Dr. Barker is pursuing agreements with colleges and universities abroad, strengthening Converse’s connection to the world.

Beginning in spring 2003, Converse students will have new opportunities to study abroad through recent agreements with the University of Iceland and the University of Tunis. Up to two honors students will be selected to receive an honors scholarship to attend the University of Iceland for either a semester or a full year. The scholarship will cover all costs beyond the student’s regular Converse tuition and housing. In addition, one Converse faculty member will be invited to teach a specially designed, four-week course at the University of Iceland each year. The University is a wonderful place for research with many materials and courses available in English, and the Icelandic culture is rich in literature, art, music, and science and technology.

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Jeri King, Chapman Professor of French and Director of International Studies, another agreement allows two Converse students to audit courses and Converse faculty to teach at the University of Tunis in Tunisia. In return, Tunisian students and faculty members will get a taste of the Converse College experience by having the same opportunities here. The University of Tunis offers a unique international flavor as its location juts into the Mediterranean, linking the three continents of Europe, Africa, and Asia.

The Petrie School of Music is also working with the Greater Spartanburg Philharmonic (GSP) and The Music Foundation of Spartanburg to create exciting new opportunities for Converse music students. Dean Hopkins hopes to enhance the undergraduate program with internships and other opportunities for students to have professional experiences. The Petrie School also hopes to establish new graduate assistantships for string instrumentalists, with the intention of creating a graduate string quartet in residence at Converse.

In keeping with Converse’s long-standing tradition of excellence in the arts and in response to substantial interest from current and prospective students, I am pleased to share with you that the Theatre and Dance Department will begin offering a dance minor in fall 2003. Students will be able to learn the fundamentals of the art of dance through courses in its history, as well as principles of dance composition and theory. In addition, students will have expanded opportunities to hone their performance skills on beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels.

As you see, there is much underway at Converse as we wrap up 2002! Many thanks to every alumni and friend who has supported our efforts over the past year. I hope that as you read this and every issue of the Bulletin, you take pride in our accomplishments and the growing excellence in our offerings for students!

May you be surrounded with love and joy in this special holiday season, and may the New Year bring you happiness and peace during troubled times in the world around us.

Nancy Gray
President
Editor’s Note: In early November, Theatre/Converse staged Alan Ball’s heralded Five Women Wearing the Same Dress. Here’s the plot: During an ostentatious wedding reception at a Knoxville, TN, estate, five reluctant bridesmaids hide out in an upstairs bedroom. They are: Frances, a painfully sweet but sheltered fundamentalist; Mindy, the cheerful and wise-cracking sister of the groom; Georgeanne, heartbroken over her own failed marriage; Meredith, the bride’s rebellious younger sister; and Trisha, whose cynicism about men is tested when she meets Tripp, a bad-boy usher. Cast members included Converse sophomores Lindsey Blunt, Amber Boyer, Kristin Danko, Evie Durant, and Libby Long. Spartanburg resident Keith Turner bravely took the role of the lone male cast member.

As with any theatrical production, the roles filled by the mostly unseen crewmembers are just as important as those of the cast. The Bulletin invited John Bald, Chair of Theatre and Dance, to take us on a behind-the-scenes tour of the production of Five Women Wearing the Same Dress.

One of the fascinations of working in theatre is the constantly reoccurring opportunity to reinvent the wheel. Every play or musical ever written shares common starting points: a script and a bare stage – beyond these, the possibilities are infinite. The fundamental challenge of stage design is to take the familiar Shakespearean adage “All the world’s a stage” and turn it on its head: “All the stage is a world.” As audience members, all that we know and feel about the world of the play – the characters, their circumstances, their environment, and their relation to it – can only come through what we see and hear on the stage. As the needs of one production to the next will differ significantly, so must the fashion in which those needs and demands are met. Thus, every production is quite literally built from the ground – the stage floor, that is – on up.

The process of creating the world of our bridesmaids in Five Women Wearing the Same Dress began early this summer with the selection of the play by its director, Mary Nicholson. Once production rights had been obtained, the first task at hand was to read the script. Perhaps such a revelation may seem like overstating the painfully obvious, but it cannot be ignored that first impressions are the most important and influential. So a read-through of the script in one sitting was in order, reading not for detail as much as for the pleasure of encountering a new script for the first time and allowing the theatre of the mind free reign to create the images of the characters and their environment.

It is on subsequent reading and rereading of the play that the process of ferreting out the nitty-gritty necessities such as doors, windows, furniture, etc. begins. The repeated reading and study of the play also constitutes a gradual immersion into the world of the play. In this particular playwright, Alan Ball gives the reader a brief description of the play’s setting, but it is provided in part as his vision, and as part record of a past production. Ball tells us that the play takes place in the bedroom of an older house in an upscale section of Knoxville, Tennessee; but it is through the study of the characters and their circumstances that the actual appearance of the setting evolves. For example, we learn that the room once belonged to Meredith’s all-too-perfect sister Tracy, and that Meredith is...
none too happy in living in this or any other room in her parent’s house. So the room basically reflects the tastes and style of Tracy and her socialite mother rather than those of the free spirited Meredith, although we do see that she has done some minor redecorating of her own, mainly in the style of Laura Ashley with a tweak here and there.

Beyond the aesthetic choices in recreating the world of the play are some very hard-nosed and practical considerations. Among the primary considerations is the budget. In this production, the single most expensive items on the stage are the costumes. The Hazel B. Abbott Theatre is a wonderfully intimate space, perfectly suited for the close world of the characters of this play. Our backstage space is very limited, but this is not an impediment of a play such as Fire Women... as there are no changes of scenery, therefore there is no need to figure out parking space for scenery waiting to go onstage, or for the choreographing of scene changes.

Now to let you in on the Grand Secret of the Theatre – no matter how carefully thought out, elaborate, or well constructed the physical equipment such as scenery, props, and costumes for a play might be, it is, after all, just a collection of stuff; until the audience takes their seats and the actors take the stage. At that moment, the magic of theatre happens right in front of our eyes. Suddenly every aspect of the stage environment is bestowed with a new significance and meaning as the playwright’s story begins to unfold before us. The actors and audience join together to create new worlds bounded only by our power to imagine.

We are pleased that following a successful opening night, well over 500 audience members came to our production and shared in the joy and fun of constructing the world and lives of these five singular women and their even more singular “same dress”. Even though our production of Fire Women... ran Nov. 6-10 at Hazel B. Abbott, it has been entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) – a nationwide process that last year involved over 1,200 productions and 200,000 students. The culmination of the KCACTF is a festival at the Kennedy Center for a selected group of college-level productions. The road to Washington, DC, starts by taking each production to a state-level festival, with the possibility of being repacked, trucked back to Converse and stored in our shop while we await word on whether we have been passed on to the regional festival. Should this happen, it’s back on the truck and we’re off to Savannah!

**Production Staff for Fire Women Wearing the Same Dress**

*Director:* Mary Nicholson, Instructor in Theatre  
*Scenery Design:* John Bald, Chair of Theatre & Dance  
*Lighting Design and Technical Director:* Steven R. Hunt, Associate Professor of Theatre  
*Assistant Technical Director:* Sharon Scarborough  
*Stage Manager:* Flynt Kohn’05  
*Assistant Stage Manager:* Jennifer Pearson’06  
*Properties Mistress:* Julie Cook ’05  
*Costume Mistress:* Rebekah Hendrix ’05  
*Master Electrician:* Kim Culbreth ’04  
*Sound Technician and Program Copy:* Meredith Henderson ’04  
*Graphic Design:* Amy Howell  
*Box Office Staff:* Anna Browning ’04, Libby Long ’05  
*Costumes:* Marsha Grimmert, Mary Beth Lofton (Converse II)  

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**Theatre/Converse Production Schedule**

**DECEMBER 5 - 8, 2002**  
*“Fog”* by Evelyn Nesenburg  
*Laird Studio Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM on December 8)*

**JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 2, 2003**  
*Studio Series #1 (Title TBA)*  
*Laird Studio Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM on February 2)*

**FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 2, 2003**  
*“Haiku”* by Katherine Smoergard  
*Laird Studio Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM on March 2)*

**MARCH 15, 2003**  
*Daryle Ryce in Concert*  
*Laird Studio Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM on April 27)*

**APRIL 25 - 27 & 30, MAY 1 - 3, 2003**  
*The Cherry Orchard*  
*Converse College Amphitheatre*  
*Rain location: Hazel B. Abbott Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM on April 27)*

**MAY 14 - 17, 2003**  
*Studio Series #3 (Title TBA)*  
*Laird Studio Theatre*  
*8:00 PM*  
*(2:00 PM)*

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**Graphic Design:** Amy Howell  
**Box Office Staff:** Anna Browning ’04, Libby Long ’05  
**Costumes:** Marsha Grimmert, Mary Beth Lofton (Converse II)
The pace and intensity of Capitol Hill is grueling... Many people are quick to criticize that which is wrong with our government and nation, but history and the state of other nations in this world evidence one very clear fact: it’s the best thing going.”

Helen Walker ’98

A BIRD’S EYE VIEW

During Winter Term of her senior year, Kirstie Waugh Tucker ’96 landed a six-week internship with then-Rep. Bob Inglis. She obviously made a strong impression as the internship turned into a job offer a week after her graduation. Then in late 2001, Kirstie received a phone call about an opportunity to work in the Bush administration as Deputy Assistant Director in the Office of Presidential Personnel, and gladly accepted the offer.

“My main responsibility is finding qualified advisers who are willing to serve the administration as a member of a Presidential board or commission,” explains Kirstie. She and her colleagues have a fixed appointment with President Bush in the Oval Office every two weeks to discuss candidates for open positions. “We provide him with background information on the candidates, what the open position calls for, and the characteristics of the ideal candidate,” she said.

According to Kirstie, finding people who are interested in serving is not a problem. "There are plenty of applicants for just about every position that becomes available, and when asked, nine out of ten people will jump at the chance to serve," she says. "But before their name even makes it to our meetings with the President, it is up to our office to complete a thorough check on the candidate’s qualifications and characteristics. And just because we recommend them does not automatically guarantee an approval from the President. In fact, there have been a few occasions when a candidate has not been approved, even after going through our background checks. So it is important for us to have a list of qualified candidates for each available position.”

So what is a meeting with President Bush like? Kirstie remembers their first meeting very vividly. "As we approached the Oval Office, Karen Hughes (White House counselor), Condoleezza Rice (National Security Advisor), and Ari Fleischer (White House Press Secretary) had just completed a meeting and were on their way out,” she recalls. “Then we went in and met with the President and Vice President Cheney. President Bush is very laid back and goes out of his way to make others feel at ease. He wants everyone in the room to participate and seeks their advice. At the same time, he sticks to a tight schedule and constantly glances at a grandfather clock that stands in the back of the room. He does not like falling behind schedule, so we make sure we’ve done our homework on the candidates and are really prepared for any questions he may have.”

The chance to see the inner workings of a presidential administration is a very rare thing, and is a point not lost to Kirstie. "Working in the administration is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I could not pass up,” she says. “I got a bird’s eye view of how government works, and to be able to tell my children and grandchildren one day that I worked with the President of the United States is a pretty good perk.”

AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE SYSTEM

Patricia Doty ’96 also interned in Washington during the summers after her sophomore and junior years. She was hired in the spring of her senior year to begin her career in Washington as a full time staff member for Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran. She worked on legislative and administrative issues for Senator Cochran for over five years and has recently left Capitol Hill to work as an outside political fundraiser.

“I work for a ‘company’ called Wadfrey and Company,” she says. “I use that term loosely because there are only two of us! We have approximately 10 clients (six incumbents and four candidates who are running in open seat elections) and we also provide consulting services for various political entities that need to raise money. We do higher dollar events and most of the money we raise comes from political action committees (PACS).”

“While we do political fundraising specifically for republican candidates, I think I should note how essential it is for republicans and democrats alike to raise money to fund campaigns. From the incumbent who doesn’t even have an opponent to the challenger who is in the race of his life, they all need funds. They need to be able to create advertisements and buy the time or the space to show them, to have bumper stickers and yard signs printed to give away to supporters, to buy the stamps to send letters to voters encouraging their support, to buy gas so they can visit every nook and cranny of the district, and finally to pay the campaign staff who puts all of it together. Running a campaign is a serious business and it is not party exclusive – both sides raise and spend money as fast as they can to get elected or to help a fellow candidate.”

Because each candidate is in need of cash, each day for a fundraiser like Patricia can bring different activities from the last. “There is no typical day for me,” she says bluntly. “I might spend one day on the phone working with one client, making calls for an event-be it establishing a venue, menu, etc. or inviting people to a bird’s eye view of the Washington political scene. Kirstie Waugh Tucker ’96 works in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, Patricia Doty ’96 is a political fundraiser for numerous public officials and candidates, and Helen Walker ’98 is legislative counsel to Congressman Jeff Miller.

Washington, D.C. is a powerful symbol not only of our nation but also of democracy and freedom. It is where decisions affecting the lives of each American are made. It is where heads of state gather to discuss treaties, international trade agreements, and crucial security issues.

The careers of three young Converse College alumnæ provide an intriguing cross-section view of the Washington political scene. Kirstie Waugh Tucker ’96 works in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, Patricia Doty ’96 is a political fundraiser for numerous public officials and candidates, and Helen Walker ’98 is legislative counsel to Congressman Jeff Miller.
attend. I might spend the next day getting information out about a particular client who is coming to town and would like to meet with some lobbyists, and then scheduling those appointments. I might start yet another day at a breakfast fundraiser, check off who is there, who has paid, answer questions, drive the member to his office, go to my office to do the follow-up and get the money in the mail to the campaign, and then go to a lunch event and do all the same things at that event. Often times it’s then back to the office to make final preparations or changes for an evening reception and do the same thing again. Those days are long but few. We try not to do too many of the same thing again. Those days are long but few. We try not to do too many meetings a day but sometimes it just can’t be helped.

The events vary from size and industry focus to location and time of day. “Most of the events we do are on the Hill so the client can be close to the Capitol in the event of an unexpected vote or committee meeting. For an industry specific breakfast or luncheon, we’ll fax out about 750 invitations to contacts we have within that industry. About a week after sending those out we call a more targeted number of those who haven’t helped yet but probably will because of the member’s committee assignment or district and how it might relate to that specific industry. By the time of the event we usually have about 15-25 people who will attend. The events last a little more than an hour because these clients keep very tight schedules while they are in town. There are also events, evening receptions mainly, that are not industry specific. We usually invite about 2,000 and will likely get 50-80 people to attend. Sometimes we’ll have a ‘special guest’ like a committee chairman or a high-ranking official from the administration, but usually the client himself is the draw.” Although she has no desire to run for political office herself, Patricia is quite satisfied with what she is doing now. “At the end of the day, it is important to remember that we are an essential part of the system: we help elected officials raise money and create relationships with industry groups that will in turn benefit their home district,” she says.

IT’S THE BEST THING GOING

Helen Walker ‘98 is legislative counsel for Florida Congressman Jeff Miller. Her typical day begins with a heavy dose of the latest news. “I begin every day watching national and local news, skimming the area papers and reading a National Journal publication called Congress Daily AM, all of which are good indicators of what will be the focus of the day,” she says. “The rest of the day could involve any number of things: meeting with constituents, lobbyists, and special interest groups (with or without the Congressman, depending upon his schedule), attending staff briefings, attending Veterans Affairs Committee hearings and markups of legislation, fielding calls from constituents, preparing talking points for the Congressman’s speaking engagements, working with our press secretary on media advisories pertaining to issues I handle, drafting memos for the Congressman on any number of issues (such as court decisions, current events, co-sponsorship recommendations, etc.), or preparing ‘briefing books’ for him on upcoming hearings. I also spend a good bit of time researching (legal and non-legal) and communicating with committee and other congressional staffs and federal agencies within the government about their perceptions of bills. I believe there are over 10,000 Capitol Hill stafiers, and I feel as if I meet and work with many, many of them every day.”

Making sure that Congressman Miller is aware of the schedule of each vote is a task in itself. “When we are in session, the legislative staff in the office prepares a daily vote card, which gives the Congressman a thumbnail sketch of each vote that will be required of him each day,” says Helen. “Throughout the day, we are kept apprised (and in turn keep Rep. Miller apprised) of the voting schedule. For instance, Rep. Miller may get a vote, the Majority Whip’s Office, and the House Republican Conference. Additionally, a system of bells and lights on all clocks within the Capitol complex keep us all informed of what votes are taking place and how long they will take. This is helpful, as the voting schedule is extremely fluid, and scheduling and working around it also must be a fluid process. For instance, Rep. Miller may get caught in the Capitol with a string of votes, forcing him to miss an office meeting that I am in turn asked to take in his absence.

Every day is so different. Generally, my routine is dictated by whether or not Congress is in session, but anything can happen - and usually does.”

Helen also experiences the relationship between lobbyist and representative on a first-hand basis. “Many times lobbyists will lobby on behalf of a large corporation (International Paper), an industry (Florida’s beaches), or from within a law firm on any number of different issues,” she says. “At any rate, I meet regularly with and speak on the phone almost daily with any number of these types of lobbyists during the appropriations session, which generally lasts from early February to early fall. Lobbyists also sponsor Congressional or staff delegations to site visits. For example, I recently represented the Congressman as his agriculture aide on a four-day staff delegation trip to the Mid-South region of the Cotton Belt, sponsored by Monsanto and the National Cotton Council. A dozen House and Senate staffers made the trip across the Mid-South, touring private and government research, classing and manufacturing facilities; and participated in some good old cotton harvest and ginning in Arkansas! Much of what I saw helped me understand the federal funding that is allocated to research endeavors, but on a more local level, I now have a feel for the cotton harvest timeline. Florida’s first district has recently felt peripheral effects of two tropical systems, and the excessive rain has caused complications with the cotton harvest there. I am now far more educated in my interactions with our farmers.”

A long-held hallmark of Converse College is to prepare young women to make a difference in their world, and that is exactly what Helen is doing. “While I am certainly in a politically charged environment, I like to think of myself as a public servant. I hope that I am always able to think of whatever I’m doing in that respect. However, the pace and intensity of Capitol Hill is grueling, and I hope that opportunities continue to present themselves that will allow me to be involved in ways that are positive, productive, and that give others, here and around the world, hope about what lies ahead.”
Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care, which was just returned from the 16th European Conference on Medicine. What attracted you to Converse College? Barker: When I was in the initial phases of the search process, I saw at Converse a truly excellent faculty who, while possibly over-worked, are as dedicated to the mission of their college as I have ever seen. I saw an administration that was relatively thin, which is good because that means the college is founded upon education rather than bureaucracy. I saw a high level of community support that is ever impressive, and this is support from people who have seemingly no ties to Converse other than the borders of Spartanburg County, the South Carolina state border or the borders of the United States. Staying abroad allows the student to experience other ways of life and other patterns of culture, and at the same time enables the Converse student to serve these other communities. I want to do all that I can to bring the Converse community, the local community, and the world community closer together.

Barker: You have just returned from the 16th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care. What was the purpose of the conference and your role in it? Barker: The European Society of Philosophy of Medicine is an interdisciplinary group comprised of biomedical researchers, medical practitioners, historians, and philosophers. We are a very tight-knit group that meets regularly to discuss medical issues from around the world but concentrate mainly on issues affecting Europe. I’m in a smaller group that deals with the subject of genes—what they do and how they do it. At this particular conference, I presented a paper that dealt with issues of trust—specifically, public trust in large-scale population genomics projects.

Barker: What sparked this interest in bioethics within you? Barker: The turning point for me was in 1978. I had heard about and been keenly interested in the hot topics of bioethics such as abortion and euthanasia, but I had approached them up until that point as purely ethical issues and was more interested in the ethical theories. While in graduate school in 1978 at Purdue University, a bioethics professor asked me to assist him in teaching a course. In preparing for the class, I found that the more I read about bioethics, the more interested I became. I was especially hooked from the classic philosophical questions such as what is consciousness or what is a disease? These may sound like empty theoretical questions, but they translate into huge medical concerns.

Barker: In your opinion, is it just a matter of time before a human being is cloned? Barker: I believe there will indeed be a human clone, but I am not sure that people are prepared for the mistakes that will be made during the process. People were fascinated with Dolly, the cloned sheep, but not too many realize that Dolly was the first successful result of over 200 unsuccessful and disturbing attempts. A human clone will be born through techniques similar to in vitro fertilization. Contrary to popular science fiction, clones will not be monsters and they will not be carbon copies; they will be—if we’re lucky—just another human being. They’ll look a lot like the donors of the sperm and egg, but then again my son looks much like me.

Barker: What is driving this need to tamper with nature? Barker: We’ve always tampered. The only things that have changed are the techniques. Let’s suppose you have a child with cystic fibrosis, and researchers have discovered—as some now hope—they have a way of manipulating the mutation that causes cystic fibrosis. Such tampering is altering the genetic makeup of that child.

Barker: How were you attracted to the field of philosophy? Barker: While at California State University, I intended to major in law. One day, I asked a business law professor a question. He really did not have an answer and told me to ask someone in the philosophy department. I decided to take him up on his suggestion, and almost immediately knew I had found my home. I was especially drawn to the idea that there are so many truths to the human existence. We are indeed a fragile being and it is hard to find a world with different beings.
We arrived in Morocco on a Friday, and met our host families that Saturday,” said Casey.

To ensure that the three experienced a different flavor of life in Morocco, each host family differed in economic stature:

Kristi: “My family consisted of a mother, father, and their two-year-old daughter. They are a middle class family and live in an apartment. They are very modern and would have little trouble in adjusting to life in a larger country such as America.”

Chelsea: “I stayed with a 30-year-old single woman and her mother who are considered to be very poor financially. The woman has a job as a ‘go between’ for a realtor and his clients. It is difficult for her to find a higher paying job because she is looked upon differently by the community due to not being married.”

Casey: “The family I stayed with are not rich, but would probably be classified as upper-middle class. They live in a house rather than an apartment. The father is an agricultural engineer for the Department of Agriculture, and the mother is a teacher. They have a 16-year-old son, a 13-year-old daughter, and a 5-year-old son.”

The families took their roles as hosts seriously and seemed to adopt the students as true family members.

“Our host families were very protective of us and would constantly

A home away from home can be a difficult thing to find. But Casey Addis ’04, Kristi Faris ’03, and Chelsea Jaccard ’03 found such a place this past summer. Granted, they traveled nearly halfway around the world to find it and they did not speak the native language—but they found it.

The three Converse students were accepted into a study abroad program coordinated by the National Council on US/Arab Relations in partnership with the Virginia Military Institute, and were sent to Morocco to study Arabic. “We were in Morocco from June until July,” explains Kristi, “and stayed with Moroccan host families in the city of Fez. This was, in essence, an intensive language program.”

Even though none of the three had even the most basic understanding of the Arabic language, no time was wasted in experiencing the culture. “We arrived in Morocco on a Friday, and met our host families that Saturday,” said Casey.

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The families took their roles as hosts seriously and seemed to adopt the students as true family members. “Our host families were very protective of us and would constantly...
go out of their way to make sure we were comfortable,” said Casey. “For example, they would sleep on a couch or on the floor so that I would have a bed at night, and they would often accompany me on the way home from a store to ensure my safety. There is no doubt in my mind that if I showed up on their doorstep tomorrow, they would take me in and treat me as their own.”

Each day, the students received four hours of Arabic instruction from Moroccan instructors at the American Language Institute. “We had to start at the absolute basic alphabetical level,” said Chelsea. “We had to learn the Arabic alphabet, learn how to write the letters, then learn how to pronounce the words. Arabic can be especially tricky because many words can begin with the same letters but have different sounds.”

According to Kristi, communication with the host families was at first difficult because of the language barrier. “We tried just about every form of communication including hand gestures,” she said. “There was at least one person in each family who spoke English, and during the first few days we were allowed to speak English. But after that brief period we were required to communicate in Arabic.”

As they ventured out into the city, they found Moroccans who were excited to see these three Americans learning to speak Arabic. “When we walked down a street,” said Chelsea, “and tried to say something in Arabic to a shop owner, you could see their eyes just light up. Most Moroccans speak 3-4 different languages and it excites them so much to hear someone trying to learn their language.”

The setting of the old medina (a medieval city) in Fez clearly made an impression with the Converse students. While the streets may be lined with buildings having nondescript walls, the doors to the buildings would often open into beautifully maintained homes and gardens. “Moroccans really do not care what the outside of their home looks like, they focus instead on the inside,” said Kristi. The width of the city streets also dictates the mode of transportation, with most people traveling by foot, motorcycle, or donkey.

The closeness of the city benefits the convenience of service. “As an economics major, I was truly impressed with the functionality of the medina,” said Casey. “Everything a person needs-schools, mosques, markets, community ovens—is within walking distance. A person could live his entire life with satisfaction and not step a foot outside of the medina.”

Religion plays an integral part in the everyday life for the Moroccan citizen, with calls to worship being announced over town loudspeakers five times throughout the day. “The first time I heard the call to prayer, I just stopped in my tracks,” said Casey. “It’s difficult for me to explain, but it was obvious that everyone felt instantly connected with each other because they were all praying—which is something very personal—and they were all doing it at the same time.”

Even though Islam is the religion of choice for most, they are very accepting of many of the world’s religions. “My host family and many people we met in the streets were very accepting of Christianity and other religions,” said Kristi. “They would say things like ‘Jesus was a good man’ or ‘The Buddhists have some good points.’ It seems as though they were saying that as long as your religion fits you, then it is a good thing.”

Chelsea was particularly impressed with the varying lifestyles. “It is obvious that through the years, the governments of Morocco have done a tremendous job in mixing modern society with traditional Islamic society while including none of the radical fundamentalism,” she said.

Traveling abroad can be both fascinating and intimidating at the same time, especially when one doesn’t speak the native tongue. “When we were preparing for the trip, and even when we landed at the airport,” said Casey, “I was expecting a to see a completely different world than what I’m accustomed to. But after the first few days in Morocco, I finally realized that wherever you go in this world, people are people. We may not speak the same language, we may not eat the same things, and we may not worship the same god . . . but deep down, we share so much.”
Remembrance and Reflection on September 11

The Converse College community joined with the nation in a time of remembrance and reflection on the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attack against the United States. The day was filled with events designed to facilitate discussion, meditation, volunteering, and expression.

During the day:
• Twichell Auditorium was open for those needing a place of personal prayer and meditation.
• A panel of Converse faculty gathered with a crowd of 200 in Daniel Recital Hall to discuss how the attack affected various aspects of society.

Panelists were Mayo Mac Boggs, Professor and Chair of the Art and Design Department; Dr. Laura Brown, Professor of English and Director of the尼斯特 Honors Program; Dr. Corrie Norman, Professor of Religion; Dr. Madelyn Young, Chair of the Economics Department; and Dr. Joe Dunn, Chair of the History and Politics Department. They explored whether a memorial should be erected or commercial construction should commence at Ground Zero, the importance of symbols such as the twin towers in our lives, the immediate political effects of 9/11 and the possibility of war with Iraq, acceptance of religious beliefs that are different from our own, and how various business sectors are recovering economically.

• The Converse and Spartanburg communities participated in a blood drive in Blackman Music Hall to benefit the Piedmont Blood Center.

Converse Community Explores Ethics

As director of audit for an accounting firm, you discover that a client of yours has found a way of hiding debt. What should you do?

On Nov. 5, nearly 350 Converse students gathered in Twichell Auditorium for the Honor Emphasis Assembly: A Forum on Ethics. During the forum, students were presented with seven different scenarios, each with a different ethical dilemma. A panel comprised of seven professionals, each from a different field, addressed the scenarios and the possible outcomes of each. “Our panel included an accountant, a company chairman, a pastor, a board of directors member, an executive vice president for a large corporation, and a local business woman,” said Honor Board Chair, Holly Gilmore ’03. “We wanted to ensure that every student could relate to at least one panelist.”

Each scenario presented different complications, and there were no clear-cut solutions. “During the forum,” said Holly, “we wanted to emphasize the Honor Code by sparking debates among the students themselves. The intent was for the students to imagine themselves in each situation and realize where their obligations would be. Life is filled with difficult situations, and the way you handle them is directly related to your own honor code.”

Converse Breaks Ground for Phifer Science Hall

Following Opening Convocation on September 17, Converse held the groundbreaking ceremony for Phifer Science Hall. Students, faculty and staff, alumni, and friends gathered on the site of the former Montgomery tennis courts as George Dean and Susu Phifer Johnson ’65 lifted their dirt-filled shovels in celebration of the coming construction.

The 36,000-square-foot, three-story facility reflects the school’s commitment to preparing women for the ever-changing world of technology and scientific innovation. Housing the natural sciences-biology, chemistry, and biochemistry—the building will be designed for 21st century flexibility, student/faculty research, interdisciplinary teaching, and experimentations. Construction will begin in January and take approximately 16 months.

The vision for Phifer Hall was the impetus for George Dean and Susu Phifer Johnson ’65 to issue The Johnzon Challenge in 1998, which eventually netted more than $45 million and was the first leg of the College’s $75 million capital campaign. “George and I believe that the sciences and technology are central to the future of Converse, and we want her students to have a contemporary building in which to learn and prepare for careers in these fields,” said Susan Johnson. In Dec. 2001, the Kresge Foundation in Troy, Michigan, approved a $770,000 challenge grant for construction of Phifer Hall. Under the terms of the challenge, Converse must raise $2.3 million towards the project by July 1, 2003. The Kresge Foundation grants signify a prestigious stamp of endorsement in an institution. To earn this grant, Converse demonstrated exceptional quality of teaching, scholarly activity, and community outreach.

Online Campus Tour Wins Award

The Converse College online campus tour (www.converse.edu) has been selected by the awards committee at CampusTours.com as the 4-Star virtual college tour for the month of November. In making their online announcement, CampusTours says, “Converse College has managed to develop a virtual tour that is informative and comprehensive, yet retains a simple and elegant interface. The Campus Tours Awards Committee found this to be an excellent presentation, well worthy of the Campus Tours 4-Star Virtual Tour Award!”

In developing the Converse tour, Webmaster Julie Clarkson said she was determined to create a tour that offered more than just a campus map. “We wanted a tour that had depth to it,” she says. “We spent a great deal of time looking at tours of other schools and thinking about what students - and parents - might want to see in addition to the virtual tour.” Tour-related extras include personal audio vignettes from students, a planner to schedule an actual campus tour, a message from Converse President Nancy Gray, and an alternative way to search the campus map by department.
Converse Receives NCAA Division II Eligibility

Commitment to Service Learning brings New Opportunities

Community service has long been a hallmark of the Converse experience. Two new programs in the fall of 2002 are providing even more opportunities and encouragement for students to learn through service to others.

The first students were selected for the Bonner Leaders Program this year, which allows them to earn a scholarship while serving in the community and gaining leadership skills. “Bonner Leaders will complete 900 hours of community service over a two-year period,” said Kristin Watkins, Assistant Dean of Students for Leadership. “This breaks down to 8-10 hours per week during the academic year and 500 hours over the summer. The students are placed at local agencies such as the Boys and Girls Club or the Children’s Shelter, where they work alongside the staff to provide services to Spartanburg residents.”

Additionally, the College’s first Campus-Wide Day of Service was held on Oct. 19 with nearly 600 students participating. Various local community organizations such as the Spartanburg Children’s Shelter, Habitat for Humanity, and the Downtown Rescue Mission benefited from the spirit of volunteerism. “We decided to schedule the Day of Service just before 1889 week so that we could better cultivate the spirit of service to others,” says Rhonda Mingo, Director of Residential Life and Community Service Coordinator.

Presbyterian College Presents Honorary Degree to Nancy Gray

Citing her leadership skills as President of Converse College and her commitment to improving higher education, Presbyterian College bestowed the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters upon Nancy Oliver Gray during their opening convocation.

“Nancy Oliver Gray has distinguished herself as an exceptional leader and a visionary as President of Converse College, preserving and improving the historic campus, enhancing the College’s visibility as a residential liberal arts college with a nationally recognized school of music, and strengthening the endowment, student recruitment, and retention,” said Ron Allen, Chairman of the PC Board of Trustees. “Throughout her professional career she has displayed devoted, effective, and vital work in advancing liberal arts, professional, and seminary education.”

Converse, USCS Collaborate on Music Program

A new partnership between Converse College and the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg may strike just the right chord with music students in the Upstate.

The program, which is a rare example of public/private collaboration in higher education, allows USCS students to take music courses at Converse and private instrumental and voice lessons from Converse faculty. Similarly, Converse students may take courses in the music studies program at USCS. Graduate students of the Petrie School of Music will also have the opportunity to teach introductory music courses at USCS and to direct performance groups. USCS offers a concentration in music for students pursuing the interdisciplinaries Studies Degree, and has been innovative in developing a jazz program with courses in history, theory, and improvisation.

One of the most visible aspects of the partnership is the opportunity for students from Converse and USCS to perform together in ensembles on both campuses, including choral groups, orchestras, jazz bands, and gospel choirs.

The program’s first student registered this fall. Matias Mariani, a USCS sophomore from Argentina, is pursuing his dream to become an opera singer. “This program is letting me go on with my dream,” he said. “I now have the opportunity to improve my musical skills by working with great teachers on two campuses and I have the chance to perform more, too.”

The partnership strengthens the programs at both of our institutions by combining our resources. It is a win-win collaboration for both programs.
WHAT CONVERSE ALUMNAE SHOULD KNOW: Benefits of a Women’s College

Even though there are only 62 women’s colleges remaining in the country, the benefits of single gender education are strong. We hope the information in this article will be a helpful and interesting tool to prepare alumnae and friends to talk more effectively with prospective students and those who influence their college decisions.

Women’s colleges prepare women for the many roles they will assume in life, by offering an excellent academic education, challenging them to become whatever they want to become and connecting them into a network from which they can benefit for most of their professional and personal lives. These colleges are attended by women who demand the best education in a setting that is the most conducive to their achievement and “real world” success. Going to a women’s college greatly increases the chances that a woman will become a leader in a traditionally male (and hence better paid) field. Academically, professionally, and personally, the advantages of women’s colleges are hard to match in the co-ed world.

Studies have found that, by attending women’s colleges, women:
- Participate more fully in and out of class
- Are more successful in careers; that is, they tend to hold higher positions, are happier, and earn more money
- Constitute more than 20% of women in Congress, and 30% of a Business Week list of rising women stars in Corporate America, yet only represent 2% of all female college graduates
- Have more opportunities to hold leadership positions and are able to observe women functioning in top jobs (90% of the presidents and 55% of the faculty are women)
- Report greater satisfaction than their co-ed counterparts with their college experience in almost all measures - academically, developmentally, and personally
- Continue toward doctorates and careers in math, science and engineering in disproportionately large numbers
- Develop measurably higher levels of self-esteem than other achieving women in coeducational institutions
- Score higher on standardized achievement tests
- Are more likely to graduate
- Tend to be more involved in philanthropic activities after college. The Council for Financial Aid to Education reports that a higher proportion of women’s college alumnae give to their alma mater (39% vs. 28%) and give a larger amount on average ($521 vs. $406) than do alumni/ae at comparable co-ed institutions.

COMMONLY HELD Myths about Women’s Colleges

MYTH #1: Women’s colleges are elite finishing schools.
FACT: Converse is a contemporary women’s college that attracts a diverse student body, representing a variety of socio-economic backgrounds, ages, ethnic and racial identities. A larger percentage of students choose disciplines and careers in traditionally male areas, such as math, the sciences, law and business, so they have, on average, higher salaries than their co-ed counterparts. The strength of women’s colleges is their ability to educate women for the multiple roles that they will assume during their lives.

MYTH #2: Women’s colleges are cloisters to protect young women from the real world.
FACT: To the extent that Converse is not the real world, it is extremely beneficial to women who attend, as Linda Wertheimer, host of National Public Radio’s All Things Considered and Wellesley ’65 explains: “If by real life one means the opportunity to be downtrodden, I think that taking a temporary pass on that is fine. However unreal the world of by-women-for-women, women-can-do-whatever-they-want may have been, it certainly gave me and a lot of women with whom I graduated the feeling that the world could be and should be different. A lot of us have spent our lives acting on that.”

“Myths about Women’s Colleges”

MYTH #3: There are many gay women at women’s colleges.
FACT: There is no evidence that there is a greater percentage of gay women at Converse or other women’s colleges than at co-ed institutions. Moreover, diversity and tolerance are goals of every educational institution, both single-sex and co-ed.

MYTH #4: Women’s colleges are male-free places.
FACT: Converse has cross-registration with Wofford College and offers students many opportunities to interact with men socially if they choose. It is true, though, that because Converse is inhabited by women students it tends to be cleaner, aesthetically more appealing, less vandalized and safer.

Courtenay Mims ’04; Edgefield, SC

“At first I was not interested in a women’s college – all my best friends in high school had been guys! Most girls find that they are somewhat surprised to like the all-women atmosphere. For four years my primary environment hasn’t focused on men – and it has given me time to focus inward so I can become a more articulate, thoughtful, and prepared person.”

“Ashah Balkhi ’04; Saudi Arabia

“I see a difference between Converse students and their counterparts at co-ed schools. Converse women are more self-assured and less afraid to reach outside of our comfort zones. Yet perhaps the deepest, and often most subtle difference that I have noticed is that Converse students have an inner sense of purpose – something many college students don’t even know to hope for. Not only do we have a mission for our lives by a dedication to ourselves and to our goals.”

Kathryn Blankenship ’01; Spartanburg, SC

“I’ve developed wonderful professional and personal friendships in my four years at Converse. Here, students are encouraged to grow as scholars and to speak their opinions intelligently and openly without feeling intimidated or inferior. Most importantly, Converse builds a certain kind of confidence that women need in order to become strong and effective leaders in today’s competitive society.”

This information was provided by The Women’s College Coalition.
Travel with the Alumnae Office

England’s Lake District
April 28 - May 6, 2003
Double occupancy $2,395; single $2,745
England’s Lake District blends windswept mountainous terrain with stone-walled pastures to create one of the most picturesque regions in Great Britain. From our campus site in Borrow, which overlooks the shores of Windermere, we will travel to Near Sawrey, where Beatrix Potter found inspiration for many of her famous stories, stroll along the streets of quaint Hawkshead, visit the medieval ruins of Furness Abbey, and discover the history of Carlisle and Cumbria. We will cruise to the village of Ambleside, see William Wordsworth’s homes in Grasmere, and explore Cumberland’s English countryside with an excursion to the Yorkshire Dales. The journey will be completed with a visit to Ravenglass and a serene ride on a narrow gauge railway referred to as “the most beautiful train journey in England.” Dr. Jeffrey Willis will accompany the group on this trip.

Italian Vistas
October 25 - November 6, 2003
Double occupancy $3,099; single $3,949; triple $3,049
Includes round trip air from Charlotte, cancellation and waiver insurance, hotel transfers, departure tax, and some meals
Come with us to the heart of the Canadian Rockies, where majestic scenery combines with luxury resort settings for a trip you’ll remember forever. You’ll tour the beautiful provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, home to such spots as Vancouver, Jasper, Lake Louise, Banff and Calgary, and enjoy a stay in the famed Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, one of Canada’s most impressive hotels. Then, it’s all aboard for an exhilarating, 2-day train ride to Jasper, through the Rockies, on the legendary “Rocky Mountaineer.” Keep your camera poised for photo opportunities at Maligne Lake, the Icefields Parkway, Banff National Park, Lake Louise and the Bow Valley. Weather permitting, enjoy a thrilling coach ride across the Columbia icefields. You’ll end your trip in Calgary, home to the world’s largest rodeo – the Calgary Stampede.

History of Converse

A Great Christmas Present for Alumnae!
Dr. Jeffrey Willis, Andrew Helms Distinguished Professor of History, has compiled a pictorial history of Converse College that is sure to become a treasured keepsake for alumnae for years to come. The book is arranged in chronological order and features vintage photographs that portray how both the campus and the students have evolved over the past 112 years.

Wilson Hall is seen as it appeared before the fire of 1892 and as it emerged afterwards. Photographs through the years of students and faculty - some even taken by students themselves - provide a window into the world of Converse. Dr. Willis draws from his 35-year career at Converse in combining informative text with many previously unseen photographs.

Order your copy ($25) via the alumnae section of www.converse.edu or by calling the Alumnae Office at 1-800-584-9098.

Upcoming Alumnae Events

Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 2003
Winter Alumnae Board Meeting
Birmingham, AL, Luncheon
Gillian White Goodnight ’58, Hostess
Rock Hill, SC, Wine and Cheese Drop-In
Harriet Marshall Goode ’39, Hostess
Winston-Salem, NC, Cocktail Party
Jenny Kimbrel ‘79, Hostess
Norfolk, VA, Luncheon
Norfolk Yacht Club
Cruise Hill, NC, Brunch
Marian Ruthie Johnson ’46, Hostess
Raleigh, NC, Cocktail Party
Julia Jones Daniels ’53, Hostess
Charlotte, SC, Garden Party
Patti Moore McGuire ’57, Hostess
Ashville, NC, Luncheon
Highland Lake Inn
Richmond, VA, Cocktail Party
Sally Mason Maynard ’59, Hostess
Atlanta, GA, Luncheon
Mary Helen Garrison Dalton ’46, Hostess
Atlanta, GA, Converse-Hefford Cocktail Party
Deede Roberts Stafford ’70, Hostess
Founder’s Day and 1000 Thanks Donor Gala
Reunion Weekend
Alumnae Trip: England’s Lake District
Senior Candlelight Dinner
Hats Off Party for Seniors
Commencement
Alumnae Trip: Canadian Rockies Train Tour

Converse Students Want to Know Your Ring Stories!
The Converse Class of 2005 plans to kick-off a new tradition this year with a ring ceremony to be held during their Sophomore Celebration Weekend in the spring. They are hopeful that between now and then the Alumnae Office might be able to obtain some interesting and/or funny stories from Converse alumnae about their Converse College rings.

Please send your stories to the Converse College Alumnae Office, 590 E. Main Street, Spartanburg, SC, 29302, fax: 864-596-9735, e-mail: melissa.jolly@converse.edu.

Dear Friends,

Happy Holidays! I hope that all of you have had a wonderful fall and are anticipating a special holiday season! It is hard to believe that we are entering the third year of our “new” millennium. Our journey into the future at Converse College is very exciting for all of us involved. On Sept. 16, we dedicated the Sarah Butler Garden, located between Blackman Hall and Miliken Fine Arts Building. On the 17th we welcomed 184 freshmen during Opening Convocation, and then broke ground for the new Philo Science and Technology Hall overlooking our newly sodded and terraced back campus.

Converse College alumnae should be very proud to be a part of this exciting time because we are progressing into the new century with confidence and newfound strength within our Converse community. We, your Alumnae Board, rededicated ourselves to spreading the word as we once again focus on alumnae participation during this holiday season with gifts to Converse. Please know how much EVERY gift means to Converse, big and small, as we strive for 100% participation nationwide. In this season of giving, let me also remind you that your most important gift to us is a very important gift to us - a tremendous education and wonderful friends for life. Your support now is critical and very much appreciated.

Have a blessed New Year!

Elise Warren, Alumnae Association President

ALUMNAE NEWS

CLUB EVENTS

Alumnae Board Retreat, Lake Summit, North Carolina, September 24-15, 2002

Exhibition of Photography by Frazer Pajak, AIA, Associate Professor of Art, at Brooks & Black Fine Art & Framing, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia; September 19, 2002
(1) Dyanสยาม Sarras Colyer ’75, Mary Helen Garrison Dalton ’46, President Nancy O. Gray, Frazer Pajak, John Dalton, Mary Garrison Dalton King ’75, Nancy Dalton Stude ’73.
GRANDDAUGHTER’S CLUB

The Alumnae Office hosted a drop-in on September 5, 2002, to welcome new members of the Granddaughters Club. Freshmen and transfer student granddaughters, along with their mothers and other family members, were greeted by the Alumnae Office staff and Jordan Cain ’04, current chairwoman of the Granddaughters Club. Sponsored by the Alumnae Office, the Granddaughters Club is a student organization that works to promote contact between students and alumnae through special events and projects.

2002

1 Kathryn Arrants, daughter of Judy Luckenberg Arrants ’79
2 Sarah Allston Baker, granddaughter of Sarah Parker Lampley ’47
3 Maggie T. Barragan, granddaughter of the late Ruth Lantham Tiller ’15
4 Demaris Brooks, daughter of Margaret Goettee Brooks ’66
5 Zan Cain, daughter of Ansley Hassell Beggs ’77
6 Jessica Carver, daughter of Kimberly Terry Carver ’80
7 Samantha Caulder, daughter of Alyce Caulder ’90 MED
8 Kelley Constance, daughter of Shelley Baker ’89
9 Jennifer Gilstrap, daughter of Sharon Gilstrap ’99 MED
10 Rebecca Gramling, daughter of Bonnie Gramling ’94 M.Div. granddaughter of Polly Morris Harper ’53
11 Elizabeth Mayes, granddaughter of Joy Culbreth McAbee ’79
12 Elizabeth McAbee, granddaughter of Joy Culbreth McAbee ’79
13 Joy Michelle Pruitt, daughter of Wanda Toney Pruitt ’79
14 Sarah E. Smith, daughter of Laura Dorr Smith ’79 and granddaughter of Suzanne Earnhardt Smith ’52
15 Bain Wrenn, daughter of Cindy Still Boots ’92

EVENTS

1. Cocktail Party for Spartanburg Converse College Young Alumni, September 26, 2002 at the home of Elizabeth Blanchard Joyce ’89 and President and Professor of Education, Paul Davis, Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Bands, was named Conductor of the Palmetto Youth Orchestra for the 2002-03 season and as an Artist Development Director for the 2003 International Jazz Educators Association Convention in Toronto.

2. Jeffrey Barker, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor of Philosophy, presented a paper, “Standards of Care, Equipoise, and Consent from Bangkok to Baltimore,” at the 5th annual meeting of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities. The presentation dealt with ethical issues in research involving children.

3. Paul Davis, Assistant Professor of Music Education and Director of Bands, was named Conductor of the Palmetto Youth Orchestra for the 2002-03 season and as an Artist Development Director for the 2003 International Jazz Educators Association Convention in Toronto.

4. Joseph Hopkins, Dean of the Petrie School of Music, presented two medallions in England and served as master teacher for the Harlston Festival. His recently released CD “The Songs of Richard Faith” was picked up by Leyerle Publications as a companion recording for the three volumes of Faith’s songs.

5. Dr. Thomas McDaniel, Senior Vice President and Professor of Education, authored an article entitled “Mainstreaming the Gifted: Historical Perspectives on Excellence and Equality,” which appeared in the spring issue of Roeper Review.

6. Dr. Karen Carmean, Charles Dana Professor of English, presented her paper entitled “Polar Boom: What’s Behind the Explosion of Antarctic Literature” at the Popular Culture Association of the South meeting in Charleston, N.C.

7. Dr. Corris Norman, Assistant Professor of Religion, published an article on food at the baroque papal court in Early Modern Catholicism (University of Toronto Press). She has also completed essays on food and religion for the Encyclopedia of Food and Culture, and an article on teaching religion with food.

8. Dr. Scott Robbins, Assistant Professor of Music Theory, received his ninth consecutive award from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) for his compositional work.

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IN MEMORIAM: DR. JAMES WALTER PARKER, 1934-2002

Dr. James Walter Parker II (1934-2002) is survived by his former wife, Robin Parker, and their daughter, Sara (Mrs. Delbert) South of Farmville and by two grandchildren, Matthew and Emily South. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sara. Dr. Parker was born on November 22, 1934, in Dallas, Texas. He was graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and went on to receive his medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School and was a member of the faculty there for many years. He was a respected and beloved teacher and mentor to many medical students and residents. Dr. Parker was a dedicated and active member of the community, serving on numerous boards and committees. He was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School or to the American Heart Association. In memoriam, Dr. James Walter Parker II, 1934-2002.

IN MEMORIAM: MR. ALFRED J. BLANCHARD, 1929-2002

Mr. Alfred J. Blanchard (1929-2002) is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Suzanne Blanchard, and their three children, Mary, John, and William. He was born on September 16, 1929, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. Blanchard graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He was a respected and dedicated lawyer in the community, serving as counsel to numerous organizations and individuals. Mr. Blanchard was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In memoriam, Mr. Alfred J. Blanchard, 1929-2002.

IN MEMORIAM: MR. JOHN L. HARRIS, 1923-2002

Mr. John L. Harris (1923-2002) is survived by his wife, Ethel, and their four children, John, Jane, David, and Michael. He was born on July 24, 1923, in Athens, Ohio. Mr. Harris graduated from the Ohio State University and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. He was a respected and dedicated lawyer in the community, serving as counsel to numerous organizations and individuals. Mr. Harris was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In memoriam, Mr. John L. Harris, 1923-2002.

IN MEMORIAM: MR. ROBERT S. SMITH, 1923-2002

Mr. Robert S. Smith (1923-2002) is survived by his wife, Ruth, and their two children, John and Jane. He was born on April 5, 1923, in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Smith graduated from the University of Alabama and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Alabama School of Law. He was a respected and dedicated lawyer in the community, serving as counsel to numerous organizations and individuals. Mr. Smith was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In memoriam, Mr. Robert S. Smith, 1923-2002.

IN MEMORIAM: MR. JOHN W. BROWN, 1923-2002

Mr. John W. Brown (1923-2002) is survived by his wife, Betty, and their two children, John and Jane. He was born on November 22, 1923, in New York, New York. Mr. Brown graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He was a respected and dedicated lawyer in the community, serving as counsel to numerous organizations and individuals. Mr. Brown was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In memoriam, Mr. John W. Brown, 1923-2002.

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Mr. John B. Franklin (1923-2002) is survived by his wife, Sarah, and their two children, John and Jane. He was born on April 5, 1923, in Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. Franklin graduated from Harvard University and went on to receive his law degree from Harvard Law School. He was a respected and dedicated lawyer in the community, serving as counsel to numerous organizations and individuals. Mr. Franklin was a devoted husband and father, and his memory will be cherished by all who knew him. In memoriam, Mr. John B. Franklin, 1923-2002.

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Elizabeth Pence ’85, August 26, 2002.


Mother, Louise Harris Tucker ’29, June 2, 2002.

12, 2002.

her husband, John Herbert Shamburger, July 9, 2002.

her husband, George Franklin Coleman, Jr., July 9, 2002.

her mother, Martin L. Jernigan, October 6, 2001.

Anne Walker Swenson ’71 on the death of her mother, Dwight Shelton, August 11, 2002.

Sally Harmon Caughman ’68 on the death of her brother, Michael Rao, June 12, 2002.

Jeanie Hunter Manley ’79 on the death of her mother, Katie Beaty Mayes ’41, July 4, 2002.

Mother, Katherine Reneau Cox, August 25, 2002.

Jamie Elizabeth Koster ’02 to Christopher Wills, May 25, 2002.


June 8, 2002.

June 29, 2002.

Ollie Wooden, June 1, 2002.


May 4, 2002.


Christina and Christina Lockaby Fortner ’98.

Daughter of Beattie and Lisa Beckman Ashmore ’85.


Dorothy Coggin Shambarger ’31 on the death of her husband, John Herbert Shamburger, July 9, 2002.

Mary Frances Barnett Wiles ’32 on the death of her husband, Larry Rosen, October 2, 1999.


Mary Ann Machtins Cunningham ’34, May 24, 1984. 


Rachel Manches ’43, July 24, 2002.

Adelle Son Nichols ’47, August 24, 2002.


Dwight Shelton, August 11, 2002.

2002.

June 12, 2002.

June 19, 2002.

June 22, 2002.

June 22, 2002.

June 22, 2002.

June 22, 2002.

June 22, 2002.

June 2, 2002.

June 30, 2002.

June 12, 2002.

June 10, 2002.

June 1, 2002.

June 28, 2002.

June 20, 2002.

June 11, 2002.

June 12, 2002.

June 12, 2002.

November 15, 2002, in Petersburg, Russia, adopted March 5, 2002, daughter of Frank “By” and Lyn Johnson Salter ’86.


Taylor Davison Bell, August 26, 2002, daughter of Michael and Tamara Davison Bell.

Beatrice Ballantine Ashmore, Jr., April 12, 2002, son of Beatrice and Luis Reckless Ashmore ’83.


Bruce and Susan L. Wright ’89 to Blake and Sun Joon Kim, June 12, 2002.


The class of 1949 was represented by five members at the Golden Club Luncheon in April as part of Reunion 2002 weekend. Lib Harper Hopkins, Mariannne Ellison Bartrim, Kit Hixon, Anna Jean Altman McQueen and Jeanne Devereaux were in attendance. Their youngest daughter, Harper Hopkins, is a member of Reunion 2002 weekend: Yours truly, a class representative, please contact Bobbie Dunlap by phone at 800-851-9191 or E-mail her at bobbie.dunlap@converse.edu.

CLASS OF 1953
50th Reunion Alumnae Weekend, 2003
Representative: Mrs. Marilyn Master Sherrill
341 Brierwood Court
Spaентрbug, SC 29302, 843-585-8066
Converse Fund Class Chair: Mrs. Frances Kirkwood Graham
6811 Gibranta Drive
Columbia, SC 29206, 803-798-2933

We may have thought the day would never come, but it will be here this April, our 50th Reunion celebration! You will be hearing from me about our great plans. Jane Winn Pollitzer has been our financial agent, and will chair the Luncheon Committee during the Reunion year. We sincerely hope each one of you will join us for the celebration. Whether you graduate 50 years ago or 5 years ago, we have missed you and want you to see you. The Luncheon Committee is looking forward to the time you will be present. Our classes are reserved for a limited time, so please check on the Special Events Committee for the time your class will be holding. There may be many of you who have never been to the Reunion before. It is a wonderful experience. Please feel free to call us at 803-798-2933 for further information. Please join us in 2003 for a wonderful celebration and stay for the whole weekend! We are looking forward to your presence and the memories renewal.

CLASS OF 1954
Alumnae Weekend, 2004
Representative: Mrs. Beth Shepherd Ancrum 35 Honeycomb Woods
Lake Wylie, SC 29710, 803-411-0215
E-mail: hancrum@bellsouth.net
Converse Fund Class Chair: Mrs. Frances Owen McMillan
6477 Olde Cumberland Road
September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

Betty Rowland Herit and Dick were camping with a group in Estes Park, CO, this past summer and they recently discovered that they would return to a house the family rental home next to theirs from Lake Wylie, SC. “Do you know my classmate, Betty Ancrum?” “Yes,” says Betty, “I was at the same campground this past summer. I saw your husband in the lake, and he was fishing. It was a great site. He and I are married couples and our family are in the mountain ranges and enjoying the outdoors.”

CLASS OF 1958
Alumnae Weekend, 2004
Representative: Mrs. Jane Tinkham Pfitz
740 Kilbourne Road
Columbia, SC 29303, 803-254-8503

“We appreciate having three of their seven grandchildren in Williamsburg. Their youngest daughter, a physical therapist, lives in Richmond with her two young children—age three and four. My husband and I are living in Roader, AL where I have been an elementary school teacher for 20 plus years. Rich said she sees Harper Hopkins, their youngest daughter, a member of Reunion 2002 weekend: Yours truly, a class representative, please contact Bobbie Dunlap by phone at 800-851-9191 or E-mail her at bobbie.dunlap@converse.edu.

CLASS OF 1959
September Reunion Alumnae Weekend, 2003
Representatives: Mrs. Kathy Cox McLellan
607 N. 177th Avenue SE
Woodinville, WA 98072, 425-562-0677
Converse Fund Class Chair: Ms. Marsha Rowe
3606 Ashley Drive
Gonzales, TX 78629, 979-590-6130

No news means we’re a blank in the bulletin so there. Each year since retirement she has attended the luncheon that the Converse Alumnae put on 9/11 with the Department of Defense and the City of New York. They have two daughters, Leesa Lanham, an orchestra teacher for 20 plus years. Rich said she sees Harper Hopkins, their youngest daughter, a member of Reunion 2002 weekend: Yours truly, a class representative, please contact Bobbie Dunlap by phone at 800-851-9191 or E-mail her at bobbie.dunlap@converse.edu.

CLASS OF 1960
May 10 - 13, 2004
Alumnae Weekend
Representative: Mrs. Betsy Blythe Frazer
105 Sunline Place
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-579-3866
E-mail: blythefrazer@bellsouth.net
Converse Fund Class Chair: Mrs. Donna Culbertson Fritz
4607 177th Avenue SE
Woodinville, WA 98072, 425-801-0409

Charlotte, NC 28207, 704-376-4776

Happy Holidays to all! Agnes Wallace Williams sends news that she and husband Jim are active in community affairs as well as in church work. Agnes is a member of their church Women’s Auxiliary but hasn’t been too active in it this past year. She and her two sisters, volunteers for the Salvation Army, have been helping with a project in their area. Jim has been helping with a group in Estes Park, CO, this past summer and he and Lynn have been enjoying time to do volunteer work. Beth’s three grandchildren with the oldest being a 7th grader. Beth and her two daughters, Leesa Lanham, an orchestra teacher for 20 plus years. Rich said she sees Harper Hopkins, their youngest daughter, a member of Reunion 2002 weekend: Yours truly, a class representative, please contact Bobbie Dunlap by phone at 800-851-9191 or E-mail her at bobbie.dunlap@converse.edu.

CLASS OF 1961
Alumnae Weekend, 2006
Representative: Mrs. Betsy Bythoff Frazer
343 Trefry Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27517, 919-402-0409
E-mail: elzy88@ncolina.com
Converse Fund Class Chair: Vacant
September 2002 Class Participation: 3%

Lucy Gauney Lenton and I attended a local medical seminar in Meads with an August temperature of 92 degrees, almost as hot as Newberry. Do any work for local library. Please send news to Converse College for the Class of 1949.

CLASS OF 1962
Next Reunion Alumnae Weekend, 2003
Representative: Mrs. Donna Calbertson Fritz
510 Sunline Place
Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-579-3866
E-mail: dcalbertson@bellsouth.net
Converse Fund Class Chair: Vacant
September 2002 Class Participation: 4%

When Dottie (Hucks) LaFitte Weldon ’61 entered the home construction business in the late 70’s, she was not on a mission to provide a strong role model, just another way of life. She certainly did not expect that she would be one of the first women to gain national attention for her efforts.

Dottie LaFitte Weldon’s

Dottie LaFitte Weldon ’61

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Dottie LaFitte Weldon’s
Returning home through Louisville, they had driven to NY for her nephew's graduation from Cornell. Mrs. Mareon Chapman Stall Penman drove up from Greensboro, NC, for her church bazaar. She and her husband and son Bill, a physician, are continuing to work part time in the Dallas area, where she, like Betty, is enjoying the thrills of life in the suburbs. Mrs. Jean McMillin VanWinkle lives in Cleveland, but says Americans would rather see Greenville where Will works for 10BEST.COM. Jay works for Lockwood Greene. Son Will, his open, housing activities for seniors and tutoring and said the fans were truly wild! The Class of 1963 was the first to graduate due to the Second World War and said she will be at 3000 Class Reunion. It was great to see you all!"
As Community Development Director for the Catawba Regional Council of Governments, Grazer Rivera is the project manager for the Cherokee Historic District in York and1 coats turn to in times of need. “In a nutshell,” says Grazer, “I work with elected officials, community leaders, water and sewer authorities, private non-profit organizations, and other groups to develop projects to address community needs.”

The type of projects that Grazer oversees run the gamut. She coordinates construction or renovation of senior citizens centers, health departments and Department of Social Services buildings; renovation of historic buildings for affordable housing; and extension of water, sewer, and road infrastructure to potential businesses and industries in order to encourage them to locate in the area.

Because she serves so many people, there is no typical day for Grazer. Occasionally, she may attend a meeting to speak with The Bulletin, she had just returned from literally criss-crossing the region. “I began the day in Union meeting with an organization that provides adult day care for elderly and disabled citizens to look at the possibility of a capital campaign. In the afternoon, I went to Buffalo to check on the renovation of a historic building for the location of the senior citizens center. That evening, I went to Lockhart to meet with S.C. Department of Commerce staff, the mayor and several Lockhart Town Council members to discuss a project to upgrade the water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer facilities in the southern portion of the town. After the meeting, I was invited to meet with the Engineering Selection Committee for the Lockhart Infrastructure Project to review the engineering of a new facility. Finally, I selected an engineer for the project.”

CLASS OF 1973
Next Reunion: Alumnae Weekend, 2006
Representatives: Mrs. Jane Byrd Melton, 1894 Ferry Road, Tilton, NH 03276, 815-373-5965
E-mail: info@converse.edu
Converse Fund Chair: Mrs. Roberta Lewis
E-mail: maghmg@aol.com
E-mail: avfnagle@quixnet.net
E-mail: cspurring@aol.com
Next Reunion September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

CLASS OF 1974
Next Reunion: Alumnae Weekend, 2005
Representatives: Mrs. Jill Rushforth Coker, 17 Collins Ridge Drive, Tifton, GA 31794, 229-387-7917
Converse Fund Chair: Mrs. Roberta Lewis
E-mail: maghmg@aol.com
E-mail: cspurring@aol.com
E-mail: avfnagle@quixnet.net
E-mail: cspurring@aol.com
Next Reunion September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

CLASS OF 1975
Next Reunion: Alumnae Weekend, 2005
Representatives: Mrs. June in Washington state. My crew is scattered. Jane is enjoying a shopping and theater trip to New York City. She reports that she loves it and won’t be home ‘till September. John, her other son, is taking a break to rethink her next career move. He is living in Hermosa Beach, CA, and points west. She still enjoys a good race horse! They have two grown sons as well. Polly Ann Connors’ son, John, is giving the golfing world a try as a professional. He graduated from Davidson, and his other son, Jonathan, is a senior in high school. I received a note from Jane that her husband had just returned from a trip to Turkey with her sister. Linda has an indoor tennis class with Gary Granger in Charleston. She’s the Director of Development for the Trindell School where she still finds time for making floor cloths and potholders that she sends to me for “deliveries.” She was also in Charleston recently with her father, Mr. Bryan, of Hootie and the Blowfish fame. I called Margaret Fye Barrington-Wilkes in Raleigh. She is a lavender enthusiast, and she sends lavender三点,云雀—其中的两点，云雀和一架在公园的动物园里看到的孔雀

CLASS OF 1969

CLASS OF 1970

CLASS OF 1971

CLASS OF 1972

CLASS OF 1973

CLASS OF 1974

CLASS OF 1975
CLASS OF 1977

Representative: Mrs. Susan Secord Marion
318 West 66th Street
Camden, SC 29020, 803-765-0633
E-mail: secords2004@comcast.net

Kathy and Chuck are on the Mandarin School Advisory Board where they are planning to move into a new area for the Mandarin School. They have three children: John, Emily, and Elizabeth. The family is currently traveling in Europe, where Kathy is doing a lot of research for her book, “The Art of the Middle Ages.” She is also busy with the Mandarin School, where she is a member of the Parent-Teacher Association. Linda is working on a new project with her husband, Bob, who is a professor at Columbia University. They have a daughter, Sarah, who is a senior in high school. The family is also planning to spend the summer in Europe, where they will be visiting family and friends.

CLASS OF 1978

Representative: Mrs. Libi Laney Peebles
210 Monticello Road
Camden, SC 29020, 803-765-0633
E-mail: libi@harperfloyd.com

The family is currently traveling in Europe, where Libi is doing a lot of research for her book, “The Art of the Middle Ages.” She is also busy with the Mandarin School, where she is a member of the Parent-Teacher Association. Linda is working on a new project with her husband, Bob, who is a professor at Columbia University. They have a daughter, Sarah, who is a senior in high school. The family is also planning to spend the summer in Europe, where they will be visiting family and friends.

CLASS OF 1979

Representative: Mrs. Sharron Hunter Fagg
3700 Fifth Avenue
Camden, SC 29020, 803-432-3466
E-mail: s.fagg@gmail.com

The family is currently traveling in Europe, where Sharron is doing a lot of research for her book, “The Art of the Middle Ages.” She is also busy with the Mandarin School, where she is a member of the Parent-Teacher Association. Linda is working on a new project with her husband, Bob, who is a professor at Columbia University. They have a daughter, Sarah, who is a senior in high school. The family is also planning to spend the summer in Europe, where they will be visiting family and friends.

CLASS OF 1980

Representative: Mrs. Lee Anne Davidson Williams
135 Scuppernong Road
Camden, SC 29020, 803-432-3466
E-mail: lee.andrew.williams@sc.rr.com

The family is currently traveling in Europe, where Lee Anne is doing a lot of research for her book, “The Art of the Middle Ages.” She is also busy with the Mandarin School, where she is a member of the Parent-Teacher Association. Linda is working on a new project with her husband, Bob, who is a professor at Columbia University. They have a daughter, Sarah, who is a senior in high school. The family is also planning to spend the summer in Europe, where they will be visiting family and friends.
Had the best time driving it to the beach this busy season. Love, Sarah

Stage of "I will do it..It's mine!..etc." Her husband's mother (6) is in the 1st grade and a soccer player, and her daughter in the 1st grade and a competitive soccer player; and letter, please add me to your list.

This will be the last time Mrs. Ellen McKay Lowry and her into Pell and Williams and meeting our new they call her the "walker" since she goes in early, to contact her. Tracy Lowry said she recently saw Pence school. She has recently started working on a departmental role through the University of Minnesota. She did her initial serendipitously last September. She has just completed her 18th year of teaching in this area.

I hope everybody had a great summer and fall. Elaine Baldwin Husband reports that her family is doing well in their new home in Spartanburg. They are still much in love with their time on our two weeks this summer that they will have to wait until next year to get back. Whitney started kindergarden and is already an active soccer player. Susan Donaldson has been helping her sons McGavin and Madison with their soccer teams who were away during the summer. We got a concert in May and Gary and I have just had the best time driving it to the beach this last few weeks because we're both on vacation and I don't have to work, OK? Please keep in touch. Susan and send warm winter greetings to all of you. Love, Celia
**CLASS OF 1989**

**Next Reunion: 2015**

**Representatives:**
- Mrs. Christine Cline McPhail, 2730 Sharon Ave
- Mrs. Susan Goodridge Young, 1830 Sandy Rd

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Sarah F. Hammond, 202 Caddo St.

**CLASS OF 1990**

**Next Reunion: 2018**

**Representatives:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**CLASS OF 1991**

**Next Reunion: 2019**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**CLASS OF 1992**

**Next Reunion: 2020**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1993**

**Next Reunion: 2021**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1994**

**Next Reunion: 2023**

**Representatives:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1995**

**Next Reunion: 2025**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1996**

**Next Reunion: 2027**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1997**

**Next Reunion: 2029**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

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**CLASS OF 1998**

**Next Reunion: 2031**

**Representatives:**
- Mr. John Davis, 1315 Benson Lane
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.

**Next Reunion Class Participation:**
- Mrs. Amy Smith, 201 W. Broad St.
Rao College, a small private women’s college in
moved to Opelika, AL this summer to
Mrs. Shannon Givens Jaynes
is enjoying their two daughters, Celia (3) and Evie (18 mos)
NYC. with our classmates. See you in April!
public colleges.
but read in the
still involved in athletics as a teacher and coach in
church with the Christmas Tour of Homes. Anne
Lawrence (2), as well as volunteering at her
Julie Dillon
out!
has returned to calling Greenville
supported her directly or in spirit. Your letters and
prayers have given her strength in this difficult
time. If you see Mrs. Nancy and Jane, say hello!

**CLASS 1995**

Alumnae Weekend, 2004

Representatives: Stefanie Melehes Hughes,

Kay Liner Little

CLASS 1996

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2007

Representative: Ms. Crystin Nonnemacher

E-mail: crystals91@wurlink.net

868 Thunder Ridge Ave,
Acworth, GA 30101, 770-975-8924
e-mail: grains@acworth.org

Ms. Shannon Gossell Bishop
St. Petersburg, FL 33701, 727-239-4020
E-mail: shannon@trinityhs.com

Mrs. Kim Varnorden Bearden
St. Petersburg, FL 33701, 727-239-4020
E-mail: kim@kbearden.com

September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

Alumnae Weekend, 2005

Representatives: Mrs. Ray Piper Bryant
753 Brookview Road
Brookhaven, MS 39632, 601-741-0618
E-Mail: SnoopYray@Aol.com
Mary Elizabeth Redd
105 Ansley Drive
Canton, MS 39046, 662-938-9943

Molly Amsden Pynel
105 E. Augusta Place
Jackson, MS 39206, 662-235-1096
E-Mail: HLDenny65@hotmail.com

Alumnae Weekend, 2004

Representatives:

Kimberly B. Robinson
309 Waterford Avenue
Greenwood, MS 38930, 662-227-6471
E-Mail: kbr2002@hotmail.com

Converse Fund Class Chairs:

Mrs. Kendall Armstrong Robinson
Mississippi Valley Chapter, GA

September 2002 Class Participation: 1%

Happy Holiday to everyone! I knew we all had a busy summer and start of the year! Shannon
Dean Joseph finished working on a master’s degree. Summer Malone, Marie Rhodes Jones,
Grace Dickens Feing, Sarah Skeets, Merritt Reid, Mary Hunter Braman, Rachel Ransom,
Murray Thompson Cheves, and Kerri Shumlin tanked all summer to get ready for the college
next year. While they were away, I had the
prize for the most Converse alumna in Mississippi! I met with Julie Dillon and Anna Snow Chorok,
Elizabeth McClinton Brown,
Page Virginia Kellner, and Jennifer Tuckwell in Montreal for Labor Day. Holly was
selected to participate in "The Door Project," an art endeavor for the city of Collierville that seeks
in essence to make the city and its people more
complex in the inner city, into art and are placed
on display downtown to be auctioned. The
proceeds now support the community from where
the doors came. Holly is entitled to reflections.
Her reflections are set to be shared at an event called
the presenters’ and performers’ gift baskets at the
Grand Assembly Outing. We are working as a director of an after-school and summer
program for at-risk kids for The Salvation
Army and have been teaching 4th grade students
to check the Life Events section for more information
about our classmates. Please keep in touch!

Ms. Catherine Stanford
510 Stone Drive
Stanton, MS 39765, 662-454-4051
E-Mail: catherine27@yahoo.com

Ms. Pam Hughes Foster
425 West Simpson Ave
Simpsonville, SC 29681, 864-963-9532
E-Mail: pamfoster@earthlink.net

Mrs. Jonny Williams
54 Palmetto Street #3
Orangeburg, SC 29115, 803-573-4018
E-Mail: jonnywilliams98@yahoo.com

Converse Fund Class Chair:

Mrs. Kendall Armstrong Robinson
Mississippi Valley Chapter, GA

September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

Holly Burnside is pleased to report that after
two plus years of ACM, she is now a full
time employee. She will be an Associate Quality
Manager with the DPMG (Dental Practice
Management Group) based in the Dallas area.

Kathryn Kelly Sums was recently married in
Florida and has just moved down from
Ashdale, KY. Kathryn Newcomb lives in Fort
from New York.
Cassie Thompson O’Dell and husband
Bill are happy to announce that they have started their
own landscaping company, and are now
involved in farming and raising cattle.
Cherisse Drohan in St. Petersburg, with
guitar and singing again. She finished her third
d CD and is playing all over Georgia, and SC, and
in Tennessee.

March 2002 Class Participation: 35%

E-mail: mrs@acworth.org

Alumnae Weekend, 2003

Representative: Ms. Betty Pringle
305 Mallard Court
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464, 843-216-1184
E-Mail: Epange@triad.rr.com

Converse Fund Class Chairs:

Mrs. Clayton Kearse Walter
St. Petersburg, FL 33701, 727-239-4020
E-Mail: claytonw@acworth.org

September 2002 Class Participation: 2%

Miss Catherine Alexander
752 Woodland Drive
Mauldin, SC 29662, 864-234-7648
E-Mail: cales@919@wurlink.net

Ms. Janet Sherwood
4880 Mayfair Road
Greenville, NC 27834, 252-578-3110
E-Mail: janets@acworth.org

Alumnae Weekend, 2002

Representatives:

Ms. Carolyn Saylor
1234 Saylor Drive
Chattanooga, GA 30701, 706-896-8634
E-Mail: Shannon@jonesministry.com

Ms. Shannon Givens Jaynes
Ms. Candy Moore
Class of 2002 Class Participation: 2%

Hello Class of 1997! Thank you to those who had time to respond to my email. Laura
Kennedy has recently moved from Spartanburg to
Lancaster, SC to begin her position as Executive Director for Wellford Elementary School in Spartanburg.
School District 5. Sandy Blake Caldwell and her husband Michael have welcomed a daughter, Bailey Michi,
Peaches City, GA, to Atlanta. She is with Delta as
an international sales representative. She recently
Uptown received a master’s degree in counseling from
Clemson and is a clinical therapist in Colorado. She is currently being
trained on a variety of subjects and businesses.

Alumnae Weekend, 2004

Representatives:

Ms. Katie Abbott Kluttz
11 Serverove Drive
Jackson, MS 39269, 662-383-7478
E-Mail: kaittiekluttz@yahoo.com

Mary Angel Stewart Young
418b N. Highland Avenue
Spartanburg, SC 29304, 864-342-1819
E-Mail: mariyoung@charter.net

Converse Fund Class Chair:

Ms. Jada Wood

September 2002 Class Participation: 14%

Greetings classmates! We’ve heard from lots of
you this summer and had the pleasure of hearing from many
of you. Please do us a favor and let us know about the exciting
good news or clever ideas you may have about how to
celebrate our blessings together as a class. Being
back in Spartanburg has biased me (Angel) with the
converse spirit! Sharen Bowers has moved to Kansas City.
Gretchen Barwegen Bagwell
prominent career worker with the Department of Juvenile Justice
on display downtown to be auctioned. The
is
Mrs. Gretchen Barwegen Bagwell
Kay Liner Little
CLASS NOTES

Kristin Burris '02 EdS

While working at a youth camp in 1996, Kristin Burris befriended a camper who suffered an abusive childhood. "Even though this girl was only 13-years-old, she had already lived a lifetime filled with abuse," says Kristin. "And on top of that, her father had recently committed suicide." Kristin was so affected by the camper’s story that she knew she wanted to devote her life to helping abuse victims.

Kristin enrolled in the Marriage and Family Therapy Degree Program at Converse after completing her undergraduate degree from Wofford College in 1997. Upon graduating in 2002, she was immediately offered the position of Director of Clinical Services at the Sexual Trauma and Counseling Center based in Greenwood, S.C., a position that she has since been offered at the Conway office.

According to Kristin, who supervises a staff of five counselors, the agency provides services in four distinct areas: counseling services, mental health and medical counselors, mental and health counselors, and counseling centers based in downtown Greenwood, S.C., a position that she has been offered at the Conway office.

A trained forensic interviewer and evaluator, Kristin says the reward for a job well done may come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion. "Many times, a job well done may not come in an obvious fashion.

University and spent the summer in Ecuador studying Spanish and working in a clinic for the indigent. Elizabeth and Alison recently completed the National Board Certification process for teachers. Alison has been honored with the Teacher of the Year Award at Windsor Elementary in Columbia, South Carolina, her husband, and their two girls, Wilson and Emily, recently moved to Mt. Pleasant. Brooke and her husband recently moved from Alabama to Tennessee. Helen continues to enjoy life in DC as he recently moved to Detroit to be near his grandmother and is in a master's degree program at the University of Michigan.

"Many thanks to Helen for sharing lots of news about classmates that we have missed that were not with us for all four years at Converse. Kathryn Trussell Hinds, husband Jeff, and their young son, Michael, live in Pompano, Fl. Jeff is in the landscaping business and Kathryn is a math teacher at Gulf Breeze High School (where she and Helen graduated). Alison Johannson Parrish completed her undergraduate degree from the Medical College of Georgia and has also completed a master’s degree. Alison and her husband have two two-year-old sons. After living in Manhattan for the last couple of years, Erin Con has moved to Norfolk, VA. Jenny Deveau has bought this summer in her hometown of Yorktown, Va. Francis Episcopal Church in Greensboro, NC, taking youth groups to DC, St. Louis, and the Atlanta Olympics. Autumn Goshak Cerventes, her husband, and son, Andrew, have moved from Stanter DC to Wappingers Falls, NY. Patagonie Spain spent her summer in Italy teaching English. Marti Glenn and I saw Alex Galaviz Labor Day weekend as she was preparing for a trip to New York City to see the US Open and attend baseball games. Marti, Natalie Spigner, and recently helped host an event at Bonnie’s Hall Plantation that raised over $11000 for breast cancer research! We were very pleased with the great show of support! Be certain to review the Life Events section for more news about our classmates. Congratulations to all of you for your many accomplishments and continued dedication to career and family. I hope everyone has had a wonderful April 25-27, 2003 for our 50th year reunion! You will be hearing more about all the festivities in the months to come! Please keep in touch and send news to me at any time! I look forward to hearing from each of you!

CLASS OF 2001

Next Reunion: Alumnae Weekend, 2006

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Converse Fund Class Chair:
Ms. Bridgett Vortega
September 2002 Class Participation: 1%

Happy Holidays, Rev. David Ginger Beckmann