, 404.609.9405  
teamdelong@comcast.net

## ☎ Dianne Prince Swann

711 Lake Drive  
Snellville, GA 30039-6635, 770.929.0077  
dswann@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Greetings '91ers! It is hard to believe a year has gone by since our 20<sup>th</sup> reunion! Everyone seemed to be aging so gracefully and I am sure that is still the case. A group gathered last fall at Murrells Inlet, SC. **Laura Johnston Stacy, Elizabeth Wagstaff Middleton, Sonya Harmeyer Marsden, Mindy Arbogast McBurney, Beverly Maybank Burgdorf, Elizabeth Foster Meek, Mary Mac Robinson Wilson, Susie Edmonds Palmer, Debbie Moise** and **Maria Macaulay Sellers** were all there. Maria's husband is home from the Middle East. **Beverly Maybank Burgdorf's** husband has been promoted to Lt. Col. Burgdorf! Beverly took a trip to DC and saw Sonya. **Dianne Prince Swann** has been promoted to part-time teacher, part-time administrator and sells Thirty-One. **Suzanne Silk Strickland** has a new job at the Panama City Library. Prayers of recovery are needed for classmate, **Judy Moody**, who suffered a massive heart attack in January and had quadruple bypass surgery. Her Connie friends have certainly rallied around her. **Charlotte Page** is President of the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Transylvania County. Charlotte and **Jenny Howard** took a fabulous fall trip to Italy. I have helped start a Mother's Morning Out at our church and work several days a week.—Dorsey

## CLASS OF 1992

20<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 27-28, 2012

☎ **Angela Wilkes Gage**  
5119 Woodland Hills Drive  
Brentwood, TN 37027-5821, 615.750.2669  
gage0920@comcast.net  
☎ **Anna Wimberly Pierce**  
34 Carlton Drive NE  
Atlanta, GA 30342-3202, 404.252.8324  
mpierceman@aol.com



Hi Friends! It looks like we are going to have a great turn out from our class for this year's Converse Reunion 2012 weekend! For those of you who haven't decided, I would encourage you to register and come join the fun! Be sure and mark your calendars for our class meeting on Saturday morning of the reunion at 11 am in Kuhn Hall. Anna has been so gracious to be our representative for the past 10 years, and we appreciate all of her hard work and dedication. We'll also take our class picture following the meeting. For those of you who haven't joined the Converse College Class of 1992 Facebook group, please add this group to your Facebook page. It is another great way to keep in touch with classmates and be aware of what is happening on the Converse campus these days. See you all at the Reunion Cocktail Party, Bluegrass and BBQ Picnic from 6:00-8:30 pm on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>!—Angie

(Continued)

## CLASS NOTES

(Continued)

## CLASS OF 1993

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Ⓡ **Maureen Zeff Dunn**

Post Office Box 264  
Columbia, SC 29202-0264  
mcdunn@aol.com

Ⓡ **Jane Manning Hyatt**

2429 Jackson Street, Apt. 3  
San Francisco, CA 94115-1347, 415.655.9220  
converse1993@hotmail.com

Ⓡ **Candy Moore**

2221 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite D-370  
Atlanta, GA 30309-1148, 704.999.5617  
epmoore1993@yahoo.com

Lovell McClung White, Holle O'Kelley Kennerly, Katherine Russell Sagedy, Christi Williamson Pringle, Shannon Givens Jaynes, Sally Giese Aiken, Elizabeth Watson Caldwell, Patti Floyd Wilbourne, Laura Kate Jones Brandstein and Jane Manning Hyatt gathered in November 2011 for a trip to San Francisco and Sonoma to celebrate our collective 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays. We picked up a 15 passenger generic white van at the airport and sped off to the Wine Country. We were feeling like 20-year-olds, and some of us still look like 20-year-olds; but the wineries served us anyway. After two days of grapes and vineyards, we stopped for a fabulous lunch at Fish in Sausalito. Laura Kate held a private jewelry party for us (arrived during our first night) in San Francisco and we all went to Bimbos 365 Club to see "Petty Theft" and "Super Diamond" – yep, a Tom Petty cover band and a Neil Diamond cover band. The "Super Diamond" fans got a little rowdy, but now they know better than to try and push 10 Converse women away from the front of the stage. We enjoyed fabulous meals, exceptionally cooperative weather, and celebrated our amazing friendships that were formed at Converse.—Jane Manning

## CLASS OF 1994

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Ⓡ **Kristen Harris Cavin**

1410 Westhaven Boulevard  
Franklin, TN 37064-4879, 615.591.6795  
kristencavin@comcast.net

Ⓡ **Holly Miller Smith**

Post Office Box 522197  
Miami, FL 33152-2197, 301.869.3522  
hollybahamas@gmail.com

Ⓡ **Mary Ames Voyles**

1013 Oak Creek Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-2981, 864.585.8591  
MaryAmesV@bellsouth.net

We hope all our former classmates had a wonderful holiday season full of family and friends. One thing that is for sure is that our children made the season so magical. We enjoyed receiving the cards and photos, as well. However, with Facebook, it does seem like we've seen each other almost daily! The one thing that most everyone in our class has in common is that we have or will be turning the big 4-0 this year. It would be fun for all of us to be centrally located so that we could celebrate together- much like we did for the big 2-1! Wishes for a healthy and FUN year!—Kristen Cavin

## CLASS OF 1995

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

Ⓡ **Laura Kate Moore Garner**

101 Cooper Street, Apt. 2E  
New York, NY 10034-2328, 646.483.3878  
laurakatem@yahoo.com

**Kathi Phillips Washington** and George and their six children are doing well. Baby Ella joins her five adoring siblings Logan, Sean, Jordan, Grace and Naomi.

## CLASS OF 1996

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2016

Ⓡ **Pam Hughes Foster**

20 Babbs Hollow Road  
Greenville, SC 29607-3734, 864.254.0853  
pam@usmedals.com

Ⓡ **Jenny Williams**

707 Rutledge Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-1455, 864.573.6018  
jennywilliams\_99@yahoo.com

Hello Class of 1996! Many of you may already know we suffered a major house fire in January but are blessed to report that Lee, the children and I (**Pam Hughes Foster**) exited the house safely! We are in the process of rebuilding our home of four years. **Carla Malone** is moving to Charlotte, NC. **Katherine Colburn Fulmer** is co-chairing the 4th Annual Spartanburg Art and Antiques Show and chasing boys James (8), Ben (5) and MacLean (18 months) while working full-time at Young Office as the head of their office supply division. She also enjoyed taking the big boys to NYC for the first time in December! **Carrie Hill Coleman** is excited to be back at Converse working in the Office of Institutional Advancement and encourages you to say "hi" the next time you are on campus! **Aimee Concepcion Bauer** is residing in Phoenix, AZ, with two cute baby kittens and a super hot new boyfriend! She continues to work for a software engineering company and loves working from home! **Jenny Williams** successfully defended her dissertation at the University of South Carolina in Higher Education Administration!

## CLASS OF 1997

15<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012



Ⓡ **Shannon Gosnell Bishop**

331 Gramercy Boulevard  
Spartanburg, SC 29301-6154, 864.384.9050  
shannonbishop@gmail.com

Ⓡ **Catherine Alexander Girard**

1812 Savage Drive  
Plano, TX 75023-1835, 214.789.7475  
crgirard@gmail.com

Ⓡ **Jennifer Coggins Reese**

117 Sun Valley Drive  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316-7458, 864.599.5383  
Jreese1975@hotmail.com



Oyster Roast on campus, fall 2011



Greenville, SC Alumnae Event at the home of Pam Hughes Foster '96. Pam is the cheerleader and the devil is Shannon Gosnell Bishop '97.

**Hadley Rowland** landed a teaching job two weeks before Christmas. She is teaching middle school art at St. Anslem's Abby boy's school in DC. **Nina Couch Cardona** has had a good year at work. She is a reporter and local host for *All Things Considered* on Nashville Public Radio. She won Best Radio Newscaster at the Tennessee Associated Press Awards and got a mention and photo in the *Nashville Scene's* "Best of Nashville" issue. She took a family trip out to visit **Charity Rollins** and **Katie Proctor Doyle** this summer. They got to see a performance of an original play at Chet's DramaMamaStudio. Chet's doing amazing work there—running the business, directing shows, editing scripts, and even playing a part in the show. At Katie's, it was a ton of fun to see her prep for her trip to play (and win!) on Jeopardy. Yes, in case you missed it, our very own Katie Doyle Proctor was a contestant on Jeopardy. The episodes aired in October and she won over \$50,000! Don't forget to mark your calendars to attend the reunion at Converse on April 27–28, 2012. We'd love to see everyone there!

## CLASS OF 1998

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

📍 **Shannon Gordy Haynes**

20 Sunset Drive  
LaGrange, GA 30240-4026, 706.882.7189  
littleheartsoflagrangear@yahoo.com

📍 **Laura Matthews Pappas**

13710 Harcum Road  
Phoenix, MD 211311608, 410.667.0203  
lpappas@entertainment.com

**Kristi Hines Hagood** enjoyed her second year helping to coordinate the Dog Gone Cold 5K Run/Walk in August, GA. Over 400 participants, as well as local rescues and vendors, came out on a rainy day to help raise money for the American Black and Tan Coonhound Rescue & Hopeful Hounds, Inc. Kristi is passionate about improving the welfare of animals, and works to support rescue groups in transporting needy animals from shelters, to foster homes and adopters.

**Helen Walker Tolar** is enjoying being back in Washington, DC and working on the Hill again. She was featured last summer in *National Journal's* "Women Power: Fourteen Powerful Women on the Hill." She and her family are enjoying their new home, meeting their new neighbors, and exploring Rock Creek Park. **Laura Matthews Pappas** and her family are enjoying their new home as well, up in Baltimore, MD. She is also looking forward to making it back down to South Carolina this summer for a visit with family. Please also remember to support Converse's Annual Fund if you are able!

## CLASS OF 1999

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

📍 **Stephanie Eldridge Avakian**

12932 Kings Lake Drive  
Gibsonton, FL 33534-3905, 813.443.6185  
Flipper913@gmail.com

📍 **Emily Harbin**

328 Lake Forest Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29307-3725, 864.529.0462  
eharbin@gmail.com

📍 **Jennifer Marie Nockels**

323 Stillwater Circle  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316-4828, 864.583.5236  
nockels@gmail.com

Several of our classmates have recently gotten new jobs. **Elizabeth Thompson Dabbs** is working in Jacksonville, FL for Vizergy in their Client Internet Marketing Services Department. **Rachel Burgess Van Gorden** is working at Artisphere in Arlington, VA. **Rebecca Roland Hyleman** and her family moved to Costa Rica in August where Rebecca is now the new program coordinator for the Regional Security Office at the US Embassy. A few of our classmates have also recently gone back to school. **Sarah Farnaby** started her PsyD in Clinical Psychology at The American School for Professional Psychology (Argosy, DC) in the fall. **Jennifer Nockels** is working toward becoming a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant through Greenville Tech. **Jaime Powell** just returned from traveling, learning, and teaching in Brazil. She is enjoying combining her passions in her vibrant career as a life coach and yoga teacher, with plans for a fully packed summer of mind-body summer camps for children and teens. **Laurie Ringer Coggins** and her family just bought their first house in Lexington, SC. **Katy Krueger Corbin** just got her BFA in Studio Art (Photography and Printmaking) from Converse. **Julie Padgett Jones**, **Katy Krueger Corbin**, **Sarah Power Love** and **Kelly Moore '00** meet once a month in Greenville, SC, for a Girls' Night Out.



**Laurie Ann Egeland '05**, December 19, 2011

## SYMPATHY

**Elizabeth Langford Hansen '00** on the death of her father, Thomas Clifton Langford, Jr., December 26, 2011

**Elizabeth Anne Oswald '02** on the death of her father, Donald W. Oswald, September 4, 2011

**Kaysie Davis Brady '03** on the death of her grandmother, Mildred Cope Salters, August 6, 2011

**Myra Green Taylor '04** on the death of her father, Dale E. Green, August 18, 2011

**Erin Poston Stone '04** on the death of her husband, Patrick Timothy Stone, October 19, 2011

**Stinson Woodward Ferguson '07** on the death of her father, James C. Ferguson, October 7, 2011

**Ashley Ginn '09** on the death of her father, Marion Franklin Ginn, April 23, 2011

## MARRIAGES

**Elizabeth McMillan Powell '00** to James Bradley Eggert, September 4, 2011

**Ericka Shay Tyner '02** to John Grodrian, August 14, 2011

**Sarah Belk Yarborough '02** to Adam Dearbaugh, November 5, 2011

**Amber Elizabeth Blackwell '03** to Jeremy Vance Childers, October 11, 2011

**Fanchon Olivia Charnigo '03** to Kevin Tabb, February 14, 2011

**Jennifer Leigh Mazell '03** to Eric Roland, July 15, 2011

**Anna Lauren Campbell '05** to Dever Dewayne Davis, November 19, 2011

**Lisa Wingo Moody '05** to Mikell Teddy Edge, July 21, 2011

**Amy Elizabeth Gunter '06** MEd to Jeffrey Lawrence Ridley, August 6, 2011

**Courtney Christine Layland '07** to Edwin Caban, December 23, 2011

**Lauren Ashley Maxwell '07** to John Young Shik Concklin, April 28, 2011

**Randall Ryan Vincent '07** MAT to Christin Kirkpatrick, September 10, 2011

**Brandy Helen Elizabeth Wyont '07** to Natalie Rose Davies, May 23, 2011

**Elizabeth Ramsaur Lowndes '08** to James Schoonover, July 30, 2011

**Mollie Erin Miller '08** MEd to Jarred Stephen Pearson, September 24, 2011

**Alana Ainsley Starwalt '08** to Aulden McAbee, October 28, 2011

**Sarah Anne Birch '09** to Thomas Floyd, October 1, 2011

## BIRTHS

Eva Madison Cox, September 5, 2011, daughter of John and **Amanda Crane Cox '00**

Noah Walker Sox, April 24, 2011, son of Jason and **Angela Lee Sox '00**

Ellison Anne Joye, January 5, 2012, daughter of Jay and **Erin Patterson Joye '00**

Ella Xuan Cao, August 30, 2011, daughter of Viet and **Pamela Holliday Cao '01**

Elaine Marie Johnsey Burke, November 2011, daughter of Jason and **Nicole Johnsey Burke '01**

Charles Samuel Davis, June 21, 2011, son of Thomas and **Susan Powell Davis '01**

Margaret Jane Lowry, October 5, 2011, daughter of John and **Nancy Schwarz Lowry '01**

Quinn Riley Wesol, October 10, 2011, daughter of Nick and **Erin Stone Wesol '01**

Jackson Alvin Oswald, September 19, 2011, son of Zachary and **Michelle Wright Oswald '01**

Wesley Alexander Rapp, January 25, 2012, son of Alex and **Davis Ellie Cook Rapp '02**

Esther Faith Flores, November 5, 2011, daughter of Saul and **Alyson Gery Flores '02**

(Continued)



(Continued)

Levi Armstrong Thomasson, February 9, 2012, son of Brian and **Amanda Harmon Thomasson** '02  
 Josephine "Josie" Bostick, November 23, 2011, daughter of Richard and **Victoria Hendry Bostick** '02  
 Moses Lamar Whitney, April 7, 2011, son of Rickey and **Lashauna Mills Whitney** '02  
 Ella Gray Holland, April 29, 2011, daughter of Chris and **Jessica Case Holland** '03  
 Greer Elizabeth Elliott, February 26, 2011, daughter of Rob and **Andrea Ezell Elliott** '03  
 James Thomas Wolfe III, September 10, 2011, son of James and **Kim Brady Wolfe** '04  
 Robert Wilson Saleeby, August 10, 2011, son of Wilson and **Quinn Burgin Saleeby** '04  
 Riley Johnson, April 4, 2011, daughter of Shawn and **Rachel DUBY Johnson** '04  
 Gerald Allen Brasington, Jr., November 29, 2010, son of Gerald and **Anne Gaddy Brasington** '04  
 Ella Page Kern, September 6, 2011, daughter of Brian and **Susan Petty Kern** '04  
 Miles McLaughlin Little, October 19, 2010, son of Andrew and **Allison Shull Little** '04  
 Averette Reeves Beckham, May 5, 2011, daughter of Griff and **Gretchen Williams Beckham** '04  
 Macey Yvonne Todd, November 8, 2011, daughter of Jeff and **Melissa Ballard Todd** '05  
 Reagan Seinna DiPrima, August 30, 2011, daughter of Michael and **Kara Hagood DiPrima** '05  
 Ezra Elias Schultz, November 23, 2011, son of Austin and **Jacqueline Hobeika Schultz** '05  
 Hamilton Craig McCall, May 11, 2011, son of Jared and **Lindsey Parker McCall** '05  
 Kenna Grace MacDonald, August 11, 2011, daughter of Jon and **Tania Patino MacDonald** '05  
 Elijah Ari Clausen, August 19, 2011, son of Andrew and **Inbal Stein Clausen** '05  
 Ella Miriam Waite, September 8, 2011, daughter of Mark and **Joy Ward Waite** '06  
 Mary Elizabeth Boccucci, March 2, 2010, daughter of Tristan and **Andrea Jett Boccucci** '08  
 Abigail Evelyn-Grace Blakely, April 4, 2011, daughter of Adam and **Leala Shisakly Blakeley** '08  
 Liam Elliot McAbee, July 11, 2011, son of Aulden and **Alana Starwalt McAbee** '08  
 William Jeffress McKenzie, December 28, 2011, son of Avery and **Lindsay Waller McKenzie** '08

### CAREER CHANGES

**Laura Massey Crawford** '01, Anti-Fraud Project Manager, Office of Fraud Deterrence and Detection at Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC  
**Julia W. Thomas** '02, Assistant to the Director of Financial Aid, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC  
**Ericka Tyner Grodrian** '02, Assistant Professor of Music, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN  
**Kathryn Brackett** '03, English Instructor, Piedmont Technical College, Greenwood, SC  
**Rebekah Reed** '03, Orthotics Resident, OU Physicians, Oklahoma City, OK  
**Kristin Smith** '03, Licensed Professional Counselor/Intern, Palmetto Counseling Associates, Columbia, SC

**Alison Turner Watson** '03 MT-BC, Music Therapist, Lawson Academy of the Arts at Converse College, Spartanburg, SC  
**Jordan Greene Standrich** '04, Human Resources Specialist, Lubrizol Advanced Materials, Inc., Spartanburg, SC  
**Heather Bedsole** '05, Administrative Coordinator, Dan Ryan Builders, Charleston, SC  
**Marion DeWitt Carroll** '05, Club Manager and Food and Beverage Director, The Country Club of South Carolina, Florence, SC  
**Krista Jobson** '05, Lecturer in Flute, University of Texas - Pan American, Edinburg, TX  
**Jennifer Johnson** '05, Social Studies Department Chair, SCSDB Deaf High School, Spartanburg, SC  
**Libby Long Richards** '05, Nonprofit and Community Engagement Officer, Triangle Community Foundation, Durham, NC  
**Niki Castle** '06, Events and Marketing Manager, Parnassus Books, Nashville, TN  
**Kimberly Smith** '06, Assistant Director of the Converse Annual Fund, Spartanburg, SC  
**Anna C. Harris** '07, Instructor of English, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA  
**Courtney Bond** '08, Doctor of Chiropractic, Bond Chiropractic Health Center, Pittsburgh, PA  
**Madison Boyd** '08, Fifth Grade Teacher, Barringer Academic Center, Charlotte, NC  
**Jennifer Bronson** '08, Program Manager, Youth Villages, Memphis, TN  
**Lindsay Daniel** '08, Law Clerk, Speed, Seta & Waters, LLC, Lawrenceville, GA  
**Jodi Hylton** '08, Commercial Analyst, Diageo/Red Stripe, Kingston, Jamaica  
**Andrea Jett Boccucci** '08, Senior Accountant, Trident United Way, North Charleston, SC  
**Melody McClellan** '08, Cast Member, Opera Carolina, Charlotte, NC  
**Rachel Ng Hansen** '08, Admissions Counselor, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC  
**Tiffany Ours** '08, IT/media specialist, elementary computer, Spanish, and library teacher, Heritage Christina Academy, Brunswick, GA  
**Colby Sanders** '08, Career Development Facilitator, Spartanburg School District Two, Boiling Springs, SC  
**Johanna Torres O'Donnell** '08, Owner, Winter Park Trading, Inc., Winter Park, FL  
**Melissa Vaughan-Kleppel** '08, Stage Manager, Centre Stage, Greenville, SC  
**Johanna Whitmer** '08, Interior Designer, SGA Architecture, Pawleys Island, SC  
**Susan Wines** '08, Band and Strings Teacher, Ralph Chandler Middle School, Simpsonville, SC

### ADVANCED DEGREES

**Ericka Tyner Grodrian** '02, DM, Indiana University, November 2011  
**Rebekah Reed** '03, BS, UT Southwestern Medical Center, May 2011  
**Holly Earnhardt Davis** '05, M+30, University of South Carolina, May 2011  
**Krista Jobson** '05, DMA, University of Missouri - Kansas City, May 2011  
**Courtney D. Bond** '08, DC, Sherman College of Chiropractic, December 2011  
**Joslyn Rachel Emmel** '08, MLIS, University of South Carolina, December 2011

**Tiffany Ours** '09, MAE, University of Phoenix, January 2011  
**Melissa Vaughan-Kleppel** '08, MFA, Sarah Lawrence College, May 2010  
**Lindsay Waller McKenzie** '08, MA/EdS, Gardner Webb University, December 19, 2011  
**Triona Gateley** '09, MPA, University of Georgia, May 2011  
**Mary-Lacey Rogers** '09, MMus, The Peabody Institute at John Hopkins University, May 2011

### CLASS OF 2000

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

**Amanda Crane Cox**  
 8 Grouse Ridge Way  
 Greenville, SC 29617-7325, 864.294.6403  
 acranecox@yahoo.com  
**Kiley Rikard**  
 708 East Church Street  
 Monroe, GA 30655-2506, 404.520.0868  
 Kileyrikard@hotmail.com

Hey Pink Panthers! Hope you are all doing well!  
**Cheryl Schilab Mallant** has moved to the Seattle, WA area and is now the assistant director of Bellevue Children's Academy. She and Michael also own a coffee stand in a nearby town. Congratulations to **Junel Doxie** who was featured in the January issue of *Atlanta Best Self Magazine!* You inspire us, Junel!  
**Susanna Knight Roberts, Deanna Fults** and I were able to visit the Converse campus in January and had a great time! We hope to hear from YOU next time!!!—Kiley

### CLASS OF 2001

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2016

**Erin Stone Wesol**  
 3804 Green Ridge Court, #102  
 Fairfax, VA 22033-2635  
 erinwesol@yahoo.com  
**Kristen Bottenfield Willimon**  
 4690 Paran Valley Road NW  
 Atlanta, GA 30327-3510, 919.323.5599  
 kbwillimon@yahoo.com  
**Marion Sibley Yates**  
 3700 Campus Drive, Suite 202  
 Newport Beach, CA 92660-2603, 949.417.2211  
 marionsyates@gmail.com

**Kristen Woodward** is busy training for her first full Ironman in November. **Rebecca Irick Gault** and **Millan Hayes Edwards** went to Charlotte, NC in November to meet **Nancy Schwarz Lowry's** new daughter, Margaret Jane. In August, Rebecca Irick Gault, Millan Hayes Edwards, Nancy Schwarz Lowry, **Sarah Childers Whipple** and **Kristen Bottenfield Willimon** spent the weekend at Lake Keowee catching up and having a fun girls weekend. **Laura Massey Crawford** traveled to Djibouti, Africa and Naples, Italy for work last spring. She was able to come close to experiencing life as our service members do and was very excited about this assignment. **Ami Price** and **Rebecca Crandall** spent New Year's Eve in Iceland with their husbands and Rebecca's daughter, Alice. **Nina Williams Everett** is currently deployed to Afghanistan. She left in August

2011 and hopes to return at the end of 2012. Please remember Nina, her husband, 17-year-old daughter and three-year-old son, as Nina serves our country. **Nicole Johnsey Burke** is staying at home with her four children and beginning to home school. In addition to taking care of her children, Nicole is still doing research and writing for Global Scripture Impact. She also blogs daily at [burningbushes.org](http://burningbushes.org).

## CLASS OF 2002

10<sup>th</sup> Reunion – April 27-28, 2012



📧 **Laura L. Causey**

450 Orion Avenue  
Metairie, LA 70005-3228, 504.813.9413  
llcausey@yahoo.com

📧 **Kerri L. Olson**

2213 NE 13<sup>th</sup> Place  
Renton, WA 98056-2701, 425.277.7708  
kerri.olson@delta.com

**Laura Causey, Kerri Olson and Jamie Koester Wills** all traveled to Naples, FL, in October to support **Elizabeth Oswald** and remember her father. Elizabeth Oswald relocated from Ft. Lauderdale, FL to Atlanta, GA in November. Laura Causey and Kerri Olson met up in Minnesota for a fun-filled weekend and to cheer on their respective hometown NFL football teams, Saints versus Vikings. Kerri Olson and Elizabeth Oswald traveled to Spartanburg, SC on January 7, 2012, to find a location for our Class Reunion dinner in April and visit **Melinda Redman Cody**. Kerri Olson and Elizabeth Oswald spent a weekend in NYC in January, catching up with **Tiffany Thornton** and seeing the sights. Tiffany Thornton and **Anna Millikan** traveled to North Carolina for a weekend to catch up with **Victoria Hendry Bostick** and her baby girl Josie Bostick. Don't forget to check out our ConverseClassOf2002 YouTube Channel and our Facebook Group Converse College Class of 2002 for video updates from around the world and information in regards to our upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> reunion in April 2012, we hope to see y'all there!

## CLASS OF 2003

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

📧 **Megan Russell Bates**

208 Wilson Road  
Anderson, SC 29625-4916, 864.231.7687  
gem1813@hotmail.com

📧 **Melissia Heatherly Brannen**

225 Timbergate Drive  
Lexington, SC 29073,-9491, 803.338.7999  
melissiaab@gmail.com

📧 **Allison Turner Watson**

24 H Street  
Inman, SC 29349-1721, 864.472.5809  
alison.watson@converse.edu

**Megan Russell Bates** recently rescued a new feline, whom her boys named Sophie. **Melissia Heatherly Brannen** and **Carla Nelson Martin** met up for a play date at the park with their children. **Rachel Hunt Donahue** visited Converse this winter and met **Amanda Shook Mershon**; she and **Alison Turner Watson** met for lunch at Papa's Breakfast Nook.

Alison's work on a collaborative project at New Day Clubhouse of Spartanburg was recently published in *The Arts in Psychotherapy*; Converse professors Anne Lipe, PhD, MT-BC and Elizabeth York, PhD, MT-BC were instrumental in developing and sharing this project. Alison keeps in touch with Sarah Koch Burns '05 and Tracy Huskey Eggleton '05. Alison's jewelry is available online (Facebook: Ally's Dilly Dallys). Alison and husband Shaun had a great time catching up with **Lex (Meredith) Herndon** in Asheville, NC and playing music around a cabin campfire on the French Broad River. Lex is pursuing a Masters and is teaching Zumba classes in Nashville, TN. Because of her love of Zumba and good nutrition, she has lost 150 pounds! Visit her Facebook page, Love Your Body (Nashville, TN), for details on her classes and healthy lifestyle. Our new Facebook group is: **Converse College Class of '03**. Join us and keep in touch!

## CLASS OF 2004

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

📧 **Casey Addis**

5120 Geneva Place, Apt. 1  
Dulles, VA 20189-5120, 864.425.8565  
claddis@gmail.com

📧 **Kate Carr**

900 Greenwood Avenue NE, Apt. 8  
Atlanta, GA 30306-4720, 404.805.6596  
katecarr82@yahoo.com

📧 **Jennie Zehr**

245 Cool Water Court  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316-6819, 864.415.7563  
Jennie.04@hotmail.com

**Emily Gaudier** started at New England Law | Boston in the fall of 2011. **Tasha Layton** has been touring with Katy Perry since May 2010. **Kate Carr** is the Operations Manager for Anthropologie in Atlanta, GA. **Casey Addis** joined the State Department and is working in Geneva, Switzerland for the US Ambassador to the UN Human Rights Council.

## CLASS OF 2005

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2015

📧 **Danielle Beckford**

194 Stone Mill Lane  
Marietta, GA 30064-2620, 713.446.0351  
danielle.moss@converse.edu

📧 **Heather Engelman**

100 Gateway Boulevard  
Greenville, SC 29607-5852, 864.415.0631  
hengelman@gmail.com

📧 **Libby Long Richards**

5720 Loyal Avenue  
Durham, NC 27713-2037, 919.758.9734  
Libby.L.Richards@gmail.com

Join our Facebook group to share information and to receive class updates. **Andrea Weatherman** is currently in Germany as a part of a Fulbright grant. She has been enjoying time spent with fellow Converse graduate and Fulbright scholar, Stephanie Jennings '11. After six years of teaching Special Education, **Donna Fuller Cline** is now a stay-at-home mom of two boys, David (4) and Asher (8

weeks). **Allison Dalbec Buchheit** and her husband Paul recently moved to Fort Myers, FL after Paul was promoted to head athletic trainer of the Boston Red Sox's minor league baseball team. **Chasity Mahaffey Gonzalez** recently took a promotion within Sealed Air, Cryovac Division. **Kara Hagood**, husband Michael, and baby Reagan are settling into a new home in Atlanta, GA.

## CLASS OF 2006

Next Reunion – Alumnae Weekend 2016

📧 **Mallory Beckett**

96 Ashley Avenue, Apt A  
Charleston, SC 29401-1270, 864.419.2215  
mallorybeckett@gmail.com

📧 **Claire Marie Slocum**

825 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Apt. 4  
Hendersonville, NC 28739-4863, 828.702.4976  
claire.m.slocum@gmail.com

Parnassus Books in Nashville, TN, where **Niki Castle** has accepted a position, has opened to much acclaim, including a front-page article in the New York Times. This past fall, **Mallory Beckett, Molly Stoehr Moyer, Breelan Riddle Montgomery, Jennifer Wahl Settle, Melissa Meyer Hewitt and Elizabeth Walker** met up with **Rebecca Gale** and **Niki Castle** in Nashville, TN for a weekend full of fun, shopping and even the *Women's Running Magazine* 5K!

## CLASS OF 2007

5<sup>th</sup> Reunion - April 27-28, 2012



📧 **Grace Bagwell**

115 Knottingham Drive  
Athens, GA 30606-2105, 864.909.3207  
grace.bagwell@gmail.com

📧 **Valerie Dowling**

510 E. Windsor Avenue  
Arlington, VA 22301-2105, 864.909.3207  
valerie.l.dowling@gmail.com

📧 **Deidre D. Tindal**

107 Ashley Avenue, Apt. D  
Charleston, SC 29401-1276, 803.983.0711  
deidre.tindal@gmail.com

**Deana Neaves** serves in the USAF at Fairchild AFB in Spokane, WA. **Paula Just** has two little girls, Zakarie (3) and Brantlie (1). She works as a Training Analyst with First Quality Tissue in Anderson, SC. **Anna Harris** is a Professor of English at Augusta State University and a contributing writer for *Metro Spirit*. **Whitney Weeks** will begin a Doctorate of Pharmacy in fall 2012 at Campbell University and was awarded their highest academic scholarship. **Stinson Ferguson** graduated from UGA Law and is working for Circuit Judge Kristi L. Harrington in Charleston, SC. She is also pursuing a Masters of Environmental Law. **Lauren Maxwell** loves working as a Program Director for the Governors School for the Arts in Greenville, SC. **Tina Rohner** has been working for Goldman Sachs in Singapore since completing dual Masters Degrees at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore and at the Sciences Po Paris in 2009. **Cindy Mao** loves her job

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# 00's

(Continued)

with The Bank of South Carolina in Charleston, SC. **Brittany Jones** began working as an application tester at iD Tech Camps and is the returning Director of the Princeton University location.

## CLASS OF 2008

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2013

- ® **Nancy Hannon Clark**  
bc2and3@aol.com
- ® **Sarah Whitfield Marion**  
swmarion@gmail.com
- ® **Elizabeth Martin**  
elizabeth.martin.sc@gmail.com
- ® **Erin Norah McGraw**  
emcmcgraw@pinecrestacademy.org
- ® **Nora Nassri**  
nora.nassri@gmail.com
- ® **Johanna Nicole Whitmer**  
jnwhitmer@gmail.com

**Catherine Gifford** takes science courses at Converse in preparation for applying to veterinary school. **Kelly Orner** and **Brianne Cross Leftwich** are pursuing Masters degrees at USC; Kelly studies social work and Brianne studies speech pathology. **Leah Harrison** completed her Musicology Masters and is now working towards a Masters in Arts Journalism at Syracuse University. **Jennifer Bronson** is pursuing her Masters in Strategic

Leadership from The University of Memphis **Johanna Whitmer** passed the NCIDQ examination for interior designers. **Baye Williamson** passed the North American Veterinary Licensing Exam. **Leala Shishakly Blakeley** moved to Spartanburg and is a full-time mother. **Ashley Carry Brumfield** lives in Richmond, VA, and works in vaccine development. Her most recent project, the Pevnar vaccine, was just approved by the FDA. **Larkin Watson** is a licensed financial advisor in Greenville, SC. **Katherine Woodward** teaches music in Baltimore, MD, and travels as a professional musician. **Rachel Ng Hansen** is officially an American citizen! **Susan Wines** was named 2012 Teacher of the Year at Ralph Chandler Middle School and received the WYFF Golden Apple Award. **Audrey Jaccard** works full-time for her father's construction company, teaches pottery, and sells pottery online and at the farmers' market in Knoxville, TN. **Melody McClellan** teaches music classes in Cornelius, NC, and sings with Opera Carolina. **Lindsay Waller McKenzie** received her license as an Assisted Living Administrator. **Joslyn Emmel** was crowned Miss American Rose South Carolina and runner up in the national competition.

## CLASS OF 2009

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend, 2014

- ® **Daniela Burrows**  
3420 Rawlinson Road  
Columbia, SC 29209-3312, 803.331.8787  
burrows.dmarie@yahoo.com

- Gwen Stemberidge '10**, Community Organizer & Coordinator of Hunger Programs, Episcopal Service Corps, Cleveland, OH
- Amanda Stillinger '10**, Accountant, Grant Thornton, Charlotte, NC
- Madison Webb '11**, Major Gifts Associate, American Red Cross, Columbia, SC

## ADVANCED DEGREE

- Amanda Stillinger '10**, Macc, College of Charleston, June 2011
- Boisha Wofford '11** MEd, DEd, Nova Southeastern University, September 2011

## CLASS OF 2010

Next Reunion - Alumnae Weekend 2015

- ® **Elizabeth Powell**  
312 N. Gay Street, Apt 204  
Auburn, AL 36830-3998, 843.992.6562  
ejp0008@tigermail.auburn.edu
- ® **Ashley Shearsmith**  
921 Steadman Farms Drive  
Inman, SC 29349-9300, 803.494.9827  
aeshearsmith@aol.com

Our class has changed a lot since the last issue. **AnnaKate Rawles** is moving to Cambridge, England to attend Cambridge University. **Krista Williams** is pursuing her MFA from Savannah College of the Arts, which was voted the number one college in the US for interior design. **Carly Keiser** just completed

## ® Katie Mayes

235 Forest Green Drive  
Columbia, SC 29209-2575, 803.983.4138  
mayes.katie@gmail.com

## ® Anna Sharp

580 East Main Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29302-1931, 336.749.8656  
Anna.Sharp@converse.edu

**Christina Enter Paxton** is in her third year at James F. Byrnes High School in Duncan, SC, where she teaches US History and coaches girls' tennis. Christina and her husband live in Greenville, SC. **Triona Gateley** is now working as a Community Health Educator with the Thomas Jefferson Health District in Virginia. **Elly MacPhail Keyser** is teaching preschool music and Spanish. She also has her own business teaching early childhood music classes. **Amanda Chassereau** is currently teaching 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade science at a private K-12 college preparatory school in Walterboro, SC. **Mary-Lacey Rogers** is in the middle of a two-year contract at Minnesota Opera as a resident artist. **Laura Miles** is in her first year of graduate school at George Washington University in DC for her Masters in Art Therapy. **Anna Sharp** is getting her Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy at Converse. **Sara Sipe** is now currently working on her internship towards licensure in Marriage and Family Therapy.

an internship at Dolphin Plus in Key Largo, FL. **Rachel Daugherty** now owns her own Piano Studio in Augusta, GA, and business is doing wonderfully. **Anna Owens** started a Model Arab League debate team for her students and they are headed to Nationals in April. **Morgan Anderson** and **Gwen Stemberidge** both just completed their first year with AmeriCorp Vista and **Mary English** finished her first year with AmeriCorp NCCC. **Gia Monteleone** recently traveled to Carnegie Hall in New York to work on a project for Preservation Hall of New Orleans. Congratulations to all of the ladies and their continuing effort to make an impact!

## CLASS OF 2011

1<sup>st</sup> Reunion - April 27-28, 2012

- ® **Whitney Stonikinis**  
210 Hammett Bridge Road  
Greer, SC 29650, 864.838.6668  
whitney.stonikinis@converse.edu
- ® **Hope Williams**  
269 Sassafras Drive  
Easley, SC 29642, 864.320.1902  
insideview@bellsouth.net



In October and November, **Shelley Reid** took a four week course in Barcelona, Spain and now has a TEFL degree with which she can teach English as a foreign language. Shelley tutors Hispanic children, and helps them with their English. See you at Converse for our FIRST class reunion on April 27-28.

# 10's

## MARRIAGES

- Jennifer Lee Brown '10** to Tyson VanDerwerken, November 18, 2011
- Kelley Elizabeth Cox '10** MAT to Robert Bruce Schmidt, October 8, 2011
- Lauren Kelly '10** to Jake Lowe, January 14, 2012
- Mary Nammack Boyle '11** MAT to Charles McDonald Steele, October 15, 2011
- Madison Caroline Brewer '11** to Kaleb Ledford, December 10, 2011
- Jessie Shay Cox '11** to Cody Tangeman, October 6, 2011
- Anne Meghan DeLoach '11** MMFT to William Christopher Young, September 17, 2011

## CAREER CHANGES

- Katie Bowen '10**, Soprano Core Member, Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus, Norfolk, VA
- Marisa Coleman '10**, Line Therapist, HopeReach, Spartanburg, SC
- Gia Monteleone '10**, Administrative Assistant, Preservation Hall, New Orleans, LA
- Tiana Pires '10**, Organizational Development Consultant, Chicago, IL
- Shelley Reid '10**, Tutor, Club Z, Mauldin, SC
- Kasie Starnes '10**, Dancer, Charleston Dance Project, Charleston, SC