

CONVERSE

BULLETIN

SPRING 2007



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS



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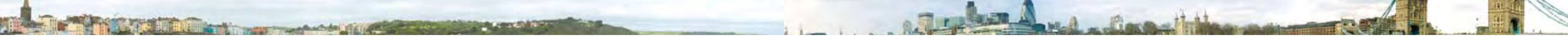
Elizabeth G. Simons

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A Thousand Thanks Gala

Recognizing alumnae and friends who give \$1,000 or more

Wednesday, April 25, 2007



Hannah Eisengrein '08 awaits the Pope at St. Peter's Square



(From left) Valerie Dowling '07, Brittany Jones '07, Kate McCormick '07 and Stacy Thrall '07 at the Colosseum in Rome

From the President



With the 2005 publication of *The World is Flat* by Pulitzer Prize winning author Tom Friedman, the global community has experienced a collective awakening regarding the shrinking of our world, the increasing importance of cross-cultural communication, and the need to establish a new world order that emphasizes global connections and collaborations. Internationalism and the value

of participating in a world community has long been a priority for Spartanburg. The city is home to 82 multinational corporations. My Spartanburg foundation cultivated an early interest in experiencing the world at large and coupled with my discovery of art history in college propelled me to travel to such foreign places as continental Africa and Guatemala. This background also encouraged my international pursuit of knowledge and training, transporting me from Exeter, New Hampshire and Cambridge, Massachusetts to London, Los Angeles, New York, Charleston and now back to Spartanburg.

The Converse community readily embraces globalization and offers a true manifestation of the concept "think globally, act locally." The stories within this issue reflect the compelling call at Converse to chart new courses in international waters and connect with others around the globe. Written by students, faculty and alumnae, the following pages speak to the limitless opportunities afforded through a Converse education. Landing at Converse is precisely what has launched the lives and careers of our contributing authors.

As I write this message, Converse is embarking on a strategic process of building on the accomplishments and traditions of a

proud history. Energized by the prospects in our future, we have begun to imagine the shape of things to come. The questions that frame our conversations are intrinsically linked to the global environment of the twenty-first century. What is Converse's unique position in encouraging global understanding and cultural exchange? How will we support and maximize the educational goals of our students? How might we leverage our strengths to assure a broad, inclusive vision for the College? How will the challenges and changes in our society impact our curriculum and culture? Responding collectively to these questions and many others is vital to our continued success. Developing a strategy that situates Converse within an ever-changing global community will ensure that the College moves boldly into the new millennium.

We are well on our way. The adventures chronicled within, from places far and wide, are impressive stories that illustrate that the best part of any journey is the learning along the way. With advances in technologies and modern travel, satellite communications and higher education, the world around us has never been more accessible. Through initiatives that encourage cultural exchange; that inspire international partnerships and that embrace global paradigm shifts, Converse is an increasingly active citizen of the world community.

Betsy

Elisabeth A. Fleming
President

International Awareness at Converse

by Dr. Jeri Debois King, Anne Morrison Chapman Distinguished Professor of Modern Languages and Director of International Studies

When Dexter Edgar Converse wrote in the founder's ideal, "the well-being of any country depends much upon the culture of her women," he didn't mention international awareness. Nonetheless, I'm sure that if he were alive today, Dexter Edgar Converse would emphatically endorse our efforts to increase international awareness for Converse students. I believe that international awareness requires two ingredients: immersion in the target culture and foreign language study. One is not a cultured person without an awareness of other cultures, and students cannot achieve cultural competence without acquiring some foreign language proficiency.

In 1971, when I arrived at Converse, we had study abroad programs in place to send foreign language majors to spend a year in Avignon, France and Madrid, Spain. Jeffrey Willis had recently established the first faculty escorted London Term during the fall semester. Elisabeth Epting had just established the first Winter Term study/travel program to France, escorting more than 20 students through France for four weeks. Although this was innovative at the time, I felt that our student body was

homogeneous. I saw few international students, minority students, and even fewer students with physical challenges. I couldn't help thinking that our homogeneity isolated us. The assumptions that we make when we interact exclusively with people like ourselves keep us from achieving our potential.

The best way to add an international component to one's course of study is to study abroad for a semester or a year. Study abroad is no longer reserved for foreign language majors; it is recommended for all majors and makes them stand out in the hiring process. Converse is fortunate to have had the support of the Anne Morrison Chapman Endowment, which sponsors international activities at Converse. Last year, the Chapman Scholars Endowment awarded \$38,000 to students for study abroad, enabling many who otherwise would not have been able to benefit from Converse's travel opportunities. I believe that the Chapman endowment has transformed the culture of our College.

Stacy Thrall '07 gives a little help to the Tower of Pisa



In addition to semester-long programs, there are a multitude of additional study/travel opportunities. This January Term, faculty led student groups to Greece, Rome, France, Italy and Mexico.

Beyond travel, a great way to increase one's international awareness is to befriend one of Converse's approximately 50 international students. These young women hail from Latin America, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Nepal and China. I have been impressed with their involvement in campus activities. Last spring, I walked with the International Student Organization during the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The students organized a team and raised a substantial sum for this good cause. Also last spring, Swarupa Bohara of Nepal and her fellow officers of the International Student Organization organized an international dance party. They invited students from other area colleges as well as Converse, and international and traditional students alike danced well into the night. When I left the dance, I kept thinking that Converse is a better place because of our international students. Knowing them enriches the culture of the Converse community and educates us all. ■



Dr. Jeri King (center) and Converse students at the Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City

Global Connections

Converse alumnae, faculty and students travel and live across the globe. This world-wide network of experiences and connections infuse Converse with culture, knowledge and opportunity. Below is a small sampling of Converse's global connections.

Iceland

Converse faculty – Guest faculty through exchange program with University of Iceland



England

Claudia Davis Donovan '91 – Relationship Director for Barclays Retail and Wholesale Team at Barclays Bank
Converse faculty and students - London Term travel
Petrie School of Music faculty and students – Teachers and participants in Harlaxton International Chamber Music Festival and performers for Converse's Great Cathedrals Tour
Andrew Blanchard, Assistant Professor of Art – Lithography exhibitor at The Museum of Modern Art in Wales
Dr. Laura Brown, Associate Professor of English and Co-Director of Nisbet Honors Program – Presenter for the Renaissance Society of America in Cambridge



Italy

Converse faculty and students – Travel to Rome for “Women In the Sacred City,” travel to Tuscany/Sicily for “Literary Travel Writing,” summer travel for “The Spirit of Place” writing workshop
Dr. Jean Dunbar, Professor of Mathematics – Graph Theory research and presentations
Petrie School of Music faculty and students – Teachers and participants in Operafestival di Roma



Panama

Homeland of Converse students Gabriela Arosemena '09, Michelle Clare '07, Lourdes Medrano '08, Christina Navarro '07, Maria Pascal '10, Andrea Profili '08, and Margarita Tejeira '09
Converse Trio and Ensemble Radieuse (Petrie School of Music faculty) – Performance tours



Mexico

Judy Wainer Ponce '63- Freelance translator and facilitator of Prayer and Life Workshops
Converse faculty and students - Study/travel destination
Dr. Rafael Hernandez, Reeves Brothers Professor of Spanish – Session chair at the Conference of the Southeastern Council on Latin American Studies



Belgium

Jane Pitts Autrey '66– Office Administrator for the law firm Hunton & Williams
Dr. Siegwart Reichwald, Associate Professor of Musicology – Presenter at the 17th Congress of the International Musicological Society



Egypt

Dr. Douglas Weeks, Babcock Professor of Piano – Fulbright Senior Scholar and Fulbright Senior Specialist at Cairo Conservatory of Music and Helwan University
Dr. Joe Dunn, Charles A. Dana Professor of History and Politics – Leader of the first Model Arab League Exchange Program



South Africa

Dr. Jean Dunbar, Professor of Mathematics – Graph Theory research and presentations



Ivory Coast

Sharon (Becki) Rand Barnett '82
– Former language surveyor, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire



Denmark

Hattie Liddon Andersen '63
– Piano Teacher



Germany

Anneke Zeeff '95 - Visually Impaired Consultant with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools for the European District
Converse Chamber Singers – Performance tours
Dr. Siegwart Reichwald, Associate Professor of Musicology – Presenter at the International Symposium: Eine “namenlose Mittelgattung,” Gattungen und Formen des Oratoriums im 19. Jahrhundert.



China

Dr. Leon Couch, Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Organ –Presenter at the International Computer Music Conference and the China Electronic Music Center



Japan

Dr. Elizabeth York, Associate Professor of Music Therapy – Keynote Speaker at Gifu Music Therapy and Research Center



Russia

Dr. Thomas McDaniel, Senior Vice President – Lecturer on the American Public School System
Katharine Slemenda, Associate Professor of Deaf Education – Lecturer on teaching deaf children in America at the School for the Deaf



Sri Lanka

Homeland of Converse student Eranga Goonetilleke '08
Dr. Douglas Weeks, Babcock Professor of Piano and Chair of Performance – Solo performer at invitation of US State Department



United Arab Emirates

Paula Wagner Gay '77
– Caterer in Dubai



Nepal

Homeland of Converse students Swarupa Bohara '09, Meenakshi Gurung '09, Kripa Hada '08 and Anusa Thapa '09
Dr. Douglas Weeks, Babcock Professor of Piano – Solo performer at the invitation of the Public Affairs Officer at the US Embassy



Australia

Sarah Rowan '03 – Freelance artist
Dr. Elizabeth York, Associate Professor of Music Therapy – Presenter at World Congress of Music Therapy



New Zealand

Dr. Neval Erturk, Assistant Professor of Biology – Teacher at Massey University and student of cultural anthropology and linguistics



Thailand

Dr. Leon Couch, Assistant Professor of Music Theory and Organ – Presenter for the International Conference of the College Music Society
Dr. Neval Erturk, Assistant Professor of Biology – Work with international students and families



Fiji

Dr. Neval Erturk, Assistant Professor of Biology – Educator for corporations hiring and mentoring international students



Life Lessons from Uganda



by Andrea Stokes '07

Editor's Note: Andrea is a senior from Aiken, SC majoring in history and politics. A Converse College Presidential Scholar and member of the Nisbet Honors Program, Andrea served as vice-president of her sophomore and junior classes, was a member of Crescent and served as a Junior Marshall.

In the spring of 2006, I studied abroad at Uganda Christian University (UCU) in Mukono, Uganda. I had previously studied abroad in London during January of 2004, and I knew that living in equatorial Africa would be quite different. Indeed, witnessing Ugandan “democracy” during presidential elections, rafting the Nile, getting lost and battling “killer” ants in the Ssesse Islands, eating goat liver, and walking a half mile to gather water with my homestay mother and sisters were all part of my Ugandan experience. Yet, most of the semester consisted of living and studying on an African university campus. I also spent two weeks living with a local family near the university, and five days with a family in a rural village.

English is widely spoken in Uganda, but knowing some phrases in the local languages was helpful. Although language was not a great barrier, cultural differences and expectations contributed to miscommunications. For example, only after accepting an invitation from one of our homestay neighbors to visit her school did an American friend and I find out that we were to stand up and sing in front of the whole school.

Other communication glitches were just as laughable. In the dining hall, after receiving silent responses to the question, “May I sit here?” we learned that raising the eyebrows is a perfectly polite way of answering, “yes.” Ugandans do not shake hands, but may hold your hand for an entire conversation. Though at first awkward, this soon became something I appreciated about Ugandan culture.

Unlike at American universities, ragged jeans and pajamas were not appropriate for class at UCU. Dressing “smart” is highly valued in Uganda, and it was common for students to wear business suits to class. Ironing was essential, both to smooth wrinkles and to kill eggs laid by Mango flies. In addition, long skirts were more acceptable attire for women than pants. Although I tried to dress in ways



(From top to bottom) Andrea meets neighborhood children, including a little girl also named Andrea, at her homestay in town; Andrea learns to milk a cow on her rural homestay; and Andrea and a friend hang out with children at CHAIN Foundation orphanage

that would not be offensive, the excited shouts of children – “Muzugu! Muzugu!” (Caucasian Westerner) – indicated that it was impossible to blend in with the locals.

At times I found the lack of technology in Uganda to be exasperating. Showers were cold. Meals were usually rice and beans or the local staple foods. Completing assignments was complicated without having a personal computer available, and regular power outages made it best not to procrastinate. Despite these frustrations, life was refreshingly simple. I enjoyed the quiet stillness of nights when the only light was the flickering flame of candles, and the only entertainment was

discussion of serious and not-so-serious topics with friends over fresh pineapple. Hand-washing clothes required time and energy, yet provided opportunity to learn a skill from Ugandan friends.

As a history and politics major, many of my classes in Uganda covered East African history, politics and religion. Another class focused on concerns plaguing sub-Saharan Africa: poverty, disease, corruption, conflict and debt, and our responses to these issues. This class included visits to AIDS clinics, to families suffering effects of regional conflict, and to Rwanda. Living in Uganda and hearing first-hand experiences from friends helped me to see these issues from their perspective and less through the lens of my culture.

Now, when I read about Africa in the news, it seems near and real. The AIDS victim is not a stranger, but Teddy, a playful little girl at the orphanage I visited each week. The family in a crowded IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) camp in northern Uganda is that of my friend Joy, who, after finishing her degree in social work and administration, plans to return and help bring healing to children who have suffered there.

I learned many lessons from my Ugandan friends: the value of people over schedules, the beauty of the inclusiveness of their families, the testimony of faith that thrives though reason says it should fail, the awareness that “busyness” prevents me from living intentionally. Often I have viewed Africa in terms of the needs of its people, but by engaging Uganda through the role of a student, I have seen there is much this continent can offer to the world. 🇺🇬

Culture Shock: A Nepalese in America

by Kripa Hada '08



Editor's Note: Kripa is a junior from Nepal double-majoring in accounting and computer science. She is active in the Student Government Association, International Student Organization, Rotaract, Presidential Ambassadors and Converse College Institute for Leaders. She is also a math tutor for her peers.

I was born and raised as the first daughter of a conservative Newari family in Kathmandu, the capital of the kingdom of Nepal. Nepal is the kingdom of Himalayas, the birthplace of Gautam Buddha, the land of Mt. Everest and living Goddess, a garden of four castes and thirty-six clans, and a country with religious tolerance.

There are more than one million people in Kathmandu Valley, and they are always surrounded by relatives and friends. I had heard that in America, people tend to have personal space, something I had never experienced with my family. But I preferred to live in a big family with all of my cousins, aunts and uncles. I experienced a touch of culture shock my first evening on the Converse campus because it was the first time I spent a night alone in my residence hall room.

As a child, I was expected never to raise my voice, nor to question, or form any opinion in public or elsewhere. “Children are supposed to obey, not to ask questions or argue with older people,” my parents would say. But I am very lucky to have my family. Even though it was expensive for my parents, I went to a private English medium school, and then earned my two year college qualification from Birendra Military High School.

Two years later, I applied to different liberal arts colleges in America. I wanted a college education that would allow me to explore different disciplines simultaneously and not confine me to any one subject. I was especially drawn to a liberal arts curriculum which offered the option of taking courses in seemingly unrelated subjects such as business, English and psychology that are nevertheless intertwined.

In Nepal, virtually all classes are lecture-based, which means that education is a one-way street where the instructors are always right. I applied to Converse because my research



Kripa wears her traditional Nepalese dress for special occasions at Converse

told me that Converse goes to great lengths to ensure that this is not the case. Here, professors actually look forward to learning from the students, making the traffic of education and knowledge sharing two-way. This interactive model of education sets Converse apart from the colleges in my country and many other colleges in America.

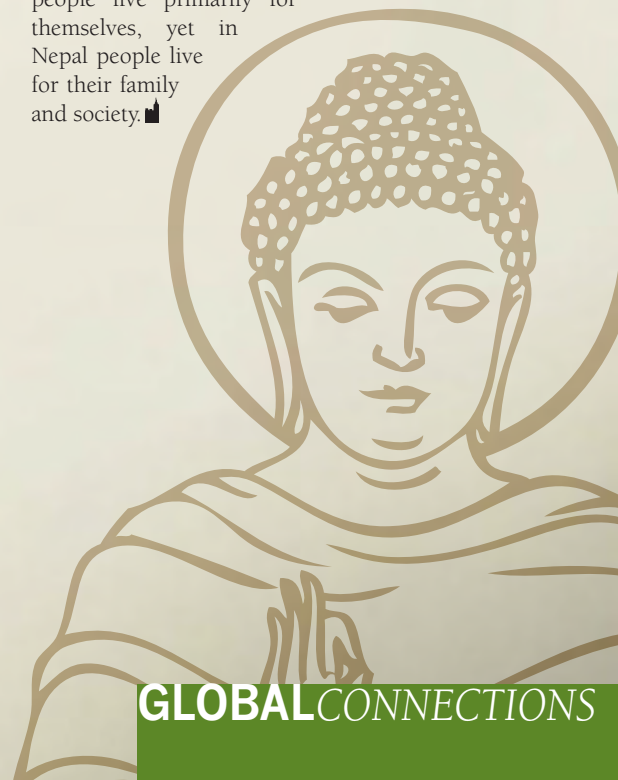
The decision to come to Converse was not an easy one; not because it is a women's college, but because I was simply not sure if I would be able to adapt to a culture different than what I had been accustomed. Converse has always been a warm and loving place for me as I have slowly gotten used to the American customs. Although I had to cope with all the cultural shock at first, I gained a lot of friends among Americans and students from other countries who are able to understand what it feels like being far away from home and living a totally different life.

Americans would find a warm and pleasant experience if they visited Nepal. One of the primary differences I have noticed is that Americans sound very polite and often say “Hey, how are you?” when they pass by, but they leave without listening for a response which means they do not really care to know

how a person feels. However, when Nepalese meet people, we expect to greet and wait for a while for a response. When we greet, we often ask about our health, one's family, friends and relatives.

I was shocked to see Americans speak directly and to the point, even with their elders. Americans are independent and self reliant and believe in the sense of equality. They even call some of their elders by their first names. In Nepal, it would be extremely rude to call elders by their names or even last names. Nepalese address them as “uncles” or “aunts,” “sisters” and “brothers.” At dinners, Americans do not ask repeatedly if their guests want more food. Nepalese would consider it impolite not to offer and ask for food too often. For Americans, a “yes” means “yes” and a “no” means “no,” but in Nepal, it is impolite to stop offering the food even if the guests decline.

I have found that Americans seemingly find it easy to refuse a favor or an invitation, but in Nepal we never decline these because it would be considered impolite. Americans are always time conscious whereas Nepalese are expected to be late. Americans even set appointments for lunch and dinners with their relatives and friends. In Nepal, we can drop by our relatives' or friends' house anytime. In America, it seems as though people live primarily for themselves, yet in Nepal people live for their family and society. 🇳🇵



Shedding My Westerner's Lens

A Lifelong Quest for Understanding

by Casey Addis '04

My fascination with the Middle East began in the Model Arab League program at Converse, which provided me with a love of debate and an insatiable curiosity about the region. As an undergraduate, I spent my summers studying Arabic in Morocco, and learning about regional politics at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo, Egypt. After graduation, I had the opportunity to travel to Jordan on several occasions to establish the first Model Arab League program for students in the region. I chose to continue my study of the region as a dual masters student in public affairs and Middle Eastern studies at The University of Texas at Austin.

My first semester of graduate school, I participated in a policy research project on cross-border water management. I spent a year exploring possibilities for water sharing between Israel and Palestine. Texas shares some of the same problems with Mexico and, as a result, a group of Jordanian environmental engineers came to meet with the Texas Commissioner of Agriculture about an international conference on water management in Amman, Jordan. Since I was familiar with Amman, Arabic, and water issues in the region, I was invited to join the planning process. I wrote a grant to spend a summer in Jordan studying Arabic and researching water management, and was awarded a Boren fellowship – a large grant that supports not only a summer, but an entire degree program of research.

Although I was visiting a familiar place, my summer in Jordan and my other travel experiences to neighboring countries offered a new perspective on a region in a state of perpetual change and turmoil.

One of my favorite qualities of the Arabs in general is their interest in their own circumstances and the world around them. At almost every socio-economic level, from cab driver to government minister, Arabs in urban areas turn on satellite televisions daily to view the latest from around the world via the BBC, Al-Jazeera, CNN World and a panoply of other news sources. I happened to be in Jerusalem when the two Israeli soldiers were kidnapped by Hezbollah, and I witnessed an entire nation watch the events of war play out with bated breath. Standing at the Wailing Wall, I asked a young Israeli soldier where to find the non-Muslim entrance to the Dome of the Rock plaza. She was barely eighteen, and the M-16 on her shoulder offered little comfort as her face filled with terror. “You can't go to the other side,” she said. “It's not safe. It's not our country.”

Her words stayed with me. Her sentiments were echoed by most other Israeli youth that I encountered, and mirrored by those I met in the Muslim quarter of the city and in East Jerusalem. These two peoples live side-by-side, profoundly afraid of one another, and without the understanding that the relationship of neighbors could potentially afford. Israeli society is fascinating.

After sundown on a Saturday evening, when Shabat was over, I went to Zion Square for coffee, and to catch the end of the World Cup match. I was shocked at the scores of young people, “Israelis” of every color, celebrating and socializing in the square. I was alarmed to find that most of the young Israeli soldiers

shed their uniforms, but not their M-16s. I thought about compulsory military service. Is it necessary for the security of a state facing existential threat? Or does it perpetuate the feelings of fear and separateness that the young Israeli soldier girl voiced to me earlier that week?

however, as I read more about Hezbollah and talked to endless numbers of Lebanese who fled to Jordan, I began to wonder if I, too, would refuse to blame Hezbollah. I didn't speak with one Palestinian, Jordanian, or Arab, for that matter, who was not quick



(Lower left) A visit to a baptism site in Jordan; Casey and a friend pose with a shopkeeper in Essaouira, Morocco

After returning to Jordan and as the war wore on, I learned the difficulty of dividing the world clearly into good and evil, terrorist and nationalist. Al-Manar, Hezbollah's broadcasting network, aired graphic footage of bombing at Qana. I was at lunch in a café near the university when the news of the massacre broke. The entire room fell silent. After the broadcast, I engaged briefly with a young Jordanian sitting at the next table. Our conversation was the first of many that I would have about Hezbollah, its mission, and its message. Al-Manar is an amazing tool for Hezbollah. I watched it initially through the lens of my Western political perspective in awe of the sheer volume of propaganda. Eventually,

to tell me that Hezbollah was not a terrorist organization. I dismissed this proclamation outright, recalling the militant wing of the political party and past attacks against civilians. “Hezbollah is different from Al-Qaeda,” remarked a Jordanian friend. “Of course it is,” I answered, almost instinctively. I quickly realized that I had no idea why I felt this way: maybe because their goals are localized, maybe because they aim to recover lost territory and autonomy and not to destroy an entire way of life. But would achieving these goals not potentially destroy a way of life? My questions were, and remain, endless.

As I read more about Hezbollah, about their administration of southern Lebanon, their ability to establish and maintain a network of schools and hospitals and other services to Lebanese, I wondered to myself, if I were Lebanese, if I lived in a rural area of Southern

Lebanon, if Hezbollah ran the hospital where I took my children, would I view the organization differently? Of course I would. This is not to say that Hezbollah's militant wing does not use terrorism as a way to reach their goals, or that these tactics are acceptable. It is just my attempt to understand the other perspective, to get inside the mind of the people of a region at the center of world affairs.

While I followed the war between Israel and Hezbollah from beginning to end, I managed to find time to conduct research, study Arabic, and make a friend in the young Iraqi girl who lived just upstairs in my apartment building. Her family moved from Baghdad at the beginning of the summer. Fortunately, her father is a professor and managed to find work in Amman. She was educated, witty, and stunning. I asked her one day over tea if she would ever return to Iraq. She told me about the indifferent fear of living under Saddam Hussein, and assured me that there was a brief wave of tentative hope when the U.S. soldiers arrived in Baghdad. What followed, she was quick to point out, was more terrible than the darkest days of life under the iron fist of a dictator. Her country was plunged into lawlessness, her city into violence. She assured me that she had “paid her dues” as an Iraqi, and that she new that would probably not live to see the day that Baghdad was a pleasant place to live again.

Thousands of Iraqis left Iraq for Jordan and

more continue to pour into a country that, despite limited financial and environmental resources, manages somehow to accommodate refugees in conflict after regional conflict. The streets of Amman were crowded. Rush hour lasted all day and most of the night. I found myself surrounded by people who, in one way or another, had experienced a drastic change in their life circumstances. Cities and, in fact, entire countries were destroyed this summer. I was safe in the middle, in Amman Jordan, but the conflicts and political realities could not have been closer had I been in Beirut or Baghdad.

I didn't leave Amman with any sense of clarity or resolution. I learned more about the politics and economics of the Middle East. My language skills improved and I am now at a level where I can begin to communicate with the people about more abstract ideas and understand most of the news broadcasts from regional sources. The biggest lesson I learned, however, was that the more I discover about the Middle East, the more I realize I have to learn. With every lesson I learn, the more I recognize that I don't understand. Surprisingly, this lesson doesn't discourage me. It inspires me to keep on learning, and asking the big questions, even though there may be no answers. ■

Bringing a World of Experience to the Converse Classroom

by Dr. Neval Erturk, Assistant Professor of Biology

Editor's Note: New to the Converse College faculty in 2006, Dr. Erturk secured a \$47,000 matching grant through the Genomics Education Matching Fund Program at Li-Cor Biosciences, a world leader in biotechnology, to fund a DNA sequencer for student/faculty research. Her January Term "Hot Topics in Biology" course enabled Converse students to explore stem cell research, cloning, genetically modified foods and gene therapy.



(Clockwise from top) Neval wears the traditional Turkish "Bindalli" at her graduation in New Zealand. Neval with her host family in Vanuatu, South Pacific Islands during a summer trip with students in which they built a kindergarten school and worked in the school's farms. Neval works in a school garden in Vanuatu to help the school grow and sell produce to raise operational funds.

I grew up in Ankara, Turkey, where my mom was an elementary school teacher and my dad a veterinary technician. They both came from rural parts of the country and were among the first youths to leave their villages to attend vocational schools.

My love for nature probably developed during my summer holidays at my grandparents' village. It was such a treat after living in the second most populated city and the capital of the country. Some of our relatives grew tobacco, and we would help them collect the leaves or put them through the needles to hang for drying on their farms. We used to go to the fields around 3:00 a.m. and work until sunrise. At breakfast time, we would make a big fire,

then jump over it after eating. Afterwards we would wash in the creek. I still like bonfires a lot.

When I was eight, I tried to dissect a cat but he was alive and did not seem to like it. My dad also worked in a school of pharmacy as a researcher. He used to take us to the lab, and I loved working with the animals there and the glassware. I sincerely appreciated science and math in general but my main interest was biology.

I earned bachelors and masters degrees from Hacettepe University in Ankara. Although my initial interest was only in research, my masters program experience as a teaching assistant broadened my interest to include teaching. As I observed my students struggling to learn, I felt an intense desire to nurture and support them in their journey to become scientists.

In 1992, I came to the US on scholarship for a PhD program at Virginia Tech. As an international student with "survival level" English, I learned to appreciate the challenges of living in a culture other than my own. I received significant support from a non-profit Christian organization concerned with the welfare of international students. After graduating, I spent four years in New Zealand working with this group as an international student consultant and teacher at Massey University and The Bible College of New Zealand.

In New Zealand, I worked with students from the South Pacific Islands and South East Asia. During summer breaks, I took them to a little



island called Vanuatu for service projects where we volunteered in a local high school, working in their cyclone-damaged library, holding evening programs, teaching teachers to use computers and tutoring students. I also worked on farms where the schools grew crops to feed students and sold the surplus to generate income for other necessities. I had the privilege of mentoring international women attending New Zealand Universities. I love mentoring women – especially at the undergraduate age. It is a joy to be a part of their life, supporting and nurturing them, recognizing and acknowledging their talents and potential when they transition into adulthood. At the time I moved to New Zealand, my hope had been to help and serve international students, but I found in the end that I was more the recipient than the giver. My cultural, professional and personal experience there gave me a new perspective, broadened my horizons, and improved and enriched my life.

All of these experiences shaped my teaching philosophy. I expect my students to become learners and independent thinkers. When I look at them I do not see a student, I see my future colleague who will stand beside me in our journey to nurture the next generation of scientists and researchers. If I don't invest in them richly now, I can't ask them to invest in the next generation for our future. 🙏



Life in Germany

by Anneke Zeeff '95



One of two visually impaired consultants/teachers with the Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS) in Europe, I work with low-vision and blind children of US military and civilian service members stationed in the European District. My position covers US military bases and civilian dependents living in England, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, the Azores, Italy, Turkey and Germany.

After earning my bachelor's degree in history and elementary education, and my master's in special education, I taught for three years at Sumter High School, my alma mater, and one year at Hopkins Elementary School (both in SC). I had met a DoDDS-Pacific employee during my second summer of graduate school who told me about her job and her travels, and during our final class she had given me an application. After three years at Sumter High, I decided it was time to apply. The following year I was hired and have been in Europe ever since.

I see myself as a fairly adaptable person, and living in Europe has been a dream come true. My parents are European and I have family here. Before moving from the US, I had spent many vacations in England, the Netherlands and Germany "family-hopping" with my younger brother.

Civilians working with the military typically live off base, and my house is about twenty minutes from Heidelberg. Upon arriving in Germany, I lived in a house that was situated between a former Nazi soldier and a former Soviet officer. When looking at this home I was stunned to be asked by the previous inhabitants whether I wanted to buy the kitchen. Germans have an odd habit of taking the kitchen and light fixtures when they move.

Living in Germany has included a host of interesting experiences. Weekend school trips have included Paris and Rome. Whatever people say about the German Autobahn, there are speed limits in some sections and the cameras are painfully accurate...trust me,



Anneke Zeeff '95 in Drie Molens van Stompwijk, Holland

I have first-hand experience. I've experienced the Dutch caravan summer migration to the South of France and survived 2006 World Cup Soccer mania. I have volunteered with two World Youth Week Celebrations in Rome and Cologne and attended Mass with Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI. Carnevale in Venice is exciting and with the gorgeous costumes you feel history come alive. In Delphi I've walked along the Sacred Way where gods have walked and apostles have preached. The atmosphere in Europe is alive and with a little imagination the perfect place to experience all those history classes I took at Converse.

Not many countries can compete with the German Fest season. Each town seems to have a wine or beer celebration to start the school year with a bang. I try never to miss a Bad Dürkheim Wein Fest and everyone needs to experience one Oktoberfest in the Hofbrauhaus tent in Munich during Italian week. Christmas and Easter are both celebrated with reverence and charm as towns are decorated for the Christmas markets which open after Thanksgiving.

Post 9-11 opened my eyes to a new world of hatred. The military and civilians living in Europe are not allowed to forget it. I have learned to blend into a crowd and pretend to be German on many occasions. Protest rallies and bomb checks have become part of my every day life, and I rarely panic anymore when my car is searched for a bomb at the front gate.

After moving to Europe, I begged Paula Greer '93, my Red Devil Big Sis, to apply for a position with DoDDS. She has always been a great friend to me and I'm lucky to have met her at Converse. She graduated the same year as my real big sister, Maureen Zeeff Dunn, and is a teacher of the learning impaired at Vilseck Elementary School near the German border with the Czech Republic (about two hours from Prague). Maureen, Paula and I have been temporarily misplaced together in many European cities and have had many adventures. We learned that a Honda Accord fits through a meter-and-a-half alley in Old Town Granada. I wouldn't advise trying it, but you will survive the experience and live to tell about it. Years later you might even laugh about it. 🙏

Today's College Education: Expanding Perspectives through Study/Travel

by Brianne Cross '08

Editor's Note: *Brianne, a junior from Talladega, AL, is a member of the Nisbet Honors program and an active student leader at Converse, including orientation leader, co-chair of the Traditions Committee, vice president of Alpha Lambda Delta, and member of Student Activities Committee. A chemistry major, Brianne was selected to participate in a research experience at the University of Montana last summer and co-authored a paper resulting from her work.*

I began my freshman year at Converse with a taste of today's college education: immersion in other cultures through study/travel. Dr. Cathy West, Associate Professor of French and Director of Women's Studies, was offering a program in France and Tunisia that would complete my foreign language requirement, and I could not let it pass by me. This was not my first time out of the US, so I knew I was in for a wonderful adventure. However, my previous travels had taken me to the British Isles, so I did not know what to expect in countries where English was not the primary language. In preparation, I pondered the language issue as well as what experiences a non-European country would hold. I was excited to visit Tunisia because my grandfather had been stationed in Libya, which is right next door to Tunisia, when he was in the Air Force.

After lots of luggage checking and one air-sick student, we made it to our first destination: Nice. I was enchanted by this interesting place full of open-air markets (even in January), sea air, and modern art. Everywhere I looked, whether it was the public library or on the sides of buildings, there was art to be found. However, I must admit that I preferred some of the art we encountered later in our journey to this modern art in Nice. As a tourist destination, Nice was easy to get around, even with my limited French skills. One of my favorite experiences was visiting a tiny shop where we tried olives that were soaked in flavorful local olive oil.

Following our time in Nice we took a train to the much colder, but beautiful Paris. There in

the Musee d'Orsay I found impressionistic art I really enjoyed, including Van Gogh's *L'Eglise d'Auvers-sur-Oise, vue de chevet* (The Church in Auvers-sur-Oise, View from the Chevet). I bought a print of it that now hangs in my room at Converse, and it brings back memories of my adventures in France. Paris was all that I had imagined, but little did I know I would find my favorite part of the whole adventure in the last few days as we explored Tunisia.

The day we were scheduled to leave for Tunisia was a major Islamic holiday. Everyone was trying to get to



(Left to right) Lucy Johnson '08 in front of Notre-Dame Cathedral, Brianne Cross and Lucy Johnson outside of Eze, France

wasted on little things, like filling up the toilet bowl with unnecessary amounts of water. In general, European countries seem much more conscientious about conserving the resources they have rather than squandering them as we do in the US.

Two aspects of my study/travel experience stand out as most enriching. First, history feels much more real when you are in the places that dramatically shaped today's world. This was especially true in Tunisia, where it became clear how far the Roman Empire stretched and how impressive was its rule. Second, I was surprised to realize how much I appreciate the life we have in America. Though the differences are often small, I am thankful for the opportunities and conveniences of life in the United States. ■

Tunisia to see family so we arrived in a very full, clapping plane. There were many cultural differences between life in Tunis and life in America – and even with life in the rest of Europe. For instance, only men are allowed in the cafés. Our group of young women attracted a lot of stares, most of which were out of pure curiosity rather than animosity. I did not have to endure calls of “Hey, Claudia Schiffer” in the market as some of my fellow travelers did. Instead, my dark hair and eyes inspired “Hey, Monica Lewinsky!” Despite the cat calls, people in Tunisia were quite friendly and welcoming. I was awed by the Roman

Doing Business with Central America

by Kristen Keidel Frericks '93

My interest in business most likely sprang from my parents, who owned their own business in Colombia, SC. The international aspect of my interest was fueled by a Rotary summer exchange program in which I spent a month in Spain during my junior year in high school. It was a short but horrible month and I hated every single moment of the experience. I vowed never to return to, what I was convinced to be, a horrible place. Funny how things change in life!

As a sophomore at Converse, I discovered the College's partnership with an exchange program in Toledo, Spain. After a semester abroad, I was hooked. My experience was amazing, and I returned to Converse exposed to a myriad of incredible sights and experiences plus a sense of self and a glimpse of what I could potentially accomplish.

The credits I earned in Spain enabled me to double major in international business and Spanish. I designed my own independent study in Spain during Winter Term and continued to find any and every opportunity to travel. After graduation, I went on to pursue a master's degree in international business. I have lived in Spain and Mexico and traveled to practically every country in Central and South America.

For the past five years, I have worked for Fiskars Brands, Inc. as Key Account Manager for Latin America. I love my job because it is never tedious or monotonous and I get to use my Spanish each and every day.

Latin America conducts business in a much more informal atmosphere and end results take more time and cultivation than we are used to in the United States. Until your counterpart trusts you implicitly, business negotiations cannot move to the next level. The upside to this potential frustration is that I have forged many relationships with people I would never have met otherwise. Political barriers are most often the single

biggest challenge in my position. My company simply will not allow me to travel to some countries – such as Colombia and, more recently, Venezuela – due to political unrest and unpredictability.

It has been amazing to watch technology transform international business. I am now able to start and finish a project with Wal Mart Argentina within the confines of a morning, thanks to my ability to issue a purchase order on demand and wire monies electronically. Such transactions used to take a week. More recently, I have found that face-to-face meetings are not as critical as they used to be thanks to email and video conferencing. And faxing is practically obsolete. Evolving technology saves me time and money, but one drawback is that I can be reached 24 hours a day no matter where I am in the world. I think that Blackberries and cell phones are compelling people to work incessantly and, as result, people are burning out faster.

Our global society creates both benefits and challenges. One of the primary benefits is education. I see this daily in my 4th grade son as computers and information technology enable an understanding and appreciation of places and cultures thousands of miles away from his classroom. One of the primary challenges is rapid growth. With each trip I see the cultural essence of many countries



Kristen (right) and her assistant at the equator in Quito, Ecuador

changing as big box retailers push their way into these marketplaces. Travel to China or Latin America and you will find that where there was once nothing, whole towns have popped up as factories move in to produce goods en masse for US retailers. Often times these countries don't have the appropriate infrastructure to support such rapid development, and unsanitary and dangerous conditions are the result.

As my children get older travel is becoming increasingly more difficult for me, but I plan to continue my work for Fiskars as long as it is feasible. I hope to expose my children to unforgettable places and unique cultures as they grow. In the meantime, my Converse roommate, Gaby Sifter, and I will keep planning exotic locales to visit together during our international travels (Gaby works for Coca-Cola and travels internationally more than I do)!

Ideally, I want to “retire” at 40 to spend time at home and pursue purchasing a house at the beach in my beloved South Carolina. After all, there is no place like home. ■



From Ethiopia to America: Gaining A Better Understanding of My Place in the World

by Yosabeth Zewde Weldemedhin '08

Editor's Note: A junior from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Yosabeth is pursuing a double major in politics and economics. She is a member of the Nisbet Honors Program, Model Arab League, Model NATO, Model UN, the International Students Organization and serves as a Junior Marshall.

I come from a place with thirteen months of sunshine, a place where God, country and family form the pillar of everyday life and one whose origins can be traced back to the beginning of mankind. While I have always sought solace in the knowledge of my country's aesthetic beauty and independence from colonial rule, the living conditions of most of my fellow Ethiopians has been and is still undeniably bleak. The gap in the economic status of individuals has continued to widen and coming from a relatively privileged background has not desensitized me to these differences. Occasionally, I would find myself analyzing tidbits of information on my country's political and economic conditions and participating in heated discussions about the fate of developing nations. This would take place among family members around dinner tables and in a classroom setting with concerned peers and teachers. Having lived on a continent where the issue of human rights goes largely unaddressed, I considered the

role of the global judicial system to be crucial in these matters. While I have always realized that a bigger picture existed, it became more real once I left home to study at Converse.

Having been raised to be independent and strong willed did not, in any way, make it easier to leave my family, my home and all that was familiar. Neither have I been able to adjust to life at Converse as easily as I had assumed, mainly due to the food change, the culture shock as well as the financial difficulties that I have faced. The hardest thing to deal with is devising ways to address the misconceptions that some people have regarding my country and Africa as a whole. I, too, grew up with television images of famine stricken babies and children-turned-rebel soldiers sporting Kalashnikovs. These were, however, countered by images of families flocking to church and communities unified by the most basic of human emotions – brotherly love

and hospitality. For me, Ethiopia, despite its misfortunes, is a place like any in the world where children dream of becoming doctors and pilots whether they had grown up in the fields planting coffee, or in a metropolitan city like Addis Ababa. I have often tried not to take offense at some of the questions posed to me (“Do you have wild animals in your backyard?”) since I realize that only in an environment where the exchange of viewpoints takes place are individuals able to thrive intellectually.

While the social, cultural and religious differences have been a challenge to overcome, I am of the mind that these unique features are ones that can and should coexist. An epitome of this is the Converse Internationals, an organization that includes students from as far as Nepal and Sri Lanka, to Brazil and Jamaica who are bonded by their differences. Through them, I have been able to build a support group to rely on especially at times when homesickness threatens to overwhelm me. Members of the Converse community have invited me into their homes and with each affectionate gesture, they have given me a taste of my home. The financial help that I have received from a donor, without which I would have been forced to leave my sophomore year, has also encouraged and enabled me to continue my education. Converse's intellectually stimulating environment – both inside the classroom and out – has been instrumental to my personal growth. Programs such as the Model Arab League have contributed to my debating skills, and also made me more attuned to global affairs.

Being away from home has given me a better perspective of the conditions in Africa and how the country is viewed by the rest of the world. Being at Converse has enabled me to make better use of my abilities in assessing these conditions and the ways by which they can be remedied. I hope to pursue further education that will enable me to work in organizations that are concerned with the developing world, such as the United Nation, African Union or Non-Government Organizations. Among my future plans is a return to my homeland, the only place that I realize I can ever truly call home. I am content with what I have accomplished in the past three years and hope to come out of my Converse experience with a better understanding of my place in the world. 📌

Newest Campus Sculpture Features Legendary Singer, Civil Rights Pioneer

The 2006-2007 academic year began with a celebration of the life of Marian Anderson (1897-1993), renowned contralto, humanitarian and symbol for anti-segregation in the Civil Rights era. An eight-foot bronze sculpture in her likeness was installed for permanent display at the entrance to Twichell Auditorium.

On September 11, Converse presented *Remembering Marian: Her Life in Song*, a chronological voyage into Anderson's life and work including narration, audio/visual pieces and live performances from students and faculty of the Petrie School of Music. The concert was written and directed by Dr. Susan Lyle, Associate Professor of Voice and Director of Choral Activities.

“Marian Anderson pursued her passion in life, and traditional boundaries faded with her willingness and incredible perseverance to share her gift of song,” said Converse President Betsy Fleming. “Despite a difficult childhood and significant resistance because of the color of her skin, Anderson recognized, early on, her extraordinary talent for song and set her

sights high. Her educational and professional successes were extraordinary: She performed in front of 75,000 people at the Lincoln Memorial, was the first black singer to sing a leading role at the Metropolitan Opera and served as a delegate to the United Nations.”

Converse commissioned artist Meredith Bergmann to create the sculpture, which is the fourth in a series of five figurative works depicting prominent women in American history. Already installed across the Converse campus are sculptures of painter Mary Cassatt, poet Emily Dickinson and astronomer Maria Mitchell.

Before arriving at Converse, the Anderson sculpture was unveiled in Philadelphia, PA, the city of her birth. Thirty-two students and faculty from the Petrie School of Music performed at the unveiling and a gala celebration at the Benjamin Franklin Institute hosted by the Marian Anderson Historical Society. Two works by Converse music faculty were included in the program: “Unveiling” by Dr. Scott Robbins, Interim Dean of the Petrie School and Associate Professor of Musicology and Composition; and an original opera scene, “Troiades,” by David Berry, Associate Professor of Music History and Theory.

In February, Converse presented a revised version of *Remembering Marian: Her Life in Song* for 1,200 fourth and fifth graders from Spartanburg School District 7 and the Spartanburg Day School in honor of Black History Month. Each child was given a hard-cover copy of the award-winning book *When Marian Sang* by Pam Muñoz Ryan, and teachers received an



educational resource guide about Anderson created by Converse education majors. The initiative was sponsored by Billy and Lindsay Webster, JM Smith Corporation and Ford & Harrison LLP.

Nancy Killian, Director of Elementary Instruction for Spartanburg County School District 7, said the public-private partnership was an important one. “The event provided not only an opportunity for our fourth and fifth grade students to visit a college campus, but also to broaden their view of and experience with education. It also provided the schools with a very special program designed to help them celebrate Black History Month. We appreciate the opportunity Converse has provided for the students of District 7.” 📌



Converse Studies Learning Experiences of First-Year Students

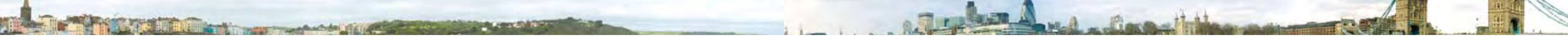
Converse College, Agnes Scott College, the University of North Carolina-Asheville and Wofford College have been jointly awarded a \$300,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation of New York to measure the impact of integrative learning experiences for first-year students. The study, which emerged from a year-long planning process funded by an initial \$25,000 Teagle grant, will continue through June 2009. The schools will measure students' critical thinking and writing skills, creativity, collaborative abilities, ethical judgment, and other key aspects of their experience as they

emerge through learning experiences in their first year. “We have been given a wonderful opportunity to improve the learning experiences of our students,” said Dr. Jeffrey H. Barker, Vice President of Academic Affairs at Converse.

Each college in the consortium will target different aspects of the liberal arts education during the next three years. “Careful reflection about our own unique structures and missions may reveal lessons or approaches applicable to all,” Barker says. “For example, how have

women's colleges, like Converse and Agnes Scott, been intentional in developing the leadership skills of our students? How have religious-affiliated schools like Wofford balanced an atmosphere that honors their historical commitment to the church while celebrating religious and other differences? How have public universities, such as UNC-Asheville, been able to leverage faculty and other resources to continue to nurture a true liberal arts environment, given their unique institutional realities?” 📌

(From top) Mahal and Yosabeth (left to right) at Converse; Yosabeth, Mahal, and their friends enjoy Cultural Day at Nazareth High School in Ethiopia



Dr. Edna Steele, Associate Professor of Biology, and Dr. Douglas Jensen, Assistant Professor and Chair of Biology, learn to use the DNA Sequencer.

DNA Sequencer Enhances Research

Converse science students will soon have access to a DNA sequencer, which was obtained through a grant from Li-Cor Biosciences. The \$94,000 instrument will enable students not only to receive research test results much faster, but also to become more intimately involved in the research process from start to finish. Students will gain hands-on experience in sequencing and interpreting how genes work together to direct the growth, development and maintenance of a cell. This experience will translate into highly marketable skills for students upon graduation.

Research institutions without a DNA sequencer send DNA samples away for analysis. In addition to having to wait for the results, the student researchers miss the analysis aspect of their exploration.

The 4300 DNA Analysis System features highly sensitive infrared detection, a key feature that will allow it to be used for a myriad of scientific uses. The sequencer can fingerprint genomic DNA of any origin and complexity, which opens doors to many potential applications such as forensics analysis, diagnosis of genetically inherited diseases, cloning, drug discovery, nutrition, evolution and public health. ■

Converse and Spartanburg County Libraries Encourages Girls to Explore the World of Science

In an effort to encourage young girls to explore the world of science and pursue careers that change lives, Converse has given Spartanburg County Public Libraries the ten-volume *Women's Adventures in Science* book series and held a free forensics workshop for middle school students. "CSI: Converse" took place in February at the County Library headquarters. Dr. Neval Erturk and Dr. Sheri Strickland of the Converse biology and chemistry departments transformed more than 100 participants into crime scene investigators for the afternoon, providing hands-on experience with scientific techniques used by forensic investigators. "Our goals were to make learning fun, to make science relevant to everyday life, and to peak students' interest and imagination about the possibilities that science can offer them,"

said Strickland. The workshop was repeated on the Converse campus in March for home schooled students and sixth and seventh grade students at Spartanburg Day School.

Converse is responding to a national need for developing world-leading scientists. Trends show that America is on a trajectory to fall behind in scientific discovery and exploration, and in fact many countries already surpass the US in producing leading scientists. Additionally, as a women's college Converse aims to encourage a better balance among the sexes in science fields by targeting young girls with the *Women's Adventures in Science* series. "We know that women's college graduates pursue careers in the traditionally male-dominated fields of math and science at more than twice the rate of their coeducational counterparts," says Converse President Betsy Fleming. "There is an important opportunity for Converse to help bridge the gender gap in these fields, and we feel a responsibility to reach young girls in our community at a critical time in their lives where messages of what they can do begin to take shape."

Each biography in the book series chronicles the life of a contemporary woman scientist. Some had to overcome major personal or societal obstacles on the way to establishing their career, while others followed a more congenial path. Despite their varied backgrounds and life stories, the women all



Dr. Sheri Strickland, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, works with CSI: Converse participants.

share one important belief: the work they do is important and it can make the world a better place. The books and their companion website, www.iwaswondering.org, are projects of the National Academy of Sciences. Converse is participating in a national effort of the Women's College Coalition to make the books available to middle school students across the country.

During January and February, banners with the message, "Converse College and Spartanburg County Public Libraries Encourage Girls to Explore the World of Science" and displays showcasing the books were placed throughout the county library. ■



Advisor to Iraqi Women Visits Converse

Eileen Padberg has been in Iraq for two years, helping women there to succeed in business. In November, she visited Converse to share her experiences with the Converse and Spartanburg communities by visiting classes and giving a public talk.

Padberg recruited Iraqi women to attend training seminars in fields such as engineering. Together with an Iraqi-American, she helped women business owners learn the aspects of the bidding process. From a November construction conference in Baghdad, two women were awarded contracts. As of early February, four women-owned businesses had earned significant contracts and more than a dozen women had landed career-building jobs.

The 35-year political consultant and corporate strategist based in Orange County, CA began her Iraqi adventure when she helped write a plan to involve Iraqi women in the reconstruction process. "The proposal would be part of the bigger proposal of managing the water sector reconstruction funds," said Padberg.

Her experience in Iraq is intense. She works 72 hours a week and walks home at night with two armed escorts and a bulletproof vest. "When we travel, we travel by C-130 or by Black Hawk helicopters," she says. "I am so amazed that not only do all those people the military escorts put their lives on the line for me, but on the helicopter there are always these very young soldiers stationed at the doors...protecting us from someone on the ground who doesn't even know me, but who wants to kill me. It is incredible." ■



Eileen Padberg in Iraq.

Alumna is First Nancy Oliver Gray Visiting Scholar

The Reverend Delois Brown-Daniels '76 was the featured speaker for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day at Converse, sharing her life of service and scholarship and her philosophy on the critical ties between the two for responsible citizenship. A native of Cowpens, SC and the first speaker in the College's Nancy Oliver Gray Visiting Scholars Series, Delois drew a crowd of nearly 500 from throughout the Upstate.

"Dr. King served as a role model for me on the ways that service can be use in advancing justice in society," she said.

Known affectionately to others as "Rev. Dee," Delois lives in Chicago, IL, where for over 25 years she has developed partnerships with Chicago-based clergy associations and community service organizations such as The Night Ministry, Casa Central and the Community Renewal Society. "It takes all individuals to make a healthy community. And when you have a healthy community, everyone wins," she explained. Rev. Dee has served as guest preacher, speaker and leader of

workshops throughout the country. She also talks to women's groups each year to help them find purpose and ways that they can contribute to society. "I am always involved in something. I wait and see what the Lord is calling me to do next," she said.

From 1991 to 1997, Delois served on the Accreditation Commission and the Board of Directors for the North Central Region of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education. She has been involved in hospital chaplaincy since 1980 and has served on various civic and religious boards of directors. She has also held positions at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System.

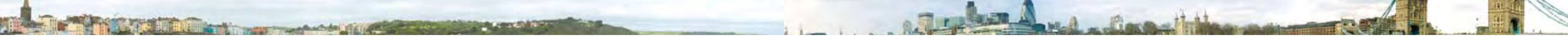
The Nancy Oliver Gray Visiting Scholars Series brings women who lead lives of leadership and service to Converse as role models for current students. The series was named in honor of the College's eighth president, Nancy Gray, who served from 1999-2004 and is currently president of Hollins University. ■



(Left to right) Nancy Gray, Delois Brown-Daniels and President Betsy Fleming



President Betsy Fleming and Todd Stephens, Head Librarian for Spartanburg County Public Libraries, display the Women's Adventures in Science books and banner.



Alumna Named Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Catherine Culler Inabnit '68, the first alumna to hold the position of Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Converse, began her duties March 1. She is charged with expanding the base of Converse supporters, more actively engaging alumnae with their alma mater, and building the next generation of leaders and donors who will help advance the College's mission of preparing women for a lifetime of learning, leadership and service.

Cathy comes to Converse after 25-years as a lead officer in the development office of the Georgia Institute of Technology. As director of regional development, she managed a team of development officers responsible for raising private resources for one of the nation's top ranked universities. In addition, she had personal responsibility for the design and implementation of plans to identify, cultivate and solicit major prospects in the Mid-Atlantic region.

"Cathy's return to her alma mater is a coup for

Converse, and a testament to the exceptional talents of our alumnae," said President Betsy Fleming. "Cathy's interest in leading our advancement team promises a future of growth and excellence. She knows firsthand the value of a Converse education and is a compelling example of the College's ability to prepare women for leadership and success."

Inabnit's accomplishments include securing six endowed chairs (\$1.5 million-\$2.5 million each) during The Campaign for Georgia Tech; coordinating university-wide guidelines for prospect assignments among development officers; and establishing a research office that enabled the Tech development office to pursue successfully gifts throughout the US.

"I am a strong proponent of the education that a women's college provides because I have experienced it firsthand," said Inabnit. "Converse helped me to recognize the true depth of my abilities as a leader." 📌



Cathy Inabnit

Converse and Wofford Students Blend Art with Physics

A collaborative Fall Term course brought together faculty and students from two Spartanburg colleges to explore the convergence of art with physics. The course was focused on kinetic sculpture—work that incorporates the

attracted the attention of the Spartanburg community as Mike Reynolds, Project Supervisor of Freedom Fabricators, volunteered to assist in the purchases of steel fabrications, and provide the use of his company's computer, laser and welding equipment.

"Mac has designed and constructed many unique pieces of kinetic sculpture and is the artist and primary instructor in our group. My job was primarily to advise the physics of motion and material," explained Lejeune. "So what we have is an interesting blend of expertise and talent with a metal sculptor, a welding engineer expert and a physicist all looking at the same student-oriented goals from different vantage points."

Each student had a budget of \$1,000 for his or her work and was given total freedom to shape the sculpture as they saw

fit. "While all of the works produced in this course are actually at the graduate level, they are very creative and technically challenging ideas that have emanated from the minds of Converse and Wofford undergraduate students. The exhibition of work from this class will be a must visit," said Boggs.

The work includes such pieces as a kaleidoscope into which one walks and becomes part of the fragmented images, steel sculptures that produce spontaneous combustion as the sun passes over a large magnifying lens, a series of pipe forms that produce sound as a wind-activated element brushes against them, a large camera obscura that moves and provides panoramic images, a rotating landscape, and a water driven sculpture.

Converse senior Courtney Layland used magnets in her sculpture to demonstrate the chaos theory. "My piece features a large pendulum with a magnet on the bottom. Three grounded magnets lie beneath it. An electro magnet is used to keep it in motion," explained the Fort Worth, TX native and printmaking major. "Because the swing of the pendulum is affected by a number of variables such as speed of the swing itself, wind direction, direction and speed over the three magnets, and movement of the earth on its axis, you will never see the pendulum make the same exact movement twice."

The course was yet another occasion for Converse and Wofford to blend their resources. "This has been a magnificent opportunity to have an art course where Wofford and Converse students and professors work cooperatively, and it's a partnership that has existed for quite some time," said Boggs. 📌



Converse II student Kathy Zimmerli Wofford poses with her sculpture 'Palmetto Trio.' The all-steel kinetic structure, which uses wind for motion, illustrates the coastline, Foothills and Piedmont areas of South Carolina.

mechanical or random movement of one or more of its parts. The finished works, most of which stand 12 to 20 feet tall, are displayed on both campuses this spring.

Converse Professor of Art Mac Boggs and Dr. Dan Lejeune, Professor Emeritus of Physics at Wofford, led the course. The course also

Meet Athletic Director Joy Couch

Converse announced Joy Couch as its new athletic director in September 2006. Couch joined the Converse athletic department part time while finishing out her coaching season at Dorman High School, and began her duties full time on March 5.

A physical education teacher and girls' basketball coach for 27 years, Couch has served at Byrnes, Broome, Chapman and Dorman high schools in Spartanburg County, and for two years at Limestone College. Since her tenure at Dorman High School began in 1998, she has led the Cavaliers to three AAAA state championship victories and won the regional championship every year. Couch's lifetime record of 525 wins and 184 losses places her as one of the top coaches for high-school girls' basketball in the state. In late March, Joy was named National High School Coach of the Year by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

The *Bulletin* recently spoke with Coach Couch about her move to Converse, her formula for success and her thoughts about some of the biggest challenges for today's student-athlete.

Bulletin: What attracted you to the Converse athletic director position?

Couch: The reputation of Converse College, first of all. I was extremely impressed with the administration's vision for athletics. Converse is the type of institution that I want to be associated with. And I was ready for a new challenge.

Bulletin: How would you describe the Converse athletic program – its strengths and challenges?

Couch: Converse is one of two women's colleges that compete in NCAA Division II. That in and of itself shows the commitment of the trustees,

administration and faculty to the athletic program. We have four full time coaches: tennis, soccer, volleyball and basketball. Our coaches are dedicated to recruiting players who are not only proven athletes but also students with "Converse-like" academic aspirations. The Sally Abney Rose Physical Activity Complex and the Weisiger Center is a great facility comparable to any Division II institution I have visited. Of course we want to grow and there are issues that we as a department want to change but the athletic department at Converse is on an upward move. We are exploring the possibilities of new athletic programs to fully utilize the facilities that we have. Good things are happening.

Bulletin: You are without a doubt one of the top coaches for high school girl's basketball in South Carolina. What is your formula for success and how do you foresee transferring that to the athletic director's position at Converse?

Couch: I believe in hard work; doing the little things that most people either don't think to do or will not take the time to do. I believe that everyone has a role in the success of the program. Every team has its "stars" but championships are won when the middle-of-the-road player performs to the best of her ability day in and day out. I look for the good in other people and then hold them to that standard everyday. I believe that everybody can do it right or well every once in a while but champions do it well everyday.

Bulletin: What do you think are some of the biggest challenges for today's student-athlete?

Couch: Because of the competitiveness in all collegiate athletics, student-athletes are

required to train for their sport on a year-round basis. That, coupled with the demands of academics and participation in competition, subjects our student-athletes to a great deal of stress. I believe the ability to prioritize your schedule and maintain time for a personal life is essential to the success and happiness of our student athletes.

Bulletin: What would you say to a prospective student-athlete who is considering coming to Converse?

Couch: It is an exciting time to be a Converse All-Star. Converse gives young women a unique opportunity to develop a spirit of self-reliance and confidence as they prepare for their personal and professional life. Our Converse community encourages our students to be active participants in the decisions that affect their lives and gives them the tools needed to accomplish their goals in academic and athletic endeavors. 📌



Joy Couch

Converse Hosts First CVAC Tournaments

After completing its first year as a member of the Carolina Virginias Athletic Conference (CVAC), Converse was selected to host the conference's 2006 cross country and volleyball tournaments.

"I cannot recall any other school entering the conference and so quickly taking on the hosting responsibilities. It is special that other schools in the conference would hold Converse in such high regard that they would vote them able and ready to host a conference championship," said Dr. Alan Patterson, CVAC commissioner. "While it is a great responsibility, it is also one that allowed Converse and the City of

Spartanburg to showcase their campus and community to other CVAC student-athletes, administrators and fans."

Converse hosted the October CVAC Cross Country Tournament, which included all 12 CVAC member colleges and served as a qualifier for the November national meet, and the November CVAC Volleyball Tournament, which included eight of conference's women teams in single elimination competition.

Converse accepted an invitation to join CVAC as an affiliate member in April 2005, competing in women's soccer, cross-country,



volleyball and tennis. The College hopes to secure full membership status soon, including acceptance of basketball for conference play. 📌



Converse College Alumnae Association Board

Dear Fellow Alumnae,

This issue of the *Bulletin* focuses on Converse as a “global” institution. When I think back to the time I was a student in the 1960s, I remember vividly the addition of the beautiful collonaded entrance. As students, we weren’t sure we wanted to be “fenced in.” Little did we realize how wide our gates would open beyond Spartanburg and our Southern boundaries.

Today we welcome students from every corner of the world. The campus life and learning opportunities have been richly expanded. Petrie School of Music graduates brighten the hearts of people near and far with their gifts for performance and composition. Our science alumnae heal lives and light the flame of discovery. Converse education majors open the doors of learning to both young and old. Graduates in art and interior design color our world with beauty. Our foreign language programs, the award-winning Model Arab League delegation, and travel abroad programs are among the many aspects of the Converse experience that give our students a global perspective.

Aren’t we proud of the positive and enriching influences our Converse alumnae have made throughout this world? Please enjoy these articles about our “global gal” network.

My two years as your president are drawing to a close. Representing the Converse College Alumnae Association has been a special honor and I thank you for allowing me to serve on your behalf.

I truly appreciate the alumnae board, both those pictured here and those who have served in the past. Many thanks for their support of Converse through gifts of time and treasure. What a wonderful group of women! I send my deepest gratitude for their dedication and love of Converse College.

Sandra Sherard Bethea
Sandra Sherard Bethea '67
Converse College Alumnae Association President

Greetings from the Office of Career Services!

This has been an exciting year for us. We moved in January 2006 into a beautiful suite of offices in the newly renovated Montgomery Student Center and have come through another successful recruiting season this fall. We are looking forward to the coming year as we face new challenges of revitalizing existing programs and creating new opportunities.

I am still fairly new at Converse, having arrived in May of 2005. Eighteen months later I am still in awe of the strength of the Converse Alumnae Network. I have met amazing women who are willing to speak with current students about career opportunities, introduce new graduates to fellow alumnae in a new city, and even open their homes to young women they do not know just because they share the Converse bond.

If you are willing to help the Converse Alumnae Network by speaking with students about opportunities in your career field, informing us of internships your company may offer, etc., please contact our office at (864) 596-9027 or Email me at karen.finnegan@converse.edu. I also welcome your input and professional perspective on programs that would have been helpful to you as a Converse student, what services were most beneficial to you, and your thoughts about what Career Services should be providing alumnae. I look forward to hearing from you!

Karen Finnegan
Karen Finnegan
Director of Career Services



Travel with Converse

Tuscany ~ Cortona August 15-23, 2007

Reservations are going fast for an August 2007 excursion to the Tuscany-Cortona region of Italy! Converse and the College of William and Mary are offering the August 15-23, 2007 journey to alumnae and friends at the special rate of \$2,195 per person, plus airfare and VAT based on double occupancy.




In recent times, Cortona has been made famous by Frances Mayes' book *Under the Tuscan Sun*, a chronicle of her restoration of an old farmhouse a short distance outside of the town walls. However, the town has a much longer and rich history. Founded by the Etruscans, Cortona is one of the oldest and most beautiful of the hill towns of Tuscany. As a major power in the Middle Ages, Cortona succeeded in holding its own against Siena and nearby Arezzo. Blessed with a scenic location on the side of a mountain, Cortona offers splendid views over the Val di Chiana to the hills beyond. The countryside surrounding Cortona is filled with olive groves and vineyards.

Let the charming village of Cortona be your base as you travel through the surrounding hill country, admiring the beauty of the land. In Umbria, explore two walled cities—medieval Assisi, home to the exquisite Basilica of St. Francis, and Perugia, an ancient Etruscan city-state. Then, journey to tiny Montepulciano, set in the heart of Chianti Country. In Siena, navigate narrow cobblestone streets lined with gothic buildings, visit the city's magnificent Duomo and stroll the Piazza del Campo, one of the loveliest squares in Italy. Finally, experience the brilliant artistic and architectural heritage of Florence, the Cradle of the Renaissance.

Please contact the Alumnae Office (864) 596-9055 for a full trip itinerary and reservation form.

Travel Contact:
Email:
Phone:

Jane Marion Wilson '04, Director of Alumnae
jane.wilson@converse.edu
(864) 596-9055





Anne Jagger Johnston '52
Distinguished Alumna Award

In recognition of outstanding achievement in her field, service to her community and loyalty to Converse, Anne Jagger Johnston '52 is presented with the Distinguished Alumna Award.

Anne has recruited over a dozen students to Converse throughout the years. She was most effective when as headmaster of the Augusta's Episcopal Day School she would urge eighth grade girls to concentrate on their academics so that they could attend Converse. She was named as one of the original Converse 100 during the Converse Centennial in 1989, and to this day, she and her husband faithfully attend Charleston, SC and Orangeburg, SC area Converse alumnae events.

A partial listing of her commitment to making a difference includes serving as president of the Board of Directors for the Augusta Girls Center, the St. George Election Commission, the Main Street Beautification Committee with St. George Development Corporation, the committee which wrote the first Comprehensive Plan for St. George and the Planning Commission which subsequently implemented the plan. She and her husband authored three successful SC Department of Transportation grants to construct sidewalks from I-95 into St. George.

In 1988, Anne and her husband, along with a small group of volunteers, were instrumental in purchasing the abandoned and dilapidated St. George Movie House. The facility was renamed The Lourie Theatre and with grants, gifts and dedicated volunteers it was completely restored and enlarged. Approximately \$1 million has gone into making it one of the finest small town theatres in SC.



Laura Chappell Bauknight '87
Converse 100

First presented during the College's Centennial, the Converse 100 Award is given to alumnae who clearly represent the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal. For her selfless giving to her community, Laura Chappell Bauknight '87 is recognized with this award.

Since earning her bachelor's degree in history and master's in education from Converse, Laura's career has been marked by progressively increased levels of responsibility and supervisory roles as her influence has made a difference in the lives of others.

Yet while she has flourished in her professional career, Laura is most proud of her assistance to her community. For Pine Street Elementary School (Spartanburg, SC), she served terms as president and vice president of the PTO, and was a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation team. At Episcopal Church of the Advent, Laura has been a Nuggets Bible study teacher for sixth graders, a member of the Parish Life Committee and a volunteer for the church-adopted classroom at Mary H. Wright Elementary. She is currently a Sunday school teacher for the church. She is also a participant in Spartanburg County Foundation's Citizen Scholar program. Laura has served on the board and various committees for the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention, the Adult Learning Center and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Spartanburg.

Today, Laura is the coordinator of the City of Spartanburg's Youth Council program. She represents Youth Council on community boards and initiatives, serves as an advocate for youth issues in the Spartanburg community, and researches and plans cross training opportunities for Youth Council membership.



Louise Jordan Earle '37
Converse 100

For her selfless giving to her community and the College, her qualities of character and achievement, Louise Jordan Earle '37 is recognized with the Converse 100 Award.

A native of Greenville, SC, Louise has selflessly devoted a great deal of time and energy to her hometown. For the Junior Charities which is now the Junior League of Greenville, she chaired the Ways and Means Committee, Opportunity Shop, Project Finding, Admissions Committee and the Provisional Committee. She also served as delegate to two conventions. Louise was a member of the Greenville Mental Health Board and the Maternity Shelter Board. She is currently a member of Greenville Women Giving – a new group in Greenville and a special initiative of the Community Foundation which is founded on the belief that women, informed about philanthropy and about needs in their community, collectively can make a real difference.

For Christ Episcopal Church in Greenville, Louise has been an active member of the Altar Guild and Episcopal Church Women. She also served as a Sunday school teacher.



Lydia A. Wood '92
Star Award

An alumna who has actively and admirably served Converse in the area of recruitment is given the Converse Star Award. This year's recipient, Lydia A. Wood '92, has consistently written accepted students from Georgia; assisted with prospective student gatherings; and referred numerous students to Converse.

A manager with AT&T in Atlanta, Lydia has participated in PathBuilders Achieva, a mentoring program which teaches women to move their organizations forward and to position themselves for growth and success. In order to be considered for the Achieva program, Georgia companies select and nominate women within their organization who meet the program requirements.

Currently serving with AT&T as a Senior Human Resources Generalist, Lydia began her career in 1998 as a Staffing Manager with BellSouth Telecommunications. Since that time she has held numerous Human Resources specialty positions with the company, to include Recruiting Manager, Coach for Management Staffing and Recruiting, and Sales Compensation Manager. She has been recognized by the company for projects on quality hiring, the performance management rating tool, and the Small Business career development program. In her current capacity, she advises business leaders within her client group on strategic alignment, labor issues, employee relations, and organizational performance.

Since graduating from Converse, Lydia earned her Masters of Science degree in Human Resources Management and has earned the Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) designation.

In her community, Lydia volunteers with the children's ministry at North Point Community Church, Hands On Atlanta, and is a member of the AT&T Women's Networking Association which partners with the United Way on several charitable projects benefiting homeless women and children, and domestic violence victims in the Metro-Atlanta area.



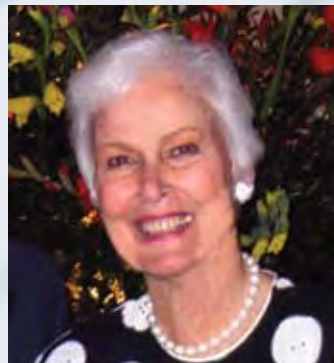
Marian Stanley Tucker '47
Career Achievement in Music

The Career Achievement in Music Award is presented to Marian Stanley Tucker '47, whose career as concert artist, teacher and mentor has spanned sixty years.

Upon Marian's solo debut at Carnegie Hall in 1948, the New York Herald Tribune stated "...quite a pianist in the grand manner... an astonishing technique and tone, and a fine sense of poetry and romance." She was awarded top prize in a competition sponsored by the Associate Concert Bureau in 1948. Declining a fellowship offer from New York's Syracuse University, she returned to her hometown of Columbia, SC where she was featured as piano soloist with numerous orchestras. Gold medal winner in the National Biennial Piano Recording Festivals, she also accompanied and collaborated with notable singers and instrumentalists and performed extensively in major cities including New York, Atlanta, Dallas and Detroit.

Marian has taught the sons and daughters of governors, senators, congressmen, South Carolina State Supreme Court Justices, mayors, bank presidents, lawyers, doctors, engineers, college professors and organists of prominent churches.

In 2004, a group of grateful parents and students showed their appreciation for Marian's contributions to the Columbia community by forming the Marian Stanley Tucker Endowment for the Southeastern Piano Festival. The purpose of the Series is "to serve as an outreach program for professional piano teachers and connoisseurs of piano as part of the Southeastern Piano Festival at the University of South Carolina School of Music. Through the establishment of an endowed Marian Stanley Tucker fund, the Southeastern Piano Festival now offers free educational workshops with some of the most revered and well-respected authorities on piano pedagogy in the country."



Martha Cloud Chapman '42
Community Service Award

The Community Service Award is presented to a Converse alumna who displays the qualities of a vibrant citizen as evidenced in her active involvement in her community, church, and state. Martha Cloud Chapman '42, who is most deserving of the award, goes well beyond service on boards and committees.

Once, after reading about a man with AIDS who was living near railroad tracks after being evicted from his house, it was Martha who made arrangements to find him a new place to live and then paid his rent. When another man's home was destroyed by fire, Martha helped raise enough money to buy him a used mobile home. She even tutored an illiterate 57-year-old man each week for four years at the Spartanburg Public Library so that he could read newspapers and books, and write checks.

Martha was the first woman to serve on the Spartanburg County Foundation's Board of Trustees, has been named the Board of Realtor's Woman of the Year and the Kiwanis Club's Citizen of the Year. At the state level, she has served on the boards for the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, SC State Development (first woman), the SC State Election Commission (first GOP woman), the SC Mining Council, the SC School for the Deaf and Blind's Walker Fund and the Governor's School for the Arts. In her church, Martha is an elder, a former Sunday school teacher and president of women. In Anson County, NC, Martha served on boards for that city's Chamber of Commerce and its Social Services Department.



Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
Mae Kilgo Spirit Award

For keeping the spirit of the College visible to other alumnae and her community through continued loyal service, Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57 is recognized with the Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award.

Mary Lib initiated the reinstatement of the Converse Tower Charm, established the Thousand Thanks Gala to honor those whom have given \$1,000 or more to the College and formed the committee to initiate the Dexter Edgar Converse Award.

For two years, Mary Lib directed the Converse Fund. In 1992, she was named Director of Institutional Advancement where she led all of the College's fundraising. In 1994, she began a six year tenure as Director of Alumnae.

Mary Lib's other Converse activities include serving as class representative, class fund chair, member of the Converse Board of Visitors, co-chair of the Spartanburg County (SC) Converse Fund Drive, treasurer for her local alumnae chapter and development chair of the national alumnae board. She was also selected as one of the Converse 100 in 1989.

For the Junior League of Spartanburg, Mary Lib has held numerous committee and board positions. She also obtained corporate and civic underwriting for two major fundraising projects (Santa's Shoppe and Pick-A-Dilly) and served as manager of the Thrift Shop.

Mary Lib was a member of the SC Governor's Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, a task force for the distribution of grant funds to youth agencies, and the Spartanburg Boys' Home Board. For Trinity United Methodist Church, she was a member of the Official Board, a Communion steward and Sunday school teacher.



Susan Chappell Woodham '77
Career Achievement

Each year, Converse salutes an alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession and has distinguished herself by notable achievement over a continual period of time. It is to the study and instruction of dance that Susan Chappell Woodham '77 has devoted her creative and professional life, and for all of her contributions she is recognized with the Career Achievement Award.

The SC Dance Association presented to Susan its President's Award (2006), Educator of the Year Award (2000) and its Service Award (1998). In 2002, she served as a member of the writing team for the SC Curriculum Standards for Visual and Performing Arts. From 2003 to 2006, she was a writing team member for the SC Arts Assessment Project. The Teacher Education Journal of SC published her article "To Live Assessed or Die Pure" in 1999. She served as a facilitator for the Curriculum Leadership Institute from 1999 through 2006, and she coordinated the SC Dancing Festival in 1999.

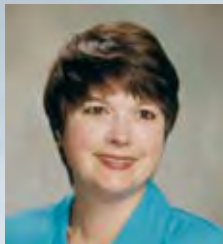
As outreach coordinator for Ballet Spartanburg, Susan organized and continues to facilitate a summer dance program for inner-city youths. The program has been in existence for more than fourteen years. Susan is also serving as a certified dance specialist for Pine Street Elementary (Spartanburg, SC).

With her stated goal of "providing dance literacy training to students of all ages," Susan's commitment to dance education has led her to classrooms throughout Spartanburg and into North Carolina. She has planned, developed and implemented lessons and study guides based on SC Curriculum Standards for Visual and Performing Arts; authored and secured grants, produced performances, developed and maintained after school dance ensembles, and coordinated dance lectures and demonstrations.

2007 Alumnae Board Slate

Records and Recognition Committee Chair — Elisabeth Kinney McNiel '89

- Bennettsville, SC
- Comptroller, Marlboro Publishing Co., Inc.
- Chairperson, The Kinney Foundation
- Treasurer, Marlboro Civic Center Foundation



CARE (Converse Alumnae Recruitment Effort) Chair — Carrie Hill Coleman '96

- Spartanburg, SC
- Leadership Spartanburg graduate
- First Presbyterian Church nursery volunteer
- Past co-chair of Arts X Society, Spartanburg Arts Partnership



Development Committee Chair — Linda Russell Cranford '69

- Asheboro, NC
- Director of Leadership and Legacy Gifts, United Way of Randolph County
- Executive Director, Ferree Educational and Welfare Fund
- 2005 President, North Carolina School Boards Association and member, Asheboro City Schools Board of Education 21 years



Member at Large — Polly Hill Woodham '51

- Asheville, NC
- Member of God's 1300 (prayer ministry celebrating recovery)
- Study leader for Celebrate Recovery
- Hospice volunteer



Appointed Representatives to Serve Unfulfilled Terms with Alumnae Board

Golden Club President — Marilyn Mateer Sherrill '53

- Spartanburg, SC
- First director of the Converse College Alumnae House
- Taught elementary and junior-high school
- President, Southern Rubber Company, Greensboro, NC for 20 years



80's Decade Representative — Annie "Sissy" Childs Ervin '80

- Columbia, SC

School of Music Representative — Joy Nanney Finch '77

- Inman, SC
- Department head, Greenville Technical College Division of Continuing Education, Environmental and Safety Training
- Musical director with USC-Upstate Shoestring Players, Spartanburg Little Theatre and Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra



Young Alumnae Representative — Susan Byrnes Long '04

- New York, NY
- Non-resident member, Junior League of Spartanburg
- Assistant accountant, PricewaterhouseCoopers



40's Decade Representative — Lib Harper Hopkins '49

- Tampa, FL
- Board member, Cornerstone Family Ministries
- Antique Collectors Study Club
- Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary



50's Decade Representative — Jane Beasley Moore '54

- Rock Hill, SC
- Deacon, elder and life member of Women of the Church
- Lecturer, master gardener
- First woman president of local YMCA



60's Decade Representative — Ginger McKinney Jernigan '65

- Raleigh, NC
- Homemaker, wife, mother and "doting" grandmother
- Volunteer and leader, Christ Episcopal Church and Raleigh Fine Arts Society
- Hobbies: photography, gardening, reading and walking with husband



60's Decade Representative — Nilla T. "Dicke" Sloop '67

- Sanford, NC
- Retired director, Wake County Environmental Health and Safety Division
- Vice President, NC Public Health Association
- Member, Lee County Arts and Community Center board



60's Decade Representative — Lucia Cleveland Johnson '67

- Cedartown, GA
- Retired after 30 years in cytology field
- Teacher of etiquette and manners to children and adults, The Life Lessons Academy
- Husband, Rick, is founding director of WinShape Camps, foundation of Chick-fil-A



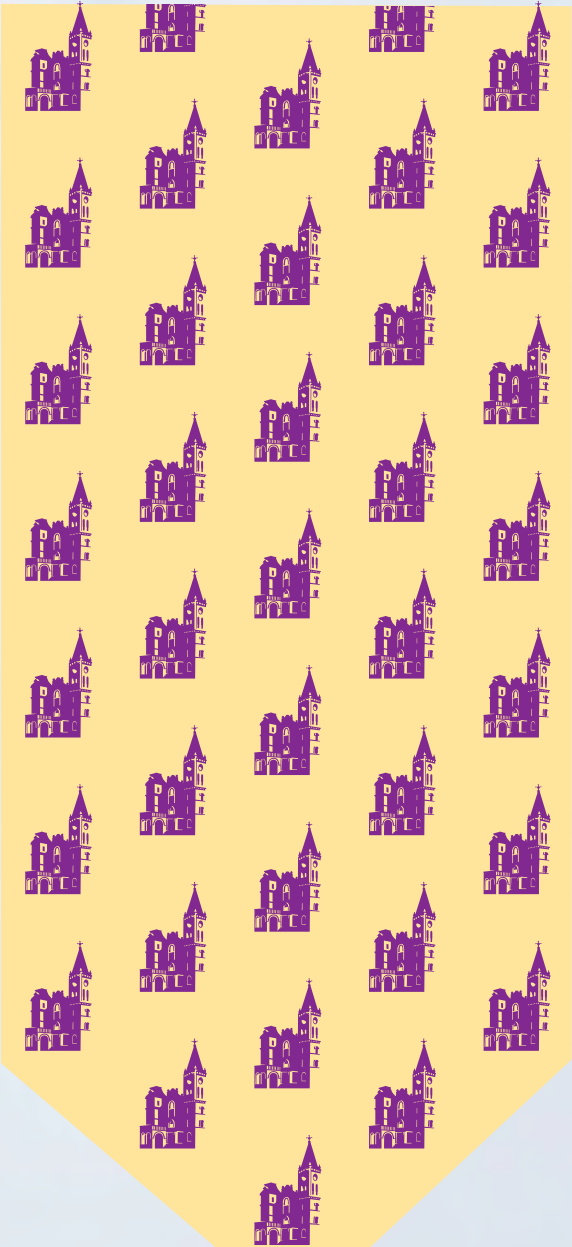
80's Decade Representative — Rebecca "Becky" DuBard Grantland '88

- Columbia, SC
- Member, Shandon United Methodist Church
- Katharine Heath Perry Award, Junior League of Columbia, 2002
- Irene D. Elliot Award for Excellence in Teaching, USC, and Teacher of the Year, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College



90's Decade Representative — Paige Eubanks-Barrow '98

- Dallas, TX
- Director of Donor Relations, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
- Board of directors, Association of Donor Relations Professionals
- Converse College head delegate, Model League of Arab States, 1997-98



For the Men in Your Life: A Converse Tie!

Hoping to provide fathers, grandfathers, husbands, uncles, nephews and sons with a dapper way to display their pride in Converse College, Susan Secord Marion '80 of Chester, SC initiated the creation of a tie featuring the Converse tower. The tie has become a popular item in the Converse bookstore, making a great gift for Converse women to the men in our lives.

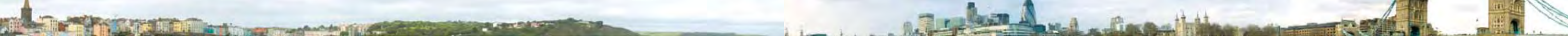
"First and foremost Converse is a woman's college with a proud legacy, but we all have special men in our lives who also care about the school. It occurred to me that an article of clothing, such as a tie, might spark interest and start a conversation in a work or social situation about the wonderful institution the tie represents," Susan said. "I began to explore the idea with several men who have connections to Converse and got very positive responses. Students were excited by the thought of giving a tie to their fathers to wear at commencement. Board members could proudly display their ties in their hometowns as well as special events at the College, and professors and staff members could boast their allegiance to Converse by wearing the tie at school and in the Spartanburg community."

Susan proceeded with having designs drawn up, and through collaboration with Converse secured a place in the bookstore for their sale. The tie costs \$40 and can be ordered by calling the bookstore at (864) 596-9136.

"My husband recently wore his tie to our niece's rehearsal dinner and almost every Converse alumna there wanted to know where he had gotten it and how they could get one for their fathers, husbands and brothers. We will always have Converse women spreading the good news about our alma mater, and now men have the perfect opportunity to join us!"



Doug and Susan Secord Marion '80 (parents of Sarah Marion '08)



2006-2007 Granddaughter's Club: Freshmen Members

Drop-in held in their honor August 24, 2006 (First row from left to right) Caroline Batson, daughter of Marsha Brannon Batson '86; Krista Williams, daughter of Debra Capps Maatta '79; Karissa Terry, daughter of Kimberly Terry '01; Mary-Sidney Ritch, daughter of Laura Bingham Ritch '75; and Gwen Stemberidge, daughter of Lucy Hudson Stemberidge '77. (Second row from left to right) Laurie Peebles, daughter of Ann Grimball Peebles '82, granddaughter of Caroline Belser Grimball '37; Charlotte Greene, daughter of Laura Crocker (MEd) '78; Dottie Bryan, granddaughter of Dorothy Jones Powell '56; Caroline Burnett, daughter of Ellen Miller Burnett '80; and Melissa Russo, daughter of Annette Huckaby Russo '77. (Not pictured) Lee Cantey, daughter of Mary Lee Cantey (MEd) '96 and Ashleigh Newer, daughter of Marsha Trump Newer '81.



August 29, 2006
Spartanburg alumnae meet Jane Marion '04 at the home of Laura Chappell Bauknight '87

(From left to right) President Betsy Fleming, hostess Laura Chappell Bauknight '87, Ann Davidson Marion '47, Jane Marion Wilson '04 and Jane's mother, Jeannie Marion.



October 19, 2006
Greenville cocktails at the home of Lydia Willard Kellett '62

(From left to right) Jane Marion Wilson '04, Sally Thomason Russell '66, President Betsy Fleming, Lydia Willard Kellett '62 and Bill Kellett



September 30, 2006
Alumnae Board Weekend, Converse College

Alumnae Board cheers on the All-Stars Volleyball Team



November 16, 2006
Rock Hill luncheon at the The City Club of Rock Hill

(Back row from left to right) President Betsy Fleming, Judy Bell Oliphant '73, Ann Byrd Smith '92, Grazier Connors Rhea '74, Betty Jane Everett Moore '44, Betty White, Candy Moore '93, Jeannie Marion, Sister Marshall Goode '58, Joye Pettigrew Berman '57, Susan Secord Marion '80, Margaret Barron Bundy '56, Bet Shepherd Ancrum '54, Ann Davidson Marion '47, Ann Ratterree Herlong '51. (Seated from left to right) Mildred Roberts Robards '54, Jane Beasley Moore '54, Jane Marion Wilson '04, Christine White Kapp '99 and Kathy Seay '02.



November 30, 2006
Festival of Lessons and Carols, Converse College

Spartanburg club chairs, Heidi Ruehl '96 and Melissa Henderson Pickens '95 assisted the alumnae office at the reception before Lessons and Carols.



December 7, 2006
Charlotte Christmas Party, Home of Ed and Agner Weisiger

(From left to right) Agnes Binder Weisiger '63, Ed Weisiger and President Betsy Fleming



January 9, 2007
Pensacola luncheon, Dharma Blue Restaurant

(From left to right) Anne Douglas Hart '66, Jane Marion Wilson '04, Helen Smith Martin '40 and Norma Richbourg



January 10, 2007
Mobile luncheon, The Pillars Restaurant

(From left to right) President Betsy Fleming, Jane Marion Wilson '04, Winkie Giddens Greer '62, Mandy Rogers and Nancy Clifford Booth '75

Alumnae Events



Not Pictured

August 4, 2006
Nashville dutch treat luncheon at Martha's Plantation Restaurant

October 11, 2006
New York City luncheon at the University Club

October 19, 2006
Augusta luncheon at the Country Club

November 3, 2006
Spartanburg 1889 Young Alumnae event at Club 299

November 19, 2006
Spartanburg Golden Club luncheon at Converse

January 8, 2007
Tallahassee dutch treat luncheon at Albert's Provence Restaurant

IN MEMORIAM

Jean Conyers ERVIN '30, September 16, 2006
Carolyn LEONARD Law '30, August 22, 2006
Nancy COOPER Hobart '32, October 17, 2006
Sara GARBER Bogo '34, September 3, 2006
Carlene TAYLOR Sampson '34, December 9, 2006
Louise FOSTER Johnson '36, October 1, 2006
Katherine HEFFNER Chalk '36, December 21, 2006
Eleanor GIBSON Smith '37, September 8, 2006
Margaret LINDSAY Wells '37, December 28, 2006
Frances CHREITZBERG Broome '38, October 30, 2006
Mary Stuart GOODMAN Lane '39, July 16, 2006
Helen TISON Breeden '39, October 3, 2006
Sophie ABELL Brown '40, August 16, 2006
Cecile ROSENBERG Moise '40, July 9, 2006
Mary BUCHANAN James '41, October 4, 2006
Rose GOODMAN McDougald '41, September 20, 2006

Jane HENDERSON McDonald '41, July 1, 2006
Mabel FISHBURNE Barnhardt '42, September 9, 2006
KatherineVANSTORYCrossman'42,September 7, 2006
Georgianna REEVES Harmon '43, November 8, 2006
Alice KINNAIRD Frankel '45, July 7, 2006
Virginia MCRAE Guthrie '46, September 20, 2006
Peggy RUMBLE Boykin '46, December 28, 2006
Katherine BINFORD Ennis '47, December 5, 2006
Joyce SPEISSEGGER Tilghman '47, July 15, 2006
Rosemary BLAKELY Allen '48, November 19, 2006
Sydnor CAIN West '49, December 17, 2006
Carolyn WELLS Davison '50, August 18, 2006
Nancy CARROLL Peterson '52, December 15, 2006
Idalee BIVENS Bobo '54, December 9, 2006
Becky CLEMENT Johnson '54, December 1, 2006

Nancy SIBLEY Dunn '54, September 15, 2006
Mary Jo MABRY '58, August 11, 2006
Emily Lucy MARTIN '64 MAT, October 21, 2006
John William DRUMMOND '65, August 29, 2006
Mary Hempleman SIMPSON '66 MMus, November 8, 2006
Frances Melanie TULL '67, October 3, 2006
Garnet June WELCH '67 MAT, September 25, 2006
Beverly SHEARER '68, October 7, 2006
Jean I. SARRATT '69 MAT, November 27, 2006
Sarah A. McFarland BOGGS '70 MAT, December 30, 2006
Alice Casteel LONNECKER '70 MAT, July 23, 2006
Janice SCOTT Garr '71 MAT, August 16, 2006
Lisa M. HILSMAN '75, August 18, 2006
Cora VAN KEUREN Neal '80, August 22, 2006
Nancy Linda B. WRIGHT '82 MEd, December 11, 2006
Mary Frances KANOTT '95 MEd, July 14, 2006

Dee MILLER Williams '54 on the death of her husband, Donald Williams, September 2006
Bobbie LUTZ Elmore '55 on the death of her husband, William Harris Elmore, January 13, 2006
Carolyn SCHWEM Stinson '55 on the death of her husband, Julian Randolph "Randy" Stinson, October 12, 2006
Carol CLARK Gentry '56 on the death of her son, Michael Alan Gentry, December 19, 2006
Cherie LEWIS Linko '61 on the death of her mother, Loretta K. Lewis, September 12, 2006
Josephine "Jo" SIBLEY Shippen '61 on the death of her sister, Nancy SIBLEY Dunn '54, September 15, 2006
Frances TAYLOR Meissner '61 on the death of her father, Dr. John Taylor, August 2006
Sally WATKINS Marshall '61 on the death of her mother, Frances Sitton Watkins, July 13, 2006
Barbara CHIVERS Wittschen '62 on the death of her mother, Elizabeth Chivers, July 4, 2006
Anna WATKINS Hattaway '62 on the death of her mother, Frances Sitton Watkins, July 13, 2006
Banna M. MALONEY '64 MAT on the death of her sister, Emily Lucy MARTIN '64 MAT, October 21, 2006
Julia ASCOURGH Work '66 on the death of her husband, Harold Knowlton Work, May 31, 2006
Mildred GEE Akers '66 on the death of her mother, Mildred McKinney Gee, September 8, 2006
Dodie MAGARAHAN Cubitt '66 on the death of her father, James Francis Magarahan, November 7, 2006
Connie ROPER Connelly '66 on the death of her husband, Charlie W. Connelly, September 20, 2006
Jane WELLS Hightower '66 on the death of her mother, Margaret LINDSAY Wells '37, December 28, 2006
Elizabeth CALHOUN Chalker '68 on the death of her husband, Dan K. Chalker, MD, December 31, 2006
Mary Douglas HOBART Kimble '68 on the death of her mother, Nancy COOPER Hobart '32, October 17, 2006
Betsy WATKINS Kinghorn '68 on the death of her mother, Frances Sitton Watkins, July 13, 2006
Patty O'HERRON Norman '69 on the death of her father, Edward M. O'Herron, July 26, 2006
Margaret RHEA '69 on the death of her father, Samuel B. Rhea, Sr., August 18, 2006
Charlotte SMITH Purrington '69 on the death of her mother, Mary Virginia Smith, January 12, 2006
Ray WANNAMAKER Sabalis '70 on the death of her father, William W. Wannamaker III, September 23, 2006

Madelon POUND Wallace '71 on the death of her husband, Anthony E. Wallace, October 4, 2006
Becky TURNER Riggs '71 on the death of her mother, Frances Owens Turner, August 2, 2006
Bobby SMITH Sutton '71 on the death of her husband, Stephen L. Sutton, September 5, 2006
Jane WATKINS Mudd '71 on the death of her mother, Frances Sitton Watkins, July 13, 2006
Sissy DEWITT Carroll '72 on the death of her mother, Margaret Coleman DeWitt, October 4, 2006
Grier GOWER Mullins '72 on the death of her father, Thomas C. Gower, December 14, 2006
Nancy REID '72 on the death of her brother, Hugh Reid, Jr., July 2, 2006
Peggy PRINTZ Collins '73 on the death of her father, Charles W. Printz, Jr., October 30, 2006
Elodie HALE Craig '74 on the death of her father, Joe Hale, September 20, 2006
Sherry ALLEN Blackford '75 MAT on the death of her mother, Rosemary BLAKELY Allen '48, November 19, 2006
Ann Rodgers TOMLINSON Chandler '75, '82 MMus on the death of her husband, William Henry Chandler, December 15, 2006
Mary ADAMS Hemsworth '76 on the death of her father, William Baylor Adams, November 16, 2005
Ann Reed WEST Springs '77 on the death of her mother, Sydnor CAIN West '49, December 17, 2006
Beverly BELL Walton '78 on the death of her husband, Thomas Ralph Walton, December 3, 2006
Theresa BLACKWELL Rucker '78 on the death of her husband, David Bryant Rucker, July 17, 2006
Mary Alice PETERSON Davis '79 on the death of her mother, Nancy CARROLL Peterson '52, December 15, 2006
Flora ADAMS Sherrod '81 on the death of her father, William Baylor Adams, November 16, 2005
Edith HOPKINS Collins '81 on the death of her father, George M. Hopkins, July 14, 2006
Elizabeth BOBO Fields '82 on the death of her mother, Idalee BIVENS Bobo '54, December 9, 2006
Dena STONE Benedict '82 on the death of her father, E. Randolph Stone, August 16, 2006
Leslie HALE Weed '83 on the death of her father, Joe Hale, September 20, 2006
Margaret MCELROY Goatley '84 on the death of her mother, Jane W. McElroy, July 8, 2006
Lucy MCELROY Stevens '86 on the death of her mother, Jane W. McElroy, July 8, 2006
Lisa GENTRY Postec '91 on the death of her brother, Michael Alan Gentry, December 19, 2006

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 Network

Please check the areas in which you are interested.

☐ Alumnae Board

☐ Development/Fundraising

☐ Class Representative

☐ Converse Clubs

☐ Alumnae 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. Please type or print all information.

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 _____

Dr. John Turnbull

Converse was saddened by news of the unexpected death of our friend and professor, Dr. John Turnbull, on May 4, 2006. Although he officially retired as Associate Professor of Organ and Chair of the Department of Performance Studies in 2005, he remained an adjunct faculty member and continued to teach regularly for the Petrie School.

During three decades of service to the College, Dr. Turnbull conducted the Converse Chorale, and taught music theory and aural skills, organ literature, church music courses, and classical piano.

Memorials may be made to the Turnbull Memorial for Petrie School of Music, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302.



John W. Stevenson

The Converse family lost a beloved colleague, friend and mentor September 24, 2006 when Dr. John W. Stevenson passed away in Spartanburg. He was 88.

Dr. Stevenson served the College and her students from 1962-1983 as the Charles A. Dana Professor of English. He also offered his talents and time as a contributing editor for the Converse alumnae magazine for many years. Known by so many for his quick wit and warm and gracious manner, John will be missed by all who knew him.

Cards and letters may be sent to Dr. and Mrs. John A. Stevenson, 1500 Baseline Road, Boulder, CO 80302. Memorials may be made to Converse College, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302.



SYMPATHY

Eleanor THOMSON Roy '36 on the death of her brother, James C. Thomson, November 27, 2006
Ida SHACKLEFORD Ball '42 on the death of her husband, Garden C. Ball, August 2006
Margaret "Maggie" GOODMAN Allen '44 on the death of her sister, Rose GOODMAN McDougald '41, September 20, 2006
Betty CHREITZBERG Crenshaw '45 on the death of her sister, Frances CHREITZBERG Broome '38, October 30, 2006
Elizabeth "Ducky" GRIER Gower '45 on the death of her husband, Thomas C. Gower, December 14, 2006

Elwyn PRATT Hutchinson '46 on the death of her husband, James H. Hutchinson, August 5, 2006
Marguerite SMITH Compton '46 on the death of her sister, Marie Jacqueline Smith Holland, December 22, 2006
Pauline THOMSON Rice '46 on the death of her brother, James C. Thomson, November 27, 2006
Margaret GUY Inman '47 on the death of her husband, Joseph Clinton Inman, August 18, 2006
Eleanor "Skippy" HERBERT Hale '48 on the death of her husband, Joe Hale, September 20, 2006

Alice ACREE Clarke '50 on the death of her husband, Lambuth M. Clarke, September 20, 2006
Nancy BLAKELY Boatwright '51 on the death of her sister, Rosemary BLAKELY Allen '48, November 19, 2006
Mary GILLESPIE Adams '51 on the death of her husband, William Baylor Adams, November 16, 2005
Anne FOSTER Provence '52 on the death of her husband, Herbert Hall Provence, Jr., September 27, 2006
Gloria GRANTHAM Emanuel '54 on the death of her husband, Philip H. Emanuel, December 2, 2006

Marriage Announcement

No engagements, please.

Name (first, maiden, last)

Class Year

Spouse's Full Name

Date of Marriage

Birth/Adoption Announcement

Please circle.

Mother's Name (first, maiden, last)

Class Year

Father's Name

Daughter/Son's Name (first, middle, last)

Birth Date

Career Change

Title

Company

City

State Zip Code

Work Phone

Advanced Degree

Degree Earned

Date Awarded

College/University

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

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

Melissa RAMSEY Deibel '92 on the death of her father, Albert Russell Ramsey, Jr., November 3, 2006

Ashley HUNNICUTT Barkocy '93 on the death of her husband, Frank Steven Barkocy III, December 8, 2006

Cathy IANNAZZONE Ellett '93 on the death of her step-mother, Betty Joy Little Iannazzone, July 28, 2006

Rhett HARDY Newton '94 on the death of her grandmother, Sarah Heyward Hardy Hinnant, December 27, 2006

Joan HOFTIEZER '94 on the death of her mother, Martha Sue Hoftiezer, August 4, 2006

Lathrop HART Mosley '96 on the death of her grandmother, Peggy Ray Fromme, July 4, 2006

Brooke CHAMPION Farmer '98 on the death of her mother, Madeline Champion, August 31, 2006

Anne Genevieve GALLIVAN '98 on the death of her grandfather, Herbert Hall Provence, Jr., September 27, 2006

Elizabeth R. THOMPSON '99 on the death of her grandmother, Sophie M. Connors, July 7, 2005

Anne JENKINSON '00 on the death of her grandmother, Emma Elizabeth Gordon Brockington Jenkinson, July 26, 2006

Michelle D. WRIGHT '01, '04 MEd on the death of her mother, Nancy Linda B. WRIGHT '82 MEd, December 11, 2006

Louisa JENKINSON '03 on the death of her grandmother, Emma Elizabeth Gordon Brockington Jenkinson, July 26, 2006

Tasha TUCKER '04 on the death of her grandmother, Leola Smalls White, November 6, 2006

Ann Leland BOMAR '05, '06 MEd on the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Pritchett Stirling, December 12, 2006

Marian CARROLL '05 on the death of her grandmother, Margaret Coleman DeWitt, October 4, 2006

Jami BROWN Hammett '06 on the death of her husband, Norman Brooks Hammett, September 15, 2006

MARRIAGES

Betty LITTLEJOHN Anderson '51 to Joseph F. Kirby, June 24, 2006

Katherine WORTH Johnson '75 to Thomas J. Ordoyne, August 2006

Elizabeth Blythe DEBRULE '91 to John Michael Wilkinson, May 20, 2006

Eleanor Sauve' LABORDE '92 to Hugh Comer Morrison, September 23, 2006

Kerri SHINN Tankersley '95 to Matthew Klinker, November 25, 2006

Angela Denise GOSNELL '96 to Steven S. Ellis, August 26, 2006

Jennifer STEWART '97 to Richard Melton, February 25, 2006

Kellie Garland WALKER '97 to Henry Michael Herlong III, September 16, 2006

Julia WITTSCHEN '97 to Carlos Alvarez, March 11, 2006

Paige Lane EUBANKS '98 to John Andrew Barrow, October 27, 2006

Sarah Elizabeth PRINGLE '98 to Julian Wayne Unger, September 23, 2006

Erin Malinda RICH '98 to Christopher Scott Strickland, July 29, 2006

Helen Natalie SPIGNER '98 to Beechard C. McConnell III, August 5, 2006

Alice Elizabeth COX '99 to Julian Wayne Davis, July 29, 2006

Summer Hunter MALONE '99 MEd to Travis James Boyle, July 15, 2006

Angela Sheree ACKERMANN '00 to Lewis Jackson Hart, Jr., October 14, 2006

Amanda Kay BOBB '00 to William Mathew Medlin, June 10, 2006

Mary Kinsey HICKS '00 to Drew Pearson Hyche, June 3, 2006

Ginger BECKMANN '01 to Jimmy Rodgers, October 17, 2006

Charity Michelle GRAHAM '01, '03 MEd to Donald Jason Jolley, June 24, 2006

Maryjeah JAGER '01 to Matt Kramer, June 18, 2006

Krystine Sherrie SERAFIN '01 to Thomas Ryan Edwards, August 26, 2006

Pamela Ashley WEATHERS '01 MEd to Robert McLean Cooper, July 8, 2006

Marlee Ann BECKHAM '02 to Graham McLean Marsh, September 30, 2006

Mary Catherine HILL '02 to Charles Bays Flowers, October 21, 2006

Mary Jett LORD '02 MAT to Scott Augustus Camp, July 28, 2006

Melissa Elizabeth MOSS '02 to Herman Lee Whiteside, July 15, 2006

Ashley PHILLIPS '02 to Colby McKay, April 2006

Christa ANDERSON '03 to Serge Pomerlyan, July 28, 2006

Jodi Leigh ARROWOOD '03 to Bryan Patrick Stepp, December 9, 2006

Melanie Margaret BROWN '03 to Joshua Knox, July 29, 2006

Ivy Adele COLLIER '03 to James Earl Jordan III, July 9, 2006

Nicole Renee GIRAUDIN '03 to John Christopher Martinez, August 4, 2006

Latrice Shanta HOLLEY '03 to Ulric Brown, February 14, 2005

Lakeesha Evette MACK '03 MEd, '05 EdS to Michael Emerson, July 29, 2006

Marianna Evelyn SHECUT '03 to Jared Matthew Pretulak, August 5, 2006

April Renata WILLARD '03 to Joshua Earl Purser, July 22, 2006

Alisha Christine WILSON '03 to Jason Bridges, April 2006

Juliet Christina AUTENZIO '04 to Lucas Russell Wright, November 4, 2006

Susan Jacqueline BYRNES '04 to Stephen Worth Long, August 5, 2006

Katherine Elizabeth CARR '04 to Jason Allen Cumbee, September 9, 2006

Jane McCollum MARION '04 to Jefferson Ephraim Burris Wilson, November 4, 2006

Jean Anne Mowry PATE '04 to Albert Blake Maynard, October 14, 2006

Anna Elizabeth WELCH '04 to Bryan Hambly Klosterman, October 14, 2006

Gretchen Elizabeth WILLIAMS '04 to Perry Griffeth Beckham, December 30, 2006

Carissa Lee BROWN '05 to Cyrus Jerome Shealy, August 5, 2006

Claire WALTER '05 to Seif Soudani, June 21, 2006

Stephanie BARRON '06 to Jon Derrick, July 29, 2006

Keeley Braxton CAUSBY '06 to Jason Scott B Runner, July 8, 2006

Alice Ashley CLEVELAND '06 to Stephen Mark Bair, July 22, 2006

Ellen Marie GODSALL '06 to Michael Joseph Escobar, July 8, 2006

Katherine Marie JOHNSON '06 MEd to Thomas Eldred Addison III, July 29, 2006

Elizabeth McFaddin MAYES '06 to John Gregory Hyatt, October 7, 2006

Devin Marie THOMPSON '06 MAT to Jarrod "Skeeter" Moore, September 2, 2006

Susan Ashley WEAVER '06 to Todd Edward Yarbrough, August 5, 2006

BIRTHS

Katie Nicole Knott, September 12, 2006, daughter of William and Natalie HILL Knott '85

William Morgan Jackson, October 18, 2006, son of Brian and Ann LANIER Jackson '86

James Parks Jones, July 7, 2006, son of David and Maura BINZ Jones '87

William Wallace Grantland, March 3, 2006, son of John and Rebecca DUBARD Grantland '88

Richmond Savannah Dunn Joyce, November 24, 2006, daughter of Bill and Savannah Elizabeth BLANCHARD Joyce '89

Charlotte Britton Monroe, December 5, 2006, daughter of Britt and Ashley BENKWITH Monroe '91

Porter Rebecca Boepple, June 16, 2006, daughter of Mark and Mary Karl KINARD Boepple '91

Joshua Philip Brown, April 3, 2006, son of Chris and Donna GAROFALO Brown '92

Matthew Christian Hardigree, May 24, 2006, son of Matt and Kelli GOSNELL Hardigree '92

Chloe Elise Bishop, September 5, 2006, daughter of Brent and Vicki JONES Bishop '92

McLeod Covington Green, October 15, 2006, son of Jimmy and Laura MCLEOD Green '92

Clarice Lord Johnson, June 8, 2006, daughter of Edward and Allison NEDER Johnson '92

Trevor Stoddard Campbell, July 2, 2006, son of David and Amanda REAVES Campbell '92

Colin Caldwell Dixon, August 6, 2006, son of Chuck and Kaysi HASDEN Dixon '94

Anne Hensley Stewart Young, August 17, 2006, daughter of Carl and Angela STEWART Young '94

Christopher Wingate Odom, June 26, 2006, son of Haywood and Eugenia FULLER Odom '95

Ella Sinclair Singleton, June 7, 2006, daughter of Cliff and Amy HEYMANN Singleton '95

Reid Alexander Leake, December 1, 2006, son of Patrick and Rhett BOYD Leake '96

Joe Kenneth Medlock, April 12, 2006, son of Bert and Jennifer JONES Medlock '96

Bryson William Vail, October 15, 2006, son of Chad and April PACE Vail '96

Margaret Christina SiQi Malady, born September 24, 2005, adopted September 4, 2006, daughter of David and Allison COOPER Malady '97

Brady Alexander Jones, February 14, 2006, son of Bobby and Holly EASLER Jones '97

Henry Woodbury Moore IV, November 7, 2006, son of Henry and Amy EBERHARDT Moore '97

Sullivan Connor Bishop, July 25, 2006, son of Chris and Shannon GOSNELL Bishop '97

John Gage Breakfield, Jr., September 6, 2006, son of John and Astrid LUTHI Breakfield '97

Clayton Marchant Williams, May 10, 2006, son of Greg and Laura MARCHANT Williams '97

Joel Chase, June 15, 2006, son of Jonathan and Christa SMITH Beaufort '97

Jackson Duncan Connelly, September 6, 2006, son of Darrell and Eleanor SMOAK Connelly '97

Owen Thomas Trask, October 24, 2005, son of Dale and Amanda THOMAS Trask '97

Maggie Elizabeth Kennedy, July 11, 2006, daughter of Benjy and Stacy BENTON Kennedy '98

Emily Marie Bishop, July 21, 2006, daughter of Cheryl Marie BISHOP '98

Harper Mae Phillips, November 5, 2006, daughter of Chris and Marti GLENN Phillips '98

Kirby Cantrell Gentry, October 24, 2006, son of Michael and Sheila KIRBY Gentry '98

Mary Caitlyn Fortner, February 10, 2006, daughter of Chris and Chrissy LOCKABY Fortner '98

Caroline Dillard Pappas and Olivia DiMatteo Pappas, September 17, 2006, twin daughters of Mike and Laura MATTHEWS Pappas '98

Samuel Witherspoon Moss, September 27, 2006, son of James and Margaret MCCLARY Moss '98

Caroline Legare Charney, November 8, 2006, daughter of Felix and Olivia THORNTON Charney '98

Mary Parish Williams, January 13, 2006, daughter of Scott and Katherine DOD Williams '99

Clayton Samuel Crabb, Jr., September 2006, son of Clayton and Amy BAER Crabb '00

Autumn Sydney Reeves, August 24, 2006, daughter of Dean and Christina BAKER Reeves '00

John Roosevelt Grace, July 23, 2006, son of John and Stephanie BORICK Grace '00

Tyler Brent Barnard, July 2006, son of Jeremy and Tina EDMONDSON Barnard '00

Dylan James Miller, March 2006, son of James and Aileen HARMON Miller '00

Cayley Harrell, December 2005, daughter of Russell and Nicole MOFFETT Harrell '00

Camden Elizabeth Kimpton, January 2006, daughter of James and Emily REEVES Kimpton '00

Ethan Gabriel Moore, September 20, 2006, son of Bill and Pamela HOLLIDAY Moore '01

Clara Emily Berry, July 11, 2006, daughter of Jonathan and Sharon SIMMONS Berry '01

Jayden Xavier Brown, January 9, 2005, son of Ulric and Shanta HOLLEY Brown '03

Ayden Kristian Atkins, December 19, 2006, son of Kris and Meredith CLAYTON Atkins '04

Douglass Byrd, September 1, 2006, son of Rhea and Christine BYRD '06

ADVANCED DEGREES

Katrina AUSTIN Hildebrandt '82, Master of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, May 2006

Sara Frances DAVIS Kollock '82, '89 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Elizabeth Mae BARNHILL '86 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Susan Marie HICKS '88, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006

Susan MILLER Davis '90, Master of Music, Converse College, May 2006

Kathy Stott LAUGHTER '92 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006

Christine D. OSBORN '92 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Jeffrey Paul CALLIS '93 MEd, Master of Liberal Arts, Converse College, July 2006

Elizabeth GARITY Turner '93 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Erin MCGEE '93, Juris Doctor, University of Houston, June 2006

Sherrie Staggs BLACKSTOCK Smith '94, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006

Anne Maree PRESSLEY '95 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Crystal Camp MCLEOD '98, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006

Terry Frederic CROCKER '99 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006

Melanie LOVE Nance '99 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006

Julie PRICE Brown '99 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
David Kyle FULLER '00 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Cynthia Ann HILL '00 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Linda MOORE McAbee '00, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Beverly Nicole THOMPSON '00 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Samina Iqbal ALIMOHAMED '01 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Pamela Elaine EMANUELSON '01, Master's in Sociology, University of South Carolina, May 2006
Sonya Lynette HARRISON-YOUNG '01 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Maryeah Lynn JAGER Kramer '01, Master of Arts in Teaching, Converse College, July 2006
Shavon Chantel STOVER '01, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Kimberly Ann TERRY '01, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Tara Swain BURNETTE '02 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Audrey Marie COOPER Bracken '02, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Mary DEGRAW Sankovich '02, Master in Student Affairs, Western Kentucky University, December 2005
April Lyles HOLLIS '02 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Stephanie Michelle MILITELLO-CALLOWAY '02 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Giada Carla ROBERTS '02 MEd, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Katherine STRONG Barnes '02, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, May 2006
Heather BARCLAY '03, Masters in Theological Studies in the History of Christianity, Harvard Divinity School, May 2005
Kathryn BRACKETT '03, Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, University of Pittsburgh, May 2006
Fanchon CHARNIGO '03, Master of Music Education in Piano Pedagogy, University of Oklahoma, May 2006
Patricia CRISAN '03, Master of Music, Converse College, May 2006
Amber DILLARD '03, Master of Science, University of Kentucky, June 2006
Sylvia Tillerson LANDRUM '03, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Ronnie David SMITH '03 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Cora Lee Marcoux STEPP '03, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Carrie TUCKER '03, Master of Science in Higher Education, Florida State University, April 2006

Kim Hamner WELLS '03, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Kathryn KUERSTEINER '04, Master of Music in Flute Performance, Baylor University, June 2006
Amy SHEEHAN '04, Master of Human Resources, University of South Carolina, December 2006
Kassandra LiAnne SMITH '04 MEd, Education Specialist, Converse College, July 2006
Ann Leland BOMAR '05, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Kerry Elise DUNCAN '05, Master of Education, Converse College, July 2006
Brandi Gail MULLINAX '05, Master of Liberal Arts, Converse College, July 2006
Sarah Holman PEAVLER '05, Master of Accountancy, University of Alabama, August 2006

CAREER CHANGES

May DOWLING Peach '76, Educational Consultant, The Price Group, Columbia, SC
Allison CULP Cookson '80, Director of Special Events and Projects, Gaston Chamber of Commerce, Gastonia, NC
Phyllis PERRIN Harris '82, Vice President for Environmental Compliance, Wal-Mart, Bentonville, AR
Mary WITHERSPOON '84, Paralegal, Bagwell, Holt, Smith, Tillman, & Jones PA, Chapel Hill, NC
Lucy ELLIOTT Enniss '91, Academic Administrator, Classics Department, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Wendy JOLLEY Kabi '91, National Coordinator, Association of Missing and Exploited Children's Organizations, Alexandria, VA
Suzanne Hope BLACK '96, USTA Local League Coordinator, USTA Atlanta, GA
Emma CARMICHAEL Harrill '96, Private Banking Relationship Manager, First Citizens Bank, Spartanburg, SC
Stephanie CROFTON '96, Associate Dean, Earl N. Phillips School of Business, High Point University, High Point, NC
Kate BARRETT Mayes '97, Internist, Carolina Medical Affiliates, Spartanburg, SC
Hadley ROWLAND '97, Art Teacher, Merritt Academy, Fairfax, VA
Shayle ABELKOP '98, Instructional Designer, Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ
Jennifer NEXSEN Holliday '98, Fine Arts Coordinator, Williamsburg County School District, Kingstree, SC
Lindsay BIRMINGHAM '01, Lead Data Management Coordinator, EFILM Digital Laboratories, Hollywood, CA
Maryeah JAGER Kramer '01, English teacher, Jonesville High School, Jonesville, SC
Stephanie LIVESAY '01, Associate Attorney, The Hawkins Law Firm, Spartanburg, SC

Kassi REYNOLDS O'Brien '01, Manager of Communications, Stein Mart
Elizabeth SANSOM Willimon '01, Annual Fund Coordinator, Terry College of Business, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Erica WICKER Clark '01, Pediatric Clinical Pharmacist, Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia, SC
Mary DEGRAW Sankovich '02, Staffing Specialist, Manpower, Inc., Gainesville, FL
Elizabeth OSWALT '02, Software Instructor, Blackbaud, Inc., Charleston, SC
Elizabeth H. SMITH '02, Assistant Attorney General, State of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
Katie STRONG Barnes '02, Associate Veterinarian, Chappell Animal Hospital, Rock Hill, SC
Kate FORD '03, Resident Outdoor Instructor, The Outdoor Academy, Pisgah Forest, NC
Holly GILMORE Hayes '03, Director of Program Services, March of Dimes, Columbia, SC
Nicole GIRAUDIN Martinez '03, Associate Vice President for Marketing, Wallis State Bank, Katy, TX
Robyn HILL Sanderson '03, Assistant Director of Student Activities, Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC
Shanta HOLLEY Brown '03, HR Specialist, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, Spartanburg, SC
Maria PERRY '03, Teacher, Winterberry Elementary School, Anchorage, AK
Chrissie PRICE '03, Assistant Tennis Professional, North Park Tennis Center, Alpharetta, GA
Kristin SMITH '03, Administrative Specialist, South Carolina State Ethics Commission, Columbia, SC
Monica SWANSON Foster '03, Co-Owner, Yogalicious, A Spartanburg Studio, Spartanburg, SC
Carrie TUCKER '03, Associate Director, LEAD Center, Program Coordinator, Leadership and Civic Engagement, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Susan BYRNES Long '04, Executive Assistant, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, New York, NY
Meredith CLAYTON Atkins '04, Sales Assistant, WSPA News 7, Spartanburg, SC
Jordan GREENE Standrich '04, Benefits Administrator, The Cliffs Communities, Travelers Rest, SC
Rachel JONES Brown '04, Art Teacher, Troy Elementary School, Troy, AL
Erin POSTON Stone '04, Outreach Coordinator, Epilepsy Foundation of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
Sarah Holman PEAVLER '05, Staff Accountant, HealthSouth Corporate, Birmingham, AL
Andrea WEATHERMAN '05, High School Residence Hall Counselor, North Carolina School of the Arts, Winston Salem, NC
Elizabeth L. WALKER '06, Assistant Director, Converse Annual Fund, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

CLASS OF 1929
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. Mary Hamilton Stephens
1007 Riverside Boulevard
Lumberton, NC 28358

CLASS OF 1933
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. Blanche Dennis Cante
100 Joseph Walker Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

CLASS OF 1943
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. E. Paul (Anne Crooks) Smith
205 S. Hickory Street
Summerville, SC 29483, 843-873-1846

I made contact with Harriett Bull Wilder in Sumter, SC and she sounded fine after heart surgery a short time ago. From time to time we met at Edisto when she was there with bridge playing friends. Harriett's son-in-law, Grainger McKoy, graduated from Clemson in 1970 with a degree in Zoology. He is renowned for his sculpture of wood and bronze birds. He has exhibited in galleries and museums over the world. Bettie Vann Sharpe is living in a retirement home in Raleigh, NC. This is her seventh year there and she says she couldn't have made a better decision in selecting a home. Lucia Geiger Fusco is doing well and lives in Columbia, SC. Her husband died several years ago. She has two sons who live nearby. One works for the state and one is a lawyer. I love how Lucia praised her two daughters-in-law. Lucia retired as a math teacher.

CLASS OF 1944
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. Catherine Gant Powell
122 Fairway Drive
Washington, NC 27889, 252-975-6902

The replies from my little poem last summer (2006) are still coming in! What fun! Clara Buchan Creighton wrote in August. Her daughter, granddaughter, assorted in-laws and four great-grands were coming from Tampa, FL for Sister's birthday. Older son lives nearby at Surfside Beach, SC and second at Hilton Head, SC. She is in touch with Margaret Hudson Workman and Kent Seignious Freeman. Jean Hooper Crook is good about writing. In September she and Jim were "weeding out, cleaning up, and asking their five children 'want this?'" as preparation for

moving to a retirement home. The big news was the January arrival of their first 'great', a girl dubbed with generation-old family names. She sees other Montreaters—Bess Owen Alexander Yeilding, of Birmingham, AL, and Margaret Fulton Walker '45 among others. Betsy Brunk Argo writes from Bristol, RI that retirement is great! She's just now getting the hang of it after 35-40 years of teaching and 10-12 years as a journalist! Would love to copy, in toto, the wonderful, upbeat, surprise letter from Dotty Gayden Miller who lives in Pittsburg, KS. After a business degree from USC, she enjoyed traveling with her investment club friends—they bought Wal-Mart back in 1981! Her husband's photo and camera shop took off with the advent of 'color' and their lab business, one of the largest in the country, is run by her son, son-in-law and grandsons. She jets to Florida for the winter. She and husband Bill became 'anglers extraordinaire', fishing all over this continent. She is grateful for a full and happy life. I sign off with this ditty, via Sister, from Kent—a better poetess than I!

We're still able to laugh and eat,
Though our children are in the driver's seat.
In fact, life is great, since this is our fate
No grass grows under our feet.

Although we use oxygen and prednisone
And our visiting is done on Ma-Bell's phone
(Family and friends are swell; it's just that old age is hell)
It's "Thanks for the Memories" when we're alone.

CLASS OF 1945
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
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, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. Mary Helen Garrison Dalton
3064 Ridgewood Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30327, 404-355-0434
E-mail: mhdalton7@aol.com

CLASS OF 1947
60th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representatives:
Mrs. Mary Young Cousar
4615 Arlon Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-1793
E-mail: cousarj@bellsouth.net

Mrs. Martha Thompson Vermont
121 Eastwood Circle
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-583-2211

Seven come eleven we're the class of '47 and we're having our 60th class reunion April 27 – 28, 2007! We have received a mailing with all the necessary information and now we just need to respond. We had a good 55th reunion and the 60th can be even better. I've called a sampling of the class on my cell phone and found a few at home. I notice a lot of us are moving into retirement homes. A good idea! I talked to Elizabeth (Speedy) Browning Davis a while back and she is hoping to attend the reunion. At that moment her grandson Ty Davis (now out of the service) was painting her house. Grands are wonderful, aren't they? Ann Davidson (Davy) Marion keeps up with more of us than anyone else does. She hopes that Sarah Parker Lumpkin and Jane Woodcock Wallace will come. Sarah and her sisters have recently given a talk about the house in which they grew up in Georgetown, SC. You all may know that Sarah has written a book about her church, Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church, and has done a lot for Georgetown. I wish I had more news but if everyone comes to our 60th reunion we can all catch up! See you there, April 27 – 28!

CLASS OF 1948
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:
Mrs. Eleanor "Skippy" Herbert Hale
5171 Yacht Club Road
Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-9592
E-mail: skippyhale@bellsouth.net

I don't think it would be possible for me to write this without telling you that I lost my husband, Joe, after 56 years of marriage, on Sept 20, 2006. He had been in a period of declining health for some time, and was ready to "go", but the change and adjustments to my life are the same so many of you have experienced, and are not easy as you know. I have been cheered by the response to his memorial, a foundation started by our daughter, Leslie Hale Weed '83. Leslie has an autistic daughter, an adorable eight year old. Having gone through all the vagaries of raising an autistic child, she realized that there were so many families who couldn't afford to offer their children the treatments and therapies needed to live with this disability, so she has started a foundation to make these opportunities available to these children. The response has been overwhelming, and we are so grateful. On to notes of our class...I have found that at this time in our life, what our children are doing is more interesting than what we are doing. Nancy Harris Roberts has a daughter



and son-in-law who have a 1300 acre organic farm in NY state. They give courses in organic farming in addition to running this farm. The daughter of **Anne Davis Rigby** is married to an economics professor at Davidson. He is holding a seminar in India. They have been in touch with **Peggy Pfaff Whitley** and hope to see her while there. **Robin Robins Watson** reports that daughter Eloise (the youngest child of our classmates), is expecting her second child. She is an OB-GYN and gives herself a lot of business. Robin's grandson is in the Air Corps and getting his medical degree at George Washington University. **Alice Mobley Lipscombe's** son, Douglas, has retired from his hurricane chasing job, and is now with the Navy at the Stennis Space Center in Gulfport, MS researching meteorology and oceanography for submarine warfare.

CLASS OF 1949

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:

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

I have emailed those whose addresses are available via the alumnae office and find that many of them are no longer in service. If you have a new address, please let the alumnae office know. **Betty Jo Putnam Carpenter** is one of the 40's decade representatives on the Converse Alumnae Board. She is serving as president of The Symphony of Rutherford County, a 65-member, all-volunteer orchestra, for the 19th year. Each year the symphony presents two free public concerts, and one day of concerts for Rutherford County public schools. The symphony conductor is Wilbert Kimple of Spartanburg who has Converse connections. Last summer Jo and Ed visited with **Peggy Bradford Long** and husband Rufus at the Lake Lure Inn. They enjoy trying to keep up with their six grandgirls. Other '40's reps on the Alumnae Board are **Lib Harper Hopkins** (elected this year for another two-year term) and yours truly. I attended my first meeting in September. Lib, having been widowed this year, will remain in Tampa, FL while keeping her Spartanburg connections for frequent visits.

CLASS OF 1950

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:

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

CLASS OF 1951

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representatives:

Mrs. Ann McCaskill Leonard
228 Arbours Commons Court
Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-579-0094
E-mail: wrleonard2006@yahoo.com
Mrs. Priscilla Beard Blosser-Rainey
Post Office Box 706
Timberville, VA 22853, 540-896-9931
E-mail: prisrainey@hughes.net

Nancy Cheatham Riggsbee volunteers with the Master Gardner's Program at Metro School in Charlotte, NC and travels often to Litchfield Beach, SC. **Betty Tonge McMillan, Emily deLoach Dupre, Polly Hill Woodham, Carolyn Byrd Tipton** and families celebrated **Ann Gwathmey Badgett's** birthday at Givens Estates in Asheville, NC. Polly serves on the Alumnae Association Board. Carolyn follows basketball and tennis activities of grandsons Jason and Michael Ridehour. Daughter, Patsy, retired school teacher, is now a building contractor. **Libby Hamer Chandler** has 15 grandchildren and goes to Myrtle Beach, SC often. **Pris Beard Blosser-Rainey** is active in the Shenandoah Valley, VA with museum work relating to textiles. **Mary Gillespie Adams** loves being bar maid in the pub her late husband opened on their beef cattle farm. **Estelle Barker Prewitt's** year old great-grandson lives close to her in Rochester, NY. **Dot French Epting** has traveled the world over with the exception of Africa. Among her great-grandchildren are year old twin boys. **Maude Bull Clinkscales** talks to **Georgia Free Laney** frequently. They often see **Evie Gilliland Gibson, Jane Taylor Milner** volunteers at Hospitality House through her church in Blowing Rock, NC. **Ann Ratterree Herlong** is preparing her piano performance tape for application to the Van Cliburn amateur piano competition. Ann has 16 piano students in Rock Hill, SC. **Virginia Brown Edwards** owns a transportation company and drives an 18 wheeler coast to coast. **Dot Wyatt Adams** is at her best keeping 'phone touch with Converse buddies. She reports seeing **Pat Riley Lanier's** son in Atlanta, GA, says **Jo Chenault Mattes** is returning to Virginia from Florida, **Jean Hollerith Case** had successful hip replacement and old Lynchburg, VA friends, **Lou Lewis Holt, Max Barnard Hollis** and **Harriet Taylor Ramsey** celebrated there. **Eunice Sullivan Pracht's** grandson, Christopher, was in the top 10 of his class this past year at Charleston Law School and made "Law Review". **Ann McCaskill Leonard** and husband Ray have downsized from their tri-level home of 50 years to a new one-level home. Their three granddaughters are all college grads now. Son Walt continues in his busy Spartanburg dental practice; daughter Leslie and husband are in Tampa, FL.

CLASS OF 1952

55th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:

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

An exciting time awaits, ladies, as our 55th reunion approaches, April 27 - 28. You should have in hand a letter with all of our class details as well as the reunion brochure with details of the entire weekend. If not, please let me know. I am looking forward to seeing all of you!

CLASS OF 1953

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representatives:

Mrs. Marilyn Mateer Sherrill
114 Briarwood Court
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-583-8066
Mrs. Lil Lindsay Sachs
1412 Kathwood Drive
Columbia, SC 29206, 803-787-7916
Mrs. Jean Kearns Stansill
5907 Colchester Place
Charlotte, NC 28210, 704-554-8299

Well, we've done it again! At the invitation of our **Julia Jones Daniels** and **Bev Chalk Townsend**, seven of us traveled to Figure 8 Island, NC in October like we did last year. Despite a few drop-outs, the nine of us had a blast. Julia drove us all over that busy Wilmington area—shopping and a visit to the Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum. Louise was a '44 Converse alumna and this pre-existing museum was moved and renamed in her memory by her family. The merchants love to see Julia coming (and with her friends) because I'm sure she's the #1 party giver in the state of NC—buying bundles of favors and decorations, etc. Where does she get all that energy? I'm expecting her to be on a rendition of "The Amazing Race" any year. The reunion was in honor of Julia's former roommate, **Bun Wyatt Wyatt**, who missed last year because of illness. Bun was as witty and wonderful as always and we all laughed our heads off the whole time as usual. **Jean Kearns Stansill, Pat Rhyne Thomas, Becky Ramsaur Pennell, Jane Winn Pollitzer, Annette Edgerton Brothers**, and I (**Marilyn Mateer Sherrill**) made up the group, staying in three houses, each one with our own bedroom and bath. Julia had all the meals (except one lunch out) catered in-house, and we ate like queens! Nice life! She really runs a five-star hotel whenever and wherever she entertains. And we are the happy recipients. Thank you, Julia, for all you do for us. And thank you, Bev, for helping and being so loyal. I'd love to write about others of you, so please send your news. I can only



write about what I know or hear—loudly (as some of us have a slight hearing problem, or all talk at once).

CLASS OF 1954

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:

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

How about **Rhetta Morrison Lowndes'** husband Bill receiving the *Order of the Palmetto* this past fall? That is a major, major honor, and they must both be as pleased as punch. That same week, the Rock Hill Alumnae met at a luncheon, and I had a chance to sit at the table with **Margaret Jackson Bundy** and Charlie, **Mildred Roberts Robards** and **Jane Beasley Moore** (as well as friends from two other classes). Jane, whose husband David died this past year, is still determined to stay alone on her farm in spite of her children and her sisters urging her to move into town. Knowing her determined spirit, I expect they're fighting a losing battle - she'll go when she's doggoned good and ready. Mildred and Frank snatch every opportunity to "baby-sit" with their grandchildren in Charleston, so they skipped out on some of the functions at his Citadel reunion in November in order to do just that. Mildred looks absolutely marvelous with a becoming new hairdo, and as for Margaret - well, it's disgusting how young she still looks. If I didn't know better, I'd guess her to be in her late fifties. Sad to say, we've lost another classmate. It's hard to imagine our class without **Nancy Sibley Dunn**, who not only has served on the Alumnae Board but was such a driving force behind our successful class fund-raising. I don't think her cancer was even discovered before early September, and she lasted a bare two weeks after that - surely the best way for her, but awfully hard on family and friends nonetheless. This issue won't go in the mail until spring, but that makes it a good time to remind all of you that, as Golden Clubbers, our class now is included every year at Reunion Weekend. Will we see you at the Alumnae Luncheon?

CLASS OF 1955

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representative:

Mrs. Jo Ann Guyton Davison
1722 Peggio Lane #1
Missoula, MT 59802, 406-829-6376

Floride Gulledge Carter and Rex were planning to be at their place on Pawleys Island for the "good fishing weather" in September and October '06. **Mary Brobston Cleverdon**

and John entertained a lot of family this summer—24 were milling around at one point at the Mobile Bay house. Their 50th wedding anniversary was celebrated with a wonderful cruise to Italy (stops in Naples, Venice, Messina, Croatia, Barcelona, Livorno, Cannes, and Rome) with their daughter, Jo Ann, husband Neal and their four children, ages 10 -15. **Mary Montgomery Dunlap's** husband, Don, broke his right hip and shoulder last January on the way to their granddaughter's in Wilmington, NC. This slowed them down for the first half of 2006, but they were to leave on a cruise up the west coast of Norway past the Artic Circle and to Iceland tracing the Viking sea paths. **Amaryllis Doar Duvall** and Hal have downsized, moving down the block from Hal's family's long time home to a house without 20 steep steps. They cruised the Danube to Prague with some Cheraw, SC friends. **Barbara Gregory Moore** and Ralph have been retired for 13 years. Ralph was principal at Coral Gables High, Barbara had an ESL teaching position. "Life has been a series of all weekends since—just fun, lots of travel, some pitiful golf and more of the same." **Sarah Manning Pope** sent a postcard post marked "Research Triangle Region, NC" to report "I don't have anything new since the Memory Book." **Carolyn Schwem Stinson** and Randy have celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary and "are blessed". In July their granddaughter was married on the beach at Emerald Isle—"no shoes required and a fun time for all". **Suzanne Robinson Folger** wrote that granddaughter Suzanne Folger Kobe was to be a December graduate from New York University (finishing in 3 ½ years). Please keep those cards and letters coming!

CLASS OF 1956

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
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

Ellen McLaughlin Rose tells us that Reggie's play, "Twelve Angry Men," enjoyed a great revival run in New York last spring and is being seen around the country ending in May 2007 in Miami, FL. Richard Thomas is playing one of the key roles. Ellen has worked with the production company to maintain the integrity of the play as it continues its long life on the US and international stage. **Charlotte Ferguson Sloan** and husband Ned are donors of one of the Steinway pianos to the Petrie School of Music, given by Ned in

honor of Charlotte. These gifts and purchases have helped Converse become an all-Steinway school. Charlotte is recovering well from spinal disc surgery. **Dicksie Mims Ward** was spotted at a wedding in late summer walking well following double knee replacement surgery. **Pegilie Price Walter** reports that husband Ted has retired once again, this time as interim President of Epworth Children's Home in Columbia. He remains on the Epworth staff working part-time in Development. **Carolyn Byers Brockwell** has recovered from a broken wrist incurred a few weeks after our 50th Reunion. Some surgery on her thumb on the injured hand to improve her reach on the keyboard which was limited by the injury and healing process is in her future. **Jane Davis James** says she received good reports on our 50th reunion from classmates who attended. Jane reports seeing **Jenny Johnston Singleton, Joan Barron Bundy, Gay Love Conder, Lucy Ann Robinson Hemphill** and **Ida Ruth Stone Little** at the beach in '06. **Christine Williams Hammond** spent lots of summer '06 time at Pawleys with Jay and the grandchildren. We caught up with **Jane Samford Naismith** and **Barbara Page Kennedy**, third Dexter buddies in our freshman year. Jane has built a house on the river front near Savannah, hosting Tour of Homes events and church fundraisers. She plays the accordion with a local band - a repertoire of oldies but goodies. Barbara continues to live in Pinehurst, NC, and is devoted to her flower gardens. **Fran Boykin Maynard** takes pride in her granddaughter Megan Beasley who is working toward an early Clemson '07 graduation. Please send your news. Your classmates are interested in what you are doing. Note our contact information above.

CLASS OF 1957

50th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representatives:

Mrs. Patsy Cox McMillan
530 Azalea Lane
Florence, SC 29501, 843-669-6064
Mrs. Sylvia Craver Chandler
283 Molasses Lane
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, 843-884-4001

Girls, this is IT—our 50th. Please plan to be there April 27-28, 2007. We've made it this far. Let's celebrate! **Carolyn "Lac" Fulmer Alexander** had two works selected for the 33rd Annual Juried Art Exhibition held this past August in Spartanburg, SC. One work was a watercolor titled "Rising Sun." Her prismacolor, "A Look Toward Eden" won the Jean Price Memorial Award. 2006 was an exciting year for **Patti Moore McGee** and husband Peter. Their beautiful garden was featured in the September 2006 issue of *Traditional Home*



that included pictures of the gardens as well as a great picture of them. Their son-in-law, Stephen Colbert, husband of their daughter Evie, launched his television show, “The Colbert Report” in October. After several years as a very popular correspondent on Comedy Central’s “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart”, Stephen is now receiving acclaim for his parodies of the cable news talk shows. He also was the featured entertainer for the White House Correspondents Dinner in April and he was listed as one of *Time* magazine’s 100 Most Influential People. The McGees enjoyed seeing Evie and Stephen as they arrived on the Red Carpet before the Emmys. See you *all* in April.

CLASS OF 1958

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

Representatives:

Mrs. Jack (Elaine Finklea) Folline
740 Kilbourne Road
Columbia, SC 29205, 803-254-9503
Mrs. Bud (Nancy Hayes) Wilkerson
2122 Norton Road
Charlotte, NC 28207, 704-376-4776

Having already enjoyed two new paintings honored in the state fair, **Searle Rowland** called with good news. Her college roommate, **Lucy Stockard Perry**, requested Searle to paint sketches of not only her home but those of their three children. Lucy and her husband Richard, a working lawyer in Atlanta, GA, also have five grandchildren. Their home was built outside Atlanta on the property of Lucy’s great grandfather and when visiting, Searle and Lucy hiked the woodland trails. Active in their Episcopal church, Lucy and Richard are honorary chairmen of the Cathedral Antique Show. Eleanor LaBorde ’92, daughter of **Shinger Hassell LaBorde** was married last fall in Trinity Cathedral in Columbia, SC. The bride had six Converse friends as honorary bridesmaids. **Betsy Richardson Cathcart** saw **Katherine Ryan Stribling, Molly Sheorn Evans, Mary Elizabeth Belser Arnot, Betty Anne Nelson Richardson**, Margaret Dick Wyman ’57 and Carol Clark Gentry ’56 whose daughter is a friend of Eleanor’s. Carol was hostess that weekend to Ellen McLaughlin Rose ’56 from Westport, CT. Still remembering the festivities, Shinger announced the third daughter’s wedding was “my last hurrah”! And she does not do computers or dust either. Betsy and John Cathcart attend the art workshop yearly at Kanuga where numerous artists teach. Heartily recommending the workshop, Betsy used her inspiration for her one-woman show last summer in Georgetown, SC. Son, Richard, with the Solicitor’s Office, hosted his parents for the wedding. In Greenwood, SC are three grandchildren—daughter Camilla, a senior vice president at Wachovia, with her family; and son John, orthopedic surgeon, married

to a dentist, with their sons. Retired from obstetrics, John works four days weekly in mental health. He still loves his collections of lead toy soldiers and another of paperweights, which used to live at the office but now are in Betsy’s living room. They talked to **Sally Hicks Reardon**, who is substitute teaching. Husband Fred, a retired business professor, now owns an antique store near Wilmington, NC, complete with big trucks to hall furniture.

CLASS OF 1959

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 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

No news, in this case, is not good news! Thanks to **Rosann Ferguson Hooks** for her email. She is taking a class on Rome, Disciple Bible Study and works in the food pantry at her church. Aerobics classes and keeping grandson James occasionally keep her “hopping” and in good shape. Hope to hear from you soon!

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

I hope all of you are well and having a good year. I haven’t heard from anyone and hope that means no news is good news. Please stay in touch; it’s a great way for us to know what is happening with our former 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

Lois Pressey Crowley has a new career as Private Investigator in the family business after 25 years as a career counselor. Having raised four daughters she and her husband are relearning nursery rhymes as they raise granddaughter, Lindsay (4). They escape the Houston summer by vacationing in Ohio and Maine. **Lucy Gramling Crowley** has retired after 21 years as Head of the Lower School at Hilton Head Prep, which followed 19 years at Spartanburg Day School and five years in Spartanburg District One schools. To honor Lucy, a building at Prep was named for her; a book collection in the library was created in her name, as was a garden! She plans to spend lots of time with Anna (4), who lives in Atlanta with daughter, Carlton, and son-in-law Matthew Gansereit. **Boo Bargamin Kral** and Ted enjoyed four days in Rome followed by a 10-day cruise in the Eastern Mediterranean with Ted’s family. Her favorite port was in Turkey. Last year Boo volunteered in the high school Advanced History Department and plans to try elementary school this year. **Noni Miller Lurding** and husband Don love retirement, especially having time for new things. She enjoys keeping granddaughter Mary Elizabeth a few days a week. Last June they had a wonderful trip to Holland, the Scandinavian capitals, St. Petersburg, and Tallin, Estonia, still relatively untouched by tourism. **Ann Conner Cox** regularly visits her daughter’s family in Switzerland. In June she had a fascinating visit to Prague and found the old town especially interesting. A visit to another daughter in Utah involved hiking in the Capital Reef area. Last May **Nina Jameson Jordan** and Jim spent 16 days in Negril and Runaway Bay, Jamaica. They have logged over fifty visits there! In October they spent a week in Cairo and a week cruising through Upper Egypt. They celebrated 47 years of marriage in September! **Betty Lake Orr** is in touch with **Woody Bradford Clark**, who golfs and vacations in Linville, NC. **Martha Brockington Roberts** and Ed have moved to a retirement community, Bishop Gadsden, near Charleston.

CLASS OF 1962

45th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2007

Representative:

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

Important date, ladies! APRIL 27-28, 2007 - THAT IS THE WEEKEND OF OUR 45TH REUNION! Be there!! **Rannie Sparkman**



Townsend is a proud grandmother. Son Tommy and wife Miki have seven sons, ages eight to 17. They live in Marietta, GA and Rannie calls the boisterous bunch of testosterone - her words - “The Tribe.” She does have one granddaughter. Daughter Julia Easterby and granddaughter Ashley (5) have recently moved back to Greenville, SC. Volunteer work continues to keep Rannie busy—church activities and the wonderful artistic events that Greenville has to offer. She serves on the Homeowner’s Association for her residence in Greenville as well as her vacation home at Caesar’s Head. Rannie enjoys taking courses at Furman University and is on the Kanuga Conferences Board of Directors. She and two high school friends had a wonderful trip to Yosemite National Park last spring. **Barbara Chivers Wittschen** and eleven family members celebrated her husband David’s 70th birthday at Folly Beach, SC this past July. The Wittschens used to live in the area, so they surprised David by inviting former neighbors and friends to join them for the celebration. Barbara said one of the highlights of the week was watching David on the boogy board! **Patsy Davis Nates** and husband Jim enjoy living in Columbia, SC where he is Parish Pastor at Ashland United Methodist Church. They now have 12 grandchildren. Patsy says she is looking forward to our reunion. I have had a truly wonderful year and a half! Older son Walt was married September 3, 2005. My younger son was married September 9, 2006. What a wonderful blessing these two young ladies are to me and my family. Then, on September 22, 2006, Walt and Lisa presented me with my third grandson, Walter Henry Stone, IV (Henry). My older grandsons are Taylor’s sons, Brinkley, 14 and Dylan, 11. See you April 27 – 28!

CLASS OF 1963

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

Representatives:

Mrs. Peggy Rainwater
1228 North Carolina Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002, 202-544-4396
E-mail: prainwater@rendon.com
Mrs. Betty “Boopie” Poole Rose
1002 Vance Street
Raleigh, NC 27608, 919-834-8270
E-mail: rose1793@bellsouth.net
Mrs. Emily Kerr Stay
9619 Pekin Road
Novelty, OH 44072, 440-338-8221
E-mail: estay@alltel.net

Thanks to **Gelene Duncan Ellsworth** for the newsy letter. She writes that she visited with Beatty Hooker Doyle ’62 in Charleston, SC last year. Beatty loves her real estate work with Dan Ravenel’s company. Her carriage house is cozy and charming, filled with many family pieces

Emily Jackson Vallarino ’65

Wherever their world travels take them, Mary Emily Jackson Vallarino ’65 and her husband, Manuel, spread the good word about Converse. It is because of their efforts that many students from Central America have been able to enjoy the Converse experience and help build a dynamic, diverse Converse community.

Emily and Manuel divide their time between homes in Conway, SC and Manuel’s native Panama where he is senior vice president of the Confederation of International Contractors’ Associations—a Paris, France-based association of contractors from around the world.

“I make sure that we always carry Converse literature with us,” said Emily. “We talk about Converse with friends, family and business associates. Properly relaying the College’s mission is essential because some of the girls cannot make that all-too-important visit to the campus before deciding what college is right for them.”

Since 2001, the Vallarinos have actively recruited in Panama, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, El Salvador, Venezuela and Europe. Emily says that “for the most part, the young women that we recruit are at the sophomore collegiate level academically and are a bit more mature than their American counterparts. Still, it is very rewarding for us to see them develop into even more accomplished women at Converse. We stay in touch with them through phone calls and letters because we care about them, and we want them and their parents to know that the students are not out there alone.”

The Vallarinos commitment to connecting international students with Converse is further reflected by the fact that they provide resources to assist international students who have financial need regarding tuition, and room and board.



from her parents’ home on Meeting Street. On a tour of homes in Madison, GA, Gelene saw **Ginger Bell Woodard** and had a good time catching up. She also enjoyed a recent visit with **Wallace Johnson. Emily Kerr Stay** writes that she will be a speaker at the international photo teachers association (PIEA) in March. The conference is held in Las Vegas this year. Emily is also on the committee to establish an ejournal for PIEA. She is the only high school representative on the committee. Her subject for presentation deals with creating lesson plans that encourage student creativity. **Boopie Poole Rose** gets to Atlanta regularly to see her two grandchildren. She reports that **Rhetta Fair Wilson** is being a Granny Nanny to her grandchildren. More power to you, girl. That’s the way to stay young. Speaking of which, Emily says she is thinking about retirement. Yes, it’s time to think about that. Boopie says that she thinks if only she had a full time job, she would become disciplined with her time. Haven’t we all said that, and we know it’s not true. If any of you have words of wisdom about retirement from any standpoint, we would love to hear them. As for me, I will never retire. I tell myself that I am not tired, I am not bored, and I love my work which are all true. I do know that I like that income that allows me to travel all over the world. Let us hear from you-Email, snail mail, visits. Peggy

CLASS OF 1964

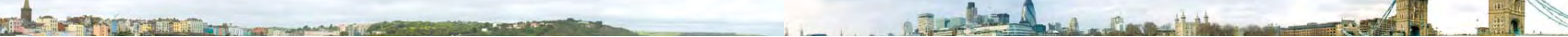
Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

Representatives:

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E-mail: ccgirl_64@hotmail.com
Mrs. Joan Foster McKeown
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It’s been a while since our last newsletter and that gave all of you more time to send us some news, but alas... However, a LOT has been going with your other class rep, **Babs**! Two serious blockages in her heart had to be surgically corrected. Then she had a hemorrhage behind her left eye causing significant loss of normal sight for several weeks. But, thankfully, she is greatly improved and getting back to “normal”! Rep. **Joan** hit the road with husband, Kirk, in October and rode with him in his Schneider rig for five days. Most people can’t see me climbing up in a tractor to haul a trailer around the country, but I thoroughly enjoyed it – jeans, sweats, and NO MAKEUP! **Caroline Watts Morris** indicated a group of Converse alumnae were happy to visit with **Joan Chapman Deifell** in July when she came to Greenville, SC to visit her sisters. Joan and husband, Jey, are planning to move



to Black Mountain, NC upon his retirement. Caroline's mother, Whilden Floyd Watts, attended the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind (SCSDB). In May Caroline's ancestral family, the Marchbanks, celebrated their first Kirkin' O' the Marjoribanks tartan, a Scottish service with bagpipes, Blessing of the Tartan, and a History of the Tartan given by Caroline. A memorial offering for Caroline's mother (a Marchbanks descendant) was received to benefit SCSDB and used to purchase whiteboards for the school. Caroline also wants to thank the members of the class of '64 for their support of the college, both moral and financial. Thanks to your contributions, Converse has a wonderful future. **Ellen Holmes Gramling** wins the Baby Watch Award for having had three grandchildren in seven months. **Mary Coker Wieters** has five grands, some of which call her Grand Mary. **Judy Brown Christopher** and husband, Tom, enjoyed a visit with **Carla (Toni) Hochstein Bradford** and husband, Dave, in their gorgeous Colorado log home in October. They even got a dusting of snow! PLEASE SEND NEWS!!!

CLASS OF 1965

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2010
Representative:

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Greetings and thanks to **Kathy Cohen Willard** for assistance with this column. I also had nice notes from **Sabra McDaniel Moseley** and **Carolyn Church Harbison**. Kathy and Ben's daughter, Isabel, had a daughter in May and named her Carter in honor of Isabel's sister, Carter Willard Smith '88. Kathy has taken up golf and often plays with **Ann Trammell Holmes**, who somehow between all of her children and grandchildren, manages to find time to play. Ann enjoyed having **Ginger McKinney Jernigan** stay with her when Ginger was in Spartanburg for the Alumnae Board fall meeting. **Anna Dean Johnson** and husband Yates traveled to Evergreen, CO for the wedding of their son, John, in October. Now three of their five children are married and their most recent grandchild is named Yates. Anna has a very successful catering business and did a wonderful job with our class dinner in the spring of '05. **Blanche Willard Quinn** and **Charlene Seigler Wells** are in Columbia, SC and share a love of painting. Charlene has a gallery with other artists, which I was able to visit in the fall. **Patty Womack Roberts** loves being back in Camden, SC with her husband who has retired. **Lib Burnett Fleming's** daughter, Betsy, continues to lead Converse vigorously, effectively, and gracefully. Lib is serving on the SC Public Service Commission

since her retirement from City Council. **G.G. Mackey Green's** daughter, Margaret Young, lives in Spartanburg where her husband, Mike, is the Wofford College basketball coach. **Anne Coffey** stays busy in Greensboro, NC helping daughter Anne with her twin girls. **Tris Gowen Graybeal** and husband Jim continue to take great trips and keep up with old friends. Tris' goal right now is to get anyone who can to reunite in Charlotte to surprise **Virginia Simpson Whedon**. Tris reports that **Franky Dunlap McMahan** had a hip replacement in India and she and Bobby have moved from Key West. **Lucy Robertson Aldridge** hosted Brenda Burke McGehee '64, **Nancy "Bird" Arundale Schon**, and **Missy Williamson Anderson** in Blowing Rock, NC.

CLASS OF 1966

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011
Representatives:
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While some of this info will soon be a year old, as it was gathered last spring for our 40th reunion (I still don't believe it, either, and I was there), I trust it is accurate and will inspire YOU to contact great friends, bare acquaintances, and moi. Your news cannot be published if you don't send it -- and we want to know everything. Blessings upon us all, with special love to our Dr. Steve's son, John and family. Reunion '06 included **Anne Douglas Hart** who is 'at last' a grandmother. Son Daniel and wife Sarah welcomed Anne Mason Hart March 11, 2006. Daughter Anne Fair works for the Atlanta Botanical Garden, while another son escaped New Orleans for Myrtle Beach. In February, Anne and husband Bob went on a grand trip to Egypt. **Francie Balling Little** arranged our class dindin at The Piedmont Club, where we were infinitely better behaved than at some past memorable occasions. Two of her sons live in Spartanburg and work with Little Construction, while one son, Linny, is in Chicago. She has a grandchild, Gene. **Barbara Nelson Yergens** is delighted to be back in the Lowcountry (Beaufort, SC) with real estate husband Bill, running her own design company (ASID member). **Millie Gold Moore**, widowed in 2000, moved to Vero Beach, FL, four years ago, and volunteers even more since her retirement, travels, golfs and summers in Vermont. Daughter Kate lives in Denver, CO with three children under five. **Ann Loving Hunter** and husband Sam spent the past year traveling. Ann was the State

Chairman of the American Cancer Society, has done mission work in Kenya, and returned to Kikuyu this fall to do construction work with Sam. Son Paul works with their company, and daughter Betsy is a health care administrator in Virginia. **Margaret Goettee Brooks** retired as Director of Testing for Atlanta public schools in 2005. Mardee and Joe's daughter Demaris is a '06 Converse graduate while their son and his wife live in Manhattan. **Kitty Oldham Young**, as much a shutterbug as ever, lives in Greenville, SC with husband Skip retired from the US Food Service. Daughter Katharine teaches while husband Tripp is a minister in Jackson, MS.

CLASS OF 1967

40th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
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April 27 – 28, 2007 is quickly approaching and we hope to see all of you Reunion Weekend 2007! Our class details have been mailed as well as the Reunion Weekend brochure with registration form and other information. If you have questions, please let us know. You may also want to look at the Converse web site, www.converse.edu, which has reunion information as well, including online registration! See you soon!

CLASS OF 1968

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2008
Representative:
Mrs. Barbara Baker Kennedy
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Raleigh, NC 27612, 919-782-9459
E-mail: BKennedy8@nc.rr.com

Carol (KK) Kennedy Johnston had just returned from their ranch in Argentina when I spoke with her. They have cattle and her husband, two sons and son-in-law hunt red stag and partridges. They go down about twice a year, but the boys go much more frequently to hunt. She has five grandchildren. Her daughter lives just down the street so she is able to see them frequently. She keeps in touch with **Barbara Hamby Swift** and Suzie McMillan Johnson '67 among others. **Betty Flippin Brown** is living in Massies Mill, VA, between Lynchburg and Charlottesville. She has two children, Tommy, construction company owner, and Florence, who lives in St. Croix. Betty, along with her sister, runs a

gift shop specializing in fine foods and gifts. Begun 43 years ago by their mother, they love carrying on the tradition. In her spare time, Betty is renovating her home, built in 1854. **Poe Hutson Derbish** is living in Miami, FL and working at Florida International University. She says she and her husband stay just busy enough to keep out of trouble. They have three children--Mary Hannah is married, has two master's degrees and is a teacher in Denver, CO; Jackson does free lance sound work in the travel area and has been to Europe several times on assignment most recently doing Joan Cusack's "Italy." John has a job testing water quality. **Eleanor Weaver Carter's** daughter, Grayson, graduated Iowa State Veterinary Medicine School and now practices equine medicine in Charleston, SC. **Sister Blalock Lominack** and cardiologist husband, Ed of Greenville, SC have an empty nest. Their three sons are married and two have two boys each. Two live there and the other is in Columbia, SC so she has ample grandchildren time. She was planning a mini reunion in February with several of our grads. Some of you have asked not to be identified and that is okay, but let's keep in touch.

CLASS OF 1969

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2009
Representatives:
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Nashville, TN 37215, 615-383-6362
E-mail: pookiemcl@comcast.net
Mrs. Harriet Dobbins Martin
151 Marshall Bridge Drive
Greenville, SC 29605, 864-271-3061
E-mail: bdobbins51@hotmail.com

Sallie Ricks, recently retired from NC State University, enjoys jewelry making, pottery, and her two bee hives. She harvested her first honey--the best she had ever tasted. **Nancy Fowler Willis'** daughter Sallie, magna cum laude graduate of East Carolina University, is in graduate school at George Mason University. They celebrated with a two week trip to Greece. **Mary Rainey Belser** has "the most adorable grandchild ever," son of Duncan and Jessica Belser in Baltimore, MD. **Ginny Craver Good** writes her "bionic hip" qualified her for Social Security disability. Joe is still general counsel at MUSC, daughter Katharine is teaching in Idaho. Son Joe graduated from law school in Michigan and interned for Judge Paul Short in South Carolina. A broken arm and wrist kept Ginny from the May wedding of **Julia Seabrook Moore's** daughter. **Charlotte Smith Purrington's** daughter Gina is adjunct

professor of English at the University of Alaska in Anchorage. Daughter Lindsay dances with Ballet New York, receiving wonderful reviews in the *NY Times* and *The New Yorker*. Son George is a W & L junior. Husband Ward's hip replacement, her mother's death, and serving as chairman of The Joel Land House--the birthplace of Raleigh-- have kept Charlotte close to home. She did get to **Virginia Lee Smith's** daughter's wedding in Richmond. **Winkie Rhea** spent 12 weeks in Florida settling her father's estate. She and Jamshid live in Manhattan where she works for Toys R Us. **Joanna Brannon Jones**, English and drama teacher, has a new course, Broadcast Journalism, at Blue Ridge High School in Greenville County. **Sarah Haley Hixon** and husband have retired to his family home in Banks, AL and built a house in the country. **Anita Parker Zeigler** is enjoying her family, two grands, Community Bible study, tap dancing, turning 60, and taking up golf. **Elinor Banks McLaughlin** threw a surprise 60th birthday party for husband Woody complete with son Parker from Oregon and Sewanee friends not seen in years. I had a wonderful fall reunion with **Adelaide Capers Johnson** and recently retired Alumnae Director **Melissa Daves Johnson**. Adelaide's twins Edward and Ginny and spouses have returned to the Carolinas. Melissa loves retirement but misses Converse. Sam and I are loving grandparenthood trekking from Asheboro to Charleston often to see the cutest grandson ever and his family.

CLASS OF 1970

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2010
Representatives:
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E-mail: lynniemitchell@hotmail.com

We know you are used to seeing a long column in the first alumnae magazine of the calendar year with news sent to us in Christmas cards. That column will now appear in the second issue of the magazine in 2007 due to changes in deadlines occurring before we got your holiday cards. On the bright side, you have time to get us some news about yourself so we can include it in our big column in the next issue. We hope all is well with each of you.

CLASS OF 1971

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011
Representatives:

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Nashville, TN 37220, 615-373-5965
E-mail: ormanphoto@comcast.net

Gaye Mills is principal of New Covenant Christian School in Pageland, SC. Daughter Bethany also teaches there and is mother of Gaye's three grandsons. Son Ben is pursuing the PhD in neuropsychology at LSU in Baton Rouge, LA. **Sherrie Souder Hanks** was mother-of-the-groom in November as son Henry was married. He is working at CNN in Atlanta, GA. In May '05 she was mother-of-the-bride when daughter Mary Neil was married. Mary Neil is working for SC Governor Mark Sanford. From a large cattle farm in Gordonsville, VA, **Sallie Northrup Myers** writes that she sells real estate part time, travels and plays golf a lot, and is grandmother of two little ones, children of her son Ward. Other son Rab is assistant wine maker at the Barboursville Vineyard. Her husband is now a consultant for the Joint Forces, having been a test pilot and Director of Air Warfare in the Pentagon. **Sally Hobson Wimberly** of Anderson, SC is a school media specialist, recently retired from Westside High School in Anderson School District Five. The daughter of **Lou Haslett Evans** was married in Charleston, SC last fall with a number of Converse friends and relatives present--**Fran Keith Reeves**, **Mary Martin Witt**, **Virginia McLendon**, **Bobbie Daniel**, Ann Owens '70, Susan Shaw Hulham '70, Patty Booker Hiott '70, Margaret Johnson McIntosh '69, Marion McNair Coleman '87, Lou's sister Martha Haslett Ladd '78, Lou's mother Frances Davis Haslett '41, Lou's aunt Lucy Davis Coleman '48 and Lou's husband's cousin Ginny Howard McGahey '37--and provided much fun! Son Barry and his wife Maggie are also living in Charleston and are parents to Lou's first grandson, Davis. **Anne Walker Swensen** is a realtor with Cleveland-White Realtors in Spartanburg, SC, having returned to the area in 1979. Husband Frederick has recently retired as a plastic surgeon and sons Christian and Bryan are in business in the Spartanburg-Greenville area.

CLASS OF 1972

35th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
Representatives:
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Can you believe it, ladies? Reunion #35 is just around the corner! Where has the time gone? Class specific details as well as information concerning the entire weekend have been mailed. I hope we will have a great turn-out. Please let me know if you have questions or you can call the Alumnae Office. The reunion information as well as online registration can be accessed through the Converse web site, www.converse.edu. Looking forward to seeing you!

CLASS OF 1973

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

Representative:

Mrs. Emily Jones Rushing
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Esther Sharp Hearn visited with Mary Alice Brading Wallace last fall at Litchfield. Alice was spending time with her sister Barbara at Litchfield Beach, while Esther was at Pawleys Island for her birthday week. Anne Osborne Long also came by for a visit, but had to hurry back to Sullivan's Island to defend her golf championship at the Country Club of Charleston. Esther also spent time with Mary Martin Witt '71, her hall counselor in Dexter freshman year, who recently renovated her parents' beach cottage. Esther also visited her sister Elise '76 and family at their home on the Waccamaw River. It certainly sounds like Converse is alive and well in the Pawleys Island area. Esther herself is still in Baltimore, MD where she lives with husband Tom and son Tommy, 12, who is in the 6th grade. Hugh and I enjoyed a trip to Greece in late June 2006, revisiting some of the sites that I first experienced during a January Term trip in 1973. Could that really have been so long ago?! Please share your news, by E-mail or snail mail, whenever you can. We want to hear from you!

CLASS OF 1974

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

Representatives:

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Lexington, SC 29072, 803-957-5809
E-mail: elizabeth.rhoad@irs.gov

Sally Bates McWilliams shared news following lunch with Debby McKewen Ferguson, Nancy Hicks Irwin, and Janie Timmons Levinson. Nancy's son, Neal is pursuing a MBA and a master's degree in journalism at Columbia University. Daughter Ellerbe works in Washington with Teach America. Nancy and Ellerbe traveled to Italy last spring to visit daughter Molly who was studying there. Debby and Sally both served as mother-of-the-groom this summer. Another of Sally's sons, Phillips, was commissioned a 2LT in the Army. Sara Ellis Lehner is an active community volunteer and trustee of Spartanburg Day School where son Ellis attends. Jan Benkwith Cohn has directed the Junior Cotillion in Columbia, SC for 14 years. Festivities surrounding her son Harris' wedding in Seattle, WA brought together Converse friends Carol Redding DuBose, Eleanor Clements Kohn, Elizabeth Crenshaw Crum, Cindy Robertson Lavender, Louise Segars Smith and A. B. Pearce Stewart '75. Jan's daughter, Britton, is in software sales in Durham, NC. Eleanor is a granny, thanks to daughter, Ansel. Son Richard is in the insurance business in Birmingham, AL. Elizabeth has daughters in the 6th grade and medical school. One of Carol's sons is a USC law student and the other attends SMU. Jane Galloway Hendrix works with the Partnership of Kindermusik Educators. Son Travis graduated from Oglethorpe University. Debbie Henry Lucas is manager of the Habitat for Humanity Home Store in Mt. Pleasant, SC and the leader of her church's praise band. Lead singer is her daughter, Jane, a College of Charleston student. Daughter, Martha, teaches elementary school. Janet Andrews and Libba Elmore Rhoad returned to France 34 years after their Junior Year Abroad, visiting old friends and neighborhoods. Converse friends attending the wedding of Brooke Milner Cornwall's daughter Allison included Que Ochsner Smith, Melissa Bryant, Joy Joyner Poe, Louise Malloy Bonner and Peggy Jones '76. Chris King Goff is now Senior Vice President, Information Technology for Connexions in Orlando, FL. Grazier Connors Rhea's son Copeland is working for Johnson Development in Spartanburg, SC. Minetry Apperson's dedication to animal welfare was featured in a recent article. She owns a realty business in Memphis, TN.

CLASS OF 1975

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representative:

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CLASS OF 1976

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Rachel Jackson Gandy and I (Christi von Lehe Sellars) are going to make a concerted effort to gather class news. We're all so busy in our own lives that it's hard to stay in touch, but this column will be one way we can. I visited with Rachel at Wofford Homecoming. John and Rachel's son, Wilson, is a senior this year. She also became a grandmother. John Campbell Hall V was born August 5th. Blake and Lee Taylor Boyd were at Homecoming as well. Lee and Lisa Taylor Towell were planning their children's wedding (they married each other in December). They're certainly keeping it in the family! Janny Rawls DeLoache had a busy fall with her children's sports activities. Her 11th grade son is a cross country runner and her 9th grade daughter is a soccer player. Beth Keels Ledbetter is incredibly busy with her family. Her son, John David, has a son, Ian (4). Her oldest son, Jay, recently married and she still has a 9th grader and a 7th grader at home. May Dowling Peach is no longer teaching, but is now an educational consultant with The Price Group in Columbia, SC. Her oldest son, Doug, is a student at Appalachian State and her youngest son, Daniel, is a May high school graduate. I am still teaching music at Wofford and loving it! My daughter, Katie, is a nurse at MUSC and my son, Patrick, is a student at Wofford. I don't like the empty nest, though, so I am in the process of pursuing my DMA (in my free time). We'll look forward to hearing from you, even if it's one or two lines.

CLASS OF 1977

30th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2007

Representatives:

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Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-529-0882
E-mail: clynn@churchofadvent.org
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E-mail: mdr119@sc.rr.com

Robbie and I plan to see each of you here April 27 – 28 for our 30th reunion! Can you believe it; who would have thought the years could pass so quickly? Mary Pearce Wilson writes that she and Beau have moved to mid-

town Manhattan. Daughter Katherine is at Oldfields School in Maryland while Frances just graduated from USC. Judy Rhodes writes from Arden, NC that she has a lot going on, having completed her second CD entitled "Celtic, Hillbilly Soul." She leads a children's choir, teaches piano and is back in school. Donna Kaiser Croft is finally an empty-nester. Riley graduated from Clemson at the same time Michael left Bishop England for the Citadel. They did manage one last family vacation on the Mayan Riviera. Donna is still teaching and learning the ropes of being a "knob mom." Rhondy Valdes Huff, Mary Jane Simmons Candler, Josie Rudolph Stokes, Marguerite Callahan and I had a wonderful mini-reunion in Charleston and Kiawah in August. We saw the gorgeous addition to Rhondy's home and spent three days laughing and eating too much. I recommend it and hope it got us in shape for April. With your help, the next Class Notes will have much more information about many of our classmates. Please plan to come "home" to Converse on April 27-28. There's a whole new building since our 25th, as well as a new president to meet and friends to catch up with. If you aren't here, you know we'll talk about you; come defend yourselves. And please send a check in to the Annual Fund's "It's A Class Act;" let's get our participation way on up there! See you in April!!

CLASS OF 1978

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

Representative:

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CLASS OF 1979

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

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E-mail: periwinkleplace@bellsouth.net

Lea Stallworth Moore of Mt. Pleasant, SC reports son, Jimmy, graduated from Texas A&M in Marine Transportation. He works for Military SeaLift Command as 3rd officer on an ammunition ship contracted by the Navy in San Diego, CA. He loves his job even if it isn't in South Carolina! Lea's house is an empty nest now. Daughter, Kingslea, is a USC freshman. When Lea and husband, Jim, aren't fishing off the SC shores, Jim is stalking the wild game on their property near Kingstree, SC, while Lea

entertains herself driving the tractor! Rebecca Poston Bomar of Spartanburg, SC, reports son, Grier (16), spent his summer summiting the Grand Tetons with the Moon Dance Adventures Group. Oldest daughter, Paige, a Pre-Med senior at Davidson, spent the fall of her junior year studying at the University of Sussex near London. Younger daughter, Mamie, is a sophomore at Davidson, majoring in Economics. Ellerbe Page Halligan of Spartanburg, SC has two at Wofford. Son Will is a Pre-Med senior and daughter Nancy is a freshman. Mary Collins (14) is still in the nest. Rebecca and Ellerbe joined me and Jeanne Jackson Mize of Green Creek, NC, for breakfast last fall at Jeanne's house. Jeanne and I were celebrating our 50th birthdays (!) and the end of my breast cancer treatment by spending the day at the Grove Park Inn Spa in Asheville, NC--a wonderful day as ladies of leisure, walking around in a robe! Jeanne's youngest son, Wes, is a valuable member of the Polk County High School soccer team, 1st runner-up in the NC state championship! In October, I was honored when a group of classmates joined me in the First Lady's Walk for the Cure in Columbia, SC, including Nancy Boatwright Holt, Mackey Dana Dunbar, Kathy McCuen Huntley, Jean Arthur Hungerpiller, Jeanne Jackson Mize, with Katherine Shurley Hargett and Beth Ardrey Simpson joining us for the luncheon following the walk at Nancy's house. It was a great day, a great time, and a great way to celebrate having just completed 10 months of treatment the day before. Many thanks to all for the prayers, cards, calls, etc. this past year, and a reminder to have regular checkups and mammograms! "Early Detection is the Best Protection" is not just a catchy phrase, it's the difference between life and death. Love-Ceya

CLASS OF 1980

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

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Mrs. Margaret Craig Schafer
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Greetings from Spartanburg, SC—home of Converse College where it all began. Meredith Martin Gardner reports from Jacksonville, FL, that she and hubby Bobby are now empty nesters. She has traveled to London and Scotland with her twin sister Mayer this fall. Sissy Swann Ivey stays busy "hauling three kids to three different schools, teaching hearing impaired, waiting hand and foot on Buddy, and preparing seven course meals

every night". Superwoman! Martha Beach Howard's children Kathryn (13) and Trey (12) are both in middle school and stay busy with their sports. Martha was in Italy this fall the same time as Margaret Craig Schafer, but I do not think their paths crossed. Ceil Stewart Bone is teaching art to 1st through 7th graders at Brookstone Academy in Columbus, GA. She has a freshman in college and a sophomore in high school and just celebrated 24 years of marriage to husband Bo. Kim Terry Carver and husband have moved to Alabama; Kim is the Postmaster in Childersburg. Husband Tom was transferred with the FBI and is the Supervisory Special Agent over white collar crime in the Birmingham area. Her daughter is at Clemson and her son is in Charleston with the Navy Nuclear Program. Mona Burris Dukes reported from Johnsonville, SC, where her husband was recently re-elected mayor. I am sure Mona makes a great first lady. She has two grown sons who are both in Charleston, SC. I spent much of last summer painting the fence and deck at my house. My sister Karen '83 employed me as the nanny for her two children for a few weeks before the little darlings went to camp. It was great fun getting to spend that much time with them. A portion of my summer travels took me to Charlotte, NC where Sherrerd Hartness Patterson, Liz Hughes, Linda Cullen Kincheloe and I met at Linda's new home, had a great lunch, and chatted about our days at Converse. I also talked with Rebecca Clay in Greenville, SC where she stays very busy with her design work.

CLASS OF 1981

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Carol Campbell Upchurch, Sam, and Caroline toured Europe with daughter Elizabeth who was studying abroad, while Sam (14) chose camp. Carol told Sam she was so "in love" in college that she didn't go, so he must pay now! Amy Warren Beaty, Lisa Johnson Bentley, Cornelia Christian Varanian, Sally Jeter Hammond and Marianna MacIntyre Taylor invaded Carol's home in Chattanooga, TN. It was a Moon Pie convention as they toured the plant and left with t-shirts and moon pies! Marianna has son Benjamin at Wofford (freshman), daughter Marianna (senior researching art schools), and

Mary Helen Richbourg Earle '85

Each year, Converse's Alumnae Office sponsors travel opportunities to popular destinations throughout the world. In 2006, Mary Helen Richbourg Earle '85 took advantage of a two-week venture to Greece.

"I had seen the trip advertised in the *Bulletin*," she said. "Of the thirty or so folks who went, I knew only my traveling companion, who was my mother. However, I immediately bonded with the other alumnae thanks to our Converse connection.

"This was not my first trip abroad, but I can say that it is my favorite. Along with the beautiful scenery and all the history we learned, I had a group of instant friends along with me. We visited Thessaloniki, Delphi and Athens before departing onboard a cruise ship for some of the islands. The ship docked in Mykonos, Rhodes, Crete, Santorini and even briefly in Turkey. Riding the donkeys

up the hillside in Santorini was quite an experience. Seeing the Parthenon from the rooftop of our hotel in Athens could only be described as incredible."

The trip itinerary was organized and led by a group that included a native of Thessaloniki, Greece. "I appreciated the advantage of traveling with a group in that I benefited from the knowledge of a seasoned traveler who is familiar with the terrain," said Mary Helen. "They handled everything—including our meals—with skill and flair. They made sure that we experienced Greek culture with lots of history thrown in. The people of Greece were very warm and enhanced our trip immensely. And the food!"



(Left to right) Judy Bynum, Mary Helen Earle, Ann Richbourg and Dr. Brant Bynum, Associate Dean of Arts and Science

8th grader Charlotte. Marianna also made a ten state scout trip! Their troop raised money for General Westmoreland's tombstone at West Point and they saw his grave! **Linda Frierson Perrow** scrambles with teenagers Charlotte and John, who follows in Drake's footsteps and loves farming cotton. **Cindy Rush Magrath** has no children at home. George started medical school, Ashley is a college junior, and Richard is at Furman, where next spring he pitches for the Paladins. Martha saw **Judi Dickey Kountz** and Paul, who are carefree with children at Boston College and Wofford. Martha also found **Terry Alexander**, who resides in Baltimore, MD and didn't know she was lost! **Canella Gerald Dillard** teaches kindergarten and has freshman daughter Aubrey at USC. **Jane Rhinehart Crosby** and Jimmy have Retta (Sewanee) and Emily, a senior in honors courses. Look for **Kim Waugh Gravelee** teaching preschool in Spartanburg, where her bumper sticker says: "Preschool teachers bring home the bacon bits." **Beverly Burns** operates an acupuncture clinic near San Francisco. **Debbie Richardson Barrett** lives with her family in Washington and still came to our Reunion. **Susan McCormac Bennett** and **Nancy Horne Vetter** have daughters at Converse. **Gay Parks Dilz** lives in Decatur, GA and says she has no life outside of children's

sports. Sid and Martha enjoyed seeing **Leslie Townsend Cottrell** in Atlanta. Martha's sons, Roddey (17) and Lawson (14), are busy with theatre, band, orchestra and college visits. Randy and I are busy with Elaine (13), who is excited about playing varsity basketball, and Blaire (9), who enjoys tennis. E-mail us!

CLASS OF 1982

25th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007

Representative:

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Have you marked April 27 – 28 on your calendar? If not, please do so as that is the weekend of our 25th reunion and a great time awaits all of us. You should have received your detailed information. It is also available on the Converse web site, www.converse.edu. Let the Alumnae Office (1-800-584-9098) or me know if you have questions.

CLASS OF 1983

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2008
Representative:



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Hollye Lannom Moss is in her fifth year at Western Carolina University where she teaches Business Statistics, Quantative Methods, and Operations Management. She received Western Carolina University's College of Business Professor of Excellence Award for 2006. Nominated by students, the recipient is chosen by a committee of faculty and students. **Kathryn Benson O'Connor**, **Ellen McKay Lowery**, **Claire Kountz Shapack**, **Elizabeth Foushee Cunningham**, **Liz Lane Portwood** and **Karen Correll Edwards** met in Hilton Head in September for their annual gathering. Claire's daughter Addie is a freshman at UNC-Chapel Hill. Kathryn's two children Stuart (13) and Page (10) keep her very busy. She also wrote that **Robyn Beach Schmieding's** sister Holly '82 recently moved into her neighborhood. Robyn lives in Summerville, SC with husband, Dana and two girls, Aurie Engel (10) and Ali Clynes (12). **Emily Gilges Watson** and her two children are in Tampa, FL. Son Walker (17), is looking at colleges and prepping for Lacrosse; Meggie (14) is a freshman and has joined the Crew team, recently getting a medal in her first regatta. **Elizabeth McDonald Dunn** wrote that she's quite busy these days with her family and volunteer work. **Jane Reynolds Hall's** oldest is a freshman at Auburn. **Hall Haynsworth Bickmann**, **Frances Knight Taylor**, **Kappy Derrick Cannon** and **Lou Pittman Lindsey** danced and visited at the Brandy's reunion in September. Lou, **Cheryl Kirby Walter**, **Meg Floyd Schwartz** and **Sarah Jennings Johnstone** and I were recently together in Columbia, SC. We shopped, reminisced, shared stories of our kids, and even a few recipes like Cooter stew, a lowcountry favorite. I think I'll stick with the oyster stew. Take care and stay in touch!

CLASS OF 1984

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2009

Representatives:

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Greetings all you middle-aged Pink Panthers! **Teri Temple Kirkland** has good reason to be proud of her family. Oldest son, Jay, graduated 2nd in his class of 700 from the Citadel, and just finished #1 (called The Honor Man) in his

advanced training at Camp LeJeune. Middle son, Stephen, a freshman at USC, is president of his Kappa Sigma fraternity pledge class. She saw **Joan Brewer LaBruce** at a parent's cocktail party at the fraternity house--Joan's son is also a pledge. Teri's youngest child, Catherine Hood (9) is thriving in 3rd grade. This might have been a first – **Elizabeth "Bizzy" Jones Wimberley's** husband, Lee, wrote in for her. After 20 years of marriage, they live in Jacksonville, FL with their three beautiful, bright, funny daughters, one dog, two cats, one beta fish and a lot of Bizzy's family. They have seen a few other Converse grads – Pam McMillan Bunes '85, CEO of a bio/information tech company; Lee's sister, **Ann Wimberley-Dolan** lives in Charleston, SC and the owner of two art galleries, and **Sue Ramsay Limehouse** who also lives in Charleston. **Allison Owens** wrote that she is now the Media Specialist at Anderson's new school for the arts with K-5th grade classes in piano, violin, dance, art and theater. She is thrilled to be a part of a school which focuses on the arts vs. test scores. Husband, Rick stays busy training for triathlons; son, Causey (12) tries to keep up with dad and plays travel team baseball. **Palmer Davison Ball** updates us with Spartanburg news. She wrote that **Margaret McElroy Goatley** and family stopped by on their way to the beach. She and husband, Greg, have twin 16 year old girls and a 13 year old – all prospective Converse students! The *Spartanburg* magazine featured the Backyard Bash to celebrate the inauguration of Betsy Fleming and one of the pictures included **Meg Macdonald Fant's** daughter Claiborne, a Converse junior. Remember you can write Jody and me throughout the year to keep us updated, not just when we send out an emergency E-mail saying notes are due soon!

CLASS OF 1985

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

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Jeanne O'Neill Robinson's two sons, a high school senior and freshman, are looking at colleges. Jeanne advises us to start looking for baby pictures NOW for the high school yearbook! She talked with **Nan Tetterton Babcock** who is doing well living in Chapel Hill, NC with husband, Brooks, and three children. **Donna McKinney Southgate's** daughter, Nicole, will graduate from UNC in May with a master's in Social Work. Nicole is

also Miss Gaston County and will be in the Miss North Carolina pageant in June. **Tina Hardison Hammond** and Barry have moved to Evans, GA. Tina teaches 1st grade and Barry teaches in the Dental School at the Medical College of Georgia. Daughter, Amanda, is a 7th grader. **Denee Walsh Gribbins'** daughter Caroline was in the Louisville Ballet's *Nutcracker* this year and daughter Elizabeth placed third chair cello in the All Country Middle School Orchestra. **Joan Dailey Towles** is involved with the National Book Festival, Junior League of Washington, Greater Washington Suzuki Association, The World Suzuki Association, The Violin Society of America, on the adjunct faculty at The Landon School and participated in SSA coursework at The Catholic University of America. Son, Parker, planned to celebrate his 5th birthday with a big party at the National Zoo. **LeAnne Rowland** sent a cute picture of her great niece, Rebecca Morgan Thompson, wearing a Converse College Dream Team sleeper, compliments of Auntie LeAnne! **Kelley Maloney Liggitt** wrote that daughter, Kate, was again the top fundraiser for the Down's syndrome Buddy Walk with \$8,000! **Vandy Major McFaddin** and Tem have moved into their new house. She is having some withdrawal from being close to a grocery store now that she is a "country girl." She sent news that **Amy Kimbro Thomas** is back in her newly renovated house, a long ordeal. **Treva Thomas Hamlin**, a 6th grade language arts teacher at Fort Mill Middle School, was selected Teacher of the Year for the Fort Mill School District last fall. Another note of interest, Marlboro Academy in Bennettsville, SC named their new high school building Pence Hall in memory of **Elizabeth Pence**.

CLASS OF 1986

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Cheryl Litton Barber enjoyed a trip to Italy last spring to spend some time on the movie set for the December 1st release of "The Nativity Story". Cheryl met cast members and even filmed segments for an upcoming special "Nativity" episode of *goodnewsdon&cheryl*. **Sarah Griffith Younginer** writes that after not working for 13 years outside the home, she is now running a horse farm she and husband John purchased. She enjoys looking after the 24 horses as well as her son (15) and daughter (14) and the family enjoys working and riding

together. **Mimi Smith Yeager** and husband, Terry, live in Kennesaw, GA with their three children all now in school: Grace-middle school, John-3rd grade, Belle-1st grade. Mimi stays quite busy as "Class Mom" and is involved with her church and other service organizations. **Janice Morrison Wilkins** was hesitant to send news since she did not graduate with us. But she was a Pink Panther freshman with us therefore we welcome her news and encourage her to be an active part of our communication network. **Stephanie Gibbs Freel** had good reason for missing the April '06 reunion. Her daughter was born the weekend before reunion! Stephanie works with the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 19 years to be exact. **Lisa Rutledge Todd** and husband, Danny, live in Florida with their children Allison (15) and Austin (12). Lisa enjoys being at home while Danny flies for FedEx. **Anne Carley Blay** is living in Gainesville, FL with husband John and son, Cooper (5). She works for McKesson as an integration analyst (small world—I worked for them for over 13 years, Anne) and dreams of having time to read, travel, and garden. Anne shared news of another classmate: **Beth Lysinger LeMay** moved from Chicago, IL to San Francisco, CA with her husband and two daughters, Cece (14) and Ashley (12) this past summer. All '86 classmates, please make sure we have your correct email address so we can include you in our e-letter: *Panther Pause '86*.

CLASS OF 1987

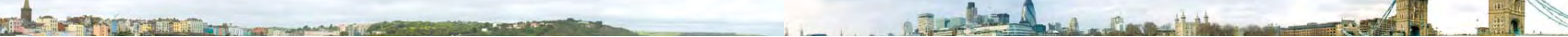
20th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007

Representative:

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Our class reunion, April 27-28th! It's hard to believe 20 years have passed! I saw **Donna Mason Burnside** last summer on a Disney cruise—we were on the same floor, but didn't see each other until the last day of the cruise. Donna, **Lynn Dye Smith**, **Elizabeth Smoak Groce**, **Cindy Kuhlke Cannon**, **Sarah Lanford Harrelson**, and **Laura Chappell Bauknight** met in Atlanta, GA for an Earth, Wind, and Fire concert. **Clarkson Parrent Bowling** met the group for a pre-concert dinner. **Rebekah Jennings Murphy**, also in Atlanta, occasionally sees **Julie Norville** and her two children. Rebekah, husband Joe, and daughter Kathryn visited NYC to celebrate Kathryn's 9th birthday and their 15th anniversary. Rebekah hosted a group of her mom's (Jane Marie Hancock Jennings '55) friends for some holiday shopping including Mary Oeland Alexander '56 and Ann West (mother of Caroline West McDowell '89). Rebekah, **Sherrie Moss Board**



and their families vacationed in Litchfield over Thanksgiving, meeting for dinner while there. **Teresa Gagnon Maino** is teaching at a Catholic school outside of Richmond, VA. She visited with **Molly Levy Campbell** and Elizabeth Taylor Glenn '88 on her last visit to SC. **Karen Wacker Sanders** has a new house in Spartanburg, and spent her fall packing and painting. She often sees **Frances Lambert Pack**, who has a new home in Inman. **Elizabeth Shelton Roddy** and family are now living in Mozambique, Africa, which Elizabeth says is quite an adventure. If any of you are planning an African safari, please let her know! **Peggy Hair Alford** and **Wallis Crum Bond** spent fall weekends tailgating at USC games with Sarah Shealy Smith '86. **Christy Davis Stoner's** daughter, Cassidy is seriously pursuing her love of dance. She performed the *Nutcracker* during the holiday season. Christy says she would like to attend high school at the NC School of the Arts. **Shee Shee Ferry van Inwegen** and husband Dwight traveled to Canada in the fall for R&R at Dwight's company's fishing camp. Shee Shee caught two 28 inch salmon! I hope to see you all on Friday, April 27th at Converse!

CLASS OF 1988

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

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Linda Layman Redding reports that she and **Jo Ellen Jones Grigsby**, an interpreter at the Kentucky School for the Deaf and Blind, took a wonderful trip to Jamaica, planned as a 40th-birthday surprise by Linda's husband, Dave. They partook liberally of the local food, drink and culture and enjoyed catching up. **Ashlin Blanchard Potterfield** continues to practice domestic law in Columbia, SC and is with a new firm comprised entirely of women attorneys. **Kristi Klim Holler** enjoyed attending the Wofford homecoming this fall and saw **Carter Willard Smith** briefly at the street party that weekend. **Krisy Mohr Mills** is still living in Lexington, SC, but has moved to a new home and has been keeping busy with wallpaper removal, painting and the like. I had a fun lunch with **Laura Graham** while visiting Charleston, SC. She taught summer school and took her nieces and nephews on a trip to Washington, DC this summer. Laura was a virtual font of information about our classmates. She reports that **Robin Gue Hatanpaa** has moved back to Finland, while

Carla McAlhany Oliver has returned to the United States, at least for now. **Kim Davis Buchanan** and her family have returned to Columbia, SC now that Furman has completed seminary. **Alice Fuller Littlejohn** is a librarian at the elementary school that her daughter will attend next year. **Jill Jenkins Wright** keeps busy with her work at the IRS and her boys' baseball games. She stays in touch with **Missy Hughes Parkison**, who is teaching political science classes as an adjunct at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville. Please continue to keep **Elizabeth Cauthen McLean** and her family in your thoughts and prayers as Elizabeth awaits a double lung transplant. You can keep track of Elizabeth's condition at www.caringbridge.org/nc/elizabethmclean. Please keep in touch!

CLASS OF 1989

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

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Rawles Terrell Kelly attended a mini reunion this summer and had much to report. She lives in Charlotte, NC with John and their two girls. Also in Charlotte are **Elisabeth Booth Bivens**, **Catherine Cauthen**, and **Susan Williams Lynch**, husband Jay and their four children. **Kim Hayfield Hinson** and hubby are optometrists living with their daughter in Bluffton, SC. In Greenville, SC are **Parker Derrick Knapp**, a stay at home mom with her two children, **Suzanne Ness Wilson**, husband Hal and their two boys, and **Marty Team Garrison** and husband Bryan with their three children. Marty just finished her first year as director of the kindergarten program at her church's preschool. **Mary Katherine Johns Moren** and Charles live in Florence, SC with their daughter. **Julia Gee Muldrow**, living in Sumter, SC with her two sons, teaches at Wilson Hall. **Joyce Voxakis Trikeriotis**, husband Chris, and their five children live in Baltimore, MD where they just purchased a new restaurant. **Lori Morris Gilbert** lives in Asheville, NC with hubby Gig and their two daughters. She teaches at their preschool. **Angela Weatherred Halstead** was recently promoted to Global Sales Process Leader at Milliken. **Lisa Avant** was on a weekend excursion in the mountains when she bumped into **Laura Beard Walker**, who is living in Fort Mill, SC and remarried to Don Walker. Together they have five children. Also in Fort Mill is **Lisa Fain Campbell** with her three

children. **Mary Galen Robinson Ratchford**, a stay at home mom in Georgia, ran into **Elisabeth Kinney McNiell** at the Clemson-Boston College football game in Boston.

CLASS OF 1990

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

Representatives:

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This past summer and fall found our class keeping very busy with work, travel and family. **Sheri Starnes Balcerzak** and **Rebecca Lesto Shunk** and their families vacationed together at the Isle of Palms. Rebecca also visited with **Claire Bramlett** and **Julie Hennecy** while on the east coast. **Lesa Underwood** has been busy with a new job and new place but still made time for trips to New England and New York City this summer. **Margaret Bouknight Bauer**, **Bit Hennon Tarantin**, **Darden Porter Grant**, **Laura Heggeman Brooks** and **Kelley Collman** headed to Ponte Vedre, FL for their 10th annual girl's trip of relaxation and spa treatments. **Deborah Stanford Harris** checks in from Raleigh, NC where she keeps busy with selling real estate, Tim's business and their three children. She and Tim did manage to sneak away to Wrightsville Beach, NC to celebrate their 16th wedding anniversary. **Winnie Brown King** and **Nan Farmer Bridges** had an 80's flashback when they headed to Boston, MA to see Eddie Money, Rick Springfield, Loverboy and Scandal! Winnie also reports seeing **Mary Kenyon Robards Jones** and **Laura Lochen Kirkley** over the summer...all are doing well. Several emails were sent back due to invalid addresses so please make sure you let us know if you get a new email address so we can keep in touch. As always, many thanks for the updates ladies...keep them coming!

CLASS OF 1991

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Catherine Warlick Charles is the elementary headmaster at a private school in Hartsville, SC. **Debbie Moise** began a new job at First Citizens Bank in Columbia, SC last summer. In the fall, **Beverly Moore Sessoms** started a new job as well in Columbia at Sandhills School, a private school for dyslexic children. The daughters of **Dorsey Daugette Delong**, **Maria Macaulay Sellers** and **Elizabeth Wagstaff Middleton** spent last summer together at camp. When taking the girls to camp, they were able to visit with Brevardians, **Jenny Howard** and **Charlotte Page**, who are very active with the Boys and Girls Club in Brevard, NC. Things have settled down a bit for me since last summer. There were several classmates in attendance when I married Chris Swann in a Hawaiian themed, outdoor wedding. **Dee Marzullo Schwarzmann** and **Suzanne Silk Strickland** were bridesmaids. Dee's daughter was my flower girl and both Dee and Suzanne's sons escorted me down the aisle. **Judy Moody** was in attendance as well. **Julie Simonton McCombs** came from Hawaii in September to attend a gathering of Connies in Murrells Inlet, SC with **Laura Johnston Stacy** as hostess. **Laura Bryant Palmer** is assistant principal at Carver Junior High in Spartanburg, SC. **Jane Walters Phillips** has given up her accounting manager job and has returned to school full time pursuing a nursing degree from Mary Black School of Nursing at USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC. As of November, Jane's husband, John, was stationed in Kuwait with the US Navy. **Sonya Harmeyer Marsden** organized a Fun Ride last October in memory of her late husband, Dave. It promoted bike safety, and was an enjoyable ride along the Washington and Old Dominion Trail. For more information, please visi www.davesride.org. Wishing the best to all! Dianne

CLASS OF 1992

15th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2007

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Are your calendars marked for our 15th Reunion April 27-28? You should have received a letter with more details. Connies in attendance for **Eleanor LaBorde Morrison's** September wedding were **Heather Rowland Brabham**,

Happy Long Chandler, **Catharine Williams Frerichs**, **Caroline Rieger James**, **Cami Burton Hutchinson**, **Daisy Bouknight Miller**, **Paige Pooser Merrill**, **Elizabeth Pressley O'Connell**, **Mary Frances Moses Morton**, **Anna Wimberly Pierce**, **Brandon Davidson Shives**, **Alison Evans Smith**, and **Allison Fox Sterling**. **Catherine Taylor Marsteller** talks to **Leslie Morton Harmon** and **Tway Autrey Carter** often and says both are doing well. Because Leslie felt it saved her daughter Emily Grace's life, she, with a friend, was inspired to write a book about the ketogenic diet for epilepsy. **Cokie Hernandez-Velez** is finalizing her certification to teach art, and also teaching ESOL classes part-time. During a summer visit, Cokie had lunch with **Gretchen Bishop** and **Vicki Jones Bishop**. **Suzette Bagwell Laney** is teaching 3rd grade at Pine Street Elementary in Spartanburg, SC where her boys, Shelton and Wells, attend. **Robbie Mosely Richards** is Director of Admissions at Spartanburg Day School where son Bradford (8) attends. Robbie is also mom to Sabra (3). **Jo-ne Claxton Bourassa** is teaching science at Heart of Georgia Technical College and is almost finished with her Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies. **Tracy Dowell Huggins** wrote of a First Dexter girls' weekend in the Florida Keys with **Carrie Vincent**, **Shalise Huggins DeMott**, **Susannah Chapman Collins**, Julie Tanner Leake '93, Helen McClain Earney '93 and Suzanne Morris '93. I loved hearing from you all, and I apologize if I didn't include all news that was sent due to limited space. Please see Life Events for more class news. See you in April!

CLASS OF 1993

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

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In September, Tracy Williamson Dart '91 opened her beautiful home in Cape Cod, MA to her sister **Christi Williamson Pringle** and twelve other Connie friends. Christi hosted **Sally Giese Aiken**, **Cynthia Joyner Blakely**, **Elizabeth Watson Caldwell**, **Katie Byrd Earle**, **Jane Manning Hyatt**, **Shannon Givens Jaynes**, **Holle O'Kelley Kennerly**, **Anne Jeter Lindsay**, **Katherine Russell Sagedy**, **Brett McIntosh Simmons**, **Lovell McClung White** and **Brooke McNeill Woods**. Everyone enjoyed three wonderful days catching up, reminiscing, eating granola, and relaxing. Even a few Red Devil cheers were heard!

Thanks Elizabeth for sending this! Please send updates!

CLASS OF 1994

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

Representatives:

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CLASS OF 1995

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2010

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CLASS OF 1996

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

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Starr Lockhart Carr writes that she is working part-time in order to spend more time with her son, JP. **Stephanie Crofton** is quite busy in her new position at High Point University (see Life Events) and is enjoying High Point, NC. **Mary Ellen Kastelic** took a two week trip to Italy as part of a volunteer program, Global Volunteers, teaching English at a high school and touring Rome, Florence and Venice. She was at the Vatican as the

Pope blessed the crowd! **Gretchen Swanger Maultsby** is working part-time in the Slide Department at Wofford and is busy with her two girls. **Jennifer Minor Tuckwiller** hosted a girls' weekend in Beaufort, SC that included **Page Vaughan Keller**, **Anna Snow Cheek**, **Amy Shipman Elkins**, **Elizabeth McLean Brown**, and Mary Ellen Kastelic. **Meredith Coley Graham** lives in Dayton, OH where her husband is a pulmonologist at the Air Force Hospital. She is active with the Officer's Wives Club and taking care of family. **Stephania Nivens Penley**, **Alison Stafford Mitchell**, **Abbey Smith Jordan** and Alice Swann '94 were bridesmaids in **Heather Stead's** wedding in Camden, SC. **Jennifer Jackson** also attended. **Patricia Doty** is godmother to **Kirstie Waugh Tucker's** recently baptized daughter Louise. **Pam Hughes Foster** spent two weeks in South Africa, participating in a photo safari and attending a friend's wedding. Pam competed in the Mrs. South Carolina America Pageant as Mrs. Simpsonville in June and won Mrs. Congeniality and competed in the All American Ms. Pageant as Ms. Palmetto State and was 2nd runner up. After six years of service, **Heather Deifell** completed her work with The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in May. She then went to Malawi on a mission trip, visited a friend in South Africa, and went to San Francisco to visit relatives for a month and got together with **Kathryn Fish-Tinsley** and her husband. She is continuing her work on her Urban Ministry classes. Heather and her sister are planning a year-long world mission trip to work, study, and train urban youth workers, hoping to leave in May. Thanks to ALL of our classmates who have helped locate our "lost" classmates!

CLASS OF 1997
10th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
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We're gearing up for our ten year reunion April 27-28! We hope that ALL of you plan to be there! **Shannon Gosnell Bishop**, **Shannon Smith Darby**, **Kellie Walker Herlong**, **Shelley Jones Kender** and **Dawne Copeland Bendig** attended the 1889 Competition in November. The Red Devil Senior Class won, bringing back many happy memories for us! Dawne is a free-

lance interpreter and does a lot of work for the Greenville Hospital System as well as her church. **Jennifer Coggins Reese** is delighted to have new neighbor **Donna Pallassino Evans** in Boiling Springs, SC. **Julia Wittschen Alvarez** is teaching Deaf/Hearing Impaired children in Beaufort County and at the Technical College of the Lowcountry and is working on a Master's in Gifted and Talented at Converse. **Kimberly Varnadoe** is now overseeing the membership and communications, legal and legislative departments of the South Carolina Medical Association as its Chief Policy Officer, focusing her time lobbying the legislature, the Governor's Office and other relevant state agencies on behalf of physicians and patients. She got together with **Heather Eldridge**, **Katie Fort Smith**, **Ginger Crawford Phillips**, **Rachel Chartrand Berry**, **Laura Marchant Williams**, **Sarah Montgomery McSwain** and **Caroline Taylor**. Rachel has started her own business, French Friends, teaching French to preschool children in the Lexington area. **Emily Grady Fayssoux** is a realtor with Spaulding Company in Greenville, SC and involved with Arbonne International. **LaVonda Frierson Woods** is a physical therapist in an outpatient clinic in Clinton, MD. She recently met Mildred Elliott Berl '38. **Kathryn Kennedy** is attending nursing school. **Kimberly Wannall Kovach**, **Leslie Hembree**, **Christa Smith Beaufort**, **Emily Gowdy Canady**, and **Jane Brackett Giavedoni** hosted a welcome home shower for David and **Allison Cooper Malady** when they returned from China with adopted daughter, Maggie. Kimberly is the Middle School Writing Curriculum Coordinator with Union County, NC public schools. Christa and husband Jonathan are working with East Tennessee State University students through Campus Crusade for Christ. **Melissa Hall Hill** is currently living in Chapel Hill, NC working for IBM. **Whitney Orr** is at the Asheville, NC office of Dixon-Hughes, a regional accounting firm.

CLASS OF 1998
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2008
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Christina Willingham Burbage travels to various schools in Lexington School District One as the Itinerant Teacher of the Hearing

Impaired and is enjoying her work. **Elizabeth Current Hook** writes that she, **Jennifer Reese Boyd**, **Heather Godsey Champney**, **Brooke Champion Farmer**, **Alex Gavalas**, **Ann Gerber Hawkins**, **Alison Palmer Johnson**, **Jenny Orr**, **Susan Pittman Parker**, **Shannon Campbell Parsons** and **Erin Rich Strickland** got together in October for a wonderful weekend at Shannon's relatives' mountain house in Clayton, GA. They had a great time reminiscing about Converse days and making new memories. **Chrissy Lockaby Fortner** talks to **Shelby Bishop** who is doing great and living in Beaufort. **Stacy Benton Kennedy** and **Jenny Robbins Bunton** both live in Walterboro, SC and communicate often. **Erinn Cox**, pursuing her MFA in Art, was invited to participate in an art-in-residence program in Budapest, Hungary over Christmas 2006, involving public artist talks and two exhibitions. **Kristen Pruitt Taylor's** son is enjoying Kindermusik at Converse. Kristen is teaching fitness classes at a local gym club. There are lots of new Converse baby girls in the world! Congratulations to everyone!! Be sure to check out Life Events for more Class of 1998 updates!

CLASS OF 1999
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2009
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Caroline Wyrosdick is working on a MS at Tufts University, Boston, MA. She recently returned from working for Save the Children in Uganda.

Deanna Fults Meeks has passed the Tennessee Bar Exam. **Maria Oliver Solomon**, **Jennifer Frith** and **Caroline Avery '03** were bridesmaids in **Angie Ackermann Hart's** fall wedding. **Stephanie Borick Grace** and family moved to Richmond, VA last fall and bought their house from **Molly Davis Veness**. Stephanie began work with Ernst and Young in January. **Elizabeth Langford Hansen** is working at Dekalb Medical Center, GA, as a Senior Accountant. **Kelly Moore** is working on her Master's in Music Education at Boston University. **Emily Reeves Kimpton** is a literacy coach with the South Carolina Reading Initiative. **Andrea Jackson Worful** is working for the Department of Art and Art History at Michigan State University. **Elizabeth Anne Joyner** is working at All Saints Academy teaching fourth grade hearing impaired children and enjoyed the summer in Israel. **Aileen Miller** is a Supply Coordinator at Caterpillar Electric Power. **Joy Stoney** has returned to Charleston, SC and opened her own law firm, Stoney Law Firm, LLC. **Emily Evans** is in Greenville, SC working in sales with Fox Carolina. **Erin Patterson Joye** is in her third season with the Nashville Symphony Chorus and Nashville Chamber Chorus. She returned to her hometown, Montgomery, AL, to perform with the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra during their Holiday Pops concert in December. Please see Life Events for a number of additional updates of our classmates. For those of you that we did not hear from, please E-mail us and let us know what you are doing.

CLASS OF 2001
Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011
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A number of our classmates have some serious writing in their near futures! **Pamela Emanuelson** and **Neal Millikan** are pursuing PhDs at the University of South Carolina in sociology and history, respectively. **Jocelyn Buckner** is finishing her first year of doctoral work in theatre studies at the University of Kansas. **Jenny Woodruff** must figure out how to write a dissertation, and soon, in order to complete her PhD at Duke within the decade. **Erin Stone** has moved to Manassas, VA and has her hands full teaching pre-school children. **Jessie Staska Walker** has a new

Claudia Davis Donovan '91

A computer science and mathematics major at Converse, Claudia Davis Donovan '91 is now relationship director for Barclays Retail and Wholesale Team in London. "I am a corporate banker, and sell debt and manage risk with a portfolio of larger business clients in London," explained Claudia from her UK office.

Claudia moved to London in 2001 when her husband's New York City-based law firm transferred him there to concentrate on its European and Middle Eastern clients.

"It is fair to say that Europeans and Americans have views they develop based on media, etc., but by working together, the 'myths' can be broken down to an extent. On a culture note, being politically correct has not actually been embraced in the EU yet, and there are still a lot of comments made here that would easily get you fired in the US," she said. "It is interesting to compare the US reaction to terrorism to that of Europeans who have lived with war and terror on their doorstep for years. The difference became clear to me in a train station when I tried to find a rubbish bin (garbage can), but they do not have them because people can easily put bombs in them."

So what does Claudia like best about living in London? "The city has a culture of tolerance that I have not experienced in any other location, not even in New York City. There is an energy to life here. Londoners often claim that the city is the center of the universe."

job as part-time photographer while also caring for her two children. **Stacey Mulligan**, **Stephanie Livesay** and **Marcella Palmer** attended the summer wedding of **Maryeah Jager Kramer** in Simpsonville, SC. **Rebecca Crandall** and **Ami Price** were maid of honor and bridesmaid, respectively. The joys of travel were enjoyed by many this summer and fall. Rebecca Crandall spent time in the Caribbean, Ami Price spent time in Europe and Ghana, and **Lindsay Birmingham** flew to Charlotte, NC from her home in Hollywood, CA to spend her birthday with **Katherine Adams**, **Markina Ellender**, Annaleise Helm '00, and Beth Knight '00. **Marion Yates** traveled with her champion hairless cat, Supreme Grand Champion Liza Skinelli, to cat shows all over the world this summer. In her downtime Marion is working hard on renovating her five-acre horse farm outside of Atlanta, GA. Don't forget to check the Life Events section for more information! And check out myspace for many of our classmates!

CLASS OF 2002
5th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007
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Amy Chadwick Cochran and husband John now live in Baton Rouge, LA. **Allyson Geery** and **Kelly Fulmer Reams** were in that June wedding party. **Ashley Phillips McKay** lives in Jacksonville, FL where she works for a local photographer designing wedding albums and documenting weddings. **Marlee Beckham Marsh** is an official PhD candidate after completing her comprehensive exams recently. **Erin Camp Calvert**, **Helen Milling**, **Lauren Mele Richardson**, **Lauren Dabbs**, **Jessy Nunez**, **Summer Owens Rigby**, and **Sallie DeCaro Hutchinson** attended a fantastic bachelorette weekend in Folly Beach, SC for **Marlee Beckham Marsh** last fall. **Katie Landon** is in her new role as Assistant Director of Residential Life/Director of Student Activities & Orientation at Converse, living on campus in an apartment in Dexter! Life on campus is great though very different than life as an undergraduate. **Leslie Wiggins**, currently a news editor at CNN Headquarters in Atlanta, GA, spent a year in Madrid and London after graduate school. She also worked

as a reporter for the *Gwinnett Daily Post* after returning from London. **Marci Marinelli** is a pharmacist with Eckerd's in Hendersonville, TN, after completing her pharmacy degree last May. **Brandis Cutler** is working as a Systems Consultant for Sungard Data Systems, the Sungard High Education division, traveling weekly to Boston, Texas and Orlando. **Mary DeGraw Sankovich** has her own business, *Creative Designs by Mary*, in addition to her day job. For **Gabrielle Marsoun** the past five years have held great change. Moving to Knoxville, TN after graduation, she worked for a local company as a marketing specialist. She has recently returned to SC working at SunTrust Bank as a Commercial Banking Specialist and is part of a musical duo, Mystic Essence, which performs folk/Celtic music around upstate SC. **Dorethea McCollum**, an artist and graphic designer at Devora Designs, Inc., spent a month in Australia and New Zealand last summer. **Sabra Leonard Cox's** son had heart surgery in May 2006 and is now doing great. **Jennifer Wofford** is benefits coordinator for a small business that sells large equipment. She plans to begin a masters' program at the University of South Carolina in education. Hope to see all of you for our 5th reunion, April 27 -28!!

CLASS OF 2003

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2008

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Anna Shecut Pretulack passed her nursing boards. **Jessica Case Holland** is finishing law school. They both attended USC. **Chelsea Jaccard** just started grad school at American University in DC, studying international peace and conflict resolution. **Valerie Brock** began her second year as Presidential Management Fellow at the Centers for Disease Control. Both visited Casey Addis '04 in Austin, TX for a weekend of BBQ, two-stepping, and breakfast tacos. **Alison Hurley** is in her last year of pharmacy school at MUSC and actively involved in many civic and honor organizations on campus. **Holly Gilmore Hayes** published her first article on the importance of interconceptional spacing between pregnancies. **Kathryn Brackett** is an adjunct professor at several upstate colleges,

including our own Converse. **Heather Barclay** is currently working on her PhD at the University of Toronto, has traveled through Europe and co-authored several books. **Avery Tomlinson** is in her third year of vet school at UGA and spent last summer working in Florida. **Melanie Brown Knox** had an interesting wedding. She was diagnosed with a blood clot in her abdomen two days before her big day. Her bridesmaids, the Hades Ladies, helped her with all the details. She and Josh had their first dance as husband and wife in wheelchairs. We are so happy to hear that she is recovering and continuing her doctoral work in mathematics! **Maria Perry** has completed her work in Palau with the Peace Corp and is now living in Alaska. Please send your current contact information to the Alumnae Office or to one of the class representatives, especially if you are not hearing from us or Converse.

CLASS OF 2004

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2009

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Alumnae Weekend, 2010

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CLASS OF 2006

1st Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2007

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April 27 – 28 is our *first* reunion! We hope you will be there. Class specific details have been mailed as well as the reunion brochure with the weekend details. Please let us or the Alumnae Office know if you have questions. Information is also online at www.converse.edu including online registration. We hope to see you soon!!