Dear friends,

Several weeks ago I was interviewed for the article that is on pages 6 and 7 of this issue of The Southwesterner. I knew it would be the first impression many of you would have of your new president, so I wanted to make sure you knew how genuinely honored, and truly delighted, I am to be that person. I’ve been at Winfield for more than two full months now, and I’m beginning to get a handle on some first impressions of my own.

I’ve been impressed, for example, by the passion and enthusiasm of Southwestern’s students. If you have not been at Moundbuilding ceremony in a few years, I encourage you to note the date on your calendar for next year—it’s worth a trip to campus. My family and I watched in amazement Aug. 20 as hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends gathered for an hour-long ceremony pledging and renewing our loyalty to SC. During that time our new and returning Moundbuilders were focused, undistracted by either electronics or the beautiful evening weather. We listened to Dean Allen’s speech and explanations of Southwestern traditions before we put our rocks on the Mound; we linked arms and swayed as we sang the “Alma Mater,” and most of the students, even the freshmen, knew the words by heart.

I can assure you that this isn’t the pattern at most colleges. This is a special place.

I’ve been impressed, too, by the determination of our faculty, staff and administrative leaders to keep Southwestern intensely focused on the business, the calling, of preparing students for lives of meaning and success. Whether on campus or in Professional Studies, those for whom Southwestern is a career calling, of preparing students for lives of meaning and success. Whether on campus or in Professional Studies, those for whom Southwestern is a career calling, of preparing students for lives of meaning and success. Whether on campus or in Professional Studies, those for whom Southwestern is a career calling, of preparing students for lives of meaning and success. Whether on campus or in Professional Studies, those for whom Southwestern is a career calling, of preparing students for lives of meaning and success.

I am delighted to serve this place. With complete sincerity, great pride, and genuine enthusiasm, I am delighted to serve Southwestern College.

Brad Andrews, President
President Brad Andrews announced Aug. 26 that Dean T. Clark will be the new vice president for enrollment at Southwestern College. Clark is currently vice president for enrollment at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., and will begin his duties Oct. 1.

“Dean was on campus recently and was extremely impressed with the Builder spirit and potential for growth in our enrollment,” says President Andrews. “This year he and his staff brought in Carthage’s largest-ever freshman class and total enrollment. Dean is a congenial and hard-working colleague, and he is excited about improving Southwestern’s on-campus numbers.”

Clark is a graduate of Carthage, where he received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. He also earned an MBA from Loyola University in Chicago. After several years as an investment specialist for Charles Schwab in Florida, Illinois, and Wisconsin, he returned to Carthage as director of admissions and financial aid in 2002. He was promoted to associate vice president for admissions in 2008, and became vice president for enrollment in 2011.

In his most recent position Clark has been responsible for a staff of 19 professionals, with oversight of admission, financial aid, and retention efforts.

“This year Carthage was expected to have its largest freshman class in history as well as the largest total enrollment (2,640 students) ever. Clark has taken a key role in collaborations between the admission office and the campus community. These collaborations have included a revamped honors program, a new branding and communication plan, development of new majors, and development of academic visit days for prospective students.”

SCPS launches center to develop business talent

By Jessica DeVader

Since opening its doors in the early 1990s, Southwestern College Professional Studies has developed partnerships with business and industry to offer specialized training for working adults. Now those efforts have resulted in the launching of the Center for Corporate Learning (CCL), which will offer customized training and talent development programs designed specifically for the unique needs of area businesses and organizations.

“As industries are becoming more competitive, organizations will find that investing in talent development will give them an edge,” says Denise Sherman, CCL. “The Center for Corporate Learning is positioned to support their talent development through customized training offerings.”

Organizations interested in finding out more about the services CCL offers can schedule an appointment to conduct a needs assessment. A gap analysis will determine what training is necessary. The final step in the process will consist of CCL experts determining the mechanism through which training will be administered.

“Our clients determine the best method of delivery for training,” says Sherman. “CCL trainers can conduct sessions at the client’s location or at our Professional Studies facility in east Wichita. And with Southwestern College being a leader in online education, we are capable of teaching the courses online as well.

The Center for Corporate Learning has experienced, accomplished industry trainers who hold credentials including industry certifications and advanced degrees.

“We have a high standard for our trainers,” explains Sherman. “They are knowledgeable experts with hands-on experience.”

Along with customized training courses, CCL began offering industry certification preparatory courses in fall 2015. The first being offered is a seven-week PHR/SPHR certification preparatory course for human resource professionals which began on Sept. 12. Others offered at a later date will include project management, Lean Six Sigma, and contract administration. There are also plans to offer continuing education for health care, human resource, and project management fields.

“We are hitting the ground running with our human resource prep course and we have others like it being planned for the near future,” says Sherman. “We look forward to being the go-to institution for businesses when it comes to educating and strengthening their workforces.”

More information about CCL can be found at http://ps.sckans.edu/center-corporate-learning

Generations of Builders continue

A high school graduation party in Wichita was a good time for two Southwestern College families to mark the transition from one Builder generation to the next. This photo shot at Julianna Smaehr’s high school graduation includes four Moundbuilder generations of the Rymph family and two Moundbuilder generations of Snell-McLains.

Seated on the swing are Kara McLain (SC freshman), Rev. Albert Rymph ’49 (holding photo of Levi and Jessie (Hershey) Rymph ’23 ’23), and Julianna Smaehr (SC freshman). Standing in back are Karen (Rymph) Smaehr ’80, Debbie Snell (attended ’77–80), Rev. Barbara (Snell) McLain ’78, and Dr. Allen McLain ’74.

Karen’s siblings, Brad Rymph ’77 and Carol (Rymph) Carlson ’79, and Allen McLain’s siblings (Robert and Kathleen) attended SC as well. Jessie Hershey and Levi Rymph met at SC, fell in love, graduated in 1923, and were married shortly after graduating from SC, says Karen Smaehr, who is their granddaughter.

“If I remember the family story correctly, Jessie’s father purchased a home in Winfield and the four Hershey sisters lived there,” Karen explains. “Each year three of the Hershey sisters would attend SC while the fourth sister worked. The four girls took turns being the working sister, funding the education of the three others.”

“Barb, Debbie, and I became friends at SC and that friendship has deepened to a tight bond over the years. It delights us that Kara (studying psychology and music) and Julianna (studying accounting) are solid friends and decided to be roommates in Cole Hall this fall,” Karen adds.
Aquaria will restore tranquility in Beech lobby

When Beech Science Center was dedicated in January 1998 the aesthetic and symbolic centerpiece of the building was a set of five aquaria in the main floor lobby. The huge tanks were filled with fish representing different eco-zones and the spot quickly became a must-see point for campus visitors and a calming presence for the science students who spend most of their college years in this building.

By the time biology major Julie Fuquay ’15 was a freshman, though, only a couple of the tanks were still in operation. The octagonal design had been prone to leaks and plumbing access problems, and all but two had been drained; by her sophomore year all were dry. Instead of being an attraction, the lobby was an eyesore.

At Homecoming 2015, the Beech aquaria will be up and running again, a product of Fuquay’s senior Leadership project. They will be dedicated Friday, Oct. 16, in a 3:30 p.m. ceremony in Beech.

“I didn’t know anything about aquaria when I started,” Fuquay admits. “I wanted to do this regardless of it being my senior project, but having it be a Leadership project was great because there were steps Cheryl (Rudo) had us take no matter what the project was.”

One of those steps was an entire semester of research, working with biology professor Pat Ross to determine the best way to build an installation that was affordable and durable. Then Julie contacted development officer Charles McKinzie, who worked with her on fund raising for the $15,500 project. By the time she graduated in May Southwestern had raised $14,200 toward the goal, and final donations are being sought for an endowment that will ensure maintenance for the aquaria.

The new tanks are designed to be more long-lasting, but they will continue to have a variety of occupants. Regional diversity will include fresh water species from Kansas, South America, North America, and Africa.

“People want to invest in projects that are meaningful, and these aquaria are meaningful for science alums,” Julie adds. “We loved watching the turtles before exams, and the sound of filtration adds a tranquil environment. I’m excited for students and future students to have this in their lives.”

China Trip

A two-week trip to China in May was a cultural and educational experience for a delegation from Southwestern College. Made up largely of representatives from the business and education divisions, the group used the time to familiarize themselves with the Chinese educational system, and to form alliances with officials at Huangshan University and Guangzhou University.

“Our trip was successful in that we accomplished our mission of forming agreements and alliances between the universities and SC,” says Debbie McAllister, MBA program director. “We will be working more effectively at exchanging faculty and students to help each other become more internationally diverse. Our MBA program at SC is now offering a course in globalization with an emphasis on doing business in China and we hope to have a visiting scholar from Huangshan to help teach the course.”

Following the trip ESL coordinator Nathan Clements stayed in China to teach an English language course to 68 students in the tourism and hospitality program at Huangshan University, and MBA student Anthony Barraza enrolled in language and culture classes there.

The Southernwestern College family is not just a family by affection — often the family is related by genetics and marriage as well. Robert and Wendy (Reiser) Richardson ’87 ’87 are good examples of this, with a family tree that not only goes back to the college’s earliest graduating classes in the late 1890s, but stretches forward to the class of 2015.

Rob and Wendy met at SC, as did Rob’s paternal grandparents (Leerland Hyndman and Carl Richardson).

Wendy submitted a list of family members with Builder connections, and says this may not even be an exhaustive compilation. Besides the relatives on the tree, check out those who graduated from or attended SC:

Elvira Williams (1890s) | Wendy’s Great-Aunt
John Armstrong Rule (late 1890s) | Wendy’s Great-Great-Uncle
Phyllis Marie Williams (1926) | Wendy’s Third Cousin
Nellie Grace Williams (1902) | Wendy’s Great-Great-Aunt
Earl Hicks Teagarden (early 1900s) | Wendy’s Great-Uncle
Everett James Williams (early 1910s) | Wendy’s Great-Uncle
Ethel Weakley Williams (early 1910s) | Wendy’s Great Grandmother

All names, dates, and degrees are approximate. A complete and more definitive compilation is now being compiled by Wendy, and it will be printed in the next issue of the Southwesterner.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Moundbuilder Market open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. including offsite locations.

The President's Gallery in Darbee Fine Arts Center will feature quilts by the Walnut Valley Quilt Guild, in memory of Donna Homan DenMint '90. The display may be viewed from Friday through Sunday afternoon.

Pounds Lounge is available for visiting throughout the weekend. No refreshments are provided in Pounds, but may be purchased upstairs and brought in.

10 a.m. *Jinx Invitational Golf Tournament, Quail Ridge Golf Course. Shotgun start. Sign up by contacting SC coach, Brad Sexson at (620) 229-6161, or brad.sexson@sckans.edu. $125 per person or $500 per team. Fee includes green fees, cart, 3 drink tickets, range balls, and prizes. (Golf registration begins at 9 a.m.)

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. *Class Of 1965 Welcome Luncheon. The Eatery, 124 E 9th St. Come and join classmates to start the weekend off right for your 50 year gathering!

2-4 p.m. Come & Go Alumni Registration hosted by the SC Business Division, College Hill Coffee. All alumni are encouraged to stop by and hear about the many great projects that the Enactus team is doing. Food and drinks will be available along with drawings for Moundbuilder Market gift certificates (4 @ $25 - drawing every 1/2 hour).

2-5 p.m. Registration for class reunions in Christy lobby. Alumni may register at any time, but your class hosts will be present during the times listed below.

2-3 p.m. 1965-1970 Class Registration

2:30-3:30 p.m. 1975 & 1980 Class Registration

3-4 p.m. 1985 & 1990 Class Registration

3:30-4:30 p.m. 1995 & 2000 Class Registration

4-5 p.m. 2005 & 2010 Class Registration

5 and 6 p.m. Campus Tours, top of 77Steps. Student Ambassador will give campus walk- ing tours. (Allow 30 minutes per tour)

3:30 p.m. Ribbon Cutting & Dedication of new Aquila, Julia Faucy '15, Birch Science Center.

NEW THIS YEAR! 4-5 p.m. Lifetime Learning Session – “How To Be a Better Listener” presented by Dr. Tracy Frederick, Missouri 102.

5:15 p.m. Registration moves to Java Jinx.

5:30-6 p.m. Meet President Brad Andrews, Java Jinx

6-7:30 p.m. *All Class Homecoming Dinner, Roy L. Smith dining hall. Limited seating. $25 per person. Master of ceremonies, Randy Juden '80. 50 yr class, 51 alumni, reunion year class hosts, SC trustees. Ambassador Award recipient: Scott Schoon! Winfield Recreation Commission, Young Alumni Award recipient: Warren Bergquist '55, Alumni Award recipient: Scott Hecht '90. Donna (Wacker) Homan DenMint '80 will be remembered with the Servant Leadership award.

8 p.m. High Jinx, Campus Players Homecoming Variety Show, Richardson Performing Arts Center.

9:30 a.m. Bendir, north end of soccer field

10 p.m. Campus Players/Theatre Alumni Party at the Moons' house, 1006 Fowler.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Moundbuilder Market open 12-3 p.m. including offsite locations.

7:30-9 a.m. *Pancake Breakfast by Enactus team, American Legion. Students will explain Enactus and their projects. $5 adults, $3.50 children under 12, ages 0-3 free.

9 a.m. Class Of 1965 Bailey Loading for parade, 1st Methodist Church parking lot, 11th & Millington.

9 a.m. *Classes Of 1985 And 1990 Breakfast Gatherings, Daylight Donuts, 910 Main.

9:30 a.m. Homecoming Parade, Main Street. President Brad Andrews, parade marshal. Parade route is 15th St to 10th St.

10 a.m. 1- p.m. Alumni Registration, Stewart Field House foyer.

10:30 a.m.-12 noon Alumni Band Rehearsal, Darbee Rehearsal Hall. Band will perform at the Homecoming football game.

10:30 a.m.-12 noon Gallery Exhibit & Performing Arts Reception, Darbee. Conversation, coffee and rolls, as well as a chance to see the President's Gallery exhibit.

10:30 a.m. Communication/Computer Science/English Come & Go Reunion Brunch, Christy Administration Building lower level. Alumni from these departments and graduates from other majors who were a part of SC's update, Collegians, Moundbuilder-yearbook, Inn Rado, SCTV, debate, the English journal and Sigma Tau Delta, are invited to join in the tours, refreshments, and conversation. RSVPs to Cindy/Steven@kucks.edu or 620-229-6289 are requested.

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon *Sunflower Espresso, keyhole drive. Mobile coffee/pastry shop with Kate (Hutcheson) Case '15.

FAMILY FUN FOR ALL 10:30 a.m. – 12 noon Rock Painting at the Mound with George Lowe '70 and Teresa Revis-Yeoman '80. Rocks and paint are provided – add a rock to your collection.


Children's Scavenger Hunt at the Aquila, Julia Faucy '15, Birch Science Center.

Family Fun with Camp Horizon, Joel Wilke '07, Library Lawn.

11 a.m. 1- p.m. *Homecoming Picnic, Stewart Field House. $6 person, children under 6, $3.

11 a.m. 1- p.m. Say Cheez Photo Booth, Stewart Field House. Free photo with booth photos, just like you remember as a kid… pair up with your spouse or your old roommate, and take some fun photos! Props provided.

11:15 a.m. Outreach Worship Service, south patios, Roy L. Smith Student Center.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. President’s Luncheon for 51+ alumni at Country Club. Hosts: Betty (McGowan) Bradley '71, Don Drennan '52, Phyllis (Riggs) Bigler '54, Melba (Travis) Cook '59, Marilyn (Lugen) Houlden '61, and Glenn Woodwill '63.

12 noon-12:30 p.m. *Professional Class Photos, King Plaza. 5x7 photo, $10. 8x10 photo; other groups or family photos may be arranged with photographer at this time. Photo times as follows: class photos will be done separately by class) Please be prompt. 12 noon Classes of 1965, 1975, 1980 12:15 p.m. Classes of 1980, 1985, 1990 12:30 p.m. Classes of 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010 1-2 p.m. BUILDER NATION Table, Helmer Track in Jantz Stadium. Alumni from the classes of 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015, stop by for a free gift from the alumni office… while supplies last.

1:15 p.m. Class Reunion Gatherings, Jantz Stadium. Sit with your classmates and friends at the football game. Go Builders! 1:30 p.m. *Homecoming Football Game, SC vs. Bethany College. $10 reserved seats (if available), $8 per adult, $5 senior citizens (age 65-up) and $2 for college students w/ ID. For alumni only, while supplies last. 2:15 p.m. *Class of 1970’s Reunion, Springhill Farm Dr. $24, pay at site. Class Hosts: Donna Homan, Randy Juden, and Stephanie Keeler.

*Class of 1985 Reunion, Deanne's house, 1104 E. 9th Ave. No charge for the first 75 who register… don’t delay! Class Hosts: Deanne (Dowell) Fort, Jon Kughl, Onnie (Arnold) Kughl, Shanna Nispel, and Gayla Rapp.

*Class of 1990 Reunion, Biederman's Bistro, 801 Main. Class Host: Darbee (English) Outch '90.

*Class of 1995 Reunion, 3727 Quail Ridge Dr. Class Hosts: Courtney Brown and Billy Tipps.


*College Hill Coffee, 403 Sowar. Class Hosts: Amanda (Bennett) Baker, Ross Baker, Lacy (Molder) Cleveland, and Beth (Parker) Robnett.


6 p.m. Women's Soccer, alumni vs. current students, Jantz Stadium.

8 p.m. *RPAC Performance (to be announced) in Richardson Performing Arts Center. Watch for details at sckans.edu/rpac. For more information or tickets, contact Jessica Falk at 800-846-1243 ext. 6414.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30 a.m. *Alumni Breakfast Buffet, Roy L. Smith dining hall. $7 person.

10 a.m. “Class of 2010 Farewell Breakfast, Hunters Cafe, 1020 Main. Dutch treat.

10:50 a.m. Homecoming Worship Service, Grace United Methodist Church. Rev. Nick Warner '70, will be guest speaker. There will be a memorial to deceased SC alumni and former faculty from Sept. 1, 2014, to Aug. 31, 2015. A Cappella Choir alumni will be invited to participate in singing "Beautiful Savior."

11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. *Sunday Brunch Buffet, Roy L. Smith dining hall. $8 person. RSVPs appreciated.

12 noon Class of 2005 Farewell Sack Lunch, Island Park. Bring your own!
Brad Andrews was a sophomore at the University of Missouri when he realized that a college campus is, as he describes it, “the best place on earth.” He was living across the hall from another student who was highly involved in university activities, and that residence hall friendship opened his eyes to the opportunities that surrounded him. With this realization, the former journalism major says, he began to major in higher education.

“I am an idealist and an optimist, and that’s why higher education is my calling and my vocation,” he explains. “It is a sacred obligation we have to graduate people who are confident, caring, kind-hearted, and courageous.”

Andrews also is a marathon runner, one who has completed nearly a dozen marathons and describes himself as “not fast but determined.”

On July 1, he became the 19th president of Southwestern College.

“I am an idealist and an optimist and a romantic, and that’s why higher education is my calling and my vocation,” he explains. “It is a sacred obligation we have to graduate people who are confident, caring, kind-hearted, and courageous.”

Andrews’s path to Southwestern began in Bloomington, Ind., where he was the eldest of six brothers. Although his extended family still lives in the Bloomington area, between second grade and his graduation from high school his family moved several times (including a stretch in Puerto Rico) before returning to the St. Louis area right after he graduated from high school.

“A year into his college career, at just about the same time he realized that he was not cut out for journalism, a residence hall friend encouraged him to become more involved in campus life. He joined student government, became chair of the student activities group, an RA in the dorm, a peer educator, a student orientation leader – he was the guy everyone called when they wanted something accomplished in student life.

And even though he graduated from Mizzou, Andrews never graduated from higher education. He worked in residence life while he was earning his master’s degree at Drake, in housing at the University of New Hampshire, in residence life and housing operations at Case Western.

Then in 1999 Andrews joined the administration of Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. It was at Carthage that he honed the wide-ranging skills he will need as president of Southwestern: He headed every major administrative function of the institution, and took on roles as dean of students, vice president for enrollment and student life, and senior vice president for academic resources. For two years he was simultaneously the chief enrollment officer, the chief development officer, the senior student affairs officer, and the person providing oversight for the marketing and communications functions of the college.

During this period, enrollment continued to increase, the academic reputation of the college continued to rise, and fund raising results were accelerated after the national economic crisis. Which of these roles is his favorite?

Andrews laughs when he’s asked that question. “I have a special place in my heart for all of them,” he says. “I grew up in student affairs and student life, so a big part of my identity is in that.”

Each of those roles, though, was preparing him to lead Southwestern. When Dick Merriman finished 17 years as the college’s president, Andrews quickly rose to the top of the candidates for the position. He read up on the college and researched every way he could, accepting an invitation with his wife, Trisha, to visit Winfield as a finalist. They arrived in town in early evening.

“(Search committee chair) Mike Lewis drove us down College Street just as the sun was going down,” he recalls. “We looked up the 77 Steps to Christy and there was that golden glow of sunset that shines on Christy some days, and all I could think was ‘What a cool place.’”

The next day Brad and Trisha spent hours on and off campus, talking with every segment of the Southwestern family. Every interaction deepened their conviction that this was the right place for them.

“When I saw the campus, I could look down toward Island Park and imagine our girls playing there, and it made me realize what an idyllic place and setting this was. Every single hour we spent in town was affirmation of our decision that we would take the job if it was offered.”

Less than two months later he had moved into the presidential office.

“I had a chance to sit down with Dick Merriman and I asked him what the essence of Southwestern College was,” President Andrews says now. “Dick is a wise man, and his answer was that this institu-
tion is a westward-facing institution. At the core of Southwestern is a pioneering spirit, a spirit of adventure and of taking on challenges with perseverance and hard work.”

This does not mean that the institution does not continue to be challenged. Higher education is seeing tough times throughout the nation, Andrews points out. Still, he is unfazed by these challenges. “It’s clear to me that at SC we have enormous strength and potential,” the president says. “While this is a difficult times in a lot of way in higher ed, SC is uniquely positioned and blessed that our strengths set us up well to succeed. What is exciting is that we have the opportunity and ability, by focusing on becoming the best version of ourselves in genuine and sincere ways, to stand out on a state and regional level as a college that provides the very best education for its students.”

It can only become that “best version,” he says, by focusing on what is best about Southwestern. Many schools are trying to be all things to all students, or trying to catch the next big wave in education, Andrews adds. Southwestern’s niche is genuinely building relationships with each Moundbuilder and helping that student develop personal potential – “and we do that by caring, teaching, learning, and accompanying them on their life journeys.”

“It is a sacred obligation we have as educators,” he says. “I would like to think that my legacy could be that I left the world a better place, and the most powerful way to do that is through education, graduating people who are confident, caring, kind-hearted, and courageous.

“I can’t imagine a more amazing, fulfilling, and important place to be.”

Brad and Trisha Andrews both have spent their professional lives in higher education.

Trisha began her career working in student affairs and career services at small private colleges, then became director of academic advising at the College of Lake County in Grayslake, Ill. She also has a master’s degree in history, and taught U.S. history courses.

They enjoy spending time with their four children – Graham, 17; Tyler, 13; Madeline, 6; and Gwendolyn, 3.
1940s

Wilma (Priddy) Baldwin ’45 has retired from playing violin for 25 years in the Salina Symphony. At present, she plays trombone in the Salina Municipal Band.

1950s

Marshall and Doris (Burdeette) Brentlinger ’52 celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on July 30, 2015. Doris retired as an elementary public school teacher and Marshall is a retired cost accountant.

1960s

David Nichols ’60 was the consulting historian who played a major role that resulted in the renaming of the new Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport in Wichita.

Jerry Houlden and Marilyn Lugen ’61 were married 50 years ago on Aug. 22, 1965, at Corbin United Methodist Church. This year, on July 25, their children held a golden anniversary party for their parents at the historic Opera House in Caldwell. Their children are Trent Houlden ’91, Trevor Houlden ’91, and Stacy (Houlden) Jagodzinske ’98.

Russell O. Vail ’63 set a national record in the two-mile race walk in the 70-74 age group at the Open and Masters Indoor Track & Field State Championships on March 8, 2015, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He was second in the 4kg shot put which now ranks him in the world nationally in the 1st in the USA and 70th in the world.

1970s

Lyneva (Sherman) Bryan’71 has retired as the director/coach of the SEDC Magic Valley Olympic Team, which she founded in 1997. In May 2014, she retired from teaching/coaching in Herington School District after 43 years. She designed and built a handicap accessible home in Goddard, and moved to provide daycare for a new grandchild and daughter, who is a fourth-generation educator.

Don R. Barnett ’72 received the American Red Cross Volunteer of the Year Award as a disaster volunteer for the 29-county Central and Northern Missouri Chapter. Don has been a member since 2009. He currently serves as the chapter’s client caseworker.

Brenda (Farmer) Mundingner ’73 retired June 30 from East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education where she has been the para facilitator and instructional media coordinator for 22 years. Brenda and her husband, Tom ’72, are looking forward to traveling and spending more time with their daughters, sons-in-laws and three grandchildren. Monumentbuilders will know one of their daughters, Mandy (Mundingner) Banks ’00 and her husband, Brandon Banks ’02.

Dana Smith ’76 retired after 36 years in education in Pretty Prairie schools.

Lisa (Temple) Brunnner ’77, an actress in Los Angeles, has co-written a humorous book with her husband, Caution Light on Hwy 37, about her life growing up in Cowley County. To order the book, go to http://amzn.to/1MtpCJw. You may also follow Lisa in her acting career on her website or Facebook page at lisatemple.com and facebook.com/LisaTempleFanPage.

Rev. Lynn Dyke ’79 has been appointed as the district superintendent of the Ozarks District (Missouri Annual Conference). She will serve on the 2016 General Conference delegation from Missouri.

Janealla (Hoffine) McDaniel ’78 is the new pastor for the Sedgwick and Bentley United Methodist churches. She assumed her role on July 1, 2015.

Barb (Meier) Holzr ’79 has recently had 10 poems published in various online literary magazines, including Ancient Paths Online, Miller’s Pond Poetry, Poetry Pages, River Poet’s Journal, A Quiet County, and Cast For. Barb retired from the Medford (Oregon) School District on Aug. 1, 2015, and then started a new position teaching full-day kindergarten in Gold Beach, Ore.

1980s

Michelle (White) Wilson ’80 retired from teaching last May after teaching second grade for 34 years. She taught at the same school, Union Valley in the Bolivar school district, for her entire career. Micki is now the volunteer coordinator for Hospice and HomeCare of Reno County.

Bill Gies ’81 has expanded his role at Bethany College to include the role of assistant golf coach. He has been the chair of the health and physical education department at Bethany since 2014. He looks forward to the challenge of this opportunity.

Mike ’83 and Rene Bair ’84, are the proud owners of two Denny’s restaurants in Wyoming after 31 years on the corporate side of Denny’s. One is in Rock Springs and the other in Rawlins. The Bairs still live in West Jordan, which is a suburb of Salt Lake City.

Connie Sears ’88 was honored for the second year in a row as the favorite teacher of the senior class at Colleton High School. Connie has been teaching for 18 years and credits her students for helping her mature in her youth. She strives to be animated and incorporate real life experiences in her lesson plans and has no plans for retirement at this time, much to her students’ delight.

Chuck Sturgis ’88 has relocated from Washington State to Ohio where he is now associate professor of pathology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Sturgis is the author of more than 50 peer-reviewed medical-scientific publications as well as several textbook chapters. His professional e-mail is Sturgis@ccf.org.

Steve Peebles ’89 has retired from coaching after 26 years of coaching football at his alma mater, Manatee High in Bradenton, Fla. In his career, he has won four state championships, two state runner-ups and has been in the final four of the playoffs seven times. In 13 of his 26 seasons coaching, his teams have made it to the final four or better in the playoffs. Over the years, he has also coached weightlifting, baseball, and track and field. Steve will continue to teach mathematics at Manatee.

1990s

Ken and Marjorie (Stewart) ’91 Cooper celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 24, 2015. Ken retired from the Cedar Vale school system after 21 years of service and Marjorie retired from the State of Kansas in 2000. They enjoy traveling in their RV and spending time with their children and grandchildren.

Donald Stroy ’91 is the assistant boys basketball coach at Lancaster High School in Lancaster, Texas. This spring, the team won the 5A Texas state championship. Donald has also just released his second R&B album called “I’m Patient.” It is downloadable at all digital stores.

David Pawlowski ’92, after seven years of teaching and nine years of building level leadership, has assumed the role of assistant superintendent of business and finance for Alexandria Township School District in Pittstown, N.J. His new role includes human resources, insurance, and financial management, as well as short- and long-range budget planning, facilities planning, and collective bargaining.

David James Perry ’92 is enjoying training using techniques he learned from “the coach of all coaches – Jim Hines.” In addition to running, he also likes cycling. Although his career currently has him in Albuquerque, N.M., he is looking to relocate to Texas.

Regina (Munsro) Sweeze ‘93, Fort Pierce, Fla., is moving into the role of empty nester with two graduations in May 2015—one daughter graduating from college and one from high school.

Kristine (Moran) Rodriguez, Ed.D., ’94/’15, has been chosen as the new director of the Department of Teacher Education at Kansas Wesleyan University. Krissy’s past positions include biology and chemistry teacher and junior high athletic director at Southeast of Saline Junior/Senior High School in Gypsum; Upward Bound program instructor for Kansas State University — Salina; elementary principal for Sacred Heart Cathedral Grade School in Salina; and assistant athletic trainer and adjunct faculty in athletic training and biology at Bethany College. She earned an M.S.Ed. in educational leadership from the University of Dayton in Ohio and an Ed.D. in educational leadership from Southwestern College.

Donelle Bergeson ’97 has accepted the position of librarian at MCC Academy in Skokie, Ill.
Jerome Bailey ’98 has accepted a position at Owens-Illinois Company (O-I) in Toano, Va., a world leader in glass bottle manufacturing.

Cory Helmer ’99 and Nicole Wham Ferguson ’10 were married on June 27, 2015. The Helmers are at home in Burden.

2000s

Jeana Clark ’00 is the senior web designer for Veritas Health, an online health publisher in Deerfield, Ill., just outside of Chicago.

Kristin and Jonathan Conard ’00 were hosted by Watermark Books & Cafe July 18 for a presentation and author signing of Kansas Trail Guide: The Best Hiking, Biking, and Riding in the Sunflower State.

Andrea (Schultz) Picklesimer ’00, M.S.N., R.N., has accepted a position at Kansas Wesleyan University as assistant professor of nursing. Andrea has taught medical, surgical, critical care, health assessment, and nursing leadership at Brown Mackie College in Salina. She has also worked as a cardiologist and pediatric nurse with Mowery Clinic in Salina.

Shaun Whitestall ’03 is quality manager at LMI Aerospace in Wichita.

Brendon Fox ’04, ’08 completed his Ph.D. in organization and management with a specialization in leadership at Capella University. The title of his dissertation is “Cultivating a Passion for Excellence in African American and Latino College Males: Mentor Experiences in Multitheoretical Organizational Ethnography.”

Brent Wolf ’03 was elected to the USD 465 Board of Education for Winfield public schools. His new position started in July 2015.

Nicole Howie ’04 graduated in May 2015 from Fort Hays State University with a Master of Science in adaptive special education. Nicole is currently a special education teacher at the elementary school in Osawatomie.

Cornel Hubbard ’04 is the adult system administrator for the Louisiana Behavioral Health Partnership in Baton Rouge.

Sandra (Lynam) Whitesell ’04, former director at Kansas Wesleyan University in Valley Center, is the assistant principal at Gardiner Elementary in Wichita.

Kevin Hopkins, former minister at Grace United Methodist Church in Winfield, has been officially promoted to lieutenant colonel of the 190th Air Refueling Wing of the Kansas Air National Guard, Topeka. Hopkins continues in his role as university minister (chaplain) at Baker University.

Shelley (Isham) and Mike Fisher were married June 27. They have five children (Joe, Keagan, Matthew, Chloe, and Taylor) and live in Winfield. Shelley is faculty assistant in the natural sciences division.

Alicia Lillich, reference and instruction librarian at Drexel Library, has accepted a position at the National Library of Medicine in Kansas City where she will be working out of KU Medical Center.

Jerry Wallace, a historian and writer on page 3.

Luanne Warren was recognized for 20 years of service as an instructor for the Winfield Recreation Commission.
Springs and Caldwell, Kan., but spent 2015 in Raytown, Mo. A Korean Marlin Dvorak ’58 years. Martin is survived by his wife County. He worked for Cessna for 29 years. and his brother John Ramsdale ’49 family members.

Charles “Chuck” Ramsdale ’49 died July 17, 2015. Chuck retired from IBM in Los Angeles after 26 years. He is survived by his wife of almost 67 years, Joanne ’69, son David, daughter Debra Thews, three grandchildren, and his brother John Ramsdale ’49.

Dorothy “Dottie” (Chizman) Hollandsworth ’50 passed away May 8, 2015, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Dorothy held various sales jobs over the years and retired at the age of 86 from selling jewelry at Manitou Jacks, a job she loved. She is survived by her daughter Valerie Grammens, son Douglas, sisters Roberta Morphis and Shirley Plate, brother Keith Chisman, six grandchildren, and one great-grand-great-granddaughter.

Rev. Verne E. Schattner ’51 died at his home in Cobocton, N.Y., on May 29, 2015. He was the pastor of the North Cohocton and Cohocton United Methodist Churches from 1954 to 1990 while he retired. He was the founder and leader of the Cohocton Area Senior Citizens Group from 1962 to 2013. Verne is survived by his wife of 52 years, Lilian, and several other family members.

David “Fred” (Doc) Erwin, Jr. ’52, died May 18, 2015, in Russell, Kan. Fred practiced veterinary medicine in Russell for 46 years until his health forced him to retire. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth “Libby,” sons David and Matthew, and sister Betty Boggs.

Martin Woner ’52 died May 7, 2015. Martin spent two years in the U.S. Air Force as a controller and then became a country agricultural agent in Seward County. He worked for Coorsa for 29 years. Martin is survived by his wife Lorice, sons Bruce and Kent, and five grandchildren.

Martin Dvorak ’58 died June 19, 2015, in Raytown, Mo. A Korean War veteran, he taught in Conway Springs and Caldwell, Kan., but spent most of his career in Winfield teaching driver’s education, aviation, and coaching sports. He is survived by his wife Veda, son Greg, daughters Gayla Cheadle and Michelle Schaffer, brother Rudolph, four grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Delbert Daniel ’60 died May 18, 2015. Delbert was director of the Winfield SFRS office from 1967 to 1976. He had been a substitute teacher for Winfield and Arkansas City for the last three years. Survivors include his wife Betty and sons Ted Keelin and Ralph Daniel.

Jeannine (Lentz) Foster ’66 died on July 7, 2015. Many Winfield alumni will remember Jeannine from the fifth grade classes she taught at Irving Elementary School for many years. Many others will remember her as the wife of Ed Foster, a longtime professor at Southwestern College. In addition to her husband, she is survived by daughters Cynthia Foster and Carol Foster; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Verle Goodnight ’68 died July 1, 2015, in Orange Park, Fla. Verle served in the Air Force. His expertise was in sales, accounting, service work, and consulting. He is survived by his stepson, John, and a number of grandchildren.

James Stebbins ’68 died on Nov. 7, 2014, in Enid, Okla. Jim served in the Army from 1974 to 1978. He worked for NORCE in Enid for 25 years and was also a social worker for two years. Survivors include his wife Mary, son Joshua, daughter Devon Jordan, and three grandchildren.

Rita (Walker) Hostetter ’71, teacher, died only 7, 2015. She is survived by her husband Phil; children Brooke Landgren and Brit Hostetter; one grandchild; sister Patti (Walker) Daniels ’79, brother-in-law Keith Hostetter and wife Susan (Swartz) Hostetter ’75.

Janet (Phillips) Austin ’72 died May 10, 2015, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was employed at Abd-ay Adams law firm in St. Petersburg, Fla. Survivors include her husband Tom, sons Kevin Hughes and Greg Hughes, sister Nadine Edwards, and eight grandchildren.

Donna (Wacker, Homan) DeMint ’80 died on June 10, 2015. Including college days, she was a vital part of the Winfield and Southwestern communities for nearly 40 years. In September 1981, Donna married Paul Homan ’83, they later divorced. In November 1983, she started Donna’s Design, working for 31 years in the floral and gift business before retiring in March 2015. In 1993, Donna began the Isle of Lights at Island Park in Winfield where she continued as president for over 21 years. Southwestern College recognized her for her tireless volunteer efforts with the college by awarding her the Alumni Award in 2000, and will be honoring her at next year Homecoming in October with the Servant Leadership Award for all she has done for SC, Winfield, and the surrounding community. Donna married Todd DeMint ’94 in July 2013. She is survived by her husband Todd; her mother, Connie Wacker; her daughters Alli- son Homan ’14, Cassie Homan, and Melissa Aspen; her son Scott DeMint; and three grandchildren.

Phillip R. Purinton ’03 died on May 31, 2015, following a brief illness. He was a retired technical writer at Boeing and Learjet, and had served in the Kansas National Guard. Phillip is survived by his wife, Dr. Michelle Klau mann; daughters, Shauna Little and Christie Cooks, five grandchildren, and sister, Jo Auchterlonie.

Dr. Corydon Eugene Cochran died on March 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Alnna (Chium) Cochran ’68; sons, Corydon V. Cochran and Clinton Cochran; daughter, Lorylin Galvan; step-son, Jeffrey Yoe; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Fran Jabara, friend of Southwestern and longtime professor at Wichita State University, died July 25, 2015. Jabara established the Professor Fran Jabara Leadership Award at Southwestern College in 2004, eventually endowing it to provide assistance to SC students as they graduate from college.

Anthony Patullo, husband of Marcia (Sauer) Patullo ’56 died at home September 14, 2014 after a short battle with leukemia.

Gregg LaMar died Feb. 28, 2015 in Wichita. He worked for Boeing Aircraft. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Linda (McNay) LaMar ’64, two daughters Lana Wyckoff and Kandi LaMar, and three grandchildren.

Priscilla (“Tallul”) Rivers, of Greenola, Kan., died May 8, 2015. She was the wife of Roland “Ron” Rivers ’77, who preceded her in death, and is the mother of three Moundbuilders, Randy Rivers ’80, Ronda Riverstone ’82, and Robin Rivers ’83. In addition to her children, she is survived by four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

June (Beaty) Turner died June 18, 2015. She is survived by her husband Wilbur “Gene” Turner, Wichita.

Harriett Wooldridge died June 14, 2015, at her home in Winfield. She was the widow of Warren Wooldridge, long time fine arts division chair and professor of music at Southwestern, and is survived by daughter Jenni- fer (Wooldridge) Utt ’75, son Jon Wooldridge ’79/90, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.
Alice Bendinelli, assistant professor of English, presented “A Narrative No Man’s Land: Trauma, Memory and History in Barker’s Regeneration (1915)” at the September 2014 conference Literature, Memory, and the First World War. The event was organized by the United States Military Academy. In October 2014, Bendinelli presented “Liminal Beings and Affect: The Shared Lives of Nonhuman and Other Animals in Neil Abramson’s Un-said” at SLSA 2014 at Southern Methodist University. In March she gave a presentation titled “The Question of the Animal in Contemporary Fiction” at Southwestern College. In April 2015, she presented “More than Human: the Grievable Lives of Animals” at the joint Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association conference in New Orleans. She was also commissioned to do a review to be published in an Italian journal of philosophy.

Bryan Corbin, Ed.D. candidate, is author of “Humor as an Instructional Tool in Qatari Foundation English Classes,” published in the June 2015 TESOL Arabia Perspectives.


Brenda Hicks, director of financial aid, represented the Kansas Association of Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA) at the National Association of Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) conference as the president of the Kansas group. As part of her role on the NASFAA 50th Anniversary Planning Committee, Hicks led a parade of 1,700 financial aid administrators through the streets of New Orleans to celebrate the kick-off of a year-long celebration of NASFAA’s 50th year.

Jeremy Kirk, assistant professor of music, is composer of a new piece published through Per-Mus publications. He has been accepted to present at the 2015 National Association for Music Education National Conference in Nashville in October and the November 2015 Percussive Arts Society International Convention in San Antonio.

Patrick Lee, assistant professor of accounting, is chair of the KSCPA Emerging Leaders Conference to be held in Overland Park September 25.

Joni Rankin, director of institutional research, and Julie Galliart, Professional Studies director of faculty, were conference presenters at the Summer Institute for Distance Learning and Instructional Technology at Johnson County Community College. The two co-presented a session on “Tracking Faculty Data with an ERP System,” and Galliart also presented a session called “Need Zing? Use Jing!”

Christine Rogers, assistant professor of education, presented a session titled “Zero to Sixty: A Professional Development Module for Establishing Co-Teaching” at the Council for Exceptional Children Annual Convention in San Diego, Calif., on April 11, 2015.

John Scagg, professor of English, presented a paper, “More Like a Ghost than a Man: The Liminal World of the Investigator Yoshimi Nozomi,” at the 2015 PCA/ACA Joint Annual Conference in New Orleans. He was invited to contribute an essay to the edited collection New Perspectives on Detective Fiction: Mystery Magnified to be published by Routledge in fall 2015. He is co-editing a collection of essays on the fiction of Craig Johnson to be published by McFarland in 2016.

Pamela S. Thompson, affiliate faculty, completed CELTA (Cambridge English Language Training Assistance) certification in Washington, D.C., during the summer.

Dana Thomson, director of education operations, was to speak Sept. 11 at the Kansas Academic Advising Network Annual Conference at Fort Hays State University. Her presentation is “Creating a ‘First-year’ Experience for the Online Adult Student.”

Brian J. Winnie, director of choral activities and assistant professor of voice, was artist-in-residence in Yekaterinburg, Russia, sponsored by the U.S. consulate and Yekaterinburg Art Schools. During his residency he lectured on American choral music and education in public schools and higher education, conducted choral music workshops and masterclasses to six arts programs and universities, and conducted a formal mass choir concert in Yekaterinburg. He also co-led a three-day Transformational Teaching and Conducting workshop on SC’s campus, and will guest conduct the Pioneer League Middle School Honor Choir, and the South Central Kansas Music Educators Association Region Women’s Honor Choir in Wichita.
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