

# ALUMNI NOTES

1930s

**Virginia (Benson) Hinshaw '38** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday Feb. 10, 2007, with her family and friends. Her first grade classmate, **Louise (Porth) Lana '38**, also attended. They have been friends for over 84 years.

1940s

**C. Hugh Snyder '41** (deceased) is author of the book *The Youngest Brother*, that received the Kansas Notable Book award in 2006. The book is about growing up on a Kansas wheat farm. It was published in 2004. Hugh passed away July 9, 2006.

1950s

**Virginia (Brace) Huntington '53** has been curator for the Elk County Historical Society at Moline Historical Museum since the early 1970s. She reports it is great training for the latest Friends of Elk Falls project, the restoration of a one-room country schoolhouse. Pershing ("Prairie Gem") school was saved from a highway improvement project and moved to the Elk Falls school grounds. Enthusiasm is running high and many artifacts are being contributed, keeping her busy as the "Prairie Gem" is renovated.

**Larry and Jo Ann (Newman) Heiserman '58 '56** celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 31, 2007.

**Wayne and Shirley Kenyon '58 '58** have been part of the Grace Community Church since 2003. Wayne is the pastor of pastoral care and counseling.

**Larry Schuster '59** was recognized by the Winfield State Prison as the "Volunteer of the Year." Larry traveled to Topeka May 21 to meet with the governor and other state leaders. For a number of years Larry has been involved in the prison ministry and weekly Bible study. He is now permitted to take five inmates to church each Sunday. Schuster also helps families, assists with job placement, and participates in weekend retreats.

1960s

**Fred Craig '60** is the chaplain at St. Francis Health Center in Topeka, after completing 8½ years as a chaplain in a juvenile correctional facility (KJCC) in Topeka, on Jan. 5, 2007.

**Jan (Boyer) See '61** has a new position as house director/house mom at a brand new sorority house in Edmond, Okla., where she has 20 more "daughters." She would love hearing from former classmates.

1970s

**Bruce DeHaven '70** has been named special teams coach for the Seattle Seahawks, signing a three-year contract. DeHaven led the Buffalo Bills' special teams during their Super Bowl years, and was responsible for the success of their kickoff coverage squad when it was the best in the league from 1987 to 1990. He has also coached at San Francisco and for the last four years, covered special teams with the Dallas Cowboys. In Bruce's words, "This was big for our family since we weren't sure of our employment situation with Coach Parcells' retirement or not retirement. I got fortunate with a long-term contract in Seattle working for a great guy (Mike Holmgren). We have never lived in the great Northwest so am excited about that part of the move."

**George Rickey Robertson '70** is now retired from the bench and practices law part-time and raises poultry on his acreage near Arlington.

**Martha (Miller) Robertson '70**, director of learning outcomes and assessment at Hutchinson Community College, has received her doctoral degree in curriculum and instruction from Kansas State University.

**Kim Moore '71** was recently recognized for his 20 years of leading the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, and his many years of dedication to the mission and work of the fund.

**Jim Godbey '72**, after 33 years of local church ministry with the Kansas West Conference, will begin a new ministry as coordinator of the Dodge City office of the Counseling and Mediation Center, Inc. Jim has a D.Min. in pastoral counseling from Phillips Theological Seminary, is an AAPC certified pastoral counselor, and is a marriage and family therapist. The Counseling and Mediation Center is an accredited Samaritan Center.

**Denise (Dowell) Neighbors '73** has completed her second year as principal at Faris Elementary in Hutchinson. She received her master of administration degree from Wichita State University in 2001. Denise started her principalship in 2004-05 in Sayre, Okla., and returned to Hutchinson for the 2005-06 school year. Grandson Daxon, 5, in Tulsa and three granddaughters—Logan, 9, Ali, 7, and Madilyn, 4—in New York keep her busy.

**Tom McCarthy '75** has retired as police chief of Fayetteville, N.C. Before becoming chief at Fayetteville he spent 14 years with the Gaston county police department, serving as chief, and two years as chief in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Although his retirement plans aren't concrete, he will continue to teach one night a week at UNC-Pembroke and will also do some consulting work.

1980s

**Jeanne (Baker) Dexter '81** received the first advising award presented to a Florida State University/Panama City faculty member. Recipients of this award were nominated by students who were beneficiaries of their service.

**Cheryl Lindly '81** was recently recognized as the 2007 Nebraska Physician Assistant of the Year. After graduating from SC she completed her MA and BS in Physician Assistant studies at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Cheryl has been at Alegant Health Family Care for the past 16 years. She is also part of the development team for Quick Care Clinics located in the Hy-Vee stores in Omaha. She also serves on the admissions committee/adjunct faculty for the UNMC PA program.

**Joe Cobb '83** became the new pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., in March 2007.

**Rev. Maria (Frey) Hoecker '84**, associate rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, has been chosen as one of 30 participants in the 21<sup>st</sup> class of the Clergy Leadership Project in West Cornwall, Conn.

**Jeff Jarnigan '87** has accepted a new position with the San Jose Sabercats of the Arena Football League as the special teams coordinator/defensive line coach.

1990s

**Barbie Henthorn-Thompson '92** was invited to sing, as a guest soloist, at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Kansas City North, during their "Adventful" 2006 music vespers service. She then served as a co-director and staged the manger scene for the children.

**J.D. Smith '96** has accepted a position with the Elk County EMS as a full-time EMT.

**Xavier Whitaker '96** has been selected as a recipient of the Excellence Award from The Eyes of Texas, a student organization. Whitaker is completing his first year as the student affairs administrator at the University of Texas in Austin.

**Eric Andreas '97** reports that he has been hired as a produce sales associate at the new Winfield Wal-Mart Supercenter. A new granddaughter, Audrey-Noel, was born Dec. 30, 2006.

**Carey Eskridge-Lyarger '96** has been nominated for the Presidential Award in Mathematics and Science Teaching. She must submit a nomination paper then go through the selection process, but could be awarded \$10,000 in awards and would be honored at events to take place in Washington, D.C.

**Chris Burley '98** is part of the online team at Defenders of Wildlife that recently launched a way for folks to engage in their work to protect wildlife. "We decided that one of the best ways to accomplish this would be to offer folks a fun way to get connected with wildlife (and maybe learn a little bit, too)," Chris writes. The result: [www.YouWild.org](http://www.YouWild.org). "The thought was to create a fun site that folks would want to interact with and share with friends, family, etc., and in the process help raise awareness about the plight of wolves, polar bears, and other imperiled wildlife," Chris says. "We'd love to hear your feedback...I'd loooooove to see a few of you turn into wolves, sharks, polar bears, bats, chimps, or my personal favorite...the African wild ass."

**Kirsta Lowe '98** and Greg Kalkwarf were married June 17, 2006, at the Garden of the Gods Club in Colorado Springs, Colo. They currently live in the foothills of Colorado. Kirsta is a Level III NICU RN and Greg oversees marketing for the Colorado office of BKD.

2000s

**Timothy Myers '00** makes his debut in July 2007 with the Jerusalem Symphony conducting a broadcast program featuring the music of Scandinavian composers. Myers' 2006-07 season has included significant engagements including the American Symphony Orchestra (NY), London BBC Symphony, and Palm Beach Symphony.

**David Abarca '01** is a Master of Arts student at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., and his plans for future ministry have an international flavor. This native of Costa Rica wants to work with Hispanic ministries in Methodist churches to reconnect with the focus and traditions originally established by John Wesley, the denomination's founder. "I would like to help people realize the tradition and roots of the Methodist movement and go back to them," he says. "We have left our

Methodist traditions in a huge way, especially in the Hispanic church. We don't need a new breakthrough; the things Wesley did were successful." Abarca currently works part-time with Wesley's admissions and recruiting staff. Additionally, he serves at Calvary United Methodist Church in Arlington, Va., where he is re-launching a contemporary worship service and establishing a Hispanic ministry.

**Joanna (Moss) Robinson '01** is director of development for the University of Oklahoma's College of Earth and Energy and College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences.

**Jacob Tuttle '01** is the director of physical therapy at Memorial Hospital of Texas County in Guymon, Okla.

**Bradley J. Newell '02** is one of nine University of Kansas doctor of pharmacy students selected for a three-week elective rotation in Peru. This rotation provides the opportunity for hands-on study in the rain forest of Peru. Students will live on a reserve and travel to meet with botanists, taxonomists, pharmacists, shamans, and farmers. Locations in Peru included in the experience are Lima, Cuzco, and Iquitos. Bradley will complete his studies at KU pharmacy in May 2008.

**Julie (Barker) '02** and Trenton Uden were married April 8, 2005.

**Sarah (Thuma) '03** and Jason Hallinan were married March 17, 2007. Sarah accepted a position in January as director of student activities at Baker University. She recently finished her last case for her master's degree in higher education administration and graduated from the University of Kansas.

**Nick Gronseth '04** received his master of arts in American history from Emporia State University in May 2006. He currently resides in Emporia with his wife of three years, **Jessica (Ostrom) '04**.

**Ross and Amanda (Bennett) Baker '05 '05** are enrolled as full-time students at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and serve together as part-time co-pastors of Ingleside United Methodist Church in Ingleside, Ill. (*see page 5*)



**Lacy (Mohler) Cleveland '05** is the new reigning Mrs. Kansas United States 2007. She will be representing Kansas in the Mrs. United States pageant in Las Vegas this July. She and Jacob Cleveland were

married Oct. 9, 2006 in El Dorado.

**Jacob Strange '05** has been hired as the assistant branch manager of the Pawnee branch of Boeing Wichita Credit Union.

**Erick Byrd '06** is currently working as an athletic director and assistant unit director for the Boys & Girls Club in Sapulpa, Okla.

## SEND YOUR NEWS TO:

**Nan Hinson  
100 College St.  
Winfield, KS 67156-2499**

## OR E-MAIL HER AT:

**southwesterner@sckans.edu**

Contact faculty, staff, and students at:

Southwestern College • 100 College St. • Winfield, KS 67156-2499

Alumni notes are compiled by Nan (Brummett) Hinson '97, alumni events manager.