Leaving their LEGACY
From the President

Being the President at the University of the Ozarks affords me many blessings. One blessing is the opportunity to meet with prospective students and their parents when they visit campus. My office is usually the initial stop before they begin the campus tour. The Admission tour guides know they can interrupt whatever I am doing for me to greet visitors. Afterall, if proud parents are looking to entrust a treasured loved one with us for a college education, I can spare a few minutes for conversation.

A question I am frequently asked in one form or another is, “What is Ozarks about?” That is not an easy question to answer. I think Ozarks is about many different things to many different people on many different levels. But the question is one that I think about a great deal. What is Ozarks about?

First, Ozarks is about connecting with others—academically, spiritually, and socially. We are a campus connected by the common bond of caring for one another and looking out for one another.

Second, Ozarks is about learning in action, learning that is dynamic. We are not passive in our teaching, and we do not allow students to be passive in their learning. We pride ourselves in being champions of high standards and raised expectations.

Third, Ozarks is a place where intellectual curiosity is revered and enriched. A basic tenet of our Mission Statement is to make students intellectually curious for a lifetime. A unique aspect of our campus, as stated in the first sentence of the Mission Statement, is that we combine professional preparation with a liberal arts foundation. That marriage between professional preparation and the liberal arts sets Ozarks apart.

Fourth, at Ozarks integrity, ethics, and trust matter. Integrity, ethics, and trust are the essence of who we are, what we do, and how we teach our students and treat one another.

Fifth, Ozarks is about leadership and developing future leaders. We are about the privilege of being servant leaders and the reward of serving others.

Sixth, Ozarks is about our generous alumni and donors. They know the quality of an Ozarks’ education and understand the importance of supporting what we do. A perfect example of that belief is the five-year, $40,000,000 Promise of Excellence Campaign we recently successfully completed. We surpassed the goal by almost $600,000, an amazing achievement within these difficult economic times.

Finally, Ozarks is about strong Christian faith built firmly upon our Presbyterian heritage, a heritage that began in 1834. The theological and pedagogical approach we take to teaching and learning, learning and teaching, is that there are no simple answers to life’s complex questions. Our goal is to seek answers for those complex questions in an open, honest, and receptive environment. That is the heart and soul of a Presbyterian campus and an Ozarks’ education.

Our spirituality, connectivity, collective intellectualism, integrity, ethics, trust, leadership, and alumni are the essence of Ozarks. And because of that, Ozarks is a blessing. Most of all, that is what this place is about.

Rick Niece, Ph.D.
President
The University of the Ozarks does not discriminate on the basis of religion, gender, color, national or ethnic origin, age, or physical handicap in the administration of its educational policies, programs or activities.
Class of 2011 celebrates its day

Telling the new graduates from the Class of 2011 to keep their options open and seek diversity in their lives, Commencement speaker Kristian Breton had only to share his own story to get his point across.

“Ten years ago I was where you are today,” said Breton, a 2001 honors graduate from Ozarks. “I had no idea what was ahead of me. If you would have told me 10 years later that I would be living in New York City, working with inner city youth and then be back here giving the Commencement speech, I would have thought you were crazy.”

Ozarks recognized 107 graduates from the Class of 2011 during the May 14 ceremony that was attended by more than 500 family and friends. Included in the Class of 2011 were 21 graduates who received their diplomas during the Fall Commencement in December.

Breton, a native of Mountain Home, Ark., moved to New York City soon after graduating from Ozarks to pursue a graduate degree. He works as a manager for out-of-school programs for youth in Brooklyn.

“It wasn’t easy for a young man from rural Arkansas to pack up and go to New York City, but it has enriched me greatly as a person,” Breton said. “Diversity is not only a good thing, but it is worth seeking out. Seek diversity in the people you meet and the places you go. You will be enriched by that diversity.”

Sean Atkins, a political science major from LaGrange, Ky., who earned Summa Cum Laude honors, gave remarks on behalf of the senior class.

“The faculty and staff here at Ozarks have been more than just teachers and mentors,” Atkins said. “You have been our confidants and our friends, whether it’s in the classrooms, your offices or the cafeteria. You have treated us with respect and with friendship and for that we say, thank you.”

David Rawhouser of Arlington, Texas, an alumnus of Ozarks and chair of the Board of Trustees, told the graduates that their Ozarks education has prepared them for their future.

“Because you have been challenged here to open your mind, you are ready for any task that awaits you,” he said.

Among those students who graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors (3.85 grade point average or higher) were: Atkins, Karla Aguilar, Belinda Birrer, Daniel Bustos, Mei Yee Chew, Samantha Hoing, Zi Jian Khor, Delsie Ku, Crystal Lowery, Kathryn Niskern, Meagan Ponseigo, Carlos Rodriguez, Amy Smedley, Steffi Teo, Leyla Tuckler, Adrian Valerio, and Lay Hoong Yap.
For more graduation photos, please go www.ozarks.edu
Science is a hands-on field where repeated research efforts increase our knowledge, often incrementally, and slowly the world becomes a better place.

This past spring, four Ozarks students had an opportunity to share their research with the scientific community at the 21st American Chemical Society (ACS) National Meeting & Exposition held in Anaheim, California.

“That particular trip was for a big national chemistry conference,” said Associate Professor of Chemistry Dr. Brian McFarland, their sponsor. “The students went to present the research they’d conducted the past year. Andrea Muffuletto and Denise Wirth were on one team, and Mike Prusator and Ben Martin were on the other. Each presented a poster of their results during the undergraduate poster section.”

The students’ work was in the area of polymer research. Polymer chemistry deals with the long molecule chains that make up everything from plastic to rubber, and cotton to DNA.

“Their project was derived from something I was working on at the end of graduate school,” he said. “I chose organic chemistry, specifically polymer chemistry, because of its applicability to everyday life, from materials to medicine and everything in between.” In their projects, the students were testing different methods for combining the ingredients necessary to make polymers.

“The process is called frontal polymerization,” McFarland explained. “It creates what’s called an exothermic reaction, which means it gives off heat.”

He said the students were testing the results of the different methods of creating polymers to see how it affected their mechanical properties—how tough they were, how flexible, how strong.

“In making their sample polymers, the students used something called micro-capsules,” said McFarland. “Basically they trapped the curing agent in these little shells like M&Ms, which are added to the mixture, but kept separate by their shells. That way the chemical stays separated from the rest of the stuff until you pop the shells open, which can be done by heating the mixture. Then the reaction takes place that turns the chemicals into a polymer.”

He said one good analogy for how this works would be the epoxy resins, where you mix the contents of the two tubes together, one containing the main epoxy, the other the curing agent. “The polymer is like that in a way,” he said. “Once you heat the mixture and the little capsules pop, the reaction starts. The method is a way to prolong the shelf life of these polymers, which can be used for crack repair and other projects requiring a solid bond.”

The students found that polymers made with the micro-capsules on a large scale were stronger than those made simply by other methods.

To Muffuletto, a senior from Eudora, Ark., getting the opportunity as an undergraduate to present at a conference was a welcomed opportunity.

“It is very rare that undergraduates get the opportunity and funding to carry out a research project like ours and then present it at a national conference,” she said. “It was exciting to be there with so many people and see what all of our hard work had been leading up to.”

She said Ozarks, being a smaller university, has given her the opportunity to get to know professors on a level that can open up a number of doors.

“In this case,” she said, “all four of us knew Dr. McFarland well, and he knew what type of students we were. He asked us to work on this research project, and because of that we had the chance to present at the national ACS conference as well as the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium. We were also able to visit the NASA space center in Huntsville, Alabama. This research led to many educational experiences, and I fully attribute it to the small nature of the campus and the personal interaction and attention you get from your professors.”

Wirth enjoyed the opportunity to meet other students interested in chemistry and the chance to see some of the current research being done.

“I know for me, after the meeting, I had a greater understanding of the importance of chemistry in many aspects of daily life,” she said. “Presenting our work was a fun experience because we were able to show other students what we had been working on. It was also very good preparation for other situations we may encounter in the future when we need to discuss similar topics.”

— Don Lee
PBL Wins Top Award at Conference

Members of the University’s Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) team took home 14 first-place, 10 second-place and 15 third-place finishes to capture the overall Sweepstakes title in the 2011 Arkansas PBL State Leadership Conference, held in Little Rock on April 15-16. In addition, the Ozarks team was named an Arkansas PBL Gold Chapter member. Tony Fernandez, a management major from Mexico, served as president of U of O’s PBL chapter in 2010-2011. Other officers included Kayla Casey, vice president of community service; Chuong Do, vice president of competitive events, Su San Law, assistant vice president of competitive events; Naïma Lopez, vice president of social events; Ivan Chavez, assistant vice president of social events; Henry Arauz, vice president of public relations; Tori Sanford, vice president of membership; Katy Niskern, vice president of free enterprise; Ana Hernandez, treasurer; Delsie Ku, secretary; and Hidenobu Kameya, webmaster.

Hurie Award

Sean Atkins, a senior political science major from LaGrange, Ky., was named the recipient of the 2011 Hurie Award, given annually to the outstanding member of the senior class. The award was announced during the annual Student Awards Convocation in Munger Chapel on Tuesday, April 26. Atkins served as Student Government Association president for the 2010-2011 academic year and has been named to the university president’s or dean’s honor lists in each of his eight semesters at Ozarks. He has also served as SGA vice president, SGA senator, president of the College Republicans, and president of the Debate Team. He placed among the top three twice in Project Poet, served as a PBL state officer, and was named Outstanding Student in International Relations as well as Public Policy. Atkins graduated from Ozarks on May 14 with Summa Cum Laude honors, which requires a cumulative grade point average of 3.85 or higher. He plans to spend a year working in a prosecuting attorney’s office before attending law school. The Hurie Award is named for Dr. Wiley Lin Hurie, who was president of Ozarks from 1923 to 1949. It is the highest honor an Ozarks student can receive. The faculty members choose a graduate who has been an exemplary scholar, a campus leader, and a person of outstanding character.

Advancement program announces changes

The University’s Advancement Office has announced several staffing changes, effective July 1.

Brandy Cox, a 1999 alumna who has served as Ozarks’ director of alumni relations since 2005, will head the University’s fund-raising efforts as the new director of development.

Lori McBee, who has served as a development officer since 2008, will return to her former position as director of alumni relations, a post she held from 1998 to 2001. McBee also served as director of development from 2002-2004.

Reba Pridgin, a 1981 Ozarks graduate, will move from director of development to director of planned and major giving, a position that has been vacant.

Development Officer Kerry Taylor will coordinate work with supporters who have a special affinity for athletics and other co-curricular activities.

Ozarks is fortunate to have a number of very talented team members in its offices of Advancement and Alumni Relations,” said Executive Vice President Steve Edmisten. “Reba, Brandy, Lori, and Kerry have all done tremendous work in support of Ozarks and the University’s students and alumni over many years. These adjustments in responsibilities will ensure this tradition of high-quality service continues.”

Brandy Cox, Lori McBee

Sean Atkins, a senior political science major from LaGrange, Ky., was named the recipient of the 2011 Hurie Award, given annually to the outstanding member of the senior class. The award was announced during the annual Student Awards Convocation in Munger Chapel on Tuesday, April 26. Atkins served as Student Government Association president for the 2010-2011 academic year and has been named to the university president’s or dean’s honor lists in each of his eight semesters at Ozarks. He has also served as SGA vice president, SGA senator, president of the College Republicans, and president of the Debate Team. He placed among the top three twice in Project Poet, served as a PBL state officer, and was named Outstanding Student in International Relations as well as Public Policy. Atkins graduated from Ozarks on May 14 with Summa Cum Laude honors, which requires a cumulative grade point average of 3.85 or higher. He plans to spend a year working in a prosecuting attorney’s office before attending law school. The Hurie Award is named for Dr. Wiley Lin Hurie, who was president of Ozarks from 1923 to 1949. It is the highest honor an Ozarks student can receive. The faculty members choose a graduate who has been an exemplary scholar, a campus leader, and a person of outstanding character.
People sometimes ask, “Why should I go to college and take a bunch of classes I’m not even interested in?”

One answer that Morgan O’Neil and many other Ozarks students have discovered, is that college is about a whole lot more than classes and jobs. It’s also about giving back.

Morgan, a sophomore environmental studies major from Carbondale, Ill., discovered a new emphasis in her major, and a new way of reaching out to others, while undergoing a week-long training seminar as part of the Oxfam program.

Oxfam is an international confederation of 14 organizations working in 98 countries worldwide to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice. Oxfam works directly with communities, including college campuses, in their effort to ensure that poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods and have a say in decisions that affect them.

Each year 50 students are selected from the US and around the world to attend Oxfam’s CHANGE Leader training. As Ozarks’ Oxfam president, Morgan applied to take part in the training seminar held during summer 2010, and was elated to learn she was selected.

“The week-long summer training seminar was held at Eastern Nazarene College, near Boston,” she said. “Oxfam pays for travel and lodging. The program is for university sophomores and juniors. You are trained to become an Oxfam ‘CHANGE Leader.’ They teach you the ideals behind Oxfam and various ways to bring those ideals back to your own community.”

Morgan described the training as “really overwhelming.”

“Being around such a diverse crowd who shared the same goals and the same mission was really terrific,” she said. “They have so much drive, so much emotion. I’d never been around anything like that before in such large numbers. It really was a game-changer for me, and I did leave with a big handful of people I still keep in touch with regularly.”

Morgan said, “Oxfam originally began as a women’s suffragette movement, but their mission now includes all women’s rights issues, including education.” Morgan said she wants the Ozarks organization to emphasize the impact climate change and hunger have on women.

“Our spin on it here at Ozarks has to do with climate change and hunger issues, because in most third world countries, women do most of the food and water gathering, and climate change affects them a lot more than men.”

Last year the group organized the skip-a-meal project, where students skipped their evening meal, donating the cost for that meal to Oxfam.

“We sent $2,125 to them in December, money raised during the spring and fall campaigns,” said Morgan.

But Morgan said the project organized by Ozarks Oxfam in celebration of International Women’s Day felt “a lot more personal” to her. For this project, students were invited to sign a petition and then have their photo taken while holding a sign showing their support for Oxfam’s causes. “We’ll send these signatures and photos to Oxfam, and they can use them however they need to show that students at U of O care about world hunger and want to help,” she said.

— Don Lee
Wilderness course provides invaluable training

A cool mist permeates the forest, dripping from the trees onto the people gathered below. One of them has slipped on the moss-covered rocks and now lies on the ground, holding his ankle, in obvious pain. One of the hikers takes out his cell phone to call for help. There is no signal….

This is the type of scenario every outdoors person fears, and it’s one of the reasons that Ozarks’ Director of Outdoor and Environmental Experiences Jamie Lewis Hedges and three students traveled to Portland, Ore., in January to attend a 10-day Wilderness First Responder course taught by the Wilderness Medicine Institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS).

The training will allow Hedges and his three student coordinators—Lauren Ray, Kirk Ross, and Ben Adkins—to respond to medical emergency situations during trips. They have been trained to stabilize victims in the field, and prepare them for evacuation in scenarios where the victim is more than an hour from the nearest medical facilities.

“From my own background in outdoor recreation, I knew I wanted a standard of training for my student coordinators which included wilderness first responder,” Hedges said. “Wilderness first responder is a better level of training than wilderness first aid, and I wanted to get the higher standard for the program here since we have our vision set high.”

Hedges believes that the training will help him and his outdoors staff think about risk management and how to better manage events to minimize risks.

For Ray, a sophomore from Siloam Springs, Ark., the training was intense and realistic.

“During the 10 days of the course, we were busy from at least 8 to 5 every day,” she said. “And on two nights we had sessions that finished at 9:30. On one of those days, we attended an extra lecture, but on the other they held an exercise where we went out into the woods at night in darkness, split into groups, and were instructed to walk a certain direction off trail and go find a victim.”

Ray said the simulated victims were made up with fake bruising, fake blood, and fake fractures.

“We had to use the full patient assessment system we learned in the course to diagnose the problem and fix it,” she said. “Kirk was in the same group with me. Our victim had a broken femur. That’s the worst break you can have, because the femur runs alongside a main artery, and the fragmented bone can cut the artery. Using only the materials we’d normally have in a backpack on a normal hike, we made a splint to immobilize his leg. One of the main things we learned in the course was how to do makeshift medicine.”

The training addressed more than just injury response. For Ross the more interesting parts of the training included sections on lightning safety.

“Lightning is just crazy,” he said. “They tell you not to stand under trees, but also not to be out in the open where you’re the tallest object. You’d think going into a cave would be safe, but lightning has been known to zap right through the cave with people in it. And rubber soles on your shoes don’t help. You’d have to have soles 30 feet thick to do any good.”

With no other options, Ross said, you have to just go into the forest and hope the lightning doesn’t hit the tree you’re standing under.

Ross said the team also learned some common misconceptions concerning snakebite.

“The last thing you’d want to do would be cut open the snakebite and suck out the venom,” he said. “When a snake bites you, the venom spreads instantly. They tell you to apply a tourniquet to the wound to keep the poison from spreading. But if you do that, the poison will stay in one area and destroy all that tissue. You could lose the limb. Our training was full of information like that.”

The training was so successful that Ozarks Outdoors is sponsoring a NOLS Wilderness First Responders course that will be taught on campus in July, making Ozarks one of the first universities in the state to host such a program.

“When people think of higher education and outdoor experiences in Arkansas, we want them to think of Ozarks Outdoors,” Hedges said. “Hosting programs like these is a step in that direction.”

— Don Lee

Today, SPRING/SUMMER 2011 9
Students are D.C.-bound for internship opportunities

Six Ozarks students will spend this summer in Washington D.C. participating in various internship programs and taking classes at Georgetown University.

Cory Bridges, a junior English major from Clarksville; Chuong Do, a junior political science major from Vietnam; and Mark Pearson, a junior political science major from Clarksville; will attend the Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems, one of Washington’s top academic and internship programs.

During their eight week internship, they will have the opportunity to attend briefings at various sites around Washington, and to attend lectures featuring leaders and policy makers discussing today’s critical issues.

They will also be enrolled in courses at Georgetown University, including “Comparative Economic Systems,” “The Transformation of American Politics,” or “U.S. Foreign Policy and Public Policy Internship Seminar.”

Payton Lambe, a senior political science major from Grand Prairie, Texas; Ashley Teague, a senior political science and strategic communication major from Lavaca, Ark.; and Emily Towe, a senior political science major from Cabot, Ark. will intern at the Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Services, an organization committed to teaching students the traditions of philanthropy in the United States and the importance of a free-market economy to the creation of wealth.

Their coursework at Georgetown will include “Voluntary Associations and Democracy,” “Ethics and Values of Philanthropy,” and “Non Profit Internship Sessions.”

Bridges and Towe received funding for their summer work through the University’s Academic Enrichment Fund. This fund was established in 2010 by the university’s Board of Trustees.

“The purpose of the Academic Enrichment Fund is to offer competitive grants to students in support of their research or creative projects, professional preparation through internships, and study abroad,” said Assistant Professor of Rhetoric Amy Oatis, a member of the Professional Development Committee.

When reviewing applications, the Professional Development Committee looks for applicants with educationally sound and clearly defined projects.

Do, Lambe, Pearson and Teague received funding for their internships through the Clayton G. Russell Memorial Endowment for Political Science. The Clayton Fund was established in 2000 by the Mary I. Rogers Trust to broaden the scope of the political science program. To date, 35 students have participated in summer courses and internships at Georgetown University using money from the fund.

Gilbert Parks, Ozarks Associate Professor of political science, said the University “has been represented in the summer internship programs in Washington, D.C. every year for the past ten years. Many of our students have gone on to distinguished careers because of the opportunities afforded by these funds.”

He added, “Ozarks has a presence in national politics and government because of this fund.”

Dr. Daniel Taddie, senior vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty, said internships like these can have a substantial impact on a students’ educational experience.

“Students and alumni who have had these types of opportunities have found them to be life changing,” said Dr. Taddie. “My hope is that more students will have the opportunity to have these life-changing experiences.”

— Don Lee
Professor studies effectiveness of school PE programs

In 14 years of working in public schools, Brett Stone saw first-hand the decline of physical activity among young people, and ever since he has been determined to do his small part to help turn that trend around.

Stone, an assistant professor of health and physical education at University of the Ozarks, was recently awarded one of 23 grants presented by the Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas to help improve fitness levels for the state’s school-aged children.

“Working in the public school environment, I watched as not only the activity level of children decline, but the desire to be physically active also decline,” said Stone. “Students are just not motivated to move, and that’s becoming a bigger and bigger problem in this state and this country.”

Specifically, Stone’s grant will allow him to study the effectiveness of physical education programs in Arkansas schools as well as the differing effects of time and intensity levels of physical activity in school-based settings. The study will involve 800 fourth-graders in Arkansas schools.

“We’re really looking at program effectiveness and how much the amount of minutes of physical activity and the intensity of that activity influence fitness,” Stone said. “These types of studies will help superintendents, legislators and physical education teachers to come up with the best methods and programs to implement in our schools.”

Stone, who has taught at Ozarks since 2008, said the lack of physical activity in young children can lead to numerous health problems later when they are adults.

“We know that children who are not physically active become adults who are not physically active,” Stone said. “And, there is a direct correlation between low activity levels among adults and such health issues as obesity, heart disease and diabetes. If we can get kids active now, there’s a much better chance they will remain active their entire lives.”

Improving the fitness levels of school-aged children is something that can be accomplished through these types of research and studies, Stone believes.

“Deep down children want to move, and they want to be active because children by nature have a lot of built-up energy,” he said. “They just need opportunities to become active, and it’s our job as educators to give them those opportunities and to develop programs that maximize the benefits of physical activity.”

The Blue & You Foundation for a Healthier Arkansas awarded a total of $1,723,343 in grants to 23 health improvement programs in Arkansas to address such issues as obesity, diabetes and healthy lifestyle choices.

“We are thankful for this opportunity to partner with the Blue & You Foundation to explore ways of effectively combating childhood obesity and encouraging physical activity and fitness among the children of Arkansas,” said U of O Executive Vice President Steve Edmisten. “I have no doubt that this partnership between the state’s education and health care sectors will bring great benefits to Arkansas’ children.”

— Larry Isch

Lady Eagles Enjoy Stellar Season

The Lady Eagles’ basketball team enjoyed one of its best seasons in recent memory this past year. Ozarks finished the season with a 14-12 record and qualified for the American Southwest Conference postseason tournament for the first time since 2007. Second-year Coach Carl Ramsey (right) was named the ASC East Division Coach of the Year, while juniors Sabrina Goddard, April Young and Lacey Phillips earned second-team all-conference honors.

The Lady Eagles' basketball team enjoyed one of its best seasons in recent memory this past year. Ozarks finished the season with a 14-12 record and qualified for the American Southwest Conference postseason tournament for the first time since 2007. Second-year Coach Carl Ramsey (right) was named the ASC East Division Coach of the Year, while juniors Sabrina Goddard, April Young and Lacey Phillips earned second-team all-conference honors.
Dr. Amy Oatis, assistant professor of rhetoric, was named U of O Educator of the Year by the Clarksville-Johnson County Chamber of Commerce during its annual Awards Banquet in April. In addition, former trustee and long-time Ozarks supporter Turner Whitson was given the Lee White Legacy Award, which is named after another former Ozarks trustee and is presented annually to a person who has committed their skills and time over their lifetime to the county.

Emily Towe, a senior political science major from Cabot, Ark., was elected Student Government Association president during campus elections in April. Other SGA officers elected included: Ashley Teague as vice president, Luis Fernando Roldan as treasurer and Morgan O’Neil as secretary.

Dr. Rickey Casey, professor of management and business and executive director of international studies; Dr. Robert Hilton, Chair of the Division of Business, Communications and Government, had their abstract accepted for presentation at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines conference in October of 2011. Their research topic is “A Comparison of Motivation of Workers in the United States Verses Nicaragua and Guatemala Utilizing the Hackman & Oldham Job Characteristics Model.” The research identifies possible cultural influences not previously outlined in the literature.

Dr. Fiona Murphy has been hired as an assistant professor of English. Murphy earned her Ph.D. from California-Berkeley in 2008. Her dissertation was titled, “Authorship Delayed: Strategies of deferral in British Women’s Writing, 1650-1740.” She most recently taught at Nevada-Reno.

Connie High was named the University’s director of Student Support Services in March. High, who had served as director of SSS at Dyersburg (Tenn.) State Community College since 2004, earned her bachelor’s degree from University of Arkansas-Monticello and a master’s in rehabilitation counseling from the University of Arkansas.

U of O President Dr. Rick Niece was elected vice president of the American Southwest Conference Council of Presidents for the 2011-2012 year during the group’s annual spring meeting in Dallas. Niece is scheduled to serve as the group’s president during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Several professors were granted promotion and tenure during the April Board of Trustees meeting. Those professors who were promoted to associate professors and granted tenure were: Dr. Brian Hardman, professor of English; Dr. Salomón Itzá, professor of physics; Dr. Mikael Lindström, professor of music and director of choral activities; and Dr. Brian MacFarland, professor of chemistry. Receiving tenure was Dr. Kim Van Scoy, associate professor of life science education.

Elizabeth di Paola, a junior art education major from Piggott, Ark., took home first place in The River Valley Arts Center Collegiate Competition and Exhibition, held in Russellville, Ark. Her horsehair ceramic vessel, Untitled, was one of the top awards given during the annual February competition for college students.
Five years ago, Mrs. Helen Walton personally vaulted Ozarks into the $40 million Promise of Excellence Campaign to further enhance the University’s ability to provide high quality educational services to students. The $40 million Promise of Excellence Campaign ended on March 31. When the dust settled, campaign gifts and formal commitments to Ozarks totaled nearly $40.6 million!

Four thousand and eighty donors joined Mrs. Walton in supporting this initiative. All these special people gave money for scholarships, faculty and staff positions, academic programs, co-curricular programming, facilities improvements, new facilities and more.

The degree of their support for our students is simply amazing, and even more so for a campus this size. Their generosity and persistence in giving is all the more remarkable when one considers the broader economic conditions lurking throughout a large portion of the campaign timeframe.

On October 7, when all of the new construction is completed, the University will hold a ceremony to celebrate our donors and to dedicate the new facilities.

Now, pull back the lens just a bit so that Promise of Excellence can be viewed within a broader context. This campaign was, in effect, part two of a virtually seamless, massive fundraising initiative that began in fiscal 1998 with the development of the $60 million Pride & Promise Campaign. Since that time, more than $130 million has been given by 6,386 donors to improve Ozarks and support her students.

It is the nature of things that there is always more work to be done, and that is true here. Still, there can be no doubt that, thanks to our donors, Ozarks has literally been transformed, and we are all better for it.

To all who have shared your precious personal resources to make an Ozarks experience better for our students, always know how very much you are appreciated here. We look around in amazement at what Ozarks has become thanks to your generosity, and we think of you, and we say a silent “Thank You” every day. And so it is again today: Thank you!

To support the Annual Scholarship Fund, or to make other kinds of gifts to the University, please contact the Advancement Office at 479-979-1230 or go to www.ozarks.edu and click on the “Giving to Ozarks” link.

---

The University’s Shooting Sports Club has been awarded a grant by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) as part of the organization’s efforts to help both new and existing collegiate target shooting programs flourish.

The NSSF, based in Newton, Conn., awarded a total of 38 grants totaling $190,000 to 36 colleges and universities throughout the country. The U of O program was the only one in Arkansas to receive the grant.

“It’s gratifying to see collegiate shooting and the Collegiate Shooting Sports Initiative growing at such a fast rate,” said Zach Snow, NSSF’s manager of shooting promotions. “That tells us NSSF is on the right track in providing funding that makes it possible for men and women to continue target shooting during their college years.”

The Ozarks Shooting Sports Club is a student organization that was formed at U of O last February to promote both competitive and recreational shooting. The club is made up of more than 20 men and women. The other universities that received the NSSF grant included: Schreiner, Western Kentucky, Marietta College, University of California, Bethel, Vermont, Stetson, Central Missouri, Nevada-Reno, The Citadel, Fort Hays State, Harvard, Michigan, Yale, Kansas State, Colorado State, Mississippi College, Harvard Law School, Jacksonville, North Florida, Oklahoma State, Northeastern, Southeastern Illinois, Washington College, East Central University, United States Military Academy, Kentucky, Delaware and Clemson.
Since opening its doors in 1834, University of the Ozarks has seen hundreds of faculty and staff members come and go, each leaving the campus just a little bit different than they found it. This past May, five beloved faculty and staff members said farewell to the University and hello to retirement. Together, the five had nearly 150 years of combined experience teaching and mentoring at Ozarks, directly impacting the lives of tens of thousands of students.

Dr. Randy Hilton, professor of marketing; Dr. Pat Farmer, professor of theatre; Dr. Jane Cater, professor of communications; Blaine Caldwell, professor of art; and Helen Hoeffer, a coordinator in the Jones Learning Center; will all be greatly missed, but the legacies they leave behind from their years at Ozarks will not soon be forgotten.
Hoeffer, who has served as a JLC coordinator since 1983, has ties with Ozarks that go back to the 1960s when she was a student. She dropped out of school during her junior year after marrying her husband Forrest “Frosty,” whom she met at the college.

After several years of living out of state, the Hoeffers moved back to Arkansas in 1972, and six years later Helen began working in the Ozarks cafeteria to help support her family. One day while peeling potatoes in the cafeteria kitchen, she realized that she wanted more out of life. “I made up my mind, I was going back to school. And, I made it!”

Two weeks later, she was back at Ozarks, but this time she was working on her psychology degree once again. Instead of peeling potatoes, she actually began tutoring students in the JLC.

After obtaining her MBA in Counseling Psychology at the University of Central Arkansas and completing an internship with Counseling Associates, she was hired as a coordinator for the JLC in 1983.

Over the almost three decades, Hoeffer has gained the love and respect of many of her students.

“She has helped me with many problems and has been my support,” Ozarks senior Scott Frederickson said of Hoeffer. “She has taught me to never give up and to do anything to reach my goal. I remember when I was taking a final my second or third semester, I took until 5:30, and Helen stayed if I needed help, even though she had another final to give at 6:30. She really does do what it takes. If I had to pick her best quality, I would say it is her caring soul.”

Not only do her students love her, but her colleagues have also enjoyed working with her over the past 28 years.

“Helen is a joy to work with,” said Julia Frost, director of the JLC. “She is always positive and cheerful—no matter what is going on in her life or with her students. She has genuinely cared for all of her students and has made a huge difference in many, many lives over the years,“

Hoeffer has thoroughly enjoyed a profession where she can see the fruits of her efforts.

“This is a place where students and faculty can bloom,” she said. “All you have to do is put in the effort. It’s so rewarding to watch my students walk across the stage. That’s the real payoff, not the money.”

Hoeffer is looking forward to spending more time with her family and working on her farm outside of Hartman, Ark., a small community about 20 miles west of Clarksville.

However, she said that she “will miss being a part of the campus. I will leave a piece of my heart here. There’s no way around it.”

Caldwell is another former Ozarks student who went on to a long career with the University. He first stepped onto the Ozarks campus in the fall of 1965 as a college freshman. He spent four years pursuing his degree in art with an emphasis on painting and drawing as well as a minor in science.

When thinking back upon his years as an undergrad, he is reminded of how some aspects of the campus have changed and some have stayed the same.

“The kids still complained about the food, just like they do today, but back then the cafeteria was an old framed house. We didn’t have many choices. We just got what they put on the plate,” said Caldwell.

Of all Caldwell’s memories as a student—including a class with Dr. Gilbert Parks who just completed his 47th year at Ozarks—perhaps the most unforgettable memory was meeting his wife. They married during his senior year.

After graduating in the spring of 1969, Caldwell went on to achieve a master’s in fine arts degree from the University of Arizona. He then spent a few years teaching art at public schools in both Iowa and Georgia. He returned to his alma mater in the fall of 1982, where he taught classes in a small studio in the basement of Voorhees Hall, now home of the International Office.

During his 29 years of teaching art at Ozarks, Caldwell has inspired and influenced the lives of hundreds of aspiring artists and other students.

“I met Professor Caldwell my second semester here while taking Sculpture I (class) with him,” said Ozarks sophomore Rikki Runyan. “He had my deepest respect and admiration ever since. He is quite an unusual character, and, although we
Today, SPRING/SUMMER 2011

 wish him the best in retirement, we are all going to miss him.”

Runyan fondly remembered the days of frustration while first learning the art of sculpting ceramics.

“He was so patient with me, and he did his best to stifle his laughter at the sight of my aggravation,” she said. “He was always there to help me. He has been an excellent teacher.”

Many students consider Caldwell as a mentor as they hone and develop their artistic talents.

“He became my mentor during my sophomore year when I was preparing for my sophomore review to be officially accepted into the art program,” said Ozarks senior Breanna Cranny. “I remember spending so much time in the studio that he became worried and started bringing me food because he thought I never left.”

Cranny went on to say that Caldwell taught her “to be resourceful and use anything. We even went dumpster diving together once for a recycling contest that I ended up winning, thanks to him.”

Although Caldwell will no longer be spending his days at Ozarks, he will never forget the time he has spent here.

“I treasure all my memories as both a student and faculty member,” he said. “Ozarks is a special place, certainly a unique place. I hope everyone appreciates it as much as I do.”

Caldwell is not the only one who will miss Ozarks, Cater, who has taught communications at the University since 1982, said she cherished her years.

“I love Ozarks,” she said. “I have had a truly remarkable career. I cannot think of any other institution where I could have had the kind of career that I had here with the people of the caliber that we have. You just don’t find people like that at other institutions.”

Cater joined Ozarks after studying community media and documentary film at Goddard College in Vermont. At Ozarks, she has served with three presidents and taught in four different buildings. “I may have had more offices than anyone else on campus, nine total,” she said with a smile.

As a communications professor in radio, television, and film, Cater has worked hard to stay up-to-date on the latest media technology while still maintaining the foundational principles of the trade. In fact, Cater is largely responsible for the design and technology of Walker Hall.

“I spent two and a half years doing the research for the building,” she said. “I got a Dial faculty grant so that I could travel and visit different communication programs on campuses around the U.S.”

On October 22, 2002 all of Cater’s hard work came to fruition during the dedication of Walker Hall. “I remember Dr. Niece telling me ‘Jane, this is going to be the highlight of your career,’ and he was right,” she said.

Throughout her career, Cater has managed to combine in her teaching the ever-evolving technology with the fundamentals of communications.

“The technology is slicker and smoother, but you still have to know how to use it and make it an instrument of education rather than distraction,” said Cater. She went on to say that despite the fact that technology is always evolving, “the need to inspire students has not changed.”

Cater’s desire to inspire students was evident in all of her classes.

“I have taken numerous classes with Dr. Cater and enjoyed all of them, but I think my most valuable experience with her was working as a peer mentor for her critical inquiry class last semester,” said Ozarks junior Lyda Rodriguez. “She put so much time and effort into getting to know all of her C.I. students. She met personally with each student to discuss their goals and ambitions. It made me realize just how special that personal connection really is, and I will never forget that.”

Cater has earned a deep respect from students and colleagues alike.

“Dr. Cater is responsible for starting a dynamic and strong radio and television major here at the University of the Ozarks,” said Susan Edens, director of broadcasting. “She literally built the program from the ground up and now look at the facility, the technology, and the students. It has been an honor to work alongside my mentor, and I will miss her day-to-day presence. Everything we have and so much of the positive legacy of our program is due in large part to her dedication and passion.”

At about the same time that Cater began building the communications program at Ozarks, Farmer joined the University as a one-man theatre program with big dreams and bright ideas. In 1987, Farmer was offered the position to begin teaching theatre in what was then the brand new Walton Fine Arts
Center. Farmer’s parents met as students at Ozarks, so coming to the University to teach was a natural choice for him.

Since joining the Ozarks community 24 years ago, Farmer experienced many wonderful memories, but his first few years set the standard for a long and successful career.

“I wouldn’t trade my first three years here for a million dollars,” he said. “Those students gave their hearts and souls to the theatre program. It was an exciting time. We raised money for the Pittman Scholarship. We did high school matinees. We even dug out old dressers that were in the process of being thrown out of MacLean Hall and used them as pedestals for cutting tables in the costume shop.”

Farmer’s students fondly remember those humble beginnings.

“Beyond that somewhat chaotic landscape, Dr. Farmer saw the future. He painted the picture for us, and we all set to work,” said Ozarks alumnus Evan Chronister, class of 1990. Chronister is just one of many students impacted by Farmer’s dedication as a professor and mentor.

“He may never truly know the depth in which he has touched his students’ lives over the span of his career, especially us theatre majors, said alumnus Trilliam Cerny, who after leaving Ozarks went on to a successful career as a TV and movie tailor and costume designer in New York City. “True heroes never consider themselves as such, and he is definitely a hero.”

Anyone who has taken a class with Farmer will attest to the truly unique learning environment that he creates. He combines learning with entertainment to create an experience that students will never forget.

“Life is just better when you can learn about torch songs, jellicle cats, and Stephen Sondheim,” said Ozarks junior Scharla Paryzek. “The Great American Broadway Musical was the best class ever.”

Both students and faculty alike will greatly miss Farmer and his vibrant personality.

“What am I going to miss most? Somebody who’ll fight for principle till the last dog dies. When the barbarians are storming over the walls, Pat’s the kind of man you want standing beside you. The ranks of folks like that are thinning. I’ll miss his courage, his forcefulness, his deep love of Ozarks, and his unmatched dedication to excellence,” said Dr. David Strain, chair of the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts.

Although Farmer was sad to say goodbye, he is grateful for everything that he experienced during his 24 years as a member of the Ozarks community.

“I’ve been blessed. God has blessed me richly, and I am thankful,” he said.

Ozarks is thankful for all of the wonderful faculty and staff members that have poured their hearts and souls into the mission of the university. Among those, Hilton can be counted among the professors who have left their mark on the campus. Hilton has been associated with Ozarks for more than 40 years. After graduating from Ozarks with a degree in accounting in 1975, he went on to obtain his MBA from the University of Central Arkansas in 1977. That same year he came back to Clarksville to teach at his alma mater.

Over the years, Hilton has delighted hundreds of students with his marketing classes.

“The things I learned from Dr. Hilton not only help me earn a living now but also to live life creatively,” said Ozarks alumnus David Rivas, class of 2010. “His courses were truly inspirational and never boring. I know he has left a mark on the life of every student that took a class with him at Ozarks.”

In fact, if one were to ask almost any marketing major who has graduated from U of O in the past 34 years, chances are they would say that Hilton played a major role in their decision to study marketing.

“My great experience in Dr. Hilton’s marketing concepts class is the reason I am now graduating with a degree in marketing,” said 2011 graduate Samantha Hoing. “He was really supportive. He loves what he does, and he was a great teacher.”

Not only has Hilton inspired students during his time at Ozarks, but he has served as a mentor to other faculty members who joined the division over the past 30 years.

“I have learned so much from him, and just knowing him has made me a better faculty member,” said Deb Sisson, assistant professor of accounting and business. “Dr. Hilton always sees the potential in every student, no matter their major or background. His ability to engage students is remarkable.”

Hilton has a fun-filled retirement planned, complete with concerts and lots of traveling. As he says goodbye to Ozarks, he leaves this one last piece of advice:

“Find your passion and pursue it!”

The retiring faculty and staff members are seasoned veterans in the art of pursuing a passion. Not only did they devote their professional lives to doing what they love, but they inspired thousands of students to do the same.

Long-time PE professor resigns

Ozarks said farewell to another longtime professor this May when Dr. Bruce Elmore, who has taught health and physical education at the university since 1988, resigned to accept a teaching position at Shenandoah University in Virginia. A native of New York, Elmore earned his bachelor’s degree from State University of New York-Cortland and his graduate degrees from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He won the University of the Ozarks’ Bagwell Outstanding Faculty award in both 1990 and 2011.
Over the past 15 years, Dr. Doug Jeffries has helped transform the campus into a sapling melting pot.

Walking across campus one afternoon in the mid-1990s, Biology and Environmental Studies Professor Dr. Doug Jeffries was struck by the lack of diversity among the trees on the University’s grounds. He set out to change that.

In the fall of 1996, Jeffries and two of his students, Melissa Myhand and Eduardo Molina, counted and identified all of the trees on the university property, starting a 15-year crusade by Jeffries to transform the campus into a sapling melting pot.

The 1996 report showed that there were 321 individual trees comprising 32 species. However, more than 60 percent of the species were of six varieties, mainly pine, sugar maple, post oak and elms.

“I felt not only that we needed more varieties, but that we needed to reduce the number of sugar maples by adding red maple and red oaks, which are much larger and longer-living trees and that are much better suited to Clarksville’s climate,” Jeffries said. “We also wanted to add more Arkansas native species.”

A tree is more than just visually and psychologically appealing, it is a way to state our hope for the future. As it cleans the air and provides a home for a myriad of critters, it will also be a symbol of life and our faith in a better future for all people, and the earth itself.

Dr. Doug Jeffries

In September of 1996 Jeffries submitted the report, as well as suggestions for improvements, to then president Dr. Gene Stephenson, who authorized the planting of new trees. The tree-planting efforts continued when Dr. Rick Niece became president in 1997.

“Doug was among the first people I met during my initial days at Ozarks,” Niece said. “He came to my office with a master plan to plant trees native to Arkansas around campus. He was enthused, I was intrigued, and our campus is now beautiful with indigenous Arkansas trees.”

Over the past 15 years, Jeffries has spearheaded efforts to plant between 9 and 17 trees each November as well as a tree each spring during Earth Week. He uses these times to educate students and others about the importance of trees.

“A tree is more than just visually and psychologically appealing, it is a way to state our hope for the future,” he said. “As it cleans the air and provides a home for a myriad of critters, it will also be a symbol of life and our faith in a better future for all people, and the earth itself.”

With the help of the Planet Club and volunteers comprised of students, faculty and staff members, Jeffries has planted between 150-200 trees during the past decade and a half. He estimates that approximately 300 students have...
How to Plant a Tree

1. Dig a hole slightly wider and shallower than the root ball.
2. Roughen the inside of the hole with a pick or shovel.
3. With the tree lying slightly inside the hole, gently remove the plastic container.
4. Make sure that the roots are uncurled and straightened, and then lower the tree into the hole.
5. Situate the tree so that it is standing upright.
6. Add natural compost or feed to help the soil maintain moisture and air.
7. Pack the soil around the tree to collapse any air pockets in the soil.
8. Water the tree with about 15 gallons right away.
9. Replace the original stake with another, and attach it using tree ties. Be sure to place it outside of the root ball.
10. Place a 3-4 inch layer of mulch around the tree’s base, leaving 2 inches from the trunk.

Information retrieved from the Tree People Organization.

— Larry Isch
David James was the king of the annual mini-Olympics at his elementary school in Jasper, Ark. That was until the fourth grade when a new kid moved into town from Wisconsin.

Over the next few years, James and the new kid, Tristan Cooper, waged an annual battle in the mini-Olympics for the coveted fastest-kid-in-the-class title.

“I won in the fourth grade and Tristan won in the fifth grade and then I came back and barely beat him in the sixth grade. And, it went on like that all through junior high,” said James. “It seems like we just went back and forth. It was something we definitely looked forward to each year. We pushed each other to get faster.”

James and Cooper are still pushing each other to go faster, now as senior-to-be teammates on the U of O cross country team. Forming perhaps the most formidable one-two punch in the program’s history, Cooper finished second overall and James fifth in the 2010 American Southwest Conference Cross Country Meet in October to lead the Eagles to a second-place team finish, their highest finish since 1996.

“David and Tristan have definitely helped take our program to a new level,” said Men’s Cross Country Coach Brian Hull, who competed for the Eagles in the late 1990s. “Their talent, work ethic and dedication are putting Ozarks’ cross country on the map.”

That two kids from the small, picturesque town of Jasper in northwest Arkansas would end up among the top cross country runners in the region is quite remarkable.

“It’s hard to explain, but I think one thing was that we had a really good coach there in Jasper who worked with us and pushed us,” said James.

Cooper would move off to Hot Springs after his 10th grade year, while James went on to lead Jasper High School to consecutive state cross country championships.

The two crossed paths again at Ozarks.

“I was looking at a lot of different schools, but then my

By Larry Isch

Seniors-to-be David James and Tristan Cooper have pushed each other as well as the men’s cross country team to new heights.
Teague Named Academic All-American

Ozarks junior cross country runner Ashley Teague was named to the 2010-2011 Capital One Academic All-America Women’s Cross Country All-District VI Team in June. Teague, a native of Lavaca, Ark., was the only American Southwest Conference runner to make the women’s team and finished as the Lady Eagles’ top runner in each race last year. Teague owns the fifth-fastest 5K time in school history after posting a 21:46.46 at the Memphis Twilight. She also has the top two 6K times at Ozarks, running a 25:47 at the NCAA III Regionals and a 25:57 at the ASC Championships. Teague, who is also a standout basketball player, finished 24th at the ASC Championships. The Capital One Academic All-District VI Women’s Cross Country Team, formerly known as the ESPN Academic All-District Team, for the college division recognizes outstanding NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, and NAIA student-athletes from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

mother (Dr. Kim Van Scoy, associate professor of life science education) got a job at Ozarks and that got me interested,” Cooper said. “When I found out David was coming here, that kind of solidified it. I knew if David was coming to Ozarks, we could have a pretty strong team.”

At Ozarks, the two runners continued their friendly rivalry, pushing each other in practice runs as well as during meets.

“It’s definitely a good day when I beat him,” James said. “I remember my high school coach telling me one time that I needed to step up my workouts because Tristan is over there doing this and that. That was all the motivation I needed. I was thinking the other day about who has won the most times over all the years and it’s probably pretty even.”

At Ozarks, the two have battled back and forth for the team’s top spot since their freshmen year, eventually pushing each other to among the region’s elite.

James set an Ozarks record last September in the 8K Memphis Twilight with a blistering time of 25:57.84, which shattered the school record of 26:02 set by Brandon Johnson in 1996. It was also the fastest time in the conference last year.

Not to be outdone, a few weeks later Cooper ran a 26:52.47 to finish second overall in the ASC Meet, three places above James’ fifth-place finish.

“David and Tristan have known each other for a long time, and there’s no doubt that want to beat each other,” said Hull. “They are good friends, and they want to see the other one do well. But they are also very competitive.”

Both runners qualified for the NCAA Division III Regional Championships in November, with Cooper finishing 14th with a time of 26:07 and James 25th with a time of 26:24. They both barely missed qualifying for the prestigious NCAA Division III Championships.

“That’s definitely one of our goals to compete in the NCAA Championships,” James said. “I think we can both run the 25’s consistently, and that’s what we’re shooting for next year. That would be a great way to finish our careers at Ozarks.”

Despite their similar successes, James and Cooper are quite the opposites—both in their running styles and personalities.

James, a physical education major whose goal is to become a cross country coach, is out-going and intense. He takes his running more seriously, easily remembering splits and times as well as names of competitors. Cooper, an environmental sciences and biology major who wants to become a wildlife biologist, is much more laid back, rarely remembering the specifics of a race. Cooper said he runs more for the fun and camaraderie of being with teammates.

On the course, James is known for his fast starts and all-or-nothing style. Cooper likes to start slow, gradually reeling in the front-runners and finishing with a surge.

“David likes to go all out and then hold on at the end,” said Hull. “Tristan’s style is a lot like his personality, a lot more laid-back. They’re definitely different, but they’ve both had success with their style.”

Going into their senior seasons, James and Cooper have helped the Ozarks cross country program attain new heights. One example is that the year before the two stepped on campus, the program did not have a runner who broke the 32:00 mark. Last year, led by the Jasper duo, the program had seven runners who broke 30:00 in a race.

“It’s neat to know you were able to be a part of building something,” said James. “To see the caliber of runners we’ve brought in over the past couple of years is great. I think Ozarks can be known as a strong cross country school.”
Alumni Association honors seven

The U of O Alumni Association presented its annual awards to seven individuals during the Alumni Weekend 2011 Awards Banquet on April 15.

Fred and Andrea Romo, both 1968 Ozarks graduates, received the Alumni Merit Award. The Alumni Achievement Award went to three men: Joel Gibbons ’57 of Plano, Texas; Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Hugh Overholt ’55 of New Bern, N.C.; and Charlie Spoonhour ’61 of Las Vegas, Nev.

Rebecca Green D’Aquin ’01 of Arlington, Texas, received the Young Alumni Service Award. The 2011 Legacy Award was given to Lt. Col. (Ret.) Claude Donaldson ’60 of Warminster, Penn. In addition, Professor Dr. Kim Van Scoy was awarded the Faculty Enrichment Award.

Fred and Andrea Romo have been long-time supporters of the University and are members of the Ozarks Legacy Society. Fred was a member of the Alumni Board from 1996-2007 and has served on the University’s Board of Trustees since 2006. Andrea was on the Alumni Board from 1996-2010, serving as president from 2007-2009.

Gibbons retired in 2009 from a career as a CEO, owner and consultant in commercial construction. An ordained minister of the Gospel by the Southern Baptist Convention, Gibbons has served as pastor of several small churches.

Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Overholt served as an attorney in the U.S. Army for 32 years. From 1985 to 1989 he served as The Judge Advocate General (TJAG), overseeing more than 2,400 lawyers and other legal personnel with the U.S. Army’s JAG Corps throughout the world.

Spooner, who was in poor health and could not attend the banquet, is a former nationally recognized basketball coach who compiled an impressive 750-311 record in a 40-year career that included stints on the high school, junior college and major college levels. His NCAA Division I head coaching stops included Southwest Missouri State (1983-92), Saint Louis (1992-99) and Nevada-Las Vegas (2001-04).

D’Aquin and her husband, David, own and operate Baseball Diamonds, a jewelry store in Arlington, Texas. For the past five years she has hosted an alumni gathering at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington during a major league baseball game. The event has quickly become one of the most popular alumni events of the year.

Lt. Col. Donaldson, who retired from a 21-year career in the military in 1969, has been a supporter of the university for more than 20 years, and established the Donaldson Turner Endowed Scholarship in 2007 to provide scholarships for students who need financial assistance. Donaldson has remained active as a volunteer with the AARP, teaching driver’s education and helping seniors prepare their taxes.

Alumni Awards (1940 to Present)

(Awarded for recognition or success within his or her chosen profession.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Dr. Forrest Rozzell ’31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>Robert Stanford ’29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>Robert Eubanks 1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Robert Stanford ’29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Lee Gammill ’21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Ada Parks Mills ’33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Dr. Philip B. Phillips ’35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Eugene Lee ’40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Richard Charsha ’37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Bettye Lou Wilder ’44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Ernestine Thruman ’44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>John Hiner ’35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Dr. John W. Stilley ’39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>Margaret Bumpers Kahliff ’37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Dr. Gerald Fisher ’50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>Dr. Roger Bost ’43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Arthur F. Nichols ’35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Susan Smith Epperson ’62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Ella Turner ’31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Patricia May Gilkey ’66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Ruby Taylor Villines ’26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Dr. Luther Hodge ’51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Dr. Jerry Rice ’53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Greer Lingle ’48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Gayle Wesley Kaundart ’50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Lillian Williams 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Dr. Robert Basham ’61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Dr. Forrest Rozzell ’31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Dr. Arch Gould ’24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Col. William Sissel ’28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Dr. Mary Tom Mills Riley ’55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Lee Easter ’58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Buddy Nichols ’72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Dr. Alvin C. Broyles ’41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Jack Phillips ’50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Gen. Richard Thompson ’59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>William L. Holder ’52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>W.J. “Bill” McCuen ’68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Dr. Reed Mack Perryman ’51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Dr. Frank Cole ’50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Today, SPRING/SUMMER 2011

Rev. L.E. Blakemore '1907
Ada Parks Mills '33
Claude Love '35
G. Ruth Farmer '37
Homer Brooks '38
Robert Ernest King '13
Dr. William A. McGarey '44
Ira Crawford '59
Larry Kruse '59
Ronnie Cookson '66
Joel Gibbons '57
Hugh Overholt '55
Charlie Spoonhour '61

Merit Award
(Awarded for meritorious work done on behalf of the University.)

Rev. L.E. Blakemore '1907
Ada Parks Mills '33
Claude Love '35
G. Ruth Farmer '37
Homer Brooks '38
Robert Ernest King '13
Dr. William A. McGarey '44
Ira Crawford '59
Larry Kruse '59
Ronnie Cookson '66
Joel Gibbons '57
Hugh Overholt '55
Charlie Spoonhour '61

Young Alumni Service Award
(Awarded to alumni under the age of 35 who have been active in alumni events.)

Debra Bender Woodruff '90
Callie Harmon Daniels '89
Joe Reece '94
Susan Edens '92
Shari Bausch Standridge '97

If you would like to nominate an individual for an Alumni Association award, please contact Alumni Director Lori McBee at lamcbee@ozarks.edu or 1-479-979-1354.

Young Alumni Service Award
(Awarded to alumni under the age of 35 who have been active in alumni events.)

Debra Bender Woodruff '90
Callie Harmon Daniels '89
Joe Reece '94
Susan Edens '92
Shari Bausch Standridge '97

If you would like to nominate an individual for an Alumni Association award, please contact Alumni Director Lori McBee at lamcbee@ozarks.edu or 1-479-979-1354.

Elyse Reece '94
Jennifer Rowe '93
Richard Gaston '94
Amy Anderson '97
Jeff Jackson '01
Trillian '99
Jennifer Bato '98
Rebecca Green D'Aquin '01

Legacy Award
(Awarded for a lifetime of unselfish giving of their resources to support Ozarks.)

Edna Ralston Bowman '28
May Mills Taylor '37
Dr. William Ernest King '41
Dr. Roger Bost '43
Kathryn King Bost '43
Dr. Roy Gillispe '48
Lura Waters Gillispie '49
Dorothy Carlisle Kelly '51
Dr. W. Wayne Workman '43
Susan Smith-Epperson '62
Wallace Dobbins '40
Carolyn Dobbins '42
Fritz '53 and Juanita Ehren '71
Gladys Ruth Farmer '37
Maxine Eggensperger '41
Katherine Garrett '39
Wayne Workman '44
Freddie Jean Sullivan '91
Arvid Bean '78
Farren Sadler '51
Andrea '68 and Fred '68 Romo

Alumni News

Edward Wilcox '42
Dr. Alvin C. Broyles '41
Conrow Reed Miller '27
Joan Roschevitz '69
Arvel C. Smith '42
Lou Seale Nixon Nichols '35
Bobbie Adkins McCracken '41
Dr. Jack Patterson '65
Aylean Ragland '31
E. Reece Reed '32
Mildred Smith Taylor '37
Flois Dickerson Miracle '25
Catherine Haigwood '33
Rev. William Rail '52
Gwennie Kraus '33
Cathy Ellenwood Blackburn '71
Garner Taylor '34
Max Mills Taylor '37
Jimmy Lewis '41
Harold Whitson '34
Dr. Donald Stecks '51
Winston Hardin '51
Nola Dodgen Hardin '52
Rev. John McCormack '33
Joanne Willett Taylor '60
Ert-Lee Shrigley '30
Kathryn King Bost '43
Mary Ann Becker Chance '69
Gladys Ruth Farmer '37
Maxine Eggensperger '41
Bill Rader '42
E. Kathryn Wright '58
David Rawhouser '69
Joanne Willet Taylor '60
Jack Patterson '65
Bill '52 and Jane '55 Holder
Claude Donaldson '60
Carl Underwood ’74 and Rosemary (Smith) Underwood ’75 are living in Charleston, Ark., where Carl is an elementary school principal.

Mike Mason ’78 is living in Fort Smith, Ark., where he has owned and operated his business, M&M Auto Sales, for the past 23 years. He and his wife, Gina, have three children and two grandchildren.

Jerry Glidewell ’79 was featured in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette’s Profiles section on Feb. 20, 2011. Glidewell, who has served as the director of the Fort Smith (Ark.) Boys & Girls Club for 21 years, was recognized for helping “tens of thousands of children” since he became executive director in 1990.

Maura (Figliulo) Howerton ’80 and her husband, Brad, recently moved to Hyderabad, India, where she is leading a team of international human resource professionals. Maura is the tax director at Deloitte Tax LLP in Minneapolis. They plan to live in India for two years.

Chie Ishii ’86, a pianist living in Berlin, has been working with her brother, a church pastor in Tokyo, to help her home country, Japan, recover from a devastating earthquake that hit the country in March. The church’s efforts to help the victims can be seen at www.japan-earthquake.jp.

Karen (Larson) Alhakeem ’86 is living in Hollister, Mo., with her family. She homeschools her children, twin daughters Kathy and Ashley, 16, and son, Derrick, 13. All three children are active members in the International Brotherhood of Magicians and have been performing for more than 10 years.

Oretha Faye Ferguson ’88, a 10th grade English teacher at Fort Smith (Ark.) Southside High School, was named a regional finalist for 2011 Arkansas Teacher of the Year.

Rebecca Ruth ’91 is a first-grade teacher for the Tulsa (Okla.) School District. She has one daughter, Elizabeth.

Kenneth Shannon ’91 is senior manager for talent development at the Wal-Mart Home Office in Bentonville, Ark.

Timothy Belt ’96 recently opened his own law firm, the Belt Law Firm, in Kingston, Penn. A 1999 graduate of Villanova University School of Law, Timothy has been practicing law in the Wilkes-Barre area for the past 12 years.

Hugh Inman ’96 of Marion, Ark., was recently named director of secondary education for the Marion School District.

Patrick Rogers ’96 recently finished filming at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival.

Joel Chan ’09 and Anna Young ’10 were married on June 25, 2011, in Penang, Malaysia. The couple are living in Pittsburgh, Penn., where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology from the University of Pittsburgh, and she plans to begin work on her master’s degree.

Ryan ’01 and Holly (McNair) Evans ’96 are living in Houston, Texas, with daughters Reed, 8, and Shayne, 2. Holly has been teaching kindergarten for the past 10 years, and Ryan works for a security consulting firm specializing in critical energy infrastructure.
After 17 years in semi-retirement, Ozarks alumnus Jack Edens ’55 continues to contribute to the education and well-being of Arkansas students. Edens graduated from Ozarks in 1955 with a degree in history, and since then has gone on to create a flourishing 57-year career in education.

Edens served with the 142nd Field Artillery Battalion in the Korean War during the early 1950s. When the young veteran returned home in 1952, he began attending classes and playing football at then College of the Ozarks. “I enjoyed myself there very much,” he said. “I wasn’t a super athlete, but they let me play, and I had a great time.”

Edens fondly remembers his time at Ozarks while taking classes with Dr. Frederick, the history teacher, playing football for Coach Koon alongside 26 other young men, and visiting MacLean Hall to see his friends. “The whole school was just a good experience for me.”

He began his career soon after graduation with a position as a history teacher and junior high football coach for the Joplin, Mo. school district. From there, Edens moved to Berryville, Ark., a small town in northwest Arkansas, where he continued teaching history and coaching. In fact, in the early 1960s, he actually started the very successful cross country program at Berryville.

In 1964, he received his master’s in physical education from the University of Arkansas, and eventually received a specialist degree in school administration. Edens served as principal for Berryville High School from 1970–77 and later went on to work as a guidance counselor for the Morenci, Ariz. school district.

During the 1980s he coached the boy’s track team in Morenci where he led the team to state titles in 1989, ‘92, ‘93, and ‘94. Since then, Edens has returned to Berryville where the local high school awarded him with the Charlie Matney Sportsmanship Award for all of his significant contributions to the Berryville athletic program.

Throughout his career, Eden’s continued to coach. In fact, over the course of his 57 years as an educator, he coached everything from track to basketball to cross country and football. During his years as a coach, he won 13 state championships and was runner-up five times. Despite his love for athletics, Edens never pushed his children into sports. “One of the things I respect most about my dad is that he didn’t force us to do sports,” said Susan Edens, director of broadcasting at Ozarks and a 1992 graduate. “My brother and I aren’t athletes. We tried, but I was more into theatre. My dad showed up to all of my performances. He always supported us no matter what we were doing, and I’m so grateful for that.”

Jack Edens also has a son, Wes, who is a librarian at Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. Most people slow down once they retire, but not Edens. He stays busy with numerous activities. “I fish a lot. I’ve got a large yard to take care of, and I play tennis a few nights a week.”

In addition to his outdoors activities, he serves his community as an active member of the local Rotary Club and the Berryville school board. He also volunteers part-time as a guidance counselor for Alpena Schools in Northwest Arkansas. He and Sharon, his wife of 22 years, also continue to assist with the local high school track and cross country programs.

Edens has had a long and full career complete with more state championships than most coaches even dream of. With no stopping point in sight, he continues to make the most of every day by fishing, playing tennis, and helping students achieve their best.

— Andrea Dankert

57 years in education isn’t slowing down Edens

— Andrea Dankert
Two 2008 U of O graduates—Brittney Flinn (left, left photo) and Lauren Christy (above photo)—graduated from the University of Arkansas School of Law in May.

Lindsey McEuen '05 married David Krueger on June 18, 2011, in Fayetteville. Lindsay is a fourth-grade teacher in Decatur, Ark.

Mafer Reyna '03 is living in London and working for Total, a French oil company. After Ozarks, Mafer studied at the London School of Economics and has been at Total since 2004.

Lindsey McEuen '05 married David Krueger on June 18, 2011, in Fayetteville. Lindsay is a fourth-grade teacher in Decatur, Ark.

Chris '05 and Courtney Schultz '06 of Denton, Texas, welcomed a new addition to the family, Eli Parker, on Nov. 27, 2010. He has an older brother, Ethan.

Chris '05 and Courtney Schultz '06 of Denton, Texas, welcomed a new addition to the family, Eli Parker, on Nov. 27, 2010. He has an older brother, Ethan.

Brad Johnson '06 was named the head boy’s basketball coach at Ozark (Ark.) High School in May. Johnson coached the past four years at Waldron.

Roland '05 and Marian (Dixon) Toups '06 welcomed a daughter, Madilynn Avery, to the family on April 23, 2011.

Michelle (Bachelor) Fischer '07 is living in Rogers, Ark., where she is an administrative specialist in the graduate dean’s office at the University of Arkansas. She and husband, Nathaniel, recently purchased their first house.

Wambu Gachungi '07 graduated from the Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Okla., on May 14. He earned a master’s of divinity degree.

Anna Mendenhall '07 is living in Bangladesh where she is working as a teacher for the Access Academy at the Asian University for Women. She teaches reading and writing to pre-university students from all over Asia. “It’s wonderful to have students from so many diverse backgrounds in the same classroom,” she said. “I can’t imagine a more fulfilling job. Major thanks to all my professors for filling my head with all of the knowledge that I’m now passing on to my students!”

Shannon Wells '07 of Shreveport, La., was recently accepted into medical school at Louisiana State University-Shreveport. She also recently received her master’s degree in public health.

Rand Wood '07 is living in Rockwall, Texas, where he is a production engineer for the Resin Mix Department for Cytec Engineered Materials. He is also working on a master’s degree in chemical engineering.

Darren Clark '08 and Kristyn Shinn '10 were married on June 4, 2011, in Springdale, Ark. The couple lives in Fayetteville, where Darren works as a senior financial sales representative for Arvest and Kristyn is employed at HealthSouth Rehab Hospital.

Jeana Feazel '08 of Lima, Ohio, is working as an administrative assistant for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network.

Torie Parsons '09 earned a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix in April. She currently works as a marketing manager at the Double Diamond Golfing resorts in Dallas.

Alicia Seow Yen Chua '10 has been accepted into graduate school at the UT School of Public Health.

Amy Smedley '11 married Wesley Patton on April 23, 2011, in Hot Springs, Ark. The Pattons are living in Hot Springs, where Amy works as an EMT and firefighter.
If you Google “Dzerzhynsk, Ukraine,” you don’t get much: “Dzerzhynsk is a city in Donetsk Oblast (province) of Ukraine. Population is 43,371 as of 2001.”

Lydia Brown, however, can tell you a lot more about it.

Brown, who graduated from Ozarks in 2008 with a degree in management, has spent the months since last September getting to know Dzerzhynsk and its people as part of her work as a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching its children and learning its customs.

This past semester, students in Professor Cynthia Lanphear’s “International Leadership” class recently shared an hour with Brown live via Skype, holding a question-and-answer session that provided them with much-needed information for their class projects.

“Life is hard here,” Lydia told the students. “The people still have a Soviet mind-set in many ways. In fact, the part of Ukraine I’m now in, the easternmost part, was part of Russia before the fall of the USSR.”

Brown teaches 5th through 10th grade English four days a week, 20 students per class. Once a week she spends time at a local orphanage.

“Orphans here are treated like you’d expect prisoners to be,” she said. “They thought I would get physically hurt interacting with them, so I had to go through this big ordeal to get to do it. Orphans are looked down on, and so it means a lot to those little girls to see me coming.”

Brown has been learning Russian, the language spoken by 81-percent of Ukrainians. She said they are bi-lingual, speaking Russian and Ukrainian. “Kids start learning English in the 1st grade, then French and Dutch in the 5th grade,” she said, “but really they only speak Russian and Ukrainian fluently.”

She has faced numerous challenges getting used to the Ukrainian lifestyle.

Women are looked at very differently here than at home,” she said. “Women don’t talk about politics and don’t shake hands with men. It takes adjusting.”

As a Peace Corps volunteer, Brown said that she is basically her own boss. She reports to her district manager only for advice, or if she has a problem. Although she is paid the same rate as local teachers—the equivalent of $125 per month—she says $5 will buy a whole week’s worth of groceries.

“I do all my shopping, clothes and food and everything, at the outdoor bazaars,” she said. “People eat a lot of vegetables here. A lot of borscht. That’s beet soup.”

She said her apartment, in a Soviet-era concrete cube of a building, is about $60, but nice enough, and as a Peace Corps volunteer she has access to a DSL internet connection, which makes life a lot easier—for entertainment she relies on downloaded movies or TV programs. She doesn’t have a television because all the broadcasts are in Russian.

“No air conditioning in the summer here!” Brown said. “On the other hand, the teachers have cake and champagne on birthdays at the school. Then they go teach class. Try that back home! It’s pretty funny.”

She has travelled throughout the country and had plans to travel to St. Petersburg and Moscow this summer.

“My folks want me to come home for Christmas,” she said, “but you can travel to Egypt from here, stay there a week with all meals, for only $500, so I was kind of thinking about spending Christmas at the pyramids.”

Brown will spend a total of two years and three months in the Ukraine as a Peace Corps volunteer.

— Don Lee

Lydia Brown speaks with Cynthia Lanphear’s International Leadership students via the internet during a recent class. The Ozarks graduate is a Peace Corps volunteer teaching English in the Ukraine. She will be there a little over two years.

Brown relishes Peace Corps experience in Ukraine
Christina (Pultz) Alter ’33
Christina (Pultz) Alter ’33 of Fort Smith, Ark., died Feb. 23, 2011, at the age of 99. She was a long-time teacher in the Fort Smith area.

Lillian (Hunt) Zarwell ’33
Lillian (Hunt) Zarwell ’33 of Fort Smith, Ark., died Feb. 20, 2011, at the age of 97. She was a retired teacher and speech therapist.

Juanita (Taylor) Deeds ’34
Juanita (Taylor) Deeds ’34 of Clarksville, died Jan. 5, 2011, at the age of 99. She was a retired teacher and church organist.

Adora Alice (Clark) Duke ’34
Adora Alice Clark Duke ’34 of Pelham, Ga., died on Nov. 11, 2010, at the age of 98. She was a life-long teacher and librarian in Alabama and Georgia.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Newton Arbaugh ’37
The Rev. Dr. Robert Newton Arbaugh ’37 of Marionville, Mo., died Feb. 2, 2011, at the age of 94. He was a retired Methodist pastor.

Wallace “Wally” Dobbins ’40
Wallace “Wally” Dobbins ’40 of Cedaredge, Col., died Jan. 5, 2011, at the age of 90. He was a retired newspaper editor and college administrator.

Grace (Phillips) Tenney ’41

Elizabeth “Betty” (King) Walsh ’41
Elizabeth “Betty” (King) Walsh ’41 of Alameda, Calif., died on Aug. 27, 2010 at the age of 90.

Virginia Lou (Laster) Williams ’43
Virginia Lou (Laster) Williams ’43 of West Columbia, Texas, died March 6, 2011, at the age of 89. She was a recipient of the 2006 Alumni Legacy Award from U of O.

Dr. E. Sue (Harrison) Doss ’45
Dr. Sue E. Doss ’45 of Russellville, Ark., died on April 19, 2011, at the age of 88. She was a professor of English and a university administrator for 40 years, including 37 years at Arkansas Tech.

Everett P. Rice ’48
Everett P. Rice ’48 of Fullerton, Calif., died Jan. 11, 2011. He was a World War II veteran and a retired teacher and principal.

Glenn Selby Brown ’49
Glen Selby Brown ’49 of Knoxville, Ark., died Feb. 4, 2011. He was a veteran of World War II and retired farmer, teacher and school supervisor.

Dr. David D. Scarborough ’49
Dr. David D. Scarborough ’49 of Clarksville, died May 6, 2011. He was a retired pharmacist and recipient of the 1962 Merit Award.

Emily (Fry) Griffith ’50
Emily (Fry) Griffith ’50 of Fort Smith, Ark., died April 20, 2011, at the age of 86. She was retired from a long career with the Social Security Administration.

Dr. Kemal E. Kutait ’50
Dr. Kemal E. Kutait ’50 of Fort Smith, Ark., died Nov. 4, 2010, at the age of 80. He was a retired physician and medical school professor.

Dr. Harlan L. McMillan ’50
Dr. Harlan L. McMillan ’50 of Russellville, Ark., died Jan. 10, 2011, at the age of 84. He was a veteran of World War II and a retired college professor and administrator at Ozarks and Arkansas Tech University.

James W. Rackley Sr. ’50
James W. Rackley, Sr. ’50 of Mena, Ark., died on March 19, 2011, at the age of 87. He was a World War II and Korean War veteran. He was a long-time coach at Mena High School.

Arthur Quinnoes Hamilton ’51
Arthur Quintos Hamilton ’51 of Cameron, Okla., died on Jan. 15, 2011, at the age of 88. He was a World War II veteran and a retired coach, teacher and school superintendent.

Winston Hardin ’51
Winston Hardin ’51 of Ozark, Ark., died Dec. 27, 2010, at the age of 83. He was Navy veteran and a long-time general manager of Cargill, Inc. He won the Alumni Merit Award in 1989.

Martha L. (Shell) Emerson ’52
Martha L. (Shell) Emerson ’52 of Hereford, Texas, passed away on Feb. 11, 2011, at the age of 79. She was a teacher and coach for 33 years in Texas, including 29 years at Hereford.

Dr. Harlin D. Estes Sr. ’52
Dr. Harlin D. Estes Sr. ’52 of Shreveport, La., died Nov. 18, 2010, at the age of 87. He was a World War II veteran and retired pharmacist of 59 years.

Billy Willis ’52
Billy Willis ’52 of Clarksville, died Dec. 21, 2010, at the age of 80. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and long-time employee of Clarksville Light & Water.

The Rev. Dr. Jim Hall Forkner ’54
The Rev. Dr. Jim Hall Forkner ’54 of Shell Knob, Mo., died Nov. 8, 2010, at the age of 77. He was the former pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Shell Knob.
Joe Magnani ’54
Joe Magnani ’54 of Hartford, Ark., died April 30, 2011, at the age of 79.

Dr. Judd I. Giezentanner ’55
Dr. Judd I. Giezentanner ’55 of Springdale, Ark., passed away on Sept. 19, 2010, at the age of 77. He was a U.S. Army veteran and a retired veterinarian.

Clyde Douglas “C.D.” Morgan ’55
Clyde Douglas “C.D.” Morgan ’55 of Clarksville, died Nov. 11, 2010, at the age of 81. He was a Korean War veteran and worked in the oil business for 54 years.

Larry Neil Burnham ’57
Larry Neil Burnham ’57 of Fort Smith, Ark., died April 4, 2011, at the age of 75. He was retired from a 45-year career in sales.

Arlie Dean Yeager ’59
Arlie Dean Yeager ’59 of Broken Arrow, Okla., died Nov. 19, 2010. He was a retired teacher.

Vernon H. Vire ’60
Vernon H. Vire ’60 of Ozark, Ark., died May 8, 2011, at the age of 77. He was a veteran of the Korean War and retired from the U.S. Forest Service.

Norman L. Marvel ’64
Norman L. Marvel ’64 of Harrison, Ark., died April 21, 2011, at the age of 78. He was a long-time teacher and superintendent in Arkansas.

James Marion Walker ’65
James Marion Walker ’65 of Clarksville, died Nov. 13, 2010, at the age of 73.

Judy Beth (Felkins) Stewart ’66
Judy Beth (Felkins) Stewart ’66 of Little Rock, died June 1, 2011, at the age of 66. She was a retired gallery owner and real estate agent.

Robert James “Bob” Yerby ’66
Robert James “Bob” Yerby ’66 of Dardanelle, Ark., passed away on Nov. 27, 2010, at the age of 68.

Ruth Arlene (Rowbotham) Pitts ’67
Ruth Arlene (Rowbotham) Pitts ’67 of Lamar, Ark., died April 2, 2011, at the age of 65. She was a retired school teacher.

Charles C. Clinton ’68
Charles C. Clinton ’68 of Clarksville died on June 10, 2011, at the age of 79. He served as circuit clerk of Johnson County from 1969-70 and was a former auditor for the state of Arkansas.

Michael G. Kinder ’68
Michael G. Kinder ’68 of Lamar, Ark., died Jan. 18, 2011, at the age of 64. He was a former high school football coach and salesman for Universal Fire & Equipment.

The Rev. Jon A. Nyberg ’68
The Rev. Jon A. Nyberg ’68 of Bradenton, Fla., died on April 6, 2011, at the age of 64. He was a former chaplain at Saint Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

Russell “Sarge” Sherhag ’68
Russell “Sarge” Sherhag ’68 of Massillion, Ohio, died Nov. 29, 2010. He was a retired English teacher and coach.

Carolyn J. (Crotts) Wright ’74
Carolyn J. (Crotts) Wright ’74 of Clarksville, died Jan. 5, 2011, at the age of 62. She was a retired school teacher.

Ruby L. (Isaacs) Bosch ’75
Ruby L. (Isaacs) Bosch ’75 of Magazine, Ark., died Nov. 9, 2010, at the age of 57.

Anna Kathryn (Woodward) Styles ’77
Anna Kathryn (Woodward) Styles ’77 of Coal Hill, Ark., died Oct. 27, 2010, at the age of 82. She was a long-time nurse.

Carolyn Lee Taylor ’82
Carolyn Lee Taylor ’82 of Clarksville, died April 13, 2011, at the age of 64.

Deborah (Liljequist) Batson ’86
Deborah (Liljequist) Batson ’86 of Oklahoma City, died Jan. 30, 2011, at the age of 57.

Robert Sutliff ’92

Jonathan A. Honeycutt ’06
Jonathan A. Honeycutt ’06 of Center Ridge, Ark., died March 8, 2011, from injuries suffered in a car accident. He was a reactor operator at Arkansas Nuclear One.

Elizabeth Jean Anderson
Elizabeth Jean Anderson, a former trustee at Ozarks, died on April 11, 2011, in Edmond, Okla., at the age of 69.

Leon Betnar
Leon Betnar of Lamar, Ark., a former employee in the maintenance department at Ozarks, died on Dec. 24, 2010, at the age of 83.

Dr. James Koontz
Dr. James Koontz, choir director and music professor at Ozarks from 1952-62, died May 24, 2011, at age 91 in Hastings, Neb.

The Rev. Dr. William “Bill” Lytle
The Rev. William “Bill” Lytle, who directed the university’s area mission program for 11 years in the 1960s and 70s, died May 27, 2011, at the age of 87 in Los Gatos, Calif.

Dr. James N. Roberts
Dr. James N. Roberts, who was academic dean at Ozarks in the 1960s, died April 13, 2011, in Harrisville, Penn., at the age of 81.

Jewell Self
Jewell Self of Clarksville, a former employee of the grounds department at Ozarks, died on March 8, 2011.
Kenneth Blanchard ’50
  William Eddington ’55 and Charlotte
  Felkins Eddington ’56
William “Billy” Bock ’58
  William and Sherry Smith
Edna Ralston Bowman ’28
  Leonard and Annemarie Ralston
Gene Bradley ’56
  Carl Miller ’64 and Madge Miller
Larry Burnham ’57
  Harold Johnston ’60
Marian Riddell Cargile ’64
  John W. Cargile ’61
Betty Emery Carter ’52
  Georgia White Johnston ’53 and O.G.
  Johnston
Marian Carter
  Joanne Willett Taylor ’60
Elmo H. Cater
  Jane and Brent Cater
Willie M. Cater
  Jane and Brent Cater
Sam Christy ’53
  William Eddington ’55 and
  Charlotte Felkins Eddington ’56
Deceased Members of the Clarksville
High School Class of 1962
  Donna Manley Wolfe and
  Jonathan Wolfe
Una Clark
  Douglas Dennett ’02
Jack Cline ’74
  Katherine Rader Garrett ’39
  Freda Kauffeld Willett ’52
Earl and Xenya Coats
  Thomas Richardson ’69 and Linda
  Richardson ’61
John Barnes Coleman
  Sean and Jennifer Coleman
John Coppic ’49
  Alice M. Coppic
Juanita Taylor Deeds ’34
  Chapter “Q” P.E.O.
  Lee and Joanie Mills McCleskey
  Reba Pridgin ’81 and David Pridgin ’71
  Joanne Willett Taylor ’60
  Ron and Kerry Dillaha Taylor
  Louise Taylor ’51
Elaine V. Dennett and Douglas J. Dennett
  Douglas Dennett ’02
Charles Doak
  Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
  Rick and Sherée Niece
Wallace Dobbins ’40
  Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
  Larry Isch
  Michael Shannon McBee ’89 and
  Lori McBee
  Rick and Sherée Niece
  Reba Pridgin ’81 and David Pridgin ’71
Helen Turner Donaldson
  Claude Donaldson ’60
  Hilda Turner
E. Sue Doss ’45
  Dawn J. M. Scarborough
Tony Dvoracek
  Advancement Team
  Richard and Alena Buckmaster
  Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
  Helen Rader Fulton ’40
  Katherine Rader Garrett ’39
  Sonje and Richard Gejji
  Rick and Sherée Niece
  Reba Pridgin ’81 and David Pridgin ’71
  Gary David Scarborough ’82
  William Scarborough ’39
  Gaye Taylor ’53
Laura Sue Hill Ehren ’56 and Robert
Ehren ’55
  Bill Alexander ’55 and Linda Alexander
Jane Havener Eichenburer ’60
  Mary Sue Phillips Powers ’60 and
  Jimmy Powers
Elizabeth Eisenmayer ’00
  John Frost ’89 and Julia Frost
  Forrest Hoeffer ’65 and Helen Groskopf
  Hoeffer ’81
  Becky Steele Jorgensen ’74
  Edith McChesney
Martha Shell Emerson ’52
  Sara Shell Dale ’51
Mitchell S. and Esther H. Epperson
  Susan Smith Epperson ’62 and
  Jon Epperson
James Houghton
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
Rick and Sherée Niece

Robert Hudson '69
Mary Lou Hyde '75 and David Hyde

George Humphries '65
William Edington '55 and Charlotte Felkins Edington '56

Gary Husa
Dawn J. M. Scarborough

Frank Ingram '48 and Marie Ingram '33
Bill Ballard '56 and Juanita Ballard

Pauline Jacobs
Rick and Sherée Niece

Marguerite Jeffries
Connie and Michael Booty
Elissa Heil
Doug Jeffries
Rick and Sherée Niece
Steven and Amy Oatis
Dawn J. M. Scarborough
Ron and Kenny Dillaha Taylor

Dickie Jones '72
Fritz Ehren '53 and Juanita Blackard
Ehren '71
Pamela Shrigley Jones '71
Faye Williams Raible '72 and Gary Raible
William Shrigley, Jr. '69

Fred A. and Ophelia Jacobs Kauffeld
Sylvia Kauffeld Kinnear '66
Wanda Kauffeld Shively '54

Jennie Lucinda Kennedy
Keith Kennedy Trust

Glen Kern
Michael Shannon McBee '89 and Lori McBee

Burley King '40
Billie Burnett King '40

Louise King
Dawn J. M. Scarborough

W. E. King
Roger Bost '43 and Kathryn King
Bost '43

W. Ernest King, Jr. '41
Wayne Workman '44 and Betty Bush Workman

Shelli Stewart Lambertson
John Frost '89 and Julia Frost
Forrest Hoeffer '65 and Helen Groskopf Hoeffer '81
Tina and Bryan McCain
Debbie Stallings Mooney '82 and Charles Mooney
Dody and Jeremy Pels

James Lemley '61
John Rotenberg '62 and Arlie Stokes Rotenberg '61

Patricia Holzman Mainer '58
Charlotte Downs Davis '57

Ruth Bost May '51
Roger Bost '43 and Kathryn King
Bost '43
Margaret Bost Douglass '41

Wayne May '66
Carl Miller '64 and Madge Miller

Mackie McLuree
Charlene McMillan Watson '44

Stella McMillan
Connie and Michael Booty
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
Rick and Sherée Niece
Reba Pridgin '81 and David Pridgin '71
Darrell Williams '76 and Debbie Tipton Williams '81

Helen Marie Smith Moncrief '35
Linda Moncrief

Clyde Morgan '55
William Edington '55 and Charlotte Felkins Edington '56

Lois Mossiman
Sammy Manning '71 and Virginia Figliulo Manning '74

Lucile Lucas Murphy '33
Mitsuko Ichinose '68

Jon Nyberg '68
Arthur Leonard '68 and Nina Leonard
Carl Mashburn '69 and Sherry Mashburn
Gar Matthews, Jr. '73 and Nancy Ott Matthews
Kenneth Williams '68 and Christina Larison Williams '70

Tommy E. Owens '70
Robert Gibson '76 and Glenda Gibson
Glenda Dennis Owens '71 and Steve Owens

William Park '50
Ann Park '49

Edward Myron Parker
Tommy and Judy Parker

J. T. Patterson '38 and Lucile Sanders Patterson
Ann Patterson '75 and Max Snowden
Darrell Williams '76 and Debbie Tipton Williams '81

J. T. Patterson '38
Paul DuVall '62

James Perrett
Karen Hilton Rossmaier '77 and Joel Rossmaier

James Phillips
Bill and Kody Eakin
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
Michael Shannon McBee '89 and Lori McBee
Rick and Sherée Niece

Continued on Page 34
Reba Pridgin ’81 and David Pridgin ’71
Ron and Kerry Dillaha Taylor

Susie Maude Pittman ’39
Beta Sigma Phi

Eileen Taylor Pitts ’29
Sandra Pitts Gray ’57

Arlene Rowbotham Pitts ’67
Cara Rowbotham Flinn ’85
Angela Wheeler Spencer ’98 and
Shawn Spencer

Carolyn Morgan Qualls ’66
James Johnson ’57 and Linda
Johnson ’65

James Rackley ’50
Beth Shipman

William S. Rader ’42
Naomi Atkinson
Fritz and Mardie Gebhard
Joanne Willett Taylor ’60

Michael A. Rail ’80
Georgia White Johnston ’53 and O.G.
Johnston
William Rail ’52 and Maxine
Phillips Rail ’52

Lily Hulse Ralston ’29
Leonard and Annemarie Ralston

Maddox Cruz Redman
Scott and Michelle Loving

Harriet and Joe Reece
George Reece ’83

Elizabeth Ann Strauss Reed
Floyd Eddleman
Rick and Sherée Niece
Gilbert Parks, Jr.

Katherine McNabb Riddell ’40
John W. Cargile ’61

Wendell Riddell ’36
John W. Cargile ’61

F. Ray Riddle
Robert K. Bennett

Marie Riemenschneider
Connie and Michael Booty
Elissa Heil
Steven and Amy Oatis

James Roberts
George and Betty Beaulieu
Jean Clinger
Gary and Judith Cunningham
Joy Gallagher
Glenn and Betty Hart
Sandra Isacco
Frank and Gail Jablonovsky
Nyla Kauffman
Alice Ketler
Joseph Kopnisky
Edgar and Shirley Kreft
Chris and Margaret Laursen
Joseph and Ramona Marks
Clifford McCandless
Don and Linda McLean

Betty Norton
Dean and Barbara Poolos
Lonnie Qualls ’55 and Levada Mathis
Qualls ’55
Carlyle and Martha Roberts
Jack Roberts
Vincent and Margaret Showalter
Alexander and Yolanda Thomas
Cliff and Karin Tillotson
John and Edna Mae Tissue
David and Gay Travaglio
Dennis Woodward and Colleen Roberts

Jesse Rowe ’50
Wayma Workman Rowe ’49

Roger and Hassel Hunt Rowland
Elizabeth Rowland Anderson ’72 and
King Anderson

Jeanette Graham Saeton
Joseph Baker ’69 and Marge Baker

David Scarborough ’49
Rick and Sherée Niece
Lonnie Qualls ’55 and Levada Mathis
Qualls ’55
Dawn J. M. Scarborough

Charlie Seifers ’50
John Douglas ’50
William Eddington ’55 and Charlotte
Felkins Eddington ’56

Jewell Self
Rick and Sherée Niece
Darrell Williams ’76 and Debbie
Tipton Williams ’81

Alvin Sherby ’68
Robert Wheeler, Jr. ’66

Russell “Sarge” Sherhag ’68
Brandy Rhodes Cox ’99 and Chad
Cox ’98
Forrest Hoeffer ’65 and Helen
Groskopf Hoeffer ’81
Jimmy King ’66 and Alice Data
King ’67
Rick and Sherée Niece
Reba Pridgin ’81 and David Pridgin ’71
Lonnie Qualls ’55 and Levada
Mathis Qualls ’55
Susan Sherhag ’70
Valerie Shuman
Fred Starkey ’68 and Bonnie Renfrow
Starkey ’68
David Wagner

William Shipman ’50
Beth Shipman

William Sissel ’28 and Ruth Sissel ’29
Ball Corporation

T.L. and Lois Smith
Susan Smith Epperson ’62 and Jon
Epperson

Elizabeth Spanke ’34
Gretchen Hill

Curtis Lee Spence
Dody and Jeremy Pelts
Lance Spence ’91 and Virginia Spence

Robert Dennis Spurlock ’65
Carl Miller ’64 and Madge Miller

Levon Stumbaugh
Ron and Kerry Dillaha Taylor

Kathryn Styles ’77
Martha Holden Bagley ’57
William Eddington ’55 and Charlotte
Felkins Eddington ’56
Fritz Ehren ’53 and Juanita Blackard
Ehren ’71
Rick and Sherée Niece

Cecil L. Suit
Jane and Brent Cater

Euna Lowe Suit
Jane and Brent Cater

John Talley ’43
Sarah C. Talley

Carolyn Taylor ’82
Rick and Sherée Niece

May Mills Taylor ’37
Michael Shannon McBee ’89 and Lori
McBee

Ashley Thomas
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
Larry Isch
Rick and Sherée Niece
Dawn J. M. Scarborough

Jess Thompson
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten

Warren Tomlinson
Steve and Dorinda Edmisten
Rick and Sherée Niece

Al Topping
Jack and Patricia Overholt

Jake Tull ’10
Bob Adkins
Leila Alston
Eric Baker
Chris and Debbie Benson
Susan Blair
Bob and Jill Bloom
Isabel Chang
Chip and Johann Chiles
Larry and Martha Chisenhall
Cynthia Conger
Christine Coutu
Charlie and Nancy Culbertson
Allen Dobson
Jim Dowden
Janet and Frederick Drummond
Joseph and Sarah Falasco
Stephen and Laurie Fisher
John M. Fowler, Jr.
Susan Garner
Margie Goss
Timothy W. Grooms
Dorothy Hall
If you would like to recognize a loved one by making an Honorarium or Memorial gift to the University of the Ozarks’ Annual Scholarship Fund, please contact the Advancement Office at 479-979-1230.
Several students (above left) took part in a Habitat for Humanity project. Meagan FinCannon of Talala, Oklahoma, and Taylor Jacks of Clarksville (above center) were named Homecoming Queen and King in February. Members of the Ozarks Outdoors work on fixing up an old house (above right) that will serve as the organization’s basecamp.

Students took part in a fun fund-raiser (left) that included slipping and sliding. A large group of students (above) toured parts of Europe in an Ozarks Abroad course called Psychology in Europe, led by professors Karen Jones and Dr. Joel Hagaman.

Members of the Lady Eagles soccer team (above left) held a skills camp for local youth in April. Student organizations (above right) put on a festival for families during Alumni Weekend that included face-painting.
CELEBRATE!

Join us on Friday, Oct. 7, as we celebrate the successful completion of the **Promise of Excellence Campaign** by honoring the 4,080 caring supporters who committed $40,589,335.76 to enhance the educational experience for Ozarks’ students. Highlights will include dedication ceremonies for:

- The Mabee Student Fitness Center
- The Rogers Student & Community Conference Center
- Bork Dining
- Trustee Hall

*Please stay tuned for more details.*