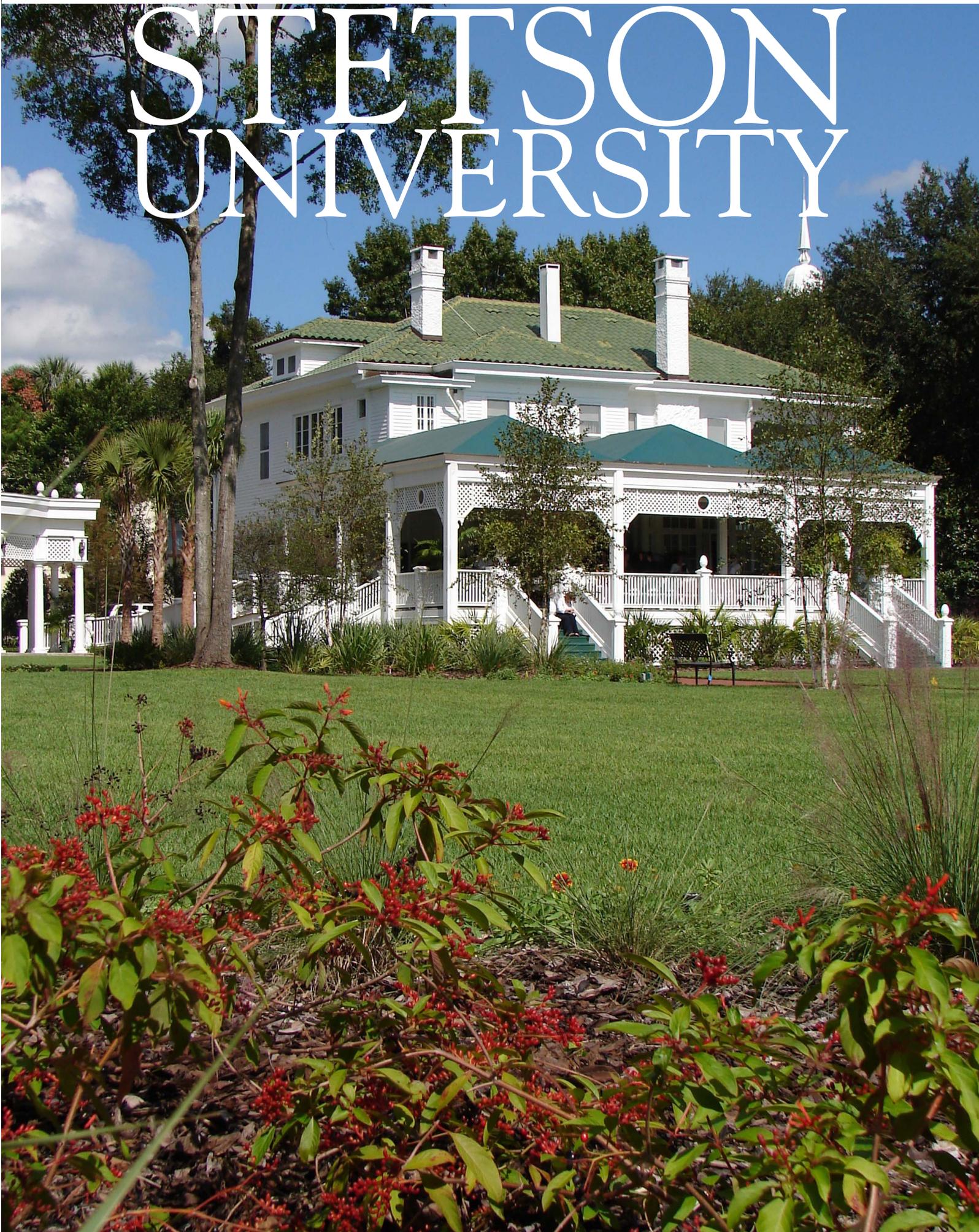


# STETSON UNIVERSITY



# LET'S TALK

with the President



“Stetson is fully committed to be a key leader in the arena of environmental responsibility.”

– President Doug Lee

**THE STRENGTH OF STETSON UNIVERSITY'S SEVEN CORE VALUES** continues to enrich and transform us in many ways. Our commitment to environmental responsibility is in the forefront this fall.

In June of this year, Stetson University became a signatory of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. The leadership initiative focuses attention on global warming and commits signatories to reducing carbon emissions and raising public awareness of the magnitude of the climatic challenges before us. As an educational leader, Stetson University has a responsibility to be a model and a teaching tool for students, the greater campus community and our neighbors. We must work together, engage in serious dialogue and seek and implement workable solutions that will help reduce the campus footprint on our precious natural resources. We have established a Presidents Climate Commitment Task Force at Stetson to address our next steps. We welcome your input about this important issue. Global warming is everyone's concern.

Environmental responsibility has been one of Stetson's core values for many years. We have made significant inroads. One of the most important is how faculty members have integrated environmental studies seamlessly into the curriculum. Course offerings are varied and engaging, and address how interaction with the environment touches all aspects of human endeavors. These courses tackle the fact that “going green” requires effort, dedication, a new way of thinking and lifestyle adjustments.

Margaret and I learned about lifestyle adjustments during the summer, when the grounds around the President's House were transformed into the Vera Lea Rinker Native Plant Garden. Before the project got under way, Facilities Management shared that the change in the garden area would be dramatic. That was an understatement. If you haven't been on campus since last semester, you'll understand when you visit the garden for the first time. It's a beautiful landscape that transforms the grounds around the house. More importantly, it enhances our Environmental Studies facilities. The garden will complement programs of the new Rinker Environmental Learning Center and help convey the message that Stetson embraces and endorses the idea of environmentally friendly landscaping.

Each of us has a responsibility to be a steward of the earth, and a responsibility to help one another explore ways to reduce the impact we make on natural resources. Stetson is fully committed to be a key leader in the arena of environmental responsibility.

– Doug

H. Douglas Lee, *President*  
 Linda P. Davis '73, *Vice President for University Relations*  
 Mary Anne Rogers, *Executive Director Public Relations and Communications*  
 Susan P. Anderson, *Associate Vice President for University Relations*  
 Danielle Laprime, MA '95, *Editor and Designer*  
 Will Phillips '05, *Cupola Editor*



### FEATURES

- Campus Transformations: *School of Music to get much-needed expansion with new Mary B. McMahan Hall • Rinker Garden transforms south entrance to campus • Other Stetson University construction projects under way this academic year* 2
- Rodgers, Turner, Christie, Swann families span five generations at Stetson 6
- Stetson University Board of Trustees welcomes five alumni 22
- Students explore depths of service, civic engagement 24
- Title IX inspired a whole new ballgame for women athletes at Stetson University 26
- From swimwear to horse racing, graduates find success in business venture 28
- Former Congressman Shaw '61 donates political memorabilia to Stetson 30
- Counseling Education students put skills to work in New Orleans 32
- How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Sometimes, it's someone you know... 34
- Charitable estate planning: not just for the wealthy, old 42
- Variety of speakers enrich dialogue at College of Law 44

Cover: Blooming firebush adds a burst of color to the grounds around the President's House, where the newly planted Vera Lea Rinker Native Plant Garden has transformed the look of the landscape. Hundreds of Florida native plants are on display in the garden, whose creation was funded by a generous donation from the philanthropic Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Foundation. The new garden is an extension of the university's Environmental Studies facilities.  
 (Photo by Cindi Brownfield)



### DEPARTMENTS

	Opposite page
Let's talk with the President	11
Cupola	11
Alumni Events	12
Alumni News	15
Weddings, Unions and Anniversaries	18
New Hatters	19
In Memoriam	20
Under the Cupola	36
Books, Etc.	37
Transitions	38

# School of Music to get much-needed expansion with new Mary B. McMahan Hall

By Cindi Brownfield

**P**resser Hall is packed – literally jam-packed – with musicians making beautiful music.

The music building was built in 1969 for 100 students. Today, the Stetson University School of Music has 225 Music majors, and this year's new class of 95 freshmen and transfers is the largest ever.

"We're really bursting at the seams," said Interim Dean of Music Jean West.



Jean West

Thankfully, music students and the School of Music's 46 full- and part-time faculty members will soon have more elbow room.

Construction will start in January on an 8,000-square-foot music building designed as an expansion to Presser Hall with a variety of teaching and rehearsal spaces. It will be south of Presser, built to

complement long-range plans to construct a performance hall. The new facility is scheduled to open during the 2008-09 academic year, Stetson's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

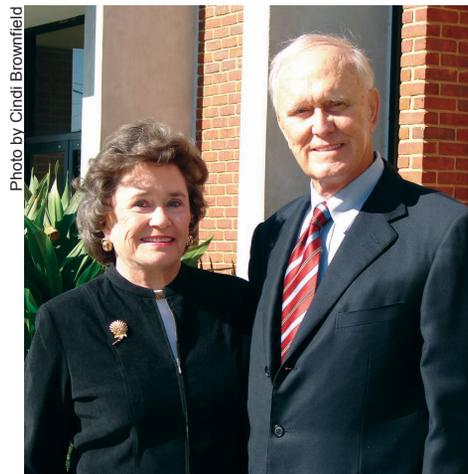
"The faculty feels energized. We're really excited about it," West said.

Longtime Stetson supporters Dick and Mary "Dinky" Blount McMahan of DeLand made the lead donation for the \$1.7 million facility, to be named Mary B. McMahan Hall.

It will have a large rehearsal hall, as well as faculty studios for one-on-one lessons, a percussion studio, practice rooms for students, a band library and instrument storage space.

"We don't have enough practice rooms for our students to use," West said. "They're used almost 'round the clock. There are many times of the day that students go off to practice and can't find a space."

The large rehearsal hall will be used primarily by the band, orchestra and Choral Union. It will



Dick and Mary "Dinky" Blount McMahan

be larger than the Tinsley Rehearsal Hall, the classroom in Presser that's used by the large instrumental ensembles, and have better acoustics, West said.

The McMahans have long supported Stetson and regularly enjoy the concerts, recitals and operas offered by the School of Music. She is a member of the School of Music Board of Advisors, and he serves on the university's Board of Trustees.

An investor and developer, McMahan said he wanted the gift to honor his wife and to say "thank you" to Dean Jim Woodward, who retired May 31, and President Doug and First Lady Margaret Lee. President Lee plans to retire in 2009.

"We love music, and Stetson is a major force in the DeLand community – culturally, socially, economically and politically," McMahan said. "This will be a beautiful little building, right in the heart of campus, and I'm proud to honor my wife in this way."

The Stetson University Symphony Orchestra will benefit from the new facilities.



# Rinker Garden transforms south entrance to campus

By Gerri Bauer

**T**he new Vera Lea Rinker Native Plant Garden has transformed the grounds around the Stetson University President's House and the south entrance to campus. The Florida native plant garden is designed to enhance Stetson's Environmental Studies facilities and to be the setting for the many of the university functions that take place at the President's House each year.

The garden is named in honor of Vera Lea Rinker, who died in 1985. She was the mother of John Rinker, president of the philanthropic Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Foundation, whose generous donation funded the garden's creation.

The two-acre garden showcases more than 80 trees and hundreds of shrubs, flowering plants and ground covers that collectively represent 30 Florida

native plant species. They are displayed in a landscape setting that features a central lawn area and brick walkways, low-voltage lighting, brick posts and fencing.

"The Rinker Native Plant Garden is a significant resource for enhancing Stetson's Environmental Studies facilities," said President Doug Lee. "It also will complement

the programs of the Rinker Environmental Learning Center, which will serve Stetson faculty and students and K-12 educational programs in Volusia County."

Started in May, the landscape renovation was completed in August. Since then, the garden has been the setting for a reception during the Board of Trustees meeting in September and a tour for members of the university community during the annual Quality of Service fall breakfast.

"The garden enhances our ability to welcome and entertain university guests and to host events for alumni, students, parents and faculty," said Margaret Lee, Stetson's first lady. She and President Lee open their home for university and public functions more than 100 times a year. A plan is also being developed to showcase the garden to the public through a series of scheduled guided tours, in keeping with the university's educational mission.

The Rinker Garden is reflective of the university's Native Plant Initiative, a policy that mandates use of only Florida native trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials in campus landscaping. Native plants are acclimated to Florida's soil and climate conditions and are beneficial for biodiversity and wildlife. Because they don't have the intensive fertilization and pesticide requirements of many non-native ornamental plants, native plants allow the university to reduce its chemical footprint. Once established, native plants also have minimal supplemental irrigation requirements.

Photos by Carol Ferritto and Gerri Bauer

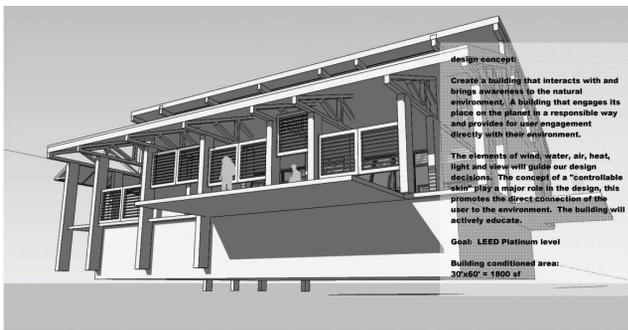


# Other Stetson University construction



## The new Science Center

Work has begun on a 22,000-square-foot addition to the front (west side) of Sage Hall. The \$8.5 million facility is scheduled to open for classes in January 2009. The new two-story section will increase space for science education at Stetson by nearly 50 percent and will include high-tech laboratories designed for class and research use, one conventional classroom and eight small rooms for prep-work, storage or offices, to be used primarily by the Biology and Chemistry departments. The exterior will be brick and glass, with a central entrance. A second phase of the project – a major renovation to the existing 45,000-square-foot Sage Hall building – is planned for the future. Celebrating the groundbreaking were members of the Science faculty, top right, and the Board of Trustees, bottom. (Photos by Terry Fogleman)



## Rinker Environmental Learning Center

The Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Environmental Learning Center is being built adjacent to the Gillespie Museum, and will become an extension of the earth and environmental science museum. The \$650,000 center will be used by schoolchildren, local environmental and conservation groups, area residents and Stetson students. Construction is expected to be completed by next fall. The project will include a large multi-purpose room with exhibit space and technical equipment for public presentations and a smaller room for visiting exhibits. The building will be constructed using principles of "green design" to provide practical examples of living in balance with the environment.



The Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Environmental Learning Center for Stetson University

sep. 27, 2007 SCHENKELSHULTZ

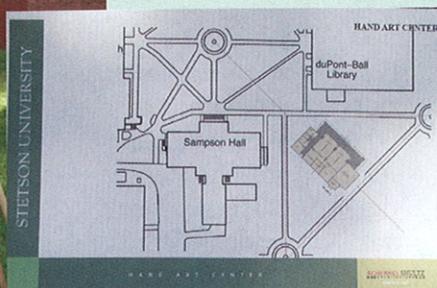
# projects under way this academic year

Homer and Dolly Hand, left, join Doug and Margaret Lee at the site of the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center.



## Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center

The 5,000-square-foot art center, to be built east of Sampson Hall, will include two galleries – one to exhibit rotating selections from Stetson’s Vera Bluemner Kouba Collection of art by Modernist painter Oscar Bluemner (1867-1938), and the second to display other works from the university’s permanent art collection or for special shows. The \$2.2 million building also will have a vault, a preparation area and an art study seminar room that can be used as a reception area. Construction is expected to begin in January and take eight months to complete. *(Photos by Terry Fogleman)*



Members of the Board of Trustees participate in the ground breaking ceremony at the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center site.



## Patricia Wilson Field

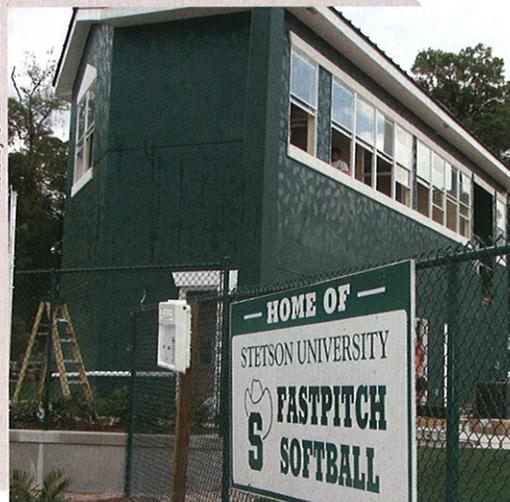


Stetson's 2006 Women's Softball Team

Photo by Stacy Turner

A new field house is being added to Stetson’s softball complex. The field house will have a team locker room, staff offices, training room, umpire dressing rooms, laundry room and a large multipurpose room to be used for a variety of university events. The new facility complements last year’s construction of a building with a press box, radio room, VIP room, team video room, ticket booth and storage/workshop area, and the addition of permanent “chair type” bleachers.

Photo by Cindi Brownfield



# Rodgers, Turner, Christie, Swann families span five generations at Stetson University

By Cindi Brownfield



Stetson University loaned James Paul Rodgers a Model A Ford so he could recruit new students the summer before his senior year of college. It was 1929, and Rodgers' recruiting territory was South Florida. Ollie Edmunds – who later became president of the university – did the recruiting in North Florida.

James Sr. and his wife, Sue Wellons Rogers Rodgers, both graduated from Stetson in 1930, going on to successful careers in the ministry and teaching. Stetson awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1959, and he spoke at commencement that summer day.

The high school sweethearts from Miami were in the second generation of a family that has Stetson connections back to the early 1900s. There are about 20 Hatters among their extended family, spanning five generations. The family's newest enrollee is Turner Swann, great-grandson of James and Sue Rodgers, who are both deceased.

"We do have a close connection to Stetson – a lot of good memories," said James and Sue's son, Jim Rodgers Jr. '55.

The Rodgers family's ties to Stetson go back even further than

James Paul Rodgers '30, Hon. '59 and Sue Wellons Rogers Rodgers '30 at graduation and pictured (on the driver's side) in an illustration of a Model A from the 1929 Hatter yearbook

James. An uncle, John B. Rodgers Sr., had attended the Academy (the high school program) from 1904 to 1908 and then a year of college before becoming a Baptist preacher.

His son, John B. "J.B." Rodgers Jr., graduated from the College of Law in 1939 and became a lawyer in Winter Garden and a Florida senator; he died in 2003. J.B.'s wife, Martha Osgood Rodgers, is a 1939 alumna who still lives in Winter Garden; and her sister, Ruth Osgood Shoemaker, earned a master's degree in 1935.

"My dad was real active," said their son, John W. Rodgers '65. "He used to go to affairs where alumni were invited."

John W. Rodgers came to Stetson in 1957 hoping to play football, but the university discontinued the sport. After a year, he joined the U.S. Army for two years as a paratrooper with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division, then returned to Stetson to complete a five-year program that led to a bachelor's in Business Administration and a law degree. He is now an attorney in Orlando.

"I had a great time when I was there," he said. "I was in a fraternity, Sigma Nu, and I made a lot of good friends – some with whom I still stay in touch."

## Active in the Baptist Student Union

**JIM RODGERS JR.** GREW UP HEARING about Stetson from his parents, and attended the Florida Baptist Youth Assembly at the campus during his teen years.





Helen Turner Rodgers '55, Jim Rodgers '55, Beth Turner, Henry C. "Hank" Turner '55, Shirley Turner Christie '52 and Bob Christie '52

"My dad thought the world of Dr. (Harry) Garwood, and felt Dr. (Irving) Stover had taught him a lot," recalls Jim.

"He thought Stetson was next to Heaven," added his sister, Susan Rodgers, a 1967 Stetson graduate. "It meant so much to him and my mom."

Jim said he chose Stetson for himself in 1951 because of his parents' influence and the fun he had at the Florida Baptist Youth Assembly.

"(Harold) 'Prof' Giffin was the music director for the conferences, and that turned me on to Stetson," he said. "I met a lot of friends there who also went on to Stetson."

Jim was active in the Baptist Student Union, and during his freshman year he made quick friends with two BSU seniors – Bob Lamar Christie and Shirley Turner. Jim knew Shirley's younger brother and sister were planning to enroll the next year.

At the start of his sophomore year, Jim stopped one day to introduce himself to Helen Turner while she was practicing piano in DeLand Hall, which was the music building at the time.

They soon fell in love, and spent their years at Stetson singing and traveling with the Glee Club and participating in the Baptist Student Union. Helen played piano for BSU her senior year and was a member of the Phi Beta music sorority. Jim was student director of the Glee Club that year.

Their graduation ceremony, in 1955, was held at 7 a.m. in the Forest of Arden. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Church Music, while she earned a Bachelor of Music in Education.

Jim soon joined the U.S. Army and, in February 1956, he got orders to report for service in Germany. Helen was working as a teacher in Albany, Ga., at the time.

"I called her up on Monday and we got married Saturday," he said. "We were supposed to get married in June."

Helen taught kindergarten at the base school in Germany and Jim worked as a chaplain's assistant and directed the choir. When they returned from Germany, Jim attended Southern Seminary and became a minister of music at four churches, retiring in 1995 from First Baptist Church of

"We're really proud of Turner. We're glad he's continuing the family tradition."

– Jim Rodgers '55, grandfather of Turner Swann '11

Anderson (S.C.). Helen played organ and taught piano lessons.

## The Turners and the Christies

**HELEN AND HER TWIN BROTHER, HENRY C.** “Hank” Turner, had followed their older sister, Shirley, to Stetson.

The Turners were from Edison, Ga., and Shirley was an organist who wanted to study Sacred Music. Shirley arrived at Stetson at age 17 in the fall of 1948, and soon met Bob Christie at the Baptist Student Union. Quite a few of their classmates had served in World War II and were pursuing careers in the ministry.

“It was like a wonderful family. I never felt lonely or by myself,” Shirley said. “I found a wonderful circle of friends and a wonderful faculty in the Music School.”

Bob had been called to the ministry at age 16, and learned about Stetson from students who recruited at his home church in Jacksonville. His sister, Patsy Christie Blanton '58 and her husband, Harry Blanton '57, later attended Stetson. Bob was a ministerial student but majored in English.

“I thoroughly enjoyed the time I had at Stetson,” he said. “The Lord simply made it possible for me to go through there.”

Bob and Shirley Christie married in August 1952, not long after graduation. She became a second-grade teacher. After seminary, he served in several Florida churches before settling in St. Petersburg. She retired from Pinellas County Schools in 1993, and he was pastor of Lake Maggiore Baptist Church until he retired in 1995.

Like his twin sister Helen, Hank Turner '55 had attended college in Georgia for one year before coming to Stetson. He was a Business Administration major when the Business School was located on Minnesota Avenue.

“Stetson was a lot smaller,” he said. “We had a snack shop called the ‘slop shop.’ It was small but it was a hangout place.”

The shop closest to campus in downtown DeLand was a donut shop, and students walked down most evenings. Only a few students had cars.

Hank was employed in the banking industry, retiring in 1999 after 30 years with



Bob '52 and Shirley Turner Christie '52 in the early 1950s

SunTrust Bank. In the 1960s, he spent six years as a bank liquidator for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC). He continues to do freelance accounting work.

Hank and his wife, Beth, live in Orlando. They often visit Stetson; Hank and Helen's class celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2005.

## A tradition in music continues

**THE RODGERS FAMILY HAD HOPED JIM JR.'S** sister, Susan Rodgers, would attend Stetson in the 1960s, but she chose Auburn University – at first. She transferred to the DeLand campus at the start of her junior year.

Unfortunately, her father, James Sr., died suddenly just before her graduation in 1967. She decided to walk anyway and, as she crossed the stage, President J. Ollie Edmunds took off his hat and all in attendance stood to pay respects to her father.

“It was so thoughtful, and such a high honor,” she said.

Susan majored in Biology, but lived for singing in the Glee Club and taking voice lessons from Prof Giffin.

“I loved Dr. (Fred) Clark in the Biology Department – he was wonderful. But I



Henry C. “Hank”  
Turner '55



Helen Turner Rodgers '55

couldn't wait to get out of the lab to go singing," Susan said.

Both pursuits served her well. She earned a master's degree in Voice from New England Conservatory and worked as a medical technologist as she launched her career as a singer. She moved to New York City in 1979 and toured with the Boris Goldovsky Opera Company. She traveled to Germany, playing the witch in Hansel and Gretel with the Pittsburgh Opera Company.

"Singing became my life," she said.

Susan now teaches voice at Rhode Island College in Providence, R.I., and is co-director of the college's Opera Workshop. She also teaches voice at Providence College. A new interest is traditional Scottish singing and she goes to Scotland annually to study folk music. She is married to Jay MacCubbin.

The next generation of the family to come to Stetson was Susan's niece, Celeste Rodgers Griffith '87, daughter of Jim and Helen. Celeste came to Stetson on a full scholarship for violin.

"I spent a lot of time in Presser Hall," she said. "I had a really good group of professors – Dr. (Robert) Fort, Dr. (Paul) Langston, Dr. (Janis) Kindred, Dr. Ann Small. Tom Sleeper was real influential. He was the

orchestra director when I was there and was enthusiastic and very encouraging."

Professor Jean West, now interim dean of the School of Music, was director of the Community School of Music at the time and encouraged Celeste – a talented violinist – to learn to teach children using the Suzuki Violin Method.

Stetson celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the year Celeste came to campus, and she remembers seeing the Atlanta Symphony perform in Edmunds Center the prior spring. Professor Langston wrote an oratorio, "Petros," and she was part of the performance at First Baptist Church of DeLand during her first semester at Stetson.

When Celeste went through fall recruitment, she was a "legacy" for almost every sorority because of all the women in her family who'd been involved. She became a Delta Delta Delta, like her Aunt Susan.

Celeste now teaches private lessons – using the Suzuki Violin Method – and plays violin with the Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium (GAMAC) and in the Anderson Symphony in South Carolina. She and her husband, John Griffith, have three sons – Preston, 13, Sammy, 11, and Jake, 7. Preston and Sammy attended Stetson soccer camp this past summer.

The family's next generation at Stetson came through Celeste's older sister, Dianne Rodgers Swann.

## The Swann family connection

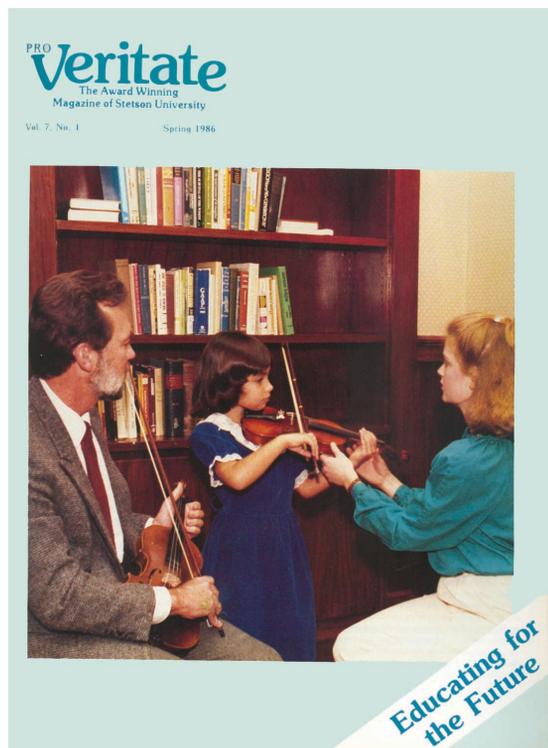
**DIANNE, A GRADUATE OF THE MEDICAL** University of South Carolina, came to DeLand for a position as the registered records administrator at a local hospital shortly before her sister, Celeste, enrolled at Stetson. Dianne met recent Stetson grad James "Todd" Swann '80 at a singles Bible study group.

Todd, a talented musician, was selling real estate and directing a church choir.

Celeste Rodgers Griffith '87, right, was featured on the cover of Stetson University's magazine *ProVeritate* in 1986.



Patsy Christie Blanton '58 at Stetson in the 1950s





James "Todd" Swann '80

"I heard her sing, and I figured the only way I'd ever get her to sing for me was to marry her," he said.

Dianne's father, Jim Rodgers, idolized Stetson's Prof Giffin, and Todd had played bass guitar in Stover Theatre productions when Prof was still working summers, so that gave them an instant connection.

Todd's family has deep roots in DeLand. They ran a grocery store on the southern edge of campus, on Ohio Avenue. (The university now owns the building.) Todd grew up in the house next door and the Swanns encouraged their children to attend Stetson. Older brother, Steve Swann, graduated in 1978, and younger sister, Sonia Swann, graduated in 1983.

Todd was a tuba player who majored in Music Education. "I spent most of my time in Presser Hall – or Pressure Hall as we used to call it!" Low-brass instructor Don Yaxley was his favorite professor.

"He was an icon at Stetson. He truly was just bigger than life," Todd said. "He was a phenomenal teacher and a phenomenal player. He put out players who are still playing all over the world."

Todd and Dianne remained in DeLand and raised their sons, James "Turner" Swann and Todd "Brinson" Swann, not far from campus. In keeping with the Swann family tradition of going by middle names, the family dog's first name is Stetson, but he's called by his middle name, Hatter.

Sadly, Dianne died of acute promyelocytic leukemia in September 2005 – just two years before their oldest son would start the family's next generation of Hatters.

### The fourth generation

**TURNER SWANN '11**, great-grandson of James Sr. and Sue Rodgers, is a freshman this academic year.

After growing up taking music lessons in Presser Hall, attending Stetson basketball and baseball games and using the duPont-Ball Library during high school, Turner had hoped to go out of town for college. He was accepted at five other colleges but ultimately picked Stetson because he received a good financial aid package and it had the combination of academic offerings he wanted.

Encouragement from his grandparents didn't hurt.

"I always knew that I would apply," Turner said.

An undecided major, Turner is taking a variety of classes including business and music. He received college credit for quite a few of the courses he took through DeLand High School's International Baccalaureate program.

Turner plays guitar and says what he loves most about Stetson so far are the "midnight jam sessions" with fellow students in Upper Carson Hall.

Of course, his family is thrilled he's enjoying the university.

"We're really proud of Turner," said his grandfather, Jim. "We're glad he's continuing the family tradition."



Turner Swann '11 and his father, Todd Swann '80



# STETSON UNIVERSITY

# Cupola

ALUMNI NEWS

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Your Alumni Association Board of Directors met in August, with the opening of school, to plan for the 2007-2008 year. At more than 80 members strong this year, board members represent 16 states and the District of Columbia. I am incredibly proud of the work of the board. Members have stepped up their ownership of their alma mater, and their commitment and support are unwavering. Over the last five years, membership has grown from 51 members to 83. During that same time period, contributions from Alumni Board members increased from \$40,000 to \$210,000. Their active involvement in the university—like yours—plays a vital role in Stetson's progress.

The Alumni Board, over the past year, has been developing a Leadership Stetson program. This one-day retreat will be offered April 3, 2008, in conjunction with Stetson's annual Homecoming festivities—all day Thursday preceding Homecoming, ending with dinner. Participants in the retreat will primarily be alumni from the classes of 1992 through 2007. Key themes and issues surrounding Stetson University and various leadership topics will be examined. Panel discussions will be conducted on such topics as Stetson's values commitments; presidential transition and succession planning; the campus master plan; the business of Stetson; the Stetson academic experience; the Stetson student; and the role of university boards and how they can help Stetson achieve greater prominence. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Alumni Office at [alumni@stetson.edu](mailto:alumni@stetson.edu).

By now, you may have been asked to

participate in a comprehensive Stetson University alumni survey. Alumni for whom Stetson has an e-mail address received an e-mail providing a link to an online version of the survey. A sampling of 500 from a list of alumni without e-mail addresses were mailed the survey. If you participated in the survey, thank you. Your responses will help the university to serve you better. We look forward to sharing the survey results with you in the spring.



Luis Prats

Additionally, work is beginning on a new alumni directory. The directory, which will help you get in touch with or network with former classmates and friends, is published every five years. It will be available for purchase in book form or CD-ROM. Slated for delivery in December 2008, the new directory will have a Stetson University 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme. When you are contacted by Harris Connect in early 2008, please participate in this important project.

And finally, if you haven't attended Homecoming in recent years, join us for a fun-filled weekend April 4-6, 2008. The theme for Homecoming 2008 is "Welcome Back to Paradise." If you enjoyed your Stetson experience as much as I did, you will indeed find your return to campus paradise. You can read more about the exciting activities planned for Homecoming 2008 in the preview on page 17.

Thank you for all the ways you support your university. As we build momentum toward Stetson's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2008-2009, your active participation is more important than ever.

- Luis Prats '78, J.D. '81

## Oldest Living Alumni Sought

Stetson University, the oldest private university in Florida, is on a quest to find its oldest living alumni. If you or someone you know attended Stetson in or before the 1920s, please let us know. It will be our pleasure to honor those individuals who have been members of the university family for so many years.

## Join Stetson's Online Community

Hatternet is home to both the Alumni Web Directory and the Career Networking System. Through this service, alumni and students come together in mutually beneficial ways: Students benefit from the guidance of alumni, while alumni gain opportunities to share knowledge and experience, and to meet potential interns, employees, and future colleagues.

Hatternet also keeps alumni connected to the university. After a single login, you can choose to update your information, submit news for publication, RSVP for an event, seek a former classmate, or apply for a Stetson e-mail account. Maintaining a rewarding relationship with your alma mater has never been easier!



Visit [www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected](http://www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected) for access and more information. If you would like to register using your Stetson ID number but do not know it, call (800) 688-HATS.

## Send Us Your Information

Please send alumni news and photos for future publications to Alumni News Editor Will Phillipps '05, Stetson University, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8257, DeLand, FL 32723, or e-mail [wphillip@stetson.edu](mailto:wphillip@stetson.edu). A print form can be found on page 21. To submit your update online, visit [www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected](http://www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected). Digitized photos in .tif format should be a high resolution scan (at least 300 dpi). Original photos will not be returned.

# ALUMNI EVENTS

1. Interim Music Dean Jean West, Jean Maddox '87, Associate Professor of Music Craig Maddox, Michael Shawn Lewis '93, Kathie Woodward and former Dean of Music Jim Woodward after *Nine: The Musical* in **Daytona Beach**.
2. Maya Yankelevich '05, Carol Lemmond Atnip '72, Andrea Bernardini '00, Glenn Gottfried '94, Barbara DeWolfe '69 and Bill Dunifon '64 gather at the home of Bill and Margaret Dunifon in **Ann Arbor, Michigan**.
3. Margo Williams Font '89, with parents Joanna Johnson Williams '58 and Roger Williams '58, during a joint **Sarasota** event with the College of Law.
4. Ryan Goldberg, Regan Wessar Hennigan '99, Helen Radloff Grier '55, Lori WelbAon and Mary Rice socialize before the Marlins take on the Braves in **Miami**.
5. Liz Marabel '06, second from left, and her parents, Jeri Canale and Steve Marabel at an event in **Sebring**.



1



3



2



4



5

## ACCOUNTING-ONLY

Since Homecoming occurs in the midst of tax season, it's often difficult for Accounting alumni to attend. But this summer, a series of Accounting-only alumni events gave guests a chance to reunite.

Special guests included legendary Accounting Professor Emeritus Joe Master '58, longtime Chair of Stetson's M.E. Rinker Sr. Institute of Tax and Accountancy; Dean of the School of Business Administration Jim Scheiner; and Associate Dean of Business and current Chair of the Rinker Institute of Tax and Accountancy Judson Stryker, M.B.A. '71.

"Our Accounting alums have always been very supportive," said Stryker, who worked with the Office of Alumni Relations to organize the Accounting-only events. "They come back to speak in our classrooms, and they serve on our advisory boards."

Through these Accounting-only networking events, Stetson hopes to strengthen ties with alumni to develop internship and job opportunities for students and graduates.

6. Standing, from left: Jeff Scarbrough '93, Nancy Held '87, M.Acc '88, Frank Lagor '78, Larry Evanoff '81, Gina Cammarata Smith '84, Emily Ogorek '04, Christin Howells '04, Judson Stryker, M.B.A. '71. Seated: Jim Carlstedt '86, Joe Master, BSB '58, M.A. '58 and Christine Sterling '91 in **Tampa**.
7. Seated, from left: Jim Scheiner, Beth-Ann McCoy Taylor '05, M.Acc. '06, Joy Yeates '03, M.Acc. '04, Linda Scheiner, Jerry Keyes '78, Bree Pendelton '00 and Danielle Cinicolo '05, M.Acc. '06 in **Orlando**.



6



7

# FRATERNITY HOUSING UPDATE

From Alumni Association President Luis Prats

Last winter, current fraternity chapter leaders and fraternity alumni were advised of a staff recommendation to relocate the five fraternities currently housed on Fraternity Row to Nemec Hall, due to the poor condition of the houses. The overwhelming response from fraternity alumni and student members resulted in a change in direction, with Stetson University administrators working with fraternity alumni and student representatives, through the Fraternity Housing Task Force, on a new plan.

Efforts were under way throughout the summer to move the project forward to a point where the financial viability of the project can be determined. Due to the relatively small size of the project, only two companies expressed an interest in the fraternity housing project, and were willing to work with the university on a privatized financing model. At the September Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees endorsed a plan to move forward with a pre-development agreement with one of the two proposed developers so that a reasonable proposal can be developed. The university expects to have preliminary information on the financial viability of the project later this fall. Assuming that the project proforma indicates financial viability, we intend to have a proposal from a developer for evaluation by the Board of Trustees at the February meeting.

Formal recolonization requests have been submitted by the national fraternities of both Pi Kappa Alpha and Alpha Tau Omega, and visits from the national office representatives were held in early October. The Interfraternity Council will make a recommendation to the Campus Life Committee which will make the decision this fall. Although the decision was not available at press time, the outcome will impact the scope of the new housing project. Additionally, Sigma Nu representatives met with several university administrators in early August to discuss how and if Sigma Nu would participate in the project. No decision has yet been made.

We will keep you apprised as the process moves forward.



Above: Scott Kiesling '83; Doug Kellner '91; Basyle "Bos" Tchividjian '90; Bill Gray '89; Paul Lawson '92 and Matt Arnold, representing Alpha Tau Omega National Headquarters; McLaren

Stanley '09, Interfraternity Council president; and Ryan Lynch '09, Sigma Nu president and IFC member, discuss Alpha Tau Omega recolonization. Left: Jon Mills '69; Tom Olsen of Pi Kappa Alpha International Headquarters; Samuel "Bo" Perry '70; and not pictured, Allen Groves '82, present Pi Kappa Alpha's recolonization request.

## Stetson University Alumni Association Award Nomination Form

Each year, Stetson University honors individuals who have brought recognition to the university through their outstanding achievements in their professions, or through service to the university and their communities. **The Distinguished Alumni Award** is presented to an alumnus/a for outstanding achievement in his/her profession and life, which has brought distinction and special recognition to Stetson University. Three to five recipients are selected each year. **The Outstanding Young Alumni Award** is presented to an alumnus/a of Stetson University who is 35 years of age or younger. The award recognizes contributions this alumnus/a has made to society, his/her profession, or the university. Recipient(s) must demonstrate significant accomplishment or promise in his/her field; leadership; or civic, cultural, or charitable involvement. Up to three recipients are selected annually. Award nominations are due by Dec. 31 each year.

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee at Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Your E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to nominate the alumnus/a for the (select one):  Distinguished Alumni Award  Outstanding Young Alumni Award

Please attach a description of the nominee's distinguished accomplishments. Include personal, professional, academic, and/or community achievements and service, along with basic biographical information. Also include the nominee's resume or vita, if available. Mail to: Office of Alumni Relations, Stetson University, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8257, DeLand, FL 32723.

# The 2007-2008 Alumni Association Board of Directors

**Luis Prats '78, J.D. '81**  
*President*  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

**Thomas D. Allerton '57**  
Altamonte Springs, Fla.

**Matthew W. Anderson '93**  
Louisville, Ky.

**Kevin T. Andres '90**  
Mukilteo, Wash.

**Michelle DeLude Andres '89**  
Mukilteo, Wash.

**Carol Lemmond Atnip '72**  
New Albany, Ind.

**Gilbert W. Atnip '70**  
New Albany, Ind.

**Daryl A. Bishop '78**  
Melbourne, Fla.

**Robin A. Blanton '73, J.D. '77**  
Vero Beach, Fla.

**Matthew D. Branz '95**  
DeLand, Fla.

**Scot R. Browning '84**  
Columbia, Md.

**C. Scott Bruin '75**  
Allendale, N.J.

**Tiffanee Cook Bryan, M.S. '03**  
Lake Helen, Fla.

**Jennifer Johnson Carr '95**  
St. Louis, Mo.

**Laurie Harlan Cheek '02**  
Orlando, Fla.

**Robert W. Clark '46**  
Thomasville, Ga.

**Nelson E. Clemmens '72**  
Goshen, Ky.

**C. Christian Collins '94**  
West Palm Beach, Fla.

**John N. Conrad '78, J.D. '80**  
Valrico, Fla.

**Cortez "Corky" Tedder  
Dannals '46**  
DeLand, Fla.

**Marty E. Davis '80**  
North Miami, Fla.

**Julie Kellams Dempsey '95,  
M.B.A. '97**  
West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Carla M. Dudeck '80**  
Ft. Pierce, Fla.

**Michele T. Duré '01**  
Longwood, Fla.

**Adam P. Forrand '93**  
Suwanee, Ga.

**Michael R. Fronk '74**  
DeLand, Fla.

**John W. Furches '70**  
Lake City, Fla.

**Sandra BeVillie Furches '72**  
Lake City, Fla.

**Andrew Glasnovich '09**  
Titusville, Fla.

**Kathy Linehan Graf '76**  
Jacksonville, Fla.

**Darcy Haag Granello '87,  
M.A. '90, M.S. '93**  
Powell, Ohio

**William A. Gray '89**  
*President-Elect*  
Atlanta, Ga.

**Elizabeth Guenther '09**  
DeBary, Fla.

**D. Kirk Gunby IV, J.D. '91**  
DeLand, Fla.

**Roderick P. Hansen '72**  
Boca Raton, Fla.

**Michael B. Harris '89**  
Crystal River, Fla.

**Cynthia VanWart Henderson  
'82, J.D. '85**  
Tallahassee, Fla.

**J. Tyler Herbert '06**  
Arlington, Va.

**David J. Herrera '93**  
Miami, Fla.

**Melissa "Misty" Mead  
Hinson '92**  
High Springs, Fla.

**Erin Carmichel Hodge '94**  
Orlando, Fla.

**W. Mahlan Houghton Jr. '78**  
Ft. Myers, Fla.

**LeeAnn Inman '76**  
Orlando, Fla.

**Sarah "Sally" Sartain Jane '62**  
Ft. Myers, Fla.

**Betty Drees Johnson '59,  
M.A. '62**  
DeLand, Fla.

**Jane Fleming Kleeb '95**  
Hastings, Neb.

**Jeffrey A. Kral '87**  
Sarasota, Fla.

**Susan Holjes Kral '87,  
M.Acc. '88**  
Sarasota, Fla.

**Betty Furches Kruhm '59,  
M.Ed. '86**  
New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

**Gerald D. Kruhm '57,  
M.Ed. '71, Ed.S. '81**  
New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

**James C. Lanier '62**  
Memphis, Tenn.

**Jan Bozard Latour '78**  
Oldsmar, Fla.

**G. David Leidel Jr. '98**  
Sebring, Fla.

**Michael J. Madalena '97**  
Boynton Beach, Fla.

**Nada Guirgis Manley '92**  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

**Peter J. Matulis '94**  
DeLand, Fla.

**Lynn W. McAmis '73**  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

**B. Keith McCormick '88**  
Carlsbad, Calif.

**F. Witcher McCullough III '67**  
Austin, Texas

**Tracy Richards Morency '84**  
Punta Gorda, Fla.

**Gordon H. "Nick" Mueller '61**  
New Orleans, La.

**J. Wesley Nall '68**  
Lakeland, Fla.

**Patti L. Peach '94**  
Atlanta, Ga.

**Samuel L. "Bo" Perry Jr. '70**  
Tampa, Fla.

**Ronald F. Piccolo '93**  
Orlando, Fla.

**Beth Zeller Potter '79**  
Tampa, Fla.

**Karen Schmitt Roberts '80**  
North Palm Beach, Fla.

**William M. Roberts III '66**  
Tampa, Fla.

**Tina Villanova Romine '96,  
M.Acc. '97**  
Charlotte, N.C.

**William R. Royall Jr. '04**  
Ocoee, Fla.

**Ruth Nemeck Spradley '67**  
West Palm Beach, Fla.

**Geoffrey R. Stam '91**  
Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

**Joseph B. Stokes III '88**  
Jacksonville, Fla.

**Lewis W. Stone '76, J.D. '79**  
Mount Dora, Fla.

**Sandra Belcher Stone '75**  
Mount Dora, Fla.

**Michael J. Sweeney Jr. '02**  
Cumberland, R.I.

**Ranell M. Tinsley '00**  
St. Petersburg, Fla.

**Peter J. Urscheler '06**  
Eagleville, Pa.

**Robert C. Walker '59**  
Atlanta, Ga.

**Anne L. Weintraub, J.D. '03**  
Sarasota, Fla.

**Robert J. Welbon '75**  
Miami, Fla.

**John C. "Jack" White '01**  
Daytona Beach, Fla.

**Lynn E. Wuesthoff '79**  
Naples, Fla.



Left: Board members Peter Urscheler '06 and Tyler Herbert '06 help first-year students and their families move in during FOCUS weekend. Below: Board members Erin Carmichel Hodge '94 and Ranell Tinsley '00 greet students at the residence hall they once lived in.



For contact details and further information, visit [www.stetson.edu/alumni/getinvolved](http://www.stetson.edu/alumni/getinvolved).

# — CLASS NOTES —

'38

**Bob Carswell**, McLean, Va., celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. His life's activities - including time spent as an FBI agent, a World War II courier, an espionage instructor and an assistant military attaché - were summarized in the *Full Court Press* of the Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, Va. He is still engaged as an interpreter and translator, both at court and for Fairfax County Public Schools.

'50

**William R. Rainey**, Plymouth, Mich., is still in an active preaching ministry at 78. His book, *The Life of Joseph*, continues to be used in prison work.

'54

**Roger W. Dobson**, Merritt Island, has recently been given the Solomon "Portrait of Excellence" Award by the Tourist Development Council in Brevard County.

'55

**James P. Hahn**, Lakeland, was honored

this year for 50 years of membership in the Florida Bar. He is still practicing law.

'58

**Elden H. Luffman**, Ocala, recently published his first book, *Bringing God to War*, an almost daily account of his ministry in 1967-68, bringing God to Marines and Marines to God, in Vietnam.

'63

**Robert T. Scott**, West Palm Beach, has been named a "Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyers* magazine, an annual publication that recognizes the top 5 percent of attorneys in the state.

'69

**Donald R. Hall**, Fort Lauderdale, has been named a "Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyers* magazine, an annual publication that recognizes the top 5 percent of attorneys in the state. He has also been named one of America's top business lawyers in *Chambers USA 2007: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

'72

**June Price**, Wasilla, Alaska, published her first book, *Backstage Iditarod*, a behind-the-scenes look at Alaska's sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome.

'75

**Linda Edwards Campbell**, Charlotte, N.C., was a member of the cast of *Shear Madness*, the longest running show in Charlotte's theatre history. She is currently playing in her 20th summer season at Flat Rock Playhouse, the State Theatre of North Carolina.

'76

**Russell A. DeJulio**, Pittsburgh, Pa., has joined the Western & Southern Financial Group as the district manager for the greater Pittsburgh area. **Alice Smith**, Coral Springs, retired from her position as assistant employee relations director with the City of Coral Gables after 20 years. She earned a Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University and is currently working as a therapist at South Coast Psychotherapy in Boca Raton.

'77

**Knox C. Colwell**, LaVerne, Calif., recently completed filming Stephen King's *The Mist* as first assistant director, his 36<sup>th</sup> feature film in addition to several television shows. Past credits include *The Holiday*, *Something's Gotta Give*, *What Women Want*, *Deep Impact*, *Father of the Bride* (1 and 2), *Predator*, and *Beetlejuice*, among others. **Ralph A. DeMeo Jr.**, Tallahassee, has received the highest rating for attorney legal ability and ethics from Martindale-Hubbell (A/V) for 2007, was recognized as one of "Florida's Leading Lawyers" by *Chambers USA 2007: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, was listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for 2007, and was recognized as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Florida" by *Florida Super Lawyers*, an annual publication that recognizes the top 5 percent of attorneys in the state. His law firm was recognized by Chambers USA as the "Leading Environmental and Land Use Law Firm" in Florida for 2007. **Stan H. Given**, Newberry, is a franchisee with two Moe's Southwest Grills, another under construction, a Heavenly Ham, a Planet Smoothie, and a PJ's Coffee House in Gainesville. **Frank L. Page**, Orlando, has published a book titled *Exercise from a Lawn Chair*, published by Segap Publishing, LLC.

'78

**Craig Crawford**, Washington, D.C., has released a new book titled *The Politics of*

## Alumnus pilot is angel in disguise

Only 17 when he learned to fly, Tom Powers '76 grew up in Miami. He majored in Sociology and minored in Business (Marketing) at Stetson, then flew for the U.S. Navy, including two tours in Vietnam, and has been in the air pretty constantly ever since.

President of Flightline Drug Testing, a 20-year-old company that oversees federally required drug testing of commercial airline personnel, the Fort Lauderdale resident flies a lot on business.

But his favorite flying is done for Angel Flight Southeast, a group of pilots who donate their time, planes and gasoline to fly people who need medical or humanitarian care wherever they need to go, free of charge. Recently, for example, Powers flew his private Beech Bonanza airplane between Key West and Miami 61 times, transporting a Keys resident to and from the hospital for chemotherapy. No pay, no expenses, just the satisfaction of helping.

"Angel Flight Southeast is part of the Air Charity Network," he said, "with 7,500 pilots around the U.S. If we need to fly someone across the country, we do it in stages."

Immediate past chairman of both Angel Flight and Air Charity, Powers logs about 250 hours a year flying for others. His flights have ranged from transports necessary for surgical transplants to Hurricane Katrina relief missions. He has flown 2-month-old babies as well as patients in their 80s. In all, he has flown more than 500 Angel Flight missions.

It is very important work, he says. "Someone takes off somewhere for Air Charity every 30 minutes," he said. "We need to do it every 20 minutes."

- Betty Brady



Tom Powers '76 visits Florida's Capitol recently to discuss Angel Flight with Gov. Charlie Crist.

# CLASS NOTES

*Life: 25 Rules for Survival in a Brutal and Manipulative World.* Crawford has been hailed by the Washington Post as "one of the capital's most celebrated journalists." **Luis Prats**, St. Petersburg, was named by *Law and Politics* magazine as one of Florida's "Top 100 Lawyers," was listed in *Chambers USA 2007: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and was chosen for *Florida Trend's* "2007 Florida Legal Elite."

'79

**Louis DeJoy**, Greensboro, N.C., has been named chairman of the investment committee at Greensboro College, overseeing investment policy and diversification. **Karen McIntyre Graf**, Ledyard, Conn., is a unit director at the Whiting Forensic Division of Connecticut Valley Hospital under the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services in Connecticut. **Paul A. Turk Jr.**, West Palm Beach, has been named a "Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyer* magazine, an annual

publication that recognizes the top 5 percent of attorneys in the state.

'81

**Jean D. Jordan**, Atlanta, Ga., has been named dean of Admissions at Emory University.

'82

**Keith Orsini**, South Portland, Mich., was named national director, on-line operations, for the American RSDHope Organization, a national non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and research funds for Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, RSD. **Vasti Torres**, Bloomington, Ind., has recently been elected president of the American College Personnel Association.

'83

**Timothy Bergman**, Baton Rouge, La., is now the executive director of the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra.

'84

**William Shaun Dodson**, Wellington, has been promoted to vice president of risk management and claims for Wackenhut G4S

Security. **Edward J. Kertis Jr.**, Savannah, Ga., took command of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on June 29.

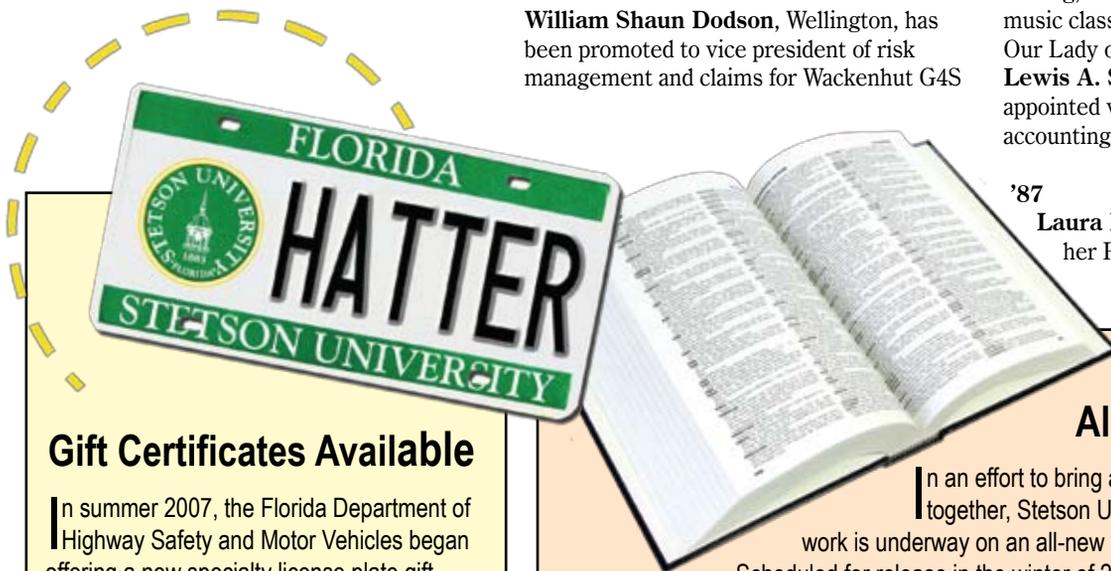
'85

**Nathan J. Boutwell**, Fort Worth, Texas, has written two books: *As You Love Yourself*, about his near-death experience, and *Tantric Jesus*, a personal theology. **Gerard J. Curley Jr.**, West Palm Beach, has been named a "Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyer* magazine, an annual publication that recognizes the top 5 percent of attorneys in the state. **William M. Nieporte**, Richmond, Va., was recently called to serve as pastor of the Patterson Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond. He currently serves as chair of the Christian Life Committee of the Baptist General Association of Virginia and as a member of the Virginia Baptist Mission Board's Executive Committee. **Mary Ann Salis**, Callahan, has been recognized by Callahan Intermediate School's principal for outstanding leadership. She teaches reading, writing, math, history and science through music classes, and is also church organist at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church. **Lewis A. Schwartz**, Melbourne, has been appointed vice president and principal accounting officer of the Harris Corporation.

'87

**Laura E. Johnson**, Tallahassee, earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology

(Continued p.18)



## Gift Certificates Available

In summer 2007, the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles began offering a new specialty license plate gift certificate program. Gift certificates may be purchased at any authorized motor vehicle office, and can then be redeemed by the recipient at license plate renewal time.

Established to provide funding for the ASSI\$T Endowed Scholarship Fund, the Stetson University specialty license plate program generated \$33,447 in fiscal year 2007, bringing the total to \$93,287 since the program's inception five years ago. The number of Hatters driving with pride continues to grow with 1,368 plates purchased.

Show your Hatter pride, and purchase your new Stetson license plate today.

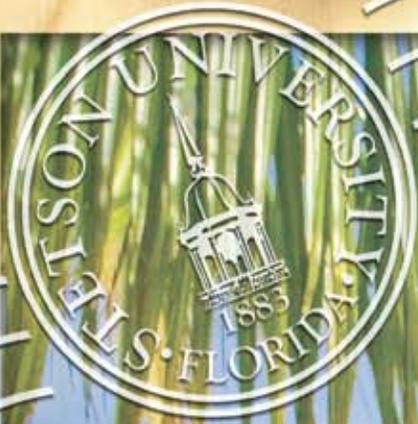
## In Search of... All Stetson Alumni

In an effort to bring alumni from around the globe back together, Stetson University is proud to announce that work is underway on an all-new 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Alumni Directory. Scheduled for release in the winter of 2008, our Alumni Directory will be the most up-to-date and complete reference of more than 23,000 Stetson University alumni ever compiled! This comprehensive volume will include current name and name when a student (if different) as well as class year(s) and degree(s) earned from Stetson University. Each biographical listing will also include home address and phone number, names of spouse and children, in addition to professional information.

Alumni will be given the opportunity to submit photographs for a "Through the Years" section, as well as to respond to several short questions about their Stetson memories.

The Alumni Office has chosen Harris Connect Inc. to produce this special edition. Harris Connect will soon begin researching and compiling the data to be included in the directory by sending a questionnaire to each alumnus/a. Please be sure to fill it out and return it as soon as you receive it so that your current information can be included in the directory. (If we don't have your current address, or if you would prefer that we not include you in the directory, please contact the Alumni Office as soon as possible at 800-688-HATS.)

With your participation, the 2008-09 edition of the Stetson University Alumni Directory is sure to be a great success. Look for more details on the project in future issues of this magazine.



# HOMECOMING 2008

Welcome Back to Paradise: April 4 - 6

## Come Relax with Fellow Hatters

Celebrate your weekend in "Paradise" as Homecoming turns tropical! Break out your Hawaiian shirts, grab a "Cheeseburger in Paradise" at the **Alumni Picnic**, and get your groove on with **The Landsharks** at the **Mad Hatter Mainstreet Block Party**, as they cover the tunes of Jimmy Buffett in the heart of Downtown DeLand.

## Reunions, Activities and Anniversaries

### Class Reunions

The classes of 1958, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998 and 2003 are slated for reunions this year. To find out what your class is planning and/or get involved yourself, visit the Homecoming 2008 Web site at [www.stetson.edu/homecoming](http://www.stetson.edu/homecoming).

### Are You Ready for Some Football?

Back by popular demand, this year's Football Challenge is sure to spark up old rivalries again. Start organizing your teams now and prepare to confront reigning champs Sigma Nu and Alpha Tau Omega! This year, teams will be paired by age groups. Extra points will be added to team scores for the winners of individual passing and punting events. For more information, contact Gene White at [tarpongene@aol.com](mailto:tarpongene@aol.com).

### Student Government Association - 100 Years

Want to talk politics? Debate with former classmates during a reception welcoming back all alumni involved in SGA. Tour the recently renovated SGA offices and honor past student body presidents and vice presidents by celebrating the organization's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary over dinner.

### Men's Soccer - 50 Years

Hurry up and get back in shape! Kick off the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Men's Soccer and the program's recent ranking of No. 6 in the South by participating in an alumni soccer game. If interested, contact Head Coach T. Logan Fleck at [tfleck@stetson.edu](mailto:tfleck@stetson.edu).

### Russian Studies - 50 Years

Where in the world are Russian Studies alumni? Come find out at the program's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration! Join professors and alumni for a discussion panel to hear about the program's history, the current state of Russia, and alumni involvement across the globe.

### Phi Beta Kappa - 25 Years

Commemorate Phi Beta Kappa's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during a reception for all Phi Beta Kappa alumni. The reception will be held in the Gillespie Museum on Saturday, April 5. For more information, contact Dr. Michael Denner at [mdenner@stetson.edu](mailto:mdenner@stetson.edu).



# CLASS NOTES

(Continued from p.16)

and School Psychology from Florida State University (Aug. 2007) and is currently working there as an adjunct instructor for the Educational Psychology and Learning Systems graduate program. She is also working as a school psychologist for Leon County Schools.

'88

**Harold Epperson Jr.**, Kissimmee, has been sworn in as the newest Osceola County judge.

'89

**Jamie Clark-Soles**, Richardson, Texas, wrote the book *Death and the Afterlife in the New Testament*. **Matthew G. Grosz**, Lexington Park, Md., has worked as an avionics engineer, and is now a lead engineer. **Michael W. McNatt**, Orlando, joined Roetzel and Andress' Orlando law office as a partner.

'90

**Heather McDonald Kolinsky**, Orlando, has been appointed as an assistant professor of law at Barry University School of Law in

Orlando. She teaches Legal Research and Writing to first-year law students.

'91

**Peter J. Prygelski**, Coral Springs, has been appointed chief financial officer of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Holding Company.

'92

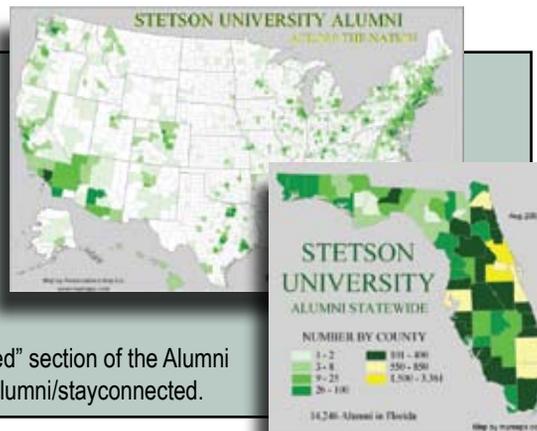
**Courtney Ward Brown**, Opa, Bay of Islands, and husband Sene, have built "Keewaydin," their private home and a Holistic Health Retreat for couples and

individuals. **Carol Meckstroth Davidson**, Midlothian, Va., has been named general manager of airport operations for JetBlue Airways. She is based in Richmond, but works special assignments in New York City. **Lily Garcia**, Washington, D.C., has become the director of training with Employment Practices Solutions, Inc. **Susan Hines Humble**, Chicago, Ill., has joined Pipeline Trading Systems LLC, a registered broker/dealer specializing in large block electronic trading.

(Continued p.20)

## Alumni Maps Updated Online

Stetson has alumni in every state! Our online alumni maps have been updated to reflect our growing database and the population shifts for 2007. To see a breakdown of Hatter habitats by state and county, visit the "Stay Connected" section of the Alumni Association Web site: [www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected](http://www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected).



# Weddings, Unions & Anniversaries

## Anniversaries

Arlene Vinall Feasel '42, M.A. '66, and husband Richard '42, M.A. '47, celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 5, 2007.  
William R. Rainey '50 and wife Lillian celebrated their 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary in May 2007.  
James T. Diffin '52 and wife Marcia celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Aug. 30, 2007.

## Weddings and Unions

Richard H. Matlack '63 to Marianne Matlack, on May 21, 2006.  
George R. Hentschel '88 to Sherrie Hentschel, on May 12, 2006.  
Matthew G. Grosz '89 to Sabine C. Grosz, on May 27, 2006.  
Courtney Ward Brown '92 to Sene Wayne Grant in July 2006.  
Brian M. Motycka '93 to Scarlet Raby, on April 9, 2005.  
Eric O. Remington '94 to Stacey Franco, on April 21, 2007.  
Demetri Vassiliadis '96 to Monica Horn, on June 22, 2007.  
Jennifer Pugh '98 to Christopher F. Harper, on July 8, 2006.  
Katie Hartzell '99, M.Acc. '00, to Kevin Ryals, on Dec. 6, 2006.

Rokaisha Bell '01, M.B.A. '06, to Duwayne Pelham, on July 14, 2007.  
Nicole Roenick '03 to Christopher Girata '02, on Jan. 1, 2005.  
Hillary Smith '03 to Christopher Garver, on April 21, 2007.  
Chabre Upshaw '03 to Jim Timmons, on Aug. 20, 2005.

Patricia West '03 to Jeffrey Holtz, on March 24, 2007.  
Megan Wolfe '04 to James Thimmer, on March 23, 2007.  
Christina Smith '05 to John Ruehl, on April 14, 2007.  
Brittany Hardin '06, M.Acc. '07, to Michael Wheeler '08, on July 7, 2007.



George Broward '96, William Schroder, Mark Rontendaro '96, Ryan Wasson, Paul Ferreira '95, Randal Rickman '95, Nicole Bautista Broward '97, Chris Goodwin '97, Monica Horn Vassiliadis, Demetri Vassiliadis '96, Fred Guiton '96, Mark Lindley '97, Terry Guiton '96, Brian Calderelli '97, Callie Bishop Fuller '96, Rob Janevski '97, Kevin Fuller '96 and Brian Meredith '96 at the Vassiliadis wedding.

# NEW HATTERS

**Stacey Martin Avrit '86** and husband James, a daughter Madeleine Nicole, April 22, 2006.

**Cathy Zolley Cortes '89** and husband Alfredo, a daughter Itzia Aracelly, July 13, 2005.

**Kevin L. Cronin '89, M.Acc. '90** and wife Jenny, a daughter Delaney Rose, June 15, 2007.

**Susan Wolfe Wuitschick '89** and husband Scott, a daughter Emma Catherine, Jan. 3, 2007.

**Cheryl Wagner Goldwire '92** and husband Jeffrey '91, a son Ian King, Aug. 15, 2006.

**Yasmin Sahinoglu Ritland '92**, and husband David, two sons Logan, June 30, 2004, and Connor, Oct. 18, 2006.

**David Smith '92** and wife Kathy, a son Grady Russell, Feb. 9, 2007.

**Kristen Hildreth Fincher '93** and husband Keith '91, a daughter Maeve Ella, April 7, 2007.

**Dan Glunt '93** and wife Kristin, a daughter Madeleine Kathleen, July 27, 2007.

**Lara Holloway Manalo '93** and husband Jesse, a daughter Ava Rose, Nov. 21, 2006.

**Julie McLean Bennett '94**, and husband Todd '94, a son Carter McLean, May 15, 2007.

**Christina Freeman Layton '94** and husband Jeff '96, a daughter Kaela Morgan, July 26, 2007.

**BJay Pak '95** and wife Sandra, a daughter Sophia Isabella, March 13, 2007.

**Kevin Rivadeneira '95** and wife Kathy, a daughter Anamaría, March 14, 2007.

**Roosevelt Escalante '96**, and wife Marti, a son "Trey" Roosevelt Richard III, Aug. 29, 2006.

**Marci Booth Meyer '96** and husband Jeffrey '95, a daughter Alison Elizabeth, Aug. 20, 2007.

**Nicole Abbruscato Stefurak '96** and husband James '95, triplets, sons Drew and Trent, and daughter Sydney, April 10, 2007.

**Davina Yetter Gould '97** and husband David '97, a daughter Alexa Nicole, July 29, 2007.

**Timothy Parker '97** and wife Neva, a daughter Emily Jane, Dec. 20, 2005.



From left: Drew, Trent, and Sydney Stefurak; Rachel Otremba Perkins '97 and daughter Anina; and Phillip Emanuel Peterson.

**Rachel Otremba Perkins '97**, and husband John, a daughter Anina, April 17, 2006.

**Gina Fisher Peterson '97** and husband Roger, adopted son Phillip Emanuel, June 13, 2007.

**Krisa Gionis Roman '97** and husband Arte, a son Lucian Constantine, March 27, 2007.

**Melissa Randolph Alvarez '98** and husband David, a son Joshua Dylan, May 23, 2006.

**Michelle Dittman Baldanza '98** and husband Andre, a son Joseph Daniel, Oct. 27, 2006.

**Jeanine Sekula Bonk '98**, a son Stanton Paul, July 12, 2007.

**Stacy Birmingham Giaquinto '98** and husband Joe, a son, June 1, 2007.

**Sabrina Lou Mandese '98** and husband Christopher '96, a daughter Mallory Grace, July 20, 2007.

**Corrine Clark-Branz '99** and husband Timothy '99, a son Wakeland Emerson, April 28, 2007.

**Robynne Clooney Parry '99** and husband Shawn, a son Ashton Robert, April 23, 2007.

**Brad Willenbrock '99** and wife Christina, a son Braden McKenzie, April 24, 2007.

**Eric Preston Jones '02** and wife Christina, a son David Martin, July 12, 2007.

**Nicole Roenick Girata '03** and husband Christopher '02, a son Brayden Christopher, May 22, 2006.

**Erin Oreana Rogan '03**, a son Hoke Smith Hinson, Aug. 5, 2006.

**Chabre Upshaw Timmons '03** and husband Jim, a son Tylor Jim, Feb. 8, 2007.

**Shannon Kelly Kemp '05** and husband Andrew, a daughter Brooklyn Grace, Sept. 25, 2006.



From top: Madeleine Katheen Glunt, Alexa Nicole Gould and Alison Elizabeth Meyer.



# CLASS NOTES

(Continued from p.18)

'93

**Jennifer L. Small**, Longwood, was recently promoted to vice president of The Grove, a non-profit behavioral health counseling center in Seminole County.

'94

**Dimitri Diatchenko**, Beverly Hills, Calif., has landed a role in the upcoming feature film *Remarkable Power*. **Nicholas Ealy**, Hartford, Conn., has accepted a position as assistant professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures at the University of Hartford (Conn.). **April**

**Powell Lee**, Sarasota, and her husband Stephen, are co-owners and directors of Lee Chiropractic Center in Sarasota. She has also created a fitness company called Juice LLC and is currently selling workout DVDs for this company. **Mary E. McBride**, DeLand, is curating I-4 Corridor Exhibitions of Fiber Arts in conjunction with HGA Convergence 2008 next June. The exhibition will include galleries and art centers across the state featuring artworks by international fiber artists.

'95

**Jane Fleming Kleeb**, Hastings, Neb., has made several appearances on The O'Reilly Factor on Fox News Channel.

'96

**Aaron and Joanna Williams Choate** are working with Wycliffe Bible translators in Dallas, Texas, for one year. **George J. Galante III**, Altamonte Springs, has been promoted to director of communications for the Orlando Magic.

'00

**Sharon Siskie**, Orlando, has been appointed vice president for travel-agency sales and national accounts by Disney Destinations.



## IN MEMORIAM

'20s

Theodore R. Strawn '27  
Marguerite Smith Huntington '28  
Willadeane Wyllys Stephens '28

'30s

Joe E. Hutchison '31  
Frances D. Dye '34  
Marion Wood Barr '36  
Doris Battern Gadsden '38  
Bennett F. Hall '38  
James H. Snellings '38  
James W. Neville '39  
Jean Fletcher Long Yates '39  
Ruth Hummel Zepp '39

'40s

Hugh F. Latimer '40  
Hugh H. Waters '40  
Robert V. Weaver '40  
Marjorie Jensen Yengling '40  
Emmett M. Ferguson, LLB '41  
Wilson A. Herring '41  
Francis L. Mickle Sr. '41  
Priscilla Robinson Smith '41  
Doris Williams Davis '42  
Horace C. Hawn Jr. '42, M.A. '48  
H. Luella Nichols Melching '42  
I. Maurice Miller '42, J.D. '48  
William C. Strickland '42  
Shirley Coen Brooks '43

David M. Lehman '43

Carl F. Purtz Jr. '43  
Nadia Maull Sauls '43  
Dora R. Valdes '43  
Jean Woodward '43  
Karl F. Kesmodel Jr. '44  
Rosamund Pope '44  
Robert R. McEmber '46, M.A. '51  
William M. Turrentine '46  
C. Paul Wilcox '46  
Charles R. Doss '47  
Annie Lee Johnson '47  
Evone Wood Capell '48  
William J. Caviness '48  
Bert A. Davenport, LLB '48  
Walter F. Mamborg '48  
William E. Hall '49  
Donald C. Hendrix '49  
Doris Merrill Marshall '49  
Justine Priest McElroy '49  
Rudolph C. Rosa '49  
Zeno W. Stalnaker '49, M.A. '50  
Maureen Peterson Talton '49  
Ernest W. Zimmerman '49

'50s

William H. Anderson '50, M.A. '51  
Paul D. Lear '50  
Grace Busby Rutherford '50  
William S. West '50  
Frederick W. Hogan '51, M.S. '59

Marjorie Hutchinson Klettner '51

Vincent P. Nuccio, J.D. '51  
Joan Albertz Taylor '51  
Mary Cook Towne '51  
Pearl Duggar Bates '52  
Marilyn Taylor Peters '52  
Jack W. Collins '53  
Jerome N. Doliner '53  
Charles Sproul '54  
Robert H. Daine '55  
Ralph C. Chandler '56  
Suzanne Gardner Hayes '56  
Harriet Boggs '57  
Joe H. Courson '57  
Mary Alice Smith Brown '58  
Bert W. Carr '58  
Billy G. Crayton '58  
Delia Wade de Armas '58, M.A. '62  
Kenneth P. Kirchman '58  
Alice Massey Smith '58

'60s

Jack H. Alford '60  
Edward D. Amstutz, M.A. '60  
Don B. Cliver '60  
Lewis P. Dodge '61  
Alice Bottomley Arndt '62  
William Berringer '62, Ed.S. '77  
William H. Searles '62, M.A. '67  
Don V. Ammon '63  
Thomas K. Riden '65, J.D. '68

Charles L. Bailiff '66

Lee R. Cole '67  
Mildred Ruben Bornstein '68  
Edwin R. Chase '68  
Michael W. Raymond '68  
Bruce W. Floyd '69  
Nettie Walkley McMicken, M.A. '69

'70s

Marjorie White Berry '72  
Robert A. Webster '73  
Phil H. Bird '74  
Stephen R. Knalson '75  
Brenda Zagorac Pardini '75  
William G. Schwager '75  
Joseph L. Reinhardt '76  
Dennis Elfstrom '77  
June Maddux Hinckley '77  
Kimberly Ross Doyle '78

'80s

Kathleen Fisher Ammon '81

'90s

Sally Jane Kern, M.S. '90  
John F. Parsons, M.B.A. '90  
Cynthia Dalpez Stild '90  
Nilda F. Brain '92  
Jonathan M. Walsweer '92  
Marina Rose Sucec '95

She is also a member of the Association of Travel Marketing Executives. **Gaida Gomez Zirkelbach**, West Palm Beach, has been named "Up & Coming Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend* magazine. She has also been appointed to the Board of Directors of the South Florida Interactive Marketing Association (SFIMA), where she will serve as programming co-chair.

'01

**Jennifer Marie Dick**, Stuart, owns and operates an independent insurance agency. **Kurtis B. Mohr**, Columbus, Ohio, has graduated from the University of South Florida College of Medicine and will begin his residency at Grant Hospital in Family Medicine. **Scott R. Muri**, Celebration, has been named a new area superintendent in the Charlotte, N.C., school system.

'02

**Amber Nicole DeChambeau**, Winter Haven, has earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Nova Southeastern University. She will be starting her internship at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va., with the ultimate specialty goal of Interventional Radiology. She is also being promoted to lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps. **Alicia Schaper Hobson**, Royal Palm Beach, coaches in West Palm Beach at the King's Academy High School. In November 2006, her team won the state championship and she was named 2A state coach, Palm Beach County and National Coach of the Year by the NCSAA. **Mark Thompson**, Orlando, has been hired as the director of basketball operations at East Carolina University.

'03

**Kelli Daneil**, Hoboken, N.J., graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with a master's degree in Divinity.

'04

**Daniel Frazier Carlson**, St. Petersburg, has earned a Fulbright Scholarship and will study at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel. **Megan Wolfe Thimmer**, Sebastian, is a third grade teacher at Sebastian Elementary School.

'05

**Jorge A. Mondaca**, Los Angeles, Calif., has accepted an editor position with FoxSports.com.

'06

**William Perry**, Covington, Ga., has been promoted to executive assistant manager - Rooms Division, at The Ritz-Carlton Lodge in Greensboro, Ga. This is his second promotion since joining the company in July 2006.

**Jeptha Stokes**, Panama City, has been placed into a season ticket account executive



Jessica A. Creak '07

position with the New Orleans Hornets of the National Basketball Association.

'07

**Jessica A. Creak**, Port Orange, has been hired as a staff accountant at James Moore & Co. in Daytona Beach. **Corey Kluber**, Coppell, Texas, has been drafted to the Major League Baseball team the San Diego Padres and will

be pitching for the minor league team the Eugene Emeralds of the Northwest League in Oregon.



What's the latest news in your life? Have you changed jobs, earned a degree, been promoted, married, had a baby, or received an honor? Share your good news and photos with your classmates through the Stetson University magazine and/or H@tMail e-newsletter by submitting the form below. Please include wedding and other photos of Stetson alumni only, identify everyone and include your name and address. You can also use the form to update your address information. Complete and mail the form, or submit your update online by creating a Hatternet Alumni Profile at [www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected](http://www.stetson.edu/alumni/stayconnected).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Stetson Class Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name While a Student \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

If Spouse is a Stetson Alumnus/a, Class Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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## CORRECTIONS

Spring/Summer 2007

### New Hatters:

Courtney Ward Brown '92, M.S. '02 and husband *Sene*, a daughter Piper, Feb. 16, 2007.

Caption: Piper *Grant*, daughter of Courtney Ward Brown '92, M.S. '02

# Stetson University Board of Trustees welcomes five alumni

By Kaitlin Mondello '04

Stetson University's alumni and friends are often among the nation's most successful leaders. Nowhere is this more evident than on the Board of Trustees, which helps lead the university in all aspects, from long-range planning and fundraising, finance and enrollment management, to facilities and technology. Most recently, the board has taken on the important responsibility of leading the effort to select a new president for Stetson.

Stetson is in good hands. Each trustee has made a difference in the state of Florida and beyond, and is helping to transform the university for future generations. The board is comprised of numerous current and former presidents, CEOs, COOs and CFOs of major companies, business executives, attorneys, politicians, scholars and philanthropists. Moreover, each of these individuals serves for the good of the university and embraces Stetson's mission to educate students to lead great lives.

This fall, five accomplished alumni joined the Board of Trustees: Bonnie Brown Foreman '68, Bill Gray '89, Patrick Lane '79, Joshua Magidson, JD '80, and Luis Prats '78, JD '81. Each brings a unique history and perspective to Stetson that will enhance the board's current leadership.

After graduating from Stetson in 1968 with a degree in Elementary Education, Bonnie Brown married Edward Foreman '67, JD '71, and they moved to the St. Petersburg area. Her career in Pinellas County as an elementary school teacher spanned 34 years. In honor of her late husband, Foreman established the Edward D. Foreman Most Distinguished Student Award at the College of Law for the "best all-around student" who has demonstrated a passion for the legal profession and commitment to community service. In 2007, Foreman also established the Edward

D. Foreman Scholarship, which recognizes law students' outstanding academic merit and leadership. She was given the Distinguished Service Award by the College of Law and, in 2006, was named the Philanthropist of the Year for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Tampa Bay. She continues her work with Pace Center for Girls, is involved in the Pinellas Education Foundation and is a patron of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure for Breast Cancer.

The Lane family has owned nursing homes in Central Florida for many years, and Patrick Lane of DeLand is continuing in that tradition. He owns Countryside Lakes of Port Orange. Many of the Lanes and the Snowdens (his mother's family) are Stetson alumni and have been involved with the university for years. They established an endowed scholarship fund in 1988 that has benefited many Stetson students, and Patrick Lane joins his family in continuing their support of that scholarship. Lane is an alumnus of the class of 1979, and he and his wife, Danette, are parents of Jessie, a 2003 Stetson graduate, and Daniel, a Stetson senior. He became interested in Stetson's Community School of the Arts Children's Choir when his daughter was a member. Lane currently serves as chair of the School of Music Board of Advisors.

Joshua Magidson is an attorney and shareholder of the Clearwater Office of Macfarlane Ferguson & McMullen, P.A. He practices in the area of business litigation with an emphasis on real property litigation, probate litigation, auto dealership and bankruptcy issues involving creditors' rights. Magidson received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and a master's degree from the University of Connecticut, in addition to his Stetson law degree. He is a member of the Florida Bar,



Bonnie Brown Foreman '68



Patrick Lane '79

Clearwater Bar Association, 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Nominating Commission, and American Bar Association. Magidson is an active member of the College of Law Board of Overseers, chairman of the Performing Arts Center Foundation Inc., board member of the Clearwater Arts Council and former president of the Stetson Lawyers Association. He received the 2007 Richard T. Earle Jr. Professionalism Award, which is presented by the Barney Masterson Inns of Court to the lawyer who demonstrates the highest degree of professionalism in the practice of law in county and circuit courts.



Joshua Magidson, JD '80

Luis Prats is a board-certified construction lawyer for Carlton Fields – Tampa, where he heads the firm's Construction Practice Group. Prats is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* and was recently named by *Law and Politics Magazine* as one of Florida's Top 100 Lawyers. He also was listed in the *2007 Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers*, and was chosen for *Florida Trend's* 2007 Florida Legal Elite. Professional and civic organizations in which he is involved include the Hillsborough County and American Bar Associations and the Tampa Habitat for Humanity. He is currently the president of the Stetson University Alumni Association and is married to Catherine (Katy) Pelzer Prats, JD '83. Their daughter, Jessica, is a current Stetson student.



Luis Prats '78, JD '81

Bill Gray of Atlanta, Ga., president-elect of the Alumni Association, joins the board as an ex-officio member. He earned a degree in Finance in 1989 and is now a senior executive with Accenture, a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company. Bill is a member of the executive leadership team for Accenture's Global Utility Outsourcing business. He serves on the Peachtree Presbyterian Preschool Board, the Center for Puppetry Arts Board, and as a soccer coach for his children's soccer teams. He and his wife, Sarah, have four children: Mary Stuart, Julia, Jackson and Millicent. Gray will assume leadership of the Alumni Association at Homecoming 2008 in April.



William A. (Bill) Gray '89

*An English major and Creative Writing minor from Sarasota, Fla., Kaitlin Mondello is currently pursuing her master's degree in English at Stetson. A former Sullivan Writing Scholar, she now heads up the Stewardship department at her alma mater working with donor-funded scholarships, which many trustees and other donors have established.*

## STETSON UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2007-08

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Ormond Beach, Florida

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Ormond Beach, Florida

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Tallahassee, Florida

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Atlanta, Georgia

**Luis Prats '78, JD '81**  
Tampa, Florida

**Dolly Hand, LLB '49**  
Belle Glade, Florida

**Billy Raley**  
Lake Mary, Florida

**Mark C. Hollis '56, Hon. '89**  
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**Terry J. Rhodes '72**  
Tallahassee, Florida

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Palm Beach, Florida

# Students explore depths of service, civic engagement

By Gerri Bauer

**C**ivic engagement comes in many guises at Stetson University. It is the glimpse of understanding on an immigrant's face as she grasps the language lesson a

Stetson Bonner Scholar teaches at Plaza Comunitaria in Pierson. It is the sweat of

science majors building bridges in Costa Rica during Spring Break. It is the joy of children who win a weekend game of touch football against Stetson Circle K members at the Boys and Girls Club in DeLand's Spring Hill neighborhood.

Commitment to service is one of Stetson University's seven core values and is a long-standing hallmark of a Stetson education. The past few years have brought a new appearance to service at Stetson, one that retains the concept's inherent strengths and builds on them.

The most visible difference is the establishment of the

Stetson Center for Service Learning in a refurbished building at 609 Bert Fish Drive. Dedicated in September with a ceremony and tours during the Board of Trustees meeting, the center is a hub for volunteer activities and

service initiatives, a support system for academic service learning and a venue for matching volunteers with community programs and people.

"The Center for Serving Learning is representative of our ongoing commitment to community service and social justice," said President Doug Lee. That commitment includes transformative engagement in economically challenged

communities, Community Based Research, youth empowerment and sustained relationships with community partners, Lee said.

Stetson students donate about 17,000 hours of volunteer community service each year through student-led programs, campus activities, Alternative Spring Break, First Year Students Service Days and special events such as the Greek community's week-long fall tradition, Greenfeather. Last year, Greenfeather raised more than \$20,000 for local nonprofit organizations.

The center is a big step in solidifying the service infrastructure on campus, both curricular and co-curricular, said Rina Tovar, director of Community Service and associate dean of students.

Another significant change is the way the university has realigned its service structure to follow the model presented by the philanthropic Corella & Bertram F. Bonner Foundation of Princeton, N.J. The shift places renewed emphasis on academic service learning, Community Based Research (CBR), scholarship support and the idea of reciprocity between Stetson and the community as they work together to solve problems.

There are 23 community service scholarship funds at Stetson, with the majority established within the past 10 years, said Kaitlin Mondello '04, associate director of Stewardship. The scholarships collectively provide almost \$700,000 in aid to more than 130 students.

Some of the scholarships are supported by the Bonner Foundation. Stetson is closely affiliated with Bonner, which supports university-based, student-led social activism that benefits surrounding communities. The Bonner program also helps develop the leadership qualities of civically engaged college students.

Stetson is the only Bonner School in Florida, and currently supports 47 Bonner Scholars.

"The Center for Serving Learning is representative of our ongoing commitment to community service and social justice."

– President Doug Lee



Photo by Mary Anne Rogers

Magen Gagne '09, a member of Circle K International, painted faces during an Into the Streets event.

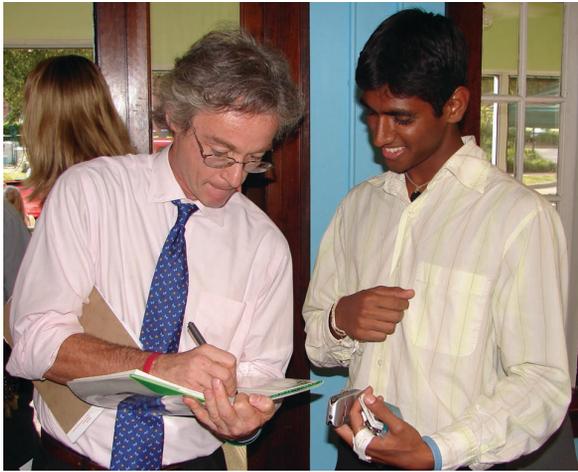


Photo by Cindi Brownfield

Wayne Meisel, left, president of the Bonner Foundation, and senior Darash Desai '08 attended the dedication for the Center for Service Learning.

These students receive scholarship assistance and are committed to helping others. Each Bonner student forms a sustained relationship with a community partner and devotes at least eight service hours a week to that partner. Bonner students participate in leadership training and engage in reciprocal community relationships designed to cooperatively solve problems.

Some Bonner students commit a portion of their service hours to supporting the university's Community Based Research (CBR) projects. Community Based Research is a concept that enlists community members as partners in research. Stetson is a sub-grantee of a Princeton University National CBR Networking Initiative grant, and received \$10,000 toward a CBR Center being led by Dr. John Schorr, Stetson professor of Sociology and Anthropology. Schorr also teaches a 300-level course, Applied Social Science and Community Based Research, which requires student involvement in a CBR project.

The course is an example of how Stetson's service value is incorporated into the academic

curriculum. Established service-oriented courses include Internships in the Mexican Community, Poverty and Microcredit and the Honors program's Service Learning Experience.

This year, incoming Bonner students enrolled in a new 100-level service learning class, a Topics in Religion course titled Self and World, taught by Dr. Greg Sapp '88, associate professor of Religious Studies and the Hal S. Marchman Chair for Civic and Social Responsibility. During the semester, students explore the relationship of the individual to the community, Sapp said. Community engagement is part of the course's academic requirements.

The course "is a good place (for students) to learn to speak to each other critically about their service," Sapp said.

The Bonner program is housed in the Center for Service Learning, along with Into the Streets, the Campaign for Adolescent and University Student Empowerment (CAUSE) and other organizations.

"By dedicating one entire space to community service, and naming it, the university shows that it values the service we do in the community," said Kevin Winchell '07, coordinator of Bonner Leadership and Community Outreach Initiatives.

Winchell works out of the Center for Service Learning, as does Savannah-Jane Atkins '07, Stetson's community engagement specialist.

Guidance from the Bonner Foundation has helped Stetson shape its commitment to service so that it's a sustainable relationship, said Tovar. "The community's voice is just as important as the university's voice."



## Stetson-Carter partnership first in Florida

Two Stetson student projects are the first in Florida to win Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Partnership Foundation CASE (Carter Academic Service Entrepreneur) grants for service programs that incorporate academic learning and community engagement.

A plan to give voice lessons to economically disadvantaged youth, proposed by junior Vocal Performance major Mary Gossett of Lakeland, earned \$1,000 as winner of the first Stetson CASE grant competition. The annual competition is a partnership between Stetson and the Carter organization (JRCPF). Stetson is the first institution of higher education in Florida to host the foundation's CASE competition.

A service-learning project for at-risk youth, proposed by junior Elementary Education major Carol Larson of DeLand, earned \$1,000 as JRCPF's ServiceBook October CASE winner. ServiceBook is JRCPF's online community for service learning.

Dr. D. Gregory Sapp, Hal S. Marchman Chair of Civic and Social Responsibility and associate professor of Religious Studies, announced the winners in November.

# Title IX inspired a whole new ballgame for women athletes at Stetson University

By Cindi Brownfield

“It’s the right thing to do – to provide equal opportunities for women, in terms of funding, staffing and facilities.”

– Athletics Director Jeff Altier ’82, MEd ’87

When Jan Usher ’81 played volleyball at Stetson, the team could use only the back court in the gym, and players got no special equipment like knee pads or ankle braces. The idea of a scholarship for women’s sports was novel and prestigious.

“We were like an intramural team,” said Usher, now senior women’s administrator and assistant athletics director for academics at the university. “Nobody sold any tickets to our games. If there were 10 people, 20 people there, that was a lot.”

The women’s softball team, of which Usher also was a member, played its games on a baseball field at Sperling Field miles from campus. The women practiced on the field outside Emily Hall.

“We didn’t see it as unequal at the time,” she said. “I knew no different. It was an opportunity to continue doing what I loved – and that was to play volleyball and softball.”

Today, athletics at Stetson is a whole new ballgame – especially for women student-athletes.

Stetson began to seriously strive for equality between its men’s and women’s sports in the 1980s, said Director of Athletics Jeff Altier ’82, MEd ’87. Historically, men dominated sports, and there was some resistance nationwide to Title IX, the 1972 federal law that prohibits gender discrimination in college athletics, he said. Some schools cut men’s programs to fund women’s sports.

“We, as an institution, chose not to operate that way,” Altier said.

Stetson added women’s soccer and switched to fast-pitch softball. Annual goals were set to offer more scholarships for women athletes and hire more full-time coaches for women’s sports. The university now provides the same equipment and uniforms, transportation for travel to games, and services such as laundry to all athletes, regardless of gender.

“It’s the right thing to do – to provide equal opportunities for women, in terms of funding, staffing and facilities,” Altier said.

Title IX requires that scholarship money and the percentage of students participating in athletics, as well as the percentage of student participants, be proportionate to the gender breakdown of the student body, said Accounting Professor Mike Bitter, faculty



Jan Usher ’81



From top, Mandy Bartholomew '08, Emily Ware '10, Beth Slabaugh '08 and Ashley Kowsowski '09

athletics representative and vice chair of the Athletics Certification Committee for NCAA compliance.

At Stetson, 59 percent of the student body is female. Stetson was first certified in compliance in 1995, and went through its latest review in 2005. The university was re-certified with “no issues,” he said. But it’s difficult to maintain compliance because athletics is male-dominated and recruitment of men athletes is more competitive and expensive.

The biggest advancement on achieving equality over the past decade at Stetson was in the softball program, Bitter said. A full-time head coach and assistant coach were added, in addition to scholarships. A softball complex was constructed on campus, and Stetson hosted the conference championship tournament this past May.

Currently the university is in the second year of a five-year plan to add 11.7 more scholarships (2.36 per year) for women athletes. In most cases, those are partial scholarships split amongst crew, basketball, soccer, tennis, volleyball and softball.

“I think it’s very positive,” said Usher, whose daughters, Jenny '06, MBA '07, and Katie '08, also played volleyball at Stetson. “We’re definitely going in the right direction.”

It appears the efforts are paying off. Stetson’s athletics programs are strong, student-athletes have exceptional GPAs and graduation rates, and exit interviews show students feel they’re well-supported and treated equally, Altier said.

“The student-athletes competing at Stetson are very serious students with great athletic talent,” Usher said. “We’re very proud of them.”

## Softball team plays in NCAA Tourney

The Stetson University softball team made its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance in May, finishing the 2007 season with a 44-22 record after being eliminated by the Texas Longhorns (34-19) at the tournament in Gainesville.

“First, let me say I am thrilled my players had the experience to participate in this tournament,” Coach Frank Griffin said. “This was a first for us, and I know we will learn from it and grow from it.”



The loss ended a quality season for Stetson that saw the Hatters surpass 40 wins for the fourth time in school history and capture the Atlantic Sun Conference title.

The two seniors Stetson will have to replace for 2008 are Sherrel Fountain '07 and Heather Colding '07. Fountain finished her two-year career among the school leaders in batting average, triples and stolen bases. Colding completed her four-year career among the all-time leaders in wins, ERA, strikeouts and innings pitched.

# From swimwear to horse racing, graduates find success in business ventures

By Carlos Herrera '02

**G**reat ideas for starting a business can come from anywhere. Very often they are born while dreaming of bringing together a hobby, a career and an education, which is exactly what two Stetson University School of Business Administration alumni did.

While many college students on Spring Break were trying to squeeze in a few more days at the beach, Daryle “Vlic” Scott, who was

near completion of his MBA, was in his Smith Hall room coming up with ideas for a company that would meld his education and weightlifting.

After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Stetson in 1980, Scott’s first intention was to enter dental school, but he soon was drawn instead to a career in business. His plan after completing his master’s degree was to open a gym in Jacksonville, Fla., where he had just accepted a job as

a systems engineer with IBM. A trip to Atlanta, however, changed everything.

“During my stay in Atlanta I had purchased a one-week gym membership and had the chance to meet the owner of the gym,” said Scott. “He was selling competition suits to bodybuilders and I noticed that customers weren’t happy with the suits, materials, delivery schedules, etc.

“When I returned to Stetson, I got four friends to contribute \$5,000 each to get the company, Titan Bodybuilding, started,” said Scott. “We even got help from Dr. Richard Copeland who helped us with the incorporation papers.”

After receiving his MBA in 1982, Scott moved Titan Bodybuilding to Jacksonville, where the spare bedroom in his apartment served as company headquarters. Originally the company was a mail order operation that provided competition suits to professional male and female bodybuilders. In 1984, Titan expanded to include female workout apparel when Scott realized there was a limit to a catalog business dedicated solely to bodybuilding



Daryle “Vlic” Scott ’80, MBA ’82, takes time out from work to hit the slopes in Colorado.



Nelson Clemmens '72 enjoys a cross country ride through the Lost River Mountain Range in Idaho.

attire. It was also during this time that the Venus brand name was first used and, in 1986, the company moved into swimwear. Over the next 20 years, the operation continued to grow and expand and is now considered the largest direct mail and online marketer of women's swimwear in the nation.

Around the same time in 1986, Nelson Clemmens, who had earned a bachelor's degree in Finance in 1972, was working as the managing director of Pine South Capital, a private investment banking firm based in Louisville, Ky. He had moved to Louisville with his family in the late 1950s and soon discovered the exhilarating "Sport of Kings."

"I started to get involved with Thoroughbreds after we moved to Louisville," said Clemmens. "I got to see how exciting it was. At the time it was as big as football and baseball."

In the following years, Clemmens' involvement in Thoroughbred racing grew and in 1996, he and a friend bought a horse. He was an owner. In 2004, he brought together his passion for business and horses when he founded AmWest Entertainment LLC, a licensed provider of simulcast services and technology for the domestic and international horse racing industry.

Today Clemmens is active in the Thoroughbred world as a Kentucky-



Hall of Fame Trainer Jack Van Berg, left and Nelson Clemmens '72 at the Kentucky Derby.

and New York-based owner and breeder. His horses have run at many U.S. and European tracks, including the Kentucky Derby. He also continues to stay actively involved with Stetson, hosting alumni events, serving as the chair of the School of Business Administration Board of Advisors and on the Stetson Board of Trustees. Clemmens also enjoys traveling, snow skiing, mountain climbing and currently lives in Goshen, Ky., with his wife, Judy.

Although Scott and Clemmens did not attend Stetson at the same time, both attribute their Stetson education and influence with the successes they have achieved.

"Stetson helped to steer me in the right direction," said Clemmens. "I always knew that I was going to do something in business and my education was key in pointing me in the right direction."

"Stetson gave me a diverse background, good education and solid basis for running this business," said Scott. "It helped me get to where I am today."

In November 2006, Venus Swimwear Inc. was sold to Golden Gate Capital, a San Francisco-based private equity firm. Scott still serves as president and CEO. He continues to be an avid weightlifter and enjoys piloting planes, riding motorcycles, snow skiing and now calls Jacksonville home.

# Former Congressman Shaw '61, Hon. JD '02, donates political memorabilia to Stetson

By Betty Johnson '59, MA '62

**L**ate in 2006, Congressman E. Clay Shaw Jr. donated the papers from his 26 years serving in the House of Representatives as a Republican representing the Fort Lauderdale area. Shaw, a 1961 alumnus who received an Honorary Doctor of Law degree in 2002, said that although he had considered donating the collection to a state university, he had a special fondness for his alma mater and wanted to designate Stetson to receive his files.

Despite the excitement at this opportunity, the library needed additional space to house, display and service such a large collection. University administrators agreed that a computer lab adjacent to the University Archives office on the ground floor of the library would be relocated so the library could renovate the space and accept the congressman's offer.

Almost 200 boxes began to arrive in December 2007. While about 100 boxes contained paper files representing Shaw's work on many initiatives during his 13 terms, the collection also included more than 300 policy notebooks, 400 videos (everything from his appearances on talk shows to political advertisements used during campaigns), and 2,500 photographs. A number of photos show Shaw at hearings, press conferences and political events. Many of the photographs are of Shaw meeting with constituents and with well-known people such as Clint Eastwood, Joe DiMaggio, Charlie Daniels, Art Linkletter, Lance Armstrong, Charleton Heston and the cast of Star Trek. Others, often autographed, include the congressman with prominent politicians, U.S. presidents, and presidents and prime ministers of other countries. Stetson President Doug Lee even appears in one of the photos.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the collection to the non-scholar is Shaw's political memorabilia. Stetson received a number of framed bills signed by Presidents Reagan, Clinton and George W. Bush, along with the presidential pens used to sign them. Also framed are pieces of the ornate carpet that was on the House floor for 22 years, during which 12 Congresses, five speakers of the House, and four presidents of the United States (giving 19 State of the Union Addresses) occupied the room. The U.S. and Florida flags that stood in Shaw's

Washington office will now stand in the library, and one of the U.S. House speaker's gavels will also have its home here. More than 100 other memorabilia items will be on periodic display.

Already librarians have indexed the videos, books, notebooks and photos. Complete indexing of the papers themselves will take several



Shaw's papers arrive at the duPont-Ball Library.



Left, from top: Official photo of Clay Shaw and his 2004 campaign sticker; Shaw at a press conference in 1990 with other congressmen, including former Speaker Newt Gingrich.



Clay and Emilie Shaw relax with their grandchildren.

years. By standard agreement, the papers cannot be viewed by the public for five years without Shaw's permission. When the collection is fully accessible, however, students and faculty, as well as other scholars, should find this collection a wealth of primary research information. Shaw is especially identified with his work on the "welfare to work" bill and Everglades legislation. It will be quite an opportunity for undergraduates to have access to this information. We also hope that he will visit periodically and speak to students and others on political issues.

As the first major collection of papers that the library has accepted, other than those of university officials, it will be a challenge to manage the volume of material, but also a great opportunity for Stetson. Plans are under way for the dedication of the Shaw Collection once it has been organized, probably in the spring of 2008. The newly renovated Archives room will also be used to house and display some of the memorabilia and limited papers of other alumni who have been active in politics and government, such as Max Cleland '64, Hon. '77, and the late W. Amory Underhill '36.

*Betty Drees Johnson '59, MA '62, is a professor and the director of the duPont-Ball Library at Stetson University where she has been a faculty member since 1961.*

From top right, clockwise, are Clay Shaw and his staff with tennis star Chris Evert; Shaw and others at the New York Stock Exchange in 2004; Shaw upon receiving a plaque for the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Stetson University College of Law from Amory Underhill, left, with Nicki Spirtos '91, JD '94; Shaw in inscribed photo with Elizabeth Dole; Shaw with TV personality Art Linkletter and unidentified man; Shaw with Sen. Daniel Moynihan; Clay and Emilie Shaw with Charleton Heston and unidentified man; Shaw with Wendy's founder and constituent Dave Thomas; and Shaw with Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.



# Counseling Education students put skills to work in New Orleans

By David F. March

**T**he devastation unleashed along the Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coast by Hurricane Katrina is still making news. There are articles, pictures, streams of video and commentary, but little of it focuses on successful efforts at rebuilding. The majority of reports contain images that show the remains of what looks to be a war zone. What seems clear is that large numbers of Gulf Coast residents remain displaced – physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Their stress level is high and their hope decreases as time passes.

Into this quagmire, Anthony Thompson and Christopher Lawrence, both Counselor Education graduate students at the Stetson University Center at Celebration, ventured during the middle of summer semester. They spent a week in New Orleans volunteering with the Castle Rock Community Church's National Project, through which mission teams



Christopher Lawrence, MS '10, left, and Anthony Thompson '98, MS '07, relax in the French Quarter after a week of volunteer work during the summer of 2007 with Hurricane Katrina victims.

travel to the Crescent City to take part in hurricane relief efforts. Churches and charities are at the forefront of rebuilding New Orleans, helping to bridge some of the cultural and socio-economic gaps exposed by Hurricane Katrina.

The project offered the students an opportunity to use the counseling skills they have developed in two years of coursework and clinical experiences. It also served as the basis for an assignment related to their Counseling in a Community Setting course. After their week of volunteer work with Katrina victims, they attended the annual conference of the American Mental Health Counselors Association in the French Quarter section of New Orleans. They said the contrast between destruction and renewal was almost indescribable.

For Lawrence, the trip to New Orleans was bittersweet, for he is a Katrina refugee. Just before the hurricane's landfall, he evacuated from his home in Southeast Louisiana, where he had begun studying Counselor Education at Holy Cross University. After Katrina, Holy Cross was so severely damaged it had to shut down. Lawrence was left with no home at all. He made his way to the Central Florida town of Davenport where his parents live. Discovering that Stetson has a nationally accredited and widely respected Counselor Education graduate program, he enrolled in classes while waiting for Holy Cross to reopen – and he's still here.

His return to New Orleans was both trying and inspiring. "It was an emotional experience," he said. "Cleaning up the debris in and around the work site brought me back to the weeks I'd spent sorting through the flooded remains of my own house. The sense of loss was almost overwhelming. Fortunately, though, those feelings were offset by the resilience of those who returned—or in some cases, never left."

Thompson's participation in the project was no less emotional. For the former U.S. Army captain who spent combat time in Afghanistan, the landscape of New Orleans seemed eerily familiar. "I wasn't sure what to expect," said Thompson. "Driving into the city, you see that whole neighborhoods have been completely obliterated, grass and weeds growing where houses used to be."

After a visit to the Lower Ninth Ward, one of the areas hardest hit by the flooding, Thompson expressed shock. "It's like a ghost town, a grave yard," he said. "I've seen war zones that looked better."

Stetson University's three graduate programs in Counselor Education attempt to instill in students a desire to effectively commit to and participate in addressing the needs of their communities. Lawrence and Thompson were able to help in New Orleans, and what they saw will remain with them for a very long time.

Said Lawrence of the New Orleans residents: "Their diligence...their determination... their resolve to keep New Orleans alive is beyond admirable – it's amazing."



The destruction remains in the area where Lawrence and Thompson volunteered.

***Dr. David March is an assistant professor of Counselor Education at the Stetson University Center at Celebration.***

# How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Sometimes, it's someone you know...

By John DuPree '72, MA '88

**B**oth the question and the questioner came out of nowhere. “John, this is Sims Kline from Stetson. Did you ever sing in Carnegie Hall?”

I had known of Sims Kline for years, but we had never met. The Stetson University librarian and I are both local party pianists and I'm a double Stetson graduate and a nearly 40-year resident of West Volusia. The question he posed in the spring of 2003 was rhetorical – he knew the answer, and he went on to say that the Rev. William Sloane Coffin, famous anti-war activist of the 1960s and noted theologian, had told an intriguing story in January 2003 during Stetson's 18th annual Florida Winter Pastors' School.

The former Yale University chaplain, pastor of New York City's Riverside Church and prolific author, had recalled speaking at Stetson in 1972, and said the student newspaper editor had taken him off-campus with friends after his talk. He said the evening had resulted in the editor's joining him in New York City for a performance at Carnegie Hall. He remembered the story, but not my name.

Due to having medical treatment, I was unable to attend his 2003 address.

Ever the diligent researcher of everything “Stetsonian,” Kline easily found me and I told him my side of the story.

As *Reporter* editor and student representative on the Artists and Lecturers Committee in 1972, I had had the amazing fortune of hosting various political, journalistic and religious speakers. When I picked up Coffin for his speech, I noticed the libretto for the fourth movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony lying open on his desk. I was a passionate, if musically unskilled, devotee of the work, which includes the “Ode to Joy.”

After his Elizabeth Hall talk, I invited him to join me and some friends for an informal reception in Brian O'Keeffe's apartment. The discussions were animated and boisterous. I mentioned to O'Keeffe that Coffin was – like us – an aficionado of Ludwig von Beethoven, and the music blasting from the stereo quickly changed from Frank Zappa and Dave Brubeck to a recording of Arturo Toscanini conducting the Ninth Symphony. Soon after the fourth movement began, Coffin stood up and started singing along.

Being unskilled didn't stop me from joining him and by the end, we were singing loudly, arms around each other's shoulders. He turned to me and asked, “What are you doing tomorrow?”

I shrugged dumbly: “I don't know. What do you have in mind?”

In the next few minutes, the chaplain of Yale University talked me into coming to New York City the next evening to perform the piece with the Yale Chorus and the American Symphony Orchestra. He then raised some money and insisted that another person come along to verify to skeptics that he could actually pull this miracle off.

The miracle? My debut in Carnegie Hall. To add to the serendipity of this amazing event, he told us that the concert was celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of legendary conductor Leopold Stokowski, under whose baton we would be performing.

My friend Kathy McAnear '73 agreed to go with me, and we flew to New York City the next morning. My sister and brother-in-law in Manhattan rented me a full dress suit – white tie and tails – in time for us to be at Carnegie Hall by 6 p.m.

We arrived in New York in time to dress and catch a



Susan DuPree and John DuPree '72, MA '88, visit William Sloane Coffin, center, on his Vermont porch in 2004.

cab to the legendary concert hall. We pulled up just as the orchestra and chorus members were entering. While we waited backstage for Coffin, Maestro Stokowski walked through, politely acknowledging the clapping of the musicians. Short and frail, he nevertheless walked in a sprightly manner and had a delightful elfin smile as his shoulder-length white hair bounced in time with his stride.



Bill Coffin speaks in Elizabeth Hall in April 1972.

Coffin greeted us warmly, appearing somewhat surprised that we actually made the trip. He started directing me to the rehearsal hall but Kathy asked where she should stand. He walked to the curtain and peered out into the rapidly filling audience. Then he led her through a side door to join a friend he had seen in a box on the first tier of the balconies – one of the best seats in the house.

In the rehearsal hall, the Yale Chorus was warming up. Coffin hushed the choir and told our story, assuring the singers that I knew enough of the Beethoven not to embarrass them, and led me to the back row.

In time we took seats behind the orchestra and Maestro Stokowski entered the hall to thunderous applause from more than 2,000 birthday well-wishers. I remember little except my nervousness and the periodic hand of support in the small of my back from the Rev. William Sloane Coffin. I sang very quietly.

At the end of the booming orchestral finale following the last *Freude, schöner Götterfunken*, the audience

erupted in a prolonged standing ovation. After several curtain calls, the 90-year-old conductor signaled an encore. Then I did sing, loudly and in rather good German, keeping good time with the precise hand movements of the tiny figure on the podium some distance from the back row.

Several days later, I received a letter from Coffin, thanking me for joining him for a most special evening and including a contribution to our travel expenses.

How fortunate I was to be a part of a small college community where intimate interactions with important national and world leaders in religion, politics, business and academia are possible. Stetson provides profound opportunities of which students are not always aware, but those opportunities can yield memories that will last a lifetime.

*Now retired, DuPree was the criminal court administrator for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida.*

## The rest of the story...

In 2004 after my talk with Sims Kline, I sent a note to Bill Coffin's home in Strafford, Vt., thanking him again for the special event and for his memory of it. I knew he had suffered a serious stroke, so my letter took the form of a get-well wish. I didn't expect a response. Three days later, he called me and we chatted for nearly an hour, ending with the obligatory invitations to visit.

My wife Susan and I had already planned to vacation in Maine that summer, so a stop in Strafford was easily arranged. Weeks later, Susan and I drove into the tiny old town with a dozen homes around an irregularly shaped village green. We pulled into the gravel driveway of a modest farmhouse by the church, and I heard someone singing from the porch: *Freude, schöner Götterfunken* .... Bill Coffin's rich baritone had lost no volume. I joined in and met him at the top of the stairs for a hug as we finished singing.

We sat on his porch drinking iced tea, sharing stories about our families and our lives — from our religious pathways to my wife's and Coffin's shared love of German writer Rainer Maria Rilke. He told us, and his wife Randy confirmed, that one of his favorite stories was about the Florida student who made a guest appearance in Carnegie Hall. By late afternoon, he was tiring. We all embraced, exchanging best wishes. He died in April 2006 but I continue to be uplifted by the memory of this exceptional and generous man.

Yale University New Haven, Connecticut 06520

April 28, 1972

WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN, JR., *Chaplain*  
Office, 258 Durfee Hall  
Tel. (203) 436-4691

J. PHILIP ZAEDER, *Associate Chaplain*  
Office, 257 Durfee Hall  
Tel. (203) 436-4692

Mr. John DuPree  
Box 583  
DeLand, Florida 32720

Dear John:

Freude! And likewise to Kathy, Julie, Dave, Mischa, and all the others.

Enclosed is the fifty bucks which you have to accept, because that was part of the deal. It was, as the British say, "a good show" to have you there, and your presence enormously enhanced the excitement of singing. After all, I couldn't be absolutely sure you wouldn't come in with "Freude" on the first beat instead of waiting for the third. But your musicianship proved sensational throughout! May this common glorious experience keep us in some kind of touch for life!

Affectionately,

B. J. C.

Enc.

# Celebrating one man's legacy of peace for the world

Photo by Cindi Brownfield



From left, faculty members Hari Pulapaka, Jamil Khader, Ranjini Thaver, Dan Gunderson, Leena Taneja, Bob Sitler and Phil Lucas shared personal messages about Gandhi.

*Be the change you want to see in the world. – Gandhi*

By Cindi Brownfield

Nearly 60 years after his death, Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) is still revered for his profound wisdom in using mass civil disobedience – without violence – to win justice and freedom for the oppressed.

On Oct. 2, his birthday, a group of Stetson University faculty, students and staff braved the rain to celebrate Gandhi's legacy of peace for the world. Six professors shared Gandhi's beliefs on religion and the environment, and his messages of hope and the need for compassion and good works, during a presentation in the Stetson Room on campus.

At the same time, an exhibit of books and videos on Gandhi opened at the duPont-Ball Library. The exhibit included a bowl containing slips of paper bearing famous quotes by the Indian political and spiritual leader. Outside, clay footprints imprinted with some of the sayings were placed on the sidewalk around Holler Fountain.

"He found light in darkness. He found good in all," said Art Professor Dan Gunderson, whose sculpture students helped organize the event.

Associate Professor of English Jamil Khader, a Palestinian from Israel, said Gandhi's messages of hope, non-violence and civil disobedience continue to thrive in that region among ordinary people – both Arabs and Jews. He is hopeful

the philosophies will help end the conflict in Israel and Palestine.

"We need Gandhi's message today, not only in one part of the world, but everywhere," Khader said.

Though environmental issues were not in the forefront during Gandhi's lifetime, he distinguished between wants and needs, lived frugally and minimized his impacts on the earth, said Associate Professor of Modern Languages Bob Sitler.

"He said, 'The earth has enough to satisfy the needs of all the people,

Photo by Danielle Laprime



Art students created a special memorial exhibit in duPont-Ball Library and, right, placed sculpted footsteps with some of Gandhi's words of wisdom around Holler Fountain.

Photo by Cindi Brownfield



but not enough for the greed of some," Sitler said.

In general, Gandhi's beliefs were influenced by many religions, especially Christianity and Hinduism, said Religious Studies Professor Leena Taneja. He found common values and truths across religions, and those laid the base for his personal practices of non-violence, humility, prayer, self-reliance, self-discipline, compassion and good works, she said.

Religious Studies Professor Phil Lucas said Gandhi felt true religion should be about service to the poor and social justice – and about changing people's hearts. Gandhi encouraged people to practice the

Photo by Danielle Laprime



Photo by Danielle Lapprine



The duPont-Ball Library prepared an exhibit of books and other memorabilia.

religion they were born into and believed trying to convert others often led to violence and strife, he said.

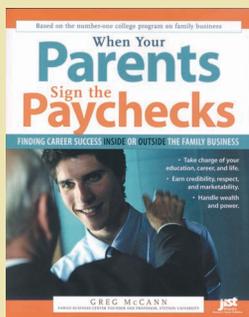
Math Assistant Professor Hari Pulapaka talked about growing up in Bombay and visiting Gandhi's home there and later a New Delhi shrine to Gandhi. Some of the philosophies that Pulapaka has embraced include non-stealing (only taking what you need), less possession (of material goods), the equality of all religions, and ahimsa (total non-violence). He listed seven social sins that Gandhi denounced: politics without principle, wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, worship without sacrifice, commerce without morality, science without humanity, and knowledge without character.

Economics Associate Professor Ranjini Thaver told those at the celebration that Gandhi was an average student growing up and wasn't initially successful in business. She encouraged everyone to look inside and find the greatness within.

"We're all average in many ways," Thaver said, "but embodied in each of us is greatness. Embodied in each of us is the ability to make a difference in the world."



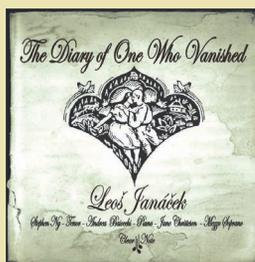
## Books, etc.



***When Your Parents Sign the Paycheck: Finding Career Success Inside or Outside the Family Business*** by Dr. Greg McCann, the Business professor who founded Stetson's Family Enterprise Center in 1998, is designed to help members of the next generation in family enterprises succeed in both their careers and lives. McCann has worked in a family business himself and now serves as a researcher, consultant and speaker in addition to teaching.

The book offers practical ways for students to examine themselves and their families' businesses to see if their goals mesh. It emphasizes that those in succeeding generations of family businesses must take ownership in their own lives, preparing as rigorously for their careers as anyone else would do. A free Parents' Guide goes along with the book. A foreword co-written by Steven R. '75 and Trevor R. '06 Whitley, a father and son who studied with McCann, notes that although the son decided not to go into his family's business, their study was still valuable: "This book is not intended to provide the road map for families to automatically transition their children into their businesses. On the contrary, (it) is intended to help the next generation of family business leaders figure out who they really are, what they value, and whether entering their family's business benefits them."

"*When Your Parents Sign the Paychecks* abounds with keen insights and wise advice that will set young adults on the right path to a fulfilling career – wherever that path might lead them," writes reviewer Barbara Spector in *Family Business* magazine. (JIST Publishing, 2007)



***The Diary of One Who Vanished***, a compact disc recorded by Dr. Stephen Ng, tenor and assistant professor of Music, offers a song cycle of 22 songs for tenor and piano by Czech composer Leoš Janáček (1854-1928). It also features American pianist Andrea Baiocchi and mezzo-soprano Jane Christeson of Stetson's voice faculty; as well as a female trio that includes Stephanie Lorenz, Sarah Edmiston '08 and

Rebecca Bell '05.

A dramatic cantata, the song cycle depicts not only moods and impressions, but tells the story of Janik, the teenage son of a farmer, who tries to resist but falls in love with Zefka, a young gypsy girl he meets by chance in the woods. Eventually he marries her and leaves his family to live as a gypsy after she becomes pregnant with his son. Also on the album is Janáček's piano sonata "Zulice (From the Street, 1 October, 1905)," which was inspired by the killing of a Czech woodworker by soldiers during a university demonstration in Brno.

Ng has performed as a tenor soloist in the United States, Europe and Asia; Christeson has had a varied career in opera, oratorio and musical theater; and Baiocchi has performed in the U.S. and Europe. (Clear Note, 2007)

## Former First Lady Margaret Duncan dies at 87

**M**argaret Flexer Duncan, 87, poet, musician, teacher and Stetson's first lady from 1977-1987, passed away Aug. 12 at Ogeechee Area Hospice in Statesboro, Ga.

Born in Brunswick, Ga., she graduated from the University of Georgia in 1941 with a double major in mathematics and physics. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, the Women's Glee Club and Pi Mu Epsilon. She did graduate work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., then taught high school mathematics and worked for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

She married Pope Alexander Duncan in 1943 and lived in Kentucky during her husband's first pastorate and then in Macon, Ga., and DeLand, where her husband taught at Mercer and Stetson universities. In 1953, the family moved to Wake Forest, N.C., where her husband taught church history at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. During this time, she raised her three daughters and taught mathematics at Wake Forest High School.

The family moved to Brunswick, Ga., in 1964, where her husband was dean of the newly formed Brunswick Junior College. After a brief time in Brunswick, they moved to Douglas, Ga., where she became the first lady of South Georgia College. In 1968 the family moved to Statesboro, Ga., and she became the first lady of Georgia Southern College. In 1977 they moved one last time to Stetson University where he became president and she was first lady. They remained in DeLand after her husband's retirement in 1987. He continued to serve as Stetson's

chancellor until his death in 2003, when she returned to Statesboro.

Mrs. Duncan's life was filled with poetry, music and writing. She wrote a weekly newspaper column, *People, Places and Platitudes*, for the *Coffee County Progress*, and the *Bulloch Herald*, which became the *Statesboro Herald*, from 1964-75. She published a book of her poetry, *I Would Bring Stars*, in 1984. She also wrote an anthem, *God, Give Me a Mountain*, which won an American Pen Women award and which was sung at her husband's inauguration at Stetson University.

A member of the National League of American Pen Women, she also taught Sunday School for 40 years, sang in Baptist church choirs for 20 years and played the piano for many groups.

She is survived by three daughters, Mary Margaret Jones and Annie Laurie Kelly (William F.) of Statesboro; and Katherine Maxwell Aimone (Steven) of Asheville, N.C.;



four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Emily Elizabeth; a sister, Sue Mae Flexer; and two brothers, John William Flexer and Judge Winebert Daniel Flexer II.

Memorials may be made to Ogeechee Area Hospice, P.O. Box 531, Statesboro, Ga. 30459; the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, P.O. Box 450329, Atlanta, Ga. 31145; Stetson University Friends of Art, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8286, DeLand, Fla. 32723, or to the charity of one's choice.

### Retired Music Professor Eleanor Leek Smith passes away

Eleanor Leek Smith, Stetson University School of Music professor emeritus, died Friday, Aug. 31, at the Alliance Nursing Home in DeLand. She was 92.

Born in Rochester, N.Y., she joined Stetson's faculty in 1946, after receiving a master's degree in Music from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, where she also did her undergraduate work. She also taught at the University of South Mississippi for six years. At Stetson she taught Violin, Cello and Music Theory. She served on the Faculty Senate and played the cello in the university orchestra and in a faculty trio. She also co-founded the DeLand Little Symphony. She retired in 1981, but remained active as a cellist, primarily in chamber music settings. "She was known for her quick wit, pragmatic professionalism and deep love and knowledge of music," said Interim Dean of Music Jean West. "She is among the host of dedicated professors whose caring, determination and artistry created the legacy on which our School of Music thrives."



Her survivors include a son, Stephen Smith of DeLand; a granddaughter, Kimberli Faith Smith of DeLand; a sister, Roberta Leek of Rochester; and a niece and nephew, Laurie Fass of Connecticut and Robert Fass of New York.

Memorial donations may be made to the Stetson University School of Music, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8286, DeLand, Fla. 32723.

## Former Stetson President John E. Johns passes away

**D**r. John Edwin Johns, 85, president of Stetson University from 1970 to 1976, died Sept. 27, in Greenville, S.C., where he had served as president of Furman University from 1976 to 1994.

Dr. Johns joined Stetson's History and Political Science faculty in 1948, and in 1963 moved into administration as Business Manager. In 1968 he became vice president for Finance. He was named Stetson's sixth president in 1970 after a trustee presidential search, but had served as acting president for a year after the resignation of Dr. Paul Geren in 1969.

"John Johns served Stetson University for 28 years in many capacities," said Stetson President Doug Lee. "His presidency was marked by improved church relations, high academic standards, a faculty dedicated to teaching, and the building of the Edmunds Center. He left to lead his alma mater, Furman University, from which he retired in 1994, and we join his former colleagues there in mourning his passing."

Longtime Stetson Political Science Professor T. Wayne Bailey said Dr. Johns was one of the first people he met when he joined the faculty in 1963. "He was a true mentor," said Bailey. "He took a great interest in the faculty and students and helped the university through some difficult situations. At the time, there was a town/gown split in DeLand, and his work in the Chamber of Commerce and with the Fish Trust helped bring DeLand and Stetson closer together. His wife, Martha, also worked with many different community groups and helped the town and the university to understand one another."



Born in Ozark, Ala., Dr. Johns was raised in Arcadia, Fla. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, and flew 35 combat missions in Europe aboard B-17 aircraft. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. After the war, he returned to Furman, graduating in 1947 with a degree in History. He went on to earn his master's and Ph.D. degrees in History from the University of North Carolina.

As Furman's president he conducted two capital campaigns that raised more than \$115 million, and the university's endowment grew tenfold. In 1986, he was named one of the nation's 100 most effective college presidents in an Exxon Education Foundation study.

During his career, he served as president of the Southern University Conference, the Florida Historical Society and the Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida; and was chair of both the South Carolina Tuition Grants Commission and the Southern Baptist Education Commission.

A 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, he was a director of the Scottish Rite Foundation of South Carolina and a member of the Royal Order of Scotland. He was a Rotarian, past president of the DeLand Rotary Club and past district governor of Rotary International District 699. He served as president of the DeLand Chamber of Commerce and the West Volusia United Fund and was a director of the West Volusia Industrial Board and a member of the Florida Council of 100. He was a trustee of the Bert Fish Testamentary Trust.

Author of *Florida During the Civil War*, he held honorary degrees from Rollins College, William Jewell College, Limestone College, Stetson and Furman; and the Order of the Palmetto and the Order of the Silver Crescent from the state of South Carolina. In 2001 he won the Whitney M. Young Jr. Award from the Urban League of Upstate South Carolina for his humanitarian efforts and contributions in Greenville. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Greenville.

His survivors include his wife of 60 years, Martha Mauney Johns; three sons, John Edwin Johns Jr. (Tracey) of Greer, S.C.; Steven Maxwell Johns (Norine) of Simpsonville, S.C.; and Marcus Mauney Johns of Lilburn, Ga.; and three grandchildren, Evan Thomas Johns, William Mauney Johns and Lauren Ashley Johns.

Memorials may be made to Furman University Development Office, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613; First Baptist Church of Greenville, 847 Cleveland St., Greenville, S.C. 29601; or the charity of one's choice.

## New interim and associate deans of Music announced

The search for a dean of the School of Music to replace Jim Woodward, who retired in May 2007, is still underway.

“We have completed the first wave of interviews and decided to leave the search open,” said President Doug Lee.

The search is continuing during the fall 2007 semester.

Music Professor Jean West, who had been associate dean of Music, will serve as interim dean until a new dean is hired, Lee said. Associate Professor of Music Noel Painter has been appointed interim associate dean to assist her.

A professor of Flute, West founded Stetson’s Community



West

School of Music (now Community School of the Arts) in 1985, and directed it until 1992. She plays the flute with a faculty wind quintet and wind trio, and also gives frequent solo and orchestral performances. Active with both the Florida Flute Association and the National Flute Association, she has performed at many conventions and helped judge national competitions. She holds a doctorate in Flute Performance from The Ohio State University, and has taught at California State University, Sacramento, and Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, as well as Ohio State. She has also served as principal flutist with the Baton Rouge Symphony and Opera Orchestra in Louisiana.

Painter directs Stetson’s Music Theory program and has also taught at the University of Rochester and Eastman School of Music, from which he received a doctorate. He has also studied percussion and his research involves issues in the multiple percussion literature of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At Stetson he was a member of a small faculty group that created a series of textbooks for the newly redesigned functional keyboard curriculum. In addition to his Stetson work, he currently serves as interim director of Music at First Baptist Church of DeLand.



Painter

assistant director of Development Services and has held increasingly responsible positions, becoming director of Planned Giving in 2004.

In addition to promoting charitable estate planning and the administration of estate gifts that come to the university, her responsibilities include raising annual gifts for scholarships and the support of academic programs.

“The Annual Fund is Stetson’s biggest fundraising priority because the money goes directly to student scholarships,” Pearce said. “Ninety-six percent of Stetson undergraduates receive some type of financial assistance. Scholarships help us attract and retain bright and talented students.”

Stetson truly appreciates the support of its alumni, parents and friends, she said.

“Gifts in any amount – \$10, \$100, \$1,000 or more – all combine to make a difference in the lives of students and the programs that support their education,” Pearce said.

Pearce is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a member of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in DeLand and the mother of 2006 Stetson graduate Jessica Whitely.



Pearce

## Pearce promoted to director of Annual and Planned Giving

Kate Pearce has been promoted to director of Annual and Planned Giving, adding Annual Giving to her management responsibilities. Pearce started at Stetson in 1990 as

## Albinson named assistant director of HATS

Veteran HATS (High Achieving Talented Students) teacher Lynn Albinson has been named assistant



Albinson



Jessica Rafalowski, a senior marketing major, was crowned Miss Florida USA 2008 in July. She competed against 58 other contestants from around the state. The finals of the competition were held at Broward Community College’s Bailey Concert Hall in Davie and seen internationally by more than 2.6 million television viewers. Next up for Rafalowski, who also holds the title of Miss Volusia County USA, is representing Florida in March 2008 at the Miss USA pageant.



HATS students learn the secrets of sublimation during an experiment in the Harry Potter class.

director of the popular Stetson University HATS program in the wake of program founder Dr. Cindy Lovell Oliver's '94, MA '96, relocation to Missouri.

In an open letter on the HATS Web site, [www.stetson.edu/hats](http://www.stetson.edu/hats), Oliver notes that she'll remain acting director of the program until a replacement is named, and that

Albinson will serve as assistant director. Albinson, who has a degree in clinical microbiology, has taught Forensic Science and Harry Potter Science Workshop courses for HATS, which serves gifted and high-achieving Florida students in grades 4 through 9.

The Harry Potter course was one of the most popular HATS offerings

in summer 2007. Albinson used the children's popular book series as a springboard for education by incorporating themes and terminology from the books into science lessons. Twenty students learned the secrets of sublimation, acid/base reactions, botany and other aspects of science by performing cooperative projects with their classmates.

More than 3,000 students have attended HATS classes since the program began, and almost 200 participated in a new companion program last year, Hatterdays.

Now in its second year, Hatterdays are Saturday morning classes known as "an academic alternative to Saturdays!"

While students explore new worlds at Hatterdays classes, their parents are welcome to attend a free concurrent Parent Session in which they explore issues regarding their gifted and high achieving students.

## Stetson Law Moot Court Team wins prestigious international human rights competition

A team of three Stetson Law students defeated teams from across the U.K., India, and the U.S. to win the International Criminal Court Moot Court Competition in White Plains, N.Y., on Oct. 28. Add to their victory—this is the first time that a Stetson team has entered the competition.

Students Stephanie Ciechanowski, Chris Winkelman and Ahmad Yakzan progressed to the final round in the competition and argued against teams from Louisiana State University and New York Law School for the victory. Winkelman was named Best Oralist, the highest individual award in a moot court competition. Stetson professor Ann Piccard coached the winning team.

"Our team's performance at this competition places our moot court

team among the best in the world's key competitors in international human rights issues," said professor Stephanie Vaughan, Stetson's moot court advisor.

Each team wrote and submitted three written memorials and argued a case based on international criminal law before a simulated International Criminal Court.



Stetson moot team, from left, Chris Winkelman, Stephanie Ciechanowski and Ahmad Yakzan with awards.

# Charitable estate planning: not just for the wealthy, old

By Kate Pearce

“Giving to scholarships is a gift that keeps on giving. When you help a student through college, it’s a gift that can’t be taken away from them.”

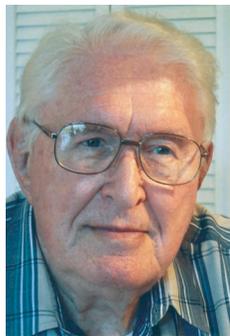
– Dr. Richard W. Pearce '50, '55, '57

**D**oes the term “charitable estate planning” make you think of very wealthy people who plan to share their good fortune with deserving charities – and receive tax benefits for doing so? It’s not always so. Including a charitable provision in an estate is not only for those with millions of dollars to give away. Today, many people of all ages and walks of life use their wills or estate plans to remember institutions, like Stetson University, that have meant the most to them during their lifetimes. An estate gift of any size is a way to leave a legacy that will benefit deserving individuals for generations to come.

More than 450 people have informed Stetson’s Office of Planned Giving that they have included the university in their estate plans. These people are members of the Stetson Society, a university recognition group that is growing as more and more people realize the satisfaction of helping to provide for Stetson’s financial future.

There are a variety of ways to do it. The first step is to have a will or living trust – the cornerstone of all estate planning – which can include a bequest provision. Your bequest can be for any amount, and can be directed for the general use of the university or to a particular use such as a scholarship, specific department or academic program.

For those over 60 years of age, establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust (both known as the “gift that gives back”) can be a way of increasing income while making a gift to Stetson. Dr. Richard W. Pearce '50, '55, '57 established a Charitable Gift Annuity and is receiving regular payments for the rest of his life, a portion of which is tax-free. Upon his death, the remainder will be added to the Richard and Neva Pearce Endowed



Richard Pearce '50, '55, '57

Scholarship Fund. The retired Stetson Finance professor emeritus described his gift annuity as a great way to enhance his retirement income. “I especially like the fact that part of the payment is tax-free,” he said. “It will also be a way to significantly increase the principal of our scholarship. Giving to scholarships is a gift that keeps on giving. When you help a student through college, it’s a gift that can’t be taken away from them.”

Stetson Board of Trustees member Jill



Jill Jinks '79

Jinks '79 has established a foundation through her estate to help make it possible for financially deserving students from all walks of life to attend Stetson. Called the Owen and Mizzee Foundation, it arose from a story she read after the tsunami of December 2004 about a displaced six-month-old hippopotamus called Owen. Transported to an animal sanctuary in Madagascar, he befriended Mizzee, a 130-year old tortoise who became his surrogate mother. The two formed a lasting bond, and Jinks created the Owen and Mizzee Foundation to honor basic kindness and compassion that go beyond species, culture and age. Calling these traits “the underpinnings of a special kind of life known as servant leadership,” she added that her foundation will be “devoted to the support of people and programs, including those at Stetson University, that offer the promise of fulfilling the mission of servant leadership.”

Robert J. Sindelir and Jill Cannady relocated to DeLand a few years ago. When asked what moved them to include Stetson in their charitable estate plan, she said, “We spent almost our entire personal and professional lives in Miami. When we moved to DeLand five years ago, we were aware of the existence of Stetson University, but had no idea how great a resource it would be in our new home. We immediately enjoyed the fine concerts performed in Elizabeth Hall and the exhibitions in the Duncan Gallery. We also made use of the excellent library. We want to encourage the school’s progress toward a very significant art facility, The Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center, by bequeathing (to Stetson) our modest contemporary collection, with some funds for its maintenance.”

A young Stetson graduate, Peter Urscheler '06, has included Stetson as a beneficiary of his life insurance policy. His motivation came from the generosity of others. He explained, “When I was a first year student at



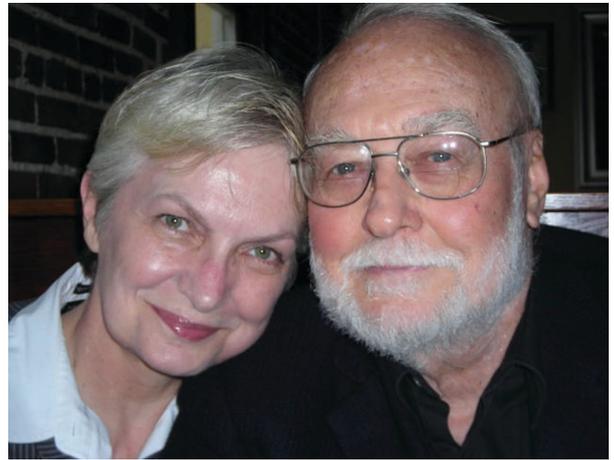
Peter Urscheler '06

Stetson, I had a very moving experience when I met the donors of my scholarship, the Snowden-Lane families. They helped me not only financially, but also were a constant source of support and encouragement. Through the combined efforts of their family and my own family I was able to make my dream of a Stetson education into a reality. The best way I could think of to give back was through the Stetson Society. When you assist in providing the priceless gift of an education, you have an impact on someone not only for a day, but for generations to come.”

Personal estate planning is a careful, thoughtful process. It is best accomplished by seeking the advice of your attorney, CPA or other financial adviser. These professionals can match your charitable interests with your overall plan to make sure that the provisions you choose are best for you and your family. Stetson’s Office of Planned Giving has a wide variety of information available to you and your advisers as you consider ways to establish your legacy at Stetson.

The university is deeply grateful to everyone who is helping to secure Stetson’s financial future through their charitable estate plans.

**Pearce is the director of Annual and Planned Giving at Stetson University.**



Jill Cannady and Robert Sindelir

“When you assist in providing the priceless gift of an education, you have an impact on someone, not only for a day, but for generations to come.”

– Peter Urscheler '06

# Variety of speakers enrich dialogue at College of Law

By Brandi Palmer

The Stetson University College of Law brought several distinguished speakers to campus this year. Each speaker provided a unique opportunity for members of the Stetson community to have an academic dialogue with people who have tremendous impact on the justice system.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia delivered a 90-minute speech contrasting Constitutional originalism with the idea of a living Constitution to a crowd of more than 800 students and faculty members on the law school campus in Gulfport. Students had an opportunity to ask Justice Scalia questions following the talk.

“When I joined the Supreme Court, there were none,” Justice Scalia said of fellow originalists on the Court. “But now, there are two, perhaps three.” President Ronald Reagan nominated Scalia in 1986 as associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno was the Wm. Reece Smith Jr. Distinguished Lecturer at Stetson’s annual Inns of Court Banquet. Reno also made a special presentation during the Ninth International Wildlife Law Conference on the law school’s Gulfport campus and addressed a Stetson student leadership luncheon.

“We have an opportunity now that we’re going to lose, unless we gather our



U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia



Former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno

forces about us and really take steps to see that the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan is completed,” Reno said to the crowd gathered at the Wildlife Law Conference. Reno was the 78th attorney general of the United States (1993-2001) under President Bill Clinton, and the first woman to hold the post.

Renowned attorney and Innocence Project co-founder Barry Scheck also spoke to students and faculty at the law school. “Every time an innocent person is convicted or, God forbid, executed, the real perpetrator is out there committing more crimes,” he said.

Scheck, who co-founded a non-profit legal clinic dedicated to freeing imprisoned individuals through DNA evidence in 1992, is probably best known as a member of the O.J. Simpson defense team. He spoke as a guest lecturer in the Nichols Foundation Prominent Speakers Series, which brings notable speakers from business, government and the law to Stetson.



Attorney Barry Scheck

Stetson also regularly brings prominent speakers to the law school to support faculty development. Speakers present papers to faculty through Stetson’s Scholarship Series. The Works-in-Progress Series provides faculty members with the opportunity to present their work to their peers and the Half-Baked Series gives faculty an opportunity to share preliminary scholarship with colleagues.

Both the International Programs Office and the National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology and the Law at Stetson College of Law regularly bring expert speakers to campus.

*Brandi Palmer is the communications specialist for Stetson University College of Law. A graduate of Eckerd College, she received her master’s degree in journalism from the University of South Florida. Next summer, she celebrates 10 years of working at the College of Law.*

# Matching Gifts: A **Win-Win** Situation

“Stetson  
played a big  
role in our  
lives...  
so giving back  
is a priority.”

--Nikki Salamone Piccolo '94

**I**t's no surprise that a Finance major and a Mathematics major would understand the value of a dollar, especially when they can double the impact of that dollar. Nikki Salamone Piccolo '94 and Ron Piccolo '93 take advantage of the Matching Gift Program at UBS Investment Bank where Nikki works as director of Municipal Securities. Nikki simply includes the UBS form with her gift and lets Stetson handle the rest.

The Piccolos recognize the difference between spending in ways that don't have real value as opposed to ways that make a difference. “We broke it down financially and realized our commitment equaled about \$100 each month. You could easily spend that much at Starbucks or eating out,” Nikki says.

The ability to maximize their contribution through matching gifts helped the Piccolos make a multi-year gift. “We try to improve our giving each year,” Ron says. He credits matching gifts for achieving that goal. Matching gifts are also an effective way for donors to establish scholarships.

The Piccolos' philanthropy is strongly motivated by memories. Ron, an assistant professor of Leadership and Organizational Behavior and Development at the University of Central Florida, explains: “We paid our way through school by working and with loans, so we know how tough it is.

We've experienced the financial burden of paying off loans. When we see young folks trying to improve their lives, we want to help.”

Nikki concurs. “Stetson played a big role in our lives. We met there, and the university had an impact on our lives and careers, so giving back is a priority.”

**Like the Piccolos, you can have a lasting effect on the university that transformed your life.**

**Your participation also helps Stetson secure corporate and grant support.**

**To find out if your employer will double or even triple your gift, contact your human resources department or log onto**

**[www.stetson.edu/give](http://www.stetson.edu/give)  
and click on Matching Gifts.**



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Photo courtesy of Edgar Suris



Edgar Suris '11, center, in a white shirt, runs a 26.2-mile marathon alongside Jake Phillips of the CDifferent Foundation at the Baltimore Running Festival.

## From marathon to the basketball court, legally blind freshman loves a challenge

Like any athlete, Stetson University freshman Edgar Suris is competitive and disciplined – and always ready for a challenge. He's already faced plenty.

Diagnosed six years ago with retinitis pigmentosa, a disease that causes progressive retinal degeneration, Suris is now legally blind. He has tunnel vision and color-blindness, and can't see in the dark or read the print of a textbook.

"When I first found out, it was kinda' like telling someone they have cancer," said Suris, a Chemistry and Psychology major.

But then the athlete in him took over. He needed to prove he could still be successful in the things he loves – and that his life had purpose. He'd always loved basketball, but

switched to running as his eyesight worsened. After running a half-marathon in 2006, he set a new goal: a marathon.

This fall, he participated in the Baltimore (Md.) Running Festival. A runner from the CDifferent Foundation, an organization that helps visually impaired athletes compete, ran alongside Suris to guide him on the 26.2-mile route.

Suris was one of the youngest runners to compete, and he finished with a time of four hours 43 minutes (04:43:41) – placing 1,753 out of 2,538 total finishers.

Now back on campus, he's tackling a new challenge – as a manager for the Stetson men's basketball team. The season kicked off Nov. 2.

Photo by Dean Watson



Edgar Suris at a pre-season scrimmage