

-EXPLORATION-

CONVERSE

MAGAZINE

WINTER 2010

Musician Scores Big in Sri Lanka

Legal Ideals vs. Human Nature

Impressions from a Western Wanderer

Lacrosse Trailblazers



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FIRESIDE CHATS SPARK CREATIVE MINDS

Fireside chats are just one of the many ways Converse prepares students to make a difference in our world. President Fleming hosts small groups of students in her home for a casual dinner and conversation to explore topics ranging from current events to women's issues. By probing their minds, challenging them with new perspectives and encouraging spirited debate, she takes a personal and hands-on approach to equipping Converse women with inquisitive and creative minds.

Through the years, Converse graduates have been widely recognized for their ability to tackle any topic, adapt to any circumstance and succeed in any endeavor they undertake. This Converse hallmark is intrinsically woven into the experiences that connect generations of alumnae.

THE PHILIP K. AND ELLEN L. ASHERMAN '85 CHALLENGE



Ellen Lanford Asherman '85 and her husband Philip believe Converse's mission of educating women for personal and professional success builds a better future for us all. Recognizing the central role the Converse Annual Fund plays in this process, they have stepped forward with a \$50,000 challenge gift to inspire others to join them in supporting Converse students.

For each donor who increases her/his support of the Converse Annual Fund from the 2008-2009 fiscal year or makes a new gift, Ellen and Philip will match the increased or new amount up to \$50,000.

Every fireside chat, every creative connection, every opportunity a young woman has at Converse is possible because supporters like you believe in Converse. We need YOU to help meet the challenge!

JOIN IN THE
CHALLENGE TODAY

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THE MAGIC BUSINESS



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About the Cover:

Natasha Senanayake '12 is featured on page 9 in "Musician Scores Big in Sri Lanka."

The tradition of New Year's resolutions encourages us to
push ourselves,
raise our expectations,
envision new possibilities
and ultimately commit to action for the coming year.

As the legendary American aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart (1897-1937) acknowledged, "The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity. The fears are paper tigers. You can do anything you decide to do. You can act to change and control your life; and the procedure, the process is its own reward."

Just two years ago, Converse ushered in a new strategic vision and plan—our blueprint to expand, enhance and energize our community for the twenty-first century. This resolution set Converse on a proactive course to become nationally recognized as an excellent master's university, acclaimed as a center for creative thinking and learning and a community that produces engaged citizens who effect positive change. That vision is now truly taking shape with such significant accomplishments as the opening of our newly renovated and first "green" building, Kuhn Hall; the groundbreaking for student apartment housing; the launch of competitive lacrosse and swimming intercollegiate athletic teams; and Converse's first Fulbright assistantship recipient in many years, Megan Madison '09, one of only two students in the nation to be selected for positions in Jordan. Guiding these actions, decisions and achievements have been seven core values—excellence, integrity, exploration, diversity, respect, community and progress—enduring beliefs about the distinct aspects of a Converse education.

As the world's first female aviator, Amelia Earhart is a great explorer and a model inspiration to help us launch both the year 2010 and this issue of the *Converse Magazine* themed "Exploration" from our core values. The stories herein demonstrate how Converse students, alumnae and faculty are committed to adventure, compelled to think critically and creatively in the acquisition of knowledge and skills, and driven to discover and advance scholarship, disciplines, professions and perspectives through hands-on learning and leadership.

Through her San Francisco-based Wild Rainbow African Safaris, Jody Cole '84 helps to broaden others' experiential knowledge and understanding of the global community in which we live. Recognizing the potential for a more effective child welfare system, Dr. Monica McCoy, Associate Professor of Psychology, is actively researching juror perceptions in cases of alleged child maltreatment and measuring knowledge of child abuse laws among mandated reporters. The research of Jenny Woodruff '01, a doctoral candidate at Duke University, explores the impact of hip-hop music on the lives of young girls.

The Converse commitment to exploration has encouraged students and recent alumnae to experience people, places and ideas beyond the familiar, expanding their compassion and their comfort zones. Teaching English in China awakened Kelsey Smith '08 to the multitude of social misperceptions in the world. Elly MacPhail '09 became intimately acquainted with the plight of women survivors of domestic abuse through her participation in Finding Voice, a performance piece written by survivors during sessions with Dr. Elizabeth York, Associate Professor of Music Therapy at Converse. Natasha Senanayake '12, whose first symphonic commission was debuted by the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka last summer, knows first hand the rewards of taking risks. The January Term study/travel course "Religion and Culture of India" brings Converse students face-to-face with the unfamiliar places, people, cultures and issues of continental India.

As scientist and anthropologist Margaret Mead so eloquently urged, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has." Whether it is through the Creative Collaboration Grant Program that supports cross-departmental and interdisciplinary projects or the expansion and success of our student-faculty collaborative research program or the



President Fleming and Converse students celebrate the groundbreaking for new apartment housing

collective generosity of 41 families and individuals who committed over \$12.7 million in just 90 days to support the apartment housing project, I marvel at the incredible faculty and staff, trustees and alumnae, friends and students of Converse who together push boundaries and effect positive change. We have taken the most difficult step: We have chosen to act. And, the possibilities for the entire Converse community are limitless.

Here's to a New Year of motivating resolutions and inspiring actions!

Betsy

Elizabeth A. Fleming, PhD
President

EXPLORATION compels us to think critically and creatively in the acquisition of knowledge and skills; to discover and enrich scholarship and research, disciplines, methods and vocations through hands-on learning and leadership and through discovery, discourse and debate.



They went in search of the kind of adventure that shocks the system and turns perspectives inside-out, a comfort zone-shattering experience that makes for lifelong memories. And from the moment Gwen Stembridge '10 stepped off the plane in India last January, she knew she and her nine classmates had found it.

For the vocal performance major from Atlanta and her nine classmates, the impact was immediate and nearly overwhelming.

“You really start to understand yourself and what you are made of in these types of situations.”

prepared for it. And then walking around outside and seeing all the trash just everywhere. That's how most people operate in India – when you're done with your potato chips, you just throw the bag or the wrapper on the ground.”

“As soon as we got off the airplane, we were hit with this smell and thickness in the air,” says Gwen. “Our professors warned us beforehand about the pollution and the smell, but you're still not really

The two-week trip – the main feature of the January Term study/travel course Religion and Culture of India led by Dr. Sherry Fohr, Associate Professor of Religion, and Dr. Jan LeFrancois, Associate Professor of Psychology – would prove to be much more than seeing first-hand the differences in environmental regulations and norms in India. It was just the type of experience the professors had in mind for their students.

“There are two types of exploration that occurs on these trips,” says Dr. Fohr, a member of the Converse faculty since 2005. “There is the exploration that is pretty obvious, because you

go to a country and experience the differences, the culture and the people. And it's much different than watching it on TV. You just cannot approximate a different country on TV.

“Then there is an internal exploration that occurs. You really start to understand yourself and what you are made of in these



Dr. Sherry Fohr, Dr. Jan LeFrancois and the student travelers in front of the Taj Mahal

types of situations. You determine whether you can rise to the challenge of not just tolerating the differences and getting through the trip, but really learning from them and engaging them.”

Leading a group of students on the trip reminded Dr. Fohr of her first trip to India as an undergraduate. She lived and studied in India as a Fulbright Scholar, and later earned a PhD in Indian religion from the University of Virginia.

“The first time I went to India, I thought there was no way I could do it,” she remembers. “I was terrified. When I first got off the plane, I thought everything is different except the sky is blue and there is gravity. Everything else was different. Poverty in India is different from poverty in the US. Here, a poor person can have a roof over their head and a TV. There, that's middle class. Going to India is not like going to Europe. Compared to India, Europeans are almost exactly like us.



The Challenge

Students Experience Life Vastly Different from Their Own

“That first year was transformative for me and it turned out to be one of the best years of my life. I always wanted to create that kind of experience for college students and this Converse course was the first time I was able to do that.”

Such a goal fits perfectly with Converse’s efforts to challenge and push students’ learning beyond mere specialization in their chosen major. And on this particular trip, in addition to learning about Hindu culture and religion, students were “immersed in Indian culture and challenged to modify their behavior accordingly,” Dr. Fohr explains.

The students spent three nights in the homes of local host families. Away from the swirl of the cities the group visited, many of the most indelible impressions were made during the evening and early-morning hours the students spent with their hosts. It was a time for shared meals, laughter and questions that resulted in a highly personal cultural exchange.

“By far, the experience of staying with my host family will stick with me the most, because we saw how they live,” says Anna Lockamy ’10. “The family I stayed with was very traditional.

The role of the woman in this family was something you would read about in a book – she had to keep her face covered outside of the bedroom because her father-in-law lived with them. She couldn’t speak or sit down if her father-in-law was in the room. It really made me appreciate the role of women in America and the rights and freedoms we have. But the reality is that there are still places where this is the norm.”



Anna Lockamy '10 with her hostess, Krishna

Later at night, after dinner and cleanup chores were completed, the woman, whose name was Krishna, would come into the room where Anna and another student were staying. Krishna would visit with them for several hours.

“We felt like we were her relief in a way because she could come into our room and take off her veil and talk to us about her life, her wedding, show us her photo album, and stay up with us until midnight,” Anna says. “After the second night we had warmed up and felt more confident asking questions. We asked her about why she was not

able to show her face and speak when her father-in-law was in the room, and she basically said that’s just the way it is and you don’t question it or change it.”

Indeed, while the nights with the host families offered some of the best learning opportunities

of the trip, they also provided some of the starkest contrasts between the American and Indian cultures. And without question the contrasts between the two countries are intense, making for a trip that at times tested the students mentally and emotionally. One of the most difficult aspects of the trip for Gwen was the way she and some of her classmates were perceived by the locals.

“The staring was difficult to get used to – they stare at women in general, and I’m blond and a few other girls on the trip with lighter colored hair got stared at quite a bit,” she recalls. “They have some negative stereotypes of women in America, especially blond women.”

In the end, Dr. Fohr said, the students relished the opportunity to experience a way of life much different than anything they have ever known. “I was really proud of the students,” she says. “They rose to the challenge.”

“The role of the woman in this family was something you would read about in a book... But the reality is that there are still places where this is the norm.”

The Magic Business

Sometimes, when good planning and perfect timing intersect, moments that seem nothing short of magical arise. These are the kind of moments that produce memories that never fade. These are the moments that one looks back on and notes as having made the journey worthwhile.

It could be said that Jody Cole '84 is in the magic business.

The official company line is a little more straightforward. Jody is in the process of launching her own adventure travel business. Based in the Bay Area of California and specializing in guiding groups of 10 to 12 travelers on two- to three-week treks in Africa, Wild Rainbow African Safaris is one of a growing number of such ventures nationwide. Industry analysts estimate that adventure travel and ecotourism grow as much as 10% per year.

Jody, however, is no newcomer to the idea. She has made nearly 30 trips to Africa over the last decade, including leading half a dozen treks herself. Her experiences in Africa have been a big part of a lifelong quest for a deeper understanding of herself and her place in the world.

"I'm the kind of person who wants to do things as big as possible and I want the whole world to know what I'm doing," she says. "I am making this company all about making other people's dreams come true."

Doing so provides Jody with the opportunity to witness other people undergo personal transformations. "I have a very distinct, almost palpable or tangible privilege – I get to watch people experience moments that will change them forever in some cases," she explains. "More often than not, we don't know that we've changed until after the

fact. Sometimes we have moments when we realize something has just happened and we never forget it. But more often, we realize later that something has shifted. The privilege I have is I get to watch that shift.

For example, Jody loves to tell the story of a corporate attorney – "a short woman with permanent wrinkles between her eyes where she furrowed her eyebrows. She just had a very tight, almost pained, face all of the time, but she was clearly very good at what she does. I was so thankful to get her on my trip."

One morning, about 10 days into a two-week trip, the group was up early on a game drive. About 5:30 in the morning, with the sun just coming up and producing what Jody describes as a "golden hue coming through the trees," the group came upon a lion kill. As they watched the lions



Jody and her travel mates sport Converse shirts in Africa



stretching, licking their paws and otherwise lording over the remnants of a buffalo carcass, Jody snapped a photo of the attorney.

“She was just barely holding the binoculars on her fingertips, and, for the first time, she didn’t have a crease in her face. All the stress had just left her. I knew in that moment that she had shifted. And I got to watch that. It was fantastic.”

Such a “shift” is something that Jody understands well. She experienced it on her first trip to Africa, a trip she took in the wake of a conversation with a dear friend who had been diagnosed with AIDS and had been, in her words, “at death’s door” on more than one occasion. “I was 35 years old and I called this man one day looking for help,” she recalls. “I was bemoaning my life and he said something that stopped me in my tracks. He asked me if I knew I was going to be dead in one month, what regrets would I have. I knew immediately what it was.”

Within a month, Jody had set up her first trip to Africa, an incredible seven-week journey that included climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

“That conversation changed my life,” she says. “I had my jaw drag the ground for those seven weeks in Africa. I had an opportunity to go on another trek shortly after that and that’s when I made the shift from ‘I went to Africa,’ to ‘I am going to be going to Africa.’ That led to where I am now, owning my own company.”

All of which is a far cry from the two-year stint she put in at Merrill Lynch after graduating from Converse with a major in economics/accounting. (“Hated it,” she says simply of that time.) But within the context of the larger lessons she

learned as a Converse student, she says it makes sense.

A native of Alabama, Jody first learned about Converse through her cousin, Josie Rudolph ’78. “My senior year in high school, I went to visit her and the campus and I loved it. I could have gone to the University of Alabama, but I wanted to be something more than just a number. I absolutely loved my life at Converse. There was never a moment that I wished I hadn’t chosen to go to Converse. I was not the best student but I was involved in student government, and very involved in student life.”

Jody put her experience as a student leader to good use after leaving Merrill Lynch, becoming a fundraiser for several gay and human rights organizations in the Bay Area. She remains an active part of the Converse community, serving as her class representative and recently having joined the Board of Visitors.

“I know that so much of who I am today has a lot to do with the privileges and responsibilities I was given at Converse,” she says. “It was the perfect place for me – the size of the College and its culture allowed me to be a full participant in my life there.”





From Beethoven to Missy Elliott



Jenny Woodruff's Hip-Hop Conversion

It was like magic," Jenny Woodruff '01 recalls of the moment she first set foot in the Boys and Girls Club of Durham, North Carolina.



A graduate student in Duke University's music program, Jenny had decided to focus her dissertation research on hip-hop music. The young women attending the Boys and Girls Club programs proved just the community she hoped to find. "They were listening to hip-hop all the time. They were dancing to it. They were talking about it. I was interested in finding out how hip-hop affects real-life people, and from the moment I walked in, I realized so much that I

hadn't thought about before," she explains.

"And I was surprised how much I loved doing the fieldwork. It was so much fun." Jenny came to hip-hop and fieldwork via a circuitous route. A classically trained vocal performance major at Converse, she "desperately wanted to be an opera singer," as she puts it. She was disappointed when she did not receive a casting call for the opera production her senior year. Out of her disappointment, though, she found a strong desire to craft her own senior recital program and a determination to "perform in my own way."

"I planned three performances," she says, "I did all the translations and the historical background research, and I wrote all the program notes. I was also writing my senior thesis at the time. I really got excited about linking performance with academic work."

When Jenny began her studies at Duke, she grew increasingly interested in popular music, in part because many of her fellow students were studying hip-hop, bluegrass and other popular styles. She recalls, "I was inspired because I was reading work by

cultural anthropologists and feminist theorists, and, at the same time, I was hearing hip-hop because other students were listening to it. I became intrigued by the idea of women in hip-hop, and how they make their way in a culture so steeped in misogyny. So I turned that idea into a dissertation project."

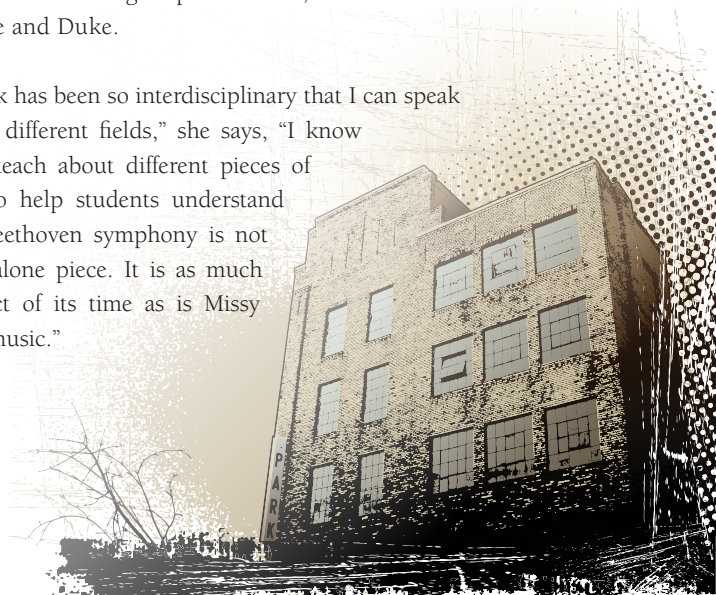
What she found is that the girls with whom she worked "are really capable of parsing out the words they hear and putting them in context," even though they are generally considered "the most susceptible to misogynistic images, because they are mostly at or below the poverty line, and already marked 'at risk.'"

"I became intrigued by the idea of women in hip-hop, and how they make their way in a culture so steeped in misogyny."

She adds, "I'm not arguing for or against kids listening to hip-hop. But the music doesn't just wash over them. They live their lives, and music is a part—one part—of their lives. I just don't see that it has the detrimental effects some have claimed."

Jenny has finished her writing and is set to defend her dissertation, and she has made plans to leave North Carolina for Maine, where she has accepted a visiting professorship. As she prepares for her move and her new teaching responsibilities, she reflects on her studies at Converse and Duke.

"My work has been so interdisciplinary that I can speak to many different fields," she says, "I know how to teach about different pieces of music, to help students understand that a Beethoven symphony is not a stand-alone piece. It is as much a product of its time as is Missy Elliott's music."





Musician Scores Big in Sri Lanka



Most composers are in graduate school when they pen their first orchestral piece. It can be a painstakingly grueling process fraught with rewrites and meandering ideas. And even then there are no guarantees that it will be performed. But Natasha Senanayake '12 is bucking that tradition. She began her sophomore year at Converse having recently enjoyed the thrill of hearing her first symphonic

commission performed by the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka during its August 1st Young Soloists Concert. Not only did she score big with this accomplishment so early in her undergraduate career, but she is also the youngest composer ever to receive a commission from the orchestra in her native country.

"It is difficult to describe the thrilling experience of hearing the piece performed by the full orchestra after hearing it only in my head for so long," says Natasha, whose reputation as a musical prodigy had been cemented years earlier. Hailing from a family filled with musicians and composers, she remembers being exposed to classical music when she was five-years-old. Later, as a student at the Ladies College in Colombo, she was extremely active in most of the school's musical activities, and was even appointed leader of the school's orchestra and leader of its choir.

The commissioned piece, *Of Shores Near and Far*, creates environmental atmospherics of her native Sri Lanka and her new home of South Carolina. "I was able to weave a common melody found in traditional Sri Lankan folk music with music inspired by the beauty of South Carolina in the spring. Sounds of early morning birdcalls lead into the Sri Lankan folk tune, which is introduced by

the French horn. The contrasting middle section of the piece includes a soulful love theme—one could picture a lone fisherman riding out to sea on a moonlit night. The bird calls return during the last section of the piece. It really is a fusion of musical parts."

As she set about composing the piece, Natasha leaned heavily on the advice and support of her primary teacher and mentor Dr. Scott Robbins, associate dean of the Petrie School of Music and professor of musicology and composition. "When Natasha approached me with the project, I wanted her to understand that what she was about to embark upon was extremely challenging and that she had permission to say that she wasn't ready for it." Robbins knows what he's talking about; he has received over 50 awards for his compositions which are widely performed and professionally recognized.

"It is difficult to describe the thrilling experience of hearing the piece performed by the full orchestra after hearing it only in my head for so long."

Having a seasoned composer by her side was the equivalent of a pick-up basketball player having Michael Jordan in his corner to offer advice on how to navigate potential pitfalls. "A common trap for some composers is keeping the entire orchestra playing at the same time," Robbins says. "Some composers will get nervous if everyone is not playing. But there are lots of orchestras in which only two performers are actually playing while everyone else is silent for, say twenty seconds or more."

Of Robbins, Natasha says that he "was the main driving force behind this project. He encouraged me and supported me as he always does, and saw the composition to its end."



Kelsey and Yuki at Disneyland Tokyo with Captain Jack Sparrow of Pirates of the Caribbean



Students wrote wishes on strips of paper to decorate this bamboo shoot for the star festival



Kelsey with one of her students

Impressions from a Western Wanderer

Kelsey Smith '08 and her "Itchy Feet"

"How did I get here? That's a question that I probably won't be able to answer until this experience is all said and done. I'm not sure how assisting in the cultural immersion of Japanese pre teens is going to help me achieve my eventual goals—but I am in it for the ride!"

Kelsey Smith

January 8, 2009

And so begins Kelsey Smith's mirthful account of her year in Japan, teaching English to junior high school students, following her graduation from Converse.

Her online blog, known as "Itchy Feet," is at once hilarious, candid and perceptive as it details the day-to-day joys and trials of her immersion into Japanese culture. Following are excerpts from the blog, offering a glimpse into the life of an American abroad:

Friday, January 16, 2009

Although Monday was a holiday, I consider this my first full week of work and so I thought I would tell you about it.

Each English class starts with a standard greeting. The teacher says, "Good morning class," and they respond, "Good morning Ms.—." Then the teacher asks, "How are you today?" And with a single voice and zero enthusiasm, they all respond, "I'm fine, thank you. And you?" So, whenever I see a student outside of class they normally say, "Good morning Kelsey-sensei," and I respond by asking them how they are and they always say, "I'm fine, thank you. And you?" Trying to get them to say anything else is like pulling teeth. I asked someone how his lunch was today and he said, "I'm fine, thank you. And you?"

Some funny observations about school:

- About half of the boys in second and third grade do the glam hair thing. (You know—poofy, hair-sprayed. Some even use bobby pins.) I have a hard time not giggling at it.
- Two of the second grade girls have decided that they are calling me Natalie-sensei because I look more like a Natalie.
- One of the second grade girls asked me what my blood type was. I really wanted to ask her if she was planning on drinking it later, but then someone explained to me that your blood type reveals information about your character, just like your astrological sign. (Apparently I'm a good person because I'm type O.)
- Everyday I bow at least 100 times.

Monday, April 20, 2009

Last year I happened to be in DC during the Cherry Blossom Festival. So, I have been excited about seeing the real cherry blossoms here pretty much since I arrived. It's kind of weird, though, that so much fuss is made over a tree that only blooms for two weeks tops!

The Japanese word sakura refers to the cherry tree that produces cherry blossoms. Sakura also is used for the cherry blossoms themselves. They come in two colors, white and pink, with a variety of shades. The most beautiful, in my opinion, are the barely pink flowers, and the shade is also called sakura. (Are you confused yet?)

The sakura is present everyday in Japanese society. It is on the front of the 100-yen coin. It is also present in the form of merchandise that becomes available starting in mid-February: sakura-themed lunch sets, silk sakura, sakura-scented room spray, tea sets, coffee mugs, lip balm, hand cream, etc. And because the flower itself is edible, there is a slew of cakes, jellies, teas and other beverages that are available.

I had set a goal of pressing some sakura to laminate, but the little jerks don't fall off the tree as a whole flower. Instead, the petals blow off, rather poetically, leaving a pile of pink and white specks on the ground. But by the time I had some free time to walk around and pick a few flowers, they had all fallen down.

Sunday, June 28, 2009

I thought I would share a conversation from this week, because I always find them amusing.

Tuesday, after school I was standing by the shoe cubbies, returning from bidding farewell to the students, when two of my second grade students decided to ask me for the billionth time if I am married. It went something like this:

Student: "Sensei, married?"

Me: "No"

Student: "Yubi-wa" (while pointing at my hand)

Me: "No, this is my college ring."

Student: "College?"

Me: "Yes, school—a very high school." (while pointing upwards)

Student: "Sensei, mimi —"

Me: "Ah, yes, earrings." (while pointing at my fake pearl studs)

Student: "Kore-non des?"

Me: "Pearl."

Student: "Pearl?"

Me: "Yes, fake pearl —"

Student: "Oh. Bye-bye!"

(All of my conversations with students end abruptly when they run out of things to say.)

Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Last week my friend Yuki and I went to Tokyo Disneyland and rode "It's a Small World." When I told my mom about it on the phone, we started talking about American stereotypes, and I realized that they don't translate to other countries. For some reason, while Yuki and I were on the ride I decided that I needed to tell her where all of the children were from. I felt really stupid for doing this because Yuki is well educated and perfectly capable of discerning where the children were from on her own, so at the end of the ride I apologized to her. But she thanked me because she said of all the times she has been on the ride, she never really understood where the children were supposed to be from.

My mom pointed out that the ride is based on 1960's-era American stereotypes of the world. For example, Yuki had heard the word "tartan" before, but she didn't really understand that tartans are patterns associated with Scottish clans until I explained it to her. She also didn't know what the Can-Can is, and associated the Can-Can dresses with western saloons. It didn't help that the girls were Can-Canning around the Eiffel Tower—because the tower on the ride was painted red, which made it look like Tokyo Tower.

When we got to the Asian part of the ride, Yuki pointed out that the Chinese girls were wearing Japanese kimonos, and that the Japanese girls shouldn't have blue-black hair.

On some level I knew that the way you see the world depends on where you are from, what culture you come from, and what your personal beliefs and comforts are. But I guess it didn't occur to me how different those perceptions are. I thought for sure everyone would associate yodeling with Switzerland, but in Japan they don't associate yodeling with anything.

It made me wonder about how people see me. It's obvious that I am foreign. But I wonder if they assume that I am like every other American, and what behaviors they would ascribe to a typical American. It's interesting to ponder, but I try not to let it bother me. I am determined to be the best, multi-cultural gaijin ever!



Kelsey and Yuki wear their yukatas at the Summer Festival



A day trip to the Imperial Palace in Tokyo



Sakura (cherry blossoms) in bloom

Find "Itchy Feet" in its entirety at
<http://itchyelffeet.blogspot.com>.

LEGAL IDEALS vs. Human Nature

by Dr. Monica L. McCoy, Associate Professor of Psychology

About the Author:

Dr. McCoy's training is in experimental psychology with an emphasis on developmental issues. Her current research deals with juror perceptions in cases of alleged child maltreatment, and measuring knowledge of child abuse laws among mandated reporters. She has recently published a textbook, *Child Abuse and Neglect*, with the Psychology Press of the Taylor and Francis Group.

A statue of the Goddess Themis – commonly called Lady Justice or Blind Justice – adorns many courthouses. She holds a sword in one hand to exemplify power, scales in the other hand, and often is blindfolded. The scales and the blindfold represent the ideal within our legal system that justice is blind to prejudice and bias. This ideal is also reflected by the U.S. Supreme Court motto, 'Equal Justice Under the Law.' Despite these statues and mottos, few believe humans are fully capable of setting aside their own

If a mother forgets to drop her child off at daycare and leaves the child in a hot car, does it matter whether she is going to work as a waitress at Hooters or as a school administrator?

biases and prejudices in order to make objective judgments.

At the intersection of this ideal and the reality of human nature is the fascinating field of psycholegal research, the focus of my work and publications. My students and I explore extralegal factors – those beyond the legally relevant details – that influence juror decisions. These may include anything from race, age, gender and socio-economic status to employment history, family connections, appearance and more. Lawyers have long used their own theories about extralegal factors to develop case strategy, but psychologists use the tools of empirical research to test these questions with results that range from the expected to the disturbing.

In 2007, Converse student Jennifer Gray and I published a paper about how a defendant's gender and relationship to the victim (whether parent or stranger) impacted decisions in cases of alleged sexual assault. Holding all other details constant, we found that males were more likely to be found guilty, particularly those said to be the father. The jurors' decisions were influenced by their biases about who is likely to commit

sexual abuse, which is not necessarily a bad thing because males are more likely to commit sexual abuse than females. But perhaps we should question which came first: the bias that females are less likely to commit sexual abuse crimes or the low conviction rate for females? Further complicating the issue of extralegal factors is that not everyone has the same biases. In cases of alleged sexual assault, female jurors are consistently more likely to convict than male jurors. Women also tend to perceive victims as more believable and defendants as less believable than do male jurors. Lawyers might use this information as they advise clients about going to trial versus accepting a plea bargain and as they select jurors.

As is the case with most research, finding the answer to one question spurs us on to tackle a dozen new questions.

In another research project, my students and I were struck by the disparity in the charges against women when young children die of hypothermia after accidentally being left in the car when the women go to work. Some women receive no criminal charges while others are charged with homicide. How can the same behavior with the same result generate vastly different legal responses? We first decided to examine race (African American vs. Caucasian) and the relationship between the woman and the child (mother vs. daycare provider). We found no racial differences, but found that mothers were held significantly more responsible than daycare providers. A partial explanation for this is found in the research participants' descriptions of the mother vs. the caregiver: they tended to perceive the mother as 'selfish' but the daycare workers as 'busy,' 'hurried' and 'distracted.' Our first study led to a second, soon to be complete, in which we are exploring how the occupation of the mother impacts juror perceptions. If a mother forgets to drop her child off at daycare and leaves the child in a hot car, does it matter whether she is going to work as a waitress at Hooters or as a school administrator? From the perspective of Blind Justice, it should not.



...few believe humans are fully capable of setting aside their own biases and prejudices in order to make objective judgments.

It is not enough merely to recognize that our nation's ideal of 'equal justice under the law' is one for which we strive but fail to achieve. At Converse, we will continue our work to discover more truths about how human nature influences courtroom decisions, and thus, ultimately, influences our ideal of liberty and justice for all.



Finding My Voice

by Elly MacPhail '09

I grew in more ways during my time at Converse than I could have ever imagined – leaving behind the comfort of familiarity to embark upon journeys that shaped and changed my life.

One such journey was my participation in *Finding Voice*, a performance piece written by women survivors of domestic violence during their music therapy sessions with Dr. Elizabeth York, associate professor of music therapy. When I auditioned for *Finding Voice* last

Finding Voice was not like other productions. My lines were written by real women who were survivors of real domestic violence.

spring, I had no idea what I was getting myself into. I had been involved in theater throughout my life, but *Finding Voice* was not like other productions. My lines were written by real women who were survivors of real domestic violence. Rehearsing the show was like going through the entire emotional experience of domestic violence every night.

Our cast members came from a wide variety of backgrounds. Some women, like me, had relatively innocent, naïve childhoods. Others had experienced domestic violence either while growing up or more recently. At our first rehearsal, we were all nervous. We didn't know each other, and we had vastly different amounts of experience with music and theatre. During rehearsals, we learned about the devastating problem of domestic violence and about the

journey survivors endure. We learned about each other, and by the night of the performance we were a tightly knit group that supported and empowered one another on the stage and off.



Elly helps malnourished and sick children in Uganda by using music therapy

Performing in *Finding Voice* was one of the most challenging experiences I have ever undertaken. But I grew immensely as a musician, as an actor and as a person.

I set out on another journey – this time quite literally – a few months after completing the coursework for my music therapy degree in May. For two months I explored the world far beyond the reaches of my comfort zone in Masese, Uganda as a volunteer with the non-profit organization Serving His Children (www.servinghischildren.org), which was founded by my cousin Renee Bach. Working with members of this small community near the capital city of Kampala, we fed over nine hundred children twice each week. We cared for sick and malnourished children, made hospital visits, and led a daily Bible club. One of the most rewarding aspects of this trip was using my music therapy training to connect with the people of Masese through music, making the language barrier irrelevant.

My four years at Converse taught me that the most meaningful experiences are often those that involve taking risks. And I eagerly await the next mountain to climb.

(Below) Elly and her cast mates rehearse for *Finding Voice*



Lacrosse Trailblazers



by Julie Redman, Head Lacrosse Coach

My entire coaching career I have entered into someone else's "system," inheriting their players and troubles, and unable to truly claim their successes. When the opportunity to launch a lacrosse program at Converse arose I was excited by the prospect of writing my own chapter, of challenging myself – even proving to myself – that I was capable of starting and growing a benchmark program.

Women's lacrosse is a fairly new sport to the South and the quality of play is developing quickly. Bringing the sport to Converse and to the broader community is both exciting and a tremendous challenge. I have been fortunate to receive incredible support both at Converse and at home from my family.

I am a hard worker who expects a lot from her athletes. It is my role to help them become better women, better teammates, as well as better players of the game. It is my job to ensure our team is prepared mentally and physically, and to ensure the passion they have for the sport is stronger after their four years at Converse.

My greatest initial challenge was to recruit a team starting in June 2008 that would begin competition in January 2009. I attended all the summer recruiting tournaments and handed out 300 business cards, making sure every club knew Converse was starting a new Division II lacrosse program.

Our inaugural team was a motley crew of basketball, soccer and volleyball players, cross country runners, dancers, artists and teachers – and we made it work. We started with only three people who had held a stick before January 15th, and finished with 18 lacrosse players who had earned the respect of their coaches and opponents. It was a special moment when our first-ever Converse lacrosse crowd went wild as we completed a pass and ran down the field to score our first goal. The fans didn't

The fans didn't know whether we did it right... Some of our players didn't even know whether we did it right, but it didn't matter – everyone was excited and proud.





know whether we did it right; most of them had to refer to the rules sheet on the back of the program. Some of our players didn't even know whether we did it right, but it didn't matter – everyone was excited and proud. Later in the season we took a team to double overtime – our athletes fought for 74 minutes to win with only seconds left on the clock.

I love the way the Converse community has embraced this sport they knew nothing about. They enthusiastically cheered their team on regardless of the score.

The young women on our inaugural team never gave up – never threw in the towel. They showed up every day, usually at 6 AM, and did everything I asked of them. They claimed three wins in their first season. And they helped me recruit, hosting over 40 prospective students. They were trailblazers.

Our efforts paid off, and we brought in 21 new lacrosse student-athletes in Fall 2009. These women believe in my philosophies as a coach, fit into my moral system, and have earned my respect for who they are and what they are capable of doing. They are all as motivated as I am to raise this program from being an afterthought to being a threat in only one year.

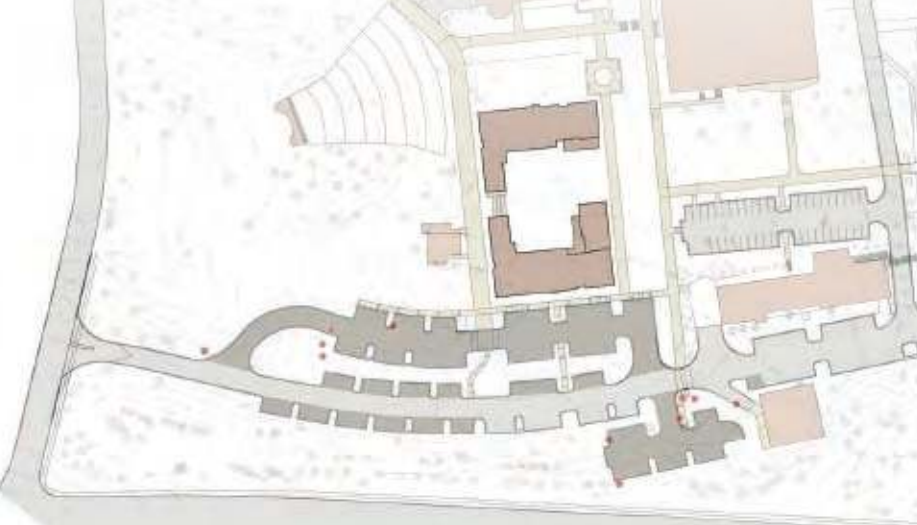
This team, including returning athletes from the inaugural team, wants to make history. They want to hold records by the time they graduate. They want to work the clinics and build our name recognition. They want to exceed the expectations of their friends and opponents who say, "it can't be done by a second-year team." We have a total of 30 student-athletes on our roster, a number I didn't think we'd hit until at least the third year of recruiting. We can now practice 12-on-12 full field; every drill will finish with a shot on goal; sheer numbers will force everyone to give their all in practice to earn playing time in games.

We're off to a great start: The team debuted at home against the Clemson University club team in November, resulting in a win for the Valkyries. I hope you'll join us when the 2009-2010 season officially opens at home on Saturday, February 27 against Pfeiffer University.



We're ON THE MOVE

Converse Apartment Housing Coming Soon



President Fleming and student leaders break ground

The Converse campus will soon be home to new apartment housing for students. The prime real estate is an investment of \$12.3 million designed to meet LEED (Leadership in Energy Efficiency) standards and bring sophisticated style plus the comforts of home to on-campus living.

Opening in February 2011, the apartments were designed with student input to offer a variety of floor plans that include a living room, full-service kitchen, private bathrooms, and wide-open spaces for everything from band parties and pep rallies to picnics and porch sitting. The apartment project is the first phase of a \$43 million master plan that will impact every residence hall on campus.



Senior class president Anna Lockamy '10 presents President Fleming and Board Chair Billy Webster with a photo of the class to be hung in the pavillion

(Below) Students cheer on the arrival of President Fleming and SGA president Kaitlyn Price as they drive to the groundbreaking site in a dump truck





View the apartment housing project on our construction web cam at converse.edu/apartmenthousing.

A ROOM WITH A VIEW

Three distinct floor plans range from a duplex layout with loft bedrooms and open air balconies, to bay-window suites and townhouse-type units with large porches. A number of design elements can be attributed to the vision of our own students, whose desire for cozy study spots, central laundry rooms and plenty of green space all combine to create a unique residential community.



PATIOS, PORCHES AND A PAVILLION

With barbecues and bare feet in mind, our new apartment housing has been designed to create a neighborhood feel that is in sync with the rest of the campus. The patios and Southern style porches will overlook an open lawn in the center of the facility that is sure to inspire games of volleyball, cookouts and lounging in the sun.

A common gathering place called The Pavillion – perfect for both large groups and smaller circles of friends – will offer a fireplace, vaulted ceilings, a full kitchen and the technical capabilities necessary for performance and meeting needs.



CONVERSE

Weisiger Cup, Weisiger Scholar Athletes Set Bar for Converse Valkyries

On Founder's Day 2009, Converse unveiled two new athletic awards made possible by a \$1 million gift commitment by Agnes Weisiger '63 and her husband Ed, longtime champions for Converse College.



Converse President Betsey Fleming, Ed Weisiger, Betsy Ruppert, Converse Athletic Director Joy Couch and Lisa Weisiger

President Fleming lauded the awards during their presentation, noting "The Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athlete award enables Converse to advance two priority programs, the sciences and athletics, by providing scholarship funds that attract students who excel both academically and athletically. The Weisiger Cup provides an opportunity to celebrate a senior student-athlete who has distinguished herself as a leader, as a valuable member of the campus community and as an asset to her team."

The Weisiger Cup

Elizabeth (Betsy) Ruppert '09 of Wapakoneta, Ohio is the first recipient of the Weisiger Cup. The sterling silver, hand-engraved trophy is permanently displayed in The Weisiger Center and will bear the names of its honorees. Elizabeth was presented with a smaller engraved version.

An art education major, Ruppert's athletic accomplishments include selection as a member of NCAA Div. II All-Academic Cross Country Team, scoring the first goal ever for the new Valkyries lacrosse team, leading the cross country team to its best finish ever at the 2008 NCAA Div. II Southeast Regional,

placing among the top three runners on the cross country team for four years, and playing two years as a forward on the basketball team.

Off the court, Ruppert played an active role in the Spartanburg Chapter of Girls on the Run, a non-profit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running.

Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athletes

Incoming freshmen Elizabeth High of Chesnee, South Carolina and Jennifer Russell of Fort Mill, South Carolina were introduced as the first Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athletes. Recipients of this scholarship must have a proven record of academic success, aspire to major and pursue careers in the sciences, and exhibit strong leadership and community-building skills. Both Elizabeth and Jennifer plan to major in biology.



Jenni Russell, Ed Weisiger, Elizabeth High and Lisa Weisiger

The Weisiger Family Legacy

Agnes Weisiger, a member of the Converse Class of 1963, has made giving her life-long passion and priority. She dedicated 38 years of her life to nursing, and her philanthropy and leadership have benefited Converse and many other cultural and educational organizations throughout the Southeast. Agnes and her husband, Ed, are champions for Converse College, and their family ties to Converse include Agnes's grandmother Agnes King Watkins, Class of 1901 and daughter-in-law Lisa Bell Weisiger '84, who is a member of the Board of Trustees.

NEWS

2009 Graduate Earns Fulbright

When Jordanian officials decided to open their country to the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship program, they opted to offer only two positions. This meant that the already fierce competition for the coveted Fulbright spots would be even keener. After intense screening of applicants by American and Jordanian representatives, Converse graduating senior Megan Madison '09 was awarded one of the spots.

In September, Megan departed for Jordan to take her turn at the lectern. She aims to blend with the local Jordanian communities as the public face of America; an ambassador-like role that the Fulbright organization takes very seriously and one that suits Megan just fine.

The experience is the capstone for a collegiate career that began with obstacles that would have caused some students to give up just as their freshman year began.

"My father and older sister died during my freshman year. My father from multiple myeloma, a type of blood cancer, and my sister from breast cancer," explains

Megan, who was adopted as an infant by a Chester, Virginia family. "Everyone copes with loss differently. I originally came to Converse as a double performance major (piano and flute) but I pushed piano away because you have to practice alone in a studio and really have to feel the music you are playing, which can be highly emotional. I was at a point where I wanted to excel at something but not feel too much emotion. Converse was holding auditions for its Model Arab League team so I just threw myself into it. They wanted us to tackle issues involving Shiites, Kurds and Sunnis... people that I knew nothing about but committed myself to learning everything that I could."



Megan Madison '09, Fulbright Assistantship Recipient

Inaugural Residency for MFA in Creative Writing

In May, 16 gifted writers from throughout the country spent nine days at Converse for the inaugural residency of the new MFA in Creative Writing. A faculty of nationally prominent, award-winning authors from various genres led workshops and seminars and gave readings of their work. Many of the events were open and free of charge to the public.

"It's been amazing," said Jill Stegman, a student who lives in San Luis Obispo on the southern California coast. "The concentration of respective writers and academics is a very powerful influence. It's been very enlightening and very educational and helpful to my writing."

The program includes two nine-day residencies held on the Converse campus in May and January. During the six months between the residencies, students work individually with faculty mentors.

"One of the strengths of a low-residency format is how it introduces students to the real writing life," says Rick Mulkey, Director of the MFA Program. "Most writers have family and career obligations in addition to their writing. While students spend part of each academic year on the Converse campus during the residencies, they continue work on their writing and academic projects during the rest of the year without disruption to family and career. Plus they study in a true mentor/apprentice relationship with a gifted writer. It provides both an intensive learning environment and the flexibility that most of us need."



Members of the Inaugural MFA Residency faculty and students



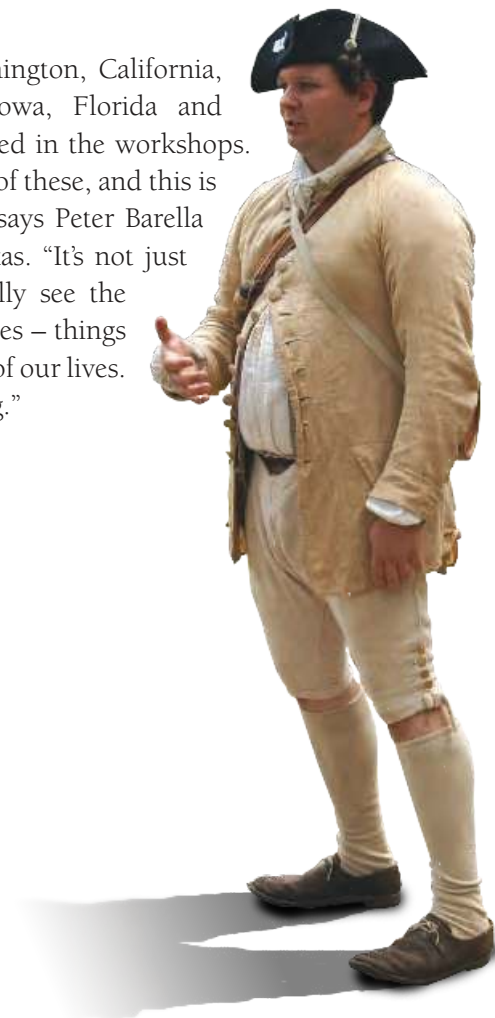
NEH Workshop Brings Nationwide K-12 Teachers to Converse

In 2007, Dr. Melissa Walker spearheaded a National Endowment for the Humanities workshop for 80 K-12 teachers about the pivotal role of the Southern Backcountry in the Revolutionary War. Thanks to the success of the first program, Dr. Walker was awarded funding to host a second round of workshops in July and August 2009.

During the two week-long sessions, teachers visited area Revolutionary War sites and learned about an ugly side of the war: much of the fighting involved Americans fighting Americans—that is Loyalist troops and militias fighting Continental troops and Patriot militias.

Walker, George Dean Johnson Jr. Professor of History at Converse and the 2007 South Carolina Professor of the Year, notes “There were three years of fighting between the Battle of Saratoga and the American victory at Yorktown. Most of that fighting took place in the South, and a lot of the real turning-point battles took place in the South. Textbooks don’t tend to reflect that, so this workshop fills a gap in their knowledge.”

Teachers from Washington, California, Texas, Michigan, Iowa, Florida and New York participated in the workshops. “I’ve been to several of these, and this is probably the best,” says Peter Barella of Port Aransas, Texas. “It’s not just a lecture. We actually see the battlefields, the homes – things we’ve read about all of our lives. That’s what’s exciting.”



Department of Art & Design Earns NASAD Accreditation

The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) awarded Converse's Department of Art & Design full accreditation following a rigorous three-year application process. NASAD is the only recognized accrediting agency in the country covering the entire field of art and design.

"The quality of our work is as strong as it is because our faculty are practicing artists who have earned hundreds of awards in printmaking, photography, sculpture, painting, drawing, ceramics, book arts and interior design," says Teresa Prater, chair of the Department of Art & Design. "NASAD qualifications are very specific, covering everything from method of instruction to course syllabi to student work and facilities. The accreditation process strengthened our

program even more because it required all department faculty members to analyze and assess everything we do,"

Converse's accreditation process was more challenging than most colleges because of the breadth of our offerings. "No other college our size offers as many degree programs as we do," Prater explains. "Most have two BA degrees. At Converse, we offer BA degrees in art history, studio art and art education as well as the only art therapy program of its kind in the Southeast. We also offer BFA degrees in studio art and interior design, and the MEd in art education."

Dexter Edgar Converse Award Presented to Champion of Education

Converse College presented its highest honor, the Dexter Edgar Converse Award, to Don Bain for his many years of dedicated service to the College and his long history of championing education in the Spartanburg community.

Presenting the award to Bain were the 2008 recipients, Betty James Montgomery '72 and her husband Walter S. Montgomery, Jr. "Don has always been a strong advocate for education," said Walter Montgomery. "Luckily for Converse, his passion extended to single-gender education, inspired in part by several members of his family who are Converse alumnae. His interest in Converse was also fueled by his work in public school education, where he saw first-hand the difference that Converse graduates made—and continue to make—across our state as teachers and administrators in our schools. He wisely recognized that an investment in the Converse education program would yield returns many times over in our public schools – and thus in the quality of life for citizens of South Carolina."

Bain's service as a Converse Trustee spanned 23 years as he, among other things, led Converse through its critical Centennial Challenge Campaign, spearheaded the renovation of Twichell Auditorium, provided clear guidance in a transition of presidential leadership and served as board chairman. Fittingly, the William Donald Bain, Jr. Room located in Wilson Hall was dedicated in Don's honor by the Board of Trustees in 1992 for "inspired and caring service to Converse College."

By supporting Converse financially through primary means of the Converse Annual Fund, Bain's generous gifts have touched practically every corner of the Converse campus—from scholarships, library acquisitions and study-travel opportunities to music and athletic necessities. "I firmly believe that women are able to reach their fullest potential in an environment such as the one provided by Converse," he says.



Nancy Bain Coté '79 and her father, Don Bain

Alumnae Association President's Message



Exploration....What a great word to describe the Converse experience. Each entering freshman is embarking on a new adventure of exploration that includes academics, relationships, self-discovery, independence and thinking. Converse offers the perfect setting for encouraging creativity and for teaching students to think critically. These young women will have the skills to explore personal development and new frontiers in the workplace in order to compete in a global world. These skills are imperative to succeed in an ever-changing world, where most people will not only frequently change jobs, but also change careers. The only constant in today's society is change; and a Converse education allows graduates to explore all possibilities for change.

Converse laid the groundwork for me to explore avenues I never thought were within my reach. The talented professors helped me learn and discover abilities that were yet to be uncovered. I had hands-on experiences that taught me leadership skills, the importance of teamwork and the necessity of integrity and honesty. I was given the key to unlock the door to life-long learning and exploration.

Converse's recently adopted strategic vision and plan was designed to enhance student exploration through all facets of academic and student life, and Converse believes so strongly that exploration is central to the college experience that we have committed ourselves to upholding exploration as one of

our core values. Students are encouraged to think critically and creatively, to embrace learning and leadership through "discovery, discourse and debate." This is perfectly in sync with Dexter Edgar Converse's ideal of teaching young women to see clearly, decide wisely and act justly.

As alumnae, we can be proud that Converse continues to offer a fertile ground for exploration to her students. For two consecutive years, the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities awarded Converse more grants to support student-faculty research projects than any other independent college in the state. Our president, Betsy Fleming, has spoken to many groups and organizations, including other college presidents, about creativity and what we are doing at Converse to encourage critical thinking.

It is "a brave new world" and Converse is ready to change with the times to explore all new possibilities. Let us do our part by referring students and contributing to the Converse Annual Fund in order to ensure Converse's place in the future and sustain the strides that have been taken to make it an excellent college for educating young women.

Grazier Connors Rhea '74
Alumnae Association President

Alumnae Director's Message

This fall the Alumnae Office has said a soft farewell to wonderful friends and welcomed a new season of change. Jane Marion Wilson '04 decided to leave the position of Director of Alumnae this summer in order to be a full-time mom to Malcolm "Mac" Jefferson Wilson born in July. I am thrilled to call Jane not only a colleague, but also a friend since our student days of studying Matisse and Cezanne in France during Winter Term. Please join me in wishing Jane well during this new and delightful time in her life, and thanking her for her amazing service and leadership during four years in this position at Converse!

I was very lucky to return home to Converse in August to take the helm from Jane as the new Director of Alumnae and begin building on the strong foundation of alumnae events and activities and wonderful alumnae volunteers. My road back to Converse has taken many turns, but I can still remember the day my parents left me on campus after moving in my freshman year – I did not know a single person and instantly questioned my initial instinct that Converse was the right home for me. Many years later, I have more sweet memories than one can count, deep and true friendships built by many long talks on the porches of Dexter and Morris, a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree hanging proudly in my office, a confidence born of persistent and encouraging professors, a varied professional background due to a fine liberal arts education, and – best of all – a chance to serve my alma mater with the many talents and treasures it instilled in me!

I am excited to begin implementing a vision for the Alumnae Office that utilizes technology to communicate with alumnae, provides activities that can interest a broad audience, improves the College's connection with our alumnae and graduate alumni, and focuses on how we can serve one of Converse's best assets: You. Most of all, I look forward to continuing to meet and work with the many loyal and supportive alumnae of Converse!

Elizabeth A. Oswalt '02
Director of Alumnae





Travel with Converse

Italy

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

Travel Contact: Elizabeth Oswalt

E-mail: elizabeth.oswalt@converse.edu

Phone: 864.596.9055



**Chianti and the Italian Riviera
June 23 – July 2, 2010**

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



From the silvery olive groves of Tuscany to the turquoise seas of the Italian Riviera, Italy is a country that always delights. Embrace the best of these two storied regions on a unique travel program that allows you to explore Tuscany from your bases in Chianti and on the Levante coast. Travel the Chianti Road and discover the charm of Tuscan hill towns San Gimignano and Castellina. Embrace the glory of Florence. Wander through historic Siena and Lucca. In Carrara, discover the origin of the beautiful white marble that, for centuries, sculptors have turned into works of art. Your journey continues on the Italian Riviera, where you'll discover delightful coastal towns of Sestri Levante, Santa Margherita and Portofino. Also enjoy visits to Portovenere and Vernazza in the Cinque Terre.



New Granddaughters Club Members



Katherine Heath '13

Granddaughter of the late Tammy McWhite Heath '54 and great-granddaughter of the late Mayme Brown Heath, Class of 1893



Celly Marshall Kahn '13

Daughter of Celeste Padgett Kahn '85 and great-great-granddaughter of the late Celeste Langdon Blackwell, Class of 1908



Blakely Peper '12

Daughter of Cindy Williams Peper '77



Margaret Tiller '13

Granddaughter of the late Margaret Annelle Teal Tiller '34



Paige Whitehead '13

Daughter of Tiffany Fowler Whitehead '77



Chandler Morrow '13

Daughter of Sabra Morrow '89 MEd

Not pictured:

Katie Brock '13 – granddaughter of Dorothy Smart '51

Jennifer Kelly '13 – great-granddaughter of the late Louise Cavis Harrelson '32

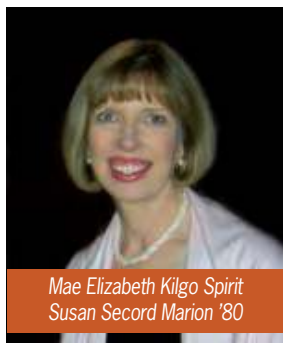
Chelsea Totten '12 – granddaughter of the late Sallie Lenrow Totten '50

Chelsea June '13 – great-granddaughter of Frances Lawrence Young '56

Margaret Lawter '13 – step-daughter of Tania McDuffie '89

Sydney Pye '11 – daughter of Pat Pye '96 MEd

Alumnae Award Winners



Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit
Susan Secord Marion '80

The Alumnae Association's Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award is presented to a Converse graduate who has kept the spirit of the College visible to other alumnae and her community through her continued loyal service to her alma mater. Susan Secord Marion '80 is this year's recipient.

Susan's passion for Converse began when she was a new student from Atlanta. She "immediately felt at home, and knew Converse was the right fit." Her enthusiasm for the College has not diminished over the years! Susan has served Converse in various capacities including Class Fund Chair for the Class of 1980 and working with admissions to promote Converse to students interested in interior design. When her daughter, Sarah, decided to attend Converse, Susan became a member of the Parents Council and worked diligently on the safety and security of the campus, as well as calling parents of future students to answer questions they had about Converse. Susan has also been a champion for the many men who have Converse women in their lives by initiating the creation of a tie featuring the Converse tower, which is now available in the Converse Bookstore. And Susan plans to continue to serve Converse in the future as a member of the 2010 Alumnae Board Slate.

Susan is not only a tireless advocate for Converse, but is also very involved in her own community. She has served on the Chester (SC) Historic Preservation Commission and is currently serving as a board member for the Chester Area United Way and Chester YMCA.

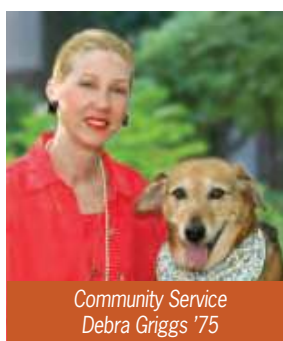


Distinguished Alumna
Elizabeth "Lib" Burnett Fleming '65

The Distinguished Alumna Award is given each year to a Converse alumna in recognition of outstanding achievement in her field, service to her community or society and loyalty to Converse. Elizabeth "Lib" Burnett Fleming '65 is the recipient of the 2010 award.

Lib has a passion for serving her community as both a public servant and a volunteer, and for championing the representation of women among the organizations she serves. She is chair of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSC), to which she was elected in 2004 and where she leads her fellow commissioners in carrying out a proactive regulatory process for the state's utility and transportation companies and seeking to best serve the needs of citizens. Lib has also worked in a variety of other capacities in her community, including as a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the National League of Cities, the Spartanburg Development Council, Spartanburg City Council and as chair of the Regional Transportation Committee. She is a past participant of Leadership Spartanburg and Leadership South Carolina.

Besides being a tireless public servant, Lib serves Converse as a member of the Board of Visitors. She is also involved in many community organizations such as the United Way of the Piedmont and the SC Governor's School of the Arts and Humanities Foundation.



Community Service
Debra Griggs '75

The Community Service Award is presented to a Converse alumna who displays the qualities of a vibrant citizen as evidenced in her active involvement in her community, church, and state. Converse salutes this year's recipient, Debra Griggs '75.

Debra has committed an enormous part of her life to her community of Norfolk, VA. She was a member of the Advisory Committee for the Broad Creek Renaissance Strategic Plan – an initiative to revive and bring affordable housing to a once blighted area of Norfolk. She is also past president of the Junior League of Norfolk-Virginia Beach, past chair of the Ryan White CARE Consortium at Eastern Virginia Medical School – a collaboration of AIDS service providers that was the catalyst for millions of dollars in grant monies for the region – and past vice-chair of Tidewater AIDS Crisis Taskforce. As a citizen advocate for the underserved, Debra has a tireless commitment to ending discrimination, whether it be based upon gender, race, ethnicity or those marginalized by circumstance as in the case of homelessness and AIDS.

In her most current role as an animal welfare advocate, Debra is a recognized leader in the effort to end dog breed discrimination. She founded Animal Rescue of Tidewater and was the founding chair of The Animal Welfare Coalition of Hampton Roads, which conducted the first-ever comprehensive assessment of needs and services for animals and their caregivers in the Hampton Roads area. Debra has also served on the Virginia Voters for Animal Welfare and The Virginia Federation of Humane Societies. She shares her life and home with her husband Steve and a menagerie of once-homeless canines.



Career Achievement
Gladys Tapp Hancock '80

Each year, Converse salutes an alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession and has distinguished herself by notable achievement over a continuous period of time. This year we recognize Gladys Tapp Hancock '80 of Bakersfield, CA with the Career Achievement Award.

Tapp, a 5th/6th grade teacher, has been a part of the teaching profession since graduating from Converse. Her biggest passion has come in the form of teaching mathematics. Tapp hopes to help every student succeed in learning math facts, while enjoying themselves. In 2000, she developed a system to teach students how to multiply and divide called Han-5. It is a fun and easy way to teach students math facts through nine different number patterns using their hand as a visual representation. After some practice, students drop their hand and can mentally recall the facts quickly and easily!

This unique system has evolved into teacher workbooks and classroom curriculum, and Tapp was awarded a United States Patent for it. The Han-5 system has been adopted by several school districts and continues to grow. Tapp has earned several distinctions for her teaching including Certificates of Commendation for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching, Outstanding Teacher in Kern County, and the National Presidential Excellence Award for Mathematics (the nation's highest honors for teachers of mathematics and science). Tapp is also very involved as a member of the California Math Council and the National Teachers of Mathematics Council.

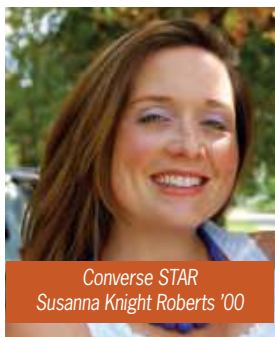


Career Achievement in Music
Dean Guy '60

The Career Achievement in Music Award is presented to Dean Guy '60 in recognition of his dedication to excellence in the profession of music and his distinction of notable achievements credited over a lifetime of performance and teaching.

Originally from Spartanburg, Dean attended the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind where he developed an early interest in music and began taking piano lessons at the age of 8. After graduating from Converse, he received a full scholarship to study piano with Arthur Loesser at the Cleveland Institute of Music, but decided that a career as a concert pianist was not for him. He left for New York City where he spent two years playing in small clubs, including Basin Street East, and working for dance and movement classes including those taught by Anna Sokoloff for the Lincoln Center Repertory Company.

In 1963, he returned to Cleveland Institute of Music and completed a master's degree in music theory. He taught theory classes as a graduate student and joined the faculty full time upon graduation, remaining until his retirement at 2007. Dean chaired the Music Theory Department for 13 years, and also developed and taught a course in improvisation for music teachers. His students have expressed gratitude for his insistence on intelligent listening as key to a deeper understanding and appreciation of music. Many of his students have gone on to careers as soloists or as members of major orchestras – some have even returned to teach with him on the Cleveland Institute faculty.

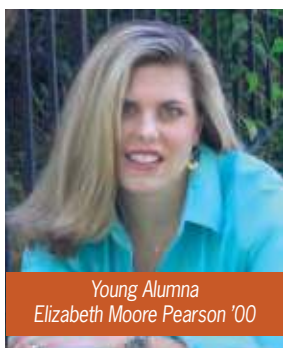


Converse STAR
Susanna Knight Roberts '00

Susanna Knight Roberts '00 of Atlanta, GA is this year's recipient of the Converse STAR Award, presented to an alumna who has actively and admirably served Converse in the area of recruitment.

Susannah is an active cheerleader for Converse, spreading the word about the College and helping to recruit students through activities in her community. A former teacher who worked with students with learning disabilities, Susannah is now an active community volunteer and mother of two young daughters with her husband Keith. As a member of the Converse Alumnae Association Board for the past five years, Susanna has been actively encouraging alumnae involvement in student recruitment, financial support and volunteerism.

Susanna has enthusiastically helped with CARE (Converse Alumnae Recruitment Effort) by representing Converse at college fairs in her area, visiting guidance counselors in local high schools and taking admission materials to them, referring local high school students, and writing notes of congratulations to students who have been accepted to Converse. Susanna also serves as Class Representative and Reunion Giving Chair for the Class of 2000. She is active in her community, volunteering at St. Luke's Episcopal Church and Crossroad Community Ministries as a caseworker for homeless clients.

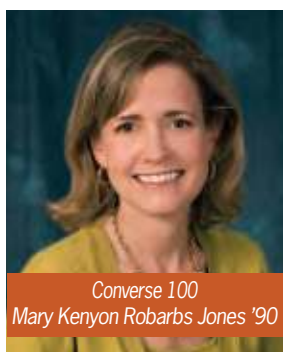


Young Alumna
Elizabeth Moore Pearson '00

The Young Alumna Award is given to a graduate who embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal, and Converse congratulates this year's recipient Elizabeth Moore Pearson '00.

An Autism Itinerant Teacher in Richland County, Elizabeth serves 39 children with autism and provides teaching and consultative services. Elizabeth majored in psychology at Converse, but during her junior year was encouraged by her advisor to take an early intervention in an autism class by Dr. Spencer Mathews. This class introduced her to new possibilities and eventually led to her career in autism therapy. After graduation, Elizabeth worked part-time with three in-home Applied Behavior Analysis therapy teams supervised by the Lovaas Institute in New York City, then earned a masters degree and a teaching certificate in severe, moderate and profound disabilities from the University of South Carolina.

Elizabeth worked for four years as a senior therapist for the Early Autism Project, where she trained therapy teams and worked with families to develop programs tailored to their children's specific needs. In 2004, Elizabeth became a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst and received "The Scapest" employee award, given to the Early Autism Project employee who put forth the most effort and support in working for the clinic and with children. Elizabeth and her husband Joe live in Columbia, where she continues to volunteer her time at the Early Autism Project by providing South Carolina Autism Waiver Coordinator Services.



Converse 100
Mary Kenyon Robarbs Jones '90

First presented during the College's Centennial, the Converse 100 award is given to alumnae who represent the character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal. This year's recipients are Mary Kenyon Robarbs Jones '90 of Columbia, SC and Monica Rogers Smith '85 of Greenville, SC.

The consummate Converse graduate who can "do anything," Mary Kenyon has explored a wide variety of opportunities since graduating with a degree in English and elementary education. She taught in Charlotte, NC and Columbia, SC for five years before becoming the State Parent Ombudsman and Special Projects Administrator for the South Carolina Department of Education in 1995. After becoming a mother, Mary Kenyon founded MKRJ Consulting to provide her flexibility to balance work and be a mom. In that role, she worked for several non-profit organizations and state agencies such as Voices for South Carolina's Children, the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities Association, and the South Carolina Department of Education. As a consultant, she specialized in curriculum development, training, special project implementation and event planning. In 2004, she became the Educational Consultant for the Oral Health Division at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, where she is responsible for curriculum development, partnership expansion and a statewide training program. Besides her many career achievements, Mary Kenyon also supports her community by being a part of the Columbia Junior League, the Richland County First Steps Board, and the South Carolina Oral Health Coalition and Advisory Council.



Converse 100
Monica Rogers Smith '85

Monica Smith Rogers '85 never dreamed she would own her own business. She was a first grade teacher and mother who started sewing when her daughter was born. A year or so later Monica bought an embroidery machine and started monogramming as a hobby and for friends. By 2003 she was making purses and other items to sell and provide for local fundraisers, and in June of 2004 she launched the monogrammed clog. "The interest was amazing," she said. "Every time I went out, people would stop me and ask where I got my clogs." And so, The Pink Monogram was born. Since that time, Monica and her business have been featured in *GSA Business* magazine, the TBS show *Movie and a Makeover*, *Southern Living*, *Pregnancy Magazine*, *Elegant Bride*, as well as numerous fashion and gift blogs. A big surprise and honor came in December 2008 when The Pink Monogram's products were featured on *oprah.com* as part of The O List.

Monica may be an accidental entrepreneur, but she still finds time to support local organizations by sponsoring little league teams and being involved with Camp Greenville, Meals on Wheels and The Greenville Hospital System. And in the fall of 2008, she was asked to speak to and provide mentoring for an entrepreneurial class at Clemson University.

2010 Alumnae Board Slate

President-Elect



Elisabeth Kinney McNeil '89
Bennettsville, SC

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

Nominating Chair



Elena Pribyl Rush '84
Spartanburg, SC

- President, The Pribyl Group, Inc. (Grant research, writing, administration, management)
- Grant Writer, Spartanburg School District Two
- Board member: Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE), Upstate Homeless Coalition and Battle of Cowpens Chapter, NSDAR

Secretary



Haidee Clark Stith '76
Lexington, SC

- Directed SC Women's Business Center, named 2009 "Woman of Achievement" for Lexington, SC
- Policy and program consultant, Stith Consulting Solutions
- Husband, Charlie; daughter Evelyn (11) and five grandchildren

Planned Giving Representative



Christy Davis Stoner '87
Albemarle, NC

- Mother and community volunteer
- President/CEO, Strategic Investment Advisors and Executive Vice President, Marketing of Uwharrie Capital Corp.
- President, City Youth Ballet and Uwharrie Youth Arts

Graduate Degree Representative



Helen Mitchell '86 MEd '01 EdS
Spartanburg, SC

- Executive Committee member, Board of Directors for Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg
- Sustaining Member and Past President, Junior League of Spartanburg
- Curriculum Specialist, Spartanburg School District Six

Converse II Representative



Jeanine Garrett '05
Clemson, SC

- Enrolled in the MFA Program in Studio Art, Clemson University
- Student Representative, Board of the Friends of the Visual Arts Center, Clemson University
- Mother to daughter, Abby

2000's Decade Representative



Deanna Fults '00
Knoxville, TN

- Attorney, Tennessee Valley Authority Equal Opportunity Compliance Division
- Former Assistant Attorney General, State of Alabama
- Board of Directors, Junior League of Knoxville

90's Decade Representative



Austin Faulk Hardison '95
Charlotte, NC

- Proud mother of son, Price
- Human Resources Manager, City of Charlotte Fire Department
- Volunteer, United Way of the Carolinas and The Arts and Science Council

90's Decade Representative



Wanda Moore McDowell '91
Inman, SC

- Former Director of Admissions, Converse College
- Southeast Regional Manager for Super Bakery, Inc.
- President, Maybry's Temple Bibleway Church Youth Association

80's Decade Representative



Amy Tibbals Morales '86
Jacksonville, FL

- Master Inservice Coordinator, Episcopal Diocese of Florida
- Board of Trustee, Jacksonville Public Library
- Board member, Women for Christ

80's Decade Representative



Pamela Woods '85
Columbia, SC

- Member, Trinity Cathedral, DHC Board
- Director of Human Resources, 1st Choice Mortgage, Corp.
- 1999-2000 Presidents Award, Junior League of Columbia

80's Decade Representative



Susan Secord Marion '80
Chester, SC

- Interior Designer, New South Interiors, Rock Hill, SC
- Board member, Chester Area United Way and YMCA
- Husband, Doug and 3 children, including a Converse graduate!

70's Decade Representative



Emily Jones Rushing '73
Birmingham, AL

- Director of Communications, Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- Active volunteer, YMCA Youth Center
- Elder, Cahaba Valley Church

70's Decade Representative



Laura Bingham Ritch '75
Hartselle, AL

- Homeschooling mother; daughter is Converse alumna
- Owner of Goose Pond Farm, which specializes in organically grown meats
- Director, Tennessee Valley Chapter of National Junior Cotillions

70's Decade Representative



Lynn Clinard Poisson '73
Lilesville, NC

- Homemaker, wife, mother
- Member, volunteer, and leader Calvary Episcopal Church, Wadesville, NC
- Board member: NC Museum of History, Anson County Arts Council and Historical Society

60's Decade Representative



Emily Kerr Stay '63
Novelty, OH

- Faculty emeritus, Gilmour Academy (fine arts department chair; instructor of photography and music)
- Managed beef cattle operation for 30 years
- Initiated the John W. Erickson Endowment Fund at Converse College

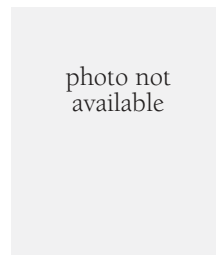
60's Decade Representative



Claudia Jowitt McCullough '62
Myrtle Beach, SC

- Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, Coastal Carolina University
- Director, Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values, Coastal Carolina University
- Mother of three children - Renken, Rebecca and Thad; grandmother of seven

50's Decade Representative



Carolyn Byrd Tipton '51
Asheville, NC

- Retired from Buncombe County Schools Professional Library
- Mother and grandmother
- Resident of Givens Estates in Asheville

50's Decade Representative



Ann Ward Houck '58
Florence, SC

- Proud mother of 4; grandmother of 11
- Enjoys aerobics, cooking walking and the beach

40's Decade Representative



Kitty Peeler Carson '49
Union, SC

- Retired educator
- Active volunteer: church vestry, book club president, Union County Arts Council Board, Friends of the Library Board

50's Decade Representative



Marianne Ellison Bartram '49
Spartanburg, SC

- Retired Math instructor
- Extensive International travels with Elderhostel
- Two terms as president of The Golden Club

At Large Member



Erica P. "Candy" Moore '93
Atlanta, GA

- Senior Vice President, Southeast Community Development Manager, Wachovia (A Wells Fargo Company)
- Member, Junior League of Atlanta
- Member, The Atlanta Chapter of The Links, Inc.

Additions to 2009 Slate



Breelan Riddle

- Registered Nurse in Cardio Vascular Recovery Unit at Spartanburg Regional
- Hobbies include reading, running, being outdoors and cooking
- Converse College Class President 2004-2006



Grace Bagwell

- Doctoral student, Department of Public Administration and Policy at the University of Georgia
- Director of OneAthens@UGA, university initiative working to end persistent poverty in Athens, Georgia.
- Teaches adult tap and hip hop at Dancefx, a nonprofit dance studio.

REUNION 2009



Nan Brown Duke '53 inducts the Class of 1959 into The Golden Club



(Above) Alumnae BBQ
(Below) Model Arab League demonstration with Dr. Joe Dunn and current students



Alumnae BBQ



Line up for the Parade of Classes into the Founder's Day Service (a new tradition!)



Jody Cole '84 accepts the "It's a Class Act Award" on behalf of her class for raising the largest dollar amount for the Converse Annual Fund



Alumnae BBQ



Honorary Alumna Janice Dengler, Associate Professor Emerita of Health and Physical Education



Alumnae BBQ

HONOR and MEMORIAL *GIFTS*

The following honor and memorial gifts were received between November 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009.

HONOR GIFTS

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION BOARD

Mrs. Nancy Bain Cote '79

ALUMNAE OFFICE STAFF

Mrs. Nancy Bain Cote '79

WILLIAM BARNET III

President Betsy Fleming

MARTHA PAXTON BEALE '49

Ms. Margaret R. Beale

ELIZABETH HARKINS BIOSCA '64

Class of 1964

ANDREW M. BLANCHARD

Hub-Bub.Com

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Mr. Mayo Mac Boggs

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Major and Mrs. James S. L. Bradshaw

MORGAN ELIZABETH BYRN 2010

Mr. William Womack Byrn, Jr.

ELIZABETH WHITE CALVERT '84

Mrs. Palmer Davison Ball '84

CLASS OF 1959

Mrs. Harriet Marshall Goode '59

CLASS OF 1969

Mrs. Margaret Shore Roark '69

ANNA HABISREUTINGER CONVERSE '98

Mr. Justin A. Converse

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Mrs. Deborah D. Dawsey '87 M.Ed.

Ms. Donna K. Fuller '68

Ms. Sydney C. Harris

Mrs. Barbara Lindsay Hines '83

Mrs. Linda Waller Holden '71

Mrs. Genevieve H. Hull

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Mrs. Joe Ann Lever

Mrs. Anne Carow Lian '68

Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder

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Mrs. Margaret S. Moore

Mrs. Pamela J. Nienhuis

Ms. R. Marie Nigro

Mrs. Doris P. Painter

Mrs. Martha C. Rentz

Mrs. Tina Topp Rhodes '71

Dr. Martha Elaine Rhodes

Mrs. Mary M. Savko

Shepherd's Center Aerobics Class

Mrs. Mitzi Gibbons Smith '93

Mrs. Alice Barron Pearce Stewart '75

Ms. Ann Fulton Walker '76

Ms. Marie-Claude Wall

Ms. JoAnne Welch

Mrs. Barbara Nelson Yergens '66

PAGE SPILLANE FOWLER '95

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Ms. Elizabeth McMahan Adamitis

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Dr. Henry Franklin Frierson

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Mrs. Ann Davidson Marion '47

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Mrs. Robyn Lovvorn Gibson '60

MELANIE D. HALL '98
Mrs. AnnDora Davis Helms '98

ROBERT HARKINS
Mrs. Laura Pickens Wagner '64

MRS. ELIZABETH HUBBARD HARRIS '22
Ms. Martha C. Harris '50
Mrs. Nancy Harris Roberts '48

JANE BLAKENEY HERLONG '64
Mrs. Laura Pickens Wagner '64

DR. WALTER HESS
Dr. Nina Zouck Waite '68

MARK HOLMBERG
Mrs. Elaine Finklea Folline '58

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DIANA HUBER
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(Emily Horton '68)

FRANK HOUSER INABNIT, JR.
Mrs. Rebecca Ramsaur Pennell '53
Ms. Elizabeth Gaillard Simons
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Burkhead Wood
(Emily Horton '68)

JUDY VOSS JONES
Mrs. Alison Wies Utterback '81

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Ms. Catherine Culler Inabnit '68
Mrs. Carol Kennedy Johnston '68
Mrs. Barbara Baker Kennedy '68
Mrs. Patricia Mooney Parker '68

CAROLYN WRIGHT LAIME '66
Mrs. Margaret Goettee Brooks '66

ALIA ROSS LAWSON
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence C. Ross

FRANCES JONES LINDLER '54
Ms. Carolyn Ann Boney '54

DR. JERRIE LUCKTENBERG
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene N. Crabb

DR. MYRA MARTIN
Dr. Nancy S. Breard
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas R. McDaniel
Mrs. Debra C. Young

MARTHA PARTRIDGE MCALLISTER
Mrs. Sandra Sherard Bethea '67

KATHERINE FAUST MCLAUGHLIN '22
Mrs. Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56

PATSIE DAVIS MCLEOD '35
Mrs. Lucy Davis Coleman '48
Miss Ann Nicholson Owens '70

MARY HARRIET SIMS NEW
Mrs. Marjorie Coddington Cannon '62

JUDY NORTON
Mr. and Mrs. Belvin B. Benfield

REBECCA PEELER PARSONS '64
Mrs. June McIntosh Uhler '64
Mrs. Laura Pickens Wagner '64

HANNA PEARLSTINE '24
Mrs. Juliet R. McClendon

GRACE MARTIN PHILLIPS '44
Mr. Harry R. Phillips, Jr.

WINFORD PHILLIPS
Ms. Elizabeth Gaillard Simons

LAURA NANCE MCCAUGHRIN PICKENS '35
Mrs. Laura Pickens Wagner '64

H. RAWLING PRATT-THOMAS
Mrs. Laura Pickens Wagner '64

LOUISA FARMER MCLEOD REAVES '65
Dr. Leonard E. Reaves III

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

CAROLINE BUCHAN ROBSON '64
Mrs. Patricia Crow Barteet '64

ANNE MORSE SHEARER '66
Mrs. Lucy Simpson Kuhne '66
Mr. William B. Shearer, Jr.

BETSY HARPER SHELANDER '78
Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
(Susan Phifer '65)

KATE SIMPSON
Mrs. Fain Langdale McDaniel '92

KATHRYN ANNE SOVEY '82 M.Ed.
Ms. Becky B. Bagwell
Dr. and Mrs. James D. Bearden III
Bishop Furniture Company, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. John L. Brady
(Mary Johnson '49)
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace B. Bruce
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Burton
(Lynne Webb '74)
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The Carolina Group Partners, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. David Church
(Ginger Corbin '92)
Clement Lumber Company, Inc.
Comfab Incorporation
Ms. Ellen M. Conner
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Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Couch
Wade Crow Engineering
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond A. Dunleavy
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Durr
Ms. Susan Fisher England
Ms. Frances Fisher
Dr. and Mrs. Albert J. Geiger, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gillespie
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Hannah
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Harley
(Jeanne S. Harley '73)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harris
 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Heagney
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Howard Henderson
 Hope Circle #3, Westminster Presbyterian Church
 Ms. Catherine Culler Inabnit '68
 Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
 (Susan Phifer '65)
 Mr. and Mrs. Julius Lasnick
 Mr. and Mrs. John V. Manatis
 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel H. Maw, Jr.
 (Sylvia McManus '58)
 Ms. Cynthia Pickard McCredie '67
 Mrs. Cathleen McKeen Minch '87 M.Ed.
 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Miller and North American
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 Mrs. Eileen Nolen Rampey '70
 Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Scott
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 Spartanburg Garden Club Council
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 Mr. James Fletcher Thompson
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 Mr. and Mrs. Wilton White
 Mr. and Mrs. James C. Wilson

LYNN R. STALNAKER
 Mrs. Elizabeth Watkins Garcia '80

MARGARET CLEMENTS STRANG '63
 Mrs. Ida Walker Cranz '63

HOLLY BENISEK SUCIC '93
 Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Benisek

JAMES H. AND PAULINE J. TOY
 Ms. Amelia Toy Rudolph

MARTHA THOMPSON VERMONT '47
 Book Barbers Book Club
 Ms. Donna Sue Campbell
 Ms. Lorna J. Campbell
 Mrs. Jean Campbell
 Mrs. Nancy Bain Coté '79
 Ms. Roberta Timmons Daniel '71
 Ms. Martha Dicus
 Mrs. Nancy Brown Duke '55
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 Mrs. Lucy Harper Grier
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier
 (Dorothy Ormond '50)
 Mr. and Mrs. Roger A. F. Habisreutinger
 Ms. Ann G. Hammond
 Mr. George M. Holbrook, Jr.
 Mr. William Barnwell Holt
 Mrs. Elodie Lorenz
 Mrs. Florine France Lyles '47

Mrs. Ann Davidson Marion '47
 Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Morrow
 Mrs. J. Fred O'Connell
 Ms. Carolyn Duer Pennell '50
 Mrs. Rebecca Ramsaur Pennell '53
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Patterson Perrin
 Ms. Rose Mary L. Ritchie
 Mr. and Mrs. Rody Sherrill
 Ms. Elizabeth Gaillard Simons
 Mr. and Mrs. Oliver L. Strickland
 Mr. John W. B. Thompson
 Mrs. Helen T. Wells
 Ms. Susan H. Young

MARJORIE BARR O'STEEN WEBB
 Mrs. Fain Langdale McDaniel '92

GAY COMER WHITE
 Mrs. Lee Ann Lowry Harris '69

MISS CAROLYN STEPHANIE WORTH '79
 Mrs. Anna Johnson Walker

BERNICE WYATT WYATT '53
 Mrs. Rebecca Ramsaur Pennell '53
 Mrs. Peggy Simpson Zeigler '54

MYRA FAUST WYMAN '32
 Mrs. Ellen McLaughlin Rose '56

The Class of 1965 Legacy of Converse Friendship

Upon Harriett Schofield Bryant's death in June of 2007, her 1965 classmates Peggy Clotfelter Allen, Caroline Beattie Bowen, Ann Trammell Holmes, Ginger McKinney Jernigan and Lovey Daniel Mottern decided to honor her in a special way. Since their friendship was forged at Converse, they thought it most meaningful to make a gift to the College in Harriet's memory. Much thought went into how they might help a deserving student, and they decided to provide the required, private music lessons for a student in the Petrie School of Music who does not have the necessary financial resources.

The legacy of their 47-year friendship with Harriett (1961 – 2008) lives on at Converse, making a difference in the life of a talented Converse student.



Harriett Schofield Bryant's senior yearbook photo, 1965



(Pictured Right)
 Caroline, Peggy, Ann, Ginger and Lovey

LIFE EVENTS and CLASSNOTES

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

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

Class Representatives may submit notes for every issue of the magazine. Class Notes includes information submitted to the Alumnae Office by May 1, 2009.

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

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

In Memoriam

Hanna PEARLSTINE '24, March 12, 2009
Harriet Powe JACKSON '27, November 17, 2008
Marie STEVENS Adams '31, March 1, 2009
Elizabeth BELSER Fuller '32, January 19, 2009
Dorothy JONES Smith '32, January 18, 2009
Gabrielle MCCOLL Wilson '32, April 4, 2009
Florence DAVIS Fairey '33, March 22, 2008
Patsie DAVIS McLeod '35, November 30, 2008
Frances TAYLOR Mott '35, January 24, 2006
Frances YOUNG Feagin '35, May 1, 2009
Emma BRYAN Epps '36, August 28, 2005
Evelyn HEWITT Copenhaver '36, November 12, 2007
Julia MCCLAURIN Brabson '36, March 14, 2009
Ila L. PATTERSON '36, December 27, 2006
Nancy TOLBERT Thomas '36, March 9, 2007
Mary Margaret CECIL Huff '37, July 2, 2009
Margaret PITTS Kleiber '37, July 10, 2008
Margaret H. SPENCER '37, March 24, 2007
Caroline WEBB Weeks '37, April 1, 2009
Isabel JORDAN Baarcke '38, October 24, 2008
Marguerite CRAWFORD Acker '39, March 27, 2009
Corinne CUNNINGHAM Laval '39, July 30, 2009
Ethel MITCHELL Walker '39, July 14, 2009
Jane CONE Kellner '40, May 11, 2008
Rachel JONES Graham '40, July 6, 2009
Caroline BLACKMON Cottingham '41, April 22, 2009
Martha CANNON Priester '41, May 30, 2009
Mary GLASS Gittens '41, September 28, 2007
Naomi CLARK Krom '42, January 18, 2009
Clementina SHANKS Dowling '42, December 11, 2008
Lois BEAN Gaunt '43, November 2, 2008
Nina Horner GOODWIN Shelton '43, June 6, 2007
Janelle GRIFFIN Lovett '43, April 25, 2009
Dorothy HUIE Winship '43, June 25, 2009
Marguerite SYMMS Shaw '43, May 13, 2008
Mary WEBB Strickland '43, June 21, 2008
Celeste HUMPHREYS Morrison '44, January 15, 2009
Betty ISBELL Steele '44, December 10, 2008
Isabelle MCKINSTY Stadler '44, October 29, 2008

Sarah Izard SMITH Lynch '44, November 8, 2008
Barbara Anne WALSH Real '44, April 27, 2009
Jane FERNALD Kain '45, October 8, 2008
Catherine HAMRICK Beattie '45, February 5, 2009
Charlotte HESS Knox '45, October 22, 2008
Rosalie NOLAND Gambrell '45, November 16, 2008
Edna SHEALY Johns '45, January 14, 2009
Elizabeth GOLDER Larson '46, April 22, 2008
Mary Lee POSTON Taylor '46, October 2, 2008
Sara Katherine SHEALY Stoudenmire '46, May 16, 2004
Caroline SMOAK Kearsse '46, May 1, 2009
Elizabeth STEVENS Linney '46, December 6, 2008
Harriet KLUGH Gamble '47, November 26, 2008
Martha THOMPSON Vermont '47, January 7, 2009
Elizabeth TOWNSEND Wessinger '47, February 10, 2009
Elizabeth "Betsy" ENNIS Jadrosich '48, October 24, 2007
Betty MARTIN Whittle '48, May 4, 2008
Anne PHILPOT Irvin '48, November 4, 2008
Maie WATKINS Manget '48, February 6, 2009
Jane Alexander CARSON France '49, March 16, 2009
Betty HALE Waters '49, November 26, 2008
Annette ISBELL Hornsby '49, December 21, 2008
Betty Lewis HARVARD Bray '50, May 1, 2009
Ann SHELL Jacobs '50, May 27, 2009
Mary LEWIS Dollar '51, January 18, 2009
Barbara SHEPPE Alley '51, December 15, 2008
Sara TILLOTSON Shuler '51, March 5, 2009
Lyn ALDERMAN Thornton '52, January 20, 2009
Patricia JONES Cain '53, May 31, 2009
Frances JONES Lindler '54, April 13, 2009
Ann LOVE Thomas '54, June 12, 2008
Lily MATHEWSON Kay '54, August 30, 2006
Nancy SHERRILL Floyd '54, January 20, 2008
Elizabeth PRYOR George '57, January 25, 2009
Sally SCHNELL Peninger '57, June 1, 2009
Diane LAWSON Kelley '58, November 14, 2008
Nancy SIMPKINS McCants '58, December 28, 2008

Jane ATKINS Newton '59, August 10, 2008
Sandra BALLARD Sooley '59, February 6, 2009
Jane CLARK Wasson '59, December 11, 2008
Gwen Shephard DAVIS '60, January 3, 2009
Alice GAMBLE Kilgo '60, March 19, 2009
Katherine WILSON Gray '61, January 16, 2009
Suzanne COCHRANE Austell Martin '63, June 13, 2009
Jane HEYLMUN Roberson '64, June 11, 2009
Emma LAWSON Ridenhour '64, October 10, 2005
Rebecca PEELER Parsons '64, October 16, 2008
Mary Linda Huggins GARNER '65 MED, November 20, 2008
Sherrie LANIER Bacon '66, May 29, 2009
Anne MORSE Shearer '66, December 4, 2008
Sarah Elizabeth BIGGS Johnson '68, October 30, 2008
Dorrie DUKE Keller '68, May 17, 2009
Evelyn OSTEEN Norman '69, January 12, 2009
Ruth WALSTON Harris '71, February 14, 2009
Carl W. Dowdle '72 MED, February 10, 2009
Dixie DOWIS McGinty '78, March 25, 2009
Betsy HARPER Shelander '78, December 28, 2008
Ricky Gerald HOWELL '80 MED, '86 EdS, February 28, 2009
Kathryn Anne SOVEY '82 MED, May 2, 2009
Harriett Jean BELL '84, July 7, 2009
Mary S. ELIAS '89 MED, June 7, 2006
Patricia Padgett HARRIS '94, March 29, 2008
Gregory D. Anderson '95 MED, January 11, 2009
Marilyn Melton FIELD '95, March 6, 2009
Warren Ray Bedford '02 MED, May 1, 2007

Sympathy

Pauline BELSER Riley '36 on the death of her sister, Elizabeth BELSER Fuller '32, January 19, 2009
Adela HOLMES Stoney '39 on the death of her granddaughter, Adela Holmes Cook, April 10, 2009
Virginia OGELTREE Ashmore '42 on the death of her son, George Ashmore, April 3, 2009
Mary Carson JONES Pease '44 on the death of her husband, James Norman Pease, Jr., January 28, 2009

- Elizabeth CARTER Kahlmus '46 on the death of her husband, Maurice Fuller Kahlmus, June 22, 2008
- Jean Claire GRIFFIN '46 on the death of her sister, Janelle GRIFFIN Lovett '43, April 25, 2009
- Johnnie DOYLE Hale '48 on the death of her husband, Morris Smith Hale, Jr., September 1, 2008
- Martha GRIFFIN Evans '48 on the death of her sister, Janelle GRIFFIN Lovett '43, April 25, 2009
- Carolyn ISBELL Henderson '48 on the death of her sister, Betty ISBELL Steele '44, December 10, 2008
- Jane NOWELL Cameron '48 on the death of her husband, Daniel Ross Cameron, December 28, 2007
- Rella ANDERSON Carp '49 on the death of her husband, Gilbert M. Carp '49 MMus, October 23, 2008
- Kathryn ISBELL O'Rear '49 on the death of her sister, Annette ISBELL Hornsby '49, December 21, 2008
- George Truett HOLLIS '50 on the death of his sister, M. Elizabeth "Betty" Hollis, November 28, 2008
- Mary Alice INGRAM Busch '50 on the death of her husband, John Paul Busch, Jr., November 13, 2008
- Louise KUKER Freeman '51 on the death of her husband, Richard Alan Freeman, June 29, 2009
- Anne STEVENS Clay '52 on the death of her sister, Elizabeth STEVENS Linney '46, December 6, 2008
- Amelia TOWNSEND Alexander '53 on the death of her sister, Elizabeth TOWNSEND Wessinger '47, February 10, 2009
- Elizabeth "Lib" MASSEY Gage '54 on the death of her daughter, Elizabeth "Libby" Gage Crowther, December 23, 2008
- Mary BARNWELL Vaughan '55 on the death of her husband, William "Bill" Hutchinson Vaughan, Jr., January 6, 2009
- Jane DAVIS James '56 on the death of her sister, Gwen Shepherd DAVIS '60, January 3, 2009
- Martha HARVLEY Dunlap '56 on the death of her husband, R. Thornwell Dunlap, Jr., March 23, 2009
- Phyllis BUCHEIT DeLapp '57 on the death of her husband, Robert Earl DeLapp, Jr., March 29, 2009
- Sylvia CRAVER Gandy Chandler '57 on the death of her husband, Warren Earle Chandler, Jr., December 13, 2008
- Harriet MAHAFFEY Wilson-Butler '57 on the death of her sister, Mary Mahaffey Rollins, March 30, 2009
- Mary Elizabeth BELSER Arnot '58 on the death of her mother, Elizabeth BELSER Fuller '32, January 19, 2009
- Sallie MCCRARY Holmberg '58 on the death of her son, Mark Edward Holmberg, January 2009
- Martha Ann BURNET Carlisle '59 on the death of her husband, Robert Marsden Carlisle, Jr., November 18, 2008
- Mildred "Tag" SIDDALL Johnson '59 on the death of her husband, LaKee Belvin "Keby" Johnson, June 27, 2009
- Carolyn TURNER Kelly '59 on the death of her husband, Thaddeus Elliott Kelly, July 2, 2009
- Dottie WATERS Bryan '60 on the death of her mother, Dorothy Allen Waters, February 22, 2009
- Leonette DEDMOND Neal '61 on the death of her mother, Margaret Bomar Dedmond, April 12, 2009
- Letitia LYKES Knapp '61 on the death of her husband, David Hebard Knapp, January 2, 2009
- Lois PRESSEY Crowley '61 on the death of her daughter, Kathleen Ann Burns, March 5, 2008
- Glenda MURPHY Deaton '62 on the death of her husband, Woodrow Wilson Deaton, July 4, 2008
- Randolph NEW Armstrong '62 on the death of her mother, Mary Harriet Sims New, February 13, 2009
- Jacqueline PATRICK Davis '62 on the death of her mother, Jacqueline Wienges Patrick, December 19, 2008
- Julia ADAMS McLaurin '63 on the death of her mother, Marie STEVENS Adams '31, March 1, 2009
- Anne WATERS Green '63 on the death of her mother, Dorothy Allen Waters, February 22, 2009
- Victoria TALLEY Colebank '64 on the death of her mother, Murreitta Talley, April 2, 2009
- Sherry MILLER Little '65 on the death of her mother, Ruby Ella Jack Miller, January 28, 2009
- Hallett JONES Worrell '66 on the death of her husband, Dr. Henry Patterson Worrell, January 14, 2009
- Elvy TALLEY Bryan '67 on the death of her mother, Murreitta Talley, April 2, 2009
- Blair BLACKWELL Cooper '68 on the death of her brother, Randolph Williams Blackwell, May 13, 2009
- Caroline COTTINGHAM Mitchell '68 on the death of her mother, Caroline BLACKMON Cottingham '41, April 22, 2009
- Catherine Culler INABNIT '68 on the death of her father, Frank Houser Inabnit, Jr., November 19, 2008
- Judith WEBB Lanier '68 on the death of her father, James Fred Webb, Jr., May 30, 2009
- Gillian WHITE Goodrich '68 on the death of her mother, Gabriella Comer White, February 7, 2009
- Lizette BOONE Steinbrueck '69 on the death of her husband, Charles E. Steinbrueck, March 20, 2009
- Millie BLACKWELL Yarborough '70 on the death of her brother, Randolph Williams Blackwell, May 13, 2009
- Harriet "Kay" GAMBLE Molnar '70 on the death of her mother, Harriet KLUGH Gamble '47, November 26, 2008
- June LOVE Eaton '70 on the death of her sister, Ann LOVE Thomas '54, June 12, 2008
- Susan SHAW Hufham '70 on the death of her brother, David Charles Shaw, Jr., July 21, 2009
- Mary Lee "Toody" WHITE Sullivan '70 on the death of her mother, Gabriella Comer White, February 7, 2009
- Gray BRANTLEY Little '72 on the death of her father, Julian C. Brantley, Jr., December 22, 2007
- Gray BRANTLEY Little '72 on the death of her mother, Gray Woodard Brantley, July 10, 2008
- Carolyn KING Smith '72 on the death of her son, Richard Hunt Smith, April 26, 2009
- Jeanine SCOTT Johnson '72 on the death of her husband, Dr. Ira T. Johnson, February 3, 2009
- Linda STARNES Toms '72 on the death of her husband, Timothy W. Welker, July 1, 2009
- Ellen JENNINGS Gower '73 on the death of her mother, Mildred Bradford Jennings Overturf, February 1, 2009
- Cynthia SEABROOK '73 on the death of her mother, Phyllis Farquhar Seabrook, January 28, 2009
- Isabelle STADLER Kennerly '73 on the death of her mother, Isabelle MCKINSTRY Stadler '44, October 29, 2008
- Nell WALL Otto '73 on the death of her sister, May Ervin Wall, November 30, 2008
- Laura ALLEY Dietrich '74 on the death of her mother, Barbara SHEPPE Alley '51, December 15, 2008
- Grazier CONNORS Rhea '74 on the death of her father, George Washington Connors III, June 20, 2009
- Jane Carson FRANCE Richards '74 on the death of her mother, Jane Alexander CARSON France '49, March 16, 2009
- Christine TYSON Urquhart '74 on the death of her father, William Brooks Tyson, Jr., February 5, 2009
- Mary ASHMORE Hagan '75 on the death of her brother, George Ashmore, April 3, 2009
- Nancy ORDERS Smith '75 on the death of her mother, Carolyn Lee Orders, November 16, 2008
- Claire CONNORS Wharton '76 on the death of her father, George Washington Connors III, June 20, 2009
- Margaret NEWTON Waterstradt '76 on the death of her brother, William Newell Newton, July 13, 2008
- Laura WINSHIP Boyd '76 on the death of her mother, Dorothy HUIE Winship '43, June 25, 2009
- Mary PEARCE Wilson '77 on the death of her sister, Frances Pearce Steele, May 29, 2009

Elizabeth "Libba" BROCKMAN Spell '78 on the death of her father, James Hammett Brockman, February 20, 2009

Judy LUCKTENBERG Arrants '79 on the death of her mother, Jerrie Cadek Lucktenberg, March 27, 2009

Margaret RINEHART Smith '79 on the death of her daughter, Jeanne deSaussure Smith, November 14, 2008

Wardie COWARD Sanders '80 on the death of her mother, Shirley Hunnings Coward, April 18, 2008

Diane COMPOS Jackson '81 on the death of her father, Dennis Michael Compos, December 16, 2008

Amy ELWELL Harris '82 on the death of her father, Robert Harvey Elwell, February 2, 2009

Mitzi MACWHIRTER Deal '82 on the death of her father, J. Evan MacWhirter, January 9, 2009

Carla MARCUS Renner '82 on the death of her father, Milton Marcus, May 19, 2009

Felita GRADY Davis '83 on the death of her husband, Melvin Davis, January 1, 2009

Lynn SHULER Smith '83 on the death of her mother, Sara TILLOTSON Shuler '51, March 5, 2009

Denise COMPOS Carlisle '84 on the death of her father, Dennis Michael Compos, December 16, 2008

Molly BRAY Stout '85 on the death of her mother, Betty HARVARD Bray '50, May 1, 2009

Ruth GAGE Knox '85 on the death of her sister, Elizabeth "Libby" Gage Crowther, December 23, 2008

Kristy Ann GILLMANN '86 on the death of her grandmother, Mildred Pauline Rayburn, December 27, 2008

Shay MONTGOMERY Crenshaw '89 on the death of her father, Jack W. Montgomery, March 30, 2009

Pamela MOREN Conner '90 on the death of her father, Hugh Gerard Moren, Jr., February 4, 2009

Cindy JERLES Brown '92 on the death of her father, J. Bruce Jerles, June 8, 2008

Heather NEAL Sone '92 on the death of her grandmother, Margaret Bomar Dedmond, April 12, 2009

Diane Vermillion PICKENS '94 MM on the death of her mother, Peggy Sawyer Vermillion Reynolds, January 8, 2009

Austin FAULK Hardison '95 on the death of her grandfather, Robert Bruce Price, July 25, 2009

Betty RICHARDS Wilson '95 on the death of her mother, Diana Huber, November 29, 2008

Emma CARMICHAEL Harrill '96 on the death of her grandfather, Rev. Eric Chambers, March 29, 2009

Shannon GOSNELL Bishop '97 on the death of her husband, David Christopher Bishop, December 7, 2008

Lynsey CARMICHAEL Bullington '98, '03 MED, on the death of her grandfather, Rev. Eric Chambers, March 29, 2009

Clayton KEARSE Walton '98 on the death of her grandmother, Caroline SMOAK Kearsse '46, May 1, 2009

Kelly Marie CREIGHTON '02 on the death of her grandmother, Doris S. Horinbein, February 22, 2009

Dorothea GARNER McCollum '02 on the death of her father, Ralph E. "Reg" Garner, June 26, 2009

Heather Leigh WATSON '02 on the death of her grandmother, Hattie Canup Pressley, October 3, 2008

Lisa N. WILLIAMS '03 on the death of her grandfather, Dr. Kenan Banks Williams, May 27, 2009

Amber ABBOTT Spencer '04 on the death of her mother, Keilah Wiggins Abbott, November 27, 2006

Jean Elizabeth EICHELBERGER '04 on the death of her father, Bernard W. "Ike" Eichelberger, December 9, 2008

Tharanga GOONETILLEKE '05 on the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Winifred Fernando, April 2, 2009

Kathryn ARRANTS '06 on the death of her grandmother, Jerrie Cadek Lucktenberg, March 27, 2009

Eranga GOONETILLEKE '08 on the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Winifred Fernando, April 2, 2009

MARRIAGES

Mary Ann MEDFORD Claud '59 to Olin Bennett Sansbury, Jr., June 20, 2009

Charleen VENNING Dunford '64 to Kenneth W. Parrish, January 17, 2009

Justina LASLEY '68 to Charles Jackson Minifie, May 30, 2009

Elizabeth Graves KNIGHT Fowler '75 to Ford Hardy Borders, October 18, 2008

Sandra KOPP McNutt '75 to Thomas P. Roberts, August 2, 2008

Susan SAYE Gordon '77 to Thomas G. Honaker, III, December 18, 2008

Shirley Tennyson Scruggs '79 MAT to Stanley James Nordine, April 18, 2009

Kate CORN Foster '85 to Ronnie Wilson, January 2009

Katherine PHILLIPS Ward '95 to George Washington III, February 13, 2009

Laura Ramsay BARR '99 to Graham E. Bokinsky

Rebekah Kay HAGINS '99 to Cameron Cole

Christina Dianne HENDRIX '99 to Randy Wayne Gossett, June 20, 2009

Viki Anne PRICE '99 to Matthias Brett Kelchner, March 7, 2009

Gari Deanne Tyner '99 to Matthew Howard Frye, March 28, 2009

Helen Surett CURTAIN '00 MED to Keith Ray Jackson, December 27, 2008

April Elizabeth DEAS '00 to John A. Jewett

Emily Boswell HAMPTON '00 to Jeff Saylor, October 11, 2008

Stephanie Brooke LIVESAY '01 to Donny Wayne Winker, November 1, 2008

Susan Milliken MERRY '01 to Daniel Franklin Barden, November 22, 2008

Patricia Susan PRIESTER '01 to Glen Thomas Southergill, May 30, 2009

Jennifer Elizabeth BRADSHAW '02 to Corey Tilley

Lauren Chandler DABBS '02 to Andrew Parker Renaud, May 30, 2009

Julia Amanda EGGERS '02 MAT to Kelly Christian Smith, December 20, 2008

Amanda Rene HARMON '02 to Brian Charles Thomasson, March 16, 2008

Jennifer Louise HASTY '02 MAT to Joseph Eugene Hill, February 7, 2009

Elizabeth Mary LOBERGER '02 to Matthew Zitny, May 24, 2008

Tracey Gabrielle MARSOUN '02 to Charles Kaplan Ward, November 1, 2008

Donna Kay COLEMAN '03 to Marek Darius Gorski, April 4, 2009

Kaysie Elisabeth DAVIS '03 to Stephen Travis Brady, July 25, 2008

Martha Jo SMITH '03 to Steven Barry Johnson, December 27, 2008

Patricia Jonette HESS '04 to John Daniels Keels IV, April 18, 2009

Carrie Christin KNOX '04 MED to James Edward Blount III, June 20, 2009

Sara Elizabeth MATHIAS '04 to Richard Bartholomew McCarter, April 7, 2009

Allison Ninon SHULL '04, '07 MED to Andrew McLaughlin Little, March 7, 2009

Melissa Yvonne BALLARD '05 to Jeffery Robert Todd, November 8, 2008

Kara Virginia DIXON '05 to Mario Anthony Russo, October 5, 2007

Jennifer Maria GRAY '05 to Terrence William Hendrix, June 13, 2008

Nealie McIntyre LITTLEJOHN '05 to John Warren Floyd, February 2009

Della Elizabeth "Libby" LONG '05 to Andrew Latimer Richards, June 27, 2009

Chasity Marie MAHAFFEY '05 to Domingo Estaban Gonzalez, November 1, 2008

Nicole MARTIN '05 to W. Kyle Pruitt, July 5, 2008

Amanda Nichole SHIPMAN '05 to Adam Clark Sanford, November 1, 2008

Hollace Jane WALTER '05 to Jeremiah Hawkes, July 5, 2008

Catherine Gantt WOODRUM '05 to Kevin Leah Pogue, April 25, 2009

Amanda Ruth BURGESS '06 to Kyle Randall George, April 4, 2009

Courtney Lee CLARK '06 to Stuart O'Connor Kay, May 9, 2009

Amy Gail FIEROVA '06 to Paul Baylor Deal, December 20, 2008

Jennifer Ashley GILSTRAP '06 to Michael Lee, March 28, 2009

Ashley GREENWAY '06 to David Moss, June 6, 2009

Lindsay McCraw HANNA '06 MAT to Matthew Parker Willis, June 6, 2009

Laura Ashley LACEY '06 to John Luther Guthrie, July 11, 2009

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 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Telephone _____
 High School _____
 Year of Graduation _____
 Areas of Interest _____

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Alumnae Information Update

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

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

You may email information for Life Events to nancy.gage@converse.edu or use the Keep Us Current form under Alumnae at www.converse.edu or call the Alumnae Office at 1-800-584-9098. Please include your phone or email so we may contact you if additional information is needed.

Cynthia Renee LEDFORD '06 to Victor Carlton Singleton, June 20, 2009
 Melissa Nicole PESARO '06, '07 MAT to Steven Lee Ragan, July 25, 2009
 Miriam Brelan RIDDLE '06 to William James Montgomery, May 2, 2009
 Molly Jean STOEHR '06 to Robert Bryan Moyer, November 15, 2008
 Joy Melissa WARD '06 to Mark Fenton Waite, January 3, 2009
 Virginia "Ginnie" Brittany CARTER '07 to Brian Grigg, June 9, 2007
 Elizabeth Ellen PROVENCE '07 MM to Everette Eugene McMillian, January 17, 2009
 Liza Ann QUALMAN '07 MAT to Jesse Michael Wilson, February 21, 2009
 Molly Elizabeth SMITH '07 to Adam Brian Kellam, June 16, 2007
 Amanda Nicole BARTON '08 to Christopher Allen Keith, June 20, 2009
 Amanda May CORWIN '08 to Patrick Kirk Covington, October 19, 2007
 Kendall Nicole FUNDERBURK '08 to Brett Davis, June 21, 2008
 Jamie Nicole HARRISON '08 MEd to Graham Patrick Bulman, November 22, 2008
 Allison Katherine HARTNETT '08 MAT to Robert Brandon Collins, March 28, 2009
 Jewel Leanne MAY '08 to Michael Leroy Canty, September 27, 2008
 Cameron Leigh MILLER '08 MEd to Phillip Curtis Price, July 18, 2009
 Rachel A. NG '08 to Stuart Campbell Hansen, November 8, 2008
 Olivia Priscilla RAMBORG '08 MAT to Timothy Ryan Christensen, December 13, 2008
 Ashley Rae RICKER '08 to Chad Shuford, April 25, 2009
 Laura Erin SIMMONS '08 to Bill Sellers, January 24, 2009
 Anna Kathryn Haverty SMITH '08 to Joseph Samuel Backer, August 31, 2008
 Abby Virginia THOMAS '09 MEd to Joel Leslie Eidson, June 27, 2009

BIRTHS

Madeline Frances "Mafra" Kemper, February 24, 2009, daughter of Chris Kemper and Molly FORTUNE '93
 Hannah Lynn Alexander, March 1, 2009, daughter of Douglas and Alicia JOHNSON Alexander '93
 Katherine Elizabeth Leake, January 9, 2008, daughter of Tim and Julie TANNER Leake '93
 Katherine Morgan Turner, April 20, 2009, daughter of Ben and Kathy BINDER Turner '94
 Olivia Richie, February 11, 2009, daughter of Gary and Lisa CASTON Richie '94
 Bryce S. Wilson, December 18, 2008, son of Drew and Maria INGRAM Wilson '94
 Selah Kathryn Guerra, January 9, 2008, daughter of Vince and Hope TURPIN Guerra '94
 Vincent Lake Guerra, February 25, 2009, son of Vince and Hope TURPIN Guerra '94

Robert James Smiley, February 25, 2009, son of Robert and Erin ZICKOS Smiley '94
 Benjamin Warren Connell, September 30, 2008, son of Scott and Kristi GOODWIN Connell '95
 Emmie Robinson Davenport, February 20, 2009, daughter of Skip and Amy ROBINSON Davenport '95
 Cy Bradshaw, August 27, 2008, son of Michael and Patricia DOTY Bradshaw '96
 Lillian Christine Reed, November 10, 2008, daughter of Abe and Holly HEPFER Reed '96
 Noah Avery Penley, January 2, 2009, son of Stephen and Stephanie NIVENS Penley '96
 William Thomas Perkins, August 22, 2008, son of David and Rachel ODOM Perkins '96
 Darrell Keith Stewart III, October 10, 2008, son of Darrell and Ryan REVIS Stewart '96
 Celeste Harley Creech, April 27, 2009, daughter of Tommy and Andrea WYROSDICK Creech '96
 Declan Brown Cline, April 22, 2009, son of Paul and Leslie ANDERSON Cline '97
 Tyson Alexander Jolly, November 19, 2008, son of Michael and Tiffany CLEMONS Jolly '97
 Braeden Thomas Evans, March 13, 2009, son of Dan and Donna PALLASSINO Evans '97
 Sarah Marie Hartell, August 11, 2008, daughter of Jim and Holly WATERS Hartell '97
 Jonathan Harris Hawkins, June 12, 2009, son of Adam and Ann GERBER Hawkins '98
 Walker Vivienne Tolar, June 30, 2009, daughter of Mac and Helen WALKER Tolar '98
 Julian Barber, January 13, 2009, son of Scott and Elizabeth BOUKNIGHT Barber '99
 Campbell Lyles Williams and Anne McCrea Williams, October 10, 2008, twin daughters of Scott and Katherine DOD Williams '99
 Elias Harold Combs, June 16, 2008, son of Mark and Amanda GOOTMAN Combs '99
 Zoe Anabelle Clobes and Jacob Shannon Clobes, March 17, 2009, twins of Shannon and Kimberly HOWELL Clobes '99
 Charles Hill Morris III, February 12, 2009, son of Charles and Louisa JORDAN Morris '99
 Bella Elizabeth Parrish, May 8, 2008, daughter of Chris and Kelli MCCRAW Parrish '99
 Caroline Ruth Hyleman, December 4, 2008, daughter of Zachary and Rebecca ROLAND Hyleman '99
 Lewis Jackson Hart III, February 27, 2009, son of Jake and Angie ACKERMANN Hart '00
 Lillian Grace Hill, October 28, 2008, daughter of Patrick and Margie BROOKS Hill '00
 William Bennett Munson, adopted January 2009, son of Kevin and Ginny FLOWERS Munson '00
 Ann Brice Maynard, daughter of Alderman and Kathleen HARRY Maynard '00
 Thomas Langford Hansen, March 3, 2009, son of Bowe and Elizabeth LANGFORD Hansen '00
 Anna Kathryn Moore, July 14, 2008, daughter of Stuart and Amanda MALPHRUS Moore '00
 Elijah Brooks Joye, November 7, 2008, son of Jay and Erin PATTERSON Joye '00

Thomas Scott Barrow, August 12, 2008, son of Nathan and Lucy ATHERTON Barrow '01
 Hannah Arlene Linn, daughter of John and Katie BRIDGES Linn '01
 Dion Joseph Edwards, December 23, 2008, son of Dion L. and Mercedes BROCKINGTON Edwards '01
 Amy Eaddy, 2009, daughter of Brian and Nicole BROWN Eaddy '01
 Ryder Spence Martin, October 21, 2008, son of Rogan and Bryce COPELAND Martin '01
 Peyton Alese Wright, March 27, 2009, daughter of Adrian and Wilesha DAVIS Wright '01
 Jonathon Ace Ray, January 17, 2009, son of Bryan and Jessica HUNDLEY Ray '01
 Benjamin Webster Kirklin, February 11, 2009, son of Adam and Nicole KOCH Kirklin '01
 Thomas William Davis, June 11, 2008, son of Thomas and Susan POWELL Davis '01
 John Miller Lowry, Jr., January 21, 2009, son of John and Nancy SCHWARZ Lowry '01
 Catherine Seawright Page, May 29, 2008, daughter of Travis Page and Brandy SEAWRIGHT-Page '02
 Steven "Lake" Wagner, March 6, 2008, son of Craig and Heather McDowell WAGNER '02
 Michael Hane Pretulak, December 1, 2008, son of Jared and Marianna SHECUT Pretulak '03
 June Evelien Gibbs, July 21, 2009, daughter of Will and Danielle BAKER Gibbs '04
 Malcolm "Mac" Jefferson Wilson, July 24, 2009, son of JEB and Jane MARION Wilson '04
 Claire Anna Barnes, January 17, 2009, daughter of Chris and Rae SCHULTZ Barnes '04
 James "Jamie" Gresham Duncan, August 31, 2008, son of Darrell and Tiffany SIMONS Duncan '04
 Madison Elizabeth Ann Gilstrap, January 17, 2009, daughter of Walter and Ashante' THOMPSON Gilstrap '04
 Kaelyn Rose Gonzalez, April 28, 2009, daughter of Domingo and Chasity MAHAFFEY Gonzalez '05
 Ava-Reese Painter, March 24, 2009, daughter of Trent and Carly STEVENS Painter '05
 Luke Simon Prochak, January 3, 2009, son of Steve and Lauren TEAGUE Prochak '05
 Wylder Ryan Vaughn, August 11, 2008, son of Joel and Bain WRENN Vaughn '06

CAREER CHANGES

Karen HOLLINGSWORTH Gardiner '79, Director of First-year Writing Program, University of Alabama
 Lara WHELESS '82, Chaplain, VA Hospital, Martinez, CA
 Margaret PEACH '84, Principal, McCracken Junior High School, Spartanburg, SC
 Floria THOMAS Washington '85, Chief Operating Officer, Ohio State Treasurer's Office
 Kelly BEARDEN Caldwell '88, Technical Systems Analyst, GlobalCare, Inc., Alpharetta, GA
 Shay MONTGOMERY Crenshaw '89, Director of Pastoral Care, UNC Hospital, Raleigh, NC

Lisa WIMBERLY Allen '89, Pastor, Fernwood Baptist Church, Spartanburg, SC
 Lesa UNDERWOOD '90, Regional Manager, HelmsBriscoe, Charleston, SC
 Wendy POTTS Huckaby '91, Assistant Vice President, NorthSide Bank, Adairsville, GA
 Jane WALTERS Phillips '91, Registered Nurse, Spartanburg Regional Hospital System, Spartanburg, SC
 Erica Patrice "Candy" MOORE '93, Southeast Community Development Manager, Wachovia Corp., Atlanta, GA
 Kristin COCHRAN Ambory '94, Vice President of Client Services, Vantage Point
 Kathleen PARRISH Nelson '94, Pharmacist, Greenville Hospital System - Upstate Medical Pharmacy, Greenville, SC
 Mandy SNOW Vaudrey '94, Director of Operations, CCS, Inc., Christainburg, VA
 Erin ZICKOS Smiley '94, Regional Manager, Brookdale Senior Living
 Meredith Lynn REYNOLDS '96, Assistant Professor, Francis Marion University, Florence, SC
 Anna SNOW Cheek '96, Owner/Designer, Cheek Interiors, Anderson, SC
 Sarah HEUSS Holliday '97, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Southern Polytechnic State University
 Nikki WILLOUGHBY '97, Senior Director of Public Affairs, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Washington, DC
 Elizabeth THOMPSON '99, Director of Sales, Amelia Hotel at the Beach, Amelia Island, FL
 Shilin YIN '99, President, Benefito, Inc., Schwenksville, PA
 LaTonia OWENS Patterson '00, Bread for the World, Atlanta, GA
 Candace GARDNER '01, Marketing Services Manager, Hubbell Lighting, Inc., Greenville, SC
 Nicole JOHNSEY Burke '01, Researcher and Writer, Global Scripture Impact
 Stephanie LIVESAY Winkler '01, Attorney/owner, The Winkler Law Firm, Anderson, SC
 Neal MILLIKAN '01, History Lecturer, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
 Autaun MORANT '01, Founder, RUN with Faith! Inc.
 Trisha PRIESTER '01, Grant Coordinator, Clemson University
 Rebecca RAY '01, Certified Massage Therapist, Taylor, MI
 Elizabeth OSWALT '02, Director of Alumnae, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC
 Chrissie PRICE '03, Head Tennis Professional, Medlock Bridge Tennis Center, John's Creek, GA
 Angela Dawn CONNER '04, Instructor, Stanley Associates/ Army Prep School, Fort Jackson, SC
 Danielle BECK '05, Law Clerk for the Honorable Clifton Newman of the SC Circuit Court, Charleston, SC

Kathleen A. BROWN '05 MEd, Director of Learning Communities, Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, SC
 Mackall Hill GANTT '05, Financial Representative, Mass Mutual, Mt. Pleasant, SC
 Nicole MARTIN Pruitt '05, Youth Pastor, Coram Deo Church, Sartoga Springs, UT
 Andrea WEATHERMAN '05, Teaching Assistant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
 Amanda BURGESS George '06, Therapist, HOPE Reach, Woodruff, SC
 Ashley GREENWAY '06, Preschool Teacher, USC Upstate Burroughs Child Development Center, Spartanburg, SC
 Lindsey BLUNT '08, French Teacher, Buffalo Elementary School, Buffalo, SC

ADVANCED DEGREES

Candace LOWE Long '67, Executive MBA, Kennesaw State University, 2008
 Liz LEWIS Schellingerhoudt '82, M.Div., Candler School of Theology at Emory University, May 11, 2009
 Barbara BISHOP '90, MS, College of Mount Saint Joseph, 2008
 Jane WALTERS Phillips '91, BSN, USC Upstate, 2008
 Laurie GILES Hillstock '96, Ph.D., Clemson University, July 2009
 Melissa VAN DOREN '97, MTS, Virginia Theological Seminary, 2006
 Olivia THORNTON Charney '98, AA, New York School of Interior Design, December 2008
 Elizabeth L. PADGETT '99, MBA, Villanova School of Business, May 2009
 Dana LUTRELL Garner '00, PhD, Virginia Tech, Fall 2008
 Neal Elizabeth MILLIKAN '01, Ph.D., University of South Carolina, May 2008
 Katie LEONARD '04, MA, Concordia University, 2008
 April Anne REED-COX '04, MMus, Converse College, May 16, 2009
 Danielle BECK '05, JD, Charleston School of Law, May 2008
 Nicole MARTIN Pruitt '05, M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, May 2, 2009
 Melanie HARRISON '06, MPAff, LBJ School of Public Affairs at UT-Austin, May 23, 2009

Dr. Robert T. Coleman, Jr.

1920 - 2009

Converse mourns the death of the College's fifth president, Dr. Robert T. Coleman, Jr. who died February 9, 2009. A memorial service was held in Daniel Recital Hall on the Converse campus.

Coleman's tenure spanned from 1961-1989. Through his commitment, vision and leadership, virtually all components of the College experienced unprecedented growth: from the construction of new academic buildings and residence halls, to improvements in the liberal arts curriculum and financial aid offerings for students to accommodate a student body that more than doubled in size.

"Dr. Coleman's many achievements were a direct result of his vision and dedication to Converse's mission of preparing women to see clearly, decide wisely and act justly," said President Betsy Fleming. "His legacy is an invaluable part of the foundation we build upon today in advancing women for personal and professional success."

Dr. Tom McDaniel, Senior Vice-President of the College, who began his own Converse tenure in 1971, reflected: "Bob Coleman led Converse through many of the economic and social upheavals of his era—integration, the women's rights movement, the decline in the number of single-gender institutions and many other such issues. He lived and breathed Converse and so identified himself with this College that he often took his presidential responsibility more seriously than any other personal priorities he might have had. I found him unfailingly supportive and encouraging. He will be missed by those who knew him well."

Memorials may be made to the Robert T. Coleman, Jr. Scholarship Fund at Converse. Letters of condolence may be sent online at floydmortuary.com. Read more about Dr. Coleman's life and Converse leadership at converse.edu/coleman.



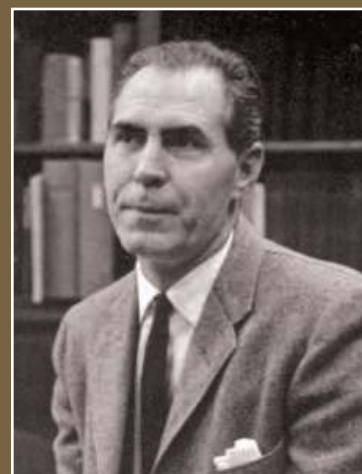
Dr. Charles Ashmore

1916 - 2009

Dr. Charles DeLoach Ashmore, Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of English, died September 9, 2009. A memorial service was held in Gibbs Chapel in the Montgomery Student Center at Converse.

Dr. Ashmore joined the Converse family in 1958 as professor of English, became acting dean of the College of Arts & Sciences in 1961, was appointed dean in 1962 and continued to serve in that capacity until 1982. As Dean, he worked to advance the quality of student work, the curriculum, and the academic standing of the College. Recognizing the changing roles and needs of young women in modern society, Dr. Ashmore oversaw the establishment of new academic departments, innovative majors and the study/travel program. Under his administration, Converse was also launched into the field of graduate education.

Read more about Dr. Ashmore's life and Converse leadership at converse.edu/ashmore.



Elizabeth "Liz" White Calvert '84

1962 - 2008

The Converse family was deeply saddened by the deaths of Converse Trustee Liz Calvert '84 and her husband, John. A memorial service for the couple was held November 15, 2009 in Atlanta, GA.

"Liz was an outstanding, career-minded professional who served as a positive role model for Converse students. She was passionate about her Converse experience and gave much of herself to advance the College," said President Fleming.

An accomplished business attorney, Liz specialized in employee benefits and executive compensation. She joined the Converse Board of Trustees in 2004 and served as a member of Converse's strategic planning committee to develop the plan that was launched in 2007. Liz and John were founding members of the Converse Board of Visitors and Liz previously served on the Converse Alumnae Board and as alumnae club chair for the Atlanta area. She faithfully supported Converse with gifts for numerous programs and initiatives, and opened her home to host alumnae events and student groups.

A member of the Class of 1984 and recipient of the Spirit of Converse Award, Liz double majored in math and politics at Converse, was a student-athlete and an active student leader.

Memorials may be made to The Liz White Calvert '84 Spirit of Converse Scholarship. Read more about Liz's life and accomplishments at converse.edu/calvert.

ALUMNAE EVENTS



May 14, 2009
Senior Candlelight Dinner at the Piedmont Club hosted by Nancy Bain Cote '79.



May 15, 2009
Hats Off Party for seniors hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Stowe III and an anonymous donor.

CLASS OF 1929

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representative:
Mary Hamilton Stephens
1000 Wesley Pines Road
Lumberton, NC 28358

CLASS OF 1931

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Gladys Jean Phillips celebrated her 100th birthday twice this summer. Her first celebration on June 28th was given by her church, Trenholm Road United Methodist. Her second celebration was on July 5th with her very large extended family in the dining room and parlor of the Still Hopes mansion.

CLASS OF 1933

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representative:
Blanche Dennis Cantey
100 Joseph Walker Drive
West Columbia, SC 29169

CLASS OF 1943

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representative:
Barbara Brown Lee
706 N Summit Crest Court
Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-582-4668

CLASS OF 1944

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representative:
Catherine Gant Powell
122 Fairway Drive
Washington, NC 27889, 252-975-6902

Two members of the Class of 1944 were happily present for the Leaders and Legends Awards Luncheon on April 25, 2009. Our class was honored to have Allene Broyhill Stevens receive the Community Service Award. Allene has been very involved with educational and cultural affairs in North Carolina, and with her late husband, Bill Stevens, was a strong advocate of healthcare also. She looked as beautiful as ever! Mary Frances Morgan '43 and Bessie Rice Ball enjoyed being with Allene and her family during the luncheon. Many of Allene's family drove from Lenoir, NC for the day, and this made the reunion more special. Bessie had a telephone visit with Margaret Workman Hudson. Margaret is not in good health. Bessie moved into a house at Summit Hills Retirement Community eight years ago and enjoys it very much. Some evenings in the dining room Bessie plays old popular songs and always a little Chopin. This keeps her fingers still working, and her brain clicking some. Bessie says a high point in her church (Fernwood Baptist Church where her husband Billy Ball was called as their first pastor in 1960) and therefore her life is Fernwood recently calling Lisa Wimberly Allen '89 and her husband Dean Allen as co-pasters. They arrived June 15, 2009. Bessie is enjoying getting to know both of them better. They have two young children at home. Both Lisa and Dean did graduate work in Louisville, KY and in Boston. Bessie wishes everyone a healthy and joyful fall!

CLASS OF 1945

65th Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representatives:
Margaret Fulton Walker
208 Crest Drive
Mt. Olive, NC 28365, 919-658-2167
E-mail: mfultonwalker@bellsouth.net
Mary Fabisinski Roberts
1506 NW 36th Way
Gainesville, FL 32605, 352-376-7175



Mark your calendars for our 65th reunion. Please make plans to be in Spartanburg on April 23 and 24th. More details on events for reunion weekend will be coming later.

CLASS OF 1946

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010
Representative:
Mary Helen Garrison Dalton
3064 Ridgewood Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30327, 404-355-0434
E-mail: mhdalton7@aol.com

Nancy Milby Gabhart exercises daily, and plays bridge. Harvey Newsom Harrelson and Roy live at Debordieu, SC; she suffers from macular degeneration. Jane Culcleasure Haynes moved to a retirement home in Spartanburg due to macular degeneration. Sally Gentry Horton recently traveled to Thailand and spent two weeks in Cambodia! Penelope Bouknight Houghteling retired from being a clinical social worker. She is a widow now and moved to Los Alamos, NM to be near her grandchildren Lily (6), and Ben (5). Shirley Shepherd Johnston gardens and says her peonies are spectacular. Anne Wood Kelley helps people by doing alterations and is active in her bridge group, her church, and volunteer work. Bettie Haughton McLaughlin and Ted have moved to a retirement community in Durham, NC to be near their daughter. Their new number is 919-403-7632. Barbara Harris Randle has four great-grandchildren; she belongs to a study club, garden club, DAR and is active in her church. Dorothy Hartin Rhame moved to a retirement home because she is having chemo for the second time. I believe Pauline Thomson Rice has four daughters, 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and two more on the way. Her bridge friends go yearly to her home at Wild Dunes for a week to play lots of bridge. Caroline

Thomas Stewart moved into a condominium. She flies frequently to Denver, CO to visit her son. Juleene Cutright Tope works in her rock garden and is a spinner, a weaver, a knitter, and dyes her materials. Barbara Hall Hanning exercises three times a week and her husband is still a football coach at Wofford. Melinda Jennings Holroyd recently had a liver replacement and is doing well. She and her husband plan to do some hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains this summer. Allene Wells Williamson is well; her 92-year-old husband goes to work every day at their store in Landrum. Rosa Strait is painting (pictures) and moved back to Rock Hill, SC. My husband's youngest brother and his wife recently bought one of Rosa's paintings. Dorothy Huntly Galloway's husband retired from the military after 30 years of service. They raised their children in Japan, Germany, and all over the US. They moved to Snellville, GA to be near their children. Ann Llewellyn Ditto has a three-bedroom villa in a retirement campus and has a garden where she grows tomatoes and zinnias for her table. On April 13, Dicksie Brown Cribb was awarded by the state of SC the Order of the Silver Crescent, the highest award for community and volunteer service. April 24, 2009 was my last Converse Board of Trustee meeting. After receiving my plague for 31 years on the board, our daughter Mary Gossett Dalton King '75 sponsored one of the larger classrooms and dedicated it to my memory! It was a complete surprise and you can understand how moved I was. Our 65th reunion will be 2011. Those of use who are able should be making mental plans to be there. Take care and don't fall! All best wishes, Mary Helen

CLASS OF 1947

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Mary Young Cousar

4615 Arlon Lane

Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-1793

E-mail: cousarj@bellsouth.net

CLASS OF 1948

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Eleanor "Skippy" Herbert Hale

5171 Yacht Club Road

Jacksonville, FL 32210, 904-387-9592

E-mail: skippyhale@gmail.com

Alice Mobley Lipscombe

107 Conyers Street

Sumter, SC 29150, 803-773-8265

E-mail: clipscombe@sc.rr.com

Martha Horton Norris lives in Atlanta. She and her retired architect husband have a place in San Miguel, Mexico where they enjoy going with family and friends. Her three children all live in Atlanta. Anne Makepeace Paty enjoys a lot of bridge, and has been knitting shawls for her church to share with sick or aged people. She is a member of Daughters of the King. She recently enjoyed an afternoon of bridge with Betty Anne Welch Warren and her retired doctor husband, Don, in their lovely Palm Beach apartment. Dot McLeod Rhodes and her retired pediatrician husband have a home in Montreat for their summer get away. She has two boys and a girl. One son is a pediatrician and the other runs the family business...timber, land and lumber. Her married daughter lives in NYC and loves it. Carolyn Isbell Henderson says that she is enjoying life. She just returned from a grand wedding of a grandchild in Bonita Springs, FL. She lives in a retirement home in Macon that is owned by the hospital, and she is busy with all the activities there. In addition, she plays a lot of duplicate bridge. Ann (Bones) Davis Klinker enjoys gardening, visiting her daughter and retired husband in Mt. Pleasant. Ann lives in Jacksonville, FL, where she does a lot of church volunteer work. Peggy Gay Simmons left a short and to the point message on my telephone. She said, "I'm still alive and I'm not married." Is that good news, bad news or good news, good news? You decide. And to fill out the column, a word about myself....I (Skippy) am at my beloved NC Mountain cottage until the middle

of October when I am going on a cruise that takes me to Dubrovnik, Croatia,... Venice, Sicily, Naples, Rome (though I have been to Italy four times, I have never been to Rome), Monte Carlo and ends up in Barcelona, Spain. I love to travel and will do it as long as I am able.

CLASS OF 1949

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Kitty Peeler Carson

401 Springdale Drive

Union, SC 29379, 864-427-3353

E-mail: ladykc@bellsouth.net

WE WON the '09 Reunion Class Act Award by only half a percent!!! A thousand thanks! With me were Mary Nanny Brady, Rella Anderson Carp, BJ Putnam Carpenter, Molly Leatherwood Cuttino, Jackie Parrish Ladshaw, Lib Harper Hopkins and Marianne Ellison Bartram, who received the Converse 100 Award !!! The class mourned 19 deceased since our 55th! Yet, our meeting was lively with updated goings on of children, grands and great-grands. Mary joins the alum board with music-rep daughter Joy Finch; Lib was en route to a great-granddaughter's birth and a grandson's July wedding; Molly and BJ performed excellently at the alumnaa recital; Jackie is still a school music teacher; Rella read a beautifully composed tribute to husband Gibby Carp, deceased in October; Marianne was facing foot surgery on the 27th. We were delighted to have Rella's daughter Sharon Watkins, Mary's daughter Joy and Jackie's alumnae sister and her cousin sit in on our meeting. Questionnaires from Carolyn Wilson Gaston, Lois Jean Main Bass and Peg Roohan Schmitz were distributed. We had expected Elizabeth McGeorge Spencer and Peggy Bradford Long. Hope the absence was not health related! We read notes from Martha Paxton Beale who made contact reminders of the fund drive for me – thanks; Gerry Forman Mobley – she and Burts have moved to Presbyterian Home in Clinton – he is in health care and she is assisted living; Jean Garrison Wier – foot surgery would keep her away. They attended a granddaughter's wedding in Israel in August while the other Israeli granddaughter is studying fashion design in LA. Sophie Riddick Parker wrote that they would be at Charlie's 65th reunion at VMI on the 23rd and must return to Milwaukee on the 26th. They have two daughters, twin sons, and six grandsons. She was in the interior design business for 25 years and presently has a studio and leads a group of outdoor painters each summer. Many of you we NEVER hear from, and we desperately want your news! Again thanks for your reunion gift. I do need your news, as I am STILL your Class Rep!



Class of 1949

Class of 1954



CLASS OF 1950

60th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Mary Alice Ingram Busch

1509 Cherokee Road

Florence, SC 29501, 842-662-1622



Barbara Bedenbaugh Jeffords and husband Vernon celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 3, 2009. George Truett Hollis was honored on May 29, 2009 by the Los Angeles City College faculty at the 2009 Spring Faculty Recital.

CLASS OF 1951

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Priscilla Beard Blosser-Rainey

Post Office Box 706

Timberville, VA 22853, 540-896-9931

E-mail: prsrainey@hughes.net

Evie Gilliland Gibson's husband, Dr. Henry Gibson, was voted South Carolina Family Practitioner of the Year for 2008 and still goes to his office three and a half days a week (remember "we" are the big 80 group this year or last). Ann McCaskill Leonard's son Walt and his daughter flew to Africa and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro last October with their guides and porters. In spite of altitude sickness, nausea and weight loss (almost to death), they made it safely home several days later, glad to have had the experience, but wiser on ever repeating it. Carolyn Byrd Tipton and her daughter Patsy Tipton visited Priscilla Blosser-Rainey at her River Farm, Timberville, VA in February between basketball games when Byrd's grandson, Jason Riddenhour, the Captain of his basketball team UNCA, played Liberty U and VMI in Virginia. Avid basketball fan that she is, she was decorated by the team with their sports t-shirt as Team Grandmother, which was her inspiration to heal and walk again from a serious fall and broken bones. Doris Marley Laird celebrated the birth of her new granddaughter Samantha Laird. Nancy Cheatham Riggsbee, Sissy Snow McAlister,

Roz Senseney Davis, Evie Gilliland Gibson and Georgia Free Laney, recently went to the beach together close to Pawley's Island. Several traveled to the Georgetown Shag Festival where Sissy Snow and partner-brother are continued champions.

CLASS OF 1952

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Suzie Earnhardt Smith

370 Montgomery Drive

Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-582-2415

E-mail: sesmas@charter.net

CLASS OF 1953

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Marilyn Mateer Sherrill

114 Briarwood Court

Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864-583-8066

CLASS OF 1954

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Betsy Shepherd Ancrum

35 Honeysuckle Woods

Lake Wylie, SC 29710, 803-831-0205

E-mail: bancrum@bellsouth.net

Margaret Jackson Bundy

518 Briarwood Road

Lancaster, SC 29720, 803-285-6002

E-mail: MJBundy@comporium.net

Ann Douglass Nichols

205 Birchwood Drive

Union, SC 29379, 864-427-3647

Among those who *couldn't* make it to the 55th Reunion were Mary Littleton Cruce who recently traveled to San Francisco with one daughter to visit another daughter and says California may be nice but South Carolina is better; Becky Beam Chamberlain (she and Don were busy moving across the state line from Michigan to be closer to their son); Anne Frew Austell who skipped

Reunion Weekend to help her daughter and husband with their 25th Anniversary bash; and Helen Robertson Pardue, who planned to visit her son in England that weekend. Fresh from Spartanburg, I can tell you that the campus was gorgeous – far larger and prettier than it was in our day. Mercifully, they had shuttles to get us around, because there was a lot to see and do. Margaret Jackson Bundy and Charlie were on hand both days, as was I (Bet). Friday was the "bumper crop" (five?!). Jane Beasley Moore came; she has sold the farm in Rock Hill with plans to move near a daughter in Columbia. Jane says Mildred Roberts Robards and Frank have put their house on the market and moved to a Rock Hill retirement village. Fran Martin Smith showed up and looked just like she always has, and - delight of delights - Mitzi Herrin Legerton joined us (first time she's been back since freshman year). On Saturday, Ann Douglass Gibson Nichols, still thin as a shadow, came. We may have been a small group, but we were a lively one and you absentees missed a lot of fun. There also was a large number we heard from by mail, phone, and/or check – and Maggie says those checks from near and far added up to nearly \$11,000, with almost 54% of our class participating! We did not win the Class Act Award, but still made a good showing, so you can be proud. PS: Dee Miller Williams sends her best by telephone to everyone, and so do Ann Boney, Sallie Hicks Holt, and Bette Hannah Sprecher. Keep those cards and letters coming, y'all. We love hearing from you.

CLASS OF 1955

55th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Jo Ann Guyton Davison

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Missoula, MT 59802, 406-829-6376



Hal Duvall, Cheraw native and husband of Amaryllis Doar Duvall, has published his first novel, *Juniper Road*. Set during the Great Depression of the 1930's, it is the story of two teenaged friends, one white and one African-American, who are both trying to help their families survive the hard times in the segregated South. Duvall says, "The book is entirely fictitious. There are places that will be recognizable to Cheraw, but all of what happens, I just made up." Amaryllis tells me that Hal is working on a second novel carrying some of the *Juniper Road* characters through the Civil Rights Era. (Hal was a member of the local school board during the integration of South Carolina public schools.) Hal has been invited to give a talk in September to Lucille Mellette Thomas's book club in Florence, and Amaryllis is looking forward to seeing Converse roommate, Lucy. Julia Blair Brenaman has had quite a time since the week before Christmas 2008, when she fell at home and broke her leg (the tibia). The break has

been complicated by the fact that she has broken that ankle several times. She lives alone so it was a month in a rehabilitative hospital, then over a month at a nursing home with rehab. Finally, she was able to return to her home in mid-March, still not allowed to touch her foot to the floor. With the help of a physical therapist who makes house calls and some practical nursing aides, she has now graduated to a walker and/or a cane, can drive her car and takes water therapy several times a week. She is remarkably upbeat and positive as she struggles to regain her ability to walk! Another of very upbeat and positive classmates is Margaret Stevenson Bucholz whose poisonous spider bite has still not healed. This means no swimming. If you remember Peggy's prowess in the water ballets in the Dexter pool, you can imagine how frustrating it is for her. She remains cheerful in Darien, enjoying especially the visits of her old piano students who come back to play for her. SEND ME YOUR NEWS!

CLASS OF 1956

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Mary Oeland Alexander

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Ann Hudgens Karegeannes

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Spartanburg, SC 29307, 864-579-3801

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Pegilie Price Walter

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Columbia, SC 803-419-0986

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Converse missed seeing all of you this past April when she celebrated the Reunion weekend and Founder's Day together. Ann was the only class member who attended, so she sat with the reunioneing Class of 1954 as we visited, joined in the convocation and enjoyed lunch on the front lawn. Golden Clubbers had lunch in the shadow of the Marion Anderson statue in front of Twichell. Our classmates report to us that they have been

traveling around the US and Western Europe, celebrating 50th anniversaries along with second and third generation weddings. New babies galore – grands and great grands – are expanding our families. The travelers reporting in are Nancy Weld Wise seeing more of this country and Tolly Gilmer Shelton and Barrett revisiting old friends in SC. The Sheltons have been work travelers with an extended visit in Italy including a 50th anniversary and a trip to Honduras. Sunshine Connor Norwood has been on the road in this country and Europe. Mary Barnwell Aiken & Earl Russell in Greenville tell us about the busy lives of their four sons and their families, all living nearby and sharing their interconnected lives at home and at their churches. Mary B. and Earl work with the Child Evangelism Fellowship Good News Club at a local elementary school. Marion Cathcart Waters and David have a new granddaughter, Ruth, born in the fall of 2008. Bettie Jane Woodward Grant and Hoke are enjoying the pleasures and exhaustion of caring for year old grandson Connor. Their "South Pole" daughter Bettie Katherine was at home at Christmas, 2008, and will probably return to the pole this year. Nancy Gallup Gay, MM '56, says that she is a concert pianist living in Rock Hill SC. Her daughter Janine composes music for dance and other groups. Nancy has produced CD's of her performances. Stay in touch.

CLASS OF 1957

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Marguerite Gignilliat Old

314 Jackson Avenue

Lexington, VA 24450, 540-463-5436

The Charleston Horticultural Society honored Evelyn "Patti" Moore McGee in January 2009 with the 1830 Award, for her commitment to botanical pursuits. Patti received a silver medal at the society's annual Founders Day meeting, which was attended by nearly 300 society members and guests. The award recognizes individuals or groups whose botanical commitment has enriched

the greater Charleston horticultural community. Linda Roller Livick has a great-grandson and is enjoying retirement! Linda continues to be busy with church work and garden club.

CLASS OF 1958

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Elaine Finklea Folline

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Columbia, SC 29205, 803-254-9503

Nancy Hayes Wilkerson

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Charlotte, NC 28207, 704-376-4776

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CLASS OF 1959

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Sister Marshall Goode

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Rock Hill, SC 29730, 803-327-4746

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Mary Jane Pearce Holland

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Florence, SC 29501, 843-665-2003

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Sixteen of us reunited all over the beautiful campus and had an awe inspiring good time! We even had a party on the grounds – with cocktails. You've never done that (legally) before! Jane Torkington White, who is moving from Seattle to Tallahassee, met Carolyn Turner Kelly. They arrived a day early and had supper at the Beacon! Mary Jane Pearce Holland caught up with Sally Mason Maynard and Gary, and Sister Marshall Goode and Martin. As Evans was with Mary Jane, these three men rather stood out in the group. Others, as Jayne Callahan Burton's Tom and Mary Ann Medford Claud's fiancé, Olin Sansbury, (Did you get that?), Judy Brewer Bradshaw's Charlie, Ann Argo Sander's Sandy and Sister Wannamaker Still's Reddick came later in the weekend. Jean Poole Ross, Winnie Harris Hobron and Jane Torkington White stayed up late into the first night, carrying on as they did 50 years ago. All of us, including Connie Gratton Averitt and Rosann Ferguson Hooks, (looking just as we remember them) chatted about you who were missing. We caught up a lot, but missed you. We marched as a class with robes and medallions for the opening Founder's Day ceremony. Some giggled, some teared and all were impressed with the beautiful Twichell. During the event, we were each introduced and Sally Maynard whispered that we were legally OLD! We ate dinner on the grounds. Penny Ray Pickett and Addie Ray Townes came in to visit. Margaret Campbell MacDonald was there and Joan Madden drove in from Illinois just in time for the ceremony. Saturday started with breakfast with the President and then our class meeting. Jane Burton tried unsuccessfully to quiet us and conduct business. We asked Sister Goode and Mary



Class of 1959

Jane Holland to be new class representatives. Our picture was taken – How regal we looked! Our own Tink Macaulay Carney was given the first award at the luncheon – The Distinguished Alumna Award. That afternoon, Sister Goode and Martin entertained us at a gallery featuring her art. As we enjoyed champagne, we “oohed” and “aahed” about our talented Sister, before heading on to the class dinner at the President’s home. President Betsy was gracious, the home was lovely and the food was delicious. Did we have fun!

CLASS OF 1960

50th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Donna Culbertson Fritz

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I hope many of you are planning to attend our 50th Reunion, it is not too early to begin making your plans for April 23-24, 2010. We were saddened to hear of the death of classmate Alice Gamble Kilgo this past March. Virginia Dyson Hooper was in the hospital this past April; she continues to improve but she is still taking treatment. Please keep her in your prayers. Carole Jones' grandson, Dustin Johnson continues to play well on the PGA Tour; he won at Pebble Beach in January and that qualified him for the Masters. I spoke with Sally Jordan Floyd right after the terrible fires in North Myrtle Beach in April, she lives over two miles away but she still had large chunks of soot falling in her yard. Sally retired from the Real Estate business and is enjoying her family. Please let me hear from you by E-mail or a note, this is a great way to keep up with our classmates.

CLASS OF 1961

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Betsy Blythe Frazer

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Frances Taylor Meissner

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Seaford, VA 23696, 757-898-4277

E-mail: franmeissner@verizon.net

Laura Simpkins Stock

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Johns Island, SC 29455, 843-768-9933

E-mail: lss3@earthlink.net

Nina Jameson Jordan writes that her granddaughter, Jordan, graduated from USC with honors and is headed to graduate school for her PHD. Nina and Jim are repeating a favorite river cruise from Vienna to Amsterdam. Last fall they cruised down the Seine and spent time in France. Now they are planning a repeat of a Rhine/Mosel cruise. Boo Bargamin Kral claims to have done nothing of

interest! Reading, golf and bridge are big on her agenda, and she and Ted cruised down the Amazon last spring. They spend time with daughter Emilie and her family with children, ages, six, eight, and ten, near Baltimore, and son Teddie, his wife, and baby son, Winn, in northern Virginia. Charlotte Gower Murray skied with her daughter and grandchildren in the Virginia mountains last February, and then spent Easter week in Houston with her son, daughter, and two granddaughters. Ann Carol Price Hall is enjoying retirement, playing bridge and watching her granddaughters grow up. Occasionally she sees Betty Brunson Hinkle ('60), who lives in Greenville and has two good-looking, unmarried sons! Frances Taylor Meissner says she has been on no trips lately, has no grandchildren, no honors, and has not seen anyone from Converse. She does hear from Diane Vandervoort Asbill occasionally. Frances and Chuck are busy enjoying their 15th year of retirement. They sail and kayak, and Frances stays occupied with church work, the woman's club, and other volunteer organizations. She is the church web master! Six cute second-grade and third-grade Sunday schoolers keep her young with their enthusiasm. Her son and daughter both live in Texas, but were home for Christmas. Betty Lake Orr is selling insurance after a hiatus of some years. She thinks that maybe she is too old. We're not old, Betty, just experienced!

CLASS OF 1962

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representative:

Dixie Crum Stone

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I recently had a wonderful talk with Susie Jackson Davenport who continues to live in Mt. Pleasant, SC. She works as the secretary to the principal at Wando High School in Mt. Pleasant. Susie has four children and seven grandchildren. Her oldest daughter Nancy is a Converse graduate and Nancy has one daughter, Ellison who is six years old. Susie's second daughter, whose name is also Ellison, attended Converse for two years. She has a masters degree in speech language pathology. Ellison has two daughters – Erin is five years old and Jerry Grace is three years old. Susie's son Kenneth lives in Summerville, SC and his daughters are Alyssa, ten years old, and Leah, who is six. Susie's youngest daughter Mary is an attorney in Charleston, SC. Mary has a seven-year-old son William and a two-year-old daughter Lizzie. What a wonderful family! I also had a great conversation with Mary Cooper Roche. She and her husband Pat live in Wilmington, NC, where Pat retired from Sperry-UNIVAL/UNISYS. They both love Wilmington, where Mary is active in the Women's Club. She also enjoys being a member of P.E.O., a church organization that works for the continuing education of women. As all of us do, they enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. Mary and Pat's older daughter, Anne, lives in Fredericksburg,

VA with her two children – Jessica who is thirteen and son Cory who is eight years old. Mary and Pat's younger daughter Mary Frances and her son Cooper, who is six years old, live in Cary, NC. Mary tells me that their most favorite time of the year is when the entire family spends the week together at Sunset, NC. Dell Grace Schroeder has been nominated for the Florida State University Band Alumni Wall of Fame and for the Del Mar Fair's "Music Mania" Banner Project sponsored by the Point Loma Association. "Music Mania" honorees will have their own photo banner hanging for six weeks prior and during the Del Mar Fair. Ladies, please send me your news!! Dixie

CLASS OF 1963

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

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Emily Kerr Stay

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Betty Moore Henderson's request for news was fruitful! I will hit the highlights and forward to you, for whom I have E-mail, a group mailing of detailed news. If you would like to be a part of the group "Class of 1963 News," send E-mail to me, Emily Kerr Stay, and we will make that happen. Betty and friend, John, caught up with Anne Waters Green and her relatively new husband, Jim, at the wedding of Elaine Smith Thompson to Donald Hrazdil in March. Celebrating births of first grandchild or first grandson are Anne Waters Green and Betty Moore Henderson, respectively. The majority of us enjoy seeing grandchildren, frequently or infrequently, depending upon distance; Rhett Fair Wilson wins the "babysitting" grandchild award by keeping an eye on three granddaughters twelve hours a day, M-W. Another proud grandmother of 10, Pat Sloan Pace and husband Bob, cruised to South America, including Santiago, Chile to Rio, Brazil. Eula Ligon Rosenberger, also a happy grandmother, retired from Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce though she substitutes when needed. Thinking about retiring, Ann Farmer Lascell's news covered the last 49 years. She has continued her musical life in orchestra, an organist in various churches, as music professor at Lynchburg College, and private teaching in her own studio. Hattie Liddon Andersen sent Christmas greetings including a newsletter and photos of her children and grandchildren. Agnes Binder Weisiger continues at a fast pace, serving on a variety of Boards, volunteering and

traveling, recently to South Africa. President Betsy Fleming announced two Weisiger Scholarships for in-coming freshmen during Founder's Day ceremonies. Sudie Davis Anderson, grandmother of ten and real estate agent for the past twenty-two years, has taken up painting, mostly oils. Hattee Ziegler Christian visited with Margaret Charles Stubbs, Nancy Brown Davis, Ann Flintom McLeod, Cecelia Quantz Nettles and Julia Adams McLaurin this past fall. Nancy Thayer Jennings and Hattee Ziegler Christian hosted a bridesmaid's luncheon for Sarah Slade Whitmire's daughter. Nancy Brown Davis traveled to Prague and Eastern Europe. Norma Jean Burns Reid has moved to Georgia to be near her son.

CLASS OF 1964

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Representatives:

Liz Harkins Biosca

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Our 45th reunion is now history and so are our class representatives and infamous bookends Joan Foster McKeown and Babs Humphries Chung. They have faithfully poked and prodded the class of 1964 to keep up and send in news and we thank them for their hilarious good humor and persistence. Joan began our reunion class meeting making excuses for Babs tardiness declaring that she was behind on her meds and would be joining us shortly. Lynn Perry Young delivered the sucker punch of the meeting for nominating Sarah Miller McDaniel and Liz Harkins Biosca to be the class representatives for the next chapter. If our class photo accompanies this issue, all will be able to see for themselves that no one is recognizable but all look pleasant and very cool for 67 years of age. Kudos go out to Liz Harkins Biosca who all alone managed to redeem our class by receiving the Converse Star Award. "Way to go, Liz!" to coin a phrase. We all whopped and hollered for her and were so proud that she is one of ours. Our class supper was generously provided by the "locals": Those fellow classmates who have been stuck entertaining us for 45 years just because of their close proximity to Spartanburg. We thank them once again for their gracious hospitality and fantastic supper. Susan Craig Murphy and her husband John greeted us in their beautiful garden and made sure we were all back in our cars by midnight. Those in attendance were Sarah Evans Allen, Liz Harkins Biosca, Rosanne Dargan Brasington, Barry Mitchiner Caldwell, Debbie Cameron, Babs, B. Kennedy Durham, Anne Mayo Elliott, Ellen Holmes Gramling, Pat Parsons Hickerson, Ann Glascock Lindsay, Sally Riddle Marsh, Sarah Miller McDaniel, Joan, Caroline Watts Morris, Henrietta Hughes Ouzts, Sally Kerr Overcarsh, June McIntosh

Class of 1964



Uhler, Sandy Pickens Wagner, Reecie Smith Wilkes, Lynn Perry Young, Dorothy Correll Wellons, and our adopted sisters Marjorie Coddington Cannon '62 and Susu Phifer Johnson '65. Send news, keep laughing, and learn to E-mail.

CLASS OF 1965

45th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Susu Phifer Johnson

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Greetings one and all. I spent a truly wonderful evening at John and Susan Craig Murphy's home with old friends from the Class of '64. Their 45th reunion rocked, which encourages me to ask each of you to try to be at Converse on April 23-24, 2010 for ours. As for news, my items are paltry but my best effort. Marion Rivers Cato and Wayland will host our reunion dinner on the Saturday night of Reunion Weekend (April 24) at the Cabin/Cato Terrace. Lovey Daniel Mottern traveled with Lynn Long to the Grand Canyon last August. Peggy Clotfelter Allen's daughter, Martha, has had a baby girl. Ann Trammell Holmes is expecting her eighth grandchild. Ginger McKinney Jernigan continues to serve on the Board of Visitors, as does Tris Gowen Graybeal. Ginger is relaxing, going to the beach and spending time with her 6-year-old grandson. Ginger's Presidency of Raleigh Fine Arts is soon ending. Wayland and Marion Rivers Cato were honored on February 2 with the naming of the cabin terrace, now the Cato Terrace. Anna Dean Johnson continues to feed the Spartanburg area royally with her catering business. Carolyn Church Harbison is enjoying retirement and grandchildren. Kathy Cohen Willard and daughter Carter Willard Smith '88 have been part of creating a highly successful annual Arts & Antiques show in Spartanburg benefiting the Spartanburg Art Museum. Kathy is also enjoying being on the Women Giving Board and considers it a very worthwhile endeavor that she hopes will be adopted by other communities. Harriet Goldsmith '69 is a great resource for any

community interested in starting such a project. Join me in sending a "feel better soon" message to Susan Hope Jordan. Please take time to E-mail one news tidbit today. Thanks.

CLASS OF 1966

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Dianne Kennedy McLees

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CLASS OF 1967

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representative:

Margot McCord Campbell

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Beth Brewer Franz, Karen Stratton Schlag, Judy Coe, Jane Moody Ga braith and Lee Tabb Lauterbach and Margot McCord Campbell all met in Dallas, Texas to visit Lee for our yearly reunion. Rosalie Stone Morris and Suzanne Smith Jordan are the proud grandparents of Charles Hill Morris III born February 12, 2009. Elvy Talley Bryan has been inspired to start taking Spanish. She is doing a math review course and learns new songs on the organ. Elvy has more time for being with her active 95 year old Mother. Memi Speth Kinard has some good news to share. Her daughter and her husband, Mary Karl (a 1991 Converse graduate) and Mark Boepple adopted a baby in June 2006. Because of one judge's wrong decision, the baby was returned to her birth mother in Illinois after 9 months. Two years later and at least ten court hearings, including SC Supreme Court and Illinois Supreme Court, she is now home where she belongs. Besides being a typical two year old she

has made an unbelievable adjustment. Memi is finally a grandmother to Porter Rebecca Boepple. Truly a miracle!!! Lucia Cleveland Johnson went to the Philadelphia Flower Show again this year with Will. Marion Allen Stowe had a nice visit via phone recently with Jane Witherspoon Hope who lives in Charlotte. She had just attended her 45th high school class reunion in Mississippi. Bryan Daley Adair and Margot and their husbands had dinner together last week in Blowing Rock. Bryan is still selling residential real estate in Chapel Hill. Their daughter married last May and now lives in Charlotte. David and Margot have a new hobby. Together with his sister (Becky Ruff, Class of 1969) and her husband we are enjoying Grandpa Stowe's 1951 Chris-Craft which has recently been restored. They have attended a couple of Antique and Classic Boat Shows and appreciate the fellowship around vintage boats. Richie Wilkinson is spending the summer in North Carolina in her newly built studio. She will be returning to Suzhou in China in October, unveiling the statue of her great grandfather who founded Wilkinson Hospital in the 30's.

CLASS OF 1968

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representative:

Barbara Baker Kennedy

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Carol Early Graham

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Caroline Grimboll

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Ann Wallace Nichols

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It seems impossible that more than a year has elapsed since our wonderful 40th Reunion in 2008. Many of us have renewed friendships and we would like to hear from all of our classmates! Nancy Beasley Meldram has decided to retire from the real estate business in Atlanta and she and husband Bill will be moving to Hayesville, NC, where they bought a house on a golf course. Nancy says she may take up the sticks (good luck)! Nancy, Leslie Clark Randolph, Marianne Stribling, Cindy Archibald Purcell and Janie Murray recently purchased a Converse pavement brick honoring Dorrie Duke Keller. News from Charleston is that Justina Lasley got married in May and the Charleston Converse classmates will celebrated with a luncheon. Randy Pollard Gamble spends a lot of time with her one-year old twin grandsons. Betsy Burns Johnson and Gene's B&B carriage house and garden were featured in a recent travel

edition of "Forbes Magazine" with wonderful praise and photographs, and it was listed with only three other places as good places to stay in Charleston. Eleanor Weaver Carter is busy with her wholesale imports business and spending the summer at their lovely log house in Brevard, NC. Joanne Gilmer Cole reports that husband Charlie continues to make progress in rehabilitation after his accidental fall last summer. Barbara Baker Kennedy loves teaching "Nia" at Rex Wellness Center in Raleigh. Nia is a fusion fitness lifestyle for any age and fitness level. It is a combination of dance arts, martial arts, and healing arts. She says if you are interested in moving your body the way it was meant to move to check out www.Nianow.com. Barbara saw Fran Tracy-Walls last Christmas and she is doing wonderfully well with her job with the NC State Archives, Special Collections Department. Both of her daughters (11 & 15) are still playing viola and violin at Meredith College. Please send your representatives news. We miss hearing from you!

CLASS OF 1969

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Representatives:

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If you weren't there, you missed a treat! Thirty-seven of us gathered for our 40th Reunion, some for the first time since graduation. The campus and buildings were gorgeous, the weather was great, but best of all was our time together. Wearing "I Love Modine" buttons, we enjoyed barbecue and bluegrass with the faculty Friday night. Saturday

morning President Betsy Fleming spoke about Converse's focus on creativity and innovation, and the transformational plans for the next few years. Class Meetings followed, and talk flew. We came from everywhere: Ashley Fine Nagle, Pennsylvania; Jackie Noyes and Nancy Fowler Willis, Virginia; Neal and Floride Clarkson Dickert, Sally Evans Lockwood and sons Chip and Jay, Dottie Missbach Kurtz, and Martha Barron Barnes, Georgia; Kathrine Clewis Miller and Lee Ann Lowry Harris, Alabama; Pookie Banks McLaughlin, Fran Lentz Beaty, and Bob and Caroline Lemley Hedrick, Tennessee; Susan Johnston Abernathy and Margaret McCranie Beard, Florida; Linda Russell Cranford, Janice Mayo Spessard, Gray Anderson White, Sallie Ricks, and Tom and Carole Johnston Cumming, North Carolina; and Margaret Shore Roark, who has had open heart surgery this past summer, Ohio. South Carolinians were Jack and Patti Fuller Glenn, Beth Segars James, Mickey and Gene Clarkson Brabham, Maxie McDuffie Haltiwanger, Julia Seabrook Moore, Janie Harp Stancyk, and Cathy Mancke Tisdale and Norman from Columbia; Bambi Dobbins Martin, Agnes Dobson Bruce, Adelaide Capers Johnson, and Alf and Becky Stowe Ruff from Greenville; and Cathy Riley Howle, Floride Owens McKoy, Betsy Daniel Sellers, Elizabeth Blackford Refshauge, Julie Huhn Michau, and Ralph and Nancy Ray Scurry. The Alumnae Awards Luncheon singled out two of our own. Sally Lockwood received the Career Achievement Award and Melissa Daves Johnson received the Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award. Melissa and Steve hosted ALL of us...and Modine!... for our Class Dinner at their home Saturday night. The setting, weather, food and friendship made the perfect finale. Pookie, Bambi, and Linda have loved being class reps for the last five years but have passed the torch. Ashley Fine Nagle, Cathy Riley Howle, and Cissy Smith will bring you complete reunion news in the next issues. Keep those E-mails going and come for our 45th in 2014.

CLASS OF 1970

40th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Janice "Smack" Mack





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Lynnie Hicks Mitchell
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E-mail: lynniemitchell@hotmail.com

Jan Rorebeck Dees spends her time taking line-dancing classes, taking care of a one-legged seagull named Jonathan, and visiting friends. Jan attended Brenda Williams Ketchey's son's wedding to the niece of Jack Hanna, the well-known animal trainer. Brenda had horses at the rehearsal dinner! Janet Stulting retired from her law practice, moved to Paris, earned a certificate for teaching English to speakers of other languages, and now lives in China teaching English through a program called World Teach. Patty Downes Johnson and husband Steve traveled to Prague and Vienna; she now plays a lot of golf. Barbara Holman Stith spent the summer in Maine; she and husband Robin took several trips to Sewanee, where son Boyd is a senior. Susan Dukes Webber is enjoying her newly completed vacation home in Beaufort and visits from her two grandchildren. Stuart Rinehart Stewart is an Episcopal Chaplain at Johns Hopkins Hospital during the week and a parish priest at several churches on Sundays. Thayer Cheatham Willis continues her success with her consulting business and newsletter for purposeful living. Thayer always writes wonderful insights in her newsletter. Lynnie Hicks Mitchell continues to stay busy with travel and volunteer work. Marion Brooke Philpott is adjusting to life since husband Bob died; she travels to visit her sons and is looking forward to her first grandchild. Ann Joyner Cross, Nancy Jane Stedman Calloway, Lynda "Smitty" Smith Swann, and Smack have gotten together several times. Ann continues to work part-time for her husband and do volunteer work. NJ is using her PhD to promote health and wellness. "Smitty" is at the helm of her family business. A highlight for Smitty in 2008 was a family trip to the Mail Order Association's fall conference

where her father's memory was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Pam Holderness Hassenfelt stays busy keeping up with her daughters and serving as caregiver for her mother. Howard Brown Millican retired 1/1/09 from college teaching and enjoys no alarm clock in the morning. Howard, Lynnie and Smack have gotten together a few times, when Lynnie passes through Greensboro. Smack passed all requirements for National Board Certification in teaching, and has now taken her last exam ever.

CLASS OF 1971

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2011
Representatives:
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CLASS OF 1972

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2012
Representatives:
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Please contact Jill or Florence with your latest news!

CLASS OF 1973

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2013
Representative:
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Please E-mail or call me with your new so that we will have a column each time. I recently attended the wedding of Judy Bell Oliphant's daughter, Joan, in Rock Hill. What a beautiful bride Joan was, but equally as gorgeous was mom Judy! Sharon Amos Shealy and I were roommates, and we had such fun catching up and sharing pictures of our grandbabies, Jackson and Lillian. We plan to introduce those two cuties one day! Also attending the wedding were Mary Nell Rogers Brandt and husband Bucko, Caroline Wrigley Schroder, Grazier Connors Rhea '74 and Cindy Bell DesChamps '76, Judy's sister. I met Rosie Bingham Blackburn's daughter, Caroline, at the reception. Shortly after the deadline for the last newsletter, I heard from several classmates. Gay Simmons Colyer had recently returned from a trip to Greece and Turkey with her travel group. I got the cutest "late Christmas card" in November '08 from the children of Anne Osborne Long apologizing for the card which their mom never sent in '07 (I think I have my dates right). Anyway, the children were all dressed in Christmas sweaters/vests that belonged to Anne from years ago – you know the sweaters that we all wore. Evidently, Anne had been too busy to get the card out due to a renovation of the Sullivan's Island home, but in the process of things being moved from one house to another, the children came across these classic sweaters of their mom's, so they took advantage of the "photo op". Several weeks later, the "normal" '08 Christmas card from Anne arrived loaded with news. While the Sullivan's Island house was being redone, Anne enjoyed her sporting lifestyle at Kiawah golfing almost every day. Anne and husband Leonard are back and forth between Charleston and Doonbeg, Ireland where Leonard has developed a golf course there. Thanks to Nancy Atkinson Patch for replying to my Christmas card asking for class news. Nancy and husband, Alex and their three handsome children enjoyed an August '08 function at the Kennedy Center. Nancy, you haven't changed a bit since 1973! Hope to hear from more of you in the near future. Peggy

CLASS OF 1974

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2014
Representatives:
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Although the crowd was small, the reunion was great fun for those who made it: Grazier Connors Rhea, Elodie Hale Craig, Amanda Horton Dorman, Agnes Ervin Asman, Pam Williams Halligan, Janet Andrews, and Libba Elmore Rhoad. We were thrilled to see Grazier installed as President of the Alumnae Association during

the Awards Luncheon. Only three of us were able to stay for the class dinner but we were joined by Elise Warren '75. We enjoyed looking at pictures from our college days and sharing pictures and news of our families. Grazier and her husband Toy are still in Rock Hill. She is the Community Development Director for Catawba Regional Council of Governments. They have a daughter in Columbia and son in D.C. Amanda is in Savannah with her husband Charles. She is still busy with high school activities for one daughter at home and has three sons out on their own. Pam and her husband Bill are in Columbia where she is an Audiologist for Richland School District II. They have two sons and a daughter. Agnes is an accountant and still considers herself a newlywed after four years of marriage. She recently visited Caroline Huhn Jenkins in Wichita and reports that Caroline has now moved to Chicago. Janet is an estate planner in Charlotte and fosters rescue dogs in her spare time. Libba is retired after 30-plus years with the IRS and is organizing her third mission trip to Ecuador. We also received news from Carol Puckett. Carol lives in Jackson, Mississippi, and is President of Viking Hospitality Group. She has been highly involved with the upcoming grand opening of the B. B. King Museum in Indianola. Finally, Libba wants to let everyone know that attending a reunion is definitely worth the effort. You must see for yourself that this is not the Converse College of the 1970's. President Fleming has done wonderful things with the physical layout, academics, and athletics. The student body is unbelievably dedicated to scholarship and community service. The reunion activities, food and entertainment were phenomenal, as was the welcome.

CLASS OF 1975

35th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representative:

Libby Knight Borders

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Lillian Montgomery Lawrence, Gina McGinnis Long, Nancy Orders Smith, Louise Malloy Bonner, Betsy McPhail Weathersbee, Joy Joyner Poe, Harriet Swink Pharr, Tere Yow Ey and Libby Knight Borders all converged on the city of Charlotte in March and had a grand time! Tere and Betsy entertained us nightly in their lovely homes. Jane Boatwright Schwab '77 joined us at Betsy's and we enjoyed seeing her and going to her fabulous store the next day. Martha Zachry Lever wrote and said her daughter, Macaulay, was expecting a baby boy and son Zach was graduating from University of Florida Law School in May. Her artistic life is flourishing. Check out www.reddoorartstudio.com or marthalever.blogspot.com. Cary Seigler Walker reported that her daughter, Meredith, married Brad Gower of Greenville June 28, 2008. Brad's mother, Ellen

Jennings Gower, and his grandmother, Elizabeth "Ducky" Gower, are graduates of Converse! The couple lives in Columbia where Brad is in law school and Meredith works in Development with The Wilderness Society. Robin Richards Hutchison wrote that Kat lives in DC now and is working in the office of Congressman John Spratt of SC. Dorothy graduated in December from NC State and plans to teach Spanish abroad. Wylie is currently finishing his sophomore year at NC State. Frances Barr Strickland's oldest daughter, Erin Strickland McCutcheon '03, was married in October at the Citadel. Of course, after planning for a year and a half, it was beautiful. The reception was at the Cotton Dock at Boone Hall Plantation. Her second daughter, Ashley, got married in July. Ashley's will be close to home, an outdoor wedding with the tallest mountain in GA (Brasstown Bald) in the background. Frances has been working hard at work and even harder planning weddings. I can't believe that our reunion year is quickly approaching! Plan to be there April 23 and 24, 2010!

CLASS OF 1976

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Rachel Jackson Gandy

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Christi von Lehe Sellars

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Pauline, SC 29374, 864-573-5099

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Rachel Jackson Gandy has talked with Janny Rawls DeLoache and keeps up with her children. Janny's daughter, Becca, is on an outstanding track team with Myers Park and Thomas is enjoying Wofford. Rachel's daughter and son-in-law just had baby boy number 2 on Feb. 11th. Please be sure to get in touch and let us know what exciting things you have done. Christi

CLASS OF 1977

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

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Gail Rawls Jeter received the SC Order of the Palmetto award on behalf of her career with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). The Order of the Palmetto is the state's highest civilian honor and is awarded for extraordinary career achievement and service

to our state and nation. Congratulations, Gail! Chris Wood Lynn and Josie Rudolph Stokes walked a half marathon on Valentine's Day in Myrtle Beach. It was Chris's second half marathon and Josie's first one. They had a blast training for it and doing it. They were able to finish in the time allotted. The finish line was great because Josie's husband, all her daughters and sons-in-law surprised them by being there with Valentine roses and posters proclaiming how proud they were. With all this walking, Chris looks amazing and better than she did in the good ole college days. Josie is now the very proud grandmother of an adorable grandson. Josie is also fortunate to get to see Rhondy Valdes Huff and Mary Jane Simmons Candler whenever they are in town visiting the daughters who are completing their freshman year at Wofford. Josie keeps in touch with Marguerite Callahan via E-mail and hope to see her soon. Kathy Graham Davis' oldest son, Michael, got married in the fall to a precious girl named Leah; he is finishing medical school and moving to Wilmington, N.C. for an internship... then to Charleston for residency. After 27 years, Kathy is an empty nester as her youngest has graduated! Laurie Sullivan Cannon and Danny have moved back to Columbia. Kathy and Laurie are in the same Bible Study along with Jean Parks Bunch, Robbie Dana Reading, Jeannie Davis Powell '78, Lib Laney Peebles '78 and Blanche Gramling Weathers '78. Laurie's middle son, Clay, starts Dental school in the fall. Donna Kaiser Croft's son Riley married Katie Deming, from Atlanta. Her younger son, Michael, will be finishing his junior year at the Citadel. Donna has had a great time reconnecting with old friends on Facebook.

CLASS OF 1978

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representative:

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Lee Ullman Hutson

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What an overwhelming response to my bribe for news offering my secret formula for wrinkle eradication! So now that I've shared my treasure, the class of '78 will be looking more like the class of '98! Ha...remember, no tellin' that guarded secret! Frankie Epps Patterson is teaching art in elementary school in Shelby, NC; one daughter lives in Greenville and the other at Appalachian State. Louise Strickland Wells is a grandmother! Martha Haslett Ladd is a three times grandmother...Whoa!!! Martha and Billy's son, William started and played the whole USC-Citadel game in Columbia this

spring as the Bulldogs beat the Gamecocks for the second time in the season! Paige Morton is the only taker for Dawn Williamson Wilbanks invitation to the white sands of Alabama's beaches! William and Lee Ullman Hutson spent a nice weekend at a beach that wasn't Edisto. They have a new puppy dog! Hugh and I were in San Diego in January and I had the best time visiting with Martha Anderson Bywater... dinner with Martha, husband Jim and their youngest son, Matthew. Martha timidly admitted that she is a super student in seminary and her professor wants her to publish one of her papers. Martha and I went to the church of her childhood. There we saw the place where her sweet mother is "resting" and took a minute to pray and be still. It was really special to me to see Martha's roots and to share that visit with her. Rilla Altman Thomas was mother-of-the-groom last summer. Lee married Tanya, who is a large animal vet. Phil and Rilla's younger son Brent graduated from The Citadel in May and is working in Conway. Margaret Lyles Rambish is back in Spartanburg, from Virginia, with her husband. Margaret retired and enjoys her volunteer work. Cathy, Jane, Lee, Lib, Jeannie, Julia (who brought presents) and Blanche snuck off to Charleston one weekend in January. What fun when we rendezvoused with a group of gals from the class of '77. Can't remember all 15 of them but Jane Boatwright Schwab and Jean Parks Bunch were in the mix along with Debbie Christiansen Anderson, Pam Grayson Baugh, Harriet Wilson Newton, and Rhondy Valdes Huff. So that was fun!

CLASS OF 1979

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

Representatives:

Margaret Horne Darr

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Pink Panthers may win awards, but Red Devils will always have more fun! Reunion '09 was a blast, and could only have been bettered by those of you not in attendance. We made ourselves proud with right at 30 in attendance. Not having a list of attendees, I will mention only a few of our classmates by name this time. First, Ceya Lowry Stevenson deserves a huge THANK YOU for her willing service as our class representative and resident Class Notes author. Ceya has entertained us and kept us informed for quite a while now, and I believe I'll defer the fun of running our class meeting at our next reunion to her. We appreciate your fun, fine efforts! Lelia Freeman Byars receives the next pat on the back for her willingness to assist Ceya. We missed you, Lelia, but know welcoming a child home from Iraq was where we would have been, too. A BIG Red Devil THANK YOU to him for serving our country!

Nancy Bain Cote' and Nancy Boatright Holt completed their tenure on our Alumnae Board and we all know the class of '79 was WELL represented! Ladies, your time and energy are more than appreciated! And Thank YOU NBC for welcoming us all into your gorgeous home again for our Saturday night celebration! You outdid yourself making everyone feel right at home. (A huge hug to Paul, too, for being such a gracious host and bartender!) We had friends from near and far, some who hadn't been to campus in 30 years, and some who transferred after a year or two! I can honestly say, the older we get the better we get! It seemed that this reunion allowed all of us in attendance to become closer, to get to know acquaintances as friends! So, everyone, stay in touch, plan to attend our next gathering, and in the meantime, let's ALL Red Devils strive to beat those Pink Panthers in the \$ game. Start a piggy bank and send in what you can collect in spare change YOUR reunion year :) I look forward to hearing from '79ers!! Margaret

CLASS OF 1980

30th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

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Betsy Gant Wittenmyer's son John Jr. at the University of Texas has a band called Waldo Wittenmyer and the Wall of Sound! If you're in Austin check it out. Margaret is a senior choosing a college and Anna is in 8th grade playing field hockey, soccer, and running track. Betsy works at husband John's law office and travels to North Carolina several times a year visiting her parents. Sissie Taylor Hensley's daughter Lucy entered Georgia Tech this fall. Carlisle graduated

in December and is working for RMG Connect advertising in Atlanta. Sissy Swann Ivey's daughter Martha Kate finished her freshman year at Clemson. Mils is a junior and received his Boy Scout Eagle rank, and Grace is in seventh grade. Sissy sees Lee Anne Davidson Williams, Laura Satterwhite Hodge around Spartanburg. Laura's son Camden has been at the Pew Trust in Washington, DC since September and started law school in August at South Carolina. Foster, a sophomore International Studies student at Sewanee, travels to earn his education with upcoming trips including China, England and Spain! Lizz Topp Klammer's daughter Kate recently held her Senior Art show, graduated this May from Converse and will pursue a graduate degree in school psychology from Clemson. Lizz hooded Katie at her graduation! Karl, a veteran Marine of three tours of action, attends Bemidji State University pursuing a criminal justice degree. Dorothy Cherry Accurso was appointed in December to the Gaston County School board filling a seat for 2 years and then will decide if she wants to "run". Mona Burris Dukes leads Christian retreats and music, including a state women's retreat in Ohio and another at White Oak Conference Center near Columbia, SC. She recently published a Bible study in a national denominational magazine. Her "day job" is still PR/Development at Williamsburg Technical College in Kingstree. Sons Josh and Zach live in Charleston. Join me in Mona's Facebook group called "Converse College Class of 1980." We Atlanta Schafers have a married son moving back to Houston but youngest son still here at Georgia Tech. Keep in touch! Margaret

CLASS OF 1981

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Happy Birthday Devils! Libby Campbell Patterson celebrated by hosting the after-prom breakfast. Neighbors also woke her at midnight storming in her bedroom and ringing cowbells! Ann Moorman Price, Cornelia Christian Vranain, Julie Martin Hanes, Marianna MacIntyre Taylor, Amy Warren Beatty, Carol Upchurch Campbell, Lisa Johnson Bentley, Ruthie Jones Soliday, Gay Parks Dilz, Claudia Simpson Hapak, and Merry Carmichael Trask gathered at Sally Jeter Hammond's mountain getaway where laughs were understated, ages exaggerated, and Converse ties only stronger. They discussed wrinkle cream, water aerobics, wedded bliss or dating, kids, incontinence and Converse roommates. Susan McCormac Bennett's daughter Anna graduated Converse and Susan placed her hood at graduation! Susan is homeschooling, finalizing plans for a cruise, and helping refugees. After years of teaching kindergarten (and with children grown), Amy Moss Jones faces 6th graders everyday, but with husband Belson she parasails, jet skis, and motorcycles the US. Margaret Harvey Thompson sends greetings! Her parents received honorary doctorates from USC-Lowcountry. Sally Herlong also sends love! She works for York Technical College and plans a celebratory NYC trip. Kim Carter Johnson sells real estate in Atlanta. Her daughter Jessica graduated from Alabama and youngest Hayes is at USC. Kim saw Dana Thompson Bostian at a wedding, and she looks great, especially while dancing up a storm! Miranda McDowell Hull lives in Charleston with husband David and 10 year-old John. Miranda organizes stress reduction sessions, teaches English, and studies wine-making. Road trip! Susie Bradley Kingsmore and husband Mike live in Easley where he runs Palmetto Finishing and she teaches reading. Susie sends greetings to Catherine Brothers Lassiter, Pam Driscoll Attal, Myra Jo Frale Hurt, and Ann Cromley James! Cathy Hindman Furtick, husband Paul, and three sons returned to SC after living in Nashville. They saw Marjorie Smith Campbell, husband Don, and three daughters at Wofford. I saw gorgeous Sherrerd Hartness (now an interior designer in Greenville.) Anne Henley Eberdt says "hello" from her home furnishing shop "Jesters" in Chapel Hill. As for us, Martha and I joined Cindy Rush Magrath, Linda Frierson Perrow and Donna Broyles Glazer for a celebration weekend in Chicago. Converse sisterhood is still sweet!

CLASS OF 1982

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2012
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Holly Beach Hussey

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The Spartanburg Chapter of the National League of Junior Cotillions named Karen Cromer Huminski the Best Mannered Teacher for the 2008 school year. Karen teaches at Oakbrook Preparatory School in Spartanburg. Dena Stone Benedict lives in Greenville, SC with her family. Dena's daughter is a high school freshman and her son is a sophomore. Robin Wicks Robinson sent a picture of her precious children, James (10) and Wallace (8), which was taken in Currituck, North Carolina while on a lighthouse tour. Beth Wilkerson Sytz wrote with lots of news. Her son, tRobert, is a senior at the Citadel. Son, Harrison, a high school senior, received the Civitan Community Award this past year. Beth volunteers as a third grade reading tutor and serves on the board of the Gaston County Red Cross. She travels internationally with a group of friends and also joins husband, Bob, as he pursues his latest passion- sailing. They enjoy spending time at their condo on Daniel Island when time permits. Beth had lunch with Emeline Thomasson Loughlin in Atlanta in March. Thanks to Face book, Beth has reconnected with classmates, Connie Pease Happell, Linda Still Winegardner, Lucy Barr James, Nancy Curtis Crain and Mel Jeter. Evie Davis Bunge lives in Columbia, SC with her husband, John. Evie works as a freelance landscape designer. Their daughter, Hannah, joined the freshman class at Anderson University in the fall. Their son, Rick, is a high school junior. He plays on the school golf team and recently earned his Eagle Scout award. Beth Cunningham Gault and Kathy Brakmann Daniel spent a few 'childless' days in the mountains last summer catching up. Beth wrote that Kathy still has two little ones at home, and her son, Rob, finished his freshman year at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. What a small world; my daughter Caroline is Rob's classmate at Samford. Thanks for the news, Holly

CLASS OF 1983

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2013
Representative:
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I am very thankful to Alicia Cremins Coleman for sending some scoop. Alicia missed our last reunion because she was working on a master's degree in Library Science. I guess we can let you slide for missing the last reunion, but please try to make it to our 30th in 2013. Alicia earned that degree in January of this year from The Catholic University of America's School of Library and Information Science, she hopes to become a school librarian in Fairfax County Virginia. Alicia's daughter, Ali, is a high school senior with interest in creative writing and horses and plans to attend Hollins University in the

fall. Wesley (14) keeps Alicia and Charles busy because of his activity in school and community musical theatres. Somehow, Alicia finds time to volunteer as a seamstress for the theatre groups and work independently doing research for a lawyer, as well as E-mailing me to give me scoop on the following Red Devils. Dr. Caroline Dale Rothfield is PTA president for her children Alexander, Emma, and Madeline's school, and is serving on the Maryland Board of Health. Elise Neil Bengston, who also has young children, Ava (41/2) and Maggie (6), lives in Tampa, Florida with her husband Jeff and two dogs. Caroline got together recently with Beverly Brown in New York City for dinner and a show, Bev is still living in New Jersey and is doing well. Dr. P. Alice Rogers is a professor of Divinity at Emory University, in Atlanta, Georgia. After serving as pastor of several churches, Alice is enjoying the academic experience. Another classmate working in the field of academia is Dr. Linda Sinanian-Forden, who is at the Aaron Copeland School of Music Queens College (City University of New York), she and her husband Jeff are both very busy musicians. Thanks again Alicia, and to everyone else, Barb and I love hearing from you, so please try to keep in touch by E-mail or snail mail. Love, Lou.

CLASS OF 1984

Next Reunion
Alumnae Weekend, 2014
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We totally missed those of you who could not attend our 25th Reunion. We are thrilled with the 50 classmates who did attend. The Class of '84 is the proud winner of the "It's a Class Act" award for the most funds raised in a reunion year. Perhaps the most moving moment during the weekend was at our class meeting when we shared what we've accomplished professionally and personally. Our class is a phenomenal group of women from Lieutenant Colonel to Doctor, Performer and Grandmother. 30% of those who attended had never been to a reunion before. It was so much fun reminiscing. We now have new memories. Here is some news from classmates that did not attend: Margaret Bivin Coffin lives in Germany, her husband is in the Army and her daughter, Meg, is in school there. Penny Crocker Wasmund owns and operates her own coffee shop, iCoffee Co., with her husband in Summerfield, NC. Celia Garrett Lampley Tuttle lives in Fountain Inn, SC where she owns an indoor climbing gym, Climbin'



Christmas at Converse

A Converse-inspired gingerbread house was on display during November and December at The 2009 National Gingerbread House Competition at The Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa in Asheville, NC. The Wilson Hall gingerbread house was designed and constructed by Dr. Karen Waters Thomas '84 and her daughter, Kristen Karen Thomas '12, who share a love of the art of baking and were inspired by Converse holiday traditions.

High, sits on the City Council and still has time for her four children. Dina Woodruff lives in Atlanta, owns a gift store named Peridot. Dina has one son and a cockatiel. She graduated from University of Georgia. Dr. Janet Lynn Roberts earned a doctorate in Voice Performance. She teaches elementary music, rides Warmblood and Appaloosa horses and lives in Chapin, SC. Katherine Barnett McCall lives in Augusta GA. She is an active blogger on www.thoughtfulgardner.blogspot.com. Hunter Foster Mahon graduated from Clemson, received an MBA at Wake Forest and lives in Spartanburg working at Gibbs Cancer Center in integrated medicine focusing on the mind, body & spirit. Jeanne Braghirol Dover lives in Inman, SC. She has two children, and is a former highschool math teacher,

now working with her husband. Karen Chamblee Paisley graduated from Northwestern and now lives in Kansas City, MO. Join our Facebook page, "Converse Class of 1984". Lots of love Jody, Lynn and Kevin.

CLASS OF 1985

25th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

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Converse roommates, Floria Thomas Washington and Jayne Reuben have had two reunions since February. One was in D.C. and one in Ann Arbor, MI at a women's conference where Jayne was a facilitator. Floria's daughter, Kamilah, will attend Ohio University, where she will double major in Music Therapy and Psychology. Elisabeth Green Church and Brad were at Vanderbilt moving their son, Bradford, home and ran into Lisa Bell Weisiger '84 and Margaret Coker Galloway. They have daughters at Vandy. Monica Rogers Smith is opening her second Pink Monogram Store in Greenville, SC. Her monogrammed clogs were featured in the July Southern Living and made Oprah's Christmas 2008 top 20 list. Amy Kimbro Thomas and daughter, Caroline(17) made a quick visit to Wofford in April. Melissa Yervey Daly was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Central Florida Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the Edgewood Children's Ranch in Orlando. She is also a part of the Janus Charity Challenge for the Ironman Florida. She will make her 2nd attempt at becoming an Ironman. Julia Ivey Cagle and Treva Thomas Hamlin spent the day in Denmark, SC with Paula Booker Guess for the ceremony honoring Paula's father receiving the

Order of the Palmetto. Facebook has connected us with many Converse Friends. Please sign on and search for Converse College Class of 1985. We are making reunion plans for our 25th next year. Jane Quattlebaum, who graduated from Furman, lives in her native Savannah. Frances Hardwick Draper promises to make our reunion. She still needs to ID the Full Moon picture I placed on Facebook! Shelia Schmidt lives in Los Angeles and recently performed in the world premiere of "Unbroken Circles". LeAnne Rowland and Aileen McCormick live in Nashville. Aileen is the CFO for West End Restaurants. Lici Halfide O'Connor teaches 4th grade and sings in a band, Betr Without. Judge Deadra Jefferson was one of the final 3 nominees for the South Carolina State Supreme Court. We are so proud of her! She represents our college and class of 1985 so well!

CLASS OF 1986

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

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Betsy Mamoulides Hockaday

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We just started a Facebook page for our class... go to FB and search under Betsy Hockaday. Send us an E-mail and we'll get you connected! Catherine Pittman Smith and family are living in Birmingham, AL. She attended a surprise birthday party for Kathryn Donald Shook. Visit www.catherinepittmansmith.com to see her photography! Kathryn was in Atlanta and visited with Anne Lewis Moore and Susan Sheffield Pierce. Sonja McMillan Goold and husband Marc are in Warner Robins, GA. She's busy volunteering in her church and doing mission work. Cheryl Litton Barber and husband Don live in Atlanta and host Good News! Their oldest daughter is graduating from Wofford in May! Libby Anne Kepley Inabinet has two boys (one is playing football at USC). She is Chief Development Officer of the Red Cross of Central SC. Kristy Gillmann vacationed at the Red Mountain Spa in Utah. She's leading an effort in her community to reduce the carbon footprint. Josie Norwood Cox is teaching in Greenville, SC. Her oldest daughter is going to Hollywood this summer to work for a casting director at MGM. Paula Antonovich is working in Washington, DC. Lacey Booth Seaton is in Austin, TX with her family where she owns Purple Chocolate Fish Design. Allison Brown Sergeant's daughter Alex will be attending college in the fall. Allyson Archer McGaha's oldest two will be attending ECU in the fall. She is playing in two symphonies and teaching preschool. Janice Morrison Wilkins lives in Spartanburg with her husband and has three

sons who are in college. She works with the Liberty Fellowship program and performs when she can. Detrya Roper Youngblood teaches in Charleston where she lives with her husband and daughter. Elizabeth Jones Beal attended a supper club hosted by Jennie Player Lambe. Attending were Monica Rowland Loving, Anne Moore Hayslip, Sarah Shealy Smith, Katie Gibson Fritze, Hunter Stabler Cantey, Junie Taylor Laughridge. Lorie Schmid Conrad and husband live in Alabama. She does great work with kids such as the Big Brother Big Sister program and counseling. We would love to hear from you! E-mail us or connect with us on Facebook!

CLASS OF 1987

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

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CLASS OF 1988

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

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News from the Class of 1988 has been rather exciting. Cindy Hume Kirschner and husband, Rich, were transferred with DuPont to Texas, arriving two days before Hurricane Edmond and ten days before Ike. They all came through fine, though it was a bit scary. Stacie Olexy Sharp's home burned in September, but thankfully, the family was all safe, and they are rebuilding their home. She continues to be devoted to The Cancer League and the Alzheimer's Association, and is a certified Pilates instructor. She has enjoyed writing for several local publications. Kimilee Bryant has been busy with performances, recently this spring returning to Phantom on Broadway. She released a CD last August entitled "My Favorite Things." Kimilee has a great Facebook page – she even got me to join, though I confess I've not done much else on the site! Ashlin Blanchard Potterfield sent Christmas greetings with a photo of her family at Gibraltar. Included was daughter Linsy's own card, with candid shots with Hilary Clinton, Ric Flair, and Jesse McCartney. Alice

Fuller Littlejohn reports that Laura Graham participated in a mission trip to Palestine last summer. Alice sees Scott Boulware Oxner around Greenville now and then. Alice and Kenny were chaperones on a trip to Italy and Greece in June. Alice is a media specialist at Stone Academy, a public magnet school for the arts. She enjoys her walking "commute" with daughter, Charlotte, each day. Here's hoping 2010 finds you all well. PLEASE send news – we would love to hear from you all!

CLASS OF 1989

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

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This final class bulletin from me comes to you following our 20-year class reunion! The new Class Representatives, that were elected to represent our class for the next 5 years, are Rawles Terrell Kelly, Wallace Davison and Joy Johnson. We had a fantastic turnout! We had about 50 people come for our class dinner. It was so great to see everyone - and we haven't changed a bit. Our attendee, who came the furthest, was Wendy Wolfenden Miller, who came all the way from San Francisco, California! Ashley Macfie Goodlett was so gracious as to host us again at her pavilion - where we had a Mexican theme for decorations and dinner. Thanks very much to all the helpers, Suzanne Scruggs Lastinger, Angie Williams Cash, Marsha McGinnis Frazier and Angie Weatherred Halstead and our chief decorator, Margaret Gordon. We enjoyed a trivia challenge that was put together by Margaret, which

was lots of fun! Prizes were awarded to those with the most knowledge of Spartanburg, Converse and other extra curricular activities while we were at school. Winners of the trivia contest were Tania McDuffie and very close behind were Elizabeth Hyatt Robinson and Elisabeth Kinney McNiel. We learned some interesting facts at our reunion - that Elizabeth Hyatt Robinson has a major addiction to Facebook! Fortunately, she seems to be controlling it quite well because she is able to work a full time job at her law firm and raise a family. She spoke to us about what a great thing Facebook is and how it is a fantastic way to keep track of all our classmates instantly. Everyone was highly encouraged to sign up. Tania McDuffie is a Professor of Math at Converse and she is the Faculty Advisor for House Board at Converse! Who would have thought that 20 years ago? As you can imagine, that got a lot of laughs! We have some new mothers in our class - with children all under the age of two and a half - Angie Weatherred Halstead, Marsha McGinnis Frazier, Tracy Moylan O'Malley and Angela Denton Rachel. They are keeping very busy!

CLASS OF 1990

20th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

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Hello Ladies! Congrats to Karen Caton Granger and her husband on the adoption of Lucas Phillips and Laura Carden. She and Lucy Durr Berry saw each other over New Year's holiday at Hilton Head. Karen reports Lucy's daughter, Olivia, is adorable. Mary McDaniel Ridgeway and Stephen spent a few days in New York City where



Class of 1989

they took in a few shows and enjoyed some great restaurants. Mary, Caroline West McDowell, Meridith Moorhead Venturella, Winnie Brown King and Sheri Starnes Balcerzak got together for dinner in Greenville. Winnie reports seeing Mary Kenyon Robards Jones and Lawson Edwards Hough – all are doing well. Lesa Underwood spent two weeks in China where she enjoyed being tall for once! Deborah Stanford Harris and Tim stay busy with work and kids. Deidre Park is working on her Masters in Banking at LSU. Miriam Drennan wrote and collaborated on Life Way's 2009 Christmas musical, "The Ornament". Kelley Collman Finley and her husband love the joys of parenthood to their little girl, Collman. Jackie Bryant Barbier recently completed the Marseille, France marathon...c'est magnifique Jackie! Lynn Pettus Finkelstein continues to runs and qualified for the 2010 Boston Marathon... way to go Lynn! Speaking of Boston, Lee Reese checks in from there. Stephanie Train is taking a break from teaching and working for a company in Tucker where she gets to shop on their dime... not a bad gig. Charlotte Hooper Seier checks in from Belgium where she has been living for the last three years with her husband and two boys... they have enjoyed traveling throughout Europe. Melissa Sanders reports all is well in Spartanburg. Leslie Ann Lunsford Dunn is keeping busy in Atlanta working as an attorney and part time law professor. Gwynne Brown Goodlett was in the process of moving back to Columbia, SC from Toccoa, GA. Katherine McKoy Hembree, Andria May Duncan and Michelle Franklin Shlapak enjoyed catching up at a weekend getaway in Highlands, NC. Check out the "Converse College Class of 1990" group on Facebook to connect with old friends. Thanks for news... keep it coming!

CLASS OF 1991

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

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CLASS OF 1992

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

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Hello, Classmates. I hope that this newsletter finds you all well. Cindy Jerles Brown is still busy with Fauxtastic Interiors (www.fauxtasticinteriorsinc.com) and Fauxdallions (www.fauxdallion.com). From home, she also sells skin care products (www.sensaria.com/spagirlcindy) and products with inspirational messages (<https://cindyleebrown.uppercaseliving.net>). Cindy is also the Catering/Event Specialist for a restaurant and Fundraising Coordinator for a publication company. Congrats on 15 years of marriage, Cindy! Lisa Ramsey Deibel's family is busy with son's baseball. She met Louisa Tindall Faile's family for dinner in February when her husband refereed a game at Francis Marion University in Florence. My mother tells me regularly that Louisa's sons Tom and Sam are adorable. Amanda Reaves Campbell is taking karate with all six kids. Congratulations on earning your yellow belt, Amanda! Shana Munn Herndon in Lugoff, SC, teaches piano and home-schools two of her four daughters. She is also involved with North Trenholm Baptist Church in Columbia. Ashley Bunside Brantley, Elizabeth Lesto Zadig, Suzette Bagwell Laney, Paige Pooser Merrill, Natalie Audish Scott, Ashton Bozard and Cami Burton Hutchinson reunited at the beach last February. Susannah Gramling Hubbell wrote to say that son Matthew was playing baseball with Rebie Mays Bland's son Kingsland and Elizabeth Lesto Zadig's son Christian. Lori Seay Thornton, Thom, and children Katie (9) and David (4) have spent the past 7 years in Baltimore, where she earned a M.S. in Pastoral Counseling at Loyola College. They were moving soon as Thom is the new Baptist campus minister at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Lori is looking forward to being a pastoral counselor there. Laura Dick Moses is having fun catching up with everyone on Facebook. Do we need a Facebook page for our class? I have been feeling pretty advanced technologically with my cool E-mail list, but it seems that I have been outmoded. Let Angie or me know if you would be interested in helping out with this project. Please do stay in touch; it is truly wonderful to know what great things our classmates are doing.

CLASS OF 1993

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

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Katherine Gilreath Counce owns a wine shop in Black Mountain, NC called the Merry Wine Market. She and her husband, Scott, have a daughter named Lila who is four and a son named Rip who is two. Katherine and Helen Kern Irving reconnected over Facebook after not seeing each other for 18 years and they planned a rendezvous at Helen's son's soccer game. Helen lives in Charlotte with her husband, Brian, and three boys. Katherine and Candace Nichol ran into each other at a restaurant in Asheville. Candace says that Katherine is still as funny as ever and that Scott is "hysterical". Nancy Rogers Hirschl, who still lives in Chicago, says that the Class of '93 Dance Ensemble members (Christi Williamson Pringle, Mitzi Gibbons Smith, Sutton Brown Stracke, Suzanne Smith Dornsmith, Lovell McClung White, Elizabeth Watson Caldwell and Nancy) planned to attend the reunion weekend in April to celebrate Ms. Dengler. She received an award and they all wanted to be there to support her. Sutton vacationed with Gaby Sifter and Laura Kate Jones in Punta Mita, Mexico. Jan Bridges had wonderful surprise this spring when her parents arranged for a visit from Kathy Toy Knowles. Kathy was on her spring break from her job at St. George's Independent School in Germantown, TN. They enjoyed catching up and it certainly brightened Jan's spirits since she is continuing to have health issues. Lawana Furtick Marchant is living in Harleyville, SC with husband Jami and daughter Naomi, 8. She's working on building up her auction business. She did the Monday-after-the-Masters auction for Hootie and the Blowfish at the House of Blues in Myrtle Beach and the auction for the Hemangioma Foundation in Charleston. She also does estate sales, machinery sales and livestock sales. Alicia Johnson Alexander is busy with a new baby and two others under 5 years old. As for me, Jane Manning, I'm still LOVING living in San Francisco and working to positively impact the quality of math instruction in our education system. Hope to see your other updates on our Facebook site – 67 classmates have joined Converse College Class of 1993" so far – more to come.

CLASS OF 1994

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

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The Class of 1994 celebrated their 15-year reunion and had a great time reconnecting and catching up. Many things have changed (where did that building come from?) and just as many have stayed the same, (late night snacks anyone?) Amy Thompson Fairbank relocated to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Betsy Potter was the Girl Scout troop leader of the year in SC and serves as a mentor to a current Converse student majoring in Chemistry. Angie Cox Bowers is living at the lake with her husband Jamie and home schooling her three boys. Dawn Barnard was elected as a vice-chair for the 2009-2010 Virginia Society of CPAs (VSCPA) Board of Directors. Alison Murphy was awarded teacher of the year at Roswell High School in Atlanta. Dr. Sarah Rueff Ryan won the prize for traveling the farthest - all the way from Billings, Montana. Martha White Waters took a position as a Literacy Coach. Susan Bean Candee is department chair of history at Riverside High School. Kelly Richardson Weekes is teaching 4th grade. Kelly made the local news last year when she made a moving speech at the Meyers Center annual fundraiser. Katie Abbott Klutz volunteered with the Obama campaign and is teaching for the SC State Dept. Cathy Goodman Tate and Susanne Jones Norwood are both enjoying being stay-at-home moms. Kudos to Erin Zickos Smiley for attending reunion only eight weeks after giving birth to her first child Robby. Mary Ames Plowden Voyles is a part-time preschool teacher in Spartanburg. Holly Miller Smith is a stay-at-home mom with a small home business that makes embroidered goodies. Chesnut Clark Allen has moved to Camden and works for the family business. Lori Loyless Sthakis has a children's boutique in Spartanburg called Three Little Pigs. Kristen Harris Cavin lives in Franklin TN and is a stay-at-home mom. Kaysi Hasden Dixon is living in Charlotte and is staying home with her two boys. Lisa Miller Conrath lives in Columbia and works as a Media Specialist at Hammond Academy. Kirsten Kerr is practicing medicine and is the incoming President of the

Granite Falls Rotary Club. Cheryl Frees Rogers has twins and is returning to teaching Speech Pathology at USC. Libby Wells Crye is living in heaven- 65 acres complete with cows, horses and three kids.

CLASS OF 1995

15th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

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CLASS OF 1996

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

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Ryan Revis Stewart spent time with Meredith Coley Graham, Beth Farmer Lancaster and Sonja Coyle Akers during Christmas. Ryan, Casey Adams Dombroski and Rachel Odom Perkins welcomed new babies! Jennifer Jones Medlock is working part-time and volunteering at church and her daughter's school. Meredith Reynolds is an Assistant Professor at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. Kate Torbert Troy, husband Kevin and son Arthur are doing well in

New York. Kate's husband is pursuing an MBA from NYU. After a global mission trip, Heather Deifell is in Black Mountain, NC where she is pursuing a Masters in Christian Leadership from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Kerry Ashley Easler and her children Avery and Megan are consumed by soccer! She and the children traveled to Huntsville, AL in June for a soccer tournament. She continues to love her job at Level One in Greenville, SC. Stephanie Crofton and her husband Luis Dopico planned to visit Kerry in July. Jenna Aldridge Barrett enjoyed her fourth year of teaching Pre-Kindergarten at Hammond Academy in Columbia, SC, where her son finished 2nd grade. Her husband Thorne is a partner at Turner Padgett Law Firm. My husband Lee and I (Pam Hughes Foster) finally moved into our home in Greenville. Our children, Lee and I are doing well.

CLASS OF 1997

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

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Missy Van Doren went on a two-and-a-half week Mediterranean cruise this spring, and crawled inside one of the pyramids in Egypt. She and Hadley Rowland enjoy regular brunch visits with Sara Farnaby '99 and Nikki Maples-Reynolds '99 from our little sister class. Amanda Messer, Susan Miskelly, Donna Pallassino Evans, and Jennifer Coggins Reese met up in March at Jennifer's house. Everyone got to meet Amanda's boyfriend and Susan and Amanda got to meet both of Donna's children, McKenna and Braeden. Susan and Amanda also got to meet Ben for the first time. Susan was getting ready for a weekend of fun at "The Jewel" which is a function sponsored by Junior League that she is a part of. Donna, Dan, and children moved back to North Myrtle Beach. Barbara Gehlmann completed Grad school at Converse this year with a MAT in Secondary English and is teaching High School in Walterboro. She was glad to move back home! She will be spent the summer working on her fifth album. Hopefully that CD will be out in the spring of 2010. Jennifer Buchanan Kurecka is staying busy with her four girls and their sports (soccer and softball). She is also still teaching as an adjunct professor at Dallas Baptist University teaching psychology courses to undergraduates. Kathryn Kennedy is still alive and well on the

family farm and cruising through nursing school. Holly Waters Hartell reports that she is staying busy with her new daughter, Sarah, and her fouryear old son, JP.

CLASS OF 1998

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

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CLASS OF 1999

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

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Reunion Weekend 2009!!! What a wonderful time was had by all! It was so great seeing 40 of our classmates again. I know many long hours were spent catching up, reminiscing, and taking photos. The campus sure has changed a lot in the ten years since we have graduated (where has the time gone?) The new Phifer building is gorgeous and renovations to Kuhn will be amazing for the next generation of Converse students. A HUGE "Thank You" to Ann Mullins Johnson for opening up her beautiful house to us and hosting our class dinner - the food and atmosphere was perfect for an evening of Connie fun! Please keep us updated with the goings-on in you life through E-mail, our class Facebook page, or our class MySpace page. Rebecca Roland Hyleman and her family moved to Guatemala City, Guatemala in February 2009. Before making the move, Rebecca was able to meet up with fellow classmates Erin Addington Gaines, Katy Krueger Corbin, Kris Hendrix, Julie Jones, and Julie Padgett Jones. Rebecca's daughter, Caroline was able to meet her future Converse roommate, Charlee Ann Jones (Julie Padgett Jones' daughter) and have a playdate.

CLASS OF 2000

10th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Amanda Crane Cox



Class of 1999



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Audrey Chavous Keith is working on her Masters from Columbia College, while being a mom to Jackson and Carolina. Erin Patterson Joye is living in Clover, VA. Emily Evans Cox celebrated her two-year anniversary, was named a Provisional Mentor for Junior League of Greenville, and continues to work in Advertising Sales & Marketing with Fox Carolina. She is one of two people serving on a committee for Health and Wellness for Meredith Corporation as well. Ginny Flowers Munson has an addition to her family! Ginny finalized an adoption in January for their three-year-old son from Novokuznetsk, Russia. William "Bennett" Munson joins sister, Tillman Anne, and makes for a busy household! Emily Evans Cox, Stephanie Borick Grace, Molly Davis Veness, and Deanna Fults got together in Knoxville for Deanna's 30th birthday. Deanna continues to volunteer for the Board of Directors with the Junior League of Knoxville, and often sees Rebecca Hicks Jones. Susanna Knight Roberts, Audrey Chavous Keith, Victoria Frady Adams, Kelly Moore, Brandy Eargle, and I got together in Roebuck for a baby shower in May for Angela Abrams Hazzard. Lynn James Galloway is living in Columbia, SC with her husband Clint and two little boys, Brogdon and Milling. Kelly Moore went on a church choir tour in England this past summer. Dana Luttrell Garner graduated from Virginia Tech with a Ph.D. in Accounting. Way to go, Dr. Garner!!! Jennifer Frieth, Angie Ackermann Hart, Maria Oliver Solomon,

Britney Jeffords Greeson, Laura Phillips, Anne Jenkinson, Allyson Lowder Sanders, Lynn James Galloway, Kari Killen, Elizabeth Anne Fuller Easterling, Meredith Sims, Elizabeth Moore Pearson, and Jessica Eggimann spent the first weekend of May in Pawley's Island at Anne's house. Kiley Rikard is busy working on her Masters in Education and Amanda Crane Cox stays busy with her little ones, Whit and Abby. We love hearing from all of you! If you have not already done so, please find us on Facebook to keep in touch with everyone!

CLASS OF 2001

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

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Red Devils were making it happen in '09! The soccer team reunited when Emilie Lewis, Autaum Morant, Caroline Cuttino and Neal Millikan completed the Cooper River Bridge Run in Charleston in early April, and Jenny Woodruff and Trisha Priester both killed their respective half-marathons. For running inspiration, check out the Autaum's new business at runwithfaith.com. There are many moves happening: Laura Massey Crawford moved with her husband to Waldorf, MD, Rebecca Ray moved to Portland, Oregon and Jenny Morrow Blanton moved to Southeast Asia with her husband and two children. Maryeah Jager Kramer, Rebecca Crandall, Ami Price, Stacey Mulligan and Marcella Palmer attended

Stephanie Livesay Winkler's November wedding. After Stephanie's wedding, Maryeah and her husband Matt hosted a belated Halloween party at their new place. It was a great chance for those of us who had come down for Stephanie's wedding to continue catching up. Ami Price and husband Scott Gilbert hosted a three-day affair in Atlanta to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary in December. They had a welcome dinner at Turner Field on Dec. 30, the main event at the Women's Club on Dec. 31, and a farewell brunch at South City Kitchen on Jan. 1. The welcome dinner was featured in an edition of ChopTalk, the Atlanta Braves magazine. In education news: Damesha Lincoln Lindsay is back at Converse in the MAT program in early childhood, Jocelyn Buckner has received two major research grants in support of full-time work on her project, "Shady Ladies: Sister Acts in Minstrelsy and Early Vaudeville," and Dr. Neal Millikan is our newest PhD recipient! Congratulations Neal! Brooke Burtelle Phillips and Nicole Johnsey Burke have been ministering in different ways: Brooke with her husband and family, and Nicole with her new blog, burningbushes.org. Brandi Steadman is currently teaching 4th grade, Jessie StaskaWalker started a new volunteer position with Family Connection of Spartanburg, and Rebecca Ray is working the light crew for the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. Be sure to check out news of births, marriages and other great happenings in the news section!

CLASS OF 2002

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

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CLASS OF 2003

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

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Valerie Brock Naglich is enjoying married life and traveling all over Southern Africa. Valerie and her husband celebrated their first anniversary in Ireland and London in June and are looking forward to seeing the Hadies Ladies for Christmas in South Africa. Alison Turner Watson began her music therapy internship at the Augusta, GA, VA Medical Center in July. She has served as Vice President of Musicians Helping Others at Converse, which sponsored a performance of "Finding Voice", helping to raise over \$11,000 for SAFE Homes/Rape Crisis of Spartanburg. Alison, Alisha Wilson Bridges, and Brandi Burrell recently enjoyed Stacy Battle's senior Art Therapy show at Converse. Cara Potts now lives in Springfield, MO, where she teaches 6th grade music at Wilson's Creek School. Gabrielle Gray Chapman Leopard, along with a 2004 Converse graduate, opened a private practice, Magnolia Counseling Associates in Spartanburg. Selena Given is living in Chicago, IL and working at Goldman Sachs & Company in the investment management division. Amber Dillard earned both a certificate in graphic design and web design from Boston University. She has started her own design firm, Classic Modern Designs, and is now living in Savannah, GA. Jessica Case Holland is now a prosecutor for York County. Alisha Wilson Bridges won 2009-2010 Teacher of the Year at Jesse Bobo Elementary School in Spartanburg, SC. Sarah Rowan Dahl is living in Sydney, Australia with her husband and one-year-old daughter. She received a Diploma in Ministry from Hillsong International Leadership College. Aline Nahhas-Rubio has recently completed her Masters Degree. Melissia Heatherly Brannen was selected to join the Board of Directors for the SC Indian Community Development Initiative, Inc. and was elected Treasurer. Robyn Hill Sanderson has been awarded the "Outstanding New Professional" by the Virginia Association of Student Personnel Administrators. Please keep us posted with your news! You can now post updates on our

Class of 2003 Facebook page!

CLASS OF 2004

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2014

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Converse has always been a place for growth, love and learning! Five years have passed since the Class of 2004 graduated, but wow, as soon as we set foot on campus, an overwhelming sense of welcome and friendship filled the air and we were right back to where we all started....at a Required Meeting! HA! All jokes aside though, the 2009 Reunion Weekend was a blast! I was blown away by the beauty of the campus as soon as I arrived. President Fleming delivered a warm welcome to all who were present at the Founder's Day Ceremony and I don't think any of us will ever forget the introduction of the Golden Club inductees, "they're a cute group." The BBQ on Friday night brought new families together for the first time; it was such a treat getting to meet the husbands and children of our fellow Pink Panthers. At our Class Meeting, we discussed the importance of donating to Converse and giving back so that other women could have the opportunities we did. The possibility of a class trip was also discussed - stay tuned! We rounded out the weekend with a relaxing class dinner on a beautiful Spartanburg evening! Our next reunion couldn't get here fast enough. I know we're all looking forward to reuniting again in the future. The Class of 2004 continues to grow through marriage, birth, education, and opportunity. Kelly Wilson Hall graduated from the USC School of Law on May 8,



2009; she will be joining the SC Attorney General's Office as an Assistant Attorney General in the fall. Casey Addis, Quinn Burgin Saleeby, Ashley Bailey, Kate Carr, Sara McLean '05, and Kim Brady Wolfe were all Bridesmaids and Honorary Bridesmaids at Allison Shull Little's wedding on March 7, 2009. Christy Marini celebrated the marriage of her sister, Gianna, over Reunion Weekend 2009! She was missed! Our sympathy to Jessica Simmons on the death of her father in November 2008. Refer to the Life Events section for more updates. We're looking forward to our next reunion and to all of the wonderful updates on our Pink Panther Sisters!

CLASS OF 2005

5th Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

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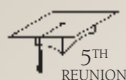
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Malinda Myers Kennedy is working on a Masters in Education from Charleston Southern University. Paula Huckaby is married and recently had a healthy baby. Danielle Beck is engaged, and after graduating last spring from Charleston School of Law, is clerking for a judge. Carly Stevens Painter had a healthy baby girl. Heather Adolphson got engaged. Elizabeth Patterson Moloney received her Master's in Education last year. Holly Earnhardt Davis is working on her Master's degree in Speech from University of South Carolina. Jessie Burke received her Master's in Secondary Education in English from Converse in 07 and is now a 8th grade English teacher. Megan Johnson is working on her Master's in Literacy Education (with a focus in Emergent Literacy) from Cambridge College and teaching Kindergarten. Jennifer Salley is working as a Pharmacy Technician in Greenville. Libby Long is working for Triangle Community Foundation as a Scholarships and Special Projects Coordinator in Raleigh, NC. Danica Lance received her Master's in Higher Education Administration from Appalachian State in 07 and is now working for Carleton College in MN. Lauren Teague Prochak received her Master's in Education at Columbia College and is now working as a third grade teacher in Columbia, SC. Anna Campbell is engaged and finished her Master's in 2007 from Clemson University in Counselor Education. She is currently a High School Counselor.

CLASS OF 2006

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2011

Representatives:

Mallory Beckett

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Greenville, SC 29601, 864-419-2215

Class of 2008



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Melissa Meyer Hewitt

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CLASS OF 2007

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2012

Representatives:

Grace Bagwell

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Valerie Dowling

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Deidre D. Tindal

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CLASS OF 2008

Next Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, 2013

Representatives:

Elizabeth Martin

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4319 Preston Point Way

Cumming, GA 30041, 678-595-0809

E-mail: emcgraw@pinecrestacademy.org

It was great having the Class of 2008 back on campus for our first-year reunion. Everyone in attendance had a great time at the events, especially our special class dinner on Saturday night. The weekend was a great opportunity to catch up and hear how well the members of the Class of 2008 are doing. The Class of 2008 has been hard at work in the months following graduation, and we have been very successful in our endeavors! Many of the class members

are currently working in cities across America and the world in fields relating to their degrees. Other 2008 class members are furthering their education through Graduate studies at Indiana University, Mercer Law School, Peabody Conservatory, University of South Carolina, and Converse, just to name a few. During our class meeting, class representatives were appointed to communicate with the class as we plan for our 5-year reunion in 2013. Elizabeth Martin and Erin McGraw will remain the main representatives, but joining them will be Johanna Whitmer, Nora Nassri, Sarah Marion, and Nancy Beth Clark. With many representatives, we hope to be able to stay in close contact with our class. It was a pleasure reuniting as a class for Alumnae Reunion Weekend and having the opportunity to see everyone! We hope to continue to stay in close communication with all members of the class! We've set a goal of having 30% of our class at our next reunion and 60% of our class contributing to the annual fund. Please help us meet these goals! We look very forward to hearing your updates!

CLASS OF 2009

1st Reunion

Alumnae Weekend, April 23-24, 2010

Representatives:

Katherine McKibben

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Spartanburg, SC 29306, 843-384-0273

E-mail: starangl284@hotmail.com

Sara Sipe

214 Belvedere Avenue

Shelby, NC 28150, 704-418-3865

E-mail: sara.sipe@converse.edu



Mark your calendars for the Class of 2009's first reunion on April 23 and 24. In the meantime, send us your news and be sure to update the Alumnae Office of any changes to your contact information.

Converse Announces an Important Milestone in the College's History



1910 - 2010

The Petrie School of Music Centennial Celebration

*Save the Date for a Gala Concert and Celebration
Thursday, October 28, 2010*

CONVERSE

Look for more information in spring 2010



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Reunion Weekend

April 23-24, 2010

For classes ending in "0" and "5",
the Class of 2009 and The Golden Club



Featuring
"The Emerging Spirit"
by Berry Bate '75

A slideshow lecture and walking tour launching a year-long sculpture exhibition that celebrates the lifelong sense of unity, support, spirituality and strength that connects Converse women.



Visit www.converse.edu/alumnae/reunion
for updates, information and on-line registration.