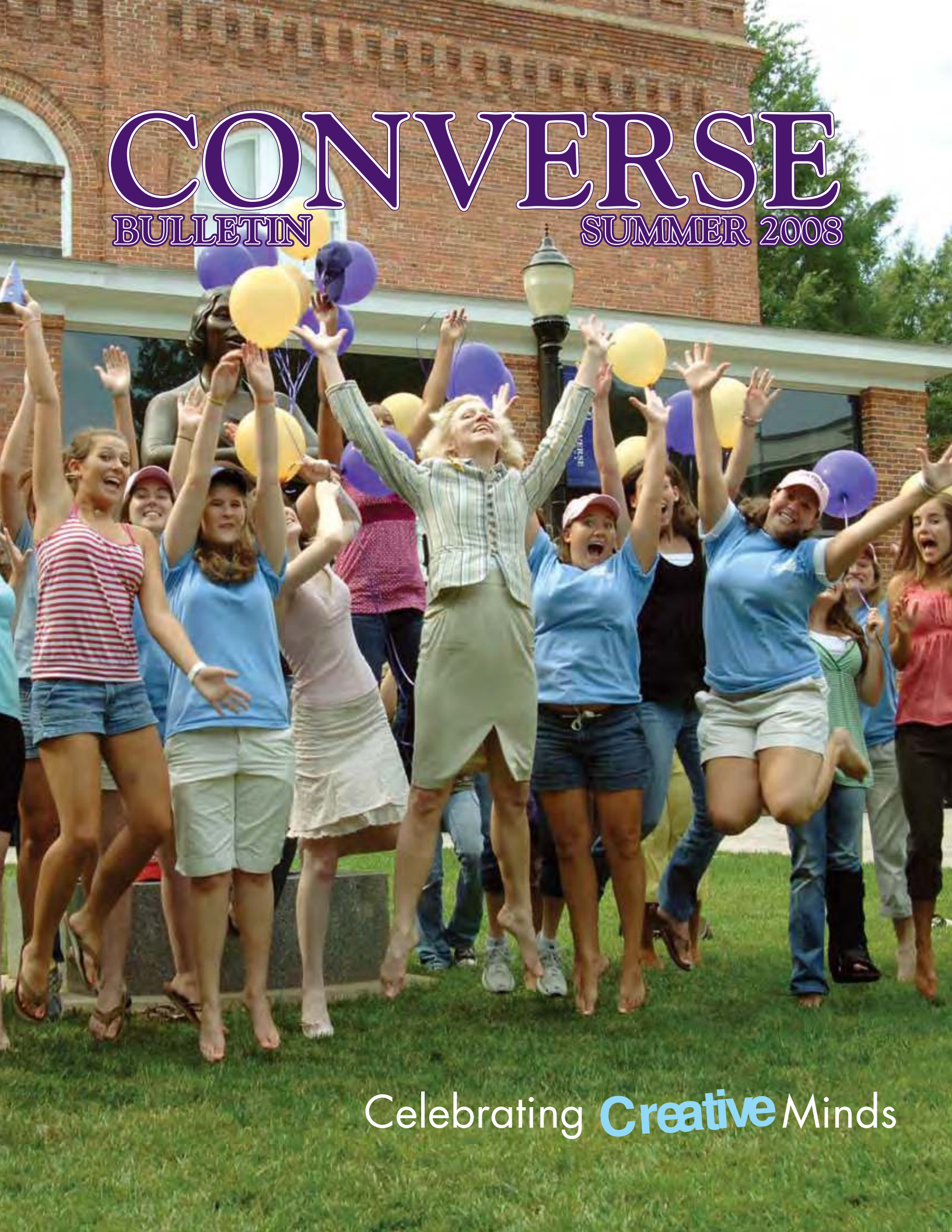


CONVERSE

BULLETIN

SUMMER 2008

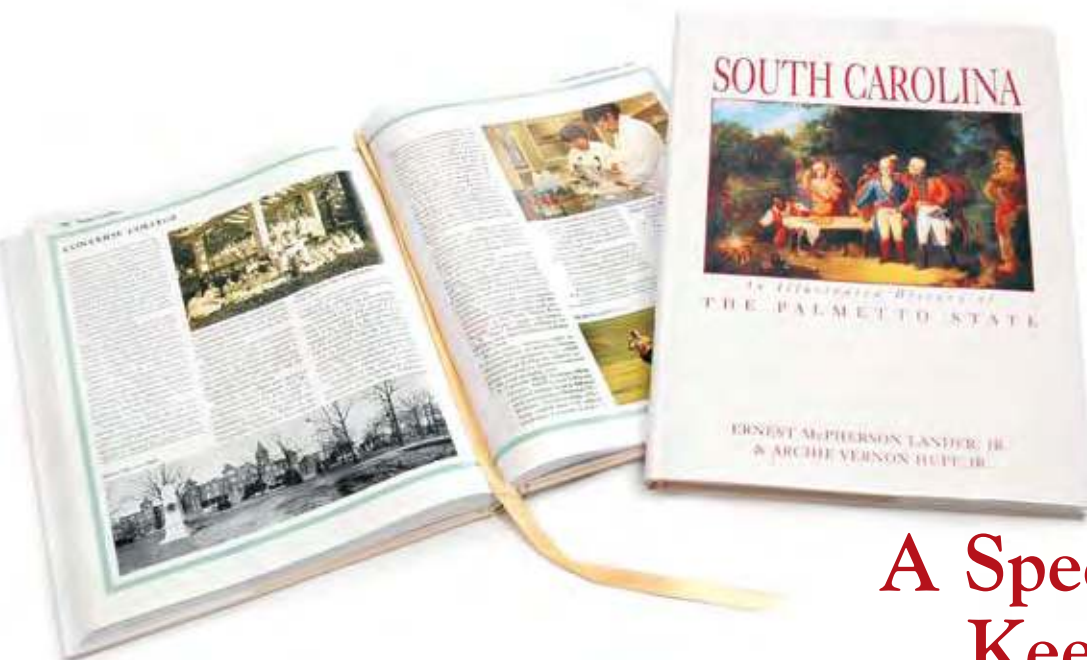


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CONVERSE PREPARES STUDENTS FOR ADVANCED STUDY

- 90% acceptance rate to medical school (on first attempt)
- 100% acceptance rate to veterinary and pharmacy schools
- 85% acceptance rate to law school (on first attempt)
- 100% of education majors pass their state certification exam
- 68% of seniors have a job or a graduate school acceptance upon graduation from Converse

CONVERSE SCORES AMONG NATION'S TOP COLLEGES IN 2007 NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT (NSSE)

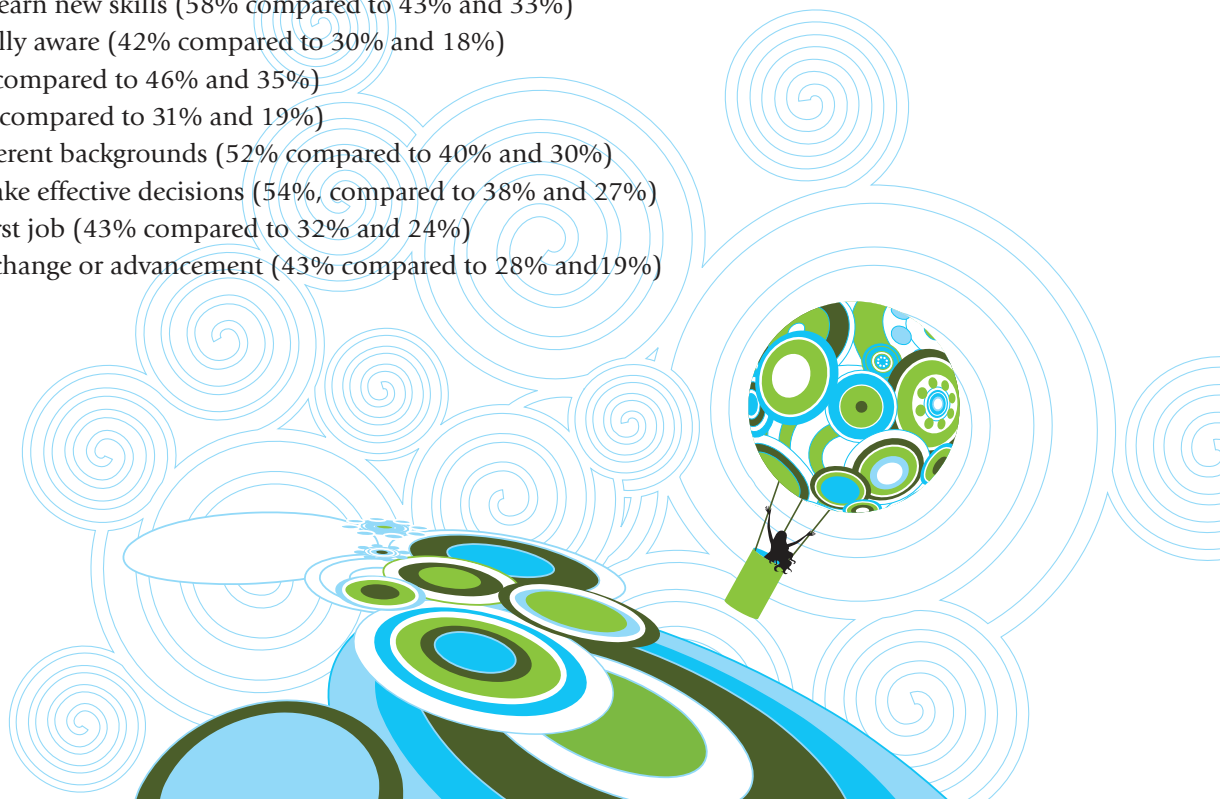
NSSE is the most comprehensive assessment of effective practices in higher education. Converse scored in the top 10% of colleges in the nation for providing enriching educational experiences. Among the most notable findings:

- 2x as many Converse students rated their overall educational experience as "excellent"
- Converse freshmen are 2x as likely to ask questions or contribute to class discussions
- 2x as many Converse students discuss their career plans with faculty
- More than 2x as many Converse students study abroad
- 2x as many Converse seniors say they often attend cultural events
- 2x as many Converse freshmen discuss ideas from classes with others outside of class
- More Converse students say they often have serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity of their own
- More Converse freshmen said their college environment enables them to "thrive socially"

2008 HARDWICK-DAY STUDY SHOWS ADVANTAGES OF WOMEN'S COLLEGES

In more than 10,000 interviews with female graduates of colleges and universities nationwide, women's colleges scored higher than coed liberal arts colleges and public universities at being "extremely effective" in helping their female graduates to:

- Develop self-confidence and initiative (62% compared to 42% and 41%)
- Have a sense of purpose in life (53% compared to 43% and 24%)
- Develop the ability to learn new skills (58% compared to 43% and 33%)
- Be politically and socially aware (42% compared to 30% and 18%)
- Think creatively (53% compared to 46% and 35%)
- Speak effectively (44% compared to 31% and 19%)
- Relate to people of different backgrounds (52% compared to 40% and 30%)
- Solve problems and make effective decisions (54%, compared to 38% and 27%)
- Be prepared for their first job (43% compared to 32% and 24%)
- Be prepared for career change or advancement (43% compared to 28% and 19%)



CREATIVE TEACHING



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On the cover: President Betsy Fleming, members of the Class of 2011 and orientation leaders show their spirit as the Creative Minds initiative launches.



Converse and Creativity...

PLAYING TO STRENGTHS, Cultivating a Competitive Edge and Engaging the Whole Mind

Our new millennium world is characterized by an explosion of information, accelerated communication, and rapidly evolving jobs and technologies. It is predicted that today's college student will hold 10 to 14 jobs before the age of 38. Moreover, knowledge is expected to double every 72 hours by 2010, just two years from now. "America needs a workforce that is flexible, adaptable, and highly creative, and it needs an education system that can develop these qualities" affirms Sir Ken Robinson, a leading expert on innovation and education policy, in the February 2006 issue of *Business Week*.

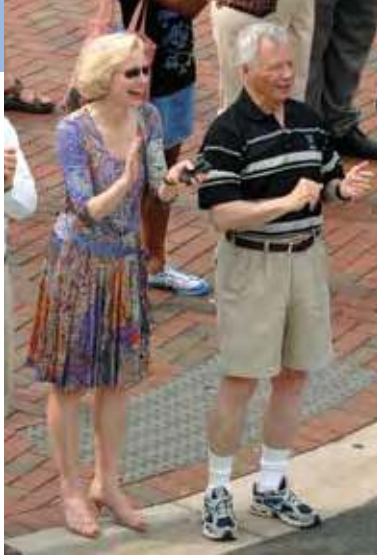
Converse is committed to answering this call to action. In September 2007, the College launched a new vision. Our ambition is to lead in the cultivation of creative thinking and innovative problem-solving across all disciplines, both in and out of the classroom. We are distinguishing our entire educational enterprise by integrating such strategies into all programs and all operations. We will become *the college recognized for developing creative minds in the Southeast and the community known for producing engaged citizens who effect positive change*.



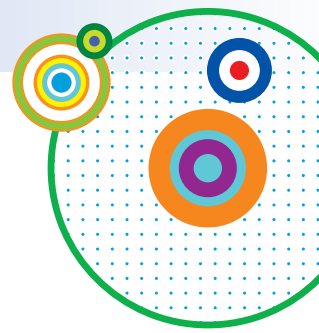
Opening Convocation was a celebration of creative minds. The community embraced Converse's new vision by sporting fun "glasses," and explored their creative spirit during a luncheon following the service.



Converse's purpose and passion is to nurture students' ability to process, comprehend and use massive amounts of information; to think creatively and critically without regular direction from others; and to communicate and collaborate effectively. Our success as an educational enterprise demands that we unleash and mobilize creative talent and energy—in girls, women, families and communities; in students, faculty, staff, alumnae and friends—so that all are equipped to proactively address the challenges and opportunities found in this progressive twenty-first century world.



Above and right: Students and faculty from Converse and Wofford collaborated to help 150 Boys and Girls Club members design puppets for a Creative SPARK! Parade through downtown Spartanburg in June. Converse and Wofford Presidents Betsy Fleming and Bernie Dunlap cheer on the parade.



A creative mind, organization, institution or company generates new ideas or products by discovering fresh associations between existing thoughts, disciplines and information. A creative enterprise is driven by curiosity and joy in learning. Grounded in, but not buried by, extant knowledge and experience, such a mentality works through trial and error to create novel solutions, products or perspectives.

Every aspect of our current lives requires a creative mind. Creativity and innovation are necessary in science, technology, business, management, and math as well as in music, drama and the visual arts. Imagination and invention assure that families, workplaces and communities survive and thrive in today's multitasking, multimedia and multicultural world. Creativity involves risk taking, experimentation and the development of original ideas. A creative mind advances specialist knowledge and creates meaningful new forms—in the arts and sciences, in business and education.

Converse's new focus on cultivating creative minds is grounded in our strengths and traditions, and anchored in our firm commitment to the values and benefits of a liberal arts education. Our intimate size and our legacy of excellence in music, art and design and creative writing provide a natural launch pad to recognize and realize creative potential across the College. Our 9-to-1 student-faculty ratio, tradition of team-taught interdisciplinary courses, collaborative research projects and customized educational opportunities provide excellent platforms to cultivate and develop creative potential.

During the past 12 months, the Converse community has made tremendous headway in cultivating creative minds and habits. The pages that follow include inspiring stories about innovative

initiatives, ingenious teaching and learning opportunities, and meaningful Converse lives. Read about:

- Our first ever Creative Minds Conference held in February, which provided 35 prospective students with a customized look at Converse creative thinking and learning across the disciplines. To date, 29 of the attendees have become members of the Converse Class of 2012.
- The launch of a new internal grant program to encourage creative collaborations across campus. Twenty-three teams of faculty, staff and students submitted applications – ten of which received funding for exciting cross-campus projects.
- The completion of an exceptional student housing master plan that includes traditional options and senior apartment-style configurations.
- Our “green” initiatives, which involve both a LEED (Leader in Energy and Environmental Design) renovation of Kuhn Hall and eco-friendly programs.
- A new scholarship initiative, funded by the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation of New York, to encourage the education of women in the natural sciences and mathematics.
- Such creative learning opportunities as student-faculty research projects and new interdisciplinary courses like *The Politics of Harry Potter*, *Mathematics and Gambling* and *Money and Movies*, in which students are dared to think differently and develop skills beyond the parameters of predictability.

From cover to cover, this *Bulletin* makes very clear that Converse is on a roll! Thank you for your support! You inspire Converse to imagine new possibilities. Whatever our individual paths or pursuits, no matter our age or stage in life, it is the creative life—inquisitive, adaptable, inventive and always eager to learn—that each of us is destined to live. Converse provides the tools and experiences to do so. What better work of art is there than your own life? 📌

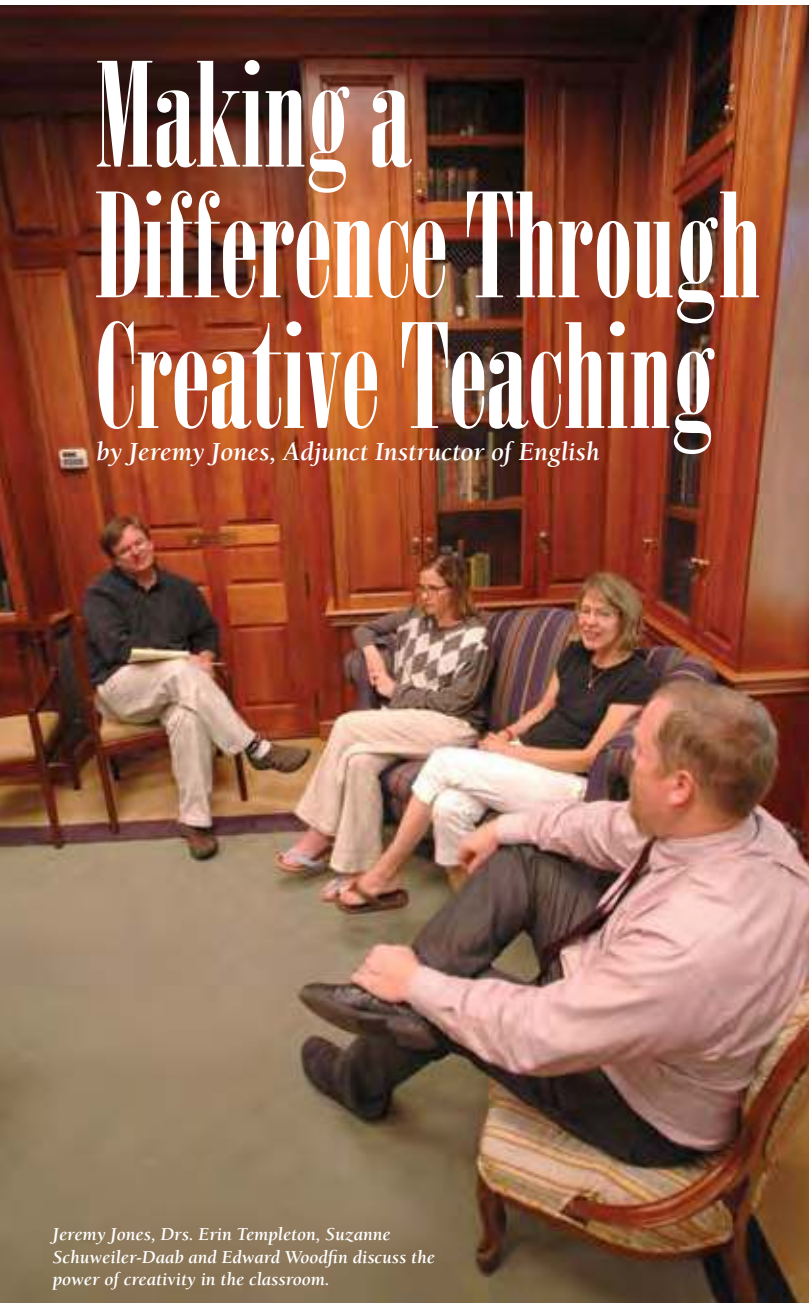
Betsy

Elizabeth A. Fleming, PhD
President



Making a Difference Through Creative Teaching

by Jeremy Jones, Adjunct Instructor of English



Jeremy Jones, Drs. Erin Templeton, Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab and Edward Woodfin discuss the power of creativity in the classroom.

English professor Erin Templeton identifies creative teaching as “changing things up – anything that challenges the traditional passive learning model that so many students have come to expect.”

History professor Edward Woodfin points out that the most creative faculty have a “generosity of spirit” and a willingness to put the needs of students ahead of the preferences of the professor. And Economics professor Madelyn Young agrees: “Creative teaching involves the use of a wide variety of methods, in order to accommodate different learning styles and make the topic more interesting, relevant and memorable. It fully engages students – not only their brains, but their senses as well.”

In early June, Templeton, Woodfin, and art history professor Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab got together for a roundtable discussion of creative approaches to teaching.

Edward Woodfin: Learning is enhanced when teachers take the material beyond the most obvious and standard approaches. This often includes creative styles of presentation (a role-play rather than a lecture, for instance), but can also be the creative handling of a traditional teaching style (like lecture or discussion). For instance, sometimes when I talk about battles I take the class out on the lawn and give each person a role to play. What it cannot be is a watering down or trivializing of the material itself; that’s the great balancing act of creative teaching.

Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab: There is so much creative teaching at Converse because we all care about our students and about teaching and creating the best possible experience for them both inside and outside the classroom. Because Converse is a small liberal arts college, we really get to know our students. We can be more experimental and more creative. We can connect with faculty in other departments more easily than at a large university. We see and are in casual conversation with people from different disciplines every day.

Edward Woodfin: At Converse, you can do dozens of different types of activities that you couldn’t do at a large university with classes of fifty or more people. There is an atmosphere on campus that is very collegial and very encouraging.

CREATIVE COURSES CONNECT

Entrepreneurial Business Senior Seminar – Students create and present business plans to venture capitalists, who evaluate the proposals and indicate which projects might merit their investment

The Mathematics of Gambling and Games of Chance – A course designed to build interest in math through direct observation and analysis of the applications of mathematical principles used in various games

The Literature and Biology and Sex and Love - A laboratory study of the scientific aspects of human sexuality and reproduction combined with exploration of literary works spanning several cultures and centuries that offer opposing views about love, marriage and birth

Kinetic Sculpture – A Converse/Wofford collaborative course that blends the laws of physics with techniques in sculpture and metalworking machinery for creation of kinetic art (sculpture that features movement)

Converse Professor of Art Mac Boggs and Dr. Dan Lejeune, Professor of Physics at Wofford College, lead students through a kinetic sculpture course.





Dr. Jeffrey Poelvoorde, known as much for his antics as his enthused instruction, in his "Politics of Harry Potter" course.

THE DISCIPLINES

Money and Movies - Students focus on the economics of the film industry and issues such as poverty, unemployment, crime, discrimination, big business, war, and the environment

The Beatles - An unusual approach to studying music and culture through intensive exploration of The Beatles' entire anthology of music

Teaching through the Arts - A study/travel tour through England, France, Switzerland and Italy designed to enhance future educators' ability to incorporate teaching through the arts into daily classroom instruction

The Politics of Harry Potter - Students examine Harry Potter novels and films to determine whether J.K. Rowling's imaginative universe can supply the guidance humanity needs on its joyful, troubled and danger-laden journey through life

Erin Templeton: I taught a class on F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald during January term and didn't want to just have discussion for three hours a day four days a week. I started asking around to see if faculty would be willing to talk to my class for a half hour. Ultimately, I had people from history, music and psychology come to my class. They helped to enhance our understanding of the cultural context of those works and really gave students a different perspective. It was really cool.



Drs. Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab and Madelyn Young join intellectual forces to team teach "Art and Economics."

Edward Woodfin: Sometimes doing something creative is risky. You don't know if it's going to work. If you walk in and give a straight lecture, you know exactly how it's going to go. But when you do something creative, some people are going to resist. Some students don't want to do a role-play. Some don't want to speak in a group discussion. There are always one or two who just will not engage and they have to be led along. Creative teaching is often harder to do.

Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab: At first, with a creative approach, I did feel very uncomfortable because I wasn't telling them what to think or how to do it. The hardest challenge I have is to try to encourage students to think outside the box, to think conceptually.

Suzanne Schuweiler-Daab: Yes, *to think*. When I teach surrealism, for example, I explain the different techniques. Then I have students actually do one of those techniques and present it to the class. It really does enhance the creative process and allow them to tap into the subconscious.

Edward Woodfin: It pulls them into the subject matter. Sometimes I serve food in classes. In fact, tomorrow I'm teaching a British history survey and we're talking about what people did for fun in the 1700s, what people ate and drank, and I'm going to serve them a heritage tea that tastes like it tasted in 1706. It's bitter. It's unusual. And some will absolutely refuse to drink it no matter what kind of cajoling or explanations I offer. A straightforward lecture would save time in the course. It would move us along. I could tell all kinds of stories about the battle and then we'd be done.

Erin Templeton: I could just do the same thing over and over again, but my teaching would suffer, and I would be bored with myself. Creative teaching is a process of challenging myself along with challenging my students, keeping things interesting, and keeping things fresh for all of us. 📌



Top right: Converse faculty and students lead a summer "CSI" workshop teaching students to solve crimes through forensic science.

Bottom right: Jim Hymas teaches mathematics principles through games of chance.



INVESTING IN DYNAMIC IDEAS

CREATIVE COLLABORATION GRANTS DEVELOP INNOVATIVE THINKERS AND LEADERS



This spring, Converse launched a \$25,000 internal grant program designed to promote the development of innovative thinkers and leaders who effect positive change on our campus and beyond.

“Our commitment to becoming a leader in creative thinking and problem solving across all disciplines, in and out of the classroom, compels us to invest in dynamic ideas that enable a new way of seeing the world, that foster a new energy for pursuing innovation and adventure, and that explore unexpected collaborative interactions among community members,” said President Betsy Fleming.

Ranging from \$500-\$5,000 each, the Creative Collaboration Grants support students, faculty and staff who pursue innovation in any discipline and form, recognizing those who are stretching the boundaries of knowledge and human interaction and applying their creative energies to broad benefit.

The selection committee, comprised of representatives from across the campus community, was wowed by 22 proposals spanning a wide range of disciplines. Funding was awarded for ten projects to be implemented from July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.

Funded projects include:

A 3-D World: Explaining Organic Chemistry through Computer Graphics - \$2,700

Dr. Peter Brown, Assistant Professor of Computer Science; Dr. Sheri Strickland, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; and Madonna Sberna '11, a chemistry and computer science double major, will bring two-dimensional chemistry into a 3-D world by developing a computer-graphics tool to make the abstract complexities of reaction mechanisms visible. The

animation tool will be available to any who wish to use or modify it, positioning Converse as a resource for organic chemistry educators.

Everyone Reading - \$1,789

Dr. Susan Washburn, Assistant Professor of Education, will train education faculty and students to use the Wilson Reading System as a tutoring tool to increase literacy.

Finding Voice - \$1,500

Dr. Elizabeth York, Associate Professor and Director of Music Therapy, will bring to life the feelings and experiences of women who are victims of domestic abuse. The collaboration among the College's Theatre and Art Therapy Departments and Spartanburg Safe Homes-Rape Crisis Coalition will result in an hour-long, public performance incorporating original songs, storytelling, percussion, choreography and visual props.

Girls' Day - \$1,000

Spearheaded by the Converse Athletics Department, the second annual Girls' Day will bring hundreds of girls to Converse to celebrate being a girl and open their minds to new possibilities through activities in areas ranging from art to science to sports.

Healing Through Dance - \$500

Psychology major Julie Stapleton '09 will develop a senior project for her dance minor that explores healing through physical movement. A collaboration among theatre, dance and psychology students, the project will be a therapeutic expression of life stories that recognizes the importance of the arts beyond aesthetic pleasure.

Shared History - \$2,820

A joint project of the Chaplain's Office, the Department of History and Politics and the Association of African American Students to facilitate thinking about today's cultural issues within a historical context. The group will host a community forum with two Woodlands Plantation

decedents for a screening and discussion of the film “Shared History” to explore ways in which cultures overlap and integrate throughout history.

Real World Creativity - \$5,000

Submitted by Converse's Department of Economics, Accounting and Business, the project focuses on showing students how creativity shapes business in the real world. The project will initiate an annual forum series featuring professionals from innovative, creative or entrepreneurial organizations to discuss how creativity and innovation have advanced their organizations and improved their communities.

Siesta Fiesta - \$2,050

The Wellness Center staff and Amanda Stevens '10 (undeclared major) will host a fun-filled “Pajama Party Panel” with a sleep specialist to expand student understanding of the relationship between good sleep habits, overall physical and mental health, and academic performance.

Lying to the Sea Gypsy - \$2,690

Converse II music composition major Kiya Heartwood will create and produce a six-song operetta about taking chances, dreaming responsibly and understanding that your daily choices determine the person you become. Targeting pre-teens and young adults, the operetta will be performed at Converse and for school children at the Chapman Cultural Center in partnership with the Spartanburg Repertory Company.

Virtual Roundtable - \$4,950

Tania McDuffie, Academic Counselor; Jud Stubbs, Multimedia Coordinator; the Office of Admissions; and psychology major Katherine Quigley '10 will implement and facilitate the creative use of Multipoint Interactive Videoconferencing at Converse. With infinite possibilities for professional development, research and classroom teaching, the technology will open new doors for collaboration and exploration by bringing the world to Converse. ■

MORE THAN 400 UPSTATE GIRLS TAKE PART IN GIRLS' DAY AT CONVERSE

by Gary Glancy of the Spartanburg Herald-Journal

Television role models are fine, but there's nothing like the real thing. That's why Carolyn Reed-Smith, a language arts teacher at Whitlock Junior High School, took 22 of her students to Girls' Day at Converse College.

Led by Converse students, student-athletes, coaches and faculty, the first-year event featured activities throughout the campus - in athletics, art, dance, theater and science - for girls ages 6-14. In addition, WNBA veteran and former Furman University basketball standout Rushia Brown served as guest speaker during a lunch break.

While walking her girls down a hallway on the way to a Girls' Day art therapy class, Reed-Smith said her group passed by a Converse interior design class, where they saw a black student. "These girls (who are all black) see her sitting there taking this class, so they can see themselves in that situation. I wanted (my students) to be exposed to a college setting where they feel that confidence, that 'this is something that I can do.'"

More than 400 girls from the area attended Girls' Day - doubling the number originally predicted. More than 140 volunteers gave their time for the event, including Nestor Chacon, a coach with the Carolina FC soccer club who led soccer-related activities along with Converse soccer coach Rob DePaol. "It's just a matter of providing fun for (the girls) with the soccer ball, and hopefully it will help them make a decision to try soccer because it's a great sport," Chacon said.



Rushia Brown signs t-shirts for Girls' Day participants.

While many of the girls frolicked in the Converse quad, playing soccer and football under a glorious blue sky, another group gathered nearby on the patio of the Blackman Music Building to participate in, and dance to, a drum circle. It was the one activity Shalynn Hawkins, a seventh-grader at Florence Chapel Middle School, was looking forward to the most. "It was fun," she said.

"It's been a great response - 100 percent participation," said Alison Watson, a Converse II student majoring in music therapy who led the group with senior Amy Gower. "Drumming is such an energetic activity, and being blessed with a beautiful day to have it outside helped increase the energy and participation." The leaders' message? "It's OK to mess up," said Amy, also a music therapy major and a percussionist. "You can express yourself through any mode, whether it's voice or drumming or dance, and it's OK to laugh and be silly. That's really what we're going for."

Other activities included golf, basketball, tennis, volleyball, yoga, Pilates and a morning runway modeling session with Converse freshman Susannah White, who made a surprise return during lunch break to discuss self-confidence and positive attitude with the Whitlock girls. Suzanne and her fellow Converse students certainly made an impression. Said Whitlock seventh-grader Jacorya Young, "They're showing how interesting college can be." 📌



Prospective Students Inspired by Creative Minds Conference

by Martha Miller '08



You are a young entrepreneur launching a business or nonprofit organization in your hometown to fill a need or contribute in some way. What business will you create and how will it enhance your community?

Write a caption for this cartoon...

What is the greatest innovation since the year 2000? Explain how this invention has made an impact and why you selected it.

Enclosed is a piece of graph paper. Use this paper in a creative way and return it to us.

These are just a few of the prompts to *think creatively* found in the application for Converse College's Creative Minds Conference and Scholarship Day held in February. Thirty-five high school seniors participated in thought-challenging activities to compete for scholarships of up to \$4,000. It was the inauguration of an annual event that will play an important role in Converse's vision "to inspire creative minds, innovative actions and outcomes of consequence."

"Across the disciplines, in and out of the classroom, we want to give prospective students and their families a chance to see what Converse hands-on learning is all about and how it facilitates adaptable, flexible thinking," President Betsy Fleming explained in a brief introduction of the program.

Morning sessions were led by faculty who, according to one attendee, "switched it all up" as they integrated biology and art, history and chemistry, and economics and printmaking. Dr. Neval Erturk, Associate Professor of Biology and Frazer Pajak, Associate Professor of Interior Design, mixed the study of human cells with art. While the students examined their own epithelial cells under microscopes, they were coached on drawing techniques to illustrate their unique cellular design. Dr. Sheri Strickland, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and Dr. Edward Woodfin, Assistant Professor of History, took an interdisciplinary approach to teaching atomic discovery, explaining not only the science but also how this advancement awakened a new perspective that swept across Europe – impacting everything from politics to manufacturing to culture. Andrew Blanchard, Assistant Professor of Printmaking and Photography, and Dr. Madelyn Young, Associate Professor of Economics, introduced students to a special blend of art and economics. As they learned about the legalities of US currency, they made screen prints of giant \$89 bills complete with the presidential portrait—of President Betsy Fleming. The product that resulted was dubbed "Betsy Bucks."

Students and parents lunched together in Montgomery Student Center and listened as keynote speaker, environmentalist and entrepreneur Judith Walker Teele '66, expressed her ideas on what it means to live a creative life. "To think of creativity as only in the fine arts is limited thinking," Judith said. "What greater canvas is there than a young life? Your world will be full of change as technology rapidly moves along and you with it—whether you like it or not. There is nothing more important than learning the skills of reinventing yourself, and imagination is the key. Caring and imagination will enable you to say 'yes' to all the new things that will call to you."

During the afternoon, students divided into groups to take on the "Creativity Challenge." Each group received a box of common household items. As a team they had forty-five minutes to create an original and useful product from the materials and develop a brief infomercial promoting it. Each team and its individual members were judged on idea generation, participation, originality, adaptability, collaboration and innovative use of the supplies. Products created include:

- A home cleaning device
- A megaphone alarm clock
- A one-man-band ensemble
- A babysitting activity kit
- A children's vacuum cleaner
- A personal accessories caddy



KNOW AN INNOVATIVE YOUNG WOMAN?

Tell her about the 2008-09 Creative Minds Conference!

Saturday, November 8

More info coming soon at www.converse.edu/creativeminds
Contact admissions@converse.edu
or (864)596-9040 to recommend a high school senior.

Anna Burns, a future education major, says she had great fun making the “Conversoodle Organizer” with her team. “I met all these girls that are going to attend Converse just like me next year, and we became friends immediately,” she says. “We put our ideas together and created something new. It really solidified my choice of studying at Converse College for the next four years.”

Moderators like Dr. Melissa Walker, George Dean Johnson Jr. Professor of History, reported that the collaborative spirit was evident in all the teams, distinguishing some members as capable leaders and others as essential followers, but all participated. “They were organizing and developing their plans,” she says. “They were listening to each other’s ideas and adapting, solving problems as they arose. [They were] thrown together with a box of duct tape and drier vent and a lot of unrelated items and told they had to do something creative with it...and they did!”

Many Converse faculty members use the principle of “thinking across the disciplines” in their teaching. For example, Eddie Woodfin frequently combines music, drama, art and even sports with lectures to make the facts more real to his students. “I usually start out with music to get people into the frame of a time period,” he says. “I want the students to hear the time period, not just hear about it. I use decoration in the classroom that is teaching even when I’m not. That includes dressing up in period costume,

drawing pictures of characters and even fighting mock battles out on the lawn.”

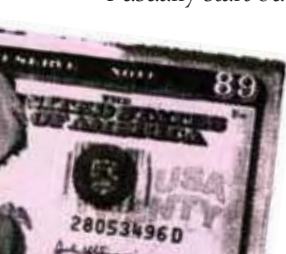
“It’s obvious that creative teaching and learning is incorporated into Converse classrooms,” states participant Michelle Fleming. “The professors gave us a basis of what to expect. They focus in on learning, not just on a getting through a particular curriculum. They are emphasizing that creativity is necessary in any field you work in. When you approach something with a creative and open mind, you’re bound to be more successful.”

Even before attending the event, Michelle and her peers demonstrated their ability to think creatively in their conference applications. Students were asked to choose an experience from their high school years that demonstrates their creative spirit. Michelle presented a portfolio of her own poetry, fiction and non-fiction. Hilary Berry, a future interior design major, presented a brightly colored paper flamingo decorated with an intricate mosaic pattern and feathers. “I was inspired by origami,” she says. “But I adapted the design to hide a message.” Inside the figurine she inscribed her favorite quote from cartoonist Scott Adams: “Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.” Kristen Thomas, who plans to major in music business, submitted her own version of America’s favorite board game. After years in the wings and on the stage of the Miss South Carolina pageant, Kristen created “Miss South Carolinaopoly.” The game is sold at the South Carolina State Museum, and Kristen donates all royalties to fund pageant scholarships.

“The Creative Minds Conference gave me a greater appreciation for other people’s ideas,” Kristen says.

“It’s amazing how you can learn from each other in such a short time from seeing how other people make use of the resources.”

Melissa Walker hopes the conference has encouraged the young women to see Converse as a safe place to take risks. “I hope these students come away knowing that Converse is a place where they will be active in learning. Not just passively taking in knowledge, but collaborating with each other. A creative approach brings different perspectives. It deepens what students learn.”



Creating a Pipeline for Math and Science Professionals

Petrie Math and Science Scholars Mentor High School Girls

Converse is answering the call to generate more American citizens in science and math fields through a new scholarship program with an innovative learning twist.

Teaming with the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation in 2006, Converse created the Petrie Math and Science Scholars program to model successful females in these fields to Spartanburg area high school girls. Petrie Scholars tutor students who are experiencing difficulty with the subjects.

The need to develop professionals in science and math is so great, in fact, that the South Carolina General Assembly also responded to the need this June, establishing a \$2,500

Carolina; and Aundrea Hunter '12 of Greer, South Carolina – enrolled at Converse last fall and tutored students at Spartanburg High School this spring. While the students will remain Petrie Scholars throughout their Converse careers, three new scholars will be recruited each year from the incoming freshman class. By 2012 Converse will have 12 Petrie Scholars tutoring up to 36 Spartanburg area high school students annually.

The scholars receive an \$8,000 scholarship annually for their four years at Converse. They must maintain a 3.5 GPA or better and continue to major in math or science.

In addition to tutoring students at Spartanburg High, Madison helped Converse II students during January Term. “I really enjoyed interacting with the high school students and the Converse students. They were very eager to understand the material,” she said. “Math is not always the easiest of subjects for people to comprehend, and I really enjoyed having the opportunity to share my love of math with others. It was much easier for the students to understand the material because I tried to show them how much fun math can be.”

Spartanburg High student Tanya Tabor, who was struggling in her advanced chemistry class, talked about her tutoring experience with Samantha in an interview the *Spartanburg Herald-Journal*. “She’s really helped me because I...had no self-motivation, no self-drive. A lot of stuff I just couldn’t seem to understand, and there wasn’t really enough time after class to ask questions because we were moving at such a fast pace. And then I heard about this (program) and I thought, ‘Oh, this is cool, I really need a tutor.’” Since then, “My grades have actually risen steadily,” she added.

Spartanburg High School Assistant Principal Larry Moore is pleased with the program’s impact, “The high school students who have participated have really benefited. A couple of them in particular have established a really good rapport with the Converse students. There’s not a big age difference, and it may not have been that long ago (that the Converse students) learned a particular process that they’re teaching the (high school) students. Having recently learned it themselves, (the Converse students) can perhaps relate better to finding a different approach one-on-one than can be found in a classroom,” he said.

To recommend a student for the Petrie Scholars program, contact the Converse Office of Admissions at 1-800-766-1125 or admissions@converse.edu. 📌



Samantha Helm '12 (right) has been tutoring Spartanburg High sophomore Tanya Tabor in chemistry as part of Converse's Petrie Scholars program.

enhancement to the LIFE Scholarship and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship for eligible students majoring in mathematics and science programs.

Petrie Scholars must have a 3.5 high school grade point average, choose to major in math or science, indicate interest in entering the teaching field and undergo an interview process. They complete a training course in the Fall Term of their freshman year and head into the high schools in the spring to begin the program’s required six academic terms of tutoring. The innovative hands-on learning opportunity not only prepares the scholars for teaching careers but also reinforces their grounding in the core principles of science and math.

The first three Petrie Scholars – Madison Brewer '12 of Roebuck, South Carolina; Samantha Helm '12 of Summerville, South



New MFA

Positions Converse for National Recognition in Creative Writing

by Jeremy Jones, Adjunct Instructor of English

In the summer of 2009, Converse will welcome its first graduate students for the new low-residency Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) program in creative writing. Converse's program is the only of its kind within South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida, offering the College a distinctive presence within the Southeast region.

"This is one of the most exciting developments I can remember at Converse," says Rick Mulkey, director of the creative writing program and author of four collections of poems, including *Toward Any Darkness*. "Since the mid-90's, my personal goal has been to develop a highly-respected academic program for creative writing, and to develop a community of writers that could have a lasting impact on the college and on the community."

Low-residency writing programs divide a student's academic year into on-campus residencies and off-campus mentoring semesters, allowing writers to be full-time students while working and living at home. Residencies are held in the summer and in January, and work much the same way as language immersion programs. While on campus, students engage in a steady flow of workshops, craft lectures, and readings. Between residencies, students work on new creative work, revisions of previous work and critical response papers one-on-one with their mentors.

One of the most distinctive elements of Converse's MFA is the caliber of its faculty. "We have hired a faculty of poets, fiction and nonfiction writers who've won the National Book Critic Circle Award (twice); National Endowment for the Arts grants; Guggenheim Fellowships; and a PEN West Nonfiction Award. The list of faculty accomplishments goes on," said Susan Tekulve, Associate Professor of English and author of *My Mother's War Stories*. "More importantly, these faculty members are all good, experienced teachers of writing. When asked to join the faculty, every single person came on board immediately."

Not only does the new MFA blend innovative and traditional teaching methods, its focus also inherently reflects the trend toward creativity in Converse's curricular and extra-curricular programming. "The MFA will extend the Converse creative experience to graduate students by bringing them together with top novelists, poets, and

other writers," said Dr. Jeffrey Barker, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Tekulve considers the program "a natural fit for Converse. We're a small liberal arts institution that emphasizes one-on-one, student-centered teaching, and that kind of teaching is the backbone of any good low-residency program. We already have a strong, established undergraduate BFA program. Statistics about MFA programs show that low-residency programs thrive at places that have strong undergraduate writing programs."

Recent graduates of Converse's undergraduate creative writing program have gone on to graduate programs at Brown University, Emerson College, Indiana University, Vermont College, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Massachusetts, among others; in addition, they have won such awards as the X. J. Kennedy Poetry Prize, the Stonybrook Short Fiction Prize, the Hub City Writing Awards in fiction and poetry, and the Association of Writers and Writing Programs 2008 Intro Award. Past graduates also include a finalist for the National Book Award and a winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction.

The new program will benefit undergraduate students by affording them "access to a host of educational opportunities offered through the MFA program," adds Mulkey. "The low residency program will enhance the undergraduate program and its reputation by drawing nationally and internationally known writers, critics and editors

to serve as low residency faculty mentors. Many of the events that take place during the residency sessions will be open to the public and to our undergraduate students. This means those students will have access to graduate level discussions while they are still working toward their undergraduate degrees. The program will benefit the Upstate community by providing access to those same events while adding to our intellectual and artistic community.

Beginning May 28, 2009—the first day of the first residency session—there will definitely be new creative energy on the Converse campus."

More information, including applications and deadlines, is available at www.converse.edu/mfa. ■



STUDENTS TAKE A STAND FOR DARFUR

by Martha Miller '08



When freshmen Lisa Godenick and Madison Webb sought a Student Government Association charter for their new organization, STAND, in fall 2007 they knew that lives were at stake.

STAND is a worldwide, student-led coalition against genocide. Lisa and Madison attended a STAND conference last fall in Washington, DC, where they heard first-hand accounts of the brutalities suffered by women in Darfur. They learned about the 2.5 million refugees who are displaced, homeless, jobless and largely defenseless under daily threat of death by starvation and exposure to the elements—or worse, from a federally funded army known as *devils on horseback*, whose primary purpose is to rape, pillage and brutally murder Darfurans for land and oil.

Lisa and Madison were determined to take personal action for Darfuran women and talked to anyone who would listen. They lobbied South Carolina senators Jim DeMint and Lindsey Graham in Washington for the Sudan Accountability and Divestment Act (SADA) that was passed in December of 2007. Back at Converse, their passion spread quickly and initiatives to increase awareness began to take shape.

The students learned that for just a few dollars, an organization called Genocide Intervention Network can provide armed protection for refugees as they go about their daily chores, such as gathering wood for cooking and heating. It didn't take them long to start plans for a fund raising dinner.

Dinner chairman Kelly Orner '08 and STAND members planned a dinner for \$50 per plate with entertainment from various student groups, an educational presentation about genocide in Darfur, and wanted Spartanburg Mayor Bill Barnet as keynote speaker. Local businesses sponsored the event by contributing funds, food or other supplies.

“I was struck by what these young women were doing, how they were doing it, and their awareness and initiative to take up such a worthy cause”

“One thing that I heard over and over was that the project was too big to be completely student-led,” Kelly says. “But we didn't give up.” Converse staff coached them on how to host a successful semi-formal dinner, conduct an engaging program,

develop a publicity plan and materials, and approach local businesses for sponsorships.

STAND members hit the streets, recruiting local businesses to display event posters and local restaurants to donate food for the meal. Students volunteered





Converse STAND members greet attendees of the Dinner for Darfur.

to serve and entertain, wrote original music for the event, and created original poetry and dance. Art majors designed unique table centerpieces with themes of African culture and the tragic condition of Darfuran refugees. The artwork was auctioned during the event to generate additional funding.

“The night was completely magical,” Kelly says. “It was successful beyond our wildest dreams. Dr. (Jeffrey) Barker came up to me and said, ‘This is the finest student-led event I’ve attended at Converse.’ I think everybody was mystified by the collaboration, the dedication of the volunteers, the passion of the whole team.”

In fact, the dinner has received nothing but rave reviews and calls to repeat it next year.

“I think that people came for dinner and entertainment, but they picked up on our passion and the horrible situation in Darfur became real to them.” Lisa reflects. A key element to that realization was the mock refugee camp set up outside the entrance. “We were able to get students and children from a local daycare to play Darfuran refugees,” Kelly says. “Guests had to pass through the dirty, sandy, ragged camp to get to the dinner. I think it was a powerful image that made the Darfur tragedy very real to everybody.”

By the end of the evening, the Converse chapter of STAND, with one of the newest SGA charters on campus, had raised nearly \$8,000 to help protect women refugees in Darfur.

Converse Trustee Lisa Bell Weisiger '84 was so inspired by the students that she sent a donation of \$1,000. “I was struck by what these young women were doing, how

they were doing it, and their awareness and initiative to take up such a worthy cause,” she said. “We all can help end genocide through local activism and I think the student response from Converse College has been extraordinary.”

“I think we’re all drawn to particular causes,” Kelly says. “But this was our generation saying ‘This is not OK—it is absolutely not OK for this to be happening in this world, and it has to stop. And we were grateful to have a school that was so supportive of our passion for a people far away and unknown to us all. Our classmates and our faculty and the Converse staff stood behind us all the way.’”

As for next year’s agenda, Kelly says the bar has been raised, but she believes the team she left behind is more than capable.

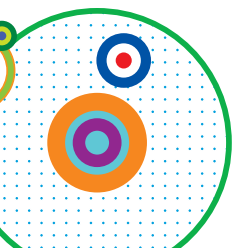
“This year we were just running through everything blindly and hoping things would work out. But next year, they will know what works. With the experience they have, I think the success they can achieve is unimaginable.” 📌



Converse STAND members Kelly Orner '08, Madison Webb '12 and Lisa Godenick '12.



Nearly \$8,000 was raised during the Dinner for Darfur.



Ingenuity Pays off for Converse Students

SCICU Research Grants Reward Great Ideas

by Jeremy Jones, Adjunct Instructor of English



The element of surprise is an invaluable part of a liberal arts education. Students are leveraging their Converse experiences to unearth layers of interest they never knew existed – making creative discoveries under the auspices of faculty-mentored, independent research projects.

“We have such a high level of research and creative work, both faculty and student, at Converse because [this type of work] has become part of our culture,” says Dr. Jeff Barker, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “This past spring, 48% of our graduating seniors had conducted independent research or completed an independent creative project as part of their studies. That level of faculty-mentored work is one example of our creative approach to transforming the lives of our students, one that shows the Converse advantage.”

This year alone, Converse was awarded more research grants from the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) Undergraduate/Faculty Research Program than any other independent college or university in the state. Nine proposed projects received funding, for a total of \$23,372. All of this money goes toward projects that were designed and proposed by students, with guidance from faculty mentors.

One grant recipient is senior Dalene Prouty. Her project began in the summer of 2007, when she experienced the journey of discovery and pleasant surprise that typifies a liberal arts education.

Dalene and fellow students Megan Burdette '08 and Belda Thomas '08 registered for a summer 2007 research project with psychology professor Dr. Richard Keen. At the time, Dalene thought of the project as just another fulfillment of her graduation requirements. They would be studying the relationship between caffeine and alertness; and, more specifically,

attempting to discover whether having caffeine in one's body impacts one's perception of time. She expected the results of their experiments to be pretty straightforward.

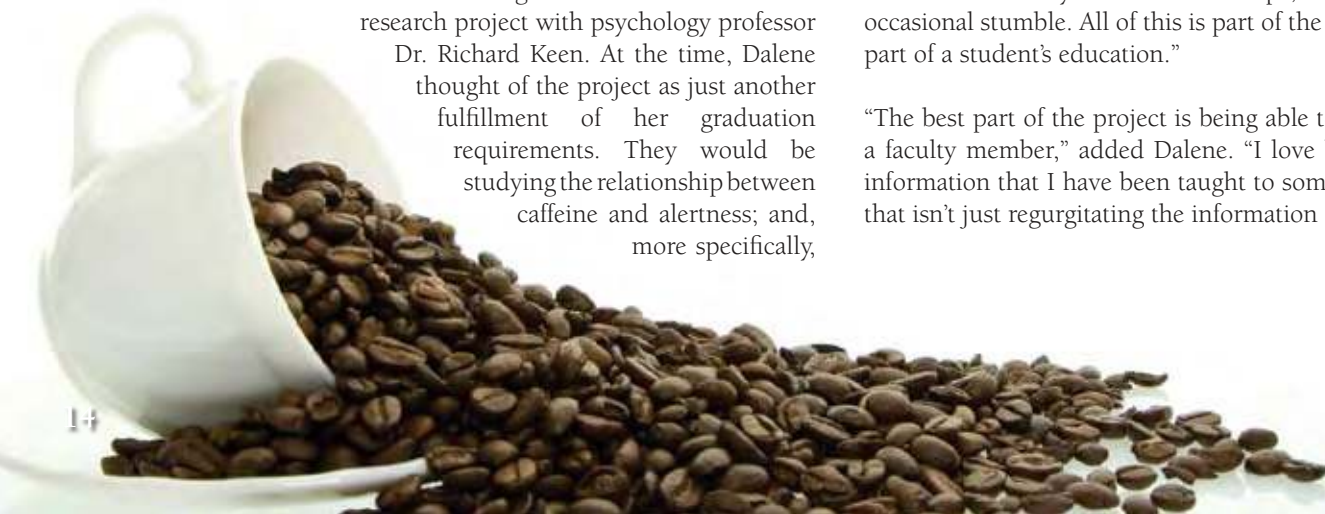
The team gave varying doses of caffeine to the rats in the lab and monitored their responses. “We had some interesting results,” Dalene said. “With low doses of caffeine, the rats' temporal perception sped up, but with high doses of caffeine temporal perception slowed down.” The group was surprised by their findings, as they had assumed that a little bit of caffeine would make one feel more alert and that time was passing more quickly, but not that a lot of caffeine would make one feel less alert.

Intrigued by the discovery, Dalene was determined to continue her research. This May, she was awarded a research grant from SCICU for the continuation of the project, “Exploring the Effects of Caffeine on Temporal Perception.”

“We had to alter our original experiment because we got results that were the opposite of what we predicted,” Dalene said. “This was exciting, and I loved being an integral part of making the decisions of what we should do next to see whether caffeine had different effects in different doses. Our hard work was paying off.”

Freedom to make mistakes without sacrificing academic standards is a hallmark of a Converse College education. Dr. Barker points out that experiences like Dalene's underscore the value of a liberal arts education. “Faculty-mentored research and creative projects are the beginning of a student's professional life. Students are performing *professional-level work* in their chosen fields, but they remain student projects. Faculty members guide the students as they take these first steps, which can include the occasional stumble. All of this is part of the student experience, part of a student's education.”

“The best part of the project is being able to work closely with a faculty member,” added Dalene. “I love being able to apply information that I have been taught to something that matters, that isn't just regurgitating the information on a test.”



Al Jazeera Bureau Chief Speaks at CONVERSE

Members of the Converse chapter of Mortar Board set their ambitions for a high profile 2008 PROBE symposium. The students recruited Abderrahim Foukara, Washington, DC Bureau Chief for the Al Jazeera television network, as keynote speaker. Foukara discussed "US-Middle East Policy and Arab Media: Common Challenges and Opportunities" and took questions and answers from the audience in Twichell Auditorium. The March 12 event was co-sponsored by the Nisbet Honors Program.



ALJAZEERA



Abderrahim Foukara

"The PROBE Symposium is intended to promote scholarship and intellectual discussion, both on campus and in the community," said Nora Nassri, a Converse senior from Orangeburg, South Carolina. "As US foreign policy undergoes reexamination, we must keep in mind the importance of an approach that takes into account the views and experiences of those who are directly affected by the consequences."

Born and raised in Morocco, Foukara earned a PhD in apartheid studies and worked for the BBC before joining Al Jazeera. The station burst upon the world scene following the September 11, 2001 World Trade Center attacks when it broadcast video statements by Osama bin Laden and other al-Qaeda leaders. Thanks to its availability via satellite and its willingness to program controversial and critical views of Persian Gulf states, Al Jazeera quickly gained a contentious reputation.

"Both the US and the Arab media have a common interest in the creation of more democratic systems throughout the Arab world, despite the Iraq (war) fiasco. But given the region's history and geography and given the size of US strategic interests in it, there are strong indications (the region) will continue to lurch from one (US-involved) crisis to another," said Foukara. "If you look at the way such crises and the US role in them are covered in the Arab media, it is quite apparent that the coverage is often extremely negative for reasons that vary from Arab security concerns and Arab nationalist sentiment to audience ratings and readership. Both the opportunities and the challenges obviously have serious ramifications for US-Arab relations in the medium to long term."

"As engaged global citizens, these Converse students are challenging all of us to become more global in our understanding of the world in which we live."

Katelyn Ridenour '10, a Converse music major and member of the College's award-winning National Model Arab League delegation, responded to the symposium saying, "The one thing I really took out of this was the difference between Arab media coverage and US media coverage. I knew it existed, but Foukara's elaborations on things like the tearing down of the statue (in Baghdad, soon after the beginning of the war in Iraq) – which we, as Americans, saw as a good thing, and how the Arabs viewed that not quite the same way, and the disconnect there."

President Betsy Fleming praised the students' ambitions and innovation. "As engaged global citizens, these Converse students are challenging all of us to become more global in our understanding of the world in which we live. It is significant that they may study Arabic and travel to the Middle East; it is even more important that they also elect to share such educational opportunities with the broad Upstate community." 🇺🇸



WEAVING TOGETHER LIFE'S PASSIONS

by Lydia Anthony '08

From self-started business owner to patron of the arts, and from “hotel princess” to Sweet Potato Queen, Carol Puckett '74 approaches every facet of life with a creative, adventuresome spirit.

As a double major in history and politics at Converse, Carol wanted to be a writer. After college, she worked in employee communication and public relations. Together with her then-husband, Puckett owned a heavy duty truck dealership for years, but wanted to couple her experience as a business owner with one of her own passions – food. She opened the gourmet retail store and cooking school The Everyday Gourmet, followed shortly by another store, The Everyday Gardener. “Since my early days selling Girl Scout cookies, I had always had an entrepreneurial spirit. I decided to create my own store where I could be the ‘boss of everything.’ The Everyday Gourmet offered an opportunity to shape my own destiny and my own work environment. It gave me an opportunity to work with bright women of all ages and backgrounds and embrace my own creativity.”



Members of the Class of 1977 enjoyed Carol's hospitality at the Alluvian Hotel (Carol pictured in the center).

One day at the Everyday Gourmet, Carol received a call from Fred Carl, founder and CEO of Viking Range Corporation, offering a position as a consultant. It would involve traveling Europe for research to help create the first Viking Cooking School and gourmet retail store. Although hesitant to take this leap into the unknown and leave her own enterprises, Carol felt

it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work with someone whom she sees as a “person of vision.” Fred Carl designed the first professional-style cooking range for the home, a revolutionary concept in the industry.

Today Carol is the president of Viking Hospitality Group, meshing her passion for food and hospitality with her experience in communications and corporate relations to oversee the Alluvian Hotel and Spa, the Viking Cooking School and retail store, and Giardina's restaurant in Greenwood, Mississippi. “Viking has afforded me the opportunity to use all of my skills plus skills I never knew I had. In a company like Viking, one must stay creative, flexible and be ready to go at all times. I think it's a wonderful thing to be able to reinvent ourselves at different stages of life and pursue new careers and challenges.”

Carol is also one of the original eight Sweet Potato Queens, a group of sassy middle-aged “beauty queens” whose humor and philosophy are captured in Jill Conner Browne's best-selling book, *The Sweet Potato Queens' Book of Love*. These women, creating over-the-top personas with sequins, bejeweled sunglasses and tall red wigs, have been marching and dancing in the Jacksonville St. Patrick's Day parade for over 25 years, inspiring women around the world to look past their troubles, don outlandish costumes, and recreate themselves as whatever they've always wanted to be. For Carol, being a Sweet Potato Queen is about not taking yourself too seriously. “It's about the power of play...and about never being too old to play.”



The Sweet Potato Queens reunion (Carol pictured on the right)

In October of 2007, Carol was appointed to the Mississippi Arts Commission. She has always been a passionate supporter of the arts, particularly dance and music. “It's our job to use whatever talent we brought into this world to create art. For me, that's organization, public relations and fundraising.” Her other volunteer projects include creating oral histories of “the unsung heroes of Southern food” with the Southern Foodways Alliance, and fundraising for the new B. B. King Museum in Indianola, Mississippi.

By learning to value each experience, talent and interest, and seeing its application across traditional boundaries of discipline and job field, Carol has woven her passions for writing, food, travel and the arts into both a satisfying line of work and a full and fruitful life. “My Converse education gave me a depth and breadth of knowledge and the ability to be flexible and adapt. When people ask how in the world I got into this business after being an English major, I tell them that I use language and communication every day. Being a persuasive communicator and presenting creative ideas is a big part of what I do.” 🍌

Stretching Young People's Ideas about the World

by Beverly Knight

Mary Catherine Corlew Sevier '86 believes her strength lies in the fact that she never grew up and decided what she wanted to be.

The Murfreesboro, Tennessee, native graduated from Converse in 1986 with a degree in English. She then attended Vanderbilt University where she earned a law degree. But instead of practicing law, she enrolled at Belmont University, completing a master's in education.

That kind of checkered academic history might seem like dabbling, but it led Mary Catherine to her current position as president of Sage Leadership Partners, Inc., a nonprofit company that connects the business community with educators and students to bring hands-on service learning to young people.

"My degrees from Converse and Vanderbilt are programs that really train a person to think," she says, adding that experience taught her that schools are full of students who are intellectually ready for higher education, but are totally lacking in "social capital." She hopes, through Sage, to fill that void, teaching youth the value of contributing to society.

"Certainly my work at Converse in English and my minor in economics exposed me to the thoughts, cultures, and motivations of societies, past and present, far different from my limited perspective," she says, crediting Dr. Jeffrey Willis, Andrew Helmus Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, with teaching her "flexibility and a willingness to learn from the past but not become mired in it."

That's why she is excited about Sage's partnership with Nashville, Tennessee schools and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce to implement the Open Source Teaching Project, an innovative program using technology to bring the world to the classroom.

Mary Catherine credits her husband, David, and his partner, Art Fuller, co-founders of Sage, for being the creative impetus for Open Source Teaching (OST). "I consider myself more innovative than creative," she says. "I believe my strength lies in applying a visionary idea in a practical setting rather than creating the vision itself. David paints landscapes. I paint bowls of fruit. I apply in an innovative way his pipe dreams."

The couple met and married when they were teachers. Working with gifted learners showed Mary Catherine that students have no idea of the possibilities for using their interests and talents in their community or their world. Then when their daughter Mamie, now seven, began kindergarten, her mother experienced



first-hand the limitations of the educational program. "We felt like we didn't want to cookie-cutter Mamie," Mary Catherine says. And that thought led her to consider how education could be made better for every student.

"Most of our children will make their living in fields which either do not exist right now or will be unrecognizably changed. OST is the ultimate example of paying it forward. With a minimal investment of our time today, we can impact our children's world for the better tomorrow," she says of the program whose goal is to "stretch a person's ideas about the world."

OST is still in its first year of implementation with more than 50 students from Nashville area universities working in teams to record interviews with leaders and scholars from every part of the city. By the end of the five-year project, they will have created an archive of information, a resource for teachers or anyone with Internet access. Sage plans to take OST to other cities, both nationally and internationally.

Mary Catherine knows that children like Mamie have never known a world without technology. At the press of a button they can satisfy their curiosity, tap into almost limitless sources of information. She wants to be sure they are equipped to make the most of their opportunities.

"In many ways my path has been shaped by my inability to decide what I was going to be when I grew up, and I am still deciding," Mary Catherine says. "When I was a young person, that trait was not perceived as a positive, but we are recognizing the need for companies and their employees and owners to be nimble enough to be proactive and/or reactive to the needs of the world. I hope my daughter will absorb the lesson that flexibility is the only constant needed in life." ■

"MOST OF OUR CHILDREN WILL MAKE THEIR LIVING IN FIELDS WHICH EITHER DO NOT EXIST RIGHT NOW OR WILL BE UNRECOGNIZABLY CHANGED."

Leading a Creative Life

by Marti Regan Szczur '68

"Was I creative as a kid?" I asked my 88-year-old mom. Her reply surprised me: "If creativity means inventing stories and games, never being bored, being persistent when a dream is involved, and viewing an unknown not as an obstacle, but as a curiosity, then yes, you were a creative child ... and exhausting!"

I have always felt the freedom to explore ideas and possibilities. Some of this confidence comes from the way I'm wired, but I've also been fortunate to have others encourage me along the way. In fact, Converse was instrumental in fostering my appetite for exploration and creativity.

I really wanted to study in Dublin my junior year but Converse didn't offer an organized program in Ireland. So I invented my own program. Dean Ashmore asked me lots of questions, doled out sage advice and through his support, helped me to "just do it." Innovation and adaptability were useful tools for solving challenges abroad, as well as for figuring out how to live and travel around Europe for a year without running out of money!



Marti's study abroad experience in Dublin, Ireland during her junior year.

Upon returning to Converse as a senior, I had a better idea of who I was as a person.

I realized that I'm comfortable with being uncomfortable, and that I'm *okay* with (and actually enjoy) the unexpected. I view change as opportunity and relish new challenges.

With a degree in mathematics, my options seemed to be to teach math or go to graduate school. My senior year at Converse, I had tried tutoring freshmen in math and discovered that I could do math, but not explain it. This left getting some other kind of a job. Computer science was just emerging as a professional discipline, and NASA had jobs in software programming. Writing software provided an environment for openness and acceptance to innovative ideas and approaches. The rules were limited, and the opportunities to be creative were unlimited.

Yet, it was as a leader and manager at NASA that I began fully to understand how creativity and practicality are closely interrelated. In the 1990s, NASA was being hit with budget cuts and we embarked on re-engineering and restructuring. I applied creative thinking techniques like mindmapping (a visual map used to represent thoughts linked to a central idea) in brainstorming sessions and created "light bulb" awards as incentives for generating new ideas for practical applications, such as redefining work flow processes and building spacecraft faster, better and cheaper.

After 30 years, I left NASA to join the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Library of Medicine. New ways to collect, store and disseminate massive amounts of electronic



Marti Szczur enjoys a book signing for *Dogs of a Different Collar*.

biomedical information required creative thinking and learning skills. I initiated an application for emergency responders to use during HazMat (Hazardous Material); and for the younger generation, I instigated an interactive learning game for 7-11 year-olds to learn about toxics in the home.

Along the journey, there have been many other discovery opportunities, such as marriage (still going strong after 37 years), parenthood, assorted masters degrees and graduate-level certifications (ranging from Landscape Design/Architecture to Information Systems/Technology to Executive Coaching.) Now it's 2008, and I have decided to retire. Well, I'm not really "retiring," I am "rewiring" like we used to do back at NASA. This new life phase has energized me. I've always loved writing and kids and animals, so I wrote a book for kids about animals. With an "oh, boy, here I go again" sensation, I became a beginner again, learning the nuances associated with fiction writing. *Dogs of a Different Collar*, a novel for ages 8-12, was published in March 2008 and I am enjoying doing book signings and school/library programs.

Once I started writing fiction, new stories bubbled out of my brain, resulting in two more children's books. Now I've got an overflowing idea bank including more writing, consulting, training, volunteering and traveling.

I guess my mom got it right in recognizing a creative streak in me as a kid, and this enthusiasm for discovery has shaped my life. I'm back to telling stories with my books. Curiosity pushes me to tackle new challenges, and persistence is my partner in achieving my dreams. And, I bet if you ask my husband, he'd agree with my mom, "Yes, you've lead (and continue to live) a creative life ... and yes, you are exhausting!" 🐾





Some kids get homesick at camp. Not Missy Craver Schenck '75. Missy grew up in Charleston, free to play all day and invent fun. But as carefree as Charleston summers were, her first summer camp in the Western North Carolina mountains opened a new world to her.

"I started going to Camp Kanuga as a young child," Missy says. "The summer I was 13, I decided I couldn't go home when my two weeks was up. I asked them to give me a job and let me stay." Ed Hartley, the camp director, told her she was too young. But she was so persuasive that he agreed to let her stay, if her parents agreed, even though he couldn't hire her. After that, she worked at the camp all through high school and college.

"At the end of my sophomore year at Converse, my dad said I had to get a 'real job.' I went to work as a bank drive-in teller. One day I came home in tears and said I'd never work in a bank again." She begged her parents to let her go back to Camp Kanuga. They agreed, and she called camp to ask if she could come. How could they say "no"?

That sealed her fate. She knew then that summer camp would always be part of her life. But she didn't know that her entire life would come to revolve around the Green River Preserve, a 3,400-acre tract in the Blue Ridge Mountains where she and her husband Sandy operate an innovative, non-profit camp on land his family has owned since the 1950s.

Unlike some who had to grow into what they wanted to be, Missy says she chose her career path at the age of three when she lined up her stuffed animals and dolls and proceeded to teach them "fun things." But when she entered



Converse as a double major in art and art history, Missy says she "came alive." Converse turned on lots of lights for me. Mac Boggs, particularly, inspired creativity in me. Converse was a stepping stone in the process of where I am today."

She went on to earn a master's in education and taught art for 20 years to gifted students, and many who were not identified as gifted but were awash with ideas. She learned how exciting it can be to open up creative pathways in young people's minds. And all the while she continued to work at summer camps, even after her own children were born.

When Missy and Sandy launched their idea for the Green River Preserve, they knew it had to be different in order to be successful. They wanted the programs to echo the freedom both had felt during their childhoods – freedom to explore and to learn, to soak up nature's lessons.

"Our hallmark is to teach them to be better stewards of the land. There is a ripple effect. If they fall in love with the land, fall in love with natural resources, they'll go out into the world with that passion. At Green River, we like to believe that we are training future leaders," she says.



Sandy and Missy Schenck

One of Missy's favorite books is Richard Louv's "Last Child in the Woods." He writes about "Nature Deficit Disorder," a condition Green River Preserve hopes to cure by providing bright young naturalists with an "uncluttered experience that quiets the chaos of the world and lets their creativity out."

On mentor hikes with naturalists, campers explore forests, streams and hidden valleys. They climb to the tops of waterfalls, learn about stream ecology, dye fabric with roots they've dug themselves.

"Every morning is like a treasure hunt. They find bark from trees to make rope, soapstone to carve into amulets. Nature becomes a creative partner for them," Missy says of activities that incorporate art with nature and teach campers to think in new ways.

The result of this experiential learning, Missy says, is that "the child is totally changed as a person." That's all the reward she needs. 📌



Factoring In the Fun

There's "Fear Factor," the wow factor, MAX Factor and "The O'Reilly Factor." But at Converse it is the Fun Factor that completes the collegiate experience. Converse is a community of individuals who share a passion for learning, leadership and service – and a community that believes in keeping their fun quotient in balance with the more serious aspects of college life.

Wondering what Converse women do for fun these days?

From Wild Wednesdays and a concert series that has swelled into one of the biggest backyard parties in town, to weekend Citadel football excursions and ski outings, Converse women do plenty to recharge the creative batteries. Here's a sampling of Fun Factor offerings from the 2007-2008 academic year:

Back Lawn Concerts

Approximately 2,000 people filled the back campus in April to catch Corey Smith headlining Conniestock 2008. It was the second back lawn concert of the year as Jason Mraz played to a crowd of 750 during the Fall Term. College students from Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and Georgia made the trek to Converse to hear Smith, who is one of the most in-demand singer/songwriters around.



Expeditions

Converse's close proximity to the North Carolina mountains and the South Carolina coast and Lowcountry makes it ideal to venture out to take in the sights. Students enjoyed a two-day canoe trip down the Edisto River, the world's longest free-flowing "blackwater" stream through the midlands and Lowcountry. The paddlers roughed it by sleeping overnight in tree houses along the river. In February, students traveled to Snowshoe, West Virginia for a weekend of skiing in the Allegheny Mountains.



Citadel Football Weekend

Forty Converse students traveled to Charleston to take in the Citadel vs. Furman football game, meet a cadet or two and do some shopping in the city's historic downtown district. Though the Converse and Citadel students were assigned to neighboring sections in the stadium, the two groups were laughing together and switching seats by the second half kickoff. The day resulted in several dates for Converse's 1889 Dance.



Wild Wednesdays

One sure bet for Converse fun is Wild Wednesdays, a weekly program in Montgomery Student Center that draws an average crowd of 75 for mid-week R&R. Whether it's coffeehouse-style comedians, musicians or spoken word poets, there's always something to do at Converse to liven up the work week.



Montgomery by Moonlight

Spring Term kicks off with a 12-hour "Montgomery by Moonlight" marathon of fun in the student center. The three-year-old tradition draws students, faculty and staff with activities in virtually every room of the building throughout the evening. From a casino to karaoke and student skits to a mean game of Twister, the activities are a great opportunity to build community and launch a new academic term. 📌





Emily Green '10 and her hallmates show off their new Converse rings following the Sophomore Ring Celebration.

A Creative Celebration of Sisterhood



During her sophomore year, Niki Castle '06 had an idea to make the presentation of the Converse class ring a celebration of the spirit of Converse sisterhood. "Receiving a class ring is something that should be cherished by every college student so I proposed a special ceremony to celebrate that moment for Converse students," said Niki, who now works in New York City for International Creative Management, one of the world's largest talent and literary agencies.

The Sophomore Celebration, a spring event honoring mother/daughter relationships, seemed like the perfect time for the ceremony. "It's a time when sophomores are already on campus with their mothers, so we decided to make the Ring Celebration a highlight of the weekend."

With sophomore class officers taking the lead on planning, the ceremony made its debut in March 2004. The tradition calls for each ring to be presented by the College President and for the students to be accompanied to the stage by a faculty or staff sponsor. "A faculty or staff sponsor was the icing on the cake because they are such an important part of our educational journey," said Niki. 🍷

Converse Ring Order/Repair Info

A new, 35% larger version of the traditional onyx Converse ring is now available in addition to the original size. Alumnae may trade in their rings for the larger size for a cost of \$250 for 10k gold and \$300 for 14k gold through December 31, 2008, or may place new orders for the larger ring.

Order any of the Converse rings (small onyx, large onyx or signet) by contacting the Converse Bookstore at (864)596-9136.

Rings have a lifetime manufacturer's guarantee. For ring repair, identify the manufacturer listed on the inside the band, then visit their website (www.jostens.com or www.herffjones.com) for instructions.

What My Converse Ring Means to Me

by Emily Green '10



Young women in white dresses process into Daniel Recital Hall. Flashbulbs light up the room on a cool March morning, as giddy laughter resounds above our heads. Some graceful and pristine, others raucous and excited, we fill the seats below the stage, as we wait for the ceremony to start. We may not be thinking it, but we all realize that the rings we are about to receive represent the one symbol that unites all Converse women.

The traditional Converse College ring is a black stone with our school seal carved in the middle. It is the ring that our mothers wear, that our grandmothers wear, and that our daughters will one day wear. It is a unique piece of jewelry that can connect people on the street who have never met before – people whose futures were shaped by the same institution. So many women would not be who they are today without this place — Molly Stoehr '06, Jane Marion Wilson '04, and Jessi Fosdick '07; Karen DeVore '84, Ellen Bryant Voigt '64, and Julia Mood Peterkin 1897.

My ring is Jennifer Kaeser '08, the Big Sister who has listened as I've cried countless times. My ring is Stephanie Newton '08, the best and most ridiculous Community Advisor in the world. My ring is all my hallmates, both now and in the future. My ring is the people I've commiserated with over an exam, eaten lunch with or just laughed with. My ring is the faculty who have taught me — Dr. Laura Brown, Dr. Monica McCoy and Professor Ed Gosnell. My ring is Allie Ayers '10 and Caitlin Currie '10 and Elise Jennings '10 and all the friends I will remember for the rest of my life.

The people I have met over the past year and a half and will meet over the next two years have made me into the woman I am, into the woman I want to be. My ring is me, a writer, a teacher, a dreamer. My ring is more than just an onyx set in white gold with the seal of Converse College. My ring is the touchstone of who I am. 🍷



Converse News

Chief Justice Awarded Honorary Degree and Valkyries Golf Balls at Commencement

Celebrating women pioneers, Converse welcomed Chief Justice Jean Hoefler Toal, the only woman to serve as a Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, as speaker for the 116th Commencement Exercises and awarded her the honorary doctor of laws degree. The graduating seniors marked the occasion by presenting Toal, an avid golfer, with a supply of 173 Converse Valkyries golf balls – dropped one-by-one into a bucket at Toal's seat as the seniors crossed the stage to receive their diplomas.

Toal challenged the graduates to apply what they have learned at Converse in answering the clarion call from their country and their world. "You did not make the world you are about to inherit, but you have the chance, the challenge and, indeed, the duty to leave it better than you found it. As you become trustees of an awesome world, the question is whether you will help or whether you will stand idly by. Each of us ultimately will be judged and ultimately will judge ourselves on the extent to which we have personally contributed to improving the human condition. It is true that each of us has a responsibility to develop our individual talent, but I believe each of us also has a duty to work for something in life bigger than ourselves."

The Class of 2008 leaves Converse with plans to pursue exciting careers and post-graduate study in some of the world's most prestigious programs. Members of the class have been awarded graduate school placements from

- Princeton University's Public Affairs Program
- University of South Carolina's Master of Accountancy
- Wichita State University's Master of Fine Arts in Poetry
- East Tennessee State University's Audiology Program
- University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine
- Florida State University's PhD Program in Historical Musicology
- Michigan State University's PhD Program in Cognitive Psychology
- The Universidad de Chile in Santiago's Music Composition Program
- Georgetown University Medical School's Nuclear Chemistry PhD Program
- Thomas Jefferson Program for Public Policy at the College of William & Mary
- Masters of Music Performance Program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City



Justice Toal, an avid golfer, receives complimentary Converse Valkyries golf balls from each member of the graduating Class of 2008.



Top and bottom photo: Members of the Class of '08 process in and out of Twichell Auditorium. Middle photo: President Fleming with Jean Hoefler Toal, the only female South Carolina Supreme Court Justice, and Deadra L. Jefferson '85, the first black female elected to the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Charleston, SC.

Third Converse Alumna Earns Presidential Management Fellowship

The Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) is the most prestigious award in the area of government and public affairs, and three Converse alumnae have earned this distinction over the last decade. Casey Addis '04, a politics and economics major from Gaffney, South Carolina, was awarded the fellowship this spring.

Casey earned her master of arts in Middle Eastern Studies and a master of public affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. This June, she began her duties as a Middle East Analyst in the Foreign Affairs, Defense and Trade division of the Congressional Research Services.



Valerie Brock '03 and Cheryl Woody McIntyre '95 have also been awarded fellowships. Valerie works for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. Cheryl served on the Iraqi Transition Planning Team in 2002 and worked to transition Department of Defense contracts and responsibilities to the Department of State at the time of the standup of the US Embassy and the nominal resumption of authority by the Iraqi government.

The PMF program was created to attract outstanding men and women from a variety of disciplines to careers with the federal government. The selection process is grueling and competitive with roughly 300 of the 4,000 applicants being offered positions.

“It is the nature of the history and politics courses at Converse and the training I received in the Model Arab League program that gave me the endurance and confidence to be successful,” said Casey. “There was no ‘typical’ interview or standardized format; I had to field behavioral, situational and informational questions. Most of my interviews included substantive questions about the Middle East, economics, international affairs, or US policy. I did this from 9 am to 4 pm each day of the fair. It’s not a process that is friendly to the timid. You really have to put yourself out there and sell yourself as a strong candidate for the position. The interdisciplinary nature of my undergraduate and graduate degrees really helped. I tell people that I am a generalist intentionally because I believe you have to understand a lot of different things to understand any one thing well.”



Michael Brennan, Chair of the SCICU Board of Trustees, with Converse Biology Professor Dr. Neval Erturk (Excellence in Teaching Award winner) and Converse President Betsy Fleming.

Biology Professor Receives Excellence in Teaching Award

Assistant Professor of Biology, Dr. Hatice Neval Erturk was presented with the 2008 Excellence in Teaching Award sponsored by South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities Inc.

(SCICU) during an April 15 dinner in Columbia, South Carolina. The award includes a \$3,000 professional development stipend, which Erturk plans to use for developing new cell culture and tissue techniques.

A native of Turkey, Erturk joined the Converse faculty in 2006. Her hallmark approach to teaching is creating an environment in which students take an active role in the learning process. She is known for structuring her courses so that students with a wide variety of learning styles and backgrounds master both the content and the theoretical approach central to each course. She has been active in securing grants that bring the best equipment and resources to the undergraduate classroom and has sponsored several SCICU-funded student research grants.

President Betsy Fleming praised Erturk’s contributions to the College, stating “Dr. Erturk combines research and teaching in a way that fosters creativity in science—the signature of a Converse education.” Dr. Jeffrey Barker, Vice President for Academic Affairs added, “Neval Erturk has the energy and devotion to students so important in a successful teacher.”

Erturk’s research interest focuses on investigation of the effects of environmental pollutants at the cellular and genetic levels.



CONVERSE GOES "GREEN"

Converse is pursuing several new initiatives to become a more responsible steward of our environment, aiming to lead by example and to take steps demonstrating a solid commitment to the environment.

Kuhn Hall is in the midst of a renovation project that will transform it into a sustainable green building with LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification. The transformation began in May and will be complete in June 2009. Environmentally friendly components of the project include a new heating and air conditioning system, an energy efficient lighting system, a new waste disposal structure and interior finishes. According to Susan Stevenson, Vice President for Finance and Administration, the energy efficient heating and air conditioning system costs slightly more than other HVAC systems on the market but Converse will soon recoup all extra expense in the form of energy bill savings. Project architects have closely followed LEED requirements, which is critical to the certification process as Converse must receive independent third-party verification that the project meets the highest performance standards.

A comprehensive recycling program emphasizing education and the reuse of plastic, aluminum, cardboard and paper was launched this spring. The program



Converse on the Forefront at Regional Biology Conference

From conference planning to presenting collaborative and independent research, and from serving as session facilitators to hosting a conference luncheon featuring Women in Science, Converse made its mark at the recent Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB) conference held in Spartanburg. The annual conference drew more than 600 researchers and scientists from throughout the region and beyond.

Converse research presentations included:

- Converse senior Christine Hendershott of Knoxville, Tennessee and William Stone of Quillen College of Medicine (East Tennessee State University) presented a paper entitled "Alpha-Tocopheryl Succinate, a Vitamin E Derivative, Inhibits the Growth of LNCaP Cells, a Prostate Cancer Line."
- Seniors Dalene Prouty of Ruther Glen, Virginia; Megan Burdette of Easley, South Carolina; and Belda Thomas of Greer, South Carolina teamed with Converse biology professor Dr. Neval Erturk and psychology professor Dr. Richard Keen to present a paper entitled "Effects of Caffeine on Temporal Perception."

- Junior Kim Shorter of Sumter, South Carolina collaborated with Dr. Erturk for a paper presentation entitled "An Investigation of the Genotoxic Effects of the Pesticide Carbaryl."
- Biology professor Dr. Douglas Jensen presented research entitled "Floristic Diversity within the Upper Cretaceous Middendorf Beds of Eastern South Carolina," which he conducted with Brittney Ogez '07, who is now studying at the University of Oklahoma.

Converse biology department faculty were actively involved in providing key leadership on a number of fronts, including the coordination of a Women in Science luncheon. The event was sponsored by Dr. Karen DeVore '84 and featured Dr. Melissa Walker, George Dean Johnson, Jr. Professor of History and the 2007 South Carolina Professor of the Year, who spoke on "Research is a Passion With Me: Three Pioneer Women Scientists." An opinion piece authored by Walker entitled "Some of the Best Science Minds Belong to Women" was published in the Spartanburg *Herald-Journal* on opening day of the conference.

Throughout the conference, seniors Baye Williamson of Kingsport, Tennessee; Ashley Carry of Amarillo, Texas; and Kristina Blanchard of Columbia, South Carolina gathered data for a project studying gender biases in the scientific community.

was made possible by a grant from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Witney Fisher, Assistant Director of Residential Life and leader of the program's educational component, said, "Our effort is highly dependent upon student involvement. We have a student recycling contact on each residence hall floor. Some students have said that it was not easy for them to recycle in their homes so they are excited to now be a part of an initiative to help take care of the environment." Fisher has also been working closely with the Converse student-led group WISE (Women Involved for a Safer Environment) to educate the campus community about the recycling effort. The program will expand to include bins in academic and administrative buildings.

Converse community members have become an active voice in the Spartanburg Intercollegiate Green Alliance to explore partnership opportunities for earth-friendly endeavors. The organization formed in March and has focused on campus and community-related events supporting the Earth Day Spartanburg 2008 Campaign. The coalition is comprised of members from Converse, Wofford College, Spartanburg Community College and Spartanburg Methodist College. Each institution has hosted forums on topics such as food and nutrition, air and water quality, land use, recycling and waste management.

The College is partnering with Sodexo, Inc., management company for Converse's dining services, to use earth-friendly disposable products and purchase produce from local farmers of the Carolinas. As part of the sustainable agriculture movement, Sodexo buys all produce from farmers in the Carolinas and secures as many USDA certified organically grown products as possible. The staff has also planted an herb garden on campus for use in cooking.

Sodexo is working in concert with the College's recycling program by using earth-friendly disposable products like unbleached napkins, paper cups made of 20% post consumer waste, and compostable cardboard trays. Students can purchase reusable "to go" mugs to further minimize waste, with a percentage of each sale supporting the National Wildlife Fund. The project includes a composting initiative for various food waste products and even used coffee grounds. "Coffee grounds are an excellent resource for re-nourishing soil," Dining Manager Jolene Earnhardt explains. "The grounds we use here in the dining hall are saved and distributed for use on campus and to folks for their personal gardens."



(clockwise from top left) Converse Biology Professor Dr. Neval Erturk, Christine Hendershott '08, Claiborne Fant '08, Biology Professor Dr. Edna Steele and Dean Emerita and Associate Professor Emerita of Biology Joe Ann Lever.



Katharine Slemenda '66 Retires after Thirty-Year Career at Converse

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Katharine Stephens Slemenda '66 clearly recalls the first time she first saw the Converse campus. "I knew that I wanted to attend a women's college. My parents took me on a tour of colleges in the Carolinas and Virginia, but by the time we made it to Spartanburg, I was sick, so we just drove around the campus. Somehow I knew this was where I wanted to be!"

After earning her BA in psychology and deaf education, Slemenda taught fourth grade at the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Connecticut. She returned to the Southeast in 1969 and began teaching students who were deaf and hard of hearing in the DeKalb County (Atlanta) Hearing Impaired Program. While teaching in DeKalb, she worked towards her MEd in Deaf Education at Georgia State University, a degree she completed in 1972.

Slemenda continued teaching in DeKalb until 1978 when Converse came calling with the offer of Instructor of Deaf Education. Since returning "home," she has mentored well over two hundred deaf/hard of hearing (D/HH) majors who are now working in classrooms throughout the country.



Slemenda's many accolades include

- Kathryn Amelia Brown Award for Excellence in Teaching, Converse College
- VIP Award, South Carolina Council for Exceptional Children
- Co-Director of a \$1.2 million federal grant, "Join Together: A Nationwide On-Line Community of Practice and Professional Development School Dedicated to Instructional Effectiveness and Academic Excellence within Deaf/Hard of Hearing Education"
- Southeast Regional Director for a federal grant to encourage the use of instructional technology with students who are deaf and hard of hearing
- Director and founder of TRIAD (Together: Reaching In All Directions), a professional development school partnership with the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind and the Spartanburg County Hearing Impaired Program
- Distinguished Service Award, National Society to Prevent Blindness

Converse Accomplishments

Faculty and Student Accomplishments

Professor **Andrew Blanchard**, Assistant Professor of Printmaking and Photography, exhibited works in *Unrefined Light: Image-Making with Plastic Cameras and their Friends* (St. Charles, Missouri) and in the 19th National Drawing and Print Exhibition (Baltimore, Maryland). His solo exhibitions include *Agree to Disagree* (Oxford, Mississippi) and *Spartan'scapes* (Spartanburg South Carolina). He has been accepted into the 2008 Pacific States Biennial National Print Exhibition (University of Hawaii).



Andrew Blanchard, *Spartan'scapes* exhibition

Dr. Amy Cox, Assistant Professor of Marketing, and **Dr. Madelyn Young**, Associate Professor of Economics, "The Mind Reels: The Economic and Consumer Behavior Milieu of Breakfast at Tiffany's" during the 2008 Joint Conference of the National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.

Dr. Kevin DeLapp, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Ideas and Culture Program, is one of twenty-three faculty members from across the country to be selected to participate in the Council of Independent Colleges/Harvard University Center for Hellenic Studies Homer and Hesiod Seminar at Harvard.

Dr. Mirko Hall, Assistant Professor of German, presented a paper on German post-punk culture entitled "1968/1980: Rip, Mix, and Burn!" at the annual conference of the German Studies Association. His co-authored article on the cultural politics of the iPod, "Stick It In Your Ear: The Psychodynamics of iPod Enjoyment," has been accepted for publication in *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*.

Dr. Anne Lipe, Assistant Professor of Music Therapy, presented "Music Therapy in a Non-Violence Educational Program in the Occupied Palestinian Territories" at the Mid-Atlantic Region American Music Therapy Association Conference, describing her 2007 experience in Ramallah.

Professor **Rick Mulkey**, Associate Professor and Director of Creative Writing, was a featured writer at Michigan State University's Center for Poetry. His book, *Toward and Darkness*, has been nominated for the Weatherford Award.

A review by **Dr. Erin Templeton**, Assistant Professor of English, of "Wisdom of Two: The Spiritual and Literary Collaboration of George and W. B. Yeats" by Margaret Mills Harper will be published in Women's Studies.

Professor **Rebecca Turner**, Associate Professor of Voice, presented a guest recital, a master class and voice lessons at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois. She spearheaded the collaboration between Converse and the Chapman Cultural Center that led to two February performances by the Converse Opera Theatre of Little Red Riding Hood for hundreds of Spartanburg schoolchildren.

Student and Alumnae Accomplishments

Amanda Burgess '06 earned the top award in the 2008 Hub City Creative Writing Contest.

Wael Farouk '06 performed the Rachmaninoff 3rd Piano Concerto with the Manhattan School of Music Symphony in New York City, having won their concerto competition last year.

Sarah Finley '08 is one of only four undergraduates invited to present work on Octavio Paz during the spring at the 11th Annual Ohio State University Symposium on Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, a national conference. She was accepted into the Master of Arts in music composition program at the Universidad de Chile.

Martha Miller '08 was the only recipient from a South Carolina college of an AWP (Association of Writers and Writing Programs) Intro Prize, a national prize competition conducted by the AWP.

Anusa Thapa '09 has been accepted to the Mayo Clinic's prestigious immunology summer research program.

Commencement Awards

1. **Megan Elizabeth Brown '08** earned the Elford C. Morgan Award for having the highest academic record in the College of Arts and Sciences at Converse.

2. **Dr. Richard Keen**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, was awarded the O'Herron Award for Faculty Excellence.

3. **Rick Mulkey** and **Susan Tekulve**, Associate Professors in the Converse English Department, were named winners of the 2008 Scholarly and Creative Achievement Award.

4-5. Spartanburg community member and Hub-Bub Executive Director **Betsy Wakefield Teter** and **Yosabeth Zewde Weldemedhin '08** were both awarded Mary Mildred Sullivan Awards for their contributions to community service and to the cultural life of Spartanburg.



6. **Susan Renee Wines '08** was presented with the Pi Kappa Lambda Award, which is given to the senior with the highest academic record in the Petrie School of Music.

7. **Dr. Edward Woodfin**, Assistant Professor of History, was honored with the Kathyryne Amelia Brown Award for excellence in teaching.

The Psychology Department faculty was collectively recognized with the Curriculum Innovation Award. The department includes **Drs. William M. Baker, Monica McCoy, Janet R. LeFrancois** and **Richard Keen**.

Dear Fellow Alumnae,

In case you haven't noticed, the buzz around Converse these days is "creative minds." Converse has a tradition of creativity and innovation that reaches all the way back to 1889 when Spartanburg's community leaders acted on their vision to establish a college to enable young women to "see clearly, decide wisely, and act justly." I'm happy to say creative minds are still thriving in abundance at Converse today! Wouldn't our founders be delighted to see how their dream has progressed and prospered through the years?



Over the last century, Converse creative minds – faculty, staff, students, and alumnae – have helped students meet the challenges of the day, whether dealing with the Great Depression or world wars, getting Miss Gee's approval of one's date, or choosing a major and career path. Whatever the challenges, big or small, Converse women have always stepped up to the plate and met them head on.

Our alma mater has taken on the exciting challenge to become known as a center for creativity and innovation. We as alumnae can support this vision by participating in student recruitment and annual giving. Help us spread the word about Converse to today's young women:

- Send names and addresses of young ladies in your community to the Admissions Office, who will in turn make sure they hear all about the great opportunities awaiting them at Converse. We like to know about them as early as 9th grade.
- Tell talented young women about your great experiences at Converse.
- Bring these young ladies to campus to visit. So often, once a prospective student sees our students in action she's hooked!

Regarding annual giving, I challenge you to contribute to the Converse Annual Fund *annually!* **Please know that all gifts are needed and appreciated regardless of dollar amount.** Major donors and foundations often look to see what percentage of an institution's alumnae base contributes

to the annual fund as they evaluate their willingness to provide support. The higher the percentage, the greater the likelihood that funding will be awarded. We can all help Converse increase her chances to receive these gifts, which would in turn decrease her dependence on the Annual Fund—a rather nice scenario!

Finally, I'm delighted to report to you from first-hand experience that Converse is under the very capable leadership of a most creative young woman. Betsy Fleming has embraced the traditions at Converse while recognizing that we need to be innovative in attracting and nurturing students once they're here. She has engaged faculty, staff, students, alumnae and Converse friends in her efforts to insure Converse is a premier choice for women's higher education. When she is in your community I urge you to take the opportunity to meet her—you won't be disappointed!

Now let's get creative about recruiting students. And please send your gift to the annual fund if you haven't already done so. *THANK YOU!*

Warmly,

Nancy Babin Coté '79

ALUMNAE EVENTS



January 16, 2008
Rock Hill, NC chocolate, champagne and music, in the home of Martin and Harriet "Sister" Marshall Goode '59, co-hosted with Toy and Grazier Connors Rhea '74.



January 30, 2008
Jacksonville, FL cocktail party, home of Billy and Beth Uible Morris '81.

Travel with Converse

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

Travel Contact: Jane Marion Wilson '04, Director of Alumnae
E-mail: jane.wilson@converse.edu
Phone: (864) 596-9055



CHINA AND THE YANGTZE RIVER DISCOVERY

October 22-November 3, 2008

Approximately \$2,395 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy.

In Beijing, visit the ornate Forbidden City palace complex, the Temple of Heaven and the royal Summer Palace. Explore the narrow streets of the Hutongs and massive Tiananmen Square. Admire beautiful countryside from the Great Wall. Discover Xi'an, home to the Small Wild Goose Pagoda and famous Terra Cotta Warriors that guard Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi's tomb. Board the M.V. Yangtze President in Chongqing, and cruise the Yangtze River to Fengdu. Sail through the magnificent Three Gorges region before disembarking in Yichang to explore Sanyou Cave. Finally, arrive in Shanghai, and experience the Bund, the prestigious Shanghai Museum and the serene Yu Garden. An optional excursion to the lovely town of Suzhou is also available. Take advantage of the exceptional value of this unique travel opportunity!



Scotland

August 9-18, 2009

Approximately \$2,695 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy.

Walk in the footsteps of William Wallace and Prince Charles Edward Stuart on this adventure showcasing the stunning countryside and fascinating history of Scotland! From Oban, travel to the Isle of Mull and its 13th-century Duart Castle. Visit the Isle of Skye's Armadale Castle to learn about ancient Gaelic life, and enjoy a drive through the scenic Highlands. Admire the charm of the Slate Islands, and journey through The Trossachs to view the "bonnie banks of Loch Lomond." See the stately castle in Stirling and the monument to William Wallace, then venture into the surrounding area with excursions to St. Andrews, the Home of Golf, and the important port city Dundee. Conclude your discovery of Scottish history and culture with an excursion to Edinburgh.



SOUTH AFRICA ESCAPADE

October 26-November 4, 2009

Approximately \$2,895 per person, plus airfare and V.A.T., based on double occupancy.

From cosmopolitan cities to tide-swept beaches to bushveld savannahs, South Africa is a fascinating study in contrasts. This special travel program offers the perfect balance between planned excursions and independent exploration during visits to Cape Town and world-renowned Kruger National Park. Discover Cape Town's bustling waterfront and ascend lofty Table Mountain for superb panoramic views. Admire distinctive flora and exotic wildlife during amazing game viewing drives. Optional excursions journey to the region's wine country, the famous prison on Robben Island and the beauty of Cape Peninsula National Park. You'll stay in First-Class accommodations at each destination and enjoy every modern comfort as you explore the intrigue of South Africa!



Reunion 2008



1



3



2



4



9



5



8



7



6

Pictures clockwise:
 The Golden Club Luncheon, Class of 1958 - 1
 Alumnae Awards Luncheon - 2
 Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn - 3
 Class of 2007 Spirit Rock - 4
 Professor Andrew Blanchard Leads Alumnae Silkscreen Workshop - 5
 Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn - 6
 Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn - 7
 Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn - 8
 Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn - 9

Mark your calendar

Reunion Weekend

April 24-25, 2009

Our First

Converse Tarpon Sharks and
Dance Ensemble Reunion



Pictures clockwise:

- 1 - Parade of Classes
- 2 - Dr. Joe Dunn Leads Model Arab League Demonstration for Alumnae
- 3 - Parade of Classes
- 4 - Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn
- 5 - Reunion Cocktails and BBQ on Phifer Back Lawn
- 6 - John James, Campus Technology Director, Teaches Alumnae PowerPoint Class



REUNION2008

HONOR and MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following honor and memorial gifts were received December 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008.

HONOR GIFTS

- JESSICA LYNN ATHERTON 2007
Mrs. Louise Turner Atherton '51
- MR. AND MRS. FRANCES BALDWIN
Dr. Jennifer Cole Jones '92
- SANDRA WILKERSON BANKS '71
Ms. Candace Colquitt '71
- WILLIAM BARNET III
Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Kenneth T. Huggins
- MARTHA PAXTON BEALE '49
Ms. Margaret R. Beale
- DENA STONE BENEDICT '82
Mrs. Joanna B. Stone
- ANDREW M. BLANCHARD
Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Arnett
- SHANNON BRADLEY BROWN '93
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- DR. KAREN CARMAN
Miss Nicolette Leia Castle 2006
- SALLY HARMON CAUGHMAN '68
Mrs. Gelene Duncan Ellsworth '63
- ANN RODGERS TOMLINSON CHANDLER '75
Mrs. Lee Hicks Nunn '77
- CLASS OF 1953
Mrs. Barbara Helms Cook '53
- CLASS OF 1958
Mrs. Elizabeth Richardson Cathcart '58
Mrs. Mary Jane May Woodward '58
- PAMELA TREECE COFFEY '65
Ms. Elvy Talley Bryan '67
- VICTORIA TALLEY COLEBANK '64
Ms. Elvy Talley Bryan '67
- GAY SIMMONS COLYER '73
Mrs. Debbie Christiansen Anderson '77
- MRS. JOY A. COUCH
Ms. Catherine Culler Inabnit '68
- MARISUE COX '91
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- DICKSIE BROWN CRIBB '46
Mrs. Ann Schumpert Foster '83
- BRIANNE CROSS 2008
Ms. Mary Wiemar Cross and Mr. Mike Miller
- ROBERTA TIMMONS DANIEL '71
Mrs. Mary Myatt Bowman '70
- JANIS I. DENGLER
Ms. Sydney C. Harris
Dr. Martha E. Rogers
- ANNE M. EBERSBACH
Ms. F. Rachel Ruff
- SARAH LEVI FREEMAN
Mrs. Camille Levi Luscher '73
- JANE ROLANDI GRAY
Dr. Jennifer Cole Jones '92
- CYNTHIA B. GREER
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- KATHRYN ALANE GRIST 2007
Dr. and Mrs. Dana A. Grist
- ELLEN WOOD HALL
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- SARAH JOHNSON HARTUNG '95
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- ANN RATTERREE HERLONG '51
Ms. Sara Everett Herlong '81
- DR. GEORGE TRUETT HOLLIS '50
Ms. Betty Hollis
Mr. J. Thomas Hollis
Mr. Myers Hollis
Mr. Richard Hollis
- CATHERINE C. INABNIT '68
Mrs. Emily Horton Wood '68
- BARBARA BEDENBAUGH JEFFORDS '50
Dr. Joseph Vernon Jeffords
- ELIZABETH THOMAS JOHNSON '78
Mrs. Lee Hicks Nunn '77
- GEORGE DEAN JOHNSON, JR.
Ms. Adair Phifer Crute '88
Ms. Wallace Eppes Johnson '63
- SUSAN PHIFER JOHNSON '65
Ms. Anne Wing Coffey '65
Ms. Adair Phifer Crute '88
Ms. Wallace Eppes Johnson '63
- DR. AND MRS. FRED JONES
Dr. Jennifer Cole Jones '92
- VIRGINIA ROUSE KLEBAU
Ms. Virginia Gail Rouse '55
- KATHLEEN TOY KNOWLES '93
Ms. Jan Carter Bridges '93
- DAISY BREANNE LAWSON
Mrs. Phyllis Ann Lawson 2003
- PEGGY BRADFORD LONG '49
Mr. George W. Long
- ANN DAVIDSON MARION '47
Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm L. Marion III
- MARY CRAIG HARRIS MCDANIEL '65
Mrs. Mary McDaniel Ridgeway '90
- LAURA ORR MEDLOCK '67
Ms. Virginia DeArmon Orr '98
- BETTY JAMES MONTGOMERY '72
Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Kenneth T. Huggins
- WALTER S. MONTGOMERY, JR.
Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Kenneth T. Huggins
- ISABELLA J. MOORE
Ms. Erica Patrice Moore '93
- HARRIET WILSON NEWTON '77
Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott Wilson
- RUTHLEE PHILLIPS ORR '62
Ms. Virginia DeArmon Orr '98
- LINDA FRIERSON PERROW '81
Dr. Henry Franklin Frierson
- LAURA NANCE PICKENS
Mrs. Melissa Henderson Pickens '95
- JANE WINN POLLITZER '53
Mrs. Laura Pollitzer Freeman
Mrs. Cathy Pollitzer Groome
Mrs. Mary Pollitzer Stewart
- DR. AND MRS. ROBERT W. POWELL, JR.
Mrs. Joe Ann Lever
- DR. ROBERT W. POWELL, JR.
Ms. Shayna R. Abrams '91
Mrs. Rosemary Boyer Andrews '73
Mrs. Cecilia France Arthur '79
Mrs. Palmer Davison Ball '84
- Mrs. Nancy Bow Bane '71 MAT
Ms. Barbara J. Barnes and Mr. Terry Mitchell
Mr. Gary Robert Bordogna '84 MEd
Mrs. Cathy F. Boss
Ms. Elvy Talley Bryan '67
Dr. L. H. Buff, Jr.
Mrs. Elizabeth Shores Carter '52
Mr. and Mrs. Ty J. Cheek
Dr. Joanna Parris Clancy '83
Dr. Erika Wicker Clark 2001
Mrs. Holly Rodgers Clark '90
The Rev. Marion W. Clark
Mrs. Jenita B. Coggins
Mrs. Joanne Gilmer Cole '68
Dr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Cooke
The Rev. and Mrs. Harold P. Cooper
Mr. James R. Corbin, Sr.
Dr. Leslie Townsend Cottrell '81
Dr. C. Edward Davidson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Dorse G. Davis
Mrs. Mary Tuller Davis '69
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Doyle
Dr. Amy Emmers
Mrs. Donna Pallassino Evans '97
Ms. Marjorie F. Franklin
Mrs. Catharine Williams Frerichs '92
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Gast
Mrs. Perry Russell Gilreath '65
Mrs. Elizabeth Moore Glenn '76
Dr. Elizabeth M. Thompson and Dr. Gregg J. Gold
Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Gooding
Mrs. Elsie V. Greer
Mrs. Pamela Ellis Hall '77
Mrs. Betty Arthur Hardaway '71
Mr. Philip G. Harris
Dr. John M. Herr, Jr.
Mrs. Sarah Haley Hixon '69
Ms. Beth A. Hudson
Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hudson
Mrs. Gail Rawls Jeter '77
Ms. Susannah Evelyn Johnson 2002
Ms. Lynn Nahra Joseph '65
Mrs. Ann Hudgens Karegeannes '56
Mrs. Dorrie Duke Keller '68
Mrs. Elizabeth Topp Klammer '80
Miss Beth Krone
Dr. and Mrs. Hans Kuhn
Mrs. Harriett C. Lazzo
Mr. and Mrs. Larry R. Loudermilk
Dr. Martha T. Lovett
Mrs. Ann Pond Lupton '88
Dr. Clara Childs Mackenzie '51
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Sanford McHam
Miss Mary Graham McMillan '69
Mr. and Mrs. Albert T. McRae
Mrs. Carey Dancho Merriweather '99
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Mitchell
Ms. Carlton M. Mullinax '80 MEd
Mrs. Mary Ann Myers '88 MEd
Mr. and Mrs. Dale T. Ogden

Mrs. Fanya Couchell Paouris '68
 Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Gibbes Patton
 Miss Leigh A. Powell
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven G. Powell
 Mrs. Leslie Clark Randolph '68
 Mrs. Anne Davis Ratliff '50
 Mr. and Mrs. Don D. Ratzlaff
 Mrs. Christina Baker Reeves 2000
 Mr. and Mrs. Furman D. Rogers
 The Rev. and Mrs. James P. Rush
 Mr. and Mrs. John C. Sansom
 Mr. and Mrs. Mark S. Seager
 Ms. Arla Shealy '91 MED
 Mrs. Georgia Sherard '81 EdS
 Mrs. Joyce Burrell Smith '76
 Mr. and Mrs. Craig J. Sonksen
 Dr. George M. Speed
 Mr. and Mrs. Garrett A. Spencer
 Mr. and Mrs. John L. Steele, Jr.
 Mrs. Dorothy G. Stephens
 Mrs. Olynda B. Stretcher
 Dr. and Mrs. Roy W. Tucker
 Dr. Malinda Maxfield Tulloh and Mr. Charles Tulloh
 Dr. Nina Zouck Waite '68
 Mr. and Mrs. Walter Weiss
 Dr. Christine E. White '99
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger H. Wieland
 Dr. and Mrs. Eugene G. Wollaston
 Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Wright
 Mrs. Susan Beckham Zurenda '77
 MARY HOLLINGSWORTH MCDANIEL RIDGEWAY '90
 Dr. and Mrs. W. Jason McDaniel, Jr.
 (Craig Harris '65)
 DR. MARTHA ELAINE ROGERS
 Mrs. Joe Ann Lever
 DR. AND MRS. MARCH EDINGS SEABROOK
 (Anne Richardson '72)
 The Way Group
 VEDA AND JAMES SHERARD
 Mrs. Sandra Sherard Bethea '67
 MARGERIE TOOLE SMOAK '40
 Ms. Catherine Eirvin
 JOSEPHINE RUDOLPH STOKES '77
 Mrs. Alanna Ivey Wildman '71
 ERICKA SHAY TYNER 2002
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Tyner
 PERRY TISON WILSON '78
 Mrs. Martha Haslett Ladd '78

MEMORIAL GIFTS

ELIZABETH WEICHEL BAIRD '80
 Mrs. Cecile Stewart Bone '80
 Mrs. Margaret Key Cone '80
 Mrs. Alison Culp Cookson '80
 Mrs. Melanie MacMillan Glenn '80
 Mrs. Laura Satterwhite Hodge '80
 Mrs. Martha Beach Howard '80
 Ms. Elizabeth Hughes '80
 Mrs. Kate Swann Ivey '80
 Mrs. Ann Marion Lorenz '80
 Mrs. Sallie Turner Martin '80
 Mrs. Leigh Warren Mycoff '80
 Mrs. Lynn Johnson Salters '80
 Mrs. Virginia Williams Sanders '80

Mrs. Margaret Craig Schafer '80
 Mrs. Margaret Capers Spratlin '50
 Mrs. Betsy Gant Wittenmyer '80
 HARRIET SCHOFIELD BRYANT '65
 Ms. Margaret Clotfelter Allen '65
 Mrs. Caroline Beattie Bowen '65
 Mrs. Cathryn Holman Callahan '65
 Mrs. Virginia McKinney Jernigan '65
 Mrs. Nancy Daniel Mottern '65
 MARY HAYES CAMPBELL '72
 Mrs. Katherine Anthony DuBose '72
 REBECCA GILBERT CHANCELLOR '77
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 Mr. William F. Cornelius, Jr.
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 Dr. and Mrs. W. Jason McDaniel, Jr.
 (Craig Harris '65)
 TENNESSEE CALHOUN CRAWFORD '23
 Mrs. Martha Williams DeCaro '70
 CLARA BUCHAN CREIGHTON '44
 Mrs. Margaret Workman Hudson '44
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 Mr. and Mrs. McAllister Isaacs III
 LALLA LAFFITTE DALTON '42
 Mrs. Lalla Nimocks Overby '45
 BUTLER FREEMAN DARGAN '60
 Mrs. Freda Stokes Summers '60
 CORNELIA WATSON DASHER '65
 Mrs. David W. Pruett
 BYAH THOMASON DIXEY '48
 Mrs. Melissa Daves Johnson '69
 Mrs. Joe Ann Lever
 Ms. Karen Moore
 CHARLOTTE CAUSEY FRIERSON '51
 Dr. Henry Franklin Frierson
 JOSEPHINE DUNLAP GALLOWAY '51
 Mrs. Jocasta Chenault Mattes '51
 BELINDA FRANCES GAUNCE '95 MED
 Mrs. Elaine Gaunce Webb '94 MED
 JULIE HAMILTON '90
 Ms. Adele Claudette McLean '90
 MARY CRAIG HARRIS '34
 Mrs. Mary McDaniel Ridgeway '90
 DR. WALTER HESS
 Dr. Nina Zouck Waite '68
 FRANCES GARRETT HINSON '53
 CULP, Inc.
 Mrs. Janet Rawls DeLoache '76
 Mr. Roddey Dowd, Sr.
 Mrs. Lillian Lindsay Sachs '53
 Ms. Janet H. Wilson
 MS. NORA JACKSON
 Mrs. Laura Chappell Bauknight '87
 Mrs. Jane Harlan Beson '87
 Mrs. Donna Mason Burnside '87
 Mrs. Frances Kirkwood Graham '53
 MARY GRACE JOHNSON
 Mrs. Amanda Johnson Bass '72
 ELIZABETH COLLINS JOHNSTON '83
 Mrs. Elizabeth Lane Portwood '83
 ADA SMITH LANCASTER 1896
 Ms. F Rachel Ruff
 E. CLIFTON LANCASTER
 Ms. F Rachel Ruff

ELIZABETH MANSFIELD
 Mrs. Margaret Fulton Walker '45
 KATHERINE FAUST MCLAUGHLIN '22
 Mrs. Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56
 JAMES MOORE
 Ms. Erica Patrice Moore '93
 SHIRLEY MURRAY
 Mrs. Joe Ann Lever
 MATTIE LOU ANDERSON OLIVER 1910
 Mrs. Sara Oliver Henry '50
 MRS. MILDRED R. ORR
 Ms. Virginia DeArmon Orr '98
 GRACE MARTIN PHILLIPS '44
 Mr. Harry R. Phillips, Jr.
 LAURA NANCE MCCAUGHRIN PICKENS '35
 Mrs. Melissa Henderson Pickens '95
 HOLLY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON '78
 Mr. Phillip Richardson
 PAULINE COOK ROGERS
 Mrs. Frances Singleton Woodside '85
 RODEHEAVER HOMER ROGERS
 Mrs. Frances Singleton Woodside '85
 VIRGINIA ARIAIL ROUSE '27
 Ms. Virginia Gail Rouse '55
 DAVID BOMAR SMITH
 Mrs. Harriette S. Stogner
 Ms. Catherine Anderson Vann
 SUSAN FRANCE SPITLER '79
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. France
 JEAN KEARNS STANSILL '53
 Mrs. Rebecca Ramsaur Pennell '53
 Mrs. Lillian Lindsay Sachs '53
 DR. JOHN W. STEVENSON
 Mrs. Emily Horton Wood '68
 DR. HENRY O. STONE, JR.
 Mrs. Barbara Thomas Stone '60
 HOLLY BENISEK SUCIC '93
 Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Benisek
 SALLY SPENCER SWORD '63
 Mrs. Rhetta Fair Wilson '63
 JAMES H. AND PAULINE J. TOY
 Ms. Amelia Toy Rudolph
 MALINDA ANN TRAPHAGAN '87
 Mrs. Jane Harlan Beson '87
 NANCY NEELY BENNETT TUCKER
 Dr. and Mrs. Boo Heflin
 Mrs. Sue Mashburn Houston '92
 The Harnisch Family Foundation
 ANNE JACKSON VANDIVER '39
 Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
 (Susan Phifer '65)
 ELIZABETH HUBBARD WAKEFIELD '50
 Mr. and Mrs. Augustus T. Allen
 Mr. and Mrs. Cecil M. Amick, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Babb
 Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Baker
 (Paula Black '64)
 Dr. and Mrs. R. Bruce Bass, Jr.
 Mr. John Bauknight
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bennett
 Dr. and Mrs. James E. Bradof
 Mr. Warren W. Braley, Jr.
 Mr. Walter M. Brice III
 Mr. and Mrs. William H. Burton
 (Lynne Webb '74)

Mrs. Marguerite M. Cates
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Coté
 (Nancy Bain '79)
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Cubitt
 (Dodie Magarahan '66)
 Mrs. Ann H. Dobbs '69 MAT
 Dr. and Mrs. Harold Fleming
 (Elizabeth Burnett '65)
 The Rev. and Mrs. David A. Fort
 Mrs. Nancy Brown Foster '55
 Mrs. Elaine T. Freeman
 Mr. J. Robert Freeman III
 Mr. and Mrs. William P. Gee
 Mr. and Mrs. Rex Gingerich and H.E. McGonigal, Inc.
 Mr. and Mrs. James H. Grier
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier
 (Dorothy Ormond '50)
 Mrs. Lucy Harper Grier
 Griffin Motor Co., Inc.
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger A. F. Habisreutinger
 Ms. Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
 Harry's Cadillac-Pontiac-GMC Co., Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hillsman
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Hollis
 (Max Barnard '51)
 Mrs. Gwendolyn T. Howell
 Hub City Writers Project and Hub City Board
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Willis Hudson
 Dr. and Mrs. David G. Ike
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Jackson
 Mrs. Melissa Daves Johnson '69
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones and Hampton Automotive
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Lawson
 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mabry
 Mr. and Mrs. William C. Mayrose
 Mr. E. George McCoin Jr.
 Mrs. Ellis Murphy
 Mr. and Mrs. William M. Parker
 Ms. Carolyn Duer Pennell '50
 Mrs. Rebecca Ramsaur Pennell '53
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Patterson Perrin
 Mr. Andrew N. Poliakoff
 Ms. Alix Refshauge
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Martin Reid

Mr. and Mrs. David B. Rogers
 Dr. and Mrs. Olin B. Sansbury, Jr.
 Ms. Virginia H. Scott
 Showalter & Associates
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron G. Smith
 Ms. Helen E. Soutter
 Ms. Julia H. Taylor
 Mr. and Mrs. Winston C. Taylor and W. C. Taylor, Inc.
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Teter
 Mrs. Linette G. Tillotson
 The Tome and Tare Garden Club
 Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Townsend
 Mrs. Elizabeth McCall Vandever '73
 Mr. J. William Wakefield, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Harrall Walker
 Mr. and Mrs. David Whisnant
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Lewis White
 Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow W. Willard, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Wynn III
 DORIS BLACKWELL WHITEHOUSE '42
 Mrs. Alice Barron Pearce Stewart '75

Son Honors Mother's Humanity with Scholarship

Reading correspondence from Peggy Bradford Long '49 is akin to reading *National Geographic*. From Pakistan, Peggy writes of riding horseback to a village to teach art to a local family. From South Korea, she writes solemnly of her love for that country and her "desire to let all of you see an image of this country beyond war scenes and miserable poverty."

Peggy traveled with her husband Rufus on his assignments for USAID (United States Agency for International Development). During their ventures, the Longs lived in faraway lands such as Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand and Yemen. While Rufus supplied financial advice to government officials, Peggy was faithful in spreading knowledge about art and music to area residents in schools and in one-on-one sessions. Her artwork is of such sophistication that the US Peace Corps in Yemen commissioned her to create a mural in advance of a visit by then-Vice President George H.W. Bush.

To celebrate her rich life, Peggy's son, George, a financial analyst, has established the Peggy Bradford Long '49 Endowed Scholarship to provide financial assistance to Converse students majoring in art, biology or music.

"A few years ago I was thinking of a Christmas present for my mother," said George, a financial analyst in Hong Kong. "I well remembered her comments to me when I was growing up about how important education is and how important her Converse education was to her. I thought that a gift to Converse in honor of my mother would be the perfect legacy both to honor my mother and also to help a college student be able to attend Converse."



(clockwise from top left) Cathy Inabnit '68 (Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Converse), Kitty Peeler Carson '49, George Long, and Peggy Bradford Long '49 at Peggy's 80th birthday party in Washington, DC

LIFE EVENTS and CLASS NOTES

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

Send your news to the Class Representative(s) listed with your class. If your class has no representative listed, send news to the Alumnae Office, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC, 29302 (E-mail: nancy.gage@converse.edu). Class Representatives may submit notes for every issue of the magazine. Class Notes/Life Events includes information submitted to the Alumnae Office by May 15, 2008. Class Representatives are volunteers elected by their class and are responsible for the accuracy of their Life Events and Class Notes.

IN MEMORIAM

Carolyn ANDERSON McAbee, February 19, 2008
Miller Jeannette LYNCH Josey '22, March 7, 2008
Isabelle MORGAN Finn Curry '28, September 23, 2007
Mary CALLIS Place '29, February 29, 2008
Virginia HOEY Padgett '30, April 30, 2008
Emily DUPRE Beattie '36, January 21, 2008
Juanita GREENE Smith '36, April 9, 2008
Betty Gay COLTRANE Bivens '37, October 4, 2006
Alice Bickerton WINSTON Kean '37, November 29, 2004
Fay BAGWELL Chapman '39, January 7, 2008
Marie Marshall DAVIDSON '39, February 11, 2008
Genelle HARRILL Brown '39, November 15, 2007
Anne JACKSON Vandiver '39, November 23, 2007
Martha BRITT Bunn '40, February 19, 2008
Myrtle Lizzie GREENE Cornaby '41, November 28, 2006
Rebecca STONE Bishop '41, December 14, 2007
Barbara Boyne WYSE '41, March 31, 2008
Leighton ACREE Fauntleroy Tuthill '42, March 30, 2008
Johanna "Joan" Dorothea FINKLEA Ruffin '42, December 10, 2007
Helen HAMITER Bright '42, May 11, 2008
Susan PLOWDEN Strand '43, January 14, 2007
Clara BUCHAN Creighton '44, February 8, 2008
Mary Elizabeth EDINGTON Johnson '46, June 23, 2006
Joline WALLACE Carlisle '46, December 24, 2007
Byah THOMASON Doxey '48, March 8, 2008
Dorothy HANNA Van Sleen '49, February 6, 2005
Shirley MOORE Heinsohn '49, November 23, 2007
Charlotte POWE Bourne '49, February 16, 2008
Charlotte GOODLETT May '50, November 11, 2005
Elizabeth "Bette" HUBBARD Wakefield '50, February 20, 2008
Frances COLLIER Moore '51, March 1, 2008
Rosamond Mae AYCOCK Sanders '52, June 18, 2007
Sarah Elizabeth FLANARY McClellan '52, March 6, 2008
Rebekah EAGAN Clarke '53, November 10, 2007
Margaret "Jean" KEARNS Stansill '53, December 1, 2007
Margaret SUBER Price '53, February 23, 2007
Jane MERIWETHER Johnson '54, February 16, 2008
Martha WEBB Dale '56, February 29, 2008
Dorothy CROWE Johnson '57, June 25, 2006
Danya HARDWICK Yon '60, December 26, 2006
Carole Juanita JONES '60, May 14, 2008
Bonita "Sister" PADGETT McLaurin '60, May 18, 2008
Nancy Rosalind MCCULLOUGH Humphrey '61, March 19, 2008

Geraldine M. ADAMS '62, May 13, 2005
Vaughn HODNETT Thomas '63, March 20, 2008
Doris TEMPLETON Collins Fleming '63, March 4, 2005
Jane BLAKENEY Herlong '64, December 13, 2007
Janice HOUCK Eldridge '66, June 25, 2002
Sharon QUAVE Shipes '67, March 7, 2008
Edyce BRINKLEY Darr '68, July 11, 2005
Cheri Diane WILLIAMS '69, April 19, 2008
Carolyn Bloodworth KADINGO '70 MAT, July 9, 2007
Fairlyn NEWCOMB '72, February 5, 2008
Zarrin S. MOWLAVI '74, March 30, 2007
Grace GOSSETT Babb '75 MAT, January 26, 2004
Elizabeth WEICHEL Baird '80, November 20, 2007
Ann Story Fox SMITH '88 MED, April 25, 2008
Patricia Bollig SEYMOUR '89 MED, May 12, 2008
Linda Elizabeth SELF Wheeler '94, April 19, 2008
Vivian "Missy" Rowland TURNER '94 MED, December 16, 2007
Samuel Cothran ROGERS '95 MED, November 7, 2007
Kelly Anna CROWLEY '95, March 6, 2002
Joyce Jane SEKO '98 MED, February 10, 2008
Fred Larry JAMESON '06 MED, April 13, 2008
Calvin Dean SINGLETON '07 MED, December 9, 2007

SYMPATHY

Alice Todd ALDERSON '36 on the death of her sister, Frances Alderson Swope, February 28, 2008
Elise MCKEY Whitaker '39 on the death of her husband, William George Whitaker, Jr., April 6, 2008
Frances LEGGE Callahan '41 on the death of her husband, Paul M. Callahan, January 4, 2003
Adele BAROODY Kassab '43 on the death of her husband, John Kassab, July 15, 2002
Dorothy FRANCE Newcomer '43 on the death of her brother, Roy H. France, November 30, 2007
Margaret "Peggy" MCALISTER Sealy '43 on the death of her husband John B. Sealy, Jr., May 10, 2007
Allene BROYHILL Heilman '44 on the death of her husband, Robert Edson Heilman, November 26, 2007
Betty HAMITER Taylor '45 on the death of her sister, Helen HAMITER Bright '42, May 11, 2008
Lila DUPRE Donaldson '46 on the death of her sister, Emily DUPRE Beattie '36, January 21, 2008
Florine FRANCE Lyles '47 on the death of her brother, Thomas Norris France, March 7, 2008
Josephine MANSFIELD McGuire '47 on the death of her sister, Elizabeth Ravenel Mansfield, April 13, 2007

Marshall AIKEN Sturkie '48 on the death of her daughter, Gwendolyn Olivia Sturkie, December 6, 2005
Frances JACKSON Patton '48 on the death of her husband, Robert "Bob" H. Patton, September 3, 2006
Jane CARSON France '49 on the death of her husband, Thomas Norris France, March 7, 2008
Susan POWE Huggins '49 on the death of her sister, Charlotte POWE Bourne '49, February 16, 2008
Alice ACREE Clarke '50 on the death of her sister, Leighton ACREE Fauntleroy Tuthill '42, March 30, 2008
Elizabeth HARGETT Smith '52 on the death of her mother, Ridie Ward Parker Hargett Atkins, November 25, 2007
Phyllis TEASTER Petty '53 on the death of her mother, Lois Kirby Teaster, February 3, 2008
Mary Moore WANNAMAKER '54 on the death of her mother, Agnes Mitchell Perkins Wannamaker, March 26, 2008
Anne EDMUNDS McMaster '55 on the death of her husband, Fitz-John Creighton McMaster, January 14, 2008
Betty FINN Heard '55 on the death of her mother, Isabelle MORGAN Finn Curry '28, September 23, 2007
Jane BOLDING Crook '56 on the death of her husband, Joseph E. Crook, Sr., October 2, 2007
Patsy HALL Coggins '58 on the death of her husband, William Thomas Coggins, Jr., May 6, 2005
Elizabeth "Connie" GRATTAN Averitt '59 on the death of her husband, David Harrison "Hal" Averitt, April 26, 2006
Penny RAY Pickett '59 on the death of her mother Evelyn Moseley Ray, January 2008
Addie RAY Townes '59 on the death of her mother Evelyn Moseley Ray, January 2008
Sister WANNAMAKER Still '59 on the death of her mother, Agnes Mitchell Perkins Wannamaker, March 26, 2008
Ann CONNER Cox '61 on the death of her mother, Maudames C. Conner, January 6, 2008
Susan JACKSON Davenport '62 on the death of her mother, Nora Williams Jackson, February 25, 2008
Cecil LEWIS Caldwell '63 on the death of her husband Harold McMillan Bixby "Mac" Caldwell, November 11, 2007
Elinor BERGER Peek '64 on the death of her husband, George Roger Peek, August 12, 2007
Dorothy PRATT-THOMAS Leonard '64 on the death of her father, Harold Rawling Pratt-Thomas, March 29, 2008

- Anne KINNAIRD Ringham '65 on the death of her husband, William O. Ringham, July 29, 2007
- Marsha HOPKINS Monarchik '66 on the death of her mother, Sarah Sims Faw, February 24, 2008
- Adelaide REECE Small '66 on the death of her brother, Robert Henry Reece, May 16, 2007
- Muriel DAWSON Nepveux '67 on the death of her mother, Ada Gilchrist Dawson, May 13, 2008
- Christine "Chris" FISHER Sauls '67 on the death of her son, Morgan Louis Sauls IV, January 18, 2008
- Marsha SAMS Thrift '67 on the death of her daughter, Allyson Bonner Thrift, March 3, 2008
- Margaret "Cindy" ARCHIBALD Purcell '68 on the death of her mother, Ramona Archibald, December 8, 2007
- Dorrie DUKE Keller '68 on the death of her mother, Frances Sheftall Duke, March 25, 2008
- Ida ERVIN Whitehead '68 on the death of her sister, Margaret Ervin Parr, December 3, 2007
- Pamela JOHNSON Drummond '68 on the death of her mother, Mary Elizabeth EDINGTON Johnson '46, June 23, 2006
- Anne MCFADDIN Sauls '68 on the death of her step-son, Morgan Louis Sauls IV, January 18, 2008
- Jane MURRAY Hartley '68 on the death of her mother Shirley Maddox Murray, December 2, 2007
- Byah DOXEY McGee '70 on the death of her mother, Byah THOMASON Doxey '48, March 8, 2008
- Susan DUKES Webber '70 on the death of her mother, Margaret "Peggy" Crevensten Dukes, May 10, 2008
- Lynda "Smitty" SMITH Swann '70 on the death of her father, Edward Calvin Smith, July 18, 2007
- Madelon POUND Wallace '71 on the death of her mother Barbara M. Goldberg, November 12, 2007
- Cynthia CONKLIN Lambert '72 on the death of her father, Joseph Edward Conklin, December 30, 2007
- Kent DOXEY Rigsby '72 on the death of her mother, Byah THOMASON Doxey '48, March 8, 2008
- Ellamarie "Ree" HUDSON Garrett '72 on the death of her husband, Robert "Bob" I. Garrett, July 25, 2007
- Florence TWITTY '72 on the death of her mother, Florence Louise Carter Lerch Twitty, November 2, 2007
- Louise BUSH Watkins '73 on the death of her father, Robert Seaman Bush, May 26, 2007
- Paula SIGLER Morgan '73 on the death of her brother, Michael William Sigler, February 3, 2008
- Agnes ERVIN Asman '74 on the death of her sister, Margaret Ervin Parr, December 3, 2007
- Jane Carson FRANCE Richards '74 on the death of her father, Thomas Norris France, March 7, 2008
- Elizabeth HARRILL Willets '74 on the death of her father, Eugene T. Harrill, February 6, 2007, and on the death of her mother, Eleanor Harrill, October 26, 2007
- Nancy HICKS Irwin '74 on the death of her mother, Nancy Jo Thrower Hicks, May 14, 2008
- Dallas G. MABRY '75 on the death of her father, Woodford Jones Mabry, April 9, 2008
- Margaret DOXEY Hall '76 on the death of her mother, Byah THOMASON Doxey '48, March 8, 2008
- Barbara CONKLIN Taylor '77 on the death of her father, Joseph Edward Conklin, December 30, 2007
- Lelia FREEMAN Byars '79 on the death of her mother, Elizabeth Chachere Freeman, February 17, 2008.
- Annie "Sissy" CHILDS Ervin '80 on the death of her husband, Samuel James Ervin III, April 19, 2008
- Ellen MILLER Burnett '80 on the death of her sister, Carolyn Miller Clark, May 12, 2007
- Laura SHEARIN '80 on the death of her mother, Lois Inscoc Shearin, May 24, 2007
- Finn HOLT Fountain '82 on the death of her grandmother, Isabelle MORGAN Finn Curry '28, September 23, 2007
- Robin WICKS Robynall '82 on the death of her mother, Rozelle Royall Wicks, October 27, 2007
- Teresa SHUMAN Clements '85 on the death of her mother, Annette B. Shuman, October 29, 2007
- Pamela M. WOODS '85 on the death of her father, C. Rudolph Woods, December 22, 2007
- Nancy DAVENPORT '87 on the death of her grandmother, Nora Williams Jackson, February 25, 2008
- Lisa Cox JAMESON '91, '07 MEd on the death of her husband, Fred Larry Jameson '06 MEd, April 13, 2008
- Valerie SHUMAN Kitchenka '91 on the death of her mother, Annette B. Shuman, October 29, 2007
- Kancy TUCKER Cleveland '93 on the death of her mother, Nancy Neely Bennett Tucker, January 12, 2008
- Joan Marie HOFTIEZER '94 on the death of her father, Richard Alfred Hoftiezer, April 21, 2008
- Michelle THOMAS Butler '95 on the death of her mother, Paula King Easler, November 18, 2007
- Erin KLOSKEY Couchell '97 on the death of her mother, Lindy Mahaffey Kloskey, February 27, 2008
- Dana LUTTRELL Garner '00 on the death of her grandmother, Marthanelle Porter Luttrell, April 19, 2008
- Paige BUTLER McDowell '01 on the death of her mother, Kathie Wright Butler, September 16, 2007
- Kelly Marie CREIGHTON '02 on the death of her grandmother, Clara Buchan Creighton '44, February 8, 2008
- Vanese A. SCOTT '02 on the death of her grandmother, Mary L. Barr, May 2, 2007
- Elizabeth Holliday SMITH '02 on the death of her father, David Bomar Smith, January 30, 2008
- Stacy Lynn BATTLE '03 on the death of her grandfather, Herschel L. Battle, May 21, 2007

MARRIAGES

- Ellen Norwood BRADDY '71 to Thomas Joseph Owens, October 20, 2007
- Nancy Reynolds REID '72 to William Collyar Barksdale, Jr., August 25, 2007
- Amy GIBSON '77 to George E. N. "Buck" Montague II, June 2, 2007
- Kim WHITE O'Quinn '84 to Ronald L. Finney, Jr., April 14, 2007
- Joan ANDERSON Kirkpatrick '85 to Terry Ledbetter, August 3, 2007
- Mary Ellen HAILE '85 to James Carlisle Saxon, April 14, 2007
- Laura HOWARD '85 to William Sturgeon, September 15, 2007
- Teresa Jo COPPER '87 to Joseph Mark Black, July 21, 2007

- Kim Michele JACKSON '89 to Tim Cameron, December 8, 2007
- Shayna Abrams '91 to Brian Tatro, September 9, 2007
- Stacey Paige TEDDER '91 to George P. Runey, Jr. Ann Michele BYRD Smith '92 to James Melvin Owen, October 27, 2007
- Jennifer COLE Stephens '92 to Gordon Jones, November 22, 2007
- Harriette Cooper CHAPMAN '93 to Christopher Michael Ball, November 17, 2007
- Leigh Ann STEPHENS '93 to Brian Ward Daniel, August 25, 2007
- Mary Cameron CLECKLEY '95 to Brent Welborn, April 28, 2007
- Sarah Louise MEEKS '95 to Harris Robinson, February 2007
- Cecile C. BULLARD '96 to Robert B. Shaw, Jr. Angela COLLINS Villers '96 to Joseph Hughes, October 13, 2007
- Catherine STORY '96 to Aaron Joel Bost, June 23, 2007
- Katherine Banks TORBERT '96 to Kevin Troy, September 2006
- Meda Maria HUTCHINS '97 to Scott Eugene Baughman, October 6, 2007
- Carey Leigh USHER '97 to Bryan Everett Morse, February 2008
- Emily Elizabeth FLETCHER '98 to Patrick John Breinig, May 19, 2007
- Connie McCarley MARCIONETTE '99 to Charles Francis Hayes, July 27, 2007
- Tricia Natalie TULCHIN '99 to Brad Morse, April 20, 2008
- Caroline Clements BRICE '00 to Johbe King, January 26, 2008
- Dianna Layne CARLSON '00, '03 MAT to Alex Smith, August 8, 2007
- Emily Louise CLARK '00 to Stephen Jay Timon, December 15, 2007
- Emily EVANS '00 to Anthony Cox, April 14, 2007
- Elizabeth Force MOORE '00 to Joseph Millard Pearson III, April 5, 2008
- Cheryl Leigh NELSON '00 to J. Parker Ford, January 19, 2008
- Felica Lynn BAKER '01 to Paul Torres
- Robyn Lynn MOON '01 MEd to Burton Garnham Lee, November 3, 2007
- Shelby Tenneal CROSBY '02 to Jeremy Reus, November 20, 2004
- Erin Tracie JENNINGS '02 to Jonathan Martin, April 5, 2008
- Hayley Middleton JOLLEY '02 to Brandon Kennedy
- Carrie Leigh PAGE '02 to Nicholas Alexander Drake, December 29, 2007
- Caroline Simons AVERY '03 to Steven Lee Coy, December 29, 2007
- Sarah Elizabeth BOSWELL '03, '05 MAT, to Michael Woods Holmes, Jr., March 1, 2008
- Alison Rae HURLEY '03 to Chad Allen, April 5, 2008
- Erin Margaret VANDEVER '03 To Jonathan Kenneth Hall, March 29, 2008
- Shawna Nicole COWART '04 to Kevin Cannon Simmons, December 29, 2007
- Susan Stewart PETTY '04 to Brian Gregory Kern, March 24, 2008
- Ashante' Ann THOMPSON '04 to Walter Gilstrap, December 2, 2006
- Tarah Marie BODEM '05 to Greg Moore

Lindsey Shawn PARKER '05 to Jared Harper McCall, March 29, 2008
 Elizabeth Callard ROWLAND '05 to Matthew Darrell Allison, October 27, 2007
 Kimberly Nicole THURMOND '05 to Ben Cole Alverson, October 20, 2007
 Sara Margaret VOELKER '05 MAT to Matthew Henry West, December 15, 2007
 Melissa Ann MEYER '06 to Nicholas Fowler Hewitt, November 17, 2007
 Shalonda Rachele PALMER '06 to John-Thomas Aaron Meyer, March 8, 2008
 Hannah Morgan PAYNE '06 to Marty Thomas Brooks, December 15, 2007
 Lauren Elizabeth JOHNSON '07 to Wendell David Hindman, March 8, 2008
 Amy Elizabeth LINK '07 to Ryan Forgay, October 27, 2007

BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS

Jonathan, Sabrina, and Emily, adopted March 2008, son and daughters of John and Mildred RAGIS Roche '79
 Olivia May Zolar, January 25, 2008, daughter of Marc and Shannon MACNUTT Zolar '85
 Ramsey Andrew Lawter, September 27, 2007, son of Michael Lawter and Tania MCDUFFIE '89
 William McGinnis Frazier, February 8, 2008, son of Dale and Marsha MCGINNIS Frazier '89
 Aaron Salko, adopted January 13, 2008, son of Rick and Melissa CARLTON Salko '92
 Jackson Filer Waite, October 23, 2007, son of John and Tracie DOZIER Waite '92
 Roscoe William Fortier, March 18, 2008, son of Patrick and Annemarie SHEEHAN Fortier '92
 Virginia Anne Delaney, March 13, 2008, daughter of Ryan and Julie MCCOLLOUGH Delaney '93
 Blaire Kennerly, August 15, 2007, daughter of Brian and Holle O'KELLEY Kennerly '93
 Ava Claire Hirschl, February 12, 2008, daughter of Richard and Nancy ROGERS Hirschl '93
 Seren Elizabeth Dornsmith, July 2, 2007, daughter of Eddie and Suzanne SMITH Dornsmith '93
 Lane Elizabeth Caldwell, February 28, 2007, daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth WATSON Caldwell '93
 Olivia Rose Glick, April 19, 2007, daughter of Jack and Heather PIERCE Glick '94
 Hallie Grace Randall, September 27, 2005, daughter of Jason and Ashley SMITH Randall '94
 Wellseley Forrest Robinson, March 7, 2008, son of Harris and Sarah MEEKS Robinson '95
 Kathryn Young Hildreth, September 4, 2007, daughter of Brad and Lynn SARI Hildreth '95
 Jackson Harris Klinker, February 28, 2008, son of Matt and Kerri SHINN Klinker '95
 Katherine Anne Chase, April 18, 2007, daughter of David and Emmie SWIFT Chase '95
 Noah Wesley Butler, November 2, 2007, son of Tommy and Michelle THOMAS Butler '95
 Hollis Louise Serson, February 23, 2007, daughter of Taylor and Cindy WILLIMON Serson '95
 Mary Claire Benedict Huff, October 3, 2007, daughter of Will and Claire Marie BENEDICT Huff '96
 Thomas Mark Coleman, Jr., November 15, 2007, son of Mark and Carrie HILL Coleman '96
 Gavin James Bost, March 15, 2008, son of Aaron and Catherine STORY Bost '96
 Gabrielle Julia Smith, July 11, 2007, daughter of

Travis and Ellen THOMPSON Smith '96
 Arthur McShane Troy, June 15, 2007, son of Kevin and Katherine TORBERT Troy '96
 Daniella Aleecia Brown, June 29, 2007, daughter of Alfonzo and Denia BOMAR Brown '97
 Glenn Bennett Reese, October 12, 2007, son of Glenn and Jennifer COGGINS Reese '97
 Brynn Alexis Bendig, January 27, 2008, daughter of Dave and Dawne COPELAND Bendig '97
 Elizabeth Leigh Couchell, April 28, 2007, daughter of Chris and Erin KLOSKEY Couchell '97
 Mills Caroline Merck, February 1, 2007, daughter of Blandin and Lori MILLS Merck '97
 McKenna Rose Evans, September 29, 2007, daughter of Dan and Donna PALLASSINO Evans '97
 Brody Hart Scott, February 14, 2008, son of Tim Scott and Charity ROLLINS-Scott '97
 Drury James Darby, Jr., May 18, 2007, son of Drury and Shannon SMITH Darby '97
 Henry Michael Herlong IV, November 14, 2007, son of Michael and Kellie WALKER Herlong '97
 Robert Emerson Woodard, April 20, 2008, son of Brian and Leann BEAVER Woodard '98
 Mary Ella Bullington, March 26, 2008, daughter of Ashley and Lynsey CARMICHAEL Bullington '98
 Emma Grace Dailey, February 20, 2006, daughter of Brian and Leigh-Ann EZELL Dailey '98
 Eliana Michelle Champney, November 6, 2007, daughter of Greg and Heather GODSEY Champney '98
 Ellison Claire Sellers, February 14, 2008, daughter of Brandon and Connie REEVES Sellers '98
 Skyler Miles Edwards, April 15, 2008, son of Steven and Lori RICHARDS Edwards '98
 Sarah Logan Burbage, April 11, 2008, daughter of Jason and Christina WILLINGHAM Burbage '98
 Evans Cordell Taylor and Marie Wood Taylor, December 29, 2007, son and daughter (twins) of David and Winn FAULKNER Taylor '99
 Justin Samuel Hughes, November 18, 2007, son of Russell and Christy SLAVOVSKY Hughes '99
 Emma Katherine Hart, November 7, 2007, daughter of Jake and Angie ACKERMANN Hart '00
 Carolina Elizabeth Keith, October 6, 2007, daughter of Chad and Audrey CHAVOUS Keith '00
 Catharine Campbell Easterling, October 25, 2007, daughter of Brad and Elizabeth Anne "EA" FULLER Easterling '00
 Milling Galloway, April 20, 2007, son of Clint and Lynn JAMES Galloway '00
 Emily Ruth Wilson, October 1, 2007, daughter of Add and Lauren HOUSTON Wilson '01
 Anna Kathryn Taylor, October 29, 2007, daughter of Gerrick and Dana WILLIAMSON Taylor '01
 Bethany Bryn Pittman, January 15, 2008, daughter of Bryan and Emily CLARK Pittman '03, '07 MED
 Anna Camille Elliott, November 27, 2007, daughter of Rob and Andrea EZELL Elliott '03
 Caleb Andrew Bates, May 22, 2007, son of Bryan and Megan RUSSELL Bates '03
 Clara Grace Kemper, November 3, 2007, daughter of Roy and Mary Irene KEMPER '04
 Jameson Briggs Anders, May 9, 2008, son of Lance and Danielle MARTIN Anders '04
 Cameron Grace Stone, December 31, 2007, daughter of Patrick and Erin POSTON Stone '04
 Layla Morgan Morris, July 11, 2007, daughter of Danny Morris and Rachel THEO-Morris '04, '06 MAT

Keep in Touch with Converse

This form is also available at www.converse.edu

Refer a Student to Converse

Name of Student _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Telephone _____
 High School _____
 Year of Graduation _____
 Areas of Interest _____

 Any Relationship to Converse?

Join the Converse Alumnae Network

Please check areas of interest:

- Alumnae Board
- Fundraising
- Class Representative
- Host an alumnae event in your area
- Alumnae event telephone committee
- Assist with student recruitment
- Provide an internship for current students
- Host a reception for prospective students
- Attend a college fair in your area
- Call prospective students
- Provide contacts with hiring personnel

Alumnae Information Update

Please include relevant dates and information in order for your life event to be published.

Name _____
(first, maiden, last)
 Class Year _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Home Phone _____
 Work Phone _____
 E-Mail _____
 Vacation Address _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____

You may also recommend a student by sending an E-mail to admissions@converse.edu.

Marriage Announcement

No engagements, please.

Name (first, maiden, last)

Class Year _____

Spouse's Full Name

Date of Marriage _____

Birth/Adoption Announcement

Please circle to indicate birth or adoption.

Mother's Name (first, maiden, last)

Class Year _____

Father's Name

Daughter's/Son's Name (Circle one)

(first, middle, last)

Birth Date

Career Change

Title _____

Company _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Work Phone _____

Advanced Degree

Degree Earned _____

Date Awarded _____

Institution _____

Death Announcement

Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Name of Deceased (first, maiden, last)

Class Year _____ Date of Death _____

Place of Death _____

Surviving Relative _____

Address of Surviving Relative

Mail or fax this form to:

Converse College
Office of Alumnae
580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302
Fax: (864) 596-9735

ADVANCED DEGREES

Candace LOWE Long '67, Executive MBA, Kennesaw State University, Coles College of Business, May 2008

Minetta "Netta" SHOUSE Putnam '73, MMSc, Emory University, 2006

Louise Tinsley KAY '92, MLIS, University of South Carolina, May 2007

Meredith REYNOLDS '96, PhD, Baylor University, 2007

Kelly MOORE '00, Masters in Music Education, Boston University, January 2008

Charity PERRY Titus '01, Associate Degree in Nursing, Horry Georgetown Technical College, May 2008

Jamie KOESTER Wills '02, MEd, North Georgia College and State University

Chelsea JACCARD '03, Master's Degree in International Peace and Conflict Resolution, American University, May 2008

Cheryl MOORE Cruickshank '03, MM, Boston University, 2007

Anna STEENERSON '03, MM, Indiana University School of Music

Ansley STELLER Somers '04, Doctor of Pharmacy, University of SC College of Pharmacy, May 2008

Danielle Simone MOSS '05, MBA, Auburn University, December 2007

CAREER CHANGES

WallaceEppesJOHNSON'63, Volunteer Coordinator, Chapman Cultural Center, Spartanburg, SC

CharlotteSAVITZ Ciraulo '63, Director of Practitioner Studies and Curriculum Development, University of Transformational Studies and Leadership at Agape, Culver City, CA

Anne ROGERS Gregory '65, Investment Advisor, Russell Capital Management, Lexington, KY

Ann K. DUKES Cater '68, Corporate Account Executive, WTCL.PBS, Chattanooga, TN

Minetta "Netta" SHOUSE Putnam '73, Physician Assistant, Kinnebrew Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, Warner Robbins, GA

Katherine FRAGASSI Erickson '79, Administrative Assistant, St. Norbert School, Paoli, PA

Amy MATTHEWS Whitsitt '81, Director of Professional Services, Cambar Solutions, Charleston, SC

Glenn EDMUNDS Jeffries '83, Account Director, E. Boineau & Co., Charleston, SC

Elizabeth NACE Lay '84, Manager of Credit Business Systems, AgFirst Farm Credit Bank, Columbia, SC

Julie STAGGS '86, Director of Research, Corporate Executive Board, Arlington, VA

Holly MANLY Gosnell '87, Career Specialist, Riverside High School, Greer, SC

Elizabeth HYATT Robinson '89, Attorney, Elizabeth Hyatt Robinson Law Office, Lancaster, SC

Laura BAKER Pinkley '90, Executive Director, Artists' Guild of Spartanburg, Spartanburg, SC

Vicki JONES Bishop '92, Elementary Music Coordinator, Spartanburg County School District Six, Spartanburg, SC

Laura MOBLEY Mathis '92, Director of Public Administration, Middle Georgia Regional Development Center, Macon, GA

Mary Brett MCINTOSH Simmons '93, Financial Secretary, John Knox Presbyterian Church,

Greenville, SC

Brooke CHAMPION Farmer '98, ParsonsGroup CPA firm, Dothan, AL

Jennifer REESE Boyd '98, Senior Client-Server Developer, TSYS

Marjorie PIERCE Wright '99, Coordinator, Global Brands, Intercontinental Hotels Group, North Charleston, SC

Brandy EARGLE Putnam '00, Auditor IV, SC Dept of Health and Human Services, Columbia, SC

Andrea JACKSON Worful '00, Budget Assistant and Graduate Student Affairs, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI

Dana LUTTRELL Garner '00, Assistant Accounting Professor, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

Wendy CONVERSE '01, Graphic Designer, Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts, Worchester, MA

Tina SOLLAZZO Agnew '01, Senior Technical Service Engineer, Baxter BioPharma Solutions, Bloomington, IN

Alyson GEERY '02, Director of the Baptist Student Ministry, Blinn College, TX

Christine M. MILSTEAD '02 MEd, Director of Education, Whitten Center, Clinton, SC

Vanese A.SCOTT '02, Science Teacher, Fairfield Middle School, Winnsboro, SC

ChelseaJACCARD'03, Project Manager, Management Systems International, Washington, DC

Sarah J. ZACHARIAS '03, Guidance Counselor, Charleston County, Mt. Pleasant, SC

Emily AYERS Porter '04, Attorney, The Bleecker Law Firm, LLC, Charleston, SC

Quinn BURGIN Saleeby '04, Client Care Coordinator, Tilton Group Signature Homes, Bluffton, SC

Jordan GREENE Standrich '04, Assistant Director of Development, Mobile Meals of Spartanburg, Spartanburg, SC

Genevieve LEAMAN Strickland '04, Marriage and Family Therapist, Westgate Family Therapy, Spartanburg, SC

Elizabeth A. MOSELEY '04, Operations Officer, US Department of State, Washington, DC

Nyla WALKER '04, Stage Carpenter, Shakespeare Theater Company, Washington, D.C.

Marian D. CARROLL '05, Membership Account Manager, Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, Spartanburg, SC

Della Elizabeth "Libby" LONG '05, Scholarship and Special Projects Coordinator, Triangle Community Foundation, Durham, NC

Krystal PROCTOR Nash '06, Learning for Life Executive, Boy Scouts of America, Spartanburg, SC

Amber M. AH CHING '07 MAT, Resource Teacher, Taylors Elementary, Taylors, SC

Lindsey M. BELL '07, Kindergarten Teacher, Woodruff Primary School, Woodruff, SC

Carrie J. BUNNELL '07 MEd, Second Grade Teacher, Taylors Elementary, Taylors, SC

Natasha A. MILLS '07 MAT, Math Teacher, Blue Ridge High School, Greer, SC

Kelsey NICHOLS '07, Internal Auditor, Hendrick Automotive Group, Charlotte, NC

Janae Norris O'SHIELDS '07, Director of the Fine Arts Day Camp, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

Jaci. L. WHEELER '07, Kindergarten Teacher, Woodruff Primary School, Woodruff, SC

CLASS OF 1929

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Mary Hamilton Stephens
1007 Riverside Boulevard
Lumberton, NC 28358

CLASS OF 1933

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Blanche Dennis Cantey
100 Joseph Walker Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

CLASS OF 1941

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Christie Zimmerman Fant has received the 2007 Lucy Hampton Bostick Award from the Friends of the Richland County Public Library. **Mary Jo Chreitzberg Brodie** lives at the Wesley Commons Retirement Community in Greenwood, SC. **Harriet Glasgow White** reports that she and her two Converse roommates **Dora Curry Burns** and **Anne Knight Shuler** are all doing well and have many good memories of their days at Converse. **Frances Davis Haslett** writes that she can certainly count her blessings with seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren with another one on the way. Two of Frances' daughters are also Converse graduates: Lucy Haslett Evans '71 and Martha Haslett Ladd '78.

CLASS OF 1943

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Barbara Brown Lee
706 N. Summit Crest Court
Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-582-4668

Eunice Purnell Hodges, Barbara Brown Lee, Betty Oates Gage, Marcia Parrish Flow, Mary Frances Morgan, and Betsy Gilmore Milsteen enjoyed being together at the Golden Club Luncheon for their 65th reunion.

CLASS OF 1944

65th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Catherine Gant Powell
122 Fairway Drive
Washington, NC 27889, 252-975-6902

Well, here I am again – remembering happy days so long ago! A nice letter from **Margaret Workman Hudson** in early December gave an update on her two granddaughters. One graduated from seminary and got married in June! The other is in third year medicine at Emory. Her oldest grandson is a college senior and youngest was part of a University of Georgia group which enjoyed a semester at Oxford. Margaret is justly proud. **Penelope Parker**

Peterson is still in Flat Rock, NC, where her children and grandchildren gathered for Christmas. Then in January, she was off to Georgetown, SC “for her annual trek.” **Jean Hooper Crook** and husband Jim are now in “Super Retirement” at Tryon Estates in Columbus, NC. **Betsy Brunk Argo** writes from Rhode Island that one daughter is establishing windmills and solar energy and her other daughter is in documentary films and has just won a 6th Emmy! Bob and I got another wonderful great-grandson in September. We are grateful still to be mobile, see my family at weddings (and funerals) several times a year, and maintain our home. If you can't write, use my phone number and let me hear from you before time for my next Bulletin. Love you all – Cacie

CLASS OF 1945

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Margaret Fulton Walker
208 Crest Drive
Mt. Olive, NC 28365, 919-658-2167
E-mail: mfultonwalker@bellsouth.net
Mrs. Mary Fabisinski Roberts
1506 NW 36th Way
Gainesville, FL 32605, 352-376-7175

CLASS OF 1946

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Mary Helen Garrison Dalton
3064 Ridgewood Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30327, 404-355-0434
E-mail: mhdalton7@aol.com

CLASS OF 1947

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Mary Young Cousar
4615 Arlon Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-1793
E-mail: cousarj@bellsouth.net

CLASS OF 1948

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Eleanor “Skippy” Herbert Hale
5171 Yacht Club Road
Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-9592
E-mail: skippyhale@bellsouth.net
Mrs. Alice Mobley Lipscombe
107 Conyers Street
Sumter, SC 29150, 803-773-8265
E-mail: adlipsjr@earthlink.net

Anne “Butch” Davis Rigby, Bess Wolfe Hill, Alice Mobley Lipscombe, Jean Love Hambright, Peggy Gay Simmons, Eoline Garvin Few, and I (Eleanor “Skippy” Herbert Hale) had a wonderful time representing the class of '48 at our 60th reunion. We really enjoyed the questionnaires that you sent in. **Dede Smith Gunter** and Dan are enjoying life in their retirement community. They have two new great granddaughters. Dan still goes to work every day. **Joan Schlaudt Wheeler** is into politics. She was chairman of Cherokee County Republican party for seven years and is now President of CC Republican women. **Lucy Davis Coleman** is happy to announce that her granddaughter, Hope, will be attending Converse in the fall. **Beverly Sloan Shuler** is living in Mt. Pleasant (there are enough of you gals in the Charleston area to start a '48 Class Club). **Nancy Harris Roberts** reports from Greensboro that she is recovering from a hip replacement. She enjoys keeping up with Converse friends. **Martha Griffin Evans** has plenty of family around her. She has three children, fifteen grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. I believe that takes the prize in our class. **Doe Gregorie Warren** is happily ensconced in her retirement home, enjoying Colonial Dames and visits from her Greenville daughter. **Mary Barker Warren** is enjoying herself: meeting friends for lunch, movies, shopping, reading, playing Mah Jhong, walking on treadmill and driving friends who can no longer drive. Saturday night's dinner was enhanced by **Sybil Creighton Stewart** and Grady, **Jane Epps deWitt** and John, **Jane Taylor Patterson** and her husband who drove over from Greenwood, plus Doug Lipscombe and Rufus Hambright. Alice played and we sang every Converse song that we could think of. We had a great time and missed those of you who couldn't come.



Class of 1943

CLASS OF 1949

60th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Kitty Peeler Carson
401 Springdale Drive
Union, SC 29379, 864-427-3353
E-mail: ladykc@bellsouth.net



In October, **Peggy Bradford Long** wrote from Boulder, CO while babysitting triplet grandsons. She told about attending Rufus' 60th Davidson College reunion and meeting up with **Jean Garrison Wier**, who recently recovered from heart problems. Jean reported having seen roommate **Jean Rickenbacker Ravenel** recently. Peggy was treated to a delightful trip to India by her Beijing, China, son whom she also accompanied to Scotland for a further delightful vacation. During her summer in Montreat, she had painted a mural of the Stoney Creek Boys quartet, traditional Montreat entertainers, and it was unveiled at the Conference Center there in their honor. Peggy is quite a globe-trotter, having lived in several interesting corners of the world and she continues to enjoy exotic places! **Molly Leatherwood Cuttino** is still teaching piano, playing for church services, and trying to keep up with grandchildren with sports at Providence Day in Charlotte and activities at UNC Chapel Hill.

CLASS OF 1950

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Mary Alice Ingram Busch
1509 Cherokee Road
Florence, SC 29501, 842-662-1622

CLASS OF 1951

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Priscilla Beard Blosser-Rainey
Post Office Box 706
Timberville, VA 22853, 540-896-9931
E-mail: prisrainey@hughes.net

Malcolm Hamrick Brown is retired from his music career at Indiana University with specialties in Russian Music Studies. Mac has two daughters, four grands, and a great-grand son and still plays the piano. **Sissie Snow McAlister** is adjusting to a different life with husband, Dunk, deceased. Sissie enjoys her three daughters living in IL, GA, SC, who have among them five boys and two girls. We all remember Sissie, who could "shag" the socks off anyone, and brother "Bubba" winning shag contests around the South. **Maude Bull Clinkscales** has eleven grands and two great-grands. Crossword puzzles have a grip for enjoyment and Maude sometimes sees **Georgia Free Laney** in Bamberg, SC. **Nan Adams Brooks**, retired histologic technician, and husband, Bill Brooks, retired electronic engineer, enjoy grand kids in the summer, going to dinner and movies, with a doubles game of tennis thrown into the schedule of retirement. Nan has recently seen **Louise Clinkscales Wilson**, (one kid studying to be a vet) and **Gardie Lewis Dollar**, (who does volunteer work with the Elderly). **Dot**



French Epting, has slowed her schedule from world travel to building a house in Columbia, SC. **Nancy Cheatham Riggsbee** traveled 24 days among the sheep in New Zealand and Australia in January of 2008 with her sister-in-law. **Roz Senseney Davis** says she is enjoying living in Florence, SC and can see all her children and grands in an hour's drive. Roz has one spinning wheel in her house and one grandson in medical school, paints watercolors and photographs barns. **Dot Jennings Chreitzberg**, enjoys historical bus trips and social consciousness work of her Quaker community close to New Town, PA and ponders the big house/little house situation. **Jane Taylor Milner** enjoys the walking trails around Blowing Rock, NC and declares knitting is so much fun and satisfying. She partied at Figure 8 Island with **Harriett Taylor Ramsey**, **Lou Lewis Holt**, **Max Barnard Hollis**, and **Jean Hollerith Case**. Jane says that **Jo Chenault Mattes** is still skinny and looks sixteen. **Carolyn Bearden Brown** and **Sylvia Makepeace Craven**, where are you? Your phones don't exist to me!

CLASS OF 1952

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Suzie Earnhardt Smith
370 Montgomery Drive
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-582-2415
E-mail: sesmas@charter.net

CLASS OF 1953

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Marilyn Mateer Sherrill
114 Briarwood Court
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-583-8066

We had a wonderful time at reunion this year, although the number attending was few. Only seven of us came, but we had as much fun at this one as any of our other fifty reunions that our class has had. **Joyce Day Sundling** was there – boosting our spirits and brightening our lives. Always, she is such a joy. She and husband, Cy, stayed in Spartanburg with her sister Polly Day Judy '52 and husband, Oren. **Diane Dewey Leyburn** came for the first time in

fifty-plus years, I think due to the fact she transferred to Chapel Hill, NC. We were overjoyed to see her, especially **Becky Ramsaur Pennell** and I, as we lived just across the hall from Diane and her roommate, **Betsy Dale Gayle**. Betsy, a wonderful, unique person left after our sophomore year to get married, and Diane left for Chapel Hill. We even called Betsy and loved talking to her! I've missed them all these years. A BBQ was held on the lawn on back campus and it was the best one ever! Our class dinner was held at Becky's house and was lovely and relaxing. The others who attended were **Jane Winn Pollitzer**, **Phyllis Teaster Petty**, **Frances Kirkwood Graham**, and myself (**Marilyn**). I only attended a few things, due to a back problem, but I must say I enjoyed every minute seeing old classmates!

CLASS OF 1954

55th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Betsy "Bet" Shepherd Ancrum
35 Honeysuckle Woods
Lake Wylie, SC 29710, 803-831-0205
E-mail: bancrum@bellsouth.net



"You gotta write 'em in order to get 'em" and I've been pretty slack. But **Mary Joe Erwin Worth** called over the holidays, and we had a grand chat. Beth's children are now 16 and 18, and Mollie's are 6 and 8. The Worths are taking all of them to the Bahamas in June to celebrate Tom's 80th birthday. Don't you know they'll have fun! In less cheerful news, **Mildred "Hopalong" Roberts Robards**, tripped over a basket Christmas night, and must have given one leg a good jerk, because she had to refrain from putting weight on it for six whole weeks. What a pain in the, uh, leg. It's a good thing she wasn't hurt worse. **Barbara Hughes Bennett** and her husband, David, have moved to a retirement home in the Holy City (that's Charleston, for you non-South Carolinians), where one of their daughters lives. **Nelda Greene Moyer** still plays piano for Nordstrom and several assisted living homes. As for Reunion '08, yeah, I dropped the ball, didn't I? Now that we are "Golden Girls," we are invited every single year, but few if any 5+ers showed up this year, and I blame myself for that. HOWEVER – NEXT YEAR IS A BIGGIE FOR US. 2009 will mark our 55th anniversary

ALUMNAE EVENTS



February 19, 2009
Dallas, TX cocktail party, home of Kay Ferguson Theis '78.



February 21, 2008
Houston, TX cocktail party, home of Frank and Paula Wagner Gay '77.

since graduation, and I for one am looking forward to being on hand and seeing bunches of you. Make plans to be there on April 24-25, 2009. It's always great to see the "faithfuls," but it would be *fantastic* if some of the rest of you would show up too. We could have a real, *honest-to-Pete* reunion, and the "remember when we . . ." stuff could go on all weekend.

CLASS OF 1955

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Jo Ann Guyton Davison

1722 Peggio Lane #1

Missoula, MT 59802, 406-829-6376

The deadline for these notes always seems to fall when I've just returned after a few weeks away. This time I was in Providence, RI babysitting my granddaughter while her mother worked her last "night float." My big news is that Blair completed her five year residency at Brown in June and has accepted a job as a psychiatrist at St. Patrick Hospital here in Missoula. From July my babysitting will be local! **Margaret Stevenson Bucholz** reports that she is still suffering the effects of the recluse spider bite. She is walking with a cane, trying to get organized to sell her property in Darien so that she can move west to be close to her son and grandchildren in Colorado. **Amaryllis Doar Duvall** and Hall had recovered enough from their house move to enjoy a cruise on the Rhine, Moselle, and Mosel Rivers that took them from Bruges, Belgium to Basel, Switzerland. They have a new grandson. **Dorothy Hunter Ellis** reports that business in Marion is very slow so she has moved some antique inventory to Murrell's Inlet where her daughter is in the real estate business with the hopes that they can combine businesses. Dot had a nice visit with **Jane Marie Hancock Jennings** and Jacob this summer. She has been in touch over the last two years with **Joyce Ragsdale Young**, who has been out of circulation, but who would like to hear from her friends at Converse. Joy is now living with a son in Oklahoma. I hope to

receive Joy's new address and telephone number soon. **Nan Brown Foster** sent a Christmas card with pictures of her three children and their families. What a good looking bunch! **Barbara Gregory Moore** writes about her three granddaughters. Ruby is 3; Stella is 6 and plays the violin, and Jessica (18) is an artist at SCAD in Savannah. I accepted this job with the promise there would be '55 class notes in every bulletin issue and with your assurances you would send me news. I've kept my promise!!!! Please send me your news!!!

CLASS OF 1956

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Ann Hudgens Karegeannes

137 Mabry Drive

Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-579-3801

E-mail: karja56@aol.com

Mrs. Pegilie Price Walter

616 Wotan Road

Columbia, SC 803-419-0986

E-mail: walter@umcsc.org

We seem to be a class of travelers; we have reports of great trips taken far and wide. **Sunshine Connor Norwood** and **Tolly Gilmer Shelton** take the prize for the most distant and exotic junkets over the last two years. Sunshine has been in Nepal and Thailand, sometimes backpacking and hiking, sometimes with her children, sometimes with Ben. Italy was also on her agenda in August 2007. Tolly and Barrett joined a college sponsored walking tour to Peru with visits to Inca ruins and villages as well as Machu Picchu in April last year. Then in the early fall they toured the Adriatic and Aegean Seas aboard the British ship *Discover*, visiting historic port town and cities, including Istanbul. **Ann Hudgens Karegeannes** joined the trekkers on a small scale in February 2008, with a trip to Andalusia province in southern Spain. The trip included a visit to the storied Alhambra and other historic areas cities and sites. On the home front

of the Middle Eastern conflict, **Shirley McMillan Kopituk** and some of her friends have organized themselves to support the Latta families of SC Guardsmen serving in Afghanistan. One of the Guardsmen, who was killed, was a regular visitor to Shirley and Rick's shop, RJK Frames & Things. The group works to support the families financially, by attending funerals and posting signs calling attention to their service. **Maggy Combs Holland** continues her love affair with her new home town, Cartersville, GA (not so far from her Marietta roots). Her address is 14 Kentucky Walk NE, Cartersville GA 30121. **Ellen McLaughlin Rose** tells us that Reggie's play "Twelve Angry Men" was once again on a national tour and finished in Charlotte, NC June 1. Richard Thomas was in the touring cast. We offer our sympathy to our classmate **Jane Bolding Crook** whose husband, The Rev. Joseph E. Crook, died in October, 2007. Please stay in touch with your news. Using E-mail, contact Ann at karja56@aol.com or Pegilie at walter@umcsc.org.

CLASS OF 1957

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representative:

Mrs. Marguerite Gignilliat Old

314 Jackson Avenue

Lexington, VA 24450, 540-463-5436

Agnes Wallace Williams recently received an award – Women Making History – from the Greenville Cultural Exchange Center for her many volunteer efforts. She was especially cited for coordinating a task force that worked on the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina. Agnes was there on the scene five times. **Jane Powell Crowder's** home in Greenville is adjacent to her daughter, Laura, and family who live in the house Jane grew up in. Jane reports a new grandson, Robert Ellison Pearce, next door. **Carolyn Fulmer Alexander** expects her first grandchild this spring (after 13 years of marriage).

CLASS OF 1958

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Elaine Finklea Folline (Mrs. Jack S. Folline)

740 Kilbourne Road

Columbia, SC 29205, 803-254-9503

Nancy Hayes Wilkerson (Mrs. Bud Wilkerson)

2122 Norton Road

Charlotte, NC 28207, 704-376-4776

E-mail: nwilkerson@bellsouth.net

We had FINE time at our reunion and missed each of you who could not attend. **Nancy Hayes Wilkerson** was honored with the Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award given to the alumna who exemplifies the true spirit of Converse to other alumnae and to her community. The classmates clapped loudly and long, as did husband Bud and their children and grandchildren who attended the luncheon. Bud and Nancy look a whole lot like they did dating in Main Hall, and their two Converse alumnae daughters are lovely. The grandchildren stayed close to Nancy to learn all about the College. After that award, our class was honored for the highest percentage of members who donated to the Converse Alumnae Fund – and this for our fourth year among the last fifteen. **Trish Hemingway Campbell**, class president, accepted the award for us all and we passed the huge silver cup around to see the engraved name of our class in four places. (The percentage is very important, because businesses and foundations honor colleges whose graduates have the highest percentages of donors.) **Searle Rowland**, our class fund chair, wrote several of us just before reunion to encourage our high percentage. Searle also gave some of her Converse notes, sketches, and watercolors to the school – and her painting of the outside of Main Hall is on the cover of our Reunion Memory Book. Copies of this wonderful book will be sent to those who returned a check with their write-up. If you have not received yours, contact the Alumnae Office. Dinner at President Betsy Fleming's home was very special. As **Janet Joyner** said after the speech in Twichell, "She is impressive and knowledgeable. Of course as President of Converse, she is committed to women's education, but she also stretches to include the betterment of women of all social and economic classes." Her home is fresh and comfortable, and we

laughed as **Sally Hicks Reardon** led us in singing our class song: "Here's to the seniors, oh Hail, oh Hail, oh Hail, oh! There's nothing that we cannot do!" Oh, yes, Janet found Winged Victory in the music building – complete with wings! ...more next *Bulletin*.

CLASS OF 1959

50th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Jayne Callaham Burton

2204 Duck Cove Lane

York, SC 29745, 803-831-1978

E-mail: jayceeburton@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Angela McKinnon Hammond

1724 South Lakeshore Drive

Louisa, VA 23093, 540-967-0920

E-mail: angela_hammond0@yahoo.com

Mrs. Jane Torkington White

4607 177th Avenue SE

Bellevue, WA 98006, 425-562-0787

Jane Torkington White and I (**Jayne**) had lunch when Jane passed through Charlotte after the funeral for her sister Jacquie Liggett, who was the founder of HOW, Hearing the Ovarian Cancer Whisper. Yes, Jane did have her eyebrows tattooed, just as promised! Jane and husband, Buddy, spent March and April at St. Theresa's on the Gulf in Tallahassee, FL...a BIG change from their Pacific Northwest home! In April they headed home visiting friends and making a stop in New Orleans where they were married 50 years ago! **Sally Mason Maynard** was blessed with her 13th grandchild, Joseph Pierce Maynard, in October 2007. Sally's husband, Gary who received a "new knee" last year has had a serious infection in that knee and has been on antibiotics for several months. Last report, he will have the prosthetic knee removed and a spacer put in place until the infection clears up. Then, he will get another new knee. Gary has handled all of this with grace and his usual wonderful sense of humor. **Rosann Ferguson Hooks'** granddaughter, Hannah Grace was born December 10, 2007 and joins brother, James (2). Rosann attended a recent reception for Converse president, Betsy Fleming. She was very impressed and wrote that President Betsy is smart, vivacious and enthusiastic and has great ideas and plans for Converse. **Harriet "Sister" Marshall Goode**, our favorite artist,



had another show in February's "Event," an evening of Visual and Performing Arts in Rock Hill complete with a one act play, blues band and art exhibition. **Ruth Junker Mitchell's** son, Edward Mitchell, a composer, producer and arranger of music for feature films and TV projects won the Grammy Award for 2007 for producing "The Muppets Red and Green Christmas." **Jayne Callaham Burton** and husband, Tom, have two talented granddaughters. Megan Burton (16), in 2007, won first place in the Charlotte, NC "Festival in the Park" for her charcoal drawing of her sister, Paige, which was also on display in the Charlotte Mint Museum. Granddaughter Hannah Earnhardt (10) has written a poem, which was chosen to be published in the "Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans." Thanks to all who contributed news...Happy Summer!

CLASS OF 1960

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representative:

Mrs. Donna Culbertson Fritz

105 Sunline Place

Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-579-3986

E-mail: maximum1983@cs.com

Hope 2008 so far has been a healthy and happy year for each of you. **Jackie Hackler Hollis** and I were in N Myrtle Beach with our husbands in October of 2007 and had lunch and a nice visit with **Virginia Dyson Hooper, Carole Jones** and **Alice Gamble Kilgo**. Virginia was back home (Loris) for her 50th High School Reunion and staying at her home at the beach. Alice lives in N Myrtle Beach. Virginia really wants us to get a group together to stay at her home, and says that she would love for us to visit; she and Sam spend a lot of time there when they are not in Florida. Carole Jones' grandson, Dustin Johnson, who graduated last year from Coastal Carolina and played on the 07 Walker Cup Team, is now a golf pro and playing on the PGA Tour. He is doing extremely well and has made most of the cuts in the tournaments that he has played in. Several articles have been written about him in some of the major golf magazines and they say that he has a great chance to be named PGA Rookie of the Year for 2008. Congratulations to Dustin! Please let me hear from you, this is a wonderful way to keep up with your classmates.

CLASS OF 1961

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mrs. Betsy Blythe Frazer

324 Nottingham Drive

Chapel Hill, NC 27517, 919-402-0409

E-mail: ebfrazer@earthlink.net

Mrs. Frances Taylor Meissner

Post Office Box 274

Seaford, VA 23696, 757-898-4277

E-mail: franmeissner@verizon.net

Mrs. Laura Simpkins Stock

Post Office Box 206

White Post, VA 22663, 540-837-2473

E-mail: lss3@earthlink.net



Boo Bargamin Kral's son Teddie was married in November in Winston Salem, NC. There she had a quick visit "full of laughter" with **Betty Lake Orr**. Bride and groom work in DC. Interestingly, the bride's godfather is our late classmate, **Jane Davenport's** brother. Boo and Ted both cruised and drove through Alaska in summer '07. At her high school reunion Boo saw **Betty Garst Edwards** and **Mary Beirne Kerr Nutt**. **Laura Simpkins Stock's** son, Ned, was married last fall also. Another grandchild, Olivia, 7, joined the family and fits in beautifully with other grandchildren, ages 14, 11, 8, 7 and 6. The bride teaches first grade in Winchester VA, where they live. Laura spoke to **Mitzi Shomo Emory** last Nov. Mitzi was recovering nicely from a fall, which damaged her spine. In SC, in February, Laura saw **Alice Haskell Sanders** and **Martha Brockinton Roberts** and Ed. **Frances Taylor Meissner** and Chuck toured the gulf coast and visited children, Charles and Leslin, in Austin, TX, last November. The children spent a week at Christmas with them, leaving Frances with "empty nest syndrome." She shortly recovered. **Penny South Kosztoinyik** and **Jane Briggs Rankin** (MM '63) met at Converse for a mostly musical weekend which included a chance to cheer on the Valkyries at a basketball game. **Susan Hawkins Bruns** and Tom are still traveling the world on medical missions or scuba diving. They spent Christmas and New Year's in the Solomon Islands. Last summer she saw **Jo Sibley Shippen** in Atlanta, GA and while visiting her son in Highlands, NC, she saw **Toni Jackson Myers**. She says both look just as they did at Converse! Susan would love to see classmates while in Murrells Inlet, SC, during July-August. **Ann Connor Cox's** daughter's family has returned to Mason, OH, after living in Geneva. Last September, **Betsy Blythe Frazer** and Don traveled to Greece and cruised to the Cyclades. A post trip to Crete was really special! A brief visit from son Bill from Ireland was followed by Christmas in Vieques Island, P.R., with son, Donald, and his wife. **Noni Miller Lurding's** granddaughter Mary Elizabeth, 3, now has a brother, Davis Scott, I.

CLASS OF 1962

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representative:

Mrs. Dixie Crum Stone
9419 Owl Trace Drive
Chesterfield, VA 23838, 804-748-4755
E-mail: dixiestone@comcast.net

Class of 1962 - please send your news to me at the contact information above. Thanks! Dixie

CLASS OF 1963

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

Mrs. Lou Hoffler Bright
1103 Sourwood Circle
Chapel Hill, NC 27517, 919-968-1455
Mrs. Betty Moore Henderson
13302 Tosca Lane
Houston, TX 77079-7121, 713-465-0940
E-mail: eliza.henderson@att.net



Mrs. Emily Kerr Stay
9619 Pekin Road
Novelty, OH 44072, 440-338-8221
E-mail: estay@alltel.net

Ladies of the Class of 1963 – reunion has come and gone! We were a bit more subdued, this time. Many of our classmates have left this earth and many others are braving ills of their own or within their families. Twenty-one members of the class gathered singly and in small groups on Friday and Saturday. Most fun, however, was the surprise attendance of **Judy Wainer Ponce**. Judy's Converse roommate, **Dorris Callicott Douglass**, had not seen Judy in many years. **Emily Kerr Stay** urged Judy to come as a surprise for Dorris. Judy heads up a small business in Mexico City, Mexico, translating anything and everything to English and vice versa. **Jane Bryant Block** wrote both sad and inspiring news of her husband Ralph's wake, which became a "Toys for Tots" celebration – a remarkable tribute. Among those boasting of grandchildren are **Margaret Charles Stubbs** and **Caroline Gibbes Scott Walters**. The retirees list continues to grow: **Caroline Gibbes Scott Walters**, **Betty Moore Henderson**, **Cecil Lewis Caldwell** and **Carlisle Caughman Harvard**. **Betty Reynolds Oare** has been named to the National Show of Hunter Hall of Fame. Her father was the first recipient of this honor. She received this honor during the Devon Horse Show, which serves as a fundraiser for the Bryn Mawr Hospital in Pennsylvania. **Gelene Duncan Ellsworth** continues to enjoy working for The Children's Exchange as a "sales lady." **Anne Waters Green**, retired after a 35+ year career as a lawyer and administrative judge. She remarried in July of 2007. **Genevieve Steele Cummings** vivacious spirit and style never changes. Also attending reunion were: **Julia Adams McLaurin**, **Lou Hoffler, Bright, Nell Higdon Hudson, Jane McGuire Ingraham, Wallace Johnson, Jane Land Kimbro, Lyn Sauter Little, Peggy Rainwater, Betty (Boopie) Poole Rose, Elaine Smith Thompson, Linda Niven Tiller, Elizabeth (Lish) Willey and Rhetta Fair Wilson**. Thanks to Boopie Poole Rose and Peggy Rainwater who are electing to step aside from the role of class agents and welcome Betty Moore Henderson and Lou Hoffler Bright in addition to me, Emily Kerr Stay – who loves getting news from you. If you missed

reunion this year, plan to attend reunion next year. Don't wait. Life is too short!

CLASS OF 1964

45th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Barbara Humphries Chung
13600 Koen Lane
Fort Worth, TX 76155, 817-571-6464
E-mail: ccgirl_64@hotmail.com
Mrs. Joan Foster McKeown
2160 E. Blackstock Road
Roebuck, SC 29376, 864-576-6499
E-mail: mhaysesse@sccourts.org



Hope everyone had a wonderful 2007 and that 2008 is off to a great start. The New Year got off in a big way for **Barbara Humphries Chung (Babs)** with the arrival of her first grandchild, a baby girl named Charlotte Ariane Quintard, on February 7. Needless to say, Babs is thrilled with grandmotherhood and has taken to it like a "fish to water!" **Judy Brown Christopher** had a wonderful reunion with **Freddie Brawley Sormani** in Tucson, AZ in February. Judy and husband, Tom, had been visiting family and friends in California and on their return to Albuquerque traveled through Tucson where she joined Freddie for lunch in her charming home. Judy reported how delightful it was to see Freddie's smiling face and hear her hearty laugh!! **Carolyn Green Satterfield** is a busy traveler taking groups abroad each summer and lecturing on historical sites. Last year, 26 of them sailed on a clipper ship from Venice to Athens seeing Venice, the coast of Croatia, and the Greek isles. This summer, they are heading to South Africa on a five-star tour from Cape Town to Victoria Falls. The tour even offers a mission excursion. Carolyn's husband, Bill, and their daughter, who is in her second year of doctoral studies in physical therapy, will join them. Aimee Reese Kornegay '59 reports that her niece Dr. Margaret Reese Goold '84 (daughter of **Margaret (Mimi) Bailes Reese**), who is an associate professor of mathematics/computer science at Virginia Wesleyan has been named the first recipient of the Thomas R. Fanny Distinguished Professorship in Mathematics. **Joan Foster McKeown** and husband, Kirk, took a "lifelong

dream trip” to the island of Moorea in the South Pacific the end of December. The feeling was indescribable to sit on your deck over the water and looked across Cook’s Bay to the mountain of Bali Hai featured in the original movie of “South Pacific.” The scenery was incredibly beautiful. Joan had dreamed of going there ever since seeing “South Pacific” the first time and was awestruck to actually be there! Thanks to those of you who sent news. I KNOW there’s more from more of you. Won’t you send me some clips for next time??

CLASS OF 1965

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representative:

Susan “Susu” Phifer Johnson
(Mrs. George D. Johnson, Jr.)

1022 Glendalyn Circle

Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-582-4536

E-mail: sjohnson@johnsondevelopment.net

Peggy Clotfelter Allen, Caroline Beattie Bowen, Ann Trammell Holmes, Ginger McKinney Jernigan, and Lovey Daniel Mottern gathered in Charleston, SC, in January to celebrate the life, friendship and love they shared for their dear friend, **Harriet Schofield Bryant**, who died in June 2007. Peggy celebrated her son David’s graduation and completion of his residency at the Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry. David has set up a dental practice in Athens, GA, where Peggy’s daughter, Martha Allen-Dale is a naturopathic physician with a specialty in Chinese medicine. Martha is expecting Peggy’s first grandchild in March. Caroline and Bill Bowen live in Hilton Head. Caroline travels to NYC every week for four days to her job as president and CEO of the Connaught Co. that oversees the clothing lines Carlisle, Per Se and Etcetera. Caroline’s daughter Harvie and family live on Daniel Island, SC. Harvie sells Etcetera and does closet planning. Jean, Caroline’s other daughter, and her family live in Huntsville, AL. Ann and Michael Holmes have five children and live in Spartanburg. Daughter Briggs and her family live in Louisville, KY. Daughter Ann and her family live in Nashville, TN. Son Michael works for Johnson Development in Spartanburg and got married March 1 to Sarah Boswell ’03. Daughter Emily lives in Durham, NC; she

and her husband, Lee Corey, recently adopted their baby girl, Lulu, from Vietnam. Daughter Caroline married Spence McClelland in August 2007 and lives in Nashville, TN. Ginger and John (Tinka) Jernigan live in Raleigh, NC, as does their two children. Daughter Lee-Ashley is married to Tom Bonfield and they have one child, Liam (5). Ginger’s son, Frank is the domestic marketing director for Tourism, Sports, and Film for the State of NC. Lovey and Bob Mottern live in Mullins, SC. Son Bobby, a landscape architect, and wife Lizzy live in Raleigh, NC. Son Dan is in marketing in Atlanta, GA. **Carol Blackman Johnston** was not able to join them due to a cold. Carol lives in Columbia, SC and has two grandchildren and one on the way. Being with Converse friends is almost as good as being back on the Converse campus when they met. They are now committed to an annual reunion.

CLASS OF 1966

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mrs. Carol Geyer Furtwangler

822 Robert E. Lee Blvd.

Charleston, SC 29412, 843-795-8314

E-mail: zandria60@hotmail.com

Mrs. Dianne Kennedy McLees

275 Gunning Road

Tryon, NC 28782, 828-859-6145

E-mail: ramclees@windstream.net

Dianne and I would be happy to hear about events in the lives of any and all of you. Remember, you may not think you are especially newsworthy, but all the rest of us want to know EVERYTHING. Love from the true South of pollen/skeeters/no see ums, Carol. **Jeanne Steinhilber Viccellio**, to our infinite happiness, E-mailed to say she and her younger son Brady remain in business together, running the famed restaurant Jeanne’s Dad began decades ago in Virginia Beach, where “It’s a new show every night.” (Our family went there some years ago for a sumptuous dinner when our daughter Elizabeth was living close by.) Stein’s son Robert, who lives in Charlottesville with wife and two year-old Jack, is the communications director for the UVA alumni association and edits the alumni magazine. **Frances Marian Rinker** lives in a glorious

home on a Mt. Pleasant tidal creek she and her partner of eleven years are remodeling. A highly successful real estate broker, FM returned recently from Thailand where she went specifically to interact with and learn about her latest passion, elephants. Her descriptions of her mahout training at Masai Elephant Camp with her elephant Mekong, and the beauty of the country and its people, are riveting. If you want to see the incredible photographs, contact me and I’ll provide sites. See, another reason to get in touch. **Cordelia Barclay Owings** has never lost her connection with classical music. Having completed her degree at Indiana University, she married world-renowned pianist John Owings in 1998. In addition to teaching Suzuki and managing John’s wonderfully busy career, Deedy (who had the great good fortune of being my freshman year roommate) and John became in 2005 legal guardians of a brilliant student of John’s, Sam Hong, then 12. At this tender age, Sam was accepted as a freshman at Texas Christian University, where John has taught since 1990. Life in Fort Worth is as interesting as it is challenging. Deedy reports, and again, if you want more scoop, let me know and I’ll provide info, including where you can get John’s critically acclaimed CDs.

CLASS OF 1967

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representative:

Mrs. Margot McCord Campbell

204 Glenroy Court

Flat Rock, NC 28731, 828-697-8435

E-mail: margotcampbell@mindspring.com

Brooks Sanders Hamilton planned a house party of high school girlfriends at Pawley’s Island for the weekend in January. **Cherry Able Goldson**, who takes care of her 15 month old grandson, attended. **Margot McCord Campbell** is still working as a Real Estate Appraiser while her husband has retired from Hanes Brands after 29+ years. Margot’s son accompanied her to Shanghai and Suchow in October for two weeks. Her great grandfather is buried in Suchow, and they will be the guests of Dr. Ming Li, who is the director of the Suchow Psychiatric Hospital, which their ancestor founded in 1923. **Judy Coe** is still very happy about her move from Washington, DC to Greenville, SC. She

ALUMNAE EVENTS



February 28, 2008
Florence, SC cocktail party, home of Dan and Betty Arthur Hardaway ’71.



March 6, 2008
Chapel Hill, NC luncheon, home of Marian Ritchie Johnson ’48.

gave herself an early Christmas present - a cruise from Rio down the coast of South America to Buenos Aires (Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina). Judy and Margot saw Tony Bennett perform in Greenville, SC. **Richie Wilkinson** was in Brevard, NC at the Brevard Music Center in July and saw **Rosalie Stone Morris**. **Marsha Thrift** has been teaching art full-time (grades K-5) this year at an elementary school in Winston-Salem, NC. **Florence Wofford Liddell** was in California for an oceans conference and stopped in San Francisco and saw Richie Wilkinson. She and her husband are interested in energy efficiency and energy policy. They are working with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) to launch a pilot energy efficiency program in Costa Rica. **Becky Gould Gibson** has written a book of poems entitled *Need-Fire the life of Hild Winston-Salem* and has three previously published poetry collections. **Lucia Cleveland Johnson** has been to the Grand Canyon, Philadelphia Flower show, a wedding in NY and a visit to Salisbury University, where her son works in horticulture. **Ann Armour McCoy** has finally retired and is looking forward to enjoying life. **Sandra Jones Husted**, Bob and daughter traveled to Jakarta, Indonesia for Bob's son's wedding in February 2007. The traditional Javan ceremony and festivities surrounding the wedding were beautiful. **Anne Jones Holloway** accompanies her husband down the inland waterway from VA to FL in the late fall. **Brenda Hubbard Furr** completed her masters in clinical psychology a few years ago and is now teaching 7th grade science.

CLASS OF 1968

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

Ms. Caroline Grimball

109 Walden Court

Columbia, SC 29204, 803-782-5828

E-mail: caroline5828@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Carol Early Graham

727 Alta Vista

Vista, CA 92084, 760-758-7615

E-mail: earlygram@earthlink.net

Mrs. Barbara Baker Kennedy

4400 Dewees Court

Raleigh, NC 27612, 919-782-9459

E-mail: BKennedy8@nc.rr.com

Mrs. Ann Wallace Nichols

6607 Greenville Hwy

Brevard, NC 28712, 828-884-7762

E-mail: AVWallace@bellsouth.net

We will only cover a few of our 40th reunion stories here, but others will follow. Congratulations to **Pat Mooney Parker** on her Career Achievement in Music Award. After graduation, Pat earned her MM from Eastman School of Music. She has been a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Denver, NC and Spartanburg Symphonies. Pat has performed in many venues including New York and Washington, DC. Our star of stage, screen and TV! The list is too long! Be sure to see her in the 2008 feature film "Mother, May I?" **Sally Harmon Caughman** received the Distinguished Alumna Award in recognition for outstanding achievement in her field. Sally has 38 years of professional experience as an interior designer in both residential and commercial fields. She is the President of Pulliam Morris Interiors where her 18 employees include five Converse alumnae. In addition, she has arranged many internships for Converse students. Sally serves on the Architectural Review Committee at the University of South Carolina and on the Board of the Columbia Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames. I must mention those of our classmates who we had not seen in a long time: **Judy Webb Lanier**, **Mary Calton**, **Cathy Brown Booe**, **Susan Derrick**, **Linda Lawson Payne**, **Marty Regan Szczur**, **Susan Terrell Anthony**, **Fran Tracy-Walls**, **Ann Gray Turner Wood**, **Anne Carow Lian** and **Katherine Williams Mahon**. **Bit Morris Howell** is the Director of the Foundation for Professional Development in South Carolina. This Foundation honors veteran public school teachers and rewards them with an all expenses paid week at Seabrook Island with refreshing educational seminars and experiences. Bit and Cam live in Columbia. He has recently retired from Bank of America. Their son, Cameron is assistant to the president of the University of Virginia where he received his PhD. He is married to Jenny, a research scientist with the PALS program, who also received her PhD from University of Virginia. Their daughter, Laurie is a family & marriage therapist for Carolinas Medical in Charlotte, NC. Bit has returned numerous times to speak to students on her passion for teaching.

CLASS OF 1969

40th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Linda Russell Cranford

413 Lexington Road

Asheboro, NC 27205, 336-629-2040

E-mail: linda@uwrandolph.org

Mrs. Elinor Banks McLaughlin

402 Bowling Avenue

Nashville, TN 37215, 615-383-6362

E-mail: pookiebmcl@gmail.com

Mrs. Harriet Dobbins Martin

151 Marshall Bridge Drive

Greenville, SC 29605, 864-271-3061

E-mail: bdobbins51@hotmail.com

Dana Irwin is a busy artist: art director at Lark Books for 20 years, designed a monument for Asheville, NC's city plaza, does freelance illustration, photography & advertising design. **Patti Hodge Croft** teaches music appreciation at Central Carolina Technical College and last year received the SC Music Educators Hall of Fame Award. She lives next door to her son's family with her two youngest (of 4) grandchildren. **Jane Dowling Fender** retired in December as a family court judge. She will now substitute there & mediate family court cases, but looks forward to traveling, needlepoint & her grandchildren. **Joanna Brannon Jones** is proud of her new 6 month old grandson in Philadelphia & her 3 month old granddaughter in Columbia, SC. **Cissy Smith** continues as a professional organizer and advises us not to be packrats! **Gray Anderson White** is enjoying granddaughter Anderson born in April to daughter Gray. **Nancy Joiner Hiatt** is busy planning weddings in April AND December and plays with her two little grandsons in between. In January, **Lee Ann Lowry Harris**, **Martha Ryburn Johnson Stainton** & **Gay Cook Robson** visited me (**Elinor Banks McLaughlin**) at my weekend home in Monteagle, TN for a fun "mini-reunion." Lee Ann is enjoying her "new career in construction" working in hubbie Jim's office. Martha Ryburn loves her adorable 1 year old grandson Samuel, Mary Gwin's son. In June '06 she became Administrative Director of Educating Africans for Christ, and by May'08 will have made four trips to Africa. Gay & Ted plan to be on the road in their RV traveling to dog agility trials and visiting family & friends in '08. In 2007, Woody and I motored to CO to visit son Trip and Renee and I flew to OR to visit son Parker. **Linda Russell Cranford** & **Margaret Shore Roark** had a great trip to Rome and Florence in December. Linda serves on our Converse Alumnae Board & gave an enthusiastic report on the exciting new directions President Fleming has set in the Strategic Plan, which means that fundraising is critical. Linda encourages all of us to make donations. Even small amounts boost the percentage, which grantors consider when awarding grants!



CLASS OF 1970

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

Miss Janice "Smack" Mack

6 Indigo Cove

Greensboro, NC 27455, 336-282-0520

E-mail: janicesmack@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Linnie Hicks Mitchell

1004 Mulberry Road

Martinsville, VA 24112, 276-632-4232

E-mail: lynnemitchell@hotmail.com

Ann Joyner Cross, **Nancy Jane Stedman Calloway**, and **Smack** had their annual holiday kick-off gathering in November, minus **Lynda "Smitty" Smith Swann**, our usual fourth classmate. Nancy Jane received her PhD in 2007. She is working with older adults with Alzheimer's disease and spending time with her baby granddaughter. Ann continues to balance a part time job at her husband's business, caring for her mother, volunteer work and keeping up with two grown children. Son Oliver was married in the spring; daughter Eleanor lives in Charlotte, NC and travels a lot working for a company in Hillsborough. Last May, **Marion Hill Hazard** joined **Jan Rorebeck Dees** for a visit with **Hattie Boo Engelhardt Johnson** at her farm in Alabama. In July, Jan and husband David visited **Karen Clarke** at her fabulous house in Sanibel. **Brenda Williams Ketchey** and **Gloria Roberts Howell** joined Jan for their annual holiday lunch. Jan also completed a goal of reading the Bible cover to cover, rescued four dogs, and "graduated" to handling a larger boat on the water. **Susan Dukes Webber** is the new chairperson of the Orangeburg Technical College Board. Her favorite past times are spending time with grandbabies and building a vacation home in Beaufort. **Patty Downes Johnson** went to Italy with husband Steve. Patty reported that **Sally McCrady Lesley** recorded a CD and that some of the proceeds will go towards breast cancer research. **Stuart Rinehart Stewart** graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary and was ordained as an Episcopal Priest. She is now an assistant rector in a church near Columbia, Maryland and serves as chaplain at Garrison Forest School, the high school she attended. Just as Stuart graduated, husband Bill re-entered school and is working on a certificate to become a certified financial planner. Son Will works at Price Waterhouse in Texas and daughter Ann lives in Boston and works in development for a large geriatric organization. Smitty Swann and family went to France and husband Michael planned the itinerary. A family trip to the Greenbrier in West Virginia celebrated Smitty's and Michael's wedding anniversary. Daughter Lanier lives in DC and works for Senator Mitch McConnell. Daughter Parker works in marketing in Raleigh, NC for an engineering firm.

CLASS OF 1971

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mrs. Jane Byrd Melton

115 Bickerstaff Road

Clemmons, NC 27012, 336-778-1760

E-mail: janemelton@triad.rr.com

Class of 1973



Mrs. Mindy Thompson Orman

1040 Gateway Lane

Nashville, TN 37220, 615-373-5965

E-mail: ormanphoto@comcast.net

CLASS OF 1972

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representative:

Mrs. Sissy DeWitt Carroll

135 North Ervin Street

Darlington, SC 29532, 843-393-8197

E-mail: SISCARROLL@sc.rr.com

CLASS OF 1973

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representative:

Mrs. Peggy Kelly Lancaster

510 Connecticut Avenue

Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-582-0587

E-mail: plancaster@spart7.org

Welcome to **Peggy Kelly Lancaster**, who is returning to class representative, after a well-deserved rest. Peggy works in the Spartanburg School System, along with two other alumnae who joined our class dinner, **Ann Clark Webb** and **Katherine Willis Medlock Gay**. The music school also was well represented, with **Catherine Ward Harkey** and her husband Henry, in Charlotte and enjoying retirement from work as a church music director, and **Philma Shillinglaw Cimorelli**, now in Charleston and looking for new directions, with her youngest child still in high school. **Gay Simmons Colyer**, who just rotated off the Converse Board of Trustees, was in Spartanburg for almost a week of activities, sharing reunion week with her mother from the Class of 1948. **Susan Berry Duncan's** husband loves sailing and plans a trip to his home country of Wales. The two spent a month in the Dominican Republic. **Paula Sigler Morgan** continues to be busy as head of the Pre-College music program at Converse. **Jeanne Smith Harley** made us all proud as she and husband Bob presented an award at the Thousand Thanks gala just before reunion weekend. Some folks who couldn't make the reunion sent greetings and news. **Susan Marrash-Minnerly** and her family are still enjoying life in West Virginia, where

she was granted tenure last year and is currently chair of the communications department at West Virginia State University. **Louise Bush Watkins** says 2009 will be a big year, with her daughter Clare graduating from high school and son Rob planning a wedding. **Robin Crandall** had knee replacement surgery last year, but stays busy as a music director for a church in Mystic, CT, and as arts integration teacher for the local school district. After 20 years of teaching, she is very excited to be assigned to a single school and to finish her career in a position that she believes will make a tremendous difference for children. **Alice Reed Quimby** reports that **Elizabeth Payne Brumbeole's** daughter got married in Greensboro, NC on April 26. That same weekend, **Cynthia Adams Tappan** and **Forrest Gilliam Bachner** enjoyed a visit at the home of **Susanna Dumas Watson** in Columbia, SC.

CLASS OF 1974

35th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Dr. Debbie Moore Haydon

2400 Portrush Drive, Apt. 6

Spartanburg, SC 29301

E-mail: debbie.haydon@converse.edu

Mrs. Peggy McKewen Kyzer

52 Cross Creek Drive West

Birmingham, AL 35213, 205-879-2499

E-mail: peggykyzer@mindspring.com

Mrs. Libba Elmore Rhoad

308 Laurel Drive

Lexington, SC 29072, 803-957-5809

E-mail: zqueen123@aol.com

Mark your calendars for April 24-25, 2009 for our 35th Reunion! Make plans now to attend.

CLASS OF 1975

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representative:

Mrs. Libby Knight Fowler

124 McDaniel Greene

Greenville, SC 29601, 864-271-8853

E-mail: libbo04@yahoo.com



Julie Forbes Lybrand, Kathryn Perry Bumgardner, Elise Warren and Vickey Key Wile were all in Princeton in January visiting **Sandy Kopp McNutt**. Albert Einstein's house is right down the street from Sandy's house! Sandy has a fabulous new job in development with Columbia University! Elise is a very small business owner! Vickey is a professional wedding planner! I ran into **Beth Dickerson Yon** recently at a Mannheim Steamroller concert. **Laura Callaway Hart** recently spoke at Converse regarding the school equity lawsuit in SC. She was one of the lead lawyers for the plaintiffs. Hopefully she will respond to your E-mail and provide better info than what I recall. My daughter Laura reported to me after attending Old South that she had reconnected with **Ruthie McCutchen Knight's** daughter Charlotte. According to Laura, Charlotte is lots of fun, just like her mother!

CLASS OF 1976

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mrs. Rachel Jackson Gandy
561 Old Field Road
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576, 843-651-3649
E-mail: gandyhouse@aol.com

Mrs. Christi von Lehe Sellars
Post Office Box 132
Pauline, SC 29374, 864-573-5099
E-mail: psellars@wildblue.net

CLASS OF 1977

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

Mrs. Donna Kaiser Croft
1110 Summersill Lane
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, 843-881-2924
E-mail: closjune@aol.com

Mrs. Lucy Hudson Stembridge
8740 Roswell Rd, Unit 8D
Atlanta, GA 30350, 770-642-9751
E-mail: lucysoprano@mindspring.com

At our tender age, many of us are facing/ enjoying/reveling in our empty nests these days. **Phyllis Ashley Beasley** reports a trip to the Westminster Dog Show for the first time! **Robbie Dana Reading** and husband Ted are building a house at Lake Murray. Daughter Mandy married last spring and son John got married July 12 to Elizabeth Shaw from Sumter, SC. Daughter, Mary, is an RN working in the ER at Richland Memorial. Robbie is enjoying volunteering with the Columbia Garden Club, where she often runs into lots of Converse ladies (including **Bet Tarrant**). Robbie sees **Kathy Graham Davis** at Community Bible Study each week, where Kathy is the assistant teaching leader. **Pam Ellis Hall** stays busy as department head of Medical Laboratory Technology at Alamance Community College in Burlington, NC. **Babi Smith's** new E-mail is babismith@mac.com. **Chris Wood Lynn** and **Josie Rudolph Stokes** are enjoying being next-door neighbors. **Mary Jane Simmons Candler** stayed with Josie last fall while her daughter Kit looked at Wofford. In attendance at **Susie Jackson Zurenda's** wedding last July were Chris, Josie, **Paula Wagner Gay, Julie**

Killian Garrett, Donna Wilson Dornes and Nancy Nix Jones. Marguerite Callahan, Rhondy Valdes Huff, Mary Jane, Josie and Chris got together for a weekend party in August. **Leslie Scoles Provence's** daughter Elizabeth is the development director for the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts Foundation. Son Hall is at Clemson and was an intern in Ottawa for David Wilkins, US Ambassador to Canada. **Jean Parks Bunch** and Ansel are still living in Columbia, SC, but have spent a lot of time in Spartanburg over the past few years as their two oldest boys Ansel Jr. and Parks have graduated from Wofford ('05 and '07) and their youngest son, Richard was a freshman there this past year. **Donna Kaiser Croft** and Grover are spending as much time as they can at their cabin in the NC mountains. Son Riley has a wonderful new position as a marketing consultant at Kennickell Printing and Fulfillment in Savannah. Son Michael is at the Citadel in Romeo Co. (just like dear old dad).

CLASS OF 1978

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representative:

Mrs. Kay Ferguson Theis
4301 Arcady Avenue
Dallas, TX 75205, 214-526-7979
E-mail: kaytheis@sbglobal.net

Rilla Altman Thomas, Perry Tison Wilson, Martha Haslett Ladd, Patricia Auman Atkinson and Melinda Benson attended their 30th reunion at Converse in April.

CLASS OF 1979

30th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Lelia Freeman Byars
4527 Landgrave Road
Columbia, SC 29206, 803-787-2039
E-mail: lelia@byars.biz

Mrs. Cecilia Lowry Stevenson
123 Union Street
Camden, SC 29020, 803-432-1889
E-mail: periwinkleplace@bellsouth.net



Ceya Lowry Stevenson spent her 50th birthday having a slumber party! **Ellerbe Page Halligan** took the "staying up the latest" prize. **Beth Ardrey Simpson** took the "most innovative" prize with her custom omelets in a Ziplocs! **Nancy Boatwright Holt** earned the "best dance moves" award demonstrating to **Margaret Rinehart Smith** just how to get your groove back! **Lea Stallworth Moore** earned the "party foul" award when her inflatable mattress deflated leaving her and **Jean Arthur Hungerpiller** sleeping on the hard floor! **Katherine Shurley Hargett** went on a mother/daughter cruise for spring break 2008. **Kathy McCuen Huntley** spent spring break 2008 in Italy with her family. **Macky Dana Dunbar** and her husband traveled in April 2008 to visit daughter Sally, a Clemson student who's studying international health in Granada, Spain. **Diane Hubbard Gurley's** family tailgates with **Cheryl Harper Lombardi's** family at Clemson home games. **Donna Naismith Justice's** son John works in Pebble Beach, CA after graduating from UNC. Son Sam loves his writing classes at Eugene Lang College in NYC, interning at a record company/music agency, and playing in a band. **Ann Preston Carey** is busy with college son Whit in Florida, daughter Kate in college in NC, and son Andrew deciding on college. **Anne Cushman Prettyman** loves renovating their home in the hills of Ooltewah, TN with husband, Jim. Ann scours estate sales/moving sales/EBAY to find treasures to sell in her antique shop. **Clare Nissen McGill, Robin Brownlee Giddings and Bowdre Budd Golmont** got together three times last year. Robin and Doc live in Pickens, SC, and have three daughters. Robin's oldest daughter graduated from medical school and is now doing her residency. Bowdre lives in Charlotte and has a daughter at NC State University and a son at the University of Alabama. Clare and Hack have two sons at Clemson. **Suzanne Smith Bare's** daughter Mary Hollis spent a semester abroad in France. **Lelia Freeman Byars'** step-daughter Beth is getting married in December to Trevor Hray from Spartanburg. Lelia's son Roper is a marine, being deployed to Iraq in September. Prayers, please, ladies. Lelia's stepson Jimmy is a law student at Wake Forest.



CLASS OF 1980

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

Ms. Laura Correll

118 Ashford Avenue
Greenville, SC 29609, 864-279-4214

Mrs. Margaret Craig Schafer

260 Danbury Lane
Atlanta, GA 30327, 404-705-8562
E-mail: ga.schafers@comcast.net

This is a big year for us as we turn 50! **Mona Burris Dukes** will head to England to celebrate with sons Josh and Zach and husband Steven, still Mayor of Johnsonville. Mona is busy with work and a Bible study she has written! **Louise Bixler Moore** and husband Rick are renovating a house and she works for a realty company in Charlotte, NC. Louise occasionally sees **Linda Cullen Kincheloe** and **Lisa Royster Carstarphen**. **Betsy Gant Wittenmyer** reports that son John is a freshman at Texas, daughter Margaret is a high school junior and Anna is a seventh grader. Recently Betsy helped host an event in Houston, TX for Converse President Fleming. **Beth Stoddard Pafford** and husband Julian dined with **Tacey Thompson Gohean** and husband Bob the night before the St. Patrick's Day parade. Tacey is getting her masters at USC and lives in the Columbia area. Beth's son Griffin, will attend Mercer University with an engineering scholarship, and Julia 16, is a Savannah Arts Academy student who made All-State Orchestra. **Kimberly Terry Carver** with husband Tom, daughter Jessica and her fiancé, were in DC recently. Son Heath is in the Pacific Ocean aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln Nuclear aircraft carrier. Kim and family will travel to Hawaii for her 50th! She is still postmaster in Childersburg, AL starting an assignment as communications manager with the US Postal Service for the state of Alabama. **Lizz Topp Klammer** visited daughter Kate (Converse 2009) to see her perform in Tarpon Sharks and celebrate her 21st birthday. Lizz has taught science for 12 years at St. John's Episcopal School in Dallas, TX and serves as Southwest Association of Episcopal Schools Science Fair Chairman. **Laura Satterwhite Hodge** is an empty nester with Camden graduating from

Sewanee in May and Foster a Sewanee freshman. She and Jamie just celebrated their 25th anniversary. The Schafers are well and busy with Daniel at Georgia Tech and Kirk marrying in August. Sincerest thanks to **Liz Hughes** and **Ceil Stewart Bone** for organizing the memorial gift for our late classmate **Elizabeth Weichel Baird**. *Please E-mail me with your news and your updated E-mail addresses!*

CLASS OF 1981

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mrs. Lanie Folline Epting

146 River Birch Lane
Columbia, SC 29206, 803-787-5359
E-mail: Lepting@mindspring.com

Mrs. Martha Bell Smith

124 Hampton Crest Trail
Columbia, SC 29209, 803-783-6684
E-mail: mbsmith458@sc.rr.com

Hi Devils! **Susan McDonald Davis's** daughter Lib (Rhodes College) is in a sorority with **Carol Upchurch Campbell's** daughter Elizabeth. Susan's family, including Andrew (Wake Forest junior) and Sam (13), went to Scotland to research their family. Susan warns that haggis is nasty! **Julie Martin Hanes** and Frank attended an innkeeper's conference at the Mt. Washington Hotel in New Hampshire, and **Amy Warren Beaty's** design company was doing renovations there! They had a grand evening together! **Kim Waugh Gravlee's** daughter Haley finished graduate school and now teaches art in Greenville, SC. Kim says Haley is a wonderful grown-up---there is HOPE! Kim's son Max is at Presbyterian College and drumming with bands. Kim says it is like old times; even the music is the same! Son Alex keeps Kim company while Steve travels. **Terry Alexander** moved to Wilmington, NC and started a real estate career. She says it is great to have a yard after living in high-rises. Her child is a furry pug with no college aspirations. Carol Upchurch Campbell made the big time when she went to tape "Oprah." Only Moonpies made it on TV, but Carol said it was a blast! **Ruthie Jones Soliday's** son Shriver (5th grade at Charleston Day) plays sports and studies between seasons. Shriver

sometimes sees Edward Burroughs, **Beth Reaves' son**. Beth and Jerry live in Virginia, where Jerry serves at the Pentagon. Beth's son Edward is at the College of Charleston. Ruthie, Beth and **Jane Rhinehart Crosby** dined together during Parents Weekend last October. Children had grown, but Ruthie remarked how little Jane, Beth, and she had changed. Ruthie travels as specialty account manager with Endo Pharmaceuticals. **Marianna MacIntyre Taylor's** daughter Marianna attends SCAD in Savannah. Kim Gravlee Waugh, **Sally Jeter Hammond**, **Nancy Horne** and Marianna gather often. **Debbie Richardson Barrett's** family drove cross-country, moving from Washington to Fayetteville, NC. With Caroline (12) and Ryan (10), they set a record by buying a house in eight days. Debbie's husband Al just returned from Iraq, and she says it's terrific to be back in the land of sweet tea, hushpuppies and strangers calling you "honey." Send your news!

CLASS OF 1982

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

Ms. Becky Nutter Cassidy

3320 Calumet Street
Columbus, OH 43202, 614-261-6401
E-mail: rcassidy@sbcglobal.net

Mrs. Holly Beach Hussey

2910 Roxburgh Drive
Roswell, GA 30076, 770-619-3369
E-mail: hbb123@bellsouth.net

Still more news from the Class of '82. **Kimberly Branan Rooker** is in her 21st year in public education as an orchestra teacher, passing on her love of music to 300+ students. She teaches violin, viola, cello and bass. Kimberly lives in Atlanta, GA with her two children, ages 10 and 15. **Allison Stokes Sapp** lives in Tampa, FL with husband, Mike. She and a business partner started a flooring rep agency, Florida Contract Resources and are enjoying success as entrepreneurs. **Anne Richardson Seabrook** and her family vacationed in Tuscany last summer. She and husband, March, are adjusting to an empty nest after delivering Nelson to Wofford, Richard to Woodberry, and Lizzie to St. Mary's in Raleigh, NC. I received a Christmas card from **Debra Baldi Matz**. She and

ALUMNAE EVENTS



March 6, 2008
Raleigh, NC cocktail party, home of Tim and Carroll Sibley Clancy '71.



March 13, 2008
Norfolk, NC luncheon, Norfolk Yacht and Country Club planned by Debra Griggs '75 and Martha Paxton Beale '49.

husband, Doug, live in Pennsylvania with their son, Jarrod. Debra has been very busy with Jarrod, her career, as well as a major house renovation. **Janet James Norton** recently enjoyed seeing **Anne Thomas Brittain**, **Jan Gore Cunningham**, **Kim Peele Newton**, **Ramona Jordan Caswell** and **Peggy Peele**. I try to keep up with my Converse roommates, **Pat Lawson Haney** and **Toni Stokes Starks**. Pat lives in Buffalo, SC with husband, Joey and teenaged children, Jesse and Caroline. Pat called with good news that Caroline will be joining Wofford's 2008 freshman class. Pat also has a line of Christmas china, Bethlehem Christmas, that she designed and markets. Toni lives in Florence, SC where she works with husband, David, in their floral design business, Flowers by Starks. Daughter Kendall will be a college freshman and Jacqueline is a 2006 graduate of Anderson University, now living and working in Charleston, SC. Toni is busy planning Jacqueline's September wedding. Chip and I live in Roswell, GA with our children Caroline (18) and Richard (14). Chip's company has relocated us seven times in the last 17 years. Living in many different cities, I have had the pleasure of reconnecting with lots of classmates over the years. Please contact me so that I can include news of you and your family in newsletters to come. **Holly**

CLASS OF 1983

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representative:

Mrs. Barbara Lindsay Hines
4400 N. Cooper Lake Rd. SE
Smyrna, GA 30082-4600, 770-438-2018
E-mail: robbarb@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Lou Pittman Lindsey
1122 Edisto Drive
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-573-9191
E-mail: lou@eatatwad.es.com

Greetings Red Devils, from your new representatives **Barbara Lindsay Hines** and me (**Lou Pittman Lindsey**). We extend a big thanks to our outgoing representative, **Tami Jones Jacques** for the outstanding job she has done for the Class of 1983. Those of you absent from the reunion missed a proud moment for our class; **Bet Kenan Hamilton** received the Converse 100 Award at the reunion luncheon. Also, **Teresa Miller Thomas** was elected as a 1980's decade representative for the Converse Alumnae Association Board. Our class meeting was held in the SGA cabin, where the always timely, **Frances Knight Taylor** joined **Paula Brock Barnes**, **Molly Foy**, **Meg Floyd Schwartz**, **Cheryl Kirby Walter**, **Hall Haynsworth Bickmann**, **Caroline Dale Rothfield** (who traveled from Maryland), **Teresa**, **Tami**, **Barbara**, and I caught up on our lives. **Leslie Hale Weed's** mom, **Eleanor Herbert Hale '48** dropped off a recent article on Leslie's continued fight against autism; we will keep her in our prayers. Reunion Saturday was topped off at **Bet and Bill's** beautiful home with some delicious food and more fellowship with **Elizabeth Foushee Cunningham**, **Kathryn Benson O'Connor**, **Karen Correll Edwards**, **Belle Maxwell Croft**, **Robin Fuller**, **Lauri Wiggins VanDeusen**, **Ellen McKay Lowry**, **Claire Kountz Shpack** and **Sarah Jennings Johnstone**. The highlight of the

Class of 1983



evening was an encore performance of the Telephone Man by Frances. We pulled out the old yearbooks to reminisce about those of you who we miss seeing (hint). **Barbara** is the principal at Covenant Christian School in Smyrna, GA. She and her husband **Robbie** have two girls **Lindsay Kate** (16,) who plays volleyball and basketball, and **Tori** (13) is a dancer. **Hamp** and **I** are still in the restaurant business in Spartanburg. We will be empty nesting soon, because our son, **Wade** (22), graduated from Wofford College in the spring of 2008, and our daughter, **Anna** (18), will be going to Clemson University in the fall. **Mark** your calendars now for April 2013, our 30th reunion (yikes). In the meantime keep those cards, letters, and E-mails coming to **Barbara** and me. We want to hear from you. Love to you all, **Lou**.

CLASS OF 1984

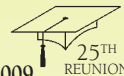
25th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Ms. Jody Cole
308 Jones Street
Ukiah, CA 95482, 707-468-5811
E-mail: wildfair@aol.com

Ms. Mary H. Witherspoon
3272 Oakridge Drive
Graham, NC 27253, 336-578-4429
E-mail: mwitherspoon@bhspsa.com



Thanks ya'll for your Holiday cards, E-mails and phone calls, fortunately this time I have more news than I have space for. Keep that news coming! **Rhonda Tedder Coker** lives in Hartsville, SC and is still married to **Howard** after 21 years. They have three children, one at **Sewanee**. **Rhonda** works in accounting at www.youngpecanplantations.com. **Lou Springs Smith** wrote to say that she, husband and stepson live in **Murrells Inlet, SC**. She substitute teaches at private schools. They spend a lot of time outdoors, especially fishing! **Kim White Finney** lives in **Columbia, SC** with husband, **Ron** and two boys; one a **PKA** at **Wofford** and one on his way to **Wofford**. She is the director of marketing at homebuilding company **The Mungo Companies**. **Susan Elder Alders**, recently got together with **Carolyn Malone Buchanan** for a "girls day out." **Susan's** niece, **Brittany Alders** is a freshman at **Converse**. **Kirsten Jones Moorman** writes that

she's busy with two children and works part time with the Foundation of **Trinity Cathedral** to raise funds to restore the cathedral. She is involved with her garden club and other volunteer efforts. **Margaret Bivin Coffin** writes that she is busy with daughter **Meg**, co-leading a women's Bible study and coordinating **MOPs**, Mothers for Pre-schoolers. Husband **Mark** was just promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the Army. **Lisa Howard Morris** recently walked in the **Out of the Darkness Walk** in **Birmingham, AL** to raise money for suicide prevention in memory of a friend's son who committed suicide at 20 years old. She and **Michael** are still together after 23 years, with two growing children. **Corinthia Brewton King** lives with husband **Edward** in **Etowah, NC**. **Mary Milling Alexander** and family spent time in **Karunga**, visiting with **Dr. Willis Spoon** is doing great and will be vacationing in **Palm Springs** this year. I am back and forth to **Africa**, loving every minute. Our 25th Reunion is **April 24-25, 2009**. **Mark** your calendars; we plan to have record-breaking attendance. Big Hugs! **Jody**.

CLASS OF 1985

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

Mrs. Vandy Major McFaddin
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Mrs. Krisila Newman Foster
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Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864-814-4476
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Kelley Maloney Liggitt hosted a girls weekend at her condo at **Litchfield** in February. Attending were **Suzanne Crosswell Short**, **Marsha Cabbage Somheil**, **Becky Britton Noyes**, **Gigi Dawson**, **Julia Ivey Cagle**, **Paula Brooker Guess**, **Blair Harper Hurlburt** and **Vandy Major McFaddin**. **Kelley** spent spring break with **Suzanne**, **Marsha** and **Becky**, along with nine kids! **Deans Richardson Fawcett** dropped by, but was entertaining 5 of her 6! **Marsha** and **Becky** have sons graduating from high school this year. **Suzanne** saw **Ellen Lanford Asherman** at **Debordieu** during spring break also. **Joan**

Kirkpatrick Ledbetter and Terry honeymooned in Las Vegas in August. She is now Career Coordinator at Shorter College. **Floria Thomas Washington** is director change management at Whirlpool Corporation, Benton Harbor, MI. Floria completed a Lay ministry program in May. Malcolm, her son, is a sophomore Broadcast Journalism major at Ohio U. Kamilah, 16, is in the music honorary society. Howard, her husband, is pursuing his Doctor of Ministry at Ashland University (OH). **Laura Howard Sturgeon's** family lives in Chapin: Jesse (7), Amanda (13), Rachel (16), and Billy's son Eric (17). Laura teaches at Columbia College and coordinates the Pre-College Program and is the children's choir director and adult choir accompanist at Christus Victor Lutheran Church. **Teresa Shuman Clements'** daughter Eileen, a sophomore at Georgia Southern, will study abroad this summer in Italy. Abbey has been accepted to UGA. Olivia is busy playing her high school's first season of varsity lacrosse. Okay, to make us all feel like couch potatoes, read about **Missey Yergey Daly**: 1) the Walt Disney World Marathon and ING Miami Marathon 2) ran the Gulf Coast Half Ironman in Panama City Beach on May 3) owns a Fitness Boot Camp in Orlando 4) swims with the fish at Epcot's Living Seas as a scuba instructor and along with 45 other dive masters, operates a program for guests called "DiveQuest" allowing guests to scuba dive in a six million gallon aquarium. **Tricia Rogers Meadors'** oldest, Blakely is a freshman at Tulane; Maggie, 9th grade, John 6th, and Perry, 4th, keep her busy. Tricia spent a weekend with Paula Brooker Guess and **Treva Thomas Hamlin** at Paula's condo at Litchfield.

CLASS OF 1986

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Ms. Kristy Gillmann

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Mrs. Betsy Mamoulides Hockaday

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Allison Hunnicutt Hauser and Ted live in Jacksonville, FL. She is a partner in a law firm. **Anna White Pollock** and Doug live in Denver, CO with daughter Sophia (5). Anna was practicing law and teaching, but after some time off, is now a consultant for CAbi. **Laura Green Hollowell** and Gervais are now empty nesters. Laura is a director at Camp Greystone. She sees **Mary Booke Kerfoot** and **Elizabeth Jones Beal** every summer. **Brenda Barron Geier** and family live in Louisiana. She just became a nationally certified educational diagnostician. She and **Cathy McAllister Watson** had a wonderful visit in New Orleans. **Monica Rowland Loving** and husband live in Columbia, SC with their children Player (14), Will (11) and Anna Lee (8). She is a career development facilitator in a middle school. She saw **Jennie Player Lambe**, **Katie Gibson Fritze**, **Anne Leland Moore Hayslip**, **Elizabeth Jones Beal** and **Junie Laughridge** at **Sarah Shealy Smith's** house. Last fall Monica, Jennie and Katie had breakfast with **Dinya Floyd Norris** and her son Alex (2). **Sarah Griffith Younginer** and John own a horse farm. Son Madison will be attending Clemson to play baseball and daughter Cassie (15) is an equestrian. **Libby Ann Kepley Inabinet** and Jeff are in Columbia, SC watching sons, Walker and Gus, play football. She says that **Ann Lanier Jackson** and family are doing well in Jacksonville, FL. **Laura Jennings Schulman** and Brett are in Greensboro, NC with children Ryan (13) and Emily (11). She saw **Jill Radford Ferrell** and Tom at the Wofford vs. NC State game in Raleigh, NC this past fall. She saw Laura Green Hollowell's daughter cheering for Wofford. **Angela Spence Nelson** and Randolph have three children, Israelle, Matthew and Micaiah. She is chair of the Department of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University. She reports that **Thelia Price Stevens** and family live in Atlanta, Ga. Anne Moore Hayslip and husband have four children (Scott, Robert, Will and Amy). She saw **Allyson Archer McGaha** and her family at Sugar and Spice in Spartanburg over Thanksgiving. Allyson and Joe live in Fayetteville, NC with their children Josh (18), Jessica (16) and Jacquelyn (8). **Anne Hampson Boatwright** is in Atlanta, GA with Tim and their three boys.

CLASS OF 1987

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

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CLASS OF 1988

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

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Mrs. Alice Fuller Littlejohn

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The Class of 1988 had a wonderful time at our 20-year reunion. A highlight was our class meal at the home of **Carter Willard Smith**. Many thanks to Carter for providing us with such an elegant and comfortable gathering place! It was a particular blessing to have **Elizabeth Cauthen McLean** with us after the tremendous health challenges she has faced. A special "thank-you" goes to Catherine Cauthen '89 for driving Elizabeth up. To all of you who could not be there, we missed you -- and in case you are wondering, our class looks GREAT! **Kimilee Bryant** was one who couldn't attend, as she was in Saskatoon doing *Phantom of the Opera*, but she sends her love. **Laura Graham** will spend time in the Middle East this summer, working with preschoolers in the West Bank. **Melissa Matthews Levitt** is living in Lakeland, FL, where she is a senior training developer for Publix Supermarkets. They have four rescue Pekingese, and Melissa would love to hear from Ann Pond. **Lisa Jacques Snipes** is living in McDonough, GA with her husband and two boys, and is hoping they are settled,

ALUMNAE EVENTS



March 20, 2008

Conway, SC cocktail party, home of Tracy and Debbie Currin Conner '90, co-hosted with Larry and Ginny Marchall Biddle '64.



April 1, 2008

Chattanooga, TN cocktail party, home of John and Ashley Dover Sorrow '94.

as they have also lived in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Florida in the past few years. **Missy Hughes Parkison** teaches political theory at the University of Southern Indiana and is also pursuing a master's degree in theology. **Alice Fuller Littlejohn** has replaced Sydney as class representative, while Kristi will continue to serve. Please keep in touch!

CLASS OF 1989

20th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Nicky Jent Greenway
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Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864-578-5554
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Class of 1988

Hello everyone! Here are our updates for this time and I hope to hear from more of you next time. Please send me (**Nicky Jent Greenway**) your new updated E-mail addresses so that I can update my list and send you reminders. Thanks! **Elisabeth Kinney McNeil** wrote to tell us that **Emily Linder Johnson** of Davidson, NC's 9 year old son, Jake, is filming a second season starring as Lucas Moran on Lifetime's "Army Wives." This show features lead roles by Catherine Bell and Kim Delaney. It is being filmed in Charleston, SC, to air beginning in June of this year. Elisabeth was selected by the Girl Scouts of the Eastern South Carolina as a 2008 Mary Dean Brewer Woman of Distinction. The awards banquet was held in March in Darlington, SC. Eleven women from the Pee Dee and Coastal regions of SC were honored. Congratulations, Elisabeth!!!!!! In February, **Margaret Gordon** and Nicky attended a baby shower for **Marsha McGinnis Frazier** at the beautiful home of **Ashley Macfie Goodlett**. Also hosting the baby shower were **Lisa Avant** and **Angie Weatherred Halstead**. The baby shower was almost like a very mini class reunion. **Angie Williams Cash** wrote that she recently signed up for facebook.com and found some fellow Converse friends on there. She says it is a free site and would be a great way to stay connected. **Becky Chambliss Lane** sent me a note not too long ago. She is still living in the Atlanta area with her husband and two very cute daughters, Halle (6) and Madde (4). And finally, our next class reunion is the weekend of April 24-25, 2009. Save the dates so you can attend! I'd love to see everyone.

CLASS OF 1990

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

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E-mail: Katherine@RealMcKoy.com
Ms. Lesa Underwood
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Charleston, SC 29492
E-mail: lesa@jluevents.com

Hello ladies! Looks like the end of '07 and beginning of '08 have been lots of fun for our class! **Angela Johnson Moss** checks in from Spartanburg and reports seeing **Missy Reid McMahon** on a regular basis...Missy teaches Angela's son Aaron. **Lee Reese** joined **Lesla Underwood** for a week in Italy where they visited Venice, Florence and a few Tuscan hill towns before Lesla headed down to Rome for a week. Lesla, **Liz Holt Nunnally**, **Julie Hennecey**, **Pam Moren Conner**, **Lynn Pettus Finkelstein** and **Rebecca Lesto Shunk** hosted a party for **Claire Bramlett** in Charlotte, NC. Also at the party were **Mary McDaniel Ridgeway**, **Lisa Lyle Fields**, **Lawson Edwards Hough**, **Sheri Starnes Balcerzak** and **Meridith Moorhead Venturella**...a good time was had by all. Congrats to Lynn on finishing the Disney World Marathon in January and helping the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training raise money and create awareness! Julie did some globetrotting when she headed to Greece for a little vacation in the fall. Sheri and her family have moved to Florence and Pam has been helping her learn her way around town. Lawson and **Mary Kenyon Robards Jones** got together with **Winnie Brown King** in the fall. **Deborah Stanford Harris** checks in from Raleigh, NC...she's keeping busy remodeling their house, helping at her kids' school and selling real estate. **Katherine McKoy Hembree**, **Michelle Franklin Shlapak**, **Andria May Duncan** and **Harmony Madden** met in Highlands, NC this spring for a girls weekend of relaxation and catching up. Thanks for all the news...keep it coming!

CLASS OF 1991

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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CLASS OF 1992

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

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Ashton Bozard was pleased to tell that us that the elementary school where she teaches, Lake Carolina Elementary, in Columbia, SC was featured in *The State* newspaper and honored for receiving the title of Palmetto's Finest School. Out of six finalists only two schools were chosen in the entire state. Congratulations Ashton! **Melissa Carlton Salko** and her husband adopted their third child Aaron Salko on January 13, 2008 from China. They were able to take their twins to China as well for the homecoming. Aaron had open-heart surgery in March but is recovering beautifully. **Heather Neal Stone** is excited to report she is expecting a daughter in July! Her husband Chris will officially be a registered architect in July and will continue to work with Neal, Prince and Partners in Greenville, SC. **Elizabeth Hughes** is looking forward to serving as the incoming president for the Junior League in Orlando. **Lauren Jowers Sklar** celebrated her 10th wedding anniversary in September and is busy with her two daughters volunteering at their school as well as in the community and her church. She occasionally sees **Catherine Adams Gallagher** in Rome, GA where they both live. **Amy Walker Headley** is still teaching 12th grade English at Newnan High School, her alma mater and sees **Beth Davenport Williams** everyday who also teaches right across the hall. It kind of feels like Cudd all over again! **Cindy Jerles Brown** continues to enjoy decorative painting in homes and has recently started a Body Shop at home business where she is experiencing success. **Ashley Thomas Little** is expanding her skills on the soccer field coaching her 4 year old daughter. **Mandy McCoy** now resides in Hawaii on the North Shore of Oahu where she is getting plenty of surfing

in. She just recently moved from Santa Barbara where she lived for 13 years and she is excited to announce her engagement to Jeff in December! She continues to work for the same company where she is telecommuting from home. **Laura Mobley Mathis** was selected by *Georgia Trend* magazine as one of the 2007 Top 40 Under 40!

CLASS OF 1993
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2013
Representatives:

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Mrs. Maureen Zeeff Dunn
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Ms. Erica P. Moore "Candy"
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We had a wonderful time reminiscing and catching up during our reunion weekend. We missed those who couldn't join us. Here's a succinct update on our classmates who attended. **Lovell McClung White, Shannon Givens Jaynes, Holle O'Kelley Kennerly** and **Elizabeth Watson Caldwell**, who are all living in Atlanta, GA and are wonderful mothers, had an exciting journey to Converse. Their car broke down, but they all arrived safely in a black Ford F-150 King Cab. **Ashley Quinn Drake** is also living in Atlanta, has three children and has earned two master's degrees while working with special needs students. **Joy Adams Bethea** has three children; she's a talented educator and a master gardener. **Christi Williamson Pringle**, who had knee surgery, is living in Charlotte, NC and has two boys. **Brett McIntosh Simmons** and **Katherine Russell Sagedy** both live in Greenville, SC and have two children. Brett does accounting work at her church and Katherine owns KRS Interiors. **Katie Byrd Earle** is also in Greenville and busy raising her six children. **Sally Giese Aiken** lives in Cincinnati, OH with her husband and their two children. **Brooke McNeill Woods** lives in Dublin, GA, teaches tennis and manages to tutor while raising four children. **Hope Spruell** has been active in youth ministries and now runs the counselor training program at Camp Gravett in Aiken, SC. **Suzanne Smith Dornsmith** is a Methodist pastor in Chapel Hill, NC and has one little girl. **Leslie Fowler Benson** is a mother of two, working as a high school science teacher in Lincoln, NC and volunteering. **Alisa Blanchard** is a pharmaceutical rep and lives in Nashville, TN with her partner and two puppies. The Spartanburg Crew: **Julie McCullough Delaney** is a savvy educator and mother of two. **Cathy Iannazzone Ellett** has three children and teaches part-time. **Lisa James Hayes** has a son and works for Milliken. **Donna Hines White** has three children, works in fundraising for ETV and is the upcoming President of the Spartanburg Junior League. **Candy Moore** is a senior vice president for Wachovia in Charlotte, NC and **Jane Manning Hyatt** currently lives in San Francisco. Please send us

your news and join our Facebook group – Converse College Class of 1993!

CLASS OF 1994
15th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009
Representatives:



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Mrs. Becky Parker Guynn
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 E-mail: guynn@charter.net

Ms. Alison Murphy
 342 Arnold Avenue
 Marietta, GA 30066, 770-424-4126
 E-mail: alisonmurphy@bellsouth.net

Bonnie Bailey Webster is teaching environmental science at Spartanburg Day School. **Natalie Davis Hall** and family are serving God in the frozen frontier of Glennallen, Alaska. Mark your calendars for April 24-25, 2009 for our 15th reunion! Make plans now to attend.

CLASS OF 1995
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2010
Representatives:

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Mrs. Regina Pettit Ziliani
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We heard from several of the girls living in Columbia, SC. **Jennifer Smith Davis** sees **Stefanie Melehes Hughes** frequently since they go to the same church and school. She also plays BUNKO with **Anne Harvin**

Smoak Gavin. In addition to teaching kindergarten in Greenville, **Kerri Shinn Klinker** welcomed 2 little ones into her family this past year. Maggie was born in April 2007 and Jackson was born in February 2008. Kerri attended **Sarah Meeks Robinson's** baby shower recently with **Murray Cheves Thompson**, **Stephanie Hughes**, **Harriett Reid**, and **Sarah Johnson Hartung**. Sarah welcomed a baby boy Wellesley in March. **Mary Margaret Wright Ryan** is still living in Richmond, VA and loves her job as a Middle School Learning Specialist. **Mary Lucia Solomon Spake** moved from Richmond this year to Augusta, GA. **Mary Cameron Cleckley** got married in April 2007 to Brent Welborn. Her house sold on their honeymoon and now they are busy trying to keep up with son, Miles', many sports activities. Classmates **Ashley Evans Harper** and **Emmie Swift Chase** both moved to Charleston this year. **Murray Cheves Thompson** got to see Ashley over spring break and their kids got to play. Close by in Beaufort, is **Rebecca Hoehn Becker**, who met classmates **Kendall Armstrong Robinson**, **Whitney Drinkard Warlick**, and **Becca Berry Williams '96** in Charleston for a beach weekend while **Ashley McCabe Mowat** was visiting from England. **Suzanne Frank Lane** and husband Roger are enjoying their "empty nest" since the youngest daughter graduated last spring and oldest twin got married. In Charlotte, **Ray Piper Bryant** runs into **Austin Faulk Hardison** now and then dining out with our kids. Austin just returned from a trip to Washington with her family. Ray recently closed her home monogramming business and started a new job at a retirement facility. Check the life events for all the babies born this year! Our thoughts are with the family of classmate **Shannon McCoy**, who died in August 2007. Our sympathy to **Suzanne Frank Lane** on the death of her mother-in-law. Please keep the notes coming! We love hearing from everyone.

CLASS OF 1996
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011
Representatives:

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 Charleston, SC 29407, 843-766-8501
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ALUMNAE EVENTS



April 2, 2008
Nashville, TN wine and cheese, home of Wentworth and Barry Mitchiner Caldwell '64, hosted by Mindy Thompson Orman '71.



April 10, 2008
Charlotte, NC reception, hosted by Hugh and Jane Spratt McColl '60 at McColl Fine Art.

Mrs. Pam Hughes Foster
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Simpsonville, SC 29681, 864-963-9582
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Ms. Jenny Williams
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Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-573-6018
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Hello! **Heather Deifell** is traveling the world for one year with her younger sister, Hope, working with missions to urban youth. Visit www.globalmissionproject.blogspot.com to read her blog. **Amie Anderson Glenn** and husband Brandon have moved to Savannah, GA with their daughters Kate (6) and Emma (5). Amie says Savannah is very different than Greenville but they are settling in and enjoying the neat city. **Cindy Greene Goldsmith** has been showing children's clothing and is searching for a kindergarten for daughter Martha. **Pam Hughes Foster** saw Cindy, **Jenny Williams** and **Carrie Hill Coleman** in Spartanburg for a board retreat. Jenny enjoyed a much needed trip to Europe and Carrie and her beautiful family are doing well. Lee, Frank (4), Piper (1) and Pam Foster are doing well. They are still building their house and hope to move in the fall! **Erin Jones Ross** is busy raising Andrew (5) and Carter (3) while volunteering at their school and The Circle of the Greenville Children's Museum. Erin, Cindy Greene Goldsmith, **Kirstie Waugh Tucker**, **Gretchen Swanger Maulsby** and **Patricia Doty Bradshaw** spent a fun-filled, Texas-style weekend with **Emily Colville Paull** this past October. **Ellen Thompson Smith** has been named the newest partner at the law firm Holt, Ney, Zatcoff and Wasserman, LLP. Pam Foster received a wonderful Christmas letter from **Jinny Myers Burford**. She and her family are doing well.

CLASS OF 1997 Next Reunion Alumnae Weekend, 2012 Representatives:

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Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864-599-5383
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Heather Eldridge returned to Sumter, SC and enjoyed her first year teaching high school English at her alma mater, Wilson Hall. **Barbara Gehlmann** is back at Converse working on her MAT of secondary English and still playing music. **Linda Brown Kemp**, having relocated to Columbia, SC is working as an itinerant teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing with the SC School for the Deaf and the Blind's Hearing Outreach Program. **Nina Couch Cardona** traveled to Virginia for **Leslie Anderson Clines's** wedding in October, which appropriately had a dramatic reading of Shakespeare as part of the ceremony. **Katie Doyle Proctor** also attended the wedding as did **Charity Rollins Scott**, **Marlo Taylor Nall** and **Nicole Van Note Gower**. Nina works full time at the radio station where she interviews members of Congress and covers the National Guard's involvement in the war. **Merri Christy Harmon Tolar** is enjoying life and tells us that **Jennifer Buchanan Kurecka** has started teaching psychology as an adjunct professor. **Dawne Copeland Bendig** is working at Spartanburg Community College as a sign language interpreter where she interprets classes for the deaf students. Things are still going great in Marietta, GA for **Amanda Thomas Trask** and her family. **Shannon Smith Darby** (Social Studies), **Shannon Gosnell Bishop** (Language

Arts), and **Leslie Hembree** (French) all teach at R.P. Dawkins Middle School in Spartanburg. **Hadley Rowland** had **Missy Van Doren** over for a dinner of chocolate chip pancakes one night and started looking at Converse yearbooks and pictures. Laughter ensued. Missy noted that the 1935 students looked like they had as much fun as we did, though there was no evidence they rode around in a maintenance truck for champagne breakfast! Missy had dinner with **Catherine Alexander Girard** who was in the DC area on business in February. **Tiffany Clemons Jolly** now lives in Rock Hill and ran into **Susan Miskelly**. **Donna Pallassino Evans** reports that daughter Mckenna is jabbering away now. **Jennifer Schwartz Henderson** was asked to do a video interview for Webmd.com last summer. She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2001. The video features an interview with Jennifer and clips of her family. Here's the link to the video: <http://www.webmd.com/multiple-sclerosis/multiple-sclerosis-health-check/video>.

CLASS OF 1998 Next Reunion Alumnae Weekend, 2013 Representatives:

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Greetings Pink Panthers! What an amazing time we had during Reunion Weekend 2008! For those who were unable to attend, we missed you! Converse has grown and is more beautiful than ever since graduating ten years ago. I guess being brides, mommies and successful working women must be beneficial for us because everyone looked fabulous! Our most distant traveler for the reunion was **Erin Rich Strickland**

who joined us from Germany. Erin is currently in Gent, Belgium until August when Chris, her hubby, finishes the study abroad portion of his IMBA/JD degree from USC. Others attending the reunion were: **Laura Matthews Pappas, Ann Gerber Hawkins, Shannon Gordy Haynes, Jennifer Reese Boyd, Jenny Orr, Helen Walker, Shannon Campbell Parsons, Elizabeth Current Hook, Alison Palmer Johnson, Susan Pittman Parker, Holly Smith Egan, Heather Godsey Champney, Connie Reeves Sellers, Stephanie Easterday Bartuch, Carol Kerstiens Hunter, Betsy Beauchamp, Shelby Bishop, Lynn Hudson Waldrop, Paige Eubanks-Barrow and Alice Miller Dorn.** In other news, **Rebecca Smith Caswell** and her husband RJ, have formed a non-profit ministry called Weaving Families Adoption Ministry. They are counseling, educating and comforting families on the adoption journey. Their web address is www.weavingfamilies.com. Don't forget to check out the Life Events Section for more updates on our classmates such as births and career changes. Continue to keep us updated with your happenings! Have a wonderful summer!

CLASS OF 1999
10th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009



Representatives:

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Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" R. Thompson

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 Fernandina Beach, FL 32034, 678-571-6756
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Just because we're not at Converse anymore, doesn't mean we can't take time out of busy lives to get together with each other - several of our classmates have done just that. **Angel Gainey Eicher, Erin Randle Foil, Jennifer Lovett Rackley, Carey Dancho Merriweather and Shwetha Gupta** had a fun ladies weekend in Augusta, GA where they ate, talked and showed off pictures of their beautiful children. **Sarah Farnaby, Angel Gainey Eicher, Beth Robbins Cooper, Nikki Maples Reynolds, Meryl Grant and Alison Block** got together in Washington, DC in December to celebrate birthdays and friendship. Sarah Farnaby has started a private practice in Washington, DC called Over the Rainbow, LLC which provides counseling and supportive services to trauma survivors. **Carol Cancienne** was in charge of registration of over 3500 teens and chaperones at the beginning of March for the tenth annual Abbey Youth Festival. She continues to work at the New Orleans Oral School, is a member of the core team for the Teens Encountering Christ retreat group as well as a member of the Archdiocese of New Orleans Young Adult planning committee. In her spare time she is also helping to plan for an annual trip in June to Medjugorje and fundraising for the Sojourners of the Burning Heart as well as taking swing dance lessons with friends. **Beth Thompson**

Class of 1998



has set up a website for our class on Myspace. She will be keeping it up to date with reunion information and if you ask to become a friend, you can keep in contact with other class of 1999 friends. The address is: www.myspace.com/conversecollege1999class. Please check it out and let us know what's been happening in your lives since we graduated.

CLASS OF 2000

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

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Mrs. Angela Lee Sox

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E-mail: angsox1@yahoo.com

Pink Panther Updates: **Dana Luttrell Garner** accepted a position as an assistant accounting professor at the College of Charleston teaching auditing and intermediate accounting. **Deanna Fults** took a new position within TVA with Labor Relations representing management in mediation and arbitration with unions and is also volunteering with Junior League. **Elizabeth Langford Hansen** recently moved to Durham, NH. **Mollie Davis Veness** moved to Knoxville, TN. **Stephanie Borick Grace** recently passed the CPA exam and will be moving to Grand Rapids, MI. She also finished her provisional year as a member of Junior League. **Emily Clark Timon** is now a Surgeons' marketing Representative for a medical practice. **Caroline Brice King** got married in January and is now a manager at Gudmundson & Buyck Jewelers in Columbia. **Audrey Chavous Keith** is now teaching 7th grade math at Dacusville Middle School. **Elizabeth Anne Joyner** spent the fall teaching in China and completed her first marathon in Tampa, FL!!! **Erin Patterson Joye** moved from Nashville, TN to Charlotte, NC. She is teaching Choral Music at Clover High School in Clover, SC. **Joy Stoney** is building

a house just outside of Charleston, SC near her law practice. **Nikea Jamison** traveled to Washington, DC, recently where her daughter, Kayla performed on the Kennedy Center Stage! It looks like you have all been keeping busy! We love hearing from you all and can't wait to see each of you at our next reunion!!!

CLASS OF 2001

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Ms. Andrea Boltz

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Ms. Stephanie Livesay

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E-mail: sblivesay@hotmail.com

Ms. Jennifer Woodruff

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 Durham, NC 27701, 404-421-2229

E-mail: jenny.woodruff@gmail.com

We've heard news from several of our classmates recently, and we're happy to share the highlights. **Wendy Converse** took a job as the graphic designer with the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts in January, and has recently returned from a trip to Ghana, Africa. **Janet Johnson** is now teaching the safety program with Grace Management Group in Spartanburg, SC. **Jessie Staska Walker** recently moved to a new home in Boiling Springs, SC and was visited by **Farrell King**. Farrell has also been spotted visiting **Ami Price Gilbert** in Chicago. **Maryeah Jager Kramer** and her husband are busily painting their new home in Spartanburg, SC. **Jocelyn Buckner** is continuing her PhD in the theatre studies at the University of Kansas. She is also the managing editor for the *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism*, and recently directed Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, which **Jenny Woodruff** went to see. She is busy on the academic theatre conference circuit, presenting papers this year at the American Society for Theatre Research, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Black Theatre Network, and the Mid America Theatre Conference. The Class of 2001 would like to express its sympathy to **Paige**

Butler McDowell, on the death of her mother on September 16, 2007. Please check the births in Life Events; we're so happy for our new moms!

CLASS OF 2002

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

Ms. Laura L. Causey
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Ms. Kerri L. Olson
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Prior Lake, MN 55372, 952-440-1964
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The class of 2002 has been busy! **Kylee Heap** recently moved into the house that she built in Greenville. **Elizabeth Smith** and **Ellie Cook Rapp** attended a bridal luncheon for **Amanda Harmon** in Charleston. **Liz Loberger** recently relocated to the Green Bay area and is currently an expeditor for a world-wide manufacturer. Liz Loberger, **Gretchen Hatoway**, **Erin Jennings Martin**, **Tiffany Thornton**, **Kristen Cheeseman Dittman**, and Andrew Bolden '03MM performed for **Carrie Page Drake's** wedding ceremony and reception in December. **Lena Belcher Stover** also attended and **Erica Tyner** was one of her bridesmaids. **Kathy Seay** traveled to Germany for Christmas 2007. **Alyson Geery** has relocated to Brenham, TX, Alyson continues to take classes through Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently working as the director of the Baptist Student Ministry at Blinn College and as a school bus driver. **Kerri Olson** and **Elizabeth Oswalt** traveled to New Orleans to celebrate Mardi Gras with **Laura Causey** after she relocated back to New Orleans in December 2007! Laura Causey has changed careers and is now in the school fundraising business. Elizabeth Oswalt has switched to the Enterprise Division at Blackbaud as a fundraising systems consultant. **Kelly Fulmer Reams** has started teaching at Spartanburg Community College, in addition to teaching at Dorman High School. In August 2007, **Vanese Scott** left USC's purchasing department where she had been an administrative specialist since September 2002 and became an 8th grade earth science teacher at Fairfield Middle School in Winnsboro, SC.

She is also currently enrolled in PACE (Program for Alternative Certification for Educators) to earn her professional certificate for teaching.

CLASS OF 2003

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

Mrs. Megan Russell Bates
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Mrs. Melissa Heatherly Brannen
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Mrs. Alison Turner Watson
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Inman, SC 29349, 864-472-5809
E-mail: Alison.watson@converse.edu

Rebekah Hilton Hans teaches art in Chapel Hill, NC, but will be relocating with her husband and daughter Giselle to Austin, TX. **Chelsea Jaccard** is still working at MSI on a large USAID Iraq project. **Carrie Tucker** is the coordinator of leadership programs at Florida State. She directs programs such as Service Scholars and Social Justice Living-Learning Community. **Anna Steenerson** has sung with the Des Moines Metro Opera and the Pensacola Opera. She will return to Pensacola in 2009. **Cheryl Moore Cruickshank** teaches middle school chorus and general music in Holliston, MA. **Patricia Crisan** is an adjunct instructor of piano and coach/accompanist at Converse for the Petrie School of Music. She also is on the faculty of the Alia Lawson Pre-College where she teaches and is an accompanist. **Nicole Giraudin Martinez** visited **Lynn Dancho Wilkes**. She also visited **Carla Nelson Martin**, **Melissia Heatherly Brannen** and **Megan Russell Bates** (and their respective babies). Nicole and Lynn also traveled the state of SC and stopped in to visit Lori Dancho '07 in Charleston, SC. **Kristin Smith** just started in the EdS program at USC in marriage and family counseling. **Brandy Westbrook McSwain** is attending Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic where she will graduate in 2011 with a DC degree. **Erin Norton** is working on her MBA at Winthrop, living in Charlotte, NC, and is an inside salesperson

for an engineering rep firm. We have enjoyed being your class representatives for the last four years. We missed everyone who was not able to make it to the reunion. Good luck to **Melissia Heatherly Brannen**, **Megan Russell Bates**, and **Alison Turner Watson** as they take on the role of class reps. Go Red Devils!!

CLASS OF 2004

5th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009

Representatives:

Mrs. Jordan Greene Standrich
321 Robin Helton Drive
Boiling Springs, SC 29316, 864-706-0785
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Mrs. Quinn Burgin Saleeby
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E-mail: quinnsaleeby@hotmail.com

Mrs. Erin Poston Stone
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Columbia, SC 29209, 803-695-2183
E-mail: ErinPStone@gmail.com



Susan Byrnes Long just ran and finished her first marathon on December 9th. **Shawna Cowart Simmons** won teacher of the year at her school, Jesse Bobo, in Spartanburg, SC! Congratulations to both Susan and Shawna. See Life Events for more news on the Class of 2004! Mark your calendars for April 24-25, 2009 for our 5th reunion! Make plans now to attend.

CLASS OF 2005

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

Ms. Kara Hagood
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Ms. Megan Johnson
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E-mail: MeganJohnson05@gmail.com

Ms. Catherine Woodrum
613 Mesa Lane
Moore, SC 29369, 864-316-9836
E-mail: cwool120@aol.com

Sara McLean is a silversmith making custom jewelry and works at the Heartwood Gallery in Saluda, NC. **Tharanga Goonetilleke** won the Metropolitan auditions from New York State in November 2007.

CLASS OF 2006

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Miss Mallory Beckett
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Miss Tracy Huskey
513B Lucas Court
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-497-8907
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Class of 2003

Class of 2007



Mrs. Melissa Meyer Hewitt
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Pauline, SC 29734, 901-262-2921
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CLASS OF 2007
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:
Miss Grace Bagwell
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Miss Valerie Dowling
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Miss Deidre D. Tindal
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In attendance for our first reunion were **Anna Harris, Grace Bagwell, Whitney Weeks, Jessica Atherton, Brittany Jones, Deidre Tindal, Bridget Norman, Brandy Hicks, Mary Caroline DeBruhl Frith, Valerie Dowling and Michelle Sloan.**

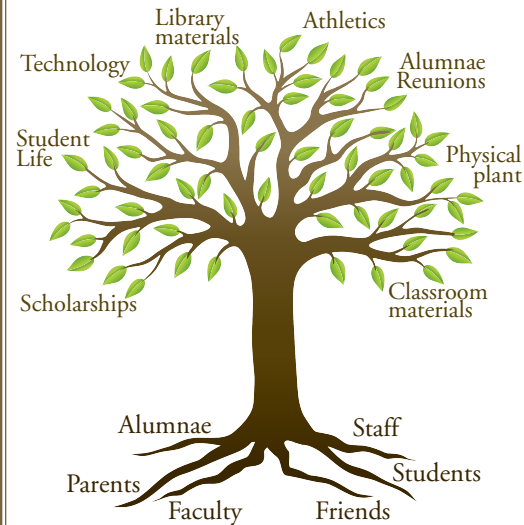
CLASS OF 2008
1st Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 24-25, 2009



Representatives:
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Miss Erin McGraw
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E-mail: erin27-86@yahoo.com

Send us your news and mark your calendars for April 24-25, 2009 for our FIRST reunion as Converse ALUMNAE!

Your support of the
Converse Annual Fund
provides the solid foundation for
learning, exploration and discovery.



THANK YOU
for making a difference
for the 2007-2008 fiscal year
(ended June 30)!

ALUMNAE EVENTS



May 15, 2008
Senior Candlelight Dinner at the Piedmont Club hosted by Nancy Bain Coté '79.



May 16, 2008
Hats Off Party for seniors hosted by Laura Chappell Bauknight '87, Cile Chappell Wildrick '89 and Molly Chappell McPhail '91.

A Thousand Thanks Gala

Celebrating donors of \$1,000 or more
April 23, 2008



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