



SPRING 2015 • VOL 23 • NUMBER 1

# Madazine

*the Alumni and Friends of the University of North Alabama*



**ALUMNI OF THE YEAR**  
ANNE CLEM WHITAKER '89



## Cover Story

**10** .. Alumni of the Year

## Features

**3** .. Governor Bentley Visits UNA

**4** .. Science and Technology Building

**6** .. Emerald City UNA

**7** .. Miss UNA 2015

**10** .. Homecoming Awards 2014

**26** .. Charles Anderson Receives Award

**28** .. The Bonds of Brotherhood

**30** .. UNA Graduates in Faraway Places

**32** .. UNA Honors @ 10

## Departments

**2** .. President's Message

**24** .. Alumni President's Message

**34** .. Athletics

**40** .. Class Notes

**44** .. In Memory



February was an unusually snowy month for northern Alabama and UNA. This aerial view of a snowy University of North Alabama campus made it all the way to Good Morning America. Thanks again to our student, Will Corey, for taking the photo.



#### ADMINISTRATION

**President**  
John G. Thornell

**Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost**  
Thomas J. Calhoun, Jr., Interim

**Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs**  
Clinton Carter '00

**Vice President for Student Affairs**  
David Shields

**Vice President for Enrollment Management**  
Thomas J. Calhoun, Jr.

**Vice President for University Advancement**  
Dan Hendricks

**Vice Provost for International Affairs**  
Chunsheng Zhang

#### STAFF

**EDITOR**  
Carol Lyles '70

**COPY EDITORS**  
Bryan Rachal  
B.J. Wilson '80

**DESIGNERS**  
Karen Hodges '84, Chuck Craig '79

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Shannon Wells '05

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Amy Bishop '06  
Will Corey  
Carol Lyles '70  
Skip Martin  
Jessica Pajaron

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Amy Bishop '06  
Jennifer Edwards  
Ashley Gabaldon  
Jeff Hodges '82  
Judith Jackson  
Mark Linder  
Carol Lyles '70  
Carole Maynard '11  
Bryan Rachal  
Hadley Skalnik  
Larry Softley '89 and '08  
John Thornell  
Brett Trapp '05

Send correspondence and address changes to:  
UNA Magazine  
Office of Alumni Relations  
UNA Box 5047  
University of North Alabama  
Florence, AL 35632-0001  
e-mail: alumni1@una.edu

**STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION**  
It is the policy of the University of North Alabama to afford equal opportunities in education and in employment to qualified persons regardless of age, color, creed, disability, national origin, race, religion, or sex, in accordance with all laws, including Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1973, Americans with Disabilities Act, Civil Rights Act of 1991, and Executive Order 11246. The coordinators for nondiscrimination policies are: for students, Irons Law Firm, 219 North Court Street, Florence, AL 35630, and for employees, the Director of Human Resources and Affirmative Action, 217 Bibb Graves Hall, telephone 256-765-4291 or email: humanresources@una.edu.

Information contained herein is as it currently exists but is subject to change without prior notice.



John G. Thornell

## president's message John G. Thornell

an academic transformation of science education at UNA. State of the art laboratories and instructional technology, coupled with modern classrooms and research space for the faculty, signal the university's commitment to a science and technology program second to none. We also are making great progress on two new residence halls. One should open this fall and another in the spring of 2016. Both will take us to the next level in terms of quality of student housing. They will also facilitate residence life programmatic activities that better enable our resident students to achieve academic success. We also are in the final stages of preparing for construction of a new nursing building and exploring renovation plans for the buildings that will be vacated as new buildings come online.

Our focus on student success has increased dramatically in recent years. The new Academic and Student Commons building houses a fully staffed success center that targets issues that put students at risk. The efforts, however, go beyond reactive intervention. Numerous programs have been created to nurture student success, especially among first year students who face the biggest challenges. We want to see meaningful increases in graduation rates and use success to empower our students to believe in themselves as they undertake their life journey.

The 2012 trustee resolution approving a move by UNA to Division I in NCAA athletics is still in force and awaiting a conference invitation. Meanwhile, the athletic department continues to work hard to be a highly competitive and successful Division II program. Our student athletes also continue to excel in the classroom as well—the most recent overall grade point

average for UNA athletes was the highest since 2006 and is further tribute to our student success efforts.

In 2014 the UNA Foundation achieved a significant benchmark. The total amount donations exceeded 5.6 million. This is the largest annual campaign amount given in UNA history. Thanks to the advancement team and to the campus community for the initiative that laid the groundwork for such success, but special thanks to the donors, big and small, who contributed. Our entire campus is touched by this accomplishment. The almost 7,000 UNA students are the grateful beneficiaries of that wonderful generosity.

We continue to make the strides necessary to make UNA an exceptional regional university. Thanks to the faculty and staff for their tireless efforts toward that end. Our pledge is to create an enduring academic legacy for our students that will ensure their success and make our alumni proud of this great university.

John Thornell



John Thornell, Kenneth Kitts and Robert Bentley

## GOVERNOR BENTLEY VISITS UNA AND MEETS WITH INCOMING PRESIDENT, DR. KENNETH KITTS

By Bryan Rachal, *University Communications*

Winter weather may have plagued the University of North Alabama in the months of February and March, but that didn't stop Gov. Robert Bentley from visiting campus.

Bentley arrived on campus just as an ice storm had abated in the first week of March, which is fitting since all of us at UNA know that March comes in like a lion of course! Bentley was in Florence to address the Shoals Chamber of Commerce and local community leaders at a luncheon, but he made time to stop by UNA first.

While on campus, the Governor received an update on UNA from senior administrators and several UNA trustees. In addition, Bentley heard information regarding new building projects, new academic programs, and UNA's current and proposed line items in the state budget. Bentley by position serves as a trustee on the UNA Board.

Bentley said he was impressed with the growth of UNA, and more specifically, the new science and technology building, which is set to be completed this summer.

"The University of North Alabama is a strong educational asset to Alabama," Bentley said. "The new science and technology building under construction on campus will provide a modern instructional setting that prepares students for the future in the most current scientific techniques. This building will be extremely beneficial to UNA and for science and technology in the state of Alabama."

Unfortunately, the weather did cause some problems. A possible tour of the new science and technology building was not able to occur due to a delayed schedule, but an added bonus of the Governor's visit was that he was able to meet UNA's new president, Dr. Kenneth Kitts.

Dr. Kitts had been visiting UNA on and off since his hire in November, but his official start date was March 30. Kitts' wife Dena along with their two sons will be arriving in Florence once the school year is done. The Kitts will be living in the President's Home on campus, which was recently renovated to accommodate the family.



KeKoria Greer, Dena and Kenneth Kitts





# SCIENCE *and* TECHNOLOGY BUILDING ENTERS FINAL PHASE



By Jennifer Edwards  
Staff Writer, *TimesDaily*

The construction fence is finally down. The chain-link barricade that has encased the UNA science and technology building for nearly two years was removed as completion of the building enters the final phase — moving in.

The academic building sits on a hill between Kilby Laboratory School and Flowers Hall. It's across Pine Street from the main campus.

It looks mostly complete when viewed from its yellow brick exterior. Landscaping and some final bricking still is needed. Inside, workers are dispersed on the five floors of the massive structure checking items off a preliminary punch list.

Floor tiles are marked with black Xs to indicate they are damaged and need to be replaced.

A service elevator was packed with boxes of furniture to be assembled and placed in offices, classrooms, and common areas. An elevator lobby on the fourth floor was packed with assembled benches waiting to be placed throughout the 160,000-square-foot building.

The directional signs on the first four floors are in place, and name plates are going up on faculty offices. Hallway bulletin boards are hanging on decorative tiled backings. Other wall art still is waiting to be put in place.

While construction has been ongoing for nearly two years, the total birth of this particular building has been almost a decade in the making. The discussion and fundraising for a building to move the university's science departments away from the out-of-date Floyd Science

Building started as many as eight years ago by some accounts. The question was often asked if this building would ever be a reality.

It will be a full reality in August. The science departments have started boxing up materials to get ready to move this spring. The departmental moves could start in April, but most certainly will happen in May when spring classes are over.

Physics will move in first, followed by chemistry and then biology, said Chris Maynard, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The building has 40 classrooms and laboratories. Many of the labs will be teaching laboratories to increase classroom space. There are two large auditorium-style classrooms and a large computer lab on each floor. There are 42 faculty offices and 15 designated research rooms.

The research rooms, for faculty and student research, are a big deal, Maynard said. Such space is nonexistent in Floyd Science Building, he said. As a result, research is done in the same space as teaching. Now, Maynard said, faculty and students can do research to advance their own learning and teaching, in a protected environment.

"It is going to be a complete 180," said Carmen Burkhalter, dean of the College of Arts and Science, about the difference in teaching and learning in this new space. Each desk and lab table has a data port for computers, and wireless Internet is available throughout.

Functionally, the new structure is built specifically for science teaching and learning. The building is pressurized to keep contaminated air contained and vented through the roof of the building. Floyd lacks the ability to offer that isolation.

Small items, such as beakers, and chemicals will be inventoried and moved. New microscopes have been purchased in the past two years and will continue to be used, but much of the equipment will be new. That gives students an academic advantage coming out of UNA, Burkhalter said.

"From my perspective, this is state-of-the-art equipment," she said. "It will allow our students to learn on and work with equipment they are most likely to see and be exposed to in the private sector."

"Our students will come out of UNA with a degree and not be at a disadvantage in any way. Their knowledge base and experience will be on level with any research institution."

Compliments of *TimesDaily*



## DONOR NAMED SPACES IN NEW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BUILDING

### MITCH BURFORD

A. Mitchell Burford, Jr., MD, Biology Wing  
A. Mitchell Burford, Jr., MD, Chemistry and Industrial Hygiene Laboratories

### BILL & BETTY JEAN CALE

Betty Jean Cale Greenhouse

### CONSTELLUM

Constellum Engineering Technology Lecture

### CB&S BANK

CB&S Bank Conference Area

### CITY OF FLORENCE

Citizens Plaza

### LOWELL M. GUTHRIE

Lowell and Carolyn Guthrie Lecture Hall

### DR. PAUL KITTLE

Dr. Paul D. Kittle Research Facility

### ROLLAND ODEN

Rolland Oden Biology Lecture

### KATHRYN RICE

John B. Rice, M.D., and Kathryn Rice Lobby

### DAVID SUNSERI

Jennifer Leigh Sunseri Chemistry Suite

### DR. & MRS. JOSEPH THOMAS

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Thomas Chemistry and Industrial Hygiene Lecture

### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Lions Den Dining Hall

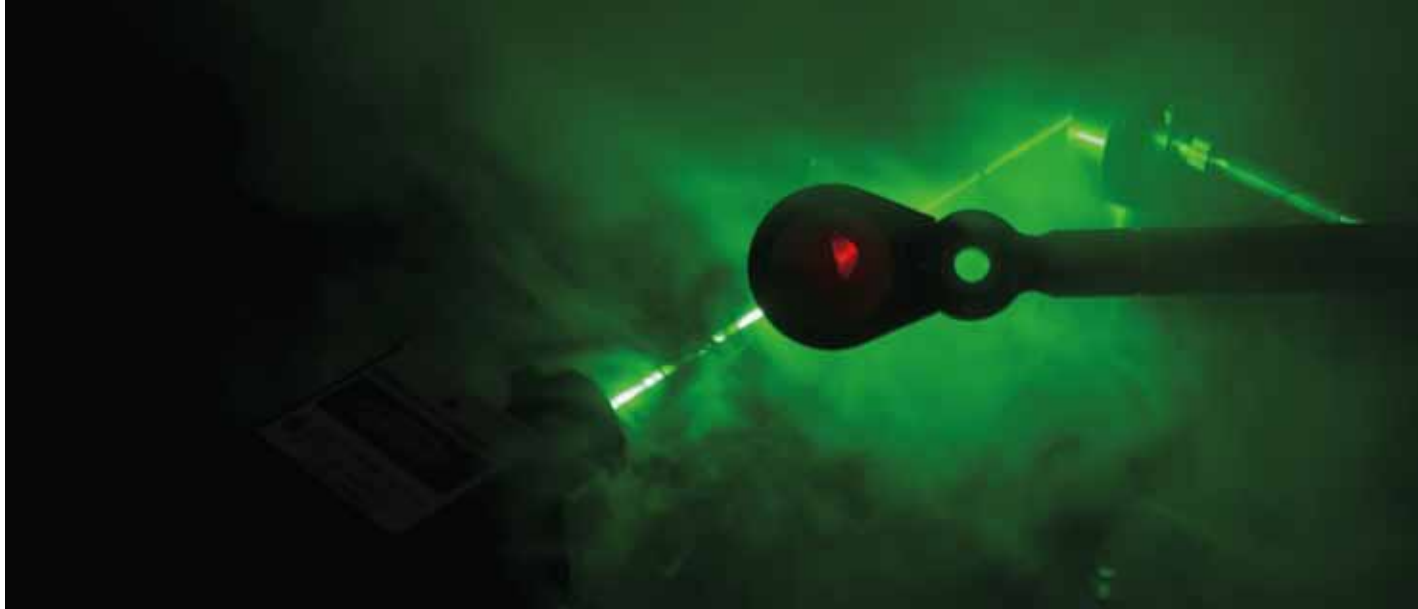
### WISE METALS

Art Work

### PAUL YOKLEY

Yokley Lecture Hall





## EMERALD CITY UNA

By Bryan Rachal, *University Communications*



Emeralds, rubies and diamonds all fetch a hefty price from their names alone. But what if I could tell you exactly where your emerald came from and what type of rock was involved—would you pay more? Yes, according to Dr. Brian Thompson. Thompson currently serves as a professor of physics at the University of North Alabama and his specialty is light and optics. Now, you're probably wondering what that has to do with gems and you'd be right—it really doesn't apply to all gems yet—but it does apply to . . . emeralds.

As mentioned Thompson specializes in light and optics, but more specifically he deals with the interaction of light with matter, which is a very important key to his recent research. "So you can shine, for example, violet, blue, or green light on different minerals and see them glow red. This is something that you can do with emerald. It's one of these materials, if you have a bright enough light source and you shine that light on them, they'll glow red. Of course emeralds look green under normal lighting, but if you shine enough high energy light on them they'll definitely glow red," he said.

Now it's important to point out that emeralds can be made synthetically, and, of course, they're also found naturally. Thompson said that the problem lies in the fact that synthetic and natural emeralds are difficult to distinguish between the two because of the fact that they're chemically the same.

"They're the same material. The synthetics are the same chemistry as the naturals, so when people buy an emerald, the natural emeralds are going to command a higher price. But how do you determine if you have a natural or a synthetic emerald? So that's kind of where we were starting from when we started this work, maybe

we can add to the number of known methods that are used to distinguish between natural and synthetic emeralds," Thompson said.

Using a green laser, Thompson found that all emeralds, synthetic or natural, will glow red if you shine a bright enough light on them. Using that as a basis, he determined that while all emeralds may glow red when a green laser is focused on them, if you look at the spectrum they produce, the energy at which one bright line occurs can differ for synthetic emeralds and naturally occurring emeralds.

"What we can do is we can sort of identify the geology—not exactly where it came from in the world, but we can basically sort them into one type of geology or another, and people know what kind of emeralds come from the different types of geology," he said.

Thompson said his research would not have been possible without help and support from major gem-testing labs, in particular the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) and American Gemological Laboratories (AGL). Normally, any expensive gem is sent off to such a gem lab for testing to find out everything about it, including things like treatments that have been done to it and its origin. And so these labs have provided Thompson with emeralds of known origin for testing.

So what is Thompson's hope?

"I think this research is adding to what we can learn and understand about emeralds," he said. "In time it may even become a standard measurement for all emeralds in gem labs."

Thompson said he's going to continue his research with gems and his current research on emeralds was recently published in the *Journal of Gemology*.

## RACHEL WAMMACK

### *Wins Miss UNA 2015*

By Ashley Gabaldon, *Student Writer*



Rachel Wammack was crowned Miss UNA 2015 in January's Winter Wonderland-themed pageant.

As well as going home with the crown, Wammack was chosen as the winner of the talent portion for her rendition of "Somewhere over the Rainbow," for which she sang and played the marimba.

Wammack has had minimal pageant experience, competing once in high school and again in last year's Miss UNA pageant where she did not place.

Her goal this year was just to place. "[Winning] was incredible shocking," she said.

Wammack beat out thirteen other contestants for the title which is a preliminary for the Miss Alabama pageant and includes a full tuition scholarship for two semesters.

Wammack is a junior creative writing major and Muscle Shoals native who is actively involved in the community, particularly through her music. She has written and recorded two albums, the most recent of which is titled "Lavender."

She was able to record her first album after winning UNAs MEISA Showcase her freshman year, and her second album with the help of University of North Alabama philanthropist David Brubaker, who also introduced her to her service platform, Vitamin Angels.



Wammack uses her music to support her platform, which is an organization that supplies vitamins and minerals to children in at-risk populations. Many of the children have a vitamin-A deficiency and could go blind at a very young age.

Portions from each sale of her record go to the organization, and she will be traveling to Ethiopia in October to help distribute vitamins and share her music.

But before that she will be competing for Miss Alabama in June, and insists that she's not anxious about whether or not she'll get the crown.

"I haven't dreamed all my life about being Miss Alabama," she said, "I've always dreamed about being the best Rachael Wammack I can be."

And even if she doesn't win the pageant she'll still be a winner.

"Most of all I'm just really proud to be Miss UNA," she said.

Meredith Hamner of Killen was first runner up, followed by Alexis Aday of Leighton as second runner up, and Jocelyn Barnes of Florence as third runner up.

Jocelyn Barnes also won the People's Choice Award, Jovonne Baker won Miss Congeniality, and Ruby Villalobos won the University Bookstore Outstanding Service Award.





Ann Huckaba



Harry and Beth Smith

Harry and Beth Smith always knew that their connection with the University of North Alabama was special. Harry graduated from Florence State College (FSC) in 1964 with a degree in accounting while Beth Smith earned her first degree in 1969 from Florence State University. Soon after Beth's graduation, the Smiths watched the college add a ten-story residence hall for men and an eight-story residence hall for women, the Lurleen Burns Wallace Fine Arts Center, LaFayette and LaGrange Halls, the new Floyd Hall Science Building, the Planetarium/Observatory, Bennett Infirmary and apartments for married students. Beth also received her master's degree in 1981 from Florence State University.

The Smiths spent many happy and successful years in the Shoals area where they raised their daughter, Leslie Smith Jones, who continued the Smith Family legacy and graduated in 1985 from the institution that was renamed the University of North Alabama (UNA) in 1974. Harry and Beth continued their close relationship with the university while establishing Harry's career, and were often

## THE WILLIAM G. CALE, JR., AND ROBERT L. POTTS PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### HONORING OUR RICH LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

By Judith T. Jackson, *Associate Vice President for Advancement Services*

on the UNA campus attending events and serving on committees and boards.

During his service as a member of the UNA Foundation Board, Harry's close personal relationship with then President Robert L. Potts deepened and he was pleased that Robert and Irene Potts decided to keep their home and roots in Florence, even as Robert's career took them to North Dakota and Arkansas.

Harry continued to serve as a Foundation Board Director under the presidency of Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., and was able to witness firsthand the emergent professional and personal relationship between the former university president and the current president. Robert Potts served on the Foundation Board alongside Harry under President Bill Cale's leadership and Harry continued to watch the working relationship and respect between the two leaders flourish. That experience made such a lasting impression on Harry that he and Beth decided to honor the two legends by establishing an endowed scholarship bearing their names that will benefit the Honors Program at UNA. The Smiths' enthusiasm for the project prompted long-time UNA friend and donor Ann Huckaba to also contribute to the scholarship to honor the presidential legacies.

The Smiths believe that having two former presidents retiring in the same community and maintaining their cordial and respectful relationship while serving as valuable resources to the university community makes UNA an even more special place to call their alma mater.

## SHOALS COMMUNITY CELEBRATES KING WITH SERVICE DAY

By Ashley Gabaldon, *Student Writer*

UNA students and faculty, with the help of the Shoals community, celebrated Martin Luther King Jr., in a big way this year by hosting MLK Service Day on January 19.

The day included volunteer service at local project sites and an MLK march, followed by a lunch and program with keynote speaker Dr. Kobe Fitzgerald, Senior Overseer of Ekklesia Ministries.

"It is important to honor King with this MLK Service Day because Dr. King devoted his whole life to serving others," said Nick Lang, vice president of senate for SGA and service representative for UNA Leadership and Volunteerism, who helped to arrange the event.

Over 75 volunteers participated in the service portion of the day with the number of participants growing to over 100 for the MLK march from UNA to Shoals Theater.

Volunteers were assigned to one of seven local locations to give time back to the community. The groups did everything from picking up trash and washing windows to working at a local thrift store and packing backpacks with food for local children.

Volunteers began their community service at 8 a.m., working for several hours before meeting back at UNA to participate in the annual MLK march down Seminary Street.



"This event gathered different groups from all over campus to bring people together to impact their community with service to others," Lang said.

The event was advertised across campus with posters bearing the tag line, "a day on, not a day off," which was also printed on the t-shirts that volunteers received.

The MLK Service Day was arranged as a project to complement UNA's "Service Saturdays" and the "Lions Lend a Hand" initiative.

Lang said the combination of a service event with the MLK holiday was a perfect mix and ultimately a complete success.

This was UNA's first time celebrating King with a service day, though events like this are arranged across the country to pay tribute to the late civil rights activist and leader.

## UNA WINS 100,000 STRONG GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD

By Bryan Rachal, *University Communications*



Officials with the University of North Alabama recently announced that UNA would be the recipient of a \$25,000 grant to help fund the school's new innovative study abroad program in Peru. This announcement came after the U.S. Department of State, Partners of the Americas, and NAFSA: Association of International Educators announced seven new winners of **100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund** grants for study abroad.

**100,000 Strong in the Americas** is President Obama's signature education initiative in the Western Hemisphere. The goal of the program is to increase the number of U.S. students studying in the Western Hemisphere to 100,000, and the number of Western Hemisphere students studying in the United States to 100,000 by the year 2020. Organizers hope the program enhances hemispheric competitiveness, increases prosperity, and better prepares a globally aware workforce.

The current competition, which focuses on promoting health and nutrition in the Western Hemisphere by identifying solutions to help prevent and reduce obesity, is being sponsored by The Coca-Cola Foundation. The recipients, including UNA, will conduct research on combating obesity linked behavior through physical activity and nutritional education, examining health beliefs and practices that contribute to greater risk of obesity, using technology and other innovative means to maximize cultural awareness and education.

Dr. Chunsheng Zhang, senior Vice Provost for International Affairs at UNA, said he's thrilled that UNA won this prestigious grant. "This grant together with other financial contributions by UNA supporters will allow 30 students to participate in the Exercise and Nutritional Science study abroad in Peru in the summer of 2015. In addition, five to ten students from Peru will participate in the Global Studies Certificate Program at UNA in fall 2015."

UNA will be partnering with the **Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola** in Peru to focus on the impact of physical activity and proper nutrition in combating obesity linked with negative behavior choices.

"This is a result of true team effort and partnership with a strong spirit of collaboration and persistence. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sodexo UNA for providing a private corporate partner matching fund, the UNA Office of Diversity for providing a matching fund to encourage applications by students of color, and UNA's Advancement Office for providing the lion's share of the matching fund," said Zhang. "I also want to thank my grant writing team members, Dr. Tanja Blackstone and Dr. Craig Christy, for their knowledge of, expertise in, and dedication to writing, revising, and winning the grant. This is the third time we have tried and our persistence finally paid off in creating global learning opportunities for our students," he said.

UNA students studying exercise science, nutrition, culinary arts, health promotion and other health-related fields are eligible to apply for the special scholarship. Individual scholarships will range from \$1,400 to \$2,500 based on financial need and academic merit.

## SIGNING OF UNA SGA SCHOLARSHIP MAKES IT OFFICIAL!

By Bryan Rachal, *University Communications*

Years of hard work culminated with the signing of an endowed scholarship on the University of North Alabama campus. Past and present members of the Student Government Association as well as officials with UNA were on hand for the signing which made the Student Government Endowed Scholarship official. UNA will begin awarding the scholarship in the fall of 2015.

**Laura Giles '14**, former SGA president, said the idea behind the scholarship actually started five years ago. "This was started quite a few years ago by **Cory Hamilton '11** and the fact that we actually finished early makes us really happy. We're also thankful that Vice President Shields was there to help us," she said.

Giles said the scholarship is a way to show UNA students that the SGA cares and wants them to succeed. However, it might not have happened as quickly had David Shields, vice president of Student Affairs, not stepped in.

"This Scholarship combines two things: the endowed scholarship SGA started and a Student Affairs leadership development scholarship that had been dormant. So I approached Laura and said why don't we combine these scholarships; it will enable the SGA to finish their scholarship project early and it will also create a larger pool of funds to use," Shields said.

Shields said they're currently refining the criteria, but once that's complete the scholarship will be available for undergraduate students at UNA. Interested students will have to fill out an application like they would for any other scholarship and the recipient will be selected by a committee.

KeKoria Greer, SGA president, said she's heard about this since she was a freshman and is glad it's finally ready to go. "I didn't see the start of it, but I saw a lot of people work really hard on it. What people may not realize is that this is an SGA issue because this is a student issue; scholarships and funding—those are student issues. But I really have to congratulate Laura Giles because she saw it through. I can't wait until we can award it," Greer said.

Dr. John Thornell, UNA Interim President, echoed Greer's remarks and said he's proud of what the SGA and Student Affairs accomplished. "One of the most significant outcomes of the economic downturn was how important scholarships became as a part of the campus climate. Students find that they are doing a balancing act just to get by. I think the SGA recognizing the importance of scholarships and then to step out there and take a leadership role, really shows the work they do on behalf of the students at UNA. So we're very proud," Thornell said.



Dr. John Thornell, KeKoria Greer,  
David Shields and Laura Giles'14





## ALUMNI OF THE YEAR ANNE CLEM WHITAKER

By Hadley Skalnik, *Student Writer*

**Anne Clem Whitaker '89** is well known in the medical marketing community as the successful, driven Chief Executive Officer of Synta, a biopharmaceutical company focused on enhancing the lives of patients, including those suffering from cancer and chronic inflammatory diseases. In the UNA community, Whitaker is known as a leader, who in her four years at the university served in many roles across campus.

Upon graduating from the university with her degree in chemistry (major) and business administration (minor), Anne began her career as a leadership consultant for Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority where she traveled to more than 30 states in one year. Her first two professional assignments were for Delta Communications as a sales representative, and Oak Ridge Institute as a researcher. From there, she joined the Upjohn Company as a metabolic disease specialist in 1991 before her transition to GlaxoSmithKline in 1992. With GlaxoSmithKline, Anne held several leadership positions in the commercial organization. In 2007, she became Vice President of Critical and Supportive Care, a new business unit she was charged with building for GSK. From there, Anne made a major career decision and accepted a position as Senior Vice President of Leadership and Organization Development. She and her family moved to London, England,

to allow her to pursue the major assignment, and again her hard work landed her another appointment. In 2009, Anne became Senior Vice President and Business Unit Head, Cardiovascular, Metabolic, and Urology at GlaxoSmithKline. In this position, Anne held full responsibility for leading, developing, and managing strategic performance of the CVMU business.

Anne was then appointed to her position as President at Sanofi in 2011. In 2014, Anne made some major career advancements, making her one of the most influential professionals in her field. First, Anne was appointed to both the Board of Directors of Cree (a public technology company) and the Department of Commerce Manufacturing Council, where she is the only bio pharma sector representative on the 30-member council.

In her biggest career appointment to date, in 2014 Anne accepted the position as Director and Chief Executive Officer of Synta. In March 2015, Anne graced the cover of *Medical Marketing & Media Magazine*, a business healthcare magazine that has been serving healthcare marketers industry since 1966. The article praises Whitaker's innovative and fresh approach to her industry, saying her hiring on as CEO at Synta "proved to be the ideal hire." The article goes on to report that her leadership and team building abilities are unsurpassed, stating directly that she "inspires great loyalty." Anne, in

the March 2015 article, describes her initial hesitation at the large offer from Synta, but recounts her realization that the opportunity fit her field of expertise presented an exciting opportunity. "Getting to build a company with an amazing near-term commercial asset is a good fit for my experience," Whitaker said in the *MMM* article.

In her parting words in the article summarizing her successful career, Whitaker closes out with *MMM* in these words: "It's really nice to be able to concentrate and focus on the things you can make a real impact on."

Anne Whitaker currently serves on an array of boards and committees pertaining to the betterment of her industry. She serves as Vice Chairman and Member of Executive Committee on the National Pharmaceutical Council. Since 2013, she has served as Director, Member of Governance & Nominations Committee and Member of Compensation Committee for Cree, Inc., a publicly traded LED, lighting and semiconductor products company. Despite her demanding schedule, Anne has taken the time to give back to her community by serving as co-chair of the organization Women in Healthcare and Life Sciences (WIHLS). This non-profit research institute hopes to help young women advance in the healthcare and life sciences industry through mentorship and development. Under her review, this organization joined Centers for Healthcare Innovation to launch The Science Runway, a platform dedicated to highlighting the role models in the healthcare industry to inspire the next generation to join the healthcare and life sciences industries. While Whitaker was the president of Sanofi, she oversaw all pharmaceutical and consumer healthcare operations within North America. She was also a member of the Global Leadership Team, Global Commercial Operations Committee, and the U.S. Regional Management Committee.

Anne is a first generation college graduate who takes pride in her Southern upbringing and in her education from the University. Sanofi's Senior Specialty Sales Representative David Armstrong spoke of Anne and her representation of the University of North Alabama, saying, "This UNA graduate's accomplishments



are second to none. She didn't just break the glass ceiling for women in the Pharmaceutical Industry . . . she shattered it. She paved the path for young women and men executives through hard work and in believing anything is possible." Armstrong went on to say, "I honestly believe every UNA student would benefit from knowing Anne. UNA should be proud of her accomplishments, just as I know she is proud of her degree from the University of North Alabama."

One group on campus is especially proud of Anne's accomplishments. Sorority members and alumni of Alpha Gamma Delta hosted several events in Anne's honor during her time in the Shoals area last October. Anna was invited to be a special guest at their Parent's Weekend Event. The morning of the Homecoming parade, a brunch was hosted in Anne's honor, allowing her to meet the current undergraduate members of the sorority. Several alumni and new members were in attendance as well.

**Susie Morris Ray ('85)**, Alpha Gamma Delta alumni and current chapter advisor, remembers Anne's involvement while she was a collegiate member of the sorority. "I did know Anne personally in her college years. I was chapter advisor then as well, and she was chapter president her senior year," Susie said.

Anne also took the time to meet members as individuals, which Susie said had a lasting impact on the chapter members. "I think Anne winning Alumni of the Year shows our women that anything can happen if you work hard. She reached out to so many of the girls while she was here, offering to help as much as she could when she could. We spoke to our senior members about networking and I think that as they listened to conversations Anne had, they realized how important networking is."

Anne Whitaker participated in several other chapter events during her visit, including a tour of Alpha Gamma Delta's facilities on campus and spending time at the tailgate before the Homecoming game. It is clear that Anne's strive to teach young women reaches back to her roots at UNA, starting with the group of young women whom she was so close to during her time here.

Having been featured in one of the most prominent publications in her field, and after being named Alumni of the Year for the University for 2014, Anne was willing to answer a few of our questions concerning her life and career. Well into her new job as CEO, and just out of a job as President at Sanofi, Whitaker discussed her career, her family, and what's next.



# ANNE CLEM WHITAKER Q & A

**Q** It is my understanding you were very involved at UNA. Which Student Organizations were you most involved in?

**What did you learn from them?**

**A** I was a **SOAR (Student Orientation and Registration)** counselor for three summers. I was the Head of the SOAR counselors my senior year. During this experience I learned how to work as a team with the other SOAR counselors, coach and counsel new students, build trusting relationships quickly with new students, and run an organization for a summer. I was in the sorority Alpha Gamma Delta and I was very involved in the PanHellenic Council. I served in several leadership roles including serving as the President. This was a great experience to strengthen my leadership skills. Often times the sororities didn't all agree, so I learned how to negotiate through challenging situations and come to terms that all parties could live with. I was a little sister for Sigma Chi for three years, but I switched to Pi Kappa Alpha Little Sister for my senior year after I met my husband junior year. I served in Student Government as a Senator for a couple of years, played lots of intramural sports and even acted in a couple of plays. Overall, I was really busy in college and this helped me prepare for the life I have led as an executive and working mom!

**Q** What is the scope of your travel with your company?

**How often and how far do you tend to travel?**

**A** With my current role, I have global responsibilities as the Chief Executive Officer. Our product has trials going on at 200 sites across Europe, Middle East and North America. In this role, I travel mostly in the U.S. with some European and Asia travel about once a quarter. In my previous role as the head of North America for Sanofi, I traveled to Paris, France, on average every four to six weeks. In three years in the role, I went to Paris 38 times. Needless to say, I am happy to not have to travel as often now. In my 26 years since graduating from UNA, I have visited all but five States in the U.S., all of the provinces of Canada, 19 countries in Europe, as well as several cities in China, Japan, Singapore, and Australia each a few times. I also have travelled to nine of the island countries for fun with my family!

**Q** I have read throughout several letters of recommendation about your involvement regarding your sorority, Alpha Gamma Delta. What leaderships did you hold within your chapter while on campus?

**How did traveling and mentoring young women shape your experiences and work to become a Chief Executive Officer?**

**A** While I was in Alpha Gam at UNA I served as my pledge class president, head of Rush, vice president and president. I went on to travel across the U.S. as a leadership consultant for Alpha Gam. This experience as a consultant and the leadership roles in Alpha Gam were great experiences and served as great training for my career in leadership.

**Q** Can you tell me a bit about your husband, Trampas, and your lives together here at UNA?

**How did UNA shape you both and prepare you for a life of success?**

**A** My husband, Trampas, is originally from Florence. We met on a Friday afternoon at a local hang out place that most of the Greeks went to on Fridays. Most people thought we would never make it as a couple since we are quite the opposites. I was focused on my academics and organizations; he was focused on soccer and having fun! He's always been very laid back and easy going. I am a typical "type A" controlling type! But, they say opposites attract and in our case, that must be true. I think we have always balanced each other out and that's why we have been married for 24 years next week.

**Q** And, simply - what's next?

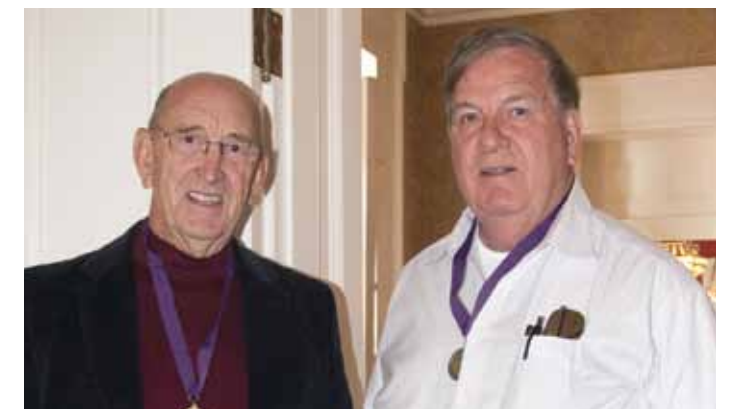
**A** Hmm, what's next? That's a good question. Professionally, I focused on building Synta into an innovative, agile oncology company and launching a life-changing medicine, Ganetespi, for those patients battling lung cancer around the world. My ambition as a CEO is to lead a brilliant team to bring more life-saving and -changing medicines to patients battling cancer as we also build a company where our employees feel like they get to do their best work each day. Personally, I am looking forward to seeing my boys find their own professional fields and see them launch their careers and individual lives. I look forward to continuing to be their biggest cheerleader and always being there to support them. I also look forward to visiting the rest of the island countries and maybe a few more European countries for fun!



Alpha Gamma Delta alumni and family hosting pre-parade brunch for Anne Clem Whitaker



1964 "Golden Lions" reunion at Rogers Hall after luncheon on the lawn.  
Class of 1965 will be guests of honor on October 17, 2015.  
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!







## ALUMNI OF THE YEAR SHARES SOUTHERN PLATE

By Ashley Gabaldon, *Student Writer*

**Christy Jordan '02** appears in many ways to be the average Southern lady. She is a Huntsville, Ala., native, wife, and mother of two, who balances her family with a rewarding career. But Jordan's job is anything but average.

Jordan began her impressive career by accident after she posted a recipe for banana pudding online. The next day it was the website's front-page recipe, so she decided to post another which was even more popular than the first. After that, she began blogging and now has her own website SouthernPlate.com, which receives over 50 million page views a month.

Jordan has also authored two highly-successful cookbooks, "Southern Plate: Classic Comfort Food that Makes Everyone Feel like Family" in 2010 and "Come Home to Supper: Over 200 Casseroles, Skillets, and Sides (Desserts, Too!) to Feed Your Family with Love" in 2013.

Jordan graduated from UNA with a bachelor's degree in home economics in 2002. She is a ninth-generation cook who comes from a long line of talented women, and says she learned many of her recipes from her mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

What makes Jordan resonate so strongly with her fans is her approachable and humble way of writing which makes chefs of all skill-levels feel comfortable with her recipes and secure in their skills. She turns down the title of "chef" and instead prefers to be called "home cook."

Despite all of her success, Jordan remains deeply humble. Her website's biography states, "I want you to know right up front that I'm nobody special, but come from some awfully good people."

There is no doubt that Jordan will continue to follow her passion in the years to come. She is currently keeping a strong, active social media presence through her website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Jordan also has a brand new cookbook in the works.

But most of all she is continuing to raise her beautiful family in the place that she calls home.

## CHRISTY JORDAN Q & A

**Q You've said before that the success you've found through your cooking and recipes is nothing compared to the happiness you have with your family. How do they inspire you?**

**A** First off, I have awesome parents and consequently, had an amazing childhood. Although there were difficult times most of my childhood, my parents kept their focus on the good in our lives and the joy of being together. Looking back on my dad working three jobs just to be able to afford groceries and Mama cooking everything from scratch in addition to selling crafts and such on the side for a little extra money, with all of us sitting around the dinner table each night, it kind of feels like a modern day Ingalls family from "Little House on The Prairie!"

That experience is what I brought to my own family. My number one dream in life was to get married and be a mama, having a family of my own. All of those dreams came true and I recognize that each and every day. Getting to see my children grow up and learning new things about them as their personalities and interests develop is one of the most rewarding and fun parts of my life now. It is hard not to be inspired by that.

**Q You are an accomplished chef, blogger, and author, but you keep your family first. How do you balance these two parts of your life?**

**A** Often people will look at my career say to me "Your dreams are coming true! What does that feel like?" I always respond by telling them that this is wonderful and I appreciate it, but it wasn't ever my dream.

My dream was to have a family: this is just icing on the cake but they are the main treat, forever and always. I know that if an opportunity is meant to be, God will bring it to me and if it is something that will harm my family in any way, He will protect me from it. I pray about every opportunity and have learned from experience that some things just aren't worth the cost to my family.

Two years ago I was asked to be a judge on a television cooking series called "Beat The Chefs." I had to go live in a hotel room in Los Angeles for two weeks during filming. The days were long, ten to twelve hours, so I wasn't able to talk to the kids much at all during that time either. It was a wonderful experience from a work standpoint and I really enjoyed it, but once I returned home my daughter hugged me and said "Mama, please don't ever do that again. I missed you so much I almost died!"

Two weeks away as a Mama is far longer than two weeks away under other circumstances. I'm still looking for that perfect television opportunity but I know it will involve a way to include my family somehow, or at least have them near me or not away for such a long period of time. I know firsthand, if it isn't good for my family, it is not good for me. I'm going to be Mama to them for the rest of their lives, long after the rest of the world has forgotten my name.

**Q Do you have any guilty pleasures that help keep you sane?**

**A** Reading! I *love* to read. I don't have near enough time for it because I am working on my third book right now but as soon as I turn this manuscript in, I plan on going back to my usual schedule of going to bed one hour early to read. I have recently purchased hardback copies of all of the great classics that I've wanted to, but had never taken time to, read. They are sitting in a stack on my nightstand just waiting on me to join them! I have declared this the year of the book for me as I'm consciously trying to leave the digital books behind and purchase honest-to-goodness books again. There is something about holding a book and knowing there is a possibility of your children and grandchildren someday holding and reading that very same book. The realness of it, the history, the integrity of those words on paper being so readily passed down to others seems to call to us with an urging to slow down and not be so quick to take up the new way of things when there is so much wisdom in the old.

**Q You're working on a new cookbook. What types of recipes and stories can your fans be looking forward to?**

**A** This cookbook is going to include collaborations, mostly my recipes but also some of my reader's recipes and stories as well. We all have such wonderful histories and people in our lives so I was excited to be able to offer readers a chance to send in their stories of loved ones along with cherished recipes to include as well. Aside from that, I am really focusing on



opening our eyes to the joy in our lives in this book. Many of my stories and little sidebars will be centered on that. What type of book is it? Well, I can't tell you that just yet but I promise it's going to be the best book I can write!

## Q What other new projects do you have in the works, and can you tell me a little bit about them?

A The past few months have been so focused on writing my book that I haven't had time to focus on much else. I continue to do speaking engagements, television appearances, and my work as contributing editor of "Taste Of The South," and new opportunities seem to spring up overnight so I can't tell you what I might be doing tomorrow. Once I turn my book in I want to get back to producing the best recipes, helpful tips and tricks posts, and conversations I can with folks over on SouthernPlate.com.

I am also entertaining the thought of producing a YouTube series which would consist of weekly shows and be divided up into seasons like a regular television show later this summer. I still receive emails and phone calls from production companies about possible network opportunities but have yet to be presented with one that is in a family friendly environment and with a family friendly network but if it is meant to be, it will happen.

## Q You served as a judge on GSN's show "Beat the Chefs." What was that experience like?

A It was a lot of hard work but very rewarding and enjoyable hard work. I loved the challenge of the long work days and getting to prove myself at something I'd never done before. The people I worked with were so dedicated and hardworking but they had the best attitudes! It was an honor to get to work with such an amazing crew of folks.

I did my best not to ever make anyone wait on me so I got on set an hour earlier than I needed to each day. I would go straight to makeup and it was funny because, being from Alabama, I naturally "put my face on" before taking one step into the outside world. The makeup girls kept telling me every day "You don't have to come camera ready. We can do all of that here, just sleep in a bit and let us handle it."

I didn't really understand what they were talking about at first but after a few days and more surprise at me being what they called "camera ready" I finally told them, "Okay look, I'm from Alabama. This is not camera ready, this is just every day. Now if you want, I can do a little less makeup before I come here. I have to do base, concealer, blush, eye shadow, eyeliner, eyebrow liner, mascara, and lipstick, but I don't mind leaving off the lip liner if you'd rather I wear less to the studio."

We had a different celebrity judge for each show. After Diane Ladd sat beside me in the makeup chairs one day, herself a Deep South belle from Mississippi, they understood that it wasn't just a Christy thing, it was a Southern thing.

## Q Have you found that living in Alabama places limitations on the amount of success you can have within your field? What are the advantages of living here?

A When it comes to television, absolutely and without a doubt; when it comes to raising a family, the advantage is all mine. I've done several television shows in LA and as soon as the cameras stopped rolling their talent person would come say something like "You were great! We'd love to have you back regularly. Are you local?" Once I mention Alabama there is always this look of disappointment and a response of "Well, let us know when you are in the area next time..." The expense of flying someone from one side of the country to the other definitely plays a role in television opportunities. I have friends who have moved to Los Angeles just for more TV opportunities and it has been fruitful, but I'm firmly rooted in Alabama and television doesn't have anything to offer that can lure me away.

When it comes to living here, being close to family and raising my kids in this beautiful state with the culture I'm so accustomed to is just too good an opportunity to pass up. My daughter often tells me that she wants to go to UNA, too, and a time or two she has asked if I would move to Florence and go to school with her. I told her I sure would! I reckon around that time I'll be ready for another degree!

## Q How did your time at UNA influence and shape your career path?

A UNA gave me the confidence to go forth and be who I needed to be in this world, to live out the purpose that God has placed on my life. My dream had always been to go to a four-year college but I didn't think that was possible from a financial standpoint. I was older than most students once I found UNA and a way to afford my dream. I have had nothing but gratitude and love for the institution.

I am so proud to come from a place where teachers actually know their students, take time to talk with them, get to know what is going on with their lives and take a personal interest in their success. I can't tell you how many times I sat in Jane Wilson's office and talked about the struggles of keeping up my studies while caring for my family (which included a newborn at the time). She went beyond being just a teacher and became a mentor and friend; I still consider her to be both today. The faculty at UNA doesn't just teach students, they inspire and encourage them.

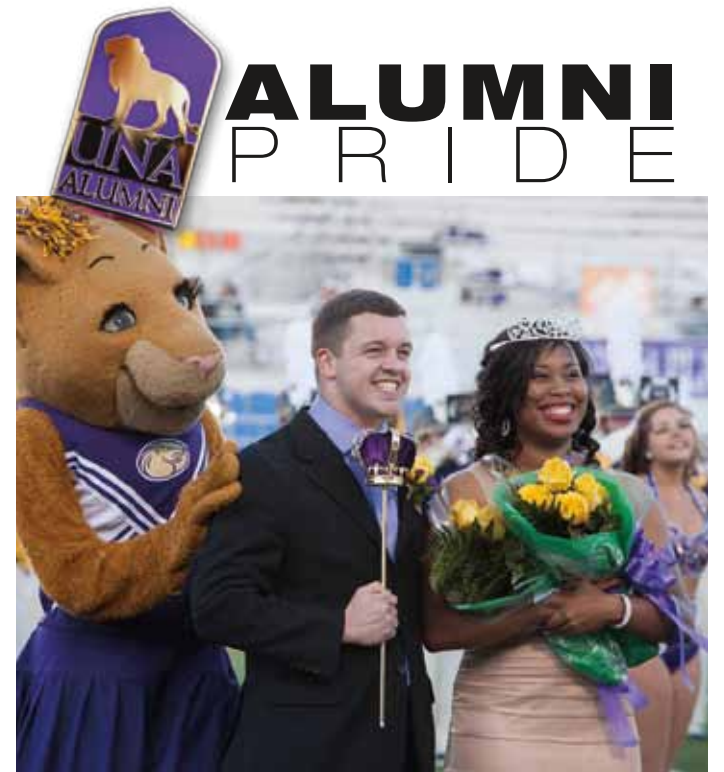
## Q What plans do you have for the future?

A I have no idea! If you had asked me what my plans were ten years ago I probably would have said to continue with my monthly family newsletter and raise good kids. I never dreamed that monthly newsletter would become a blog with 50 million page views a month or that I'd be on national television shows, author bestselling books, and travel around the country and even world.

It all started when the time came for both of my kids to start school and my heart began to feel a longing. I think sometimes God puts longings on your heart for things He wants to give you.

One day, I said "God, if You just gave me a chance, I know I could be good at something." A month later I started SouthernPlate.com and that first month it received over 50,000 page views. Each month after that it doubled. At the end of the first year, it was 18 million and at the end of the second, 43 million. From there, that became the number each month and I had Harper Collins approach me about a book and "Southern Living" approach me about doing television appearances for the magazine. "Taste of the South" approached me about being contributing editor so I left "Southern Living" and went with them for less travel and more of an opportunity to share my heart with people through a monthly column. Television producers approached me about TV shows, appearances and such. It has continued to spiral from there.

Why did all of this happen? Some folks may have other reasons but I know it was because I said "God, put me in the game. Give me a chance." And that is still what I do every day. Just get out there and do the best I can to honor Him and help others see the joy right before their very eyes. My only plans for the future are keeping that up. Where God takes that is anybody's guess, but I am grateful no matter where the road leads. Because at the end of the day, it always brings me back home.



Lovely Una with homecoming King Nick Lang and Queen Keke Greer



Judith Jackson '91 & '02 and  
Beverly Ware Wisner '65 in  
Orlando



President Bill Cale in  
homecoming parade



Dan Hendricks and Aaron Irons '99 at  
the Jack Karnes Homecoming golf tournament



## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT



This past year, the University and its Alumni chose to honor President William Cale, Jr., as the Lifetime Achievement Award Winner. President Cale came to the university almost ten years ago with his wife, BJ. When Cale took office in 2005, expectations were high for what he would contribute to this university. He far exceeded those expectations, calling on his experience from Penn State-Altoona, Lamar University, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania, to lead UNA.

Cale said, "Looking back on 10 years, we have really strengthened UNA academically. We've done it by the way we've recruited faculty. We've done it by the way we reward faculty for their scholarship and teaching, and by the programs that we have added and continue to add."

Among his contributions to this University, Cale has supported several programs including seven graduate degree programs, five baccalaureate and two program track concentrations, the university writing center, and the university success center. In addition, Cale has focused on expanding the physical footprint of the university as well with the creation of East Campus, the George S. Lindsey Theatre, the new Student Commons, the soon-to-be completed Science and Technology Building, and the future addition of new student housing on campus. While all of these projects are great for the university and show the public that the university is physically expanding, it always has and always will come down to the students. During his time at UNA, Cale has awarded over 10,000 college degrees and that is truly something to be proud of. After ten years, Cale will leave UNA with a lengthy list of amazing accomplishments behind him.

## FRIEND OF THE UNIVERSITY



**Mayor Mickey Haddock** was elected Mayor of the City of Florence, Ala., in August 2012.

He began his political career when he was elected Lauderdale County Licensed Commissioner in 1992 and was re-elected and served again in 1998, 2004, and 2010.

Previously, he was employed as a fire fighter in the Florence Fire Department and retired from the Alabama National Guard after 34 years of service. His professional activities include being a member of the Alabama Tax Administrators Association, serving as President in 2001-2002. He was also a Continuing Education Instructor for the Alabama Department of Revenue on Taxation.

During his career he officiated for five sports on the collegiate level, including football, basketball, baseball, softball, and volleyball. He also served as President of the High School Football, Baseball, and Basketball Local Associations, and President of the SEC Football Officials Association. He retired in 2010 from the SEC Football Official Full Crew where he served as SEC Crew Chief in 2004 and 2005.

His community involvement includes serving as President of the Wilson Dam League, Safeplace Board Member, American Heart Association, Downtown Kiwanis Club President, United Way Trustee, NCAA Division II Championship Committee, American Legion Member, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes Board Chairman.

Haddock and his wife, Linda Haddock, have two married sons and three grandchildren. They attend Cross Point Church in Florence, where he serves as a Deacon.



Although **Dr. Barry Morris** retired from his 34-year career as a Professor and Chairman of the Economics and Finance Departments at the University of North Alabama in 2008, he continues to serve the University and the community well into his retirement.

Dr. Morris wanted the opportunity to give back to students while doing what he loved to do, and therefore before leaving the university, he agreed to teach for an academic year and have his salary donated to a permanent endowed scholarship fund. In doing this he became an Isbell Scholar and encouraged many of his peers at the institution to do the same.

Since his retirement, he has had many successes both within and outside the University. He served as the University Foundation Director of Planned Giving, and was elected to represent District 4 in the City of Florence in 2008. Morris also serves as the Chairman of the Planning Committee and a member of the Finance Committee, as well as the City of Florence Utilities Committee.

Morris's service to both the UNA and Florence Community are evident in his years of work in both areas. He and his wife, Suzanne, have three sons: Scott, David, and Dean, and are members of the First Christian Church of Florence.

## EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



**Dr. Sheri Maples Wischusen ('78)** has dedicated her life to educating students and ensuring they have every opportunity to begin college with a firm foundation for success.

After receiving her undergraduate degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry at the University of North Alabama, she continued her education at the University of Alabama, receiving a Master of Science Degree concentrating in Cancer Biochemistry.

Dr. Wischusen's career as a Research Support Specialist began at Cornell University in New York, where she did work in Biochemistry, as well as Molecular and Cell Biology.

In 2009, Dr. Wischusen received her Doctorate of Philosophy from Louisiana State University. After serving in several research roles, she took on the position of Director of Retention in the Office of Academic Affairs.

Dr. Wischusen has served as the Co-Director of BIOS (Biology Intensive Orientation for Students), a Biology "boot camp" for incoming freshman, which has been so successful it serves as a model for other prominent Universities. Wischusen combined her background in education and research in order to effectively study the positive effects a program like BIOS has on young college students. She continues to live out her passion for serving students seeking an education in her roles as a Graduate Research Affiliate Member, Director of Undergraduate Research Education, NIH Program Coordinator, and Program Manager for First Year Student Success.

Dr. Wischusen currently resides in Baton Rouge, La., and serves as an adjunct professor at Louisiana State University.



While **Dr. Gale D. Satchel's** career emphasizes her passion for educating students, her service to the community provides students with a means of support to succeed in their educations.

Dr. Satchel began her career in Education at Jacksonville State University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree. She received her Master of Science Degree from the University of Wisconsin, where she began her service to students as an Admissions Counselor, later transitioning to the role of Academic Counselor. She received her Ed.S. in Administration from the University of North Alabama in 2006, after returning to Alabama to work as a guidance counselor at Lawrence County High School. She has served as an Academic Counselor at Northwest Shoals Community College, Interim Director for Deshler Career/Technical Center, and a guidance counselor at Deshler High School. She received her Doctor of Education degree in Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

Satchel currently operates professionally as Director of Federal Programs, Academic Competitions, and Pre-K Administrator for Colbert County Schools, where she facilitates the efficient use of funding for children to receive the best education possible through various programs.

During her time with Colbert County Schools, Dr. Satchel has been instrumental in securing new pre-k programs, raising funds for academic competitions, securing speakers for professional development programs, and reviving the reading program for the Leighton Public Library.

In addition to her roles in the workplace, she also serves as a Board Member with the Quality Assurance (QA) Committee at the Colbert County Department of Human Resources, and serves on Executive Committees for the American Cancer Society and the Healing Place. Satchel currently resides in Sheffield, Ala., with her husband Melcha Satchel, and child MJ Satchel.



**Mrs. Kimberly Weems Bell ('93)** spent several years working hands-on in her field of study before pursuing her passion of education.

After receiving her Masters of Probability and Statistics, she began her professional career as a Manufacturing Operations and Research Statistician/Quality Assurance Specialist for Monsanto in Decatur, Ala.

In 2004, she furthered her industry-related experience at Data Analysis, Inc., serving as President of Corporate Training, where she was responsible for the instruction of various data collection, analysis, and modeling courses. She has served as an instructor and guest lecturer for the SAS Institute in Cary, N.C., where she teaches statistical concepts and data analysis application to other business professionals.

Bell currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Management with Emphasis in Statistics at Athens State University. Her duties in this role include but are not limited to lead professor for College of Business statistics curriculum, developing all course syllabi for College of Business Statistics courses, and teaching in a variety of formats. She is faculty advisor for the Delta Mu Delta International Honor Society in Business.

Bell's passion for teaching students at the undergraduate level is evident in her extensive work in both the professional and educational fields. In 2013 she was awarded the "Excellence in Teaching" award from Athens State University.

Kimberly Bell currently resides in Athens, Ala., with her husband, UNA Alumni and former UNA football player Julian C. Bell and their two children.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE



**Dr. Mary Leigh Gillespie '96** is a Shoals resident and UNA Alumna who has dedicated her life to her work, her family, and her service to the community.

Dr. Gillespie received recognition for her work in Dentistry from the Heart in the Shoals and various other community efforts in the Shoals area.

Since February 2006, Dentistry from the Heart in the Shoals has donated one day of dentistry each year to the Shoals Community. In the last eight years, they have been able to help over one thousand patients, and have donated over \$300,000 in free dentistry to the Shoals community.

Among her esteemed accomplishments, Dr. Gillespie also serves as Editor-in-Chief of the UAB School of Dentistry Dental. She is the recipient of a UAB School of Dentistry Alumni Award (2002) as well as UAB School of Dentistry Outstanding young Alumnus Award (2009). Dr. Gillespie is married to **Bradley Gillespie '96** from Moulton, Ala. Together they have two children, Mary McCarley and Jack.



When it comes to active and outstanding service, **Rosalyn Fabianke '92** has had innumerable success in her endeavors. Red Bay in Alabama is the current recipient of her skills and passion. Fabianke was the project director for the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street exhibit entitled, "The Way We Worked." It was held in Red Bay from September 14-October 25 in 2013. Mrs. Fabianke was recognized for her unselfish dedication to this project and as one who embodies the American spirit of community.

She is the originator/creator of the CHOREOKENETICS program, a specialized fitness program established in 1976 in Huntsville City Schools to help children become more actively involved in physical fitness through creative programs and approaches. The program was implemented nationally through the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

She received her bachelor's degree in Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance/History from Houston Baptist University in Houston, Texas.

After several jobs as a physical fitness educator in the Houston area, as well as a position on the Texas Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness to incorporate Aerobic Dance into public school systems, she moved to Alabama and received her Elementary Physical Education Specialist Qualification from the University of Alabama at Huntsville in 1976.

Ms. Fabianke received her Master of Arts Education: Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance from UNA.

During her time in Alabama, she has served on multiple service committees, councils, and boards to help serve and better the community of Red Bay, where she still lives today.



**Jeff '64 and Pamela Browning Edwards '65** are examples of service and community involvement both during and after their time at Florence State, now the University of North Alabama.

During his enrollment here, Jeff served as Circle K President, President of Inter-Presidents' Council, Leo II Mascot, and was honored as Mr. Florence State and as the Turris Fidelis Award winner.

Pamela served as a member of the Pride of Dixie Band, ROTC Drill Team Sponsor, and a Member of the Inter-President's Council in her time here.

Both Jeff and Pamela are active in serving their church, community, and the University of North Alabama. Jeff serves as a Deacon at Green Valley Baptist Church, served as a member of the UNA Alumni Board and the UNA Planned Giving Advisory Council, and is a current member of the UNA Sportsman's Club. Pamela also serves her church as an exemplary member and Food Bank Server, a member of the UNA Alumni Board, member of Hoover Service Club, and involved member and past President of Beta Sigma Pi (a Women's Social and Service Organization).

Before retiring, Jeff worked in sales and management positions at various companies such as Metlife Insurance Company, Principle Financial Group, and American General/AIG, while Pamela worked as an Elementary Teacher in Pre-K, Kindergarten, and Second Grade programs.

Jeff and Pamela now reside in Hoover, Ala., and have two children and three grandchildren. They spend their spare time attending grandchildren's ballgames, school programs, and cheering on the UNA Lions at home and away football games.

## POLITICAL SERVICE



**Mayor Ronnie Marks '71** received his bachelor's degree from the University in the midst of his service to the National Guard. Soon after his graduation, Marks began his long standing career with the Alabama Department of Human Resources.

During his career with the Alabama Department of Human Resources, he became Regional Manager serving as the management link between the state office and 11 county welfare departments in North Alabama. He served as Project Director for the Southern Alliance of States project with Lockheed Martin, a project which served to make government-issued benefits more easily accessible by enrolling over 36,000 retailers in the program.

Marks further exemplified his passion for public service by serving as the Project Consultant/Functional Manager with the Department of Human Resource's Office of Child Day Care. He worked with the Alabama Child Day Care Subsidy Program by developing and implementing an automated child day care subsidy system.

Marks began his service on the state level by serving as field operations manager for Governor Bob Riley's Emergency Relief Fund for Hurricane Katrina victims. He served as District 4 Council Member for the City of Athens presiding over Policy, Procedures, and Budgets.

Since 2013, Ronnie Marks has served as Mayor of the City of Athens. He has administrative responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the City of Athens and oversight of the fiscal operations budgets of approximately \$100M Utilities (Electric, Gas, Water/Wastewater, Finance, Customer Service, & Warehouse). The General Fund budget is approximately \$22M (Public Works, City Clerk, Personnel, Fire, Police, Cemetery, Parks & Recreation Department.) The City of Athens currently has 360 employees.

He resides in Athens with his wife, Sandra Neal Marks. Together they have two children and two grandchildren.



**Judge Carole Coil Medley** graduated from the University of North Alabama in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education.

The Honorable Carole Faye Coil Medley serves as District Judge of Lauderdale County, located in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Alabama. Judge Medley received her law degree from Jones School of Law in Montgomery, Ala., and has accumulated over 14 years of experience as an attorney, including serving as assistant district attorney in Lauderdale County.

Medley started practicing law in 1996 in Florence, focusing on domestic relations and family law. In 2008, Governor Bob Riley appointed Carole Medley to district judge, an appointment which she says was the "greatest honor" of her career.

In 2012, Judge Medley made history in being the first Republican candidate to win a county race in Lauderdale County. She won the election with nearly 59 percent of the overall vote.

Judge Medley says she believes in making the courts more accessible to everyone, and that she strives to bring efficiency and fairness to the court through hard work and dedication.

Medley is married to Keith Medley and they have a son. She is a member of the Florence Rotary club and the Shoals Chamber of Commerce.

## PROMISING ALUMNI



**Christian J. Bayens**, a Physics major with a minor in Mathematics from Auburn, Ala., has served as the President of Alpha Tau Omega and the Society of Physics Students, and is a member of the LaGrange Society and Honors Program. He is as member of Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Mu Epsilon, Phi Eta Sigma/Alpha Lambda Delta.



**Samantha Fotovich** is a senior majoring in Elementary Education from Hazel Green, Ala. She served as this year's Head SOAR Counselor and is a former member of both the LaGrange Society and Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority.



**Jordan Graham** is a senior in Business Administration from Mount Olive, Ala. He has served as a Resident Advisor and is an active member of SGA. Jordan has been honored with memberships to the International Foreign Language Honors Society, Phi Sigma Iota.



## PROMISING ALUMNI



**Dillon Green** is a senior from Florence majoring in Foreign Languages. He has served as a Resident Advisor, is involved in the Honors Program, and has participated in SOAR, UPC, and LaGrange Society. He holds membership in Phi Kappa Phi and was a member of Homecoming Court 2012.



**KeKoria Greer** is a senior from Birmingham graduating with a degree in Public Relations. She serves as Student Government President, has served as a Resident Advisor and LaGrange Society member, and is a member of Phi Mu Sorority.



**Bianca Mitchell** is a senior from Huntsville graduating in Education with a concentration in P-3 Certification. She has served in Presidential Mentors Academy, LaGrange Society, UPC, K-6 Organization, and the P-3 Elementary Organization.

## MILITARY SERVICE



**Charles W. Brown '65** graduated from Florence State College. Upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate, he accepted a Regular Army Commission. While serving as platoon leader with Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, he was deployed from Schofield Barrack, Hawaii, to the Republic of South Vietnam. During this tour in 1966 he was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor, Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Brown served as the lead officer in developing a psychological warfare campaign using the "Ace of Spades" as a calling card against the Viet Cong. The story of Lt. Brown's success in the campaign was reported in the June 14, 1966 issue of the Congressional Record. In 2007, the story was published again in the Vietnam magazine, giving details of the campaign and its effectiveness.

After a one-year tour with the 18th Airborne Corp at Ft. Bragg, N.C., in 1968, Brown transferred to the 8th Special Forces Group and attended the Defense Language Institute in Washington, D.C., to train in the Spanish language for six months. He led a Mobile Training Team to the Nicaraguan Military Academy in Managua, Nicaragua, for training in urban military tactics.

In 1970, Lt. Brown transferred to the 20th Special Forces Group in Huntsville, Ala., and served with the Alabama National Guard for five years as A-Team and B-Team Intelligence and Operations Officer. Five years later, he was transferred to the US Army Reserves and assigned to the Lauderdale County Civil Defense Office as an advisor in Emergency Management. He retired as Lieutenant Colonel. In 1993 with 28 years of service and received Meritorious Service Award.

He is married to Nancy Ann Clemons Brown; they have two children and four grandchildren.



**Lieutenant Colonel Paul R. Haverstick, Jr. '96** received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication from the University of North Alabama. He began his service as a platoon leader in Fort Stewart, Georgia, where he was selected ahead of his peers to be a training officer for an Air Defense Artillery Battalion. His leadership led him to Fort Campbell, Ky., where he was deployed to command an Avenger/Stinger battery during the invasion of Iraq. During his deployment, he was responsible for the health and welfare of 95 personnel who successfully coordinated and carried out missions to secure a major intersection in Baghdad.

After Iraq, he returned to the United States and was stationed in Fort Polk, La., where he served as Observer and Controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center, responsible for the coaching, teaching, and mentoring of 20 platoons and one artillery battery. Lt. Col. Haverstick was imperative in the training and selecting of units for short notice deployment, while also training over 6,000 participants in course of action study.

He was once again sent overseas, this time to Kabul, Afghanistan, to serve as Public Affairs planner for combined Forces Command – Afghanistan Public Affairs Directorate. Here, he was responsible for plans and operations in CFC-A which consisted of over 18,000 personnel and 22 coalition partners in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He returned to serve as Director of Current Operations in Arlington, Va., for the U.S. Army's Media Center, leading to his transfer to Mannheim, Germany, as Director of Operations for a joint-service broadcasting organization by providing timely and targeted news.

Haverstick's most recent move was to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he serves as Director of Communication and primary spokesperson for the 1st Infantry Division and Combined Joint Task Force.

## FACULTY / STAFF SERVICE



**Dr. Brentley Olive '94** is an experienced and dedicated professional, who worked for several years in his field before returning to the University of North Alabama. He received a MSPH and Doctorate in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Olive accepted a brief position soon after receiving his Masters as an instructor at UNA in "Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene," but soon decided to extend his professional development as an Environmental Research Scientist for the Global Environment and Technology foundation in Annandale, Va.

After several years of serving as an Industrial Hygienist in Birmingham, Ala., for Environmental Safety and Health Services, he moved to Atlanta, Ga., where he would serve as an Environmental Chemist for SpawnTech, Inc. There, he served the United Nations Special Commission as a Technical Expert during Chemical Weapon inspections in Iraq. He accepted a position as an Environmental Consultant for Geophex Sensors, Ltd., to oversee instrument manufacturing, evaluation, installation, and service.

Olive serves as the Department Chair for the Chemistry and Industrial Hygiene Department. He also serves the UNA Community as a member of the Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee and as the UNA Christian Student Advisor.

Olive and his wife Kimberly live in Florence with their five children.



**Dr. Claudia Vance '90** is dedicated to the education and success of her students in the Department of Foreign Languages at the University.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from the University of North Alabama, she earned her Masters in Spanish and Latin American Literature from the University of Alabama in 1992.

In 1996, Dr. Vance accepted a position at her alma mater as Assistant Professor of Spanish, where her passion for serving and teaching students became evident among the UNA community. During her first few years here at UNA, she practiced a dedicated policy to work with students by serving as a tutor in several facets of the University.

In May 1999, she received her Ph.D. in Spanish and Latin American Literature with a minor in French Literature from the University of Alabama. Dr. Vance became an Associate Professor of Spanish, teaching courses such as Elementary and Intermediate Spanish, Spanish Conversation and Composition, and Latin American Civilization/Culture.

Vance is committed to the ongoing success of her students, and continues to modify course content in order to keep her classes both interesting and current in the way of teaching styles as well as material. In recent years she has offered study abroad trips for Spanish majors to Costa Rica and Mexico, and she has developed multiple new curriculums involving internship opportunities and advanced learning for foreign language disciplines.

She mentors students taking the Spanish Senior Seminar course. As a result, students' scoring has risen an average of 17.25% from the initial tests taken at the beginning of the semester.

Dr. Vance has been awarded many honors, including Outstanding Professor of the Year, Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching Award, and three inclusions in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* as "The Most Influential Teacher From Their Academic Experience" by former students.

## PROMISING ALUMNI



**Randall Phifer** is the Network Services Manager for the Computer Center at UNA and will graduate in the spring. He is from Tusculumbia, Ala.



**Undrea Randolph II** is a senior Public Relations major from Huntsville, Ala. He serves as an Interim Student Advisor for the Student Media Department and is involved in the Public Relations club PRIDE.



#### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Larry '89 and Elaine '86 Softley, *President*  
 Douglas Hargett '02, *President Elect*  
 Michelle Eubanks '96, *Vice President*  
 Aaron Irons '99, *2nd Vice President*  
 Linda Vaughan '70, *Secretary*  
 Lucy Trousedale '89, *Treasurer*  
 Pat Burney '88, *Club Advisor*  
 Pat Roden '77, *Faculty Advisor*  
 William Smith '89, *Presidents Advisor*  
 Jan Ingle '85, *Public Relations*  
 Rod Sheppard '98, '04 & '07, *Past President*  
 Carol Lyles '70, *Director of Alumni Relations*

#### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gloria Aday '70  
 Sarah Beth '04 and Ben Alexander  
 Bucky Beaver '64  
 Bart Black '95  
 Mark Blackburn '75  
 Andy Betterton '75  
 Anna Wilson Burnley '97  
 Derrick Chatman '08  
 Tim Finley '76  
 Katherine Fowler Stone '02 & '04  
 Chad '02 and Julie Greenhaw '04  
 Brad Holmes '02  
 Levon Humphrey '93  
 Andy '92 and Nicki Mann '94  
 Jonathan McKinney '02  
 Ryan Moore '00  
 Jean McIntyre '65  
 Jimmy Shaw '01, '06 & '08  
 Christa Raney '97  
 Kin Taylor '94  
 Maria and Brad Warren '00  
 Kim West '08  
 Cheron White '98

#### UNA ALUMNI CLUB LEADERS

##### Alabama

Holly Hollman '96, *Athens*  
 Elaine Witt '76, *Colbert County*  
 Eve Rhea '02, *Greater Birmingham Area*  
 Patrick Johnson '99, *Decatur*  
 Heath Daily, *Russellville*  
 Ryan '01 and Lisa Clayton '00, *Florence*  
 Larry Allen '75, *Huntsville*  
 Stan Mannon '85, *Mountain Lakes*  
 Jim Page '01, *Tuscaloosa*  
 Lindsay Ronilo '06, *Montgomery*  
 Jim Langcuster '82, *Auburn*

##### Florida

Maury Shipper '78, *Jacksonville*  
 Lawrence Davis '80, *Orlando*

##### Georgia

Carnette Johnson '83, *Greater Atlanta Area*

##### Mississippi

Amanda Everett '74, *Jackson Area*  
 Patty '80 and Mike Byers '79  
 Leigh '03 & John '00 Prince, *Northeast Miss*

##### Tennessee

Katie Todd '10, *Greater Nashville Area*  
 Coleman Barron '14

##### Texas

Charles Inman '71, *West Texas*  
 Tommy McNeill '69, *Houston*  
 Paul Smith '66, *Dallas Metroplex*

##### Departmental

Jeff McCrary '83, *UNA Band*  
 Paul Michael '05, *Geography*  
 Stacy Childers '01, *Social Work*

## message from the ALUMNI PRESIDENT



Larry Softley, '89, and '08

I bring you greetings on behalf of the UNA Alumni Association. We want you to stay connected with UNA and join an Alumni Club. We have over 34 Alumni clubs reaching from Florence, to China, and if there is not one in your area, start one! The Office of Alumni Relations offers forms and can readily assist you with the process. I urge you to stay involved with the place that helped build your foundation and stay connected. Being involved is not always about giving money; sometimes it is about giving of your time, and/or suggesting this University to a prospective student.

You may wonder, what does the Alumni Association do? Our mission is to locate, recognize, and recruit alumni, provide for job placement for our students and alumni, and provide scholarships for our students. The alumni association is your networking group to stay in touch with the University.

There are some very exciting things happening at UNA, such as the new Science and Technology Building and the new dormitories that will be opening in the fall of 2015. Please join us and other alumni at the April 25 Alumni Leadership Summit at the university. You will have the opportunity to attend networking sessions that will educate you about exciting changes to the campus. We encourage you to take the lead in your local alumni clubs. During the Summit, there will be events planned for all ages (including Little Lions Day Camp activities).

Once you have conquered your dreams and you have reached a big milestone, remember where you came from: the **University of North Alabama**. Tell them where you are from, remember your mascot; it is not a duck, elephant, tiger, bear, or even an eagle—it is a lion, and the last time I checked the lion is the King of the Jungle! Be proud to wear the purple and gold—that's **Lion Pride!**

#### I encourage you to do the following:

- Get active with the nearest UNA Alumni Club
- "Like" Alumni pages on Facebook, both the association page and your local club page
- Attend university events (athletic, social, reunions, etc.)
- Identify yourself with the University of North Alabama LinkedIn
- Follow UNA on Twitter
- Update your Alumni information in the UNA OnLion Community

So college days swiftly pass and the recollection slowly fades away—but make the UNA Alumni Association a part of your lifelong commitment in giving of your time and resources back to your alma mater.

May God bless each of you, your families, and this university.

**Thank You,  
Larry Softley, '89 and '08**

*UNA Alumni Association President 2014-2015*



Ron Wright '70, Dan Hendricks, David '84 and Joanne Horton '74 & '78 in Auburn



Josh and Ginger Willingham with sons



Ches Dye '07 and Megan Lovelace in Auburn



Barbie Terry and Joe Wallace '73 & '77 in Orlando



Douglas and Rhonda Miles Ingram '77 in Memphis



Coleman Barron '14 and Stanley Blue '85 with wife in Memphis



University of  
NORTH ALABAMA  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Music & Theatre

# Summer Theatre

PRESENT

# TRUE WEST

by Sam Shepard  
**JUNE 19-27**

**DIRECTOR**  
Randal Myler

**ACTORS**  
Myk Watford  
Brian Sloan  
Charlton James

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
SUMMER THEATRE  
call 256-765-5122  
or visit [una.edu/music-theatre](http://una.edu/music-theatre)





## UNA ALUM CHARLES ANDERSON RECEIVES HORATIO ALGER AWARD

By Bryan Rachal, *University Communications*

Entrepreneur, philanthropist and University of North Alabama alumnus **Charles C. Anderson, Sr. '56**, is a recipient of the 2015 Horatio Alger Award. These annual awards from the Horatio Alger Association recognize exceptional leaders who have a commitment to philanthropy and higher education, and who have overcome significant personal challenges to achieve success. Anderson joins an esteemed group of just over 200 living members.

Dr. Dan Hendricks, UNA vice president for advancement, said that

Anderson is a shining example of what a graduate of UNA can become with hard work and determination. "We are so proud of Mr. Anderson and his accomplishments. He has always been a great ambassador, friend and supporter of this institution, and we know his achievements will continue to bring recognition to Alabama, the Shoals and of course, the University of North Alabama."

*Excerpts from press release from the Horatio Alger Association:*

**WASHINGTON, D.C. • December 4, 2014**

Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc., a nonprofit educational organization honoring the achievements of outstanding individuals and encouraging youth to pursue their dreams through higher education, announced that **Charles C. Anderson Sr., chairman emeritus, Anderson Companies**, has been selected for membership in the prestigious organization. Mr. Anderson joins eleven other accomplished business and civic leaders from across North America in receiving this honor in 2015. Since its establishment in 1947, the Horatio Alger Award is annually bestowed upon renowned leaders who have succeeded, despite facing adversity, and who are committed to both philanthropy and higher education.

Mr. Anderson was born in Florence, Ala., to hard-working, middle-class parents. His father built a newsstand made from piano boxes and sold newspapers to support his family, eventually becoming successful enough to move the stand into a small storefront. Mr. Anderson grew up learning his father's business and after graduating from the University of North Alabama with a marketing degree, he entered the family business full-time. The company continued to experience success and quickly expanded to wider distribution beyond the single storefront. In addition to newspapers and books, the business also began selling fireworks during the holiday season. The rapid growth of the fireworks business triggered Mr. Anderson to start a new company focused on importing fireworks and other merchandise. In 1964, he formed a sourcing company in Hong Kong that today is one of the largest exporters of fireworks in China. Each of Mr. Anderson's businesses, including the core media business, grew rapidly in the 1970s and 1980s and under his influential

and visionary leadership, four separate companies emerged – Anderson Media, TNT Fireworks, Books-A-Million, and Anderson Press. Today, Mr. Anderson serves as chairman emeritus of the Anderson family-founded portfolio of companies.

"Mr. Anderson's accomplishments, work ethic and vision for his family's business deeply reflect the principles of Horatio Alger," said Tony Novelty, president and CEO, Horatio Alger Association and 2000 Horatio Alger Award recipient. "We speak often of the American Dream and Mr. Anderson's life truly captures the power of that dream as he has achieved incomparable professional success while also becoming a role model for the power of philanthropy in this nation."

Given the nature of his family's first business, Mr. Anderson and his wife, Hilda, are dedicated to improving literacy in the United States. A compassionate leader in his own community and beyond, Mr. Anderson has served on the boards of numerous organizations including the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, First United Bancorp, and Heritage Trust Fund. A longtime supporter of the Salvation Army, he was a member of its National Advisory Board, and he previously served as a charter member of the Shoals Economic Development Authority Board. Mr. Anderson is also a member of the President's Cabinet at the University of North Alabama, his alma mater, and was named Alumni of the Year in 1979. He was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2002 and the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2011.

In accepting this honor, Mr. Anderson commented, "I am very grateful to be selected for this prestigious award and I am deeply humbled to join such an extraordinary list of Horatio Alger Association Members. To be

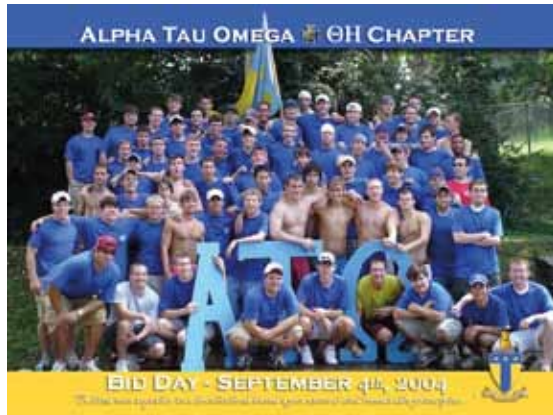
welcomed into an Association that supports the pursuit of education, which I feel so strongly about, is a wonderful opportunity. I look forward to supporting this vital mission of the Association and helping outstanding and deserving students to pursue their own American Dreams."

In addition to presenting its annual award, Horatio Alger Association administers one of the largest privately-funded scholarship programs for students in the United States and Canada. These students, like the Members, have faced significant adversities, but have persevered and are determined to overcome life's challenges. Scholarships are wholly funded through private donations from Members, Life Partners and friends, and since 1984, the Association has provided more than \$100 million to promising students in need.

Mr. Anderson and the Member Class of 2015 were officially welcomed into the organization during the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Horatio Alger Award Induction Ceremonies in Washington, D.C., April 9-11, 2015.







# THE BONDS OF BROTHERHOOD

By Brett Trapp '05

I landed in Tokyo yesterday, after a 14-hour flight from Atlanta. Woke up this morning in my one-bedroom apartment, rolled over, and grabbed my iPhone. It was the end of the work day in America. I opened Twitter and looked up the trending topics to see if I'd missed any big news. I noticed #SAEhatesme was trending. I got that sick feeling in the pit of my stomach that I get when fraternity guys are in the news . . . again . . . for doing something awful. I didn't know the story but SAE (short for Sigma Alpha Epsilon) was at the center of the firestorm. Seems like fraternity men lately have had a knack for making old fraternity men like me cringe in shame. I clicked on the first link I found and watched a bus full of University of Oklahoma fraternity guys singing a racist chant. I just put my phone down. I was sick.

I'm here in Tokyo doing the tourist thing for a few days, then here for a week of business. My friend from college, **Hiroyuki Yamamoto ('07)**, met me at the airport. I've known Hiro since 2003 but this is my first time visiting him in his country. We planned to hang out in Tokyo on my first night here so he had everything planned out. He took off from work and traveled 400 miles to Tokyo to help get this clueless Alabamian safely from the airport into downtown Tokyo. He bought my \$25 train ticket into the city even though I offered to pay for his. When we got off the train he quickly snatched my 50-pound bag away from me, insisting he carry

it for me through the subway and city streets.

"You're my guest, Brett," he told me.



He coordinated with my Japanese Airbnb host and mapped out our subway ride to the apartment before I arrived. After we dropped off my bags, we took a train to a local Japanese restaurant where Hiro had already made a reservation. For four years of college, we took Hiro to every barbeque, Mexican, and Southern cooking joint in north Alabama. But now, finally, I got to eat on his terms. I had the fried pork and green tea. It was delicious. But I must have winced when I tried the shredded radish.

"You don't have to eat everything," Hiro said,

smiling. I tried to pay for dinner, but again, Hiro wouldn't have it.

Next, we took the train to the Tokyo Tower where Hiro bought us tickets to ascend 1091 feet to the top observation deck for night-time views of the entire city. There's nothing quite like seeing Tokyo at night. But after a while, Hiro began to sense my jetlag.

"You need bed, Brett," he told me, pointing in the direction of the elevator back down.

Hiro made sure I made it back to my apartment safely. Then he went to the bus station where he would begin his six-hour bus ride back home, overnight. He would get in early in the morning, grab a quick shower, then be at his accounting job by 9 a.m.

For those of us who know Hiro, this isn't really surprising. Hiro was and is my fraternity brother. In the fall of 2003, our chapter of Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) at the University of North Alabama pledged three guys from Japan—Junya, Taka, and Hiro. This was pretty unusual for a mostly white, Southern fraternity in Alabama, but we all loved the guys during the recruitment process. The chapter embraced them quickly, but it was Hiro that seemed to be everywhere—every party, every football game, every road trip, every spring break, every golf outing, every charity event, every ski trip to Colorado, every Homecoming event.

Pretty much everywhere, Hiro was just another brother and every guy in the chapter loved him. And Hiro loved it too. He was the star of our pirate-themed Step Sing one year. He learned to water ski, and he loved it. He asked if he could ski in a Superman costume. Of course, we said yes. Then he asked if he could ski in a pirate costume, then an Elvis costume. We took tons of pictures, of course. And he loved sending them back to his family in Japan. Hiro was a very good brother.

Then in 2007, when Hiro graduated, we all made the hour drive to the airport in Huntsville to see him off. His plan was always to go to school in America, then move back to Japan for work. I wish you could have seen 20 fraternity guys, in their khaki shorts, boat shoes, and fraternity t-shirts trying not to cry (and mostly failing) in that airport, saying their goodbyes. It was something else.

I got dressed this morning and launched out into the streets of Tokyo looking for breakfast. I was still thinking about that SAE video, still bothered. I opened Twitter and saw a post from my friend Sam Satterfield. Sam's an undergrad ATO at UNA. His post was short, simple, and poignant. All it said was "To know man as man . . ."

I knew exactly what Sam meant.

That phrase is an excerpt from the ATO creed. ATO was founded by three young cadets at the Virginia Military Institute exactly 150 years ago. They started the fraternity to reunite a nation deeply divided after the Civil War. They crafted the ATO Creed, a sort of mission statement for the fraternity. Part of that statement says, "To know no North, no South, no East, no West, but to know man as man." It's

a plea to just accept men for who they are, ignoring the things that make them different, and recognizing that spark of humanity that makes them the same. It's always been really beautiful to me. And it meant a lot that Sam thought to post that on a day when, once again, fraternity guys are on the front page of national news sites for acting like jackasses.

I've been involved in the fraternal movement for nearly 15 years, and it's been one of the richest experiences of my life. I served as chapter president as an undergrad, and it was the greatest leadership tutorial I've ever had. My fraternity brothers gave me a vault of incredible college memories, and I still count those guys as my closest friends to this day. I graduated ten years ago, so my Facebook feed is now filled with 30+ aging fraternity guys getting married and nuzzling their newborns. I'm currently on the national Board of Directors for Alpha Tau Omega. I sit around that board table with a lot of white-haired alumni board members—men who are legends in business and life. They're some of the best men I know, and they give me hope for the fraternity Greek system. Wynn Smiley, ATO's unbelievable CEO, gives me hope for the Greek system as well. Guys like Sam and all the other undergrads in the Theta Eta chapter of ATO at UNA give me hope too. They are a constant force for good in the Florence community. There are a lot of us working really hard to right the ship—casting off the stereotypes, educating our brothers, and getting back to our fraternal roots which are actually quite noble. Some days I have hope, and other days, like today, it's harder.

**I'm writing this to let everyone know that this 30-something white frat guy thinks those guys in Oklahoma were wrong...**

**That it's not okay...**

**And that racism is disgusting.**

I don't think it's helpful to join the raging online mob calling for the heads of those guys on that bus. My guess is that those bros haven't suffered much in life. And they don't know what it's like to feel small, insignificant, less than. And it makes me sad that they'll never have an African American brother, or a Hispanic brother, or a Japanese brother who will buy them fried pork on the streets of

Tokyo. Those guys were 100% wrong, but I don't think you fight hate with hate. We fight it by loving harder—by simply being better brothers and being better humans.

When done right, fraternity can be an atomic force for good in our culture, truly shaping boys into men. I know that's true because I've seen it with my own eyes. I've seen the value of diversity and the strength it brings to an organization. I'm better off for having welcomed guys like Hiro into our chapter. I hope other chapters will do the same in the future.

**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Love and Respect,

**Brett Trapp '05**

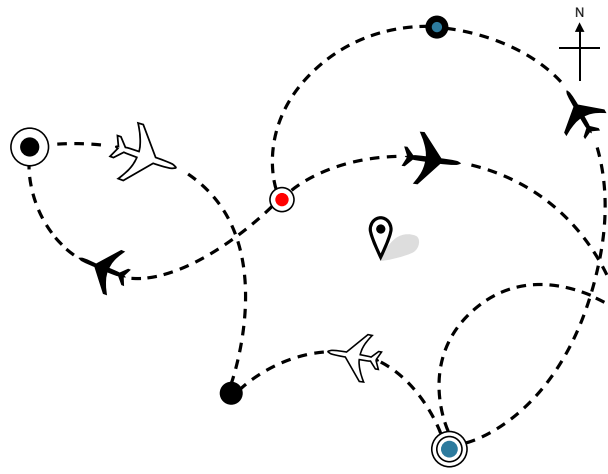
University of North Alabama

P.S. I'm dedicating this article to Hiro and all my diverse ATO brothers from my time at UNA. In their honor, I'm wearing their names on my hand today while I'm in Tokyo. It's small and mostly insignificant. But I just want to remind them that I'm proud of them, I love them, they are accepted, and they belong.

*This article was written by UNA graduate, Brett Trapp ('05). Brett was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity while at the university, serving as its chapter president twice. He was also selected as a Promising Alumni and was awarded the Turris Fidelis award. Brett currently lives in Atlanta, Ga., where he is the Executive Vice President of Client Experience for the Boosterthon Fun Run. Booster hosts fitness-based fundraisers at 1500 elementary schools around the country. This year, Brett's media team is traveling to six different countries to produce a series of character-building short films that 1.1 million American students will view next year.*

*This article originally appeared on Facebook as a response to the national coverage of racist actions shown by some fraternity men at the University of Oklahoma. We are reprinting it here with his permission.*





## UNA GRADUATES IN FARAWAY PLACES

By Hadley Skalnik, *Student Writer*



Last July, 4,000 people met in Portland, Ore., for the fourth annual World Domination Summit. This conference brought together dreamers who intend to live their lives more passionately and remarkably through service. And while this conference inspired all of those in attendance to live out their dreams of helping others, it provided four attendees with the tools to help make their non-profit dreams a reality.

**Bethany Oliver ('10)**, a UNA alumna and current University Student Engagement employee, was one of those four recipients. Out of hundreds of people interviewed, the conference team decided to help Bethany achieve her non-profit idea.

"Because the fine people of the World Domination Summit believe in my program idea, they are providing me with a nonprofit coach to serve as a resource throughout the development process," Bethany said on her blog. But her mentor wouldn't be all: Bethany has been given the opportunity to travel with Carpe Diem Education, a non-profit organization with various programs for students that focus on experiential education, community, and intercultural exchange.

And what was Bethany's idea? "I want to create a program for teenage girls that helps them develop themselves as a leader (in self-confidence, independence, relationships, etc.) through traveling." Bethany believes that by empowering young women through unique travel experiences will enable them to make positive choices throughout their lifetime.

Currently, Bethany serves as the Assistant Director of Leadership and Volunteerism at the university. She attributes her non-profit idea in large part to her experience with Alternative Breaks. Her interactions with students while they are in their first few years of college have inspired her to create this program. "I want young women to feel like the sky is the limit before they start seeking out a college, career, or next step in their journey."

When asked about Alternative Breaks, Bethany says that she believes the program is a step in the right direction for educating and empowering young students. "I truly, 100% believe in the Alternative Breaks program that I get to advise as a staff member at UNA. We take university breaks and travel to other communities to provide a service based on a specific social issue and then figure out how we can bring what we've done back into our own community. I've seen this program impact a number of students in a positive way."

Bethany's experience with World Domination Summit is due in large part to the hard work and encouragement of two other University Alumni, **Wes ('06)** and **Tera Wages ('07)**. "Ironically, the folks behind WDS have direct ties to the Shoals and UNA communities. Wes and Tera Wages have been on the conference staff since it started as the lead photographer and videographer. Ever since the first WDS conference, they've been putting a bug in my ear about going, so that's where the initial interest developed."

Wes and Tera Wages are the owners and operators of Armosa Studios. The couple were contacted by the creators of World Domination Summit, and have become an integral part of the conference. Tera Wages said, "We jumped into the World Domination Summit on the inaugural year, back in 2011. The leaders had seen our recent travel videos and wanted us to come do the photos and video for the event. This coming year will be our fifth year documenting the event, and we have become a part of the core team for planning." Tera describes the event as an inspiring, passionate experience in which those who attend leave motivated to live fuller, more enriching lives.

"World Domination Summit brings together people who are dreamers, living unconventionally, or just living remarkable lives exactly where they are

planted," Wages said of the Portland, Ore.-originated event, which typically lasts four days each July.

Currently, Bethany is working towards making her non-profit dreams come to life with the help of her non-profit coach and her supporters from World Domination Summit. She also says her support from the community at WDS didn't end after the plane ride home. "Weekly, I receive encouraging messages from people that I never met face to face, but they saw the video of the program I'm starting and felt the need to reach out. After being pulled on stage and given the tools to make a huge dream come true, I gained about 3,000 cheerleaders who are genuinely supporting me throughout the process," she said.

However, the majority of her work will start with some fine details. "Moving forward with the travel program,

I am in the process of completing the documentation to ensure that I am recognized as a 501c3 nonprofit organization."

Overall, Bethany credits the World Domination experience as the main reason she found her purpose in life: to help educate young women in a profound way. "I plan to take the experiences and lessons that I learn from traveling with Carpe Diem to put together successful programs that can soon be opened up to recruit participants. The beauty of a program such as this is that I will continue to have the opportunity to travel and network with organizations and individuals across the globe to ensure that we are offering the best learning experiences possible for these women."



Katie Todd '10

**Katie Todd ('10)** received her degree in Communications from the university in 2010. Since then, Katie has worked as a sales representative for Dell, and has served as the Assistant Director of Admissions for the Art Institute of Tennessee in Nashville. This past year, Katie felt led to pursue a very different element in education: this time, her job would take her all the way to East Asia for a six-month job teaching English to students.

Katie said her experience in the Department of Communications at the university has influenced her experiences overseas far more than she can explain. "I would not necessarily say that it was a factor in my decision to serve internationally, but it has helped tremendously being an effective communicator," Katie said.

Currently, Katie is serving in a U.S. Organization which allows her to teach English in five different universities in Taiwan. "I primarily teach English Bible classes, but also family life education. I meet during the week with students and just build relationships with them." Katie said her ultimate goal is to build relationships with those she teaches, and that her experiences in East Asia have been influenced exponentially by the friendships she has built overseas.

When asked about travel abroad and its effect on students in a higher education setting, Katie enthusiastically supports the idea. "I did not study abroad while at UNA," Katie said. She then elaborated on her feelings about study abroad programs being more available at the university to students. "I think that's awesome and support it 100%. I have met many students studying abroad while being over here and think this would definitely be something beneficial for UNA to incorporate into their courses."

Katie has enjoyed her time in East Asia so much, she chose to extend her contract with her company and stay longer. She will continue to teach English in various universities, and says of her experience so far: "I came here and literally fell in love with this city and people. I was originally only staying here for six months, but after much prayer I felt that there was need for me to extend my time to another six months . . . I'm so thankful I have been able to experience it."





## THIS FALL, THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM AT UNA IS THROWING A PARTY ... AND **YOU ARE INVITED!** **HONORS @ 10**

It's been ten years since the Honors Program at UNA was founded, but a true campus-wide Honors Program was a long time coming. It began in the 1980s with a dream shared by the late Professor Eleanor Gaunder and Professor Emeritus Tom Osborne, but it wasn't until 2005 that newly installed President William G. Cale, Jr., created the Honors Program as his first major executive action. "It was both an exhilarating and anxious moment," said Dr. Vince Brewton, founding Director of the Honors Program. "We had no curriculum, no building, no staff, no endowment, and no students," he remembers. "Thanks to the leadership of Presidents Cale, Thornell, and Vice President Calhoun, today we have all those things and are on an incredibly solid foundation."

The Honors Program brought its first class to campus that fall – thirty students who were following a dream of their own

and laid the foundation for the University Honors Program. They built it.

**Katie Gurley '09** was a member of the first Honors class in 2005. Now a media buyer at an advertising agency in Birmingham, Katie reflects: "As a media professional, getting out of my comfort zone and getting to know people on a personal level is something that is vital to my career. The Program really taught me how to do that. And I cannot even express how important it was and is to me to be able to call on the members and professors associated with the Program."

Since its inception, the Honors Program has offered students small class sizes, co-curricular and extracurricular programming, numerous social and cultural events, scholarship opportunities, support for study abroad and internships, and a place to call home in the living/learning center of Lafayette Honors Hall, located in the heart of UNA's campus.



Katie Gurley '09



Raleigh Green '10



Kaitlin Ashley Roland '13



Ethan Cagle '12



Allyson Hilliard '12

College of Business and 2010 Honors Program graduate **Raleigh Green '10** works in credit analysis in the Shoals and remembers the Honors Program as crucial to his college choice: "When I received my acceptance package from the Honors Program, I began to reconsider UNA as a top choice. It was a chance to challenge myself as well as make my mark on something new and evolving at the university." Honors senior Miracle Osborne, pursuing a career in international development after a semester in Spain, agrees: "I can confidently say that the UNA Honors Program was definitely what made me choose UNA."

The current curriculum of the Honors Program begins with the end in mind. "Our focus is on making sure our graduates will be successful five years out by emphasizing intellectual and professional development in ways that don't become dated," said Dr. Brewton. "It's a process, but over time, we've put in place a curriculum that includes civic engagement through service, experiential learning, research, and experience with other cultures." As over 90% of Honors Program graduates are working full time

or pursuing graduate work in their fields, the process seems to be paying off.

While in the Honors Program, **Kaitlin Ashley Roland '13** won a national honors award for her research into literacy pedagogy conducted at Kilby School. Today she is a teacher in the Madison City Schools. About the Program's impact on her career, she says: "Towards the end of my college experience, I applied to one job, and I was offered that job just days after I graduated college. I truly believe that my research and experience in the Honors Program at UNA made my résumé stand out. Each day, I am able to apply the skills and knowledge gained through my time as an Honors student at UNA."

What began in 2005 with a small group of students who bought into a dream has today grown into a thriving program with more than 300 students from a dozen states. In the fall of 2014, the Honors Program admitted a record cohort of 99 students – more than 10% of UNA's freshman class – and applications for fall 2015 are already at a record level. "Our program has really grown in the last few years," said Honors Assistant Director

Dr. Melissa Driskell. "We are very excited to begin offering innovative science courses in 2015-2016 that will be taught in the new science building."

"Life is competitive," says **Ethan Cagle '12**, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry. "No matter your choice of career, you will always have to compete to succeed. The Honors Program provided a positive competitive environment that fostered the development of skills needed to thrive in the professional world."

College of Nursing and Honors graduate **Allyson Hilliard '12** is an RN and Case Manager at Vanderbilt Hospital. The Honors Program was pivotal in her choice of career: "I chose a Nursing major after attending a truly inspirational Honors presentation. The program is small enough that familiar faces follow and motivate you throughout your college years, yet it provides enough diversity to act as a fantastic source of networking."

This fall the Honors Program will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as it brings in a record-breaking class. The HP is throwing a party – and they want you to be there.





#### CHLOE RICHARDS 2014 HONORS

Five-time Gulf South Conference Player of the Week in 2014  
 First-team All-Gulf South Conference  
 Gulf South Conference Player of the Year  
 First-team Daktronics All-South Region  
 Daktronics South Region Player of the Year  
 First-team NSCAA All-South Region  
 First-team Daktronics All-American  
 Daktronics Division II Women's Soccer National Player of the Year  
 First-team BennettRank All-American  
 Led NCAA Division II in four statistical categories

## UNA'S RICHARDS IS NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

University of North Alabama junior Chloe Richards of Cornwall, England, was selected as the 2014 Daktronics Division II Women's Soccer National Player of the Year in voting by the division's sports information directors.

Richards led the NCAA Division II with 26 goals scored this season and 57 total points. She helped lead UNA to a 14-4-1 record and into the Division II South Region Tournament. She was also selected first-team All-Gulf South Conference, GSC Player of the Year, first-team Daktronics All-South Region, Daktronics South

Region Player of the Year first-team Daktronics All-American and first-team BennettRank All-American.

Richards becomes the second UNA women's soccer player to earn the Daktronics National Player of the Year honors, joining former Lion **Chloe Roberts '13** who was selected 2011.

In her three seasons at UNA, Richards has now scored 41 goals and added 12 assists. She already ranks as the fourth leading scorer in school history.



## UNA'S MAYHALL IS ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN®

University of North Alabama junior wide receiver Lee Mayhall of Jackson, Tenn., was named to the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Division II football team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Only 24 players from the 168 Division II schools were named first-team Academic All-America® and Mayhall, who has a 4.0 cumulative grade point average in Industrial Hygiene, is one of just two student-athletes on the first-team with a 4.0 GPA.

Despite missing the last two games of the 2014 season due to injury, Mayhall caught 25 passes for 287 yards in 2014 and averaged 11.5 yards per reception. He was also the holder on all field goal and extra-point attempts and was selected second-team All-Gulf South Conference by the league's head coaches.

In his three seasons at UNA, Mayhall has caught 83 passes for 1,053 yards and seven touchdowns. He previously earned Academic All-Gulf South Conference honors in 2013 and was a first-team Capital One Academic All-District 2 pick this fall.

Mayhall becomes the 20th UNA student-athlete in all sports to earn Academic All-America® honors and is just the eighth Lion to be a first-team selection.

The Capital One Division II Academic All-America® program is being financially supported by the NCAA Division II national governance structure to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspects for the 2014-15 Division II Academic All-America® teams program.







# UNA ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTS

DELINE, LORD, MOORE, NINOVA, VAUGHN and WILLIAMS as Class of 2014



Cliff Lord '99, Amber Deline '03, Barry "Buck" Williams '91, Yana Ninova Johnson '04, Jason Vaughn '04 and Hamp Moore '84

The UNA Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2014 included the women's basketball program's all-time leading scorer **Amber Deline**, baseball All-American **Cliff Lord**, two-time All-GSC football lineman **Hamp Moore**, volleyball All-American **Yana Ninova Johnson**, men's basketball three-point phenom **Barry "Buck" Williams** and men's golf All-American **Jason Vaughn**.

Following its creation in 1990, the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four members each year through 2005. Beginning in 2006, that number was expanded to six, and this year will mark the ninth year with six honorees.

This year's induction, the 25th, brought the total number of inductees into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame to 118.

**Deline**, a Hackleburg, Ala., native, was a four-time All-Gulf South Conference selection, earning first-team honors in 2000, 2001 and 2003 and second-team honors in 2002. The GSC Freshman of the Year in 2000 and a member of the Division II Bulletin All-American Freshman team, she went on to become UNA's all-time leading scorer with 1,622 points in 108 career games.

Deline also ranks as UNA's all-time leading rebounder with 756, which is 82 more than any other player in school history. She led the Lions in rebounding four straight seasons with 192 in 2000, 208 in 2001, 170 in 2002 and 186 in 2003. She was UNA's leading scorer in 2000 (488), 2001 (423) and 2003 (375).

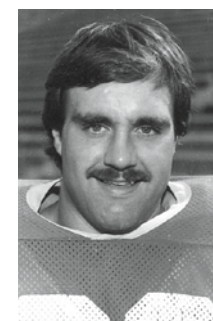
She finished her career with a 50.4 field goal percentage, hitting 548 of 1,087 shot attempts.



Amber Deline '03



Cliff Lord '99



Hamp Moore '84



Yana Ninova Johnson '04



Barry "Buck" Williams '91



Jason Vaughn '04

She also made 476 of 674 career free throw attempts for a 70.6 percentage and added 127 career steals, 230 assists and 43 blocked shots.

Deline led UNA to a combined 67-41 record during her career and was also a second-team Daktronics All-South Region pick in 2000.

Following her playing career, Deline worked as a graduate assistant women's basketball coach at Montevallo (2003-06) while earning her Master's degree. She then worked for two seasons as an assistant coach at Samford University.

Set to begin her first season as head women's basketball coach at James Clemens High School in Madison, Deline led Oneonta High School to back-to-back Class 4A State Championships in 2013 and 2014 with a combined 65-10 record over the two-year period. She also led the Redskins to a Northeast Regional runner-up finish in 2010 and to the sub-regional round in 2011.

**Lord**, a Montgomery, Ala., native, was a two-time first-team All-Gulf South Conference pitcher on UNA baseball teams in 1998 and 1999. He was chosen All-GSC as a relief pitcher in 1998 and as a starting pitcher in 1999. He finished second in the NCAA Division II in earned run average as a junior in 1998 at 1.62. He posted a perfect 4-0 record with four saves in 31 appearances that season. He allowed just nine earned runs in 50.0 innings, struck out 56 batters and held opponents to .188 batting average. He was named first-team all-region and third team all-American by the American Baseball Coaches Association.

He also earned a GSC Pitcher of the Week in 1998 after allowing no runs, striking out 11 batters and pitching 9 2/3 innings in four games.

Lord started 15 games as a senior

in 1999 and posted a 9-3 record to help lead the Lions to an appearance in the Division II World Series after winning the South Region Championship and the Gulf South Conference Championship. He struck out 74 batters and allowed 95 hits in 101.2 innings on the mound. He threw five complete games and posted one shutout.

The Lions finished the 1999 season with a 45-12 record and UNA had a combined 83-24 record in Lord's two years on the squad.

A 1999 UNA graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems, Lord has worked in telecommunications and as a software developer and currently resides with his family in Franklin, Tenn., where he is employed by Girtman and Associates as head of the installation department.

**Moore**, a native of Albertville, Ala., was a leader on the offensive line for the Lions from 1978-81 and earned first-team All-Gulf South Conference honors as both a junior and senior.

As a starter in 1980 he helped lead UNA to a 10-2 record that included winning the school's first GSC football championship and the Lions' first berth in the NCAA Division II Football Playoffs. UNA won its opening round game against Virginia Union before falling in the semifinal round to Eastern Illinois.

Moore was again a starter as a senior in 1981 and helped lead the Lions to an 8-2 finish as UNA narrowly missed a second straight playoff appearance. He was selected as a permanent team captain following the 1981 season in addition earning the team Most Valuable Offensive Lineman award and the team's Scholastic Award.

A three-time Academic All-GSC selection in 1979, 1980 and 1981, Moore

helped lead UNA to a combined 31-11-1 record over his four seasons on the Lions' offensive line.

Moore graduated with honors from UNA in 1982 and became UNA's first recipient of an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship. He went on to earn his Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Alabama Birmingham in 1986. He was then commissioned into the United States Navy where he served three years as an optometrist before he returned to practice in the Shoals in 1989. He is currently the owner of Tomsik Eyecare in Florence and has also served on the UNA Sports Medicine Staff.

Moore was named to the UNA Team of the Decade from 1979-88 and the 50th Anniversary UNA Football Team for 1949-98. He was previously inducted into the Marshall County Sports Hall of Fame in 2006.

**Ninova**, from Viden, Bulgaria, was a four-year starter on UNA volleyball teams from 2000-03 and earned All-American honors as both a junior and senior. She helped lead UNA to a combined 135-19 record during her career that included three Gulf South Conference championships (2000, 2001, 2002), four straight NCAA Tournament appearances (2000-03), two Division II Regional Championships (2000, 2003) and the school's first NCAA Division II National Championship in a women's sport with a volleyball title in 2003.

She was a four-time All-Gulf South Conference and four-time All-South Central Region selection and was a third-team American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American selection in 2002 and an AVCA and Daktronics first-team All-American pick in 2003.

Ninova ranked 12th in the nation in kills in 2003 with 4.82 per match and was



second nationally as a senior in 2003 with 6.12. She also ranked 10th nationally in hitting percentage as a senior at .411.

Ninova received her Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) Economics, Finance from UNA in 2004. She then served as an assistant volleyball coach the University of South Alabama from 2007-2011. In 2011 she made the transition to a graduate assistant position at South Alabama while earning her Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degree, which she completed in 2013.

Today she is head of marketing at TradingPub, a financial services company in Mobile.

**Vaughn**, a native of Decatur, Ala., was a four-year letterman on UNA golf teams from 2000-03 and was a two-time All-American selection.

Vaughn helped lead the Lions to three NCAA Division II National Tournament appearances and finished as the individual runner-up in the 2002 championships. He earned All-Gulf South Conference honors in 2002 and All-South Region honors in 2003. He earned second-team Amm-American honors in 2002 and a third-team spot in 2003.

Vaughn finished in the top twenty in all three of his NCAA Tournament appearances. He tied for 20th as a freshman in 2000, was runner-up in 2002 and finished 19th in 2003.

He was chosen as UNA's Male Student-Athlete of the Year in 2002.

Vaughn has earned two degrees from UNA, with a Bachelor's degree in Fitness Management and a Master's degree in Exercise Science. He is also a graduate of the PGA of America Management Program. He worked for four years as Assistant Golf Professional at the Robert Trent Jones of the Shoals courses and then two years as Head Golf Professional at RTJ. He is also director of instruction and owner of Vaughn Golf Academy. He was hired as UNA's head golf coach in 2013 and led the Lions to their first appearance in the Division II National Championship Tournament since 2009.

A native of Athens, Ala., **Williams** was a four-year letterman in basketball for the Lions from 1986-89 and still ranks as UNA's fourth all-time leading scorer with 1,480 points. During his career he set records for most three-point field

goal attempts in a single game (15), most three-point field goals made in a single game (8), best three-point field goal percentage in a single game (87.5), most three-point field goal attempts in a season (216) and most three-point field goals made in a season (92). He closed his career hitting 270 of 614 career three-point attempts.

He helped lead UNA to a combined 69-44 record that included a Gulf South Conference Tournament Championship and an NCAA Tournament berth in 1987-88.

Williams career-high scoring game was 34 points against Troy State in 1987. In 1989 he led the Lions in scoring with 426 points and he also had the highest free throw percentage on the squad at 83.8.

Elected to the Limestone County Sports Hall of Fame in 2011, Williams traveled overseas and played professionally before beginning a career as a teacher and coach. He currently serves as athletic director and boy's basketball coach at Westlawn Middle School in Tuscaloosa.



Jason Vander Laan and Jerry Hill '81

## HILL TROPHY PRESENTATION CONTINUES DESPITE MOVE OF CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

The Harlon Hill Trophy was presented for the 29th time in the Shoals on January 9, 2015, to the NCAA Division II College Football Player of the Year, despite the move of the NCAA Division II Football Championship Game away from the area.

The trophy, named for 1955 UNA alum and former Lion football All-American Harlon Hill, was presented at a ceremony attended by 150 at the Guillot University Center on campus to quarterback Jason Vander Laan of Ferris State University.

The initial Hill Trophy was also presented on campus in 1986 in the old Student Union Building.

**Jerry Hill '81**, Harlon's son, also a UNA graduate and former Lion football player, was on hand to speak and joined numerous other Hill family members at the presentation.

Harlon Hill Award Committee Chairman **Jeff Hodges '82** said the plan is to continue to present the Hill Trophy in the Shoals each January to honor the premier player in Division II and to honor Harlon's legacy. This year's event was supported by numerous members of UNA's faculty and staff as well as support from several area civic clubs.



## FORMER LIONS ON OPPOSITE SIDES IN 2014 WORLD SERIES



Josh Willingham



Sergio Romo



At one of the nation's most high profile sporting events, two former University of North Alabama baseball players found themselves on opposite sides as Josh Willingham and the Kansas City Royals took on Sergio Romo and the San Francisco Giants in the 2014 Major League Baseball World Series.

Willingham was a three-year starter at UNA from 1998-2000 and earned All-American and Academic All-America® honors with the Lions. Romo pitched at UNA in 2004 and was named first-team All-Gulf South Conference after posting a 10-3 record with a 3.69 ERA in 97 innings pitched.

The Giants claimed the World Series with a dramatic 3-2 win in Game 7 and Romo earned his third World Series ring (2010, 2012, 2014). He is in his seventh season with the Giants.

Willingham, playing in his 11th season in the Major Leagues, participated in his first post-season action. In his first career post-season at bat on September 30, he delivered a huge pinch-hit single in the bottom of the ninth inning, helping the Royals tie a one-game playoff with the Oakland Athletics and send it to extra innings. They eventually defeated the A's 9-8 in twelve innings and followed with wins in the American League Divisional Series and AL Championship Series to advance to the World Series. In all, Willingham was one-for-four in his post season at bats.

Romo made two appearances in the 2014 World Series and pitched 2.1 scoreless innings, allowing just two hits with four strikeouts.



## WILLINGHAM RETIRES AFTER 11-YEAR MAJOR LEAGUE CAREER

After 11 seasons in the Major Leagues, former University of North Alabama baseball All-American Josh Willingham announced his retirement following the 2014 season.

In all Willingham played in 1,147 Major League games with five different teams. He spent the 2004-08 seasons with the Florida Marlins, then played 2009-10 with the Washington Nationals, 2011 with the Oakland A's, 2012-13 with the Minnesota Twins and split his final season between the Twins and the Kansas City Royals.

Willingham's career numbers include 195 home runs,

632 runs batted in, 426 extra-base hits and a .253 batting average. His career on base percentage is an impressive .358 as he was hit-by-pitch 112 times and drew 553 walks.

Willingham is one of five former Lions to reach the Major Leagues and enjoyed, by far, the longest career. His awards include being named National League Player of the Week with the Washington Nationals in 2009, American League Player of the Week with the Minnesota Twins in 2012 and American League Silver Slugger in the outfield in 2012 while playing for the Twins.





# CLASS NOTES

## YEARS UNIDENTIFIED

**Mary Strehl** graduated from the University of North Alabama with a Bachelor's degree in art before pursuing a career in graphic design. She began a job with Pyltik Design Associates in Pittsburgh, doing graphic design for non-profits. She has taught at Springdale Junior-Senior High and is currently serving as a math and Latin teacher for National Network Digital Schools. She never truly lost touch with her desire to be an artist: Ms. Strehl currently has a one woman art show feature in her current place of residence, where seventeen pieces of her work are on display.

**Shelley Hamblin** serves as a cancer navigator for the North Mississippi Medical Center. Hamblin began her career as a licensed practical nurse on the oncology floor, and became a registered nurse, receiving degrees from both Northeast Mississippi Community College and the University of North Alabama. She spent 17 years as a nurse in surgery, where she cared for breast cancer patients. Now, she will serve as a motivator and liaison in her role as a cancer navigator, walking cancer patients through the process and being available for counsel and comfort whenever she may be needed.

**Jeana Hendrix** was chosen as assistant general counsel of the Tennessee Administrative Office of Courts (AOC). Her duties include preparing fiscal notes, preparing judicial publications, and providing legal and procedure advice. Hendrix previously served as the Juvenile Court Services Coordinator for the AOC,

where she held the position of indigent defense manager. In addition, Ms. Hendrix has worked as an assistant district attorney as well as a deputy clerk.

**Louis Connor** has served 26 years as an athletic director and basketball coach for Columbia State in Tennessee. He recently announced his retirement after a long, successful career serving the community college. Mr. Connor has previously worked as a basketball coach (both men and women's) for the school, as well as a middle school and high school basketball coach in Marshall County. Mr. Connor received his associate's degree from Columbia State, before transferring to UNA to receive his Bachelor of Science degree.

## 1960s

**Janie Richardson Putnam ('64)** attended Florence State College and obtained a degree in Elementary Education. Mrs. Putnam taught with the Huntsville City School Systems for 31 years.

**Mary Pierce Malone ('65)** has a diversified background as a school teacher, tax consultant, dietitian, and supervisor of the Air Force Academy's Dining facility. After she completed her master's, she became a County Extension Agent, where she was selected twice as Outstanding Agent in Alabama. Before retiring to her hometown of Somerville, Ala., Mary traveled to Mexico, England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada, and Hawaii.

**Jo Ann Smith Thomas '69** was inducted into the Lauderdale Sports Hall of Fame in March 2014.

## 1970s

**Jane Armstrong ('77)** received her bachelor's degree in Studio Art and Biology. Jane chose the medical field for a stable career, but still remains interested and involved in art, as she works in a studio with five other women at this time. She has raised four children, and currently resides in Venice, Fla., with her husband. She is a retired Registered Respiratory Therapist, and currently volunteers as a mentor through the Florida Department of Juvenile Corrections.

**Joel Collum ('79)** received his Bachelor's degree in Accounting with a minor in Economics from the University of North Alabama. In his time at the university he was involved in the Alpha Chi Accounting Club. Mr. Collum currently resides in Nashville, Tenn.

## 1980s

**Judith Wolfsberger ('80)** received her BS degree in Biology. Wolfsberger currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and works for Mission Point Health Partners in the Member Experience Department. While at the university, Wolfsberger was involved in several organizations including Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and the Health Care Education Club.

**Suzette Crutchfield ('82)** received her Office Administration and

Management degree from UNA. She currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and is Assistant Vice President of Human Resources for the Tennessee Hospital Association.

**John Briggs ('83)** graduated from the university with a degree in Commercial Music and a minor in Business Administration. Mr. Briggs works as an Entertainment Industry Specialist and Wealth Management Consultant for U.S. Bank in Nashville, Tenn.

**Loretta Getchell ('88)** was recently appointed as the new City Manager in Euless, Texas. She moved to Euless in 1997 and became the director of fiscal and financial services. She is a certified public accountant and government financial officer. Getchell received her bachelor's degree in business administration.

## 1990s

**Stephen ('91) and Melissa Sledge ('92)** both graduated from UNA, Stephen with a degree in Accounting and Melissa with a degree in Marketing. Stephen works for KPMG, L.L.C. in Nashville as an Audit Partner. While at the university he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity and the UNA Tennis Team. Melissa was a Golden Girl, Ambassador, and a member of Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority. They currently reside in Franklin, Tenn., with their four children.

**Ron Hickman ('92)** works for Pear Tree Avenue as a Controller. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. While at UNA he served as a member of

both Alpha Chi Accounting Club and Phi Beta Lambda. Mr. Hickman is CPA certified, Fraud Examiner Certified, and is certified in Financial Forensics. Currently he resides in Hermitage, Tenn., with his wife and two children.

**J.D. Manders ('92)** deployed to Iraq in 2004 as part of the U.S. Army National Guard. He currently works as a technical writer and a research historian for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He has deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan as part of the U.S. Army National Guard and currently serves as an officer in the 115<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, headquartered in Florence, Ala. His daughters, Sarah and Lily, were seven and three when he deployed to Iraq.

When he was deployed, his children were suffering from separation anxiety; they were having nightmares, sleepwalking, and often crying for no reason. To help them overcome their grief at his absence, Manders wrote a fairy tale, *The Fairy Child*, and sent it home to them a chapter at a time. His wife would read it to them each night. He has recently published the story. The book is available online.

**Kendal Butler ('94)** graduated from the 2014 Leadership Kentucky class. Each year the organization brings together a select group of professionals that possess a broad variety of leadership abilities, career accomplishments and volunteer activities to gain insight into complex issues facing the state. Butler is the Media and Publications Manager for the Asphalt Institute headquartered in Lexington, Ky., and is the editor of Asphalt magazine.

**Chandra Slay ('95)** works for Path Group, a leading provider of anatomic, clinical and molecular pathology services based in Tennessee. She received her bachelor's degree in Marketing and Management from UNA.

**Duane Rogers Eliff ('97)** currently serves as assistant principal of Hardin County Middle School in Savannah, Tenn. He also works as an adjunct professor for Union University. He graduated with his Doctor of Education

(Ed.D.) from Union in 2014, where he did his dissertation on servant leadership at the middle school level.

**Vanessa Taylor ('97)** works for LBMC in Brentwood, Tenn., as an IT Recruiter.



Liberty Mutual is a proud partner of  
UNA Alumni Association

For additional information about Liberty Mutual and our car  
and home insurance, please contact us at 800.524.9400 or visit us  
at [libertymutual.com/unaaumni](http://libertymutual.com/unaaumni).



Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. In Texas only coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty County Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 2100 Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, TX. © 2009 Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.



**Mary Franklin ('98)** was named chief nursing officer at Biloxi Regional Medical Center. Franklin has more than 20 years of experience in nursing, receiving her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of North Alabama, and continuing her education with a Master of Science degree in Nursing from Samford University.

**Chad Green ('96)** received his bachelor's degree in Commercial Music with a minor in Business. Green currently resides in Spring Hill, Tenn., and works for Daywind Music as Senior Creative Director.

## 2000s

**Casey McClure ('00)** received a bachelor's Degree in Business, Computer Information Systems. McClure currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and works for HCA as Director of Information Security Operations.

**Tim Thorne ('00)** was recently named President and CEO of ABF Freight Systems, Inc. Mr. Thorne joined ABF Freight in 1990 after serving as a captain in the U.S. Army. He managed several branches including Florence and Decatur, Ala.; Nashville, Tenn.; and Carlisle, Pa. Until 2013 he was Regional Vice President of Operations based in the Salt Lake City, Utah, area. Thorne received his Master of Business Administration.

**Meredith Albright ('03)** received her BBA in Accounting in 2003 from UNA. Albright resides in Nashville, Tenn., with her husband,

Daniel. She works as a Senior Accountant for Asurion.

**Adam Letson ('05)** received a reward from the State of Alabama Employees' Suggestion Incentive Program for his initiative in creating computer macros, or shortcuts, to automate office workflow. Letson is a Senior Medicaid Eligibility Specialist for the Florence District Office.

**Craig A. Wright ('05)** received his Bachelor's degree in Economics. While attending the University of North Alabama he was involved in Kappa Sigma Fraternity, LaGrange Society, and SGA Senate. Wright currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and is a Loan Officer for First Community Mortgage after starting his career with SunTrust Investment Services.

**Jarrod Randall ('08)** graduated with a bachelor's degree in Accounting with a Spanish minor. Randall currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and works as an Audit Senior Specialist for Cigna.

**Capt. Landon P. Cassels ('09)** recently received command of Bravo Company, 526<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Brigade Support Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault) guidon from fellow UNA Alumnus **Lt. Col. Timothy R. McDonald**. Cassels deployed with the unit in February and has served in multiple positions within the unit in Afghanistan.

**Joe Jordan ('09)** received his Marketing degree from the University of North Alabama and is currently Vice President of Partner Services for Accelerent in Nashville, Tenn.

## 2010s

**Eric J. Connolly ('10)** graduated in August from Florida State University with a doctorate in criminology and criminal justice. In his dissertation, he focused on estimating the interaction between genetic factors and neighborhood environments in the development of anti-social behavior from childhood to adolescence. He received a bachelor's degree from West Virginia University and his master's degree from the University of North Alabama.

**Andrea Hendrickson ('10)** works as an Audit Specialist for Cigna. Hendrickson received her BBA in Accounting and while enrolled at UNA was involved in Phi Mu Sorority.

**Kelly Richardson ('10)** received her MBA in Accounting. Richardson was involved with Zeta Tau Alpha while enrolled at the University. She currently works as a Settlement Accounting Supervisor for Comdata in Nashville, Tenn.

**Elizabeth Brewer ('11)** received her bachelor's degree in Accounting. She resides in Franklin, Tenn., and works as a Staff Accountant for Pro Management.

**Steven Clark ('11)** resides in Nashville, Tenn., where he works for The Art Institute as a Career Services Advisor. Mr. Clark graduated with a degree in Entertainment Industry Management with a minor in Business Administration.

**Patrick Hutchison ('11)** is currently a Sales Manager and Customer Relations Representative for Action Security Systems in Nashville, Tenn. Hutchison received his bachelor's degree in Accounting and Business Management.

**Mary Parker Johnson ('11)** graduated with a bachelor's degree in Public Communication. Johnson currently resides in Hermitage, Tenn., with her husband, Michael, where she works as a Recruiter in Business Development for Snelling.

**Emma Cooper Blasingame ('12)** and her husband are the new owners and operators of Advanced Micro Services in Sheffield, Ala.. The business is a staple for local computer sales and services. The couple have been managing the business since October 2014.

**Kodi Chandler ('12)** is currently working for WME Entertainment in Nashville, Tenn., as an assistant. Chandler received his bachelor's degree in Entertainment Industry and Communications with a minor in Business Administration. While at UNA he was involved in Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, SGA Senate, PRIDE, and MEISA.

**Sara Frederick ('12)** graduated with an MBA in Marketing and Healthcare Management. Frederick currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., and works as a Senior Auditor for Tax Management Associates, Inc. She is also a member of the Young Jacksonian Society and is a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Melanie Smith ('12)** is an Analyst for Kraft CPAs in Nashville, Tenn. She graduated with a bachelor's in Finance and Economics, minoring in Accounting and French. During her time at UNA she served as a member of both Delta Mu Delta and Phi Beta Lambda. She is also a member of CABLE Nashville, the largest network of professional women in Tennessee, and serves on their Finance Committee. Ms. Smith also serves as a tutor for the Nashville Literacy Council and assists both native and non-native English speakers in learning English.

**Grace Ann Oaks ('13)** received a degree in Mass Communications

concentrating in Broadcast Journalism. She resides in Nashville, Tenn., working for Chick-fil-A, Inc. Ms. Oaks says she loves working for the company, as it allows her to travel and has provided her with many opportunities.

**Jaime Minor ('13)** is currently working as a staffing manager where she recruits Human Resources and Administrative Support Professionals. She enjoys living in Nashville, Tenn., and spends her spare time golfing and staying active. Ms. Minor received her bachelor's degree in Communications.


**Rachel Witt ('13)** is working for Quorum Health Services as an Executive Administrator.

She lives in Nashville, Tenn. Witt received her degree in Public Relations from the University, where she was an active member of PRIDE.

**Mary Elizabeth Shipper ('14)** received her bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies before beginning her job at Timothy Lucy D.O. in Fernandina Beach, Fla. She will soon become a certified Child Life Specialist and volunteers at the YMCA and Amelia Island Sea Turtle Insitute.


## FACULTY AND STAFF

**Matthew Little** is the First-Year Experience Director at University of North Alabama. Mr. Little is the recipient of an AmeriCorps National Leadership Award for the year 2014. His service began in 1994 with City Year Boston, a program that helps impoverished children reach their academic goals.

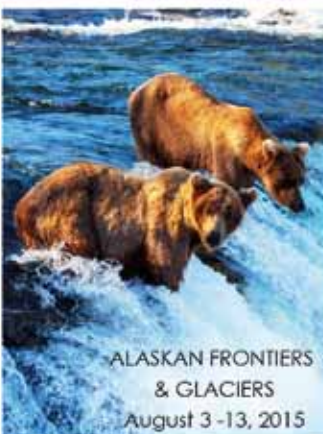


# Ever considered travelling with the Lions?


View all our upcoming trips at: <https://alumni.una.edu/travel>



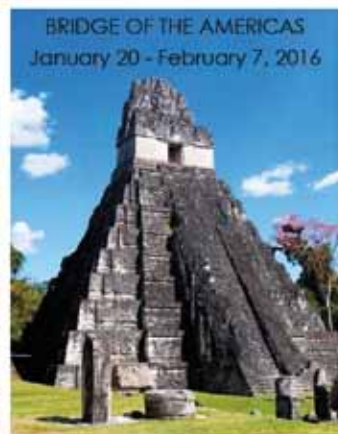
PEARLS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
June 15 - 23, 2015




ALASKAN FRONTIERS & GLACIERS  
August 3 - 13, 2015



ISLES & EMPIRES OF THE ADRIATIC  
October 29 - November 7, 2015



BRIDGE OF THE AMERICAS  
January 20 - February 7, 2016



GO next





# IN MEMORY

## FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**Royal E. Knight** was professor and chairman of accounting and business law at the University of North Alabama in Florence. He was the first professor hired with a doctorate in accounting.

**Terry N. Skinner** was an accomplished songwriter, producer, and musician, and was a dedicated member of the First United Methodist Church in Tusculmbia.

**Alex M. Sloan** began the golf team at the university in 1957 while working as the professional at the Florence County Club. Mr. Sloan began the golf team as a service to the university and paid for all travel expenses out of his own pocket. He remained coach at Florence State for the next 15 years, and in 1960 began working as the professional at the Turtle Point Yacht and County Club, where he served for the next 33 years until his retirement in December of 1993.

**Dr. Victoria Wood Hulsey** served as the distinguished chair of the Early Education Department at the University. She began her career at UNA in 2008 and had been an educator since 1974. During her time at UNA she was very active in special education and the College of Education and Human Sciences, including work with Camp Courage, Impact 80, and EXCEL Together. Her career also included teaching positions in West Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Decatur City School Systems.

**Bobbie D. Hester** was a Veteran of the United States Air Force where he served during the Korean War. He retired from Reynolds Metals after 30 years of service as a mason. Hester was a member of the UNA Sportsman's Club.

## YEARS UNIDENTIFIED

**Wilder "Tink" Cheney** attended both Coffee High School and Florence State Teacher's College. He graduated from Citadel Military College and then began his career with Lauderdale Abstract Company and the Home Builders Association before establishing his commercial real estate business. He has served as a member of the Alabama Real Estate Appraisers Board, the Florence Planning Commission, and the Civil Service Board. He also served on the board of directors for Habitat for Humanity and Montreat Apartments.

**Donald L. Vann** founded Vann Oil Company in 1960. He was the first Exxon distributor in Alabama and the youngest distributor ever in the corporation. As president and CEO, Mr. Vann engineered the development of Vann Oil Company into a successful chain of Exxon Food Marts. He was also the founder and president of I.V. Trucking Company and A.V. Supply Company. Between business ventures, he served as a real estate agent for Neese Realty.

**Rosa N. Miller** received her degree from Florence State Teachers College before pursuing her career teaching business education in public schools and working in her

husband's public accounting practice.

**Terri Lynn Simmons** received her Master's Degree in Counseling from the University of North Alabama. She was a licensed professional counselor and worked with patients in Tuscaloosa.

**Ralph Lee Irvin, Sr.**, attended Florence State and was in car sales in the Birmingham area for 45 years.

**Susan Parker Reed** had a long, successful career with AT&T. Reed held a position as Director – IT Account Manager, and was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**Joe William "Billy" Corbin, Jr.**, worked for his family company, Decatur Refrigeration, before acquiring his contracting license and starting a business in Destin, Fla., to build custom homes.

**Patty Loraine Spencer Zopff** was a registered nurse in Alabama, Indiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky during her 35-year career. During her career, she worked as a nurse at Helen Keller Hospital in Sheffield, Ala.

**Maria Gayle Daniel** worked as a third grade elementary teacher at Roosevelt Elementary from 1992 until her retirement in June 2010.

**Catherine Honey Miller** taught at Riverton Elementary School for two years. Miller was active in her community and church as a Sunday school teacher, committee member, Deacon, Pilot Club of Huntsville member, and helped to start the Project Share program with Huntsville Utilities. Mrs. Miller retired at

the age of 83, and continued to serve her community after her retirement.

**Alvin Braly** was a committed educator in the Florence and Lauderdale County School Systems, beginning at Rogers High School in Greenhill, and continuing at Gilbert Elementary in Florence, where he taught sixth grade and later served as principal until 1980.

**Michelle Lindley** pursued a career as a computer consultant.

**André G. Rhodes** managed a pizza shop for 24 years and sang in several local choirs including Muscle Shoals Music Mass Choir.

**Dorothy C. Gaines** worked at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

**William H. "Pete" Watkins** attended the university before beginning his career with TVA. He was a member of Ironworkers Local 447.

**Charles Edward Smith** enlisted in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. Mr. Smith worked at Monsanto, formerly Chemstrand, as a Human Resources Supervisor until his retirement in 1992.

**Martha F. Masterson** attended Florence State and was a devoted wife, mother, and community member.

## 1940s

**Louise B. Carpenter ('41)** attended Florence State Teachers College before pursuing her Master's Degree in Education from Peabody in Nashville, Tenn. She retired from her long career as

an elementary school vice principal in Dade County, Fla.

**Dorothy Denman "Dot" Kellerman ('42)**, after graduation, worked for the Birmingham, Ala., Federal Bureau of Investigation where she met her husband, FBI Agent Thomas F. Kellerman. Following Tom's service in the U.S. Army, the couple moved to Louisville, Ky. Mrs. Kellerman was a volunteer at the Eline Branch of the Louisville Public Library and a member the University of North Alabama Alumni Association.

**Mabel Herring Kennedy ('45)** received her degree from Florence State Teachers College in 1945 and taught third grade for 36 years.

**Juanita Junkins Hadley ('48)** was a retired English teacher. During her 40-year teaching career she held positions in the Alabama public school system as well as at Gordon State College.

## 1950s

**Clara Ruth Worthington Adams ('50)** was an active member of Middletown Methodist Church and a former member of Southeast Christian Church.

**Connie E. McKinney ('50)** become a home demonstration agent for Franklin County. There she used her home economics degree to spread concepts of

budgeting and meal planning, modeling new appliances, and even hosted her own weekly radio show on the subject. She was an active member of the Highland Park Garden Club and Woodward Avenue Baptist church.

**Denzil A. Yarbrough ('50)** graduated with degrees in Biology and Chemistry. Yarbrough served in the U.S. Air Force as a Gunner, and transferred to the army during World War II. His career includes biologist for the State of Alabama Health Department, a teacher in Cullman School Systems, and a supervisor of Chemistry with U.S. Steel Corporation in Fairfield.

**James Benjamin Ezell, Jr. ('51)** worked for Reynolds Metals in Sheffield, Ala., before serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He transferred to Bauxite, Ark., where for the next 28 years he served as Director of Reynolds' Research Analytical Laboratory. In 1984 he retired and served as a substance abuse counselor with "Starting Point" for the next three decades.

**John D. Glover, Jr. ('51)** taught grade school in both Anderson and Monrovia, Ala. He retired from Brown's Ferry Nuclear Power Plant, TVA as a senior reactor operator.



# Pauline Gravlee Women's Golf Tournament







## FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2015

Blackberry Trail Florence, AL

<http://alumni.una.edu/womensgolf>





## IN MEMORY

### **Paul Revere O'Mary ('52)**

served in the Army for over 32 years, and was a graduate of all three of the Army's selective service schools: The Command and General Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, and the Army War College. He ended his military career as a Professor of Military Science at the University of Alabama, building the volunteer ROTC program. Colonel O'Mary served as a key Development Officer in that institution's first major capital campaign while concurrently teaching classes in Human Resource Management at that institution's College of Commerce and Business Administration. Colonel O'Mary contributed to the University in many areas, in particular his role in establishing the Paul and Jane O'Mary Endowed Scholarship.

### **Donald R. Burroughs ('53)**

served in the U.S. Army and was accepted to flight school in San Marcos, Texas. He served for 20 years, which included two tours in Vietnam, before his retirement and went on to be successful in real estate, opening one of the first Century 21 offices in San Antonio.

**Fred Aldridge ('54)** joined the U.S. Army, where he served until 1956. After his deployment as a 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant in Korea, Fred returned home to Huntsville, Ala., where he and his wife began a career in real estate and property development.

### **James "Jim" Mattox Jr. ('54)**

continued his education at Samford University School of Pharmacy. He was a United States Army Veteran, serving during the Korean conflict. Mr.

Mattox was a pharmacist for Pfeiffers' Drugs in Pensacola.

**William T. Wynne ('54)** was commissioned into the U.S. Army. He served in Korea as an escort officer with the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces. He was a past member of the Shoals Concert Band. Mr. Wynne was a retired architect of Bar, Tune, Wynne Architects.

**Charles D. "Charlie" Gooch ('55)** moved to Georgia for Military Police training. Gooch then attended Michigan State University to earn a master's degree in Police Administration. His career took him to Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, before being assigned to Okinawa, where he served as Operations Officer for the Military Police.

### **John L. Moseley ('55)**

married Shirley Cheyne, of Yakima, Wash. He enlisted in the Naval Reserves at age 17 and was soon selected for the Reserve Officer Corps. He retired from the Navy after a total of 26 years of service having reached the rank of commander. In addition to his military service, he worked for Reynolds Metals Company for 40 years as a metallurgist.

### **Joseph O. Breaux, Jr. ('56)**

completed two years of medical school at the University of Tennessee at Memphis and was employed in a number of medical labs before transitioning to real estate as his line of work in his later years.

**Dorris Ophelia Shelton Chitwood ('56 and '60)** was chosen by the Civitans as Lawrence County Educator of

the Year in 1963, and she was the first teacher in Lawrence County who taught Advanced Placement classes. She taught for 40 years before her retirement.

**James Earl Hurst ('55)** served as a bank examiner with the State of Alabama Banking Department for three years before accepting a position as head bookkeeper with Gobble-Fite Lumber Company in Decatur. Hurst has served as President of Gobble-Fite, and was among the 12 founding directors of the First American Bank of Decatur. He was named honorary member of the Delta Mu Delta international business honor society recognizing academic excellence.

### **Dr. Billy Ray Hicks ('58)**

continued his education at the University of Alabama (M.A.) and the University of Mississippi. He taught history and political science at Mississippi College from 1963 until his retirement in 1997. He served his country in the Army from 1954 to 1956.

**Paul Hubbert ('59)** worked in the Fingerprinting Division for the FBI in Washington, D.C., before attending Florence State College. He then accepted a teaching position at Buckhorn High School in Madison County. Hubbert received his M.S. in 1962 and Ed.D. in School Administration and Finance in 1964 from the University of Alabama. For three years, he served as Business Manager of Tuscaloosa County Schools before moving to Troy to serve as Superintendent of Troy City Schools. In 1969, he became Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the Alabama Education Association, an organization

that grew to represent 105,000 public schools. Dr. Hubbert also served as Chairman of the Alabama Teacher's Retirement System as well as other committees and commissions appointed by various reigning Governors. In 2009, Dr. Hubbert was named "Most Influential Alabamian" and in 2013 he was inducted into the University of Alabama Educator Hall of Fame. Dr. Hubbert directly impacted every major piece of school reform and legislation affecting education employees approved by the Alabama Legislature for more than four decades.

## 1960s

**Willa J. Cagle ('60)** retired after many years serving as Special Education Coordinator for Lauderdale County Schools. She had also taught in the Athens, Lexington, and Lauderdale County school systems as an English and Literature teacher.

**James Franklin Gamble Jr. ('61)** served as a veteran of the U.S. Army in the Korean War. He also served as an Army airborne Ranger.

**Bill Shelton ('61)** passed away in 2000, and posthumously received the Distinguished Community Sports Journalist award on September 12, 2014, from Auburn University for his inspirational and impressive body of work. Mr. Shelton served as a sports editor for the *Cullman Times*.

### **Albert T. Beggs ('62)**

served in the United States Navy. Beggs coached and taught science classes in the Lauderdale County school

system for 34 years before his retirement.

### **Frances Raper Eure ('65)**

retired as a librarian from the DeKalb County School System. Eure graduated from the University of North Alabama with a degree in accounting in 1965 before attending graduate school at Emory University where she studied library science.

### **Clarice N. Sanderson ('67)**

was a member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society at the University, and spent much of her life serving others.

### **Gordon R. MacLean ('68)**

served 30 years as an insurance adjustor.

**Jerry Wylie ('68)** taught at Lexington High School for several years and then pursued his dream of living life as an artist.

**Rebecca Jones ('69)** retired from her long standing 30-year career from TVA in Chattanooga, Tenn.

**J. Dane Perry ('69)** attended Birmingham School of Law. Perry was an attorney with Daniel E. Boone and Associates in Florence, Ala., where he worked closely with both the civil and criminal court systems.

## 1970s

**Charles R. McMillan ('72)** pursued his MBA at Boston University. He retired from the Department of the Army in 2006 where he served as division chief directorate of Resources and Management, Combined Arms Supports Command at Fort Lee, Va.

**Donald W. Bowlin ('73)** was a certified public accountant with his practice since 1976.

### **Richard B. Thompson ('73)**

was a graduate of the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va. He served as assistant chief of the Florence Police Department for three years and as chief of police for ten years. Throughout his career he started several police programs for the bettering of the Florence community and received multiple awards, including Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

### **Glen Whitaker, Jr. ('73)**

attended the University of Tennessee before serving as a soldier in Vietnam. He completed his degree at Florence State University after his military service. Mr. Whitaker spent his career in insurance sales and became

the district manager for Farm Bureau Insurance for Northwest Alabama based in Florence, and spent his free time golfing, hunting, and fishing.

## 1980s

### **Dorothy J. Charles ('80)**

attended the university later in life and received her Social Work license in the state of Alabama where she volunteered her services to Safe Place, ECM Hospitals, and church activities.

### **Eugenia B. Stewart ('81)**

worked in the Colbert County school system as a teacher for 21 years before her retirement.

**Elizabeth Jane Lilburn (Forth) Hunt ('83)** began her teaching career in 1952 after

receiving her degree from Manitoba Teacher's College. After raising her three children, Mrs. Hunt returned to school and received her bachelor's and master's degree in early childhood education. She spent the last years of her career teaching at Ridgecrest Elementary School in Huntsville, Ala., until her retirement in 1998.

**Thomas Fisk ('88)** served in the United States Air Force and retired from Northeast Georgia Medical Center where he worked as a social worker.

## 1990s

**Jamie K. Green ('97)** was an avid cyclist who was employed at Teledyne Brown Engineering.

# SUPPORT UNA's ROAD SCHOLARS



When you buy a UNA license plate,  
\$47.50\* of the \$50 fee goes to student scholarships.

*\*Tax deductible as per IRS regulations*



## SHOW YOUR LION PRIDE!

The UNA Alumni Association  
VISA® Card  
is the only card  
that rewards you  
while benefiting UNA.



Apply today at [www.una.edu/alumni/rewards](http://www.una.edu/alumni/rewards)



## ALUMNI INFORMATION UPDATE

Name (include maiden name if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Business telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

### ***I want to get involved with UNA alumni in my area...***

- |   |                                       |  |                                    |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Club Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Homecoming   | <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni Committee Assignment | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic Events        | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Recruit Students            | <input type="checkbox"/> Reunions  |

Have you won an award, changed jobs, earned a promotion or completed another degree?  
Your UNA classmates would like to know more about it! Send us your news and we will publish it  
in a subsequent issue of the *UNA Alumni Magazine*. Please complete the form and send it to the  
Office of Alumni Relations, UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001 or e-mail to [alumni1@una.edu](mailto:alumni1@una.edu).

Join OnLion at <http://alumni.una.edu>

**UPDATE YOUR RECORDS**



University of North Alabama

# FRONT PORCH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

May 15 & 16, 2015



Reverend Robert P. Jones



Bil Lepp



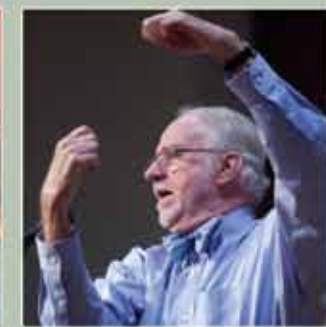
Three on a String



Kevin Kling



Bobby Horton and Dolores Hydock



Donald Davis



Walt Aldridge

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Performance Center, UNA Campus  
Tickets for Daytime Storytelling (all-day) • \$10 adult • students free

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. • Norton Auditorium • Nighttime FREE Admission

For more information or to buy tickets visit  
[www.una.edu/storytelling](http://www.una.edu/storytelling) or call 256.765.4297

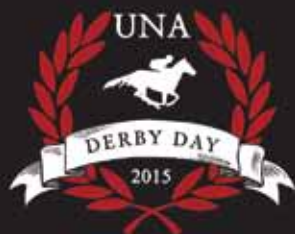




OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS  
*University of* NORTH ALABAMA

UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
PRESORTED  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH ALABAMA



Saturday, the second of May • 3:00 until 6:00 p.m.  
On the lawn of Coby Hall • University of NORTH ALABAMA



*For more information visit [una.edu/derbyday](http://una.edu/derbyday) • Questions? Call 256-765-5188*  
*Reserved seating — \$100 per person*