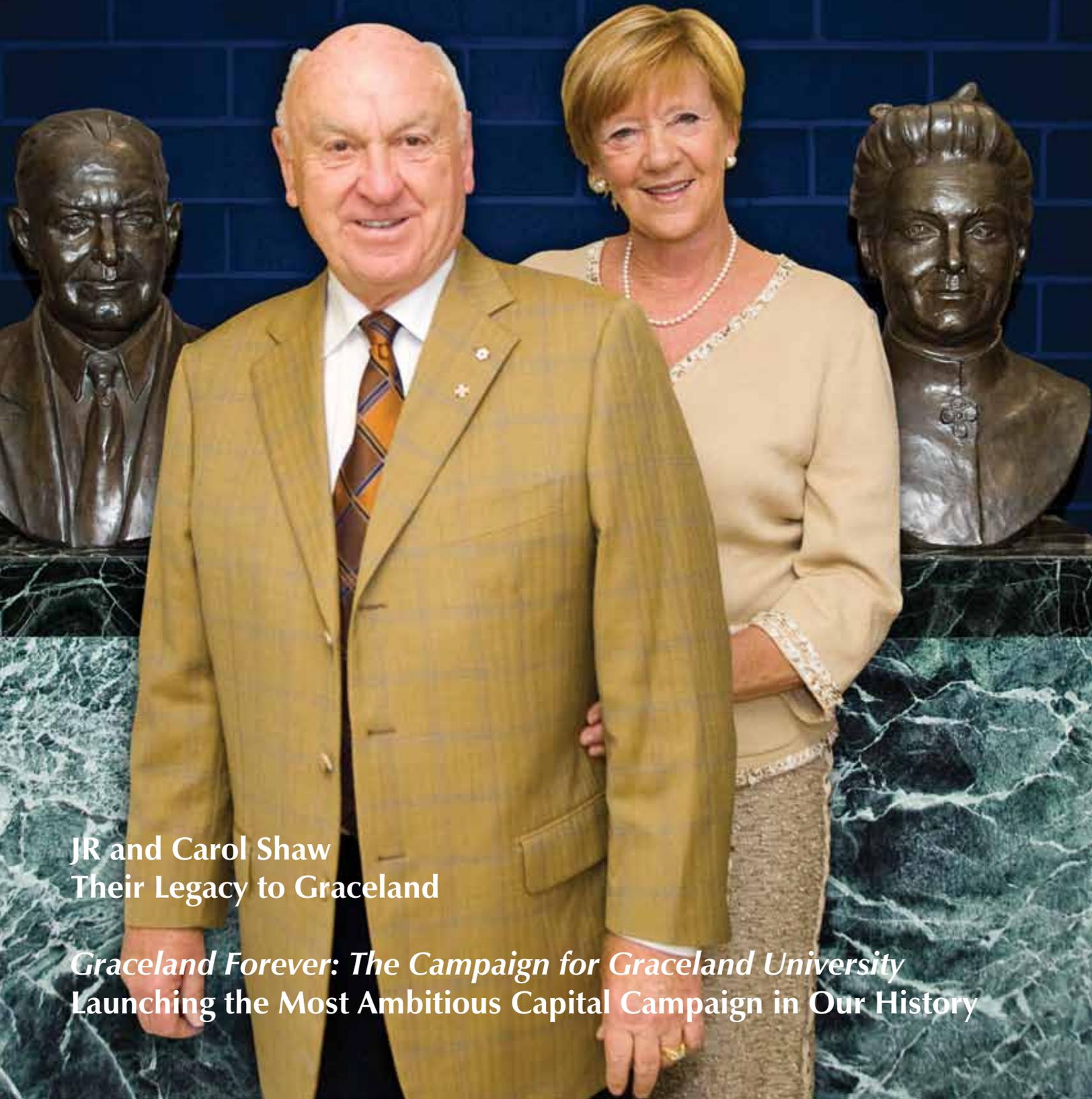


H Graceland University Horizons

Alumni and Friends Magazine

Fall 2011 Vol. 27, No. 2



JR and Carol Shaw
Their Legacy to Graceland

*Graceland Forever: The Campaign for Graceland University
Launching the Most Ambitious Capital Campaign in Our History*

From the President



Welcome to Homecoming 2011 the Weekend of October 14-16

This has been such a monumental year at Graceland I hardly know where to start. First, let me welcome you back to Homecoming the weekend of October 14-16. Homecoming is my favorite time of year at Graceland. I get to meet many parents of our new students, spend time with alumni of all ages, and of course enjoy a tailgate party, a football game, and a lot more.

We have a lot of fun planned this year. See pages 22-25 in this issue of *Horizons* for a complete listing of events, activities and venues. Bette and I will be looking forward to visiting with you.

This Homecoming is special in several ways. For one, you will quickly notice that the center of campus is under construction. The major expansion and renovation of the Shaw Center is well underway. Many of you will have your first opportunity to view the magnitude of the project, and envision what it will mean to Graceland upon its completion in 2012. I would like to thank JR and Carol Shaw for making it all possible. See pages 4-5 for more on this exciting transformation.

Most of you will not have seen our new 'Small' and 'Thomas' student apartments that were completed in August, just in time for move-in day. They are simply stun-

ning. They add a beauty to the north entrance of campus that I think offers a renewed 'welcome' to our students, and to the community. See pages 8-9 for a photo of the apartments and a word about their namesakes, Norma and Richard Small.

I am most energized this year about the launch of our new capital campaign, Graceland Forever: The Campaign for Graceland University. Meet us at 11 a.m. Saturday at the stage out in the Quad for ceremonies launching the most ambitious capital campaign goal in Graceland history: \$75 million. Please see pages 2-3 for details about this historic challenge. I have shepherded higher education capital campaigns throughout my career and I can say that I have never been as excited as I am about what this campaign will mean to Graceland.

Welcome Home.

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About the cover: JR and Carol Shaw pose during ground breaking ceremonies with the bronze busts of JR's parents, Francis and Lottie Shaw, namesakes of the Shaw Center. JR and Carol have made the single largest gift in Graceland history, making possible the tremendous expansion and renovation of the Shaw Center.

Horizons, Volume 27, No. 2

Horizons (USPS 0884-8939) is published three times a year, Spring/Summer, Fall and Winter, by Graceland University, Lamoni, Iowa. Send address changes to: Horizons, Graceland University Alumni Programs Office, 1 University Place, Lamoni, Iowa, 50140. The magazine is distributed without charge to alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the university. Free copies are available upon request. Direct inquiries to the Alumni Programs Office at the address above, call 1.866.GU4-EVER, or on the university's website: www.graceland.edu.

GRACELAND

The Campaign for Graceland University

We know you have been saving the weekend of October 14-16 so you and your family can get back to “the Hill” for Homecoming 2011. Now is the time to firm up your plans. Mark your calendar today. We have ordered a glorious fall weekend. There will be golden, crunchy leaves to fall down and roll in. Beautiful blue skies to lift you back up. Temperatures will hover in the mid-70s. Trust us. It is all arranged.

Well, maybe we can't predict the weather, but we *are* predicting an exciting weekend. And we are kicking things off Saturday morning with an event that we confidently predict is going to shape the future of Graceland University.

At a celebratory event at 11 a.m. Saturday morning on the Quad we will formally launch the greatest capital campaign in our university's long history. Graceland Forever: The Campaign for Graceland University will touch every Gracelander's life, with emphases on infrastructure upgrades, new academic programs and the talented faculty members to ignite them.

Campaign chair Bob White, from the great Class of 1977, will be on hand, with other dignitaries, to share his vision of our university's future.

Our students are our focus. Every plan, every goal, every dream, is in place to create an environment, and enhance our community, so current students will feel highly valued, and our students of the future will say, “I can't wait to be at Graceland.” When they graduate, they will achieve their personal goals – for career, for life.

Our goal is lofty: \$75 million. With a tremendous lead gift from JR and Carol Shaw, and many other gifts and pledges, we have already reached nearly \$37 million. As President John Sellars and Board of Trustees Chair Ken McClain frequently proclaim, “We have the most generous and loyal donors of any university in the world.” President Sellars said recently that while other universities have seen huge dips in gifts, Graceland has seen a significant increase.

With the Shaw expansion and renovation, the brand new ‘Small’ and ‘Thomas’ student apartments, Resch Hall, The Helene Center, Huntsman Field and continued planning for a new fitness/wellness center, we have experienced a renaissance in recent years toward creating a 21st century campus.

But our work is far from done. The goals and dreams we must realize by 2020 will take the commitment of the entire Graceland community. We know we can do it, and we will emerge as a stronger and more appealing institution of higher learning.

We need estate gifts and pledges for new endowed chairs in vibrant academic programs taught by world-class scholars; we need new endowed scholarships to bring students into our signature programs; we need to continue our reconnection with Community of Christ with the ‘Study and Faith’ scholarships; we need continued campus technology upgrades; we need gifts for our very popular Winter Terms, the growing academic Honors Program, our National Champion SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team, and special summer internships.

Support for all this, and more, is at the heart of Graceland Forever.

We can't promise gorgeous weather, but we predict you will join us on “the Hill” Saturday morning at Homecoming. Join us to launch Graceland's future.

FOREVER





Graceland Forever: Our Legacy with JR and Carol Shaw

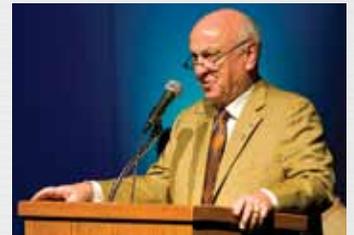
Since 1982 when *The Music Man* premiered as the first production in the brand-new Shaw Center, until Maestro Jack Ergo performed *Rhapsody in Blue* in May this year, thousands of plays, concerts, exhibitions, recitals, performances, church services, baccalaureates, lectures and forums have taken place at the Shaw.

Francis and Lottie Shaw have surely smiled down from heaven for the last 30 years as their namesake facility made southern Iowa a much more enjoyable place to live. And they are surely proud of their sons JR and Les (who passed away in 2007) and daughters Dolly and Bertha for creating this lasting legacy to their spirits.

It is now JR Shaw '56 and his wife Carol who are taking the Shaw Center to a dizzying new level of beauty and function with the single largest gift in Graceland history, a gift that will transform the building through expansion and renovation into the shining star of our Lamoni campus.

JR and Carol's vision of what the Shaw is now to become did not come quickly. At groundbreaking ceremonies in May, JR delivered a memorable speech, encapsulating not only the years of his challenging work with Graceland presidents to make this project a reality, but also his lifetime of commitment to civic engagement and support of higher education, both in the United States and Canada. The commitment now being made to Graceland furthers the original legacy to Francis and Lottie, and also endears JR and Carol to all Gracelanders for generations to come, and to the people of Lamoni and southern Iowa.

A panoramic view of Shaw Center construction, captured on August 26, provides an idea of the magnitude of the project. JR delivered an inspired speech at groundbreaking ceremonies, noting the many years he has worked with Graceland administration and architects to fine-tune his vision, and his family's vision, of how a transformed Shaw Center would look and function.



Graceland President John Sellars, Community of Christ President Steve Veazey, Carol Shaw, Graceland Board of Trustees Chair Ken McClain and JR Shaw break ground for the \$14 million expansion and renovation of the Shaw Center.



The new Shaw will be much more than a performing arts venue. JR's vision is that it will serve the needs and provide comfort and solace to all Graceland students. The stunning new 6,000-square-foot atrium/lobby will be used for receptions and dinners, performances and exhibitions, but perhaps most importantly it will serve as a sumptuous new student lounge, a sort of "living room for the campus," as President Sellars is fond of saying.

The new living room is just the beginning. A revamped, 625-seat auditorium will now include an orchestra pit and state-of-the-art audio-visual and lighting capabilities. There will be a breathtaking, 100-seat, acoustically-perfect recital hall; a 200-seat black box theatre; a unique, sprung-vinyl-floor movement studio; new music and theatre classrooms; a multi-use conference room; and an outdoor amphitheater that will showcase a completely pedestrian center of campus.

Our campus will have the new look and feel of the 21st century. It will be a place the students of tomorrow will want to be.

It is difficult to thank JR and Carol sufficiently for what they have done, what they continue to do for Graceland. Their lead gift of \$14 million has lit a meteoric match to the launch of our new capital campaign. How do we convey how much their continuing interest in Graceland and Lamoni means to all of us? How, indeed, can

we touch the hearts of a couple who have guided the creation of one of the largest and most successful, family-owned business conglomerates on Earth: farming, flour milling, trucking, cement, construction, drive-in-theatres, pipeline contracting, the world's largest pipe-cleaning-and-coating business and a communication and cable TV empire spanning a continent? How can we thank them enough?

Carol spoke at the groundbreaking ceremonies of the responsibility that comes with accruing a great fortune. Her engaging smile widened during later conversations when she pondered the future of Graceland, and of the city of Lamoni. JR now stays in weekly contact with President Sellars for updates as construction of the new Shaw briskly moves forward. JR and Carol are clearly interested in the future of our university. They are interested in the future of our community.

Perhaps we can only say, simply, thank you for making your legacy a part of our legacy.



JR and Carol are pictured here with the 1950 painting, Jack Pine, by Alexander Young Jackson, a member of the famed Canadian Group of Seven, artists that defined a style that was stirred by big emotions, born of the Canadian landscape. JR and Carol gifted 50 beautiful lithographs of these iconic masterpieces to Graceland. They will adorn the new Shaw Center, and be displayed in other areas around campus.





Graceland Forever: A Tradition of Academic Excellence

What is the essential focus of the Graceland Forever capital campaign? Our students. Our students come to Graceland because they know they will have one-on-one instruction from full professors, not teaching assistants. They come to Graceland because they know the education they receive here will pave the way to jobs that have meaning, jobs that make a difference in the world, jobs they can work with pride, jobs that will support them and their families. This is what every student wants. Graceland delivers success for our students.

The Graceland Forever campaign will strengthen and further the century-old tradition of academic excellence at Graceland. But, it will also launch Graceland into an era of new, unparalleled academic majors and programs. Stu-

dents are savvy consumers today. They know what they want. As Katie Bash, Graceland's VP for Institutional Effectiveness says, "Students want to blend the people skills and cultural appreciation they get from a well-rounded liberal arts education with professional-level work skills they know will help them land great jobs."

Graceland offers that perfect balance!

We prize our perfect balance of challenging academics and caring community. Our unique 'House' residential/social system is something generations of students look back on with great fondness. They also remember the one professor who made a difference in their life. We hear these stories by the hundreds.

Graceland Forever's goal is to keep this tradition alive, but also to provide the innovative programs and small classes students expect at Graceland. We are achieving this goal. Campaign success will ensure our academic success. Academic success will guarantee the university's future.

President John Sellars sums it up this way: "A university is as good as its faculty. Our academic quality rests

Graceland has always enjoyed a proud tradition of sending its graduates on to prestigious graduate schools. More and more we are hearing stories of recent graduates' academic growth and success at these great institutions. We could fill the magazine with photos of these hard-working students. Here are four we are proud of, left to right: Brittany Longsdorf '10, Princeton University School of Theology; Collin Isham '11, Seton Hall University, Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations; Nelda Kerr '09, Claremont School of Theology; and Ryan Sheehy '10, the University of Iowa Department of Pharmacology.





on their shoulders." He added, "We have the best of the best faculty, and they deserve our support."

Kelly Everett, VP for Institutional Advancement, who will steward the Graceland Forever campaign as it moves forward, said, "We are going to deliver for our faculty, with increased salaries, faculty development opportunities, endowed chairs, research opportunities, travel and cultural growth opportunities, and more. With the funds Graceland Forever provides we will empower our faculty members to reach out to the world, and then bring that knowledge back into their classrooms."

Boldly moving the tradition forward!

Graceland has introduced exciting new majors and programs in the last two years. A new Agricultural Business major has captured the attention of new students and is growing fast. New majors in Sport Management, Film, Theatre and Performance Studies and Human Services, among others, are drawing new students to Graceland.

VP for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Parris Watts is especially proud that Graceland established this year the new College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, proudly emphasizing the critical mix of the liberal arts with professional study. He said, "This is vitally important if we are to educate the whole student. They may not realize it now, but one day, out in the world, they will understand how important the liberal arts were to their total education. I hear their success stories every day."

Dr. Watts is also proud that for the first time, Graceland welcomed students this fall into a post-graduate, Doctor of Nursing Practice program. He calls this an historic moment for the university, and one that would not have been possible without innovative faculty and administration in our Independence-campus-based School of Nursing.

Our students of the future, the freshman class of 2011, at far left, meet in the MSC Main Room for Matriculation on August 29. They are ready for four years of learning, fun and personal transformation. Pictured below are three smiling faces of the graduating class of 2011, educated, confident and ready to face the world. And, pictured above are just a few of the talented Graceland educators who guide the way, with a personal touch, for every one of our students. They are, clockwise from left, Max Pitt, Bob Mesle, Linda DeBarthe, Julia Franklin, Barbara Hiles Mesle and Zane Vredenburg.

Excellence is our goal!

Together we can meld the traditions of the past with the wonders of the future. Our students are helping guide the way. They are learning what they need to know to succeed when they graduate. They are learning and sharing with their favorite professors in a collegial atmosphere that large universities cannot offer.

This is the way great education has always been delivered. It is exciting to see it happening at Graceland.

Our goal is academic excellence. We see it every day in the new science and technology labs of Resch Hall. We see it as our athletic training students get hands-on experience in real-world experiences. Our business students and SIFE team members continue to probe the parameters of entrepreneurial creativity.

The success of the Graceland Forever campaign will ensure the continuation of these stories of academic exploration and success. We hope you will join us in our pursuit of excellence.





Graceland Forever: A Walk Through Past and Future

Our Lamoni campus is beautiful. Majestic pines provide aerial mosaics and acres of lush green grass tumble down “the Hill” to Founders Lake and Carmichael House and Smith Library. In the fall, the yellows and oranges and rust colors create a color-filled playground for our students. Even in winter, the cold and the beauty of now-covered pines and long-fingered icicles warm our hearts – if not our toes – and remind us that we live and

work and learn within the oft-overlooked grandeur of four seasons.

Our architecture is equally beautiful. From the iconic Higdon Administration Building of 1895, to the modern stainless steel and glass of the 2009 Resch Hall, the buildings of our campus blend with nature to create an environment of wonder and exploration.

During an impromptu walk with President Sellars on September 1, he stopped frequently and commented on “what this is going to look like” and “imagine what this would look like if we could...” and so forth. Our president has a clear vision of what he wants the Graceland of tomorrow to look like. He wants to correct some of the mistakes of the past: the pasted-on façade of Zimmermann Hall. He wants to update the venerable Briggs Hall, “but carefully maintain its architectural integrity.”

He walks along the bike path behind the new ‘Small’

The two, stunning new ‘Small’ and ‘Thomas’ apartments, below, along University Avenue at Cedar Street, were the brainchild of, and made possible by gifts from, Norma Thomas ’56 Small and Richard P. Small (inset). The new apartments and the beautiful new Shaw Center are the latest additions to a renaissance of 21st century infrastructure improvements at Graceland. Above, from left, the Resch Science and Technology Hall, lead gift by Sharon and Richard ‘Dick’ Resch ’58; the Helene Center for the Visual Arts, lead gift by David ’82 and Lisa Bailey ’83 Robino; and Huntsman Field, gifted by Johnny ’62 and Sharon Huntsman.





and 'Thomas' student apartments. "I would have liked to live there as a student," he says with a smile.

Along the construction fence fronting the amazing transformation taking place with the Shaw Center, he pauses again. "Imagine what the Quad is going to look like next year?" he asks. "And, in five years? The red bricks and limestone of Graceland, in every direction you look, will be one with the natural beauty of this sacred place."

Dozens of students are passing by, watching their president pirouette, but on both feet, as he regards a 360-view of the Quad. They are rushing, on their way to lunch and noon classes, thumbing their smart phones, talking, laughing. They too blend, so perfectly, with the magic that is Graceland. Our president takes off his blazer. It is nearly 100 degrees. He grins in that way that reminds you that he too was once a teenager.

"I wish I could be a student at Graceland right now," he says. ♦



Graceland Forever: It is our Time to Reach for the Future

You have just paged through a special section of *Horizons* announcing the Homecoming launch of our new capital campaign. On the two pages you are looking at now, you see the results of what truly successful campaigns can accomplish – campaigns fueled by loyal and inspired alumni and friends like you.



I am proud, as a Graceland alumnus, and as Chair of your Board of Trustees, to have witnessed the renaissance in facilities and new academic programs that has taken place on our Lamoni campus. I applaud the academic innovations that continue to propel our Independence campus to national prominence.

Homecoming weekend October 14-16 will be our opportunity to celebrate the great progress we have made. The launch of *Graceland Forever: The Campaign for Graceland University* will allow us to come together as Gracelanders and look to our future. What will Graceland look like in five years, in 10 years, and beyond? President Sellars, his administrative team, and the Board of Trustees have been working on an expanded strategic plan that looks closely at what the Graceland of 2020 will be like. I can tell you, our future looks bright.

I frequently reflect on the absolute wonder of the generosity of Graceland's alumni and friends. It is that love for Graceland, that desire to give something back, which has made possible what you see on these two pages: The Helene Center, Resch Hall, Huntsman Field, and now the Small and Thomas Apartments. They stand as examples of what we can accomplish when we work together.

With each infrastructure step we have taken toward a 21st century campus, with each innovative educational opportunity we have offered our great students, and with the unique social community we continue to provide at Graceland, we have become a first-tier university.

We have demonstrated that nothing is impossible when Gracelanders make up their minds what needs to be done. Let us launch the *Graceland Forever* campaign together. 'It is our time to reach for the future'.

See you at Homecoming,

Ken McClain, Chair
Graceland Board of Trustees



At Graceland, “Ergo-nomics” Means Great Music

By Tom Morain '69

The Shaw Center auditorium is already world class,” proclaims Graceland’s maestro Jack Ergo. And Jack should know. He has conducted at its most famous competition – the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and Carnegie Hall in New York City. His choirs have performed in Westminster Abbey in London where Handel is buried and at the Salzburg Cathedral in Austria where Mozart conducted.

But when Jack starts talking about what the Shaw Center expansion will do for the performing arts at Graceland, he nearly goes into orbit. The architect and sound designers for the new recital hall, he relates enthusiastically, are among the world’s best in their areas. Together the possibilities for the auditorium and the recital hall have put Jack’s creativity into overdrive, and he bubbles with new ideas.

Ergo came to Graceland in 2001 as orchestra conductor after 20 years as Music Director and Worship Specialist at Community of Christ World Headquarters in Independence. He is best known as the conductor of the annual performance of Handel’s “Messiah”.

While a talented musician trained in the classics, Jack puts up no walls that exclude music from different cultures, time periods, or styles. “A 21st century concert hall should offer 21st century instruments,” according to Jack, Graceland’s music department coordinator. Don’t be surprised if concerts in the new facility include Gregorian chants with conga drums or Coke-bottle concerti, as well as violas and bassoons.

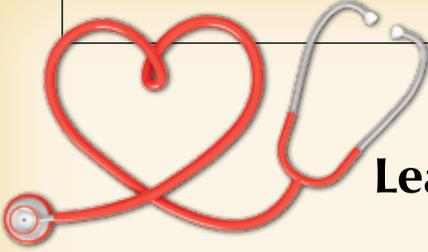
In Jack’s popular “Musics in the World’s Cultures” course, the instructor delivers just that. He opens the first day of class with a blast of contemporary hip-hop but soon convinces students that, in some ways, pop music is in form much more conservative than a Beethoven sym-

phony. “Most Americans relate to music as listeners,” Ergo teaches. “In other cultures music is much more something you create yourself.” He wants to create a drumming group at Graceland. “Everyone can hit something,” he insists. Jack also teaches “History of Church Music,” drawing on his long and extensive involvement with the sacred music traditions of many different countries.

Ever the showman, Ergo has made orchestra concerts fun without sacrificing musical quality. His Halloween concerts have become a fall tradition. Orchestra members dress up in costume and perform “scary” music, like Mussorgsky’s “Night on Bald Mountain” or excerpts from “Phantom of the Opera.” He also conducted a “Bach, Beethoven and Blue Jeans” concert where audience members took chairs on stage surrounding the orchestra and small children sat around Jack. He is now contemplating a Valentine’s Day gala featuring Viennese waltzes.

Currently the department has one endowed chair – the Vredenburg Chair of Music – but future plans target one or two more to expand programs in line with the new facilities. The endowment was a gift of Dwight and Ruth Vredenburg whose lifelong love of music and Graceland has blessed the campus for decades. The endowed chair carries with it funding to allow the designated faculty member – it rotates through the department – to promote special events and programs beyond what the regular budget could support. Often the money brings in a visiting artist or a special concert. Dr. Perez, will hold the Vredenburg Chair this year.

“All God’s critters got a place in the choir” starts a popular camp song. Maybe we won’t see gazelles or koalas in the cello section anytime soon, but don’t be surprised if Bach and bongos start doing business together. “The new facilities are going to attract incredible talent and energy,” Ergo confidently predicts. ♦



School of Nursing Innovation Leads to Graceland's First Doctoral Program

Classes began August 29 in the first doctoral degree program in Graceland history, and it should be no surprise that our renowned School of Nursing (SON) is again leading the way. The SON has welcomed its first cohort of students in a brand-new, postgraduate Doctor of Nursing Practice program. The DNP adds another milestone to the noble partnership between Graceland and nursing that traces its roots to the early 1900s.

According to SON Dean Claudia Horton, "Offering the postgraduate DNP program was the next logical step for our innovative faculty. We will continue to educate Family Nurse Practitioners at the master's level as we establish the DNP program, but now our doctoral-prepared practitioners will not only be expert clinicians but also leaders who will direct changes in the healthcare system." Dean Horton said, "These leaders will advocate for policies to meet the needs of a diverse society. We strive to facilitate goal achievement for our students. Offering them the opportunity to earn a doctoral degree will enhance their status and parity with other healthcare professionals."

Innovative is the right word for the history of Graceland's SON. They were among the *first in the nation* in 1988 to offer nationally-accredited distance education programs in nursing that revolutionized how nurses are now educated and mentored. A dream became reality in 1969 when Graceland offered its first Bachelor of Nursing degree at the old Sanitarium and Hospital in Independence - Graceland two-year graduates had been pursuing nursing degrees at the 'San' since 1910.

SON Personnel Help Out in Joplin

The SON's noble prominence was never so apparent than after a devastating F5 tornado laid waste to one-third of Joplin, MO in May. Volunteering with aid organization, Heart-to-Heart International, in their mobile free health clinic, SON students, faculty and alumni helped treat hundreds of victims and administered over 4,000 tetanus shots.

Faculty member Beverly South said, "As important as it was to attend to victims' physical needs, we found it just as important to attend to their emotional needs. We became good listeners. Each victim had a story to tell and a need to 'just talk' about what had happened to them. Some stories were heartbreaking, others encouraging, other even humorous. Most of us cried when it was time to leave.

South, and faculty members Jeana Wilcox, Michelle Sепter and Dean Horton were joined by nursing students Tina Bukovac, Amy Butler and Morgan Deeds, and 2011 graduates Courtney Roberts and Melissa Harrison in Joplin.

Simulation Lab

An adult male, a pregnant female and an infant have been added to the SON Human Patient Simulation lab. The computerized manikins provide students with unique opportunities to test their clinical reasoning skills in a low-risk environment. Faculty members present patient scenarios for students who must then act quickly and accurately to assess and treat their patients.

The simulators are programmed to respond as real patients would in similar situations. Recently, students helped deliver the first baby of Noelle, the birthing manikin. Cindy Waits, Assistant Professor, reported that the students, Noelle, and the newborn came through the experience with very little stress.

'Nurses Helping Nurses' campaign

The most important tool a nurse uses to acquire critical patient information is a stethoscope. Nursing alumni are now able to purchase stethoscopes for every new baccalaureate nursing student in the traditional program. This new campaign allows nursing alumni to give back to those who follow in their footsteps.

This is the first initiative of a 'Nurses Helping Nurses' campaign that Dean Horton believes will "continue to provide a state-of-the-art learning environment and support the development of a scholarly culture among students and faculty."

The Graceland School of Nursing is innovative and forward thinking. As the nursing profession and the healthcare system evolve, so will nursing education at Graceland University. Please contact Dean Horton at horton@graceland.edu for more information about the new DNP program, or to support the innovative culture of one of the top nursing schools in America. ♦



Serving in Joplin, left to right: Melissa Harrison '11, Claudia Horton '86, Tina Bukovac '12, Beverly South and Amy Butler '12.

Academic Mentoring at Graceland Helps Guide “Mr. Fix It” to Success

By Karla M Fennick '89

Mike Matthes '92, newly hired city manager for Columbia, MO, always wanted to be a diplomat in the Foreign Service. “I liked the idea of a global community,” says Matthes, “that we’re all more alike than different. I wanted to learn from other cultures.”



When he came to Graceland in 1987, Matthes’ first step toward his career goal was to major in history. “History gives me a way to understand context,” he says, “to understand what’s motivating people. What does this person want?”

During his senior year at Graceland, Matthes passed the day-long written Foreign Service exam (The New York Times calls it “perhaps the nation’s leading smarty-pants exam”), which covers economics, history, math, English, culture and a lot in between. Only

about 20 percent of the people taking the exam earned a passing score.

Unfortunately, a government shut-down and budget cutbacks the year after Matthes graduated meant the Foreign Service wasn’t hiring. On to Plan B: city government. “City government is a lot like the foreign service,” says Matthes. “You need to understand what people want and what they are saying.”

Matthes began his graduate studies in the Public Administration program at Iowa State University in Ames and graduated in 1996. He started his public-service career in Des Moines as an intern and then steadily climbed the ladder to analyst, director of housing, head of the Information Technology (IT) department, and assistant city manager. During this time, Matthes earned his nickname, “Mr. Fix It,” in large part by saving the city \$1 million per year on street lights; redesigning the public-housing program and finding an additional \$13 million for new,

affordable housing; and trimming \$1 million from the IT department while raising both employee morale and the level of service.

As an analyst, Matthes finally realized his dream of working with the Foreign Service – not to mention learning from other cultures and contributing to the global community – by helping teach Ukrainians how to manage their local governments. “They’d never really had local governments before, as part of the former Soviet Union, just local offices,” says Matthes. “They didn’t know how to get a bond started and why you have to pay back the money you borrow. Bonding can be complicated, but we used a bond to help them build a better water plant.”

During this project, Matthes quickly realized that his Plan B was no consolation prize. “The Foreign Service is not what I thought it was,” laughs Matthes. “I had more of the Peace Corps in mind, but the Foreign Service focuses mainly on keeping Americans out of foreign prisons and advancing the interests of American corporations. That’s not what I was looking for.”

Now that Matthes is city manager for Columbia, he’s looking for his next fix-it project. “I want to see a different organization and take on more responsibility,” says Matthes. “Columbia is a remarkable city.” Since taking office just four months ago, Matthes has already delivered his first budget – a balanced budget, he emphasizes – and his cuts to the bus system have sparked a city-wide conversation about improving public transportation. “The mayor now has an initiative to reinvent the system,” says Matthes. “It needs to be student-centered. We have three universities and a community college: Where do they want the buses to go, how frequently should they run, and how late? We need to fund what we need, rather than fund the system we had.”

Balancing budgets, cutting funding, and changing programs require research and analytical skills, and often, difficult decisions. He speaks warmly today about how mentors Emeritus Professor of History Bill Juhnke and Emeritus Professor of Political Science and History Bill Russell nurtured him academically. “They gave me the space to explore history and go where it took me.” Matthes follows that same path today. “I don’t know what the answer will be when I start thinking through a public policy issue, but I’m not worried about that,” he says. “I’ll go where the facts take me and I’ll have the courage to make improvements.”♦

(Karla Fennick is President of the Graceland Alumni Board of Directors. She is a Senior Solution Designer with Cerner Corporation of Kansas City.)



Graceland and Community of Christ Congregations: A Perfect Partnership

By Joe Booz '86



A banner was recently unveiled in the sanctuary of Colonial Hills, a Community of Christ congregation in Blue Springs, MO. Against a white silky backdrop, large blue letters with gold trim boldly proclaim, "GO GU." This slogan has been adopted by Colonial Hills as part of its mission to promote

Graceland University and share news, events and other important campus information with its members. Many other congregations across the United States have likewise signed on to partner with Graceland to help spread the good news.

Greg Sutherland, Graceland's Director of Affiliate Relations, who has energized this Graceland/Community of Christ congregation connection, could not agree more. Greg has been working with CofC congregations across America and in Canada to build strong relationships with Graceland. He says the response has been truly gratifying.

"Congregations are taking an active role in helping to keep their youth and GU alumni and friends in the know about the great things happening at the university," Greg says. "Our unique Community of Christ congregational network creates a 'perfect partnership' with Graceland."

Colonial Hills is off and running with its **GO GU** program. "We have so many people at Colonial Hills with connections to Graceland," said Garland Land, a 1966 GU graduate and Pastor of Colonial Hills. "All we had to do was start talking about our university, sponsored by our church since 1895, and people responded with great interest."

Garland notes that Graceland's new 'Study and Faith' scholarship initiative is a great talking point among congregation members. He said, "That has really grabbed the attention of our members, particularly those with kids approaching college age."

Through the 'Study and Faith' scholarships, Graceland now offers all church members scholarships equal to at least 50 percent of the cost of tuition on the Lamoni

campus. Greg said the results have been nothing short of inspirational. "The number of Community of Christ students in Graceland's incoming class this fall is up over 20 percent."

Graceland President John Sellars said he feels inspired as well. "This is a tremendous opportunity for students of our faith tradition to make the 'Graceland Experience' a part of their lives."

Colonial Hills is proud to be a part of this exciting reconnection with Graceland. Our programs include regular updates before church services, news pieces in the congregation newsletter, field trips to Lamoni, tailgate parties at GU athletic events in the Kansas City area, and a **GO GU** bulletin board. Plans are also in the works for a **Colonial Hills/GO GU** Facebook page.

"There are so many exciting things going on at Graceland," Garland added. "Our aim at Colonial Hills is simply to open the door for our members so they can catch a glimpse of what our church university has to offer."

To learn more about the 'Study and Faith' scholarship program, and to find out how your congregation can get involved, give Greg Sutherland a call at 641.784.5470, or email him at sutherla@graceland.edu.



There is a lot going on at Colonial Hills.



(Joe Booz has practiced law in the Kansas City area for more than 20 years, concentrating on consumer finance and corporate law. He is a long-time member of the Colonial Hills congregation.)



A Big Thank You from School of Education to New Zealand School Administrator during Visits to Graceland Campuses

By Mary Jean Jeanae '65, SOE Professor Emerita

Graceland administrators, staff, faculty and former New Zealand student teachers had the opportunity to greet and to express appreciation to Martin Major (pictured below, in gray shirt, with SOE faculty and staff) from Motueka, New Zealand in August. Martin was honored at a luncheon in Lamoni and a reception in Independence.

While traveling on a sabbatical from his position as Principal of Parklands School in Motueka, Martin came to Iowa and Missouri. Former student teachers were excited to see their Kiwi (New Zealanders refer to themselves as Kiwis) mentor and guide again. Spring 2011 student teacher Moira Shocklee felt that seeing Martin brought to mind how much she “felt thankful and blessed to have the New Zealand experience.”

The Edmund J. Gleazer School of Education expressed sincere appreciation directly to Martin for his outstanding assistance with organizing for 17 student teachers to have placements in the Motueka area from 2007 to 2011. Martin went the extra mile to help student teachers have their academic needs met as well as explore beautiful New Zealand. For homestay accommodations, he hosted some student teachers in his home. He initiated participation in field trips for school children at Maori meeting houses, aquariums, and outdoor education camping. Martin provided transportation to and from the airport in Nelson and excursions to other cities. He also organized weekend activities such as boating on the Tasman Seat, visiting *Lord of the Rings* locations, camping, attending festivals, soaking in hot springs and going to Saturday Markets.

Teachers who have had the New Zealand experience

find that placements in the child-centered New Zealand schools have helped them be successful and innovative educators. Heather Brooner 2007 New Zealand student teacher says, “I like to introduce my kindergarteners in North Kansas City, Missouri to cultural and language differences. Children understand the Maori phrases I use daily and enjoy the New Zealand corner in the classroom with learning activities and colorful posters.” When the second grade teacher at Heather’s school was looking for an international pen pal for her students, Heather used her connection with Martin. The children exchanged many letters and photos with Martin. These children have now had the opportunity to say “Kia Ora” (hello) and actually meet Martin because Heather arranged for him to visit her school. Connect with Mary Jean at jeanae@graceland.edu for more information about Mr. Major’s trip, or with other questions about Graceland’s renowned Gleazer School of Education (SOE).

In addition to New Zealand, the Gleazer School of Education arranges other international field experiences and service learning opportunities. During Winter Term 2012, Dean Tammy Everett along with Scott Huddleston and Sandy Hamar (Independence faculty members) will accompany students to Jamaica. I traveled to New Zealand with nine student teachers in 2007 but I will not be going in the future. If an alumni teacher with a Master’s degree would be interested in accompanying students to New Zealand or to Fiji and supervising them, arrangements might be made. A stipend for supervision would cover some costs but travel and additional expenses would not be provided. Qualified teachers who are interested should contact Tammy Everett at teverett@graceland.edu.





Librarian Diane Shelton Retires after 26 Years of Service

By Francis Acland, Interim Director of Library Services

The longest-serving librarian in Graceland's history, Diane Eberly '67 Shelton, has retired after 26 years as Director of Library Services. She will be sorely missed, but we wish her well in what will surely be an active retirement.

Diane first came to Graceland as a student in the fall of 1963. She graduated with a major in English and a minor in secondary education. During her time here as a student she met and married Joe Shelton, also from the class of '67.

After leaving Graceland Diane taught English at Yorkville Illinois High School, located west of Chicago. Later she began working at the Plano, Illinois Public Library, eventually becoming its director in 1980. This small community, near Yorkville, is rich with history of the RLDS church. During her tenure at the Plano library she studied at the nearby University of Northern Illinois in DeKalb and received her Master of Library Science degree.

In 1985 Diane noticed an advertisement for the Director of the Frederick Madison Smith Library at Graceland College and decided to apply for the position. She was the chosen candidate and she and Joe moved their family to Lamoni. During her tenure here Diane has overseen many improvements and changes at the library, including the automation of the library catalog (which she began after only two weeks on the job), the installation of computer networking in the library, and the transformation of the library from a print-only repository to an information hub utilizing the latest in modern information technologies.

As she looks back at how things have changed during her tenure at the library, Diane remarks, "Our mission has always been to assist users in locating and retrieving the information they need; what has changed is the kind of assistance that is provided, where the needed information might be found, the format it might be found in, and the role of librarian as teacher as well as information provider."

Diane worked hard to keep the library stocked with up-to-date materials and to provide services and facilities that would meet the needs of Graceland students and faculty. She was instrumental in establishing the Charles H.

Sandage Study area, The Marnie Neal Children's Library and the Student Coffee Bar and Lounge.

Diane has also shown her commitment to Graceland outside her professional life. She has been the sponsor of the Hawaiian Club for the last seven years, and has been a moving force behind the extremely successful annual Luau's hosted by the club – events looked forward to by many Gracelanders for their pageantry and color, and great food. She has also served for 20 years as sponsor for the Crescents, an honor organization composed of two women from each 'House'. Since 1922 the Crescents have promoted a spirit of kindness and helpfulness on campus, and Diane has served at the forefront, leading these young women in service to the university. She said, "Working with the students in these two groups created special bonds that will last forever."

As she reflects on her years at Graceland, Diane remarks, "I will also look back at the relationships I had with the students, the people I worked with at Graceland over the years, and the wonderful, dedicated library staff. Many of these people were also friends and not just co-workers, and I will miss the day-to-day interactions with them."

Diane has always been an enthusiastic supporter of Graceland athletic programs, particularly football. She is always present at home and away football games, accompanying Joe, who has announced the home games for many years. Over the years Diane and Joe have continued to take a special interest in Graceland students and have regularly held social gatherings for students in their home, a Lamoni-landmark, Victorian house located on State Street.

Diane's future plans include staying involved with the Graceland community. "Like I've been saying, I'm not leaving completely, as I'm going to continue to volunteer in the library in some way in the future, and we'll still be attending lots of Graceland activities, so I'm not really saying good-bye."

From all Gracelanders, Diane, thank you for your love of, and service to, Graceland. We'll see you at the next home football game.♦

Graceland University

Our passion is your success.

That's right. **Our Passion is Your Success.** We have adopted this tagline - a sort of mantra as it turns out - as the new brand for Graceland University. We think it captures what the Graceland Experience means to all of us. We are rolling it out in publications, recruiting materials, advertisements, news stories, on our website - everywhere we can think of to extend our reach, to get the good word out about Graceland.

A group of energetic GU volunteers took turns manning our eye-catching booth at the Iowa State Fair in August. We talked with alumni and friends and met with many prospective students. To be honest, our booth, including our new events trailer, was the envy of other small colleges represented (photos at right).

By the time you read this, the new Graceland website will be launched. At Graceland our success truly is your success so we are emphasising student and alumni success on the new site.

I know you feel the same way I do about "the Hill." We arrived here as impressionable young students. We learned here. We had a *great* time here. We graduated as citizens, prepared for rewarding careers, ready to serve our communities, confident that we could create wonderful families and go about the business of making our world a better place.

We learned on "the Hill" about a passion for life. By staying in touch with our alma mater, and each other, we help keep that passion alive. And now, it is all about the Graceland students of today, and of tomorrow. It is our passion, and the commitment of all Gracelanders to our students, that inspired our new tagline. **Our Passion is Your Success.**

Look me up at Homecoming October 14-16. Tell me if you know a student who would be a good fit with Graceland. And, I'd love to hear your ideas on spreading the word about Graceland University.♦

Kirk Bjorland '89
Director of Marketing and Admissions
641.784.5145
kdbjorla@graceland.edu



By the way, we've got a new way for you Iowans who would like to show your Graceland pride. Iowa DOT license plates are now available. That's me in the photo with my new Yellowjacket tag - STING. You too can use seven letters to express affection for your alma mater. Go to www.iowadot.gov/mvd/ovs/plates/private/htm, scroll to the bottom, and click on [Private College License Plate Application](#). *Blue and Gold never looked so good!*

McDole and Women's Volleyball Receive Top Academic Honor

The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) has honored the Graceland Women's Volleyball program and veteran head coach Stew McDole '65 with an AVCA Team Academic Award for the 2010-2011 academic year. The award was initiated in 1992 and honors collegiate and high school volleyball teams that have displayed excellence in the classroom by maintaining at least a 3.30 GPA. Graceland had a significant number of student athletes (30) named as Academic All Americans last year.

"Our team has typically been known for its academic success," McDole said. "We have had some outstanding scholars over the years. This is a nice testimony of our program and particularly of these well-deserving student athletes." This is Stew's 30th year coaching at Graceland. He is one of the most-recognized and respected volleyball experts in America.

AVCA Executive Director Kathy DeBoer said teams do not succeed in the classroom by accident any more so than they do on the court. "The same coach who taught them volleyball skills cared enough about their academic achievement to gather their grades, calculate their GPA, and submit a nomination on their behalf," DeBoer said. "In doing so, these coaches sent a clear message that classroom success is just as important as court success."



"I am continually in awe of our students and their achievements," Athletic Director Jeff Falkner said. "Being recognized with the AVCA Team Academic Award is definitely something to be proud of. Congratulations to Coach McDole and the entire program."

Keep in touch with Stew at mcdole@graceland.edu.♦

Nate Myer Awarded Prestigious Rotary Scholarship

Nate Myer, a 2010 Graceland graduate, has been named a \$27,000 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship recipient for the school year 2012-2013. He is pictured here with Terry Geiger '99, of Leon, District Governor for 2012-2013. There are 63 Rotary clubs in District 6000 - the district covers the southern half of Iowa.

The Rotary Club of Decatur County is proud to be the sponsoring club for Nate, noted Geiger. This is a first



for the Decatur County club and the first time a student from Graceland University has ever been selected for this coveted scholarship. Nate has not yet been assigned but he will be studying in Argentina, Chile, Peru or Colombia. According to Nate, "The passionate 'you-can-do-it' network found on and off the Graceland Campus has me striving for heights I know are still out there waiting for me."

The purpose of the Ambassadorial Scholarships program is to further international peace and understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. The program sponsors academic year scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students, and for qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups. Upon returning home, scholars share with Rotarians and others the experiences that led to a greater understanding of their host country.

Generous contributions from Rotarians worldwide represent a continued faith that today's Ambassadorial Scholars will be tomorrow's community and world leaders. The program is supported by Rotary Foundation, RI's vehicle to make this program possible.♦

40's

Irl Chandler '48 was elected Zone Vice-Commander of the American Legion Department of Missouri, heading 99 Legion Posts with over 12,000 members. He also serves as Education Coordinator for Still National Osteopathic Museum in Kirksville, MO.

50's

Forest Swall and Donna Stearns '51 Swall received the Inspirata Award at the fourth annual Older Americans Month Breakfast for their hard work and commitment to Lawrence, KS.

Diana Worthington '53 Guthrie was awarded the Living Legend Award from the American Association of Diabetes Education, the first nurse ever to receive the award.

E. Ronald Anderson '56 has written and published four books during the past two years.

60's

Ron Millard '67 recently retired after 37 seasons as girls' basketball coach at Shawnee Mission South High School (KS). His record includes 17 state tourney appearances, a state title, more than 450 wins, and membership in the Greater Kansas City Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Ann Mesle '68 was named to the Board of Trustees of Park University, Parkville, MO. A Circuit Court Judge in Jackson County, she previously served as a Park Trustee for 10 years and was named an honorary trustee in 2009.

70's

John Decker '73 was named one of the Top Ten Branch Managers of the Year nationwide by *On Wall Street* magazine in May. He is Managing Director of UBS Financial Services, Inc., at the company's Flagship Office in New York City.

80's

Tim Cool '89 was named head boys' basketball coach at Chillicothe High School (MO). He was named Class 1 boys' state coach of the year in 2009 in a former position.

90's

Greg Hansen '96, a fourth grade teacher at Northwest Elementary, Ankeny, IA, was recently awarded an ABC-5 My Favorite Teacher Award as an outstanding central Iowa educator.

Lourdes "Cindy" Santoni, Ph.D. '96 is a Preceptor at the New Program for Advanced Practice Nurses in Neuroscience in Trenton, NJ, where she is involved in program development, curriculum design and education presentation.

Mark Wireman '97 was promoted to Assistant Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ.

For Alumnus Mark Wagenaar**'Poetry is Like Fruit Ripening – then you get to take a Bite'**

By Barbara Hiles Mesle '72, Graceland Professor of English



Mark Wagenaar '03, son of Graceland's women soccer coach Fred Wagenaar and Kathy Wagenaar, loves playing soccer and writing poetry. He's very good at both. When Mark was former Graceland English Professor Jon Wallace's creative writing student, Mark once missed class to play in a varsity soccer match. The class he did not attend had a guest speaker, poet Gary Gildner. But this year Mark was the winner of the Gary Gildner Poetry Award, *I-70 Review*. Mark is also the 2011 winner of the Felix Pollak Prize for his manuscript *Voodoo Inverso* which will be published in 2112 by

the University of Wisconsin Press.

In fact, Mark is the first place winner of nine poetry awards since 2009 and a finalist or first runner-up in more than 25 others. He has about 75 published poems in journals as prestigious as *Subtropics*, *the Southern Review*, *the New England Review*, *the Antioch Review*, *the South Carolina Review*, *the North American Review*, *Phoebe*, *Tar River Poetry* and *Poetry East*.

And Mark has accomplished all of these feats since graduating from Graceland in 2003. How? Because, Mark is both talented and disciplined. Along the way, he's also picked up a Master of Arts from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master of Fine Arts from the prestigious University of Virginia where he had classes from the U.S. Poet Laureate, Rita Dove. In fall 2011 he'll be transferring from the creative writing Ph.D. program in poetry at the University of Utah to the literature Ph.D. program at the University of North Texas.

As I listened to Mark talk about why he writes poetry and what it means to him, I discovered a thoughtful person trying to experience what other people are experiencing and to record that journey in language. Mark talked about "discovery" and "witnessing," and about learning what it means to be a person in this wounded world with its strange mixture of sadness and joy. He said that our ancestors started learning what it meant to be human by singing and telling stories. Poetry, Mark said, is like a series of secrets; there is always another chamber to be discovered. It's like fruit ripening—and then you get to take a bite. And these gems are just Mark's chat over coffee. When I spent some real time with his poetry, really reading his poems with attention, I wrote to him: "There are many things I do not know, but I do know when I hold something holy in my hands."♦

Corbet Wilson '99 received his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL. He also received the Dr. Charles L. Faires Dissertation of Distinction Award and is currently middle school principal in the Seminole County Public Schools (FL).

00's

Kimberly Manuel '01 opened her own Lamoni business, Off the Wall Interiors, specializing in furniture upholstery, refinishing, painting, and furniture sales and purchase.

Michelle Perria '01 received a Master's Degree from Michigan State University in May.

John D. Amos '04 earned his Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from William Woods University, Fulton, MO. He currently teaches fourth grade in the Grain Valley, MO, school district.

Julie C. Porter '04 Nelson, a teacher at Gallatin R-V High School, Gallatin, MO, was awarded a \$24,000 James Madison Fellowship for study toward a master's degree in American history. Her award was one of 57 fellowships drawn from an applicant pool comprising all 50 states.

Trevor Gensler '06 was named one of "20 in their Twenties" in the June 2011 issue of *Ingram's*, Kansas City's leading business magazine. The designation honors the year's most interesting young entrepreneurs in the Kansas City metro area.

10's

David Wayne Hill '10 teaches accelerated learning at the Fairfax County (VA) Public Schools.

Zach Stuart '10 has been named assistant baseball coach at Ellsworth Community College of Iowa Falls.

Weddings

Troy Farrar '03 and Colleen Crowe, October 2, 2010.

Jeffrey Shaw and **Julie Birks '06**, June 4, 2011.

Nick Uhlenhopp '02 and Andrea Crabtree, July 2, 2011.



The RAGBRAI riders, in Grinnell, left to right: Vikki Updike '69 Morain, Michael Kendrick '98, Emily Larson, Shauna Spencer '71 Field, Lynn Field '70, Doris Kuhnert '67 Cadman, Bob Cadman, Erica Field '03 Jones, Mark Jones '05, Katie Gerlock, Grant Gerlock, Ron Edwards '69; in the windows, Michael Morain '01 and Heather Lahr '01; part-time riders, not pictured, were Tom Morain '69, Betsy Shelton '96 and Bill Morain '64.

Team Yellowjacket Carries Graceland Blue and Gold on Iowa's RAGBRAI

"Is this heaven? No, it's Iowa." That's what Kevin Costner said in the movie *Field of Dreams*. It's probably not what any of the 14 'Team Yellowjacket' bike riders were thinking as they struggled up the hills of southwestern Iowa with a heat index well north of 100 degrees.

Every year some 10,000 riders dip their back wheels in the Missouri River on Iowa's western border and a week later, wet down their front wheels across the state in the Mississippi. This was the 39th year of RAGBRAI, the Des Moines *Register's* Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, but it was the first year that Graceland hosted a team of riders. From sponsors, the team raised money for the Graceland scholarship fund.

It's not a race. The Des Moines *Register* invites seven Iowa towns to host the riders overnight and then lays out a route through the countryside. Towns big and small welcome the riders with open arms with food tents, portable toilets, local attractions, and – of course – homemade pie. Eventually, the last bikes pull into a town, set up tents, and head for a church basement or food booth for supper.

Michael Morain '01, an arts reporter for the *Register* and a member of the Graceland Alumni Board of Directors, coordinated Team Yellowjacket. He arranged for places for the team to stay and for three cars to carry tents, sleeping bags and personal gear. The first night was in the gymnasium of the Community of Christ church in Council Bluffs. Alumni and church members provided suppers and campsites all across the state.

The official route covered 454 miles, around 65 miles per day, with an optional extra loop on Tuesday to make it a 100-mile ride. Team members ranged from the Class of '62 to the Class of 2003. Vikki Updike '69 Morain, Shauna Spencer '70 Field and Doris Kunert '67 Cadman each drove the cars 1,400 miles to keep the team moving forward.♦

– Tom Morain

Anniversaries

(Those celebrating 50 years or more of matrimony.)

Bill '54 and **Jan Brown** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 6, 2011.

Births

Trenton '05 and **Michaela McCoy '07 Hill**, Council Bluffs, IA, Maxton Ray, October 25, 2010.

Paul '01 and **Tori Savage**, Galesburg, IL, Lori Sue, May 16, 2011.

Joe '03 and **Crystal Mahoney '03 Oxenreider**, Chariton, IA, Baylor Dee, June 17, 2011.

In Memoriam

Robert C. Kent '53, Chicago, IL, January 2, 2001.

Merilyn Roth '72 McGee, Independence, MO, April 10, 2006.

David M. Parsons '51, Oklahoma City, OK, September 21, 2006.

Audra Smith '46 Baskins, Independence, MO, April 11, 2007.

D. Keith Church '51, Mission, TX, May 26, 2007.

Kelly Marie Williams '01, Kansas City, MO, February 14, 2009.

Ann Gault '61 Frizzell, Independence, MO, September 11, 2010.

Gilbert R. Beatty '91, Independence, MO, September 12, 2010.

Eric L. MacDonald '80, Nanaimo, BC, February 11, 2011.

Kenneth L. Binkley '53, Angola, IN, February 28, 2011.

Letha Hershey '41 Chatburn, Leawood, KS, April 5, 2011.

Earl M. Lehman '42, Kansas City, MO, April 20, 2011.

Flora "Billie" Mead, Pensacola, FL, April 20, 2011.

Jacqueline Spence '57 Shakespeare, Independence, MO, May 5, 2011.

John W. Thomas '90, Lamoni, IA, May 8, 2011.

Graceland Alumni Explore the Coast of Alaska

It was off to America's 'last frontier' for 22 hearty souls on Graceland's Alumni Programs-sponsored cruise of Alaska's wild and stunning shoreline. The *Oceania Regatta* sailed from Vancouver, B.C., on June 7 for a 10-day luxury exploration up Alaska's inside passage with stops at Ketchikan, Sitka, Hoonah, Kodiak and Wrangell. On the way, they saw whales, dolphins, the incredible Hubbard Glacier, and several nights of beautiful sunsets.

Alaska is a land of many cultures. Native Americans, Russian fur traders, American gold seekers, fishermen and lumber jacks have all added their flavor to this land of majestic mountains, wild forests and breathtaking coastlines.

Sailing under the Graceland colors of Blue and Gold were Floyd '59 and Mary Sue Carter '60 Young, John '59 and Janet Williams, Beverly Peavy '54 Stowell, Steve '55 and Margie Davis '55 Robinson, Ruthanne Zulauf '54 Phillips, Jeffrey and Toni Nylander, Tom '69 and Vikki Updike '69 Morain, Bill '64 and Sherry Mesle '65 Morain, Glenda Beckham '61 McClain, Jeffrey '61 and Anna Johnson '61 Heverling, David '58 and Janyce Simons '59 DeBarthe, Orman '53 and Colleen Brooner, and

Carolyn Smith '68 Beckham.

The next alumni cruise will commence in Athens, Greece in November, 2012, sail up the west coast of Italy and the French Riviera and end in Barcelona, Spain. Contact the Alumni Programs Office at 1-866-GU4-EVER or email alumni@graceland.edu for details.♦

- Tom Morain



Front Row left to right: Glenda McClain, Margy Robinson, Sherry Morain.
Middle Row(s) left to right: Janyce DeBarthe, Janet Williams, Carolyn Beckham, MarySue Young, Ann Heverling, Beverly Stowell, Vikki Morain, Ruthann Phillips, Orman Brooner, Colleen Brooner.
Back Row left to right: David DeBarthe, Floyd Young, John Williams, Jeff Heverling, Bill Morain, Tom Morain, Steve Robinson. Not pictured, Toni and Jeff Nylander.

Martha Rush '46 Robinson,
Kansas City, MO, May 11, 2011.

Donna Teague '54 Scranton,
Independence, MO, May 14, 2011.

Lois Feldhahn '44 Dillon,
Independence, MO, May 21, 2011.

Shirley Davis '45 Elliott, Fremont, NE,
May 22, 2011.

Ronald C. Smith '40, Wenatchee, WA,
May 25, 2011.

Ben Elbert "Al" Green '60, Denver, CO,
May 27, 2011.

Jeanine Wallis '61 Coats,
Grand Junction, CO, June 2, 2011.

Wilbur C. Mann '39, Moorhead, IA,
June 3, 2011.

Willard C. Swoffer '59, Independence,
MO, June 21, 2011.

Larry I. Hansen '60, Lenexa, KS,
July 2, 2011.

Dave O. Allen '62, Lamoni, IA,
July 24, 2011.

E. Adelena Sampson '34 Clark,
Higginsville, MO, July 25, 2011.

Lois Britton '53 Houston, Lamoni, IA,
July 25, 2011.

Donald R. Coon '53, Battle Creek, MI,
July 30, 2011.

Arnetta Woods '51 Boswell, Lamoni, IA,
August 15, 2011.

CAUTION
Homecoming
Ahead
(pages 22-25)



Attention Gracelanders:

Where have our Graduates Gone?

Attention loyal *Horizons* readers. We want to know where you are these days. We want to know what kind of work you are doing, what awards you have received, what accomplishments you would like to share with your fellow Gracelanders. Do you have a new baby in your family? Maybe you got married and would like to share that news. Maybe you know of the passing of a member of the Graceland family.

Whatever your news, we would like to post it in *Horizons* and let the Graceland community know, too! It is as simple as an email. Send your news to alumni@graceland.edu, or call 1.866.GU4.EVER. We look forward to hearing from you.

Where have our Graceland Graduates Gone?

We also want to mention a new joint initiative from Graceland's Career, Academic & Personal Counseling (CAP) Center and Alumni Programs. CAP Center Director Michele Maguire Beck and Alumni Programs Director Paul Davis would like to highlight some of our graduates and the interesting career paths they are pursuing. They know our current students would find inspiration and confidence from reading these stories of success.

Michele and Paul hope you are willing to be part of the new '*Where have Our Graceland Graduates Gone?*' initiative. Please email Michele at mbeck@graceland.edu with a paragraph about your career and attach a photo she can use on her Web pages. You might include a comment about how your Graceland degree helped you achieve career success. Please share what year you graduated, what you majored in, what your current job title is, and a little about what you do.

Thanks for staying connected with Graceland. You were important to the university when you were a student here, and you are important to us now for the support and loyalty you provide your alma mater.

At Graceland, **Our Passion is Your Success.** ♦

COME SEE US

BUILDING A GREAT FOREVER

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Greetings from Graceland! Did your parents remodel your bedroom when you went off to college? When you came back home, did things look different? Well, the Graceland landscape may look different when you set foot on campus this Homecoming. A majestic new front is being added to Shaw Center that will contain a new recital hall, theater and student gathering space. The "Units" have been replaced by inviting apartment-style housing.

I think you'll find that what's uniquely "Graceland" about this place is still the same. You'll rediscover those deep friendships you developed in your 'House' and in classes, with teachers and staff. You'll probably also recall scenes in your own personal transformation as you progressed from Move-In Day toward graduation.

Cherish the past, but look forward to an exciting future as Graceland prepares to welcome new generations from around the globe — who come to "the Hill" to uncover their potential and acquire the tools to reach it. Welcome home and enjoy Homecoming 2011!

President John Sellars
Graceland University



ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

- Pam (Smith '77) Ash, Liberty, MO
- Joe Booz ('86), Blue Springs, MO
- Rosa ('97) La Puente-Flowers, Omaha, NE
- Joe Postnikoff ('83), Fort Worth, TX
- Sam Smalldon ('78), Calgary, Alberta, Canada
- David Yost ('67), Sonoma, CA

Please take the time to submit your vote by visiting www.graceland.edu/Homecoming. If you do not have online access, you can submit your vote by calling 866.GU4.EVER (toll-free).

HONOR CLASS REUNION DINNERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15 - 5:30 p.m.

- 1961. Floyd McDowell Commons
- 1971. The Helene Center for the Visual Arts, Rm. E101
- 1976. The Helene Center for the Visual Arts, Rm. E205
- 1981. Resch Science and Technology Hall, Rm. 106
- 1986. Higdon Administration Building, Harpham Heritage Chapel
- 1991. Memorial Student Center, South Americas Room
- 2001. Resch Science and Technology Hall, Rm. 103

TICKETS REQUIRED. Online dinner tickets available at www.graceland.edu/Homecoming. Day care will be available from 5 - 11 p.m. at Funshine Learning Center, 423 N. Walnut, Lamoni.

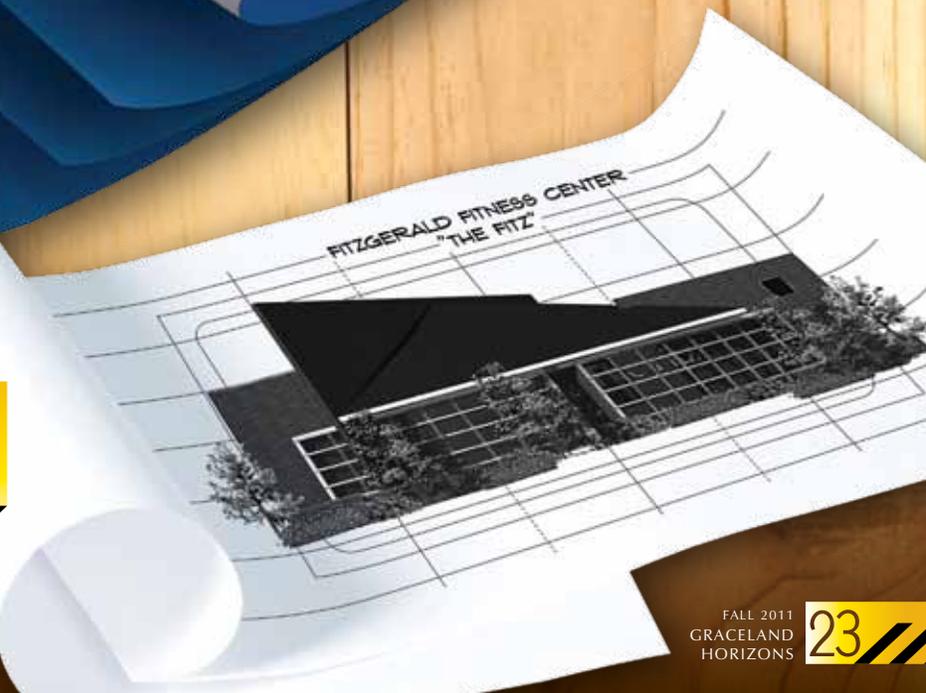
**SMALL & THOMAS APARTMENTS
PROJECT COMPLETED**

Summer 2011



**SHAW CENTER
IN PROGRESS**
Projected Fall 2012

**FITZGERALD FITNESS CENTER
IN DEVELOPMENT**



For information about our construction projects,
go to www.graceland.edu

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 8 p.m. **HOMECOMING PLAY.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
Graceland's Division of Visual and Performing Arts presents *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. This hilarious tale of overachievers' angst chronicles the experience of six adolescent outsiders who are vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Tickets on sale two hours before each performance at the Enter.netc@fe. (General admission seating only: \$5) Call Kathy Templeton at 641.784.5270 to reserve tickets.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

- 1 p.m. **REGISTRATION/HOMECOMING BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT.** Lamoni Golf Course
The \$35 entry fee supports the Graceland golf program. Play starts at 1:30 p.m. (Four-person best shot format)
- 1-8 p.m. **HOMECOMING REGISTRATION AND RECEPTION.** Memorial Student Center / Americas Rooms
- 5 p.m. **12TH ANNUAL ALUMNI EMERITI & AWARDS BANQUET.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
We will honor the recipients of the Graceland Award of Recognition, the Distinguished Service Award, the Honorary Alumni Award and Graceland's new class of alumni emeriti (1960). Dinner is complimentary for all alumni emeriti, spouses and award recipients. Other guests are welcome for \$25 per person. To reserve your place, please visit graceland.edu/alumni/homecoming or call 866.GU4.EVER
- 5:30 p.m. **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** Eugene E. and Julia Travis Closson Center
- 6 p.m. **WOMEN'S SOFTBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** North Park
- 7 p.m. **ALUMNI ART SHOW & RECEPTION.**
The Constance Gallery in The Helene Center for the Visual Arts will feature figurative clay sculptures presented by Linda Lewis ('75). Linda teaches at the Des Moines Arts Center.
- 7 p.m. **BASEBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** North Park
- 7:15 p.m. **MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** Closson Center
- 8 p.m. **HOMECOMING PLAY.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
- 9 p.m. **STUDENT AIRBAND COMPETITION.** Closson Center / Center Court
A must-see event for all Homecoming visitors, featuring Graceland student residence halls that team up to present a well-choreographed music medley production. Closson Center is always packed, so grab your seat in the bleachers early.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Shuttle service available at GU parking lots until after the football game.

For medical emergencies, call 911. For campus security and assistance, call 641.784.5199.

- 8-9:30 a.m. **AARON HOUSE PANCAKE BREAKFAST.** Gunsolley Hall / Main Floor Lounge
Donations will be accepted at the door.
- 8:30-10:30 a.m. **PALOMA HOUSE PANCAKE BREAKFAST.** Tess Morgan Hall / Paloma Lounge
Donations will be accepted at the door.
- 8:30 a.m. **HOMECOMING TENNIS TOURNAMENT.** McKain Tennis Courts
Matches for men's, women's and mixed doubles. Ages 15 and under will play singles. The \$25 contribution will benefit the Graceland tennis program (pre-registration is not necessary).
- 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **HOMECOMING REGISTRATION.** Memorial Student Center / North Americas Room
- 9 a.m. **SOCIAL CLUB REUNION.** Memorial Student Center / South Americas Room
Calling all Spartans, Gimpers, OOHs, K Alphas, K Zetas, FNP's, ETAs, KOGs and all other social clubs! Find your club's table and relive some great memories.
- 9 a.m. **WOMEN'S JV VOLLEYBALL INTER-SQUAD SCRIMMAGE.** Closson Center
- 9-11 a.m. **SCIENCE & MATH OPEN HOUSE & BUSY BEES CORNER.** Resch Science and Technology Hall
Children ages 3-10 are invited to participate in supervised games and activities. The fun includes science experiments, robotics, music, crafts and other activities. There is no fee for these activities.
- 9-11 a.m. **ACKERLEY COMPUTER PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE.** Resch Science and Technology Hall / Rooms 130-131
Refreshments and student demonstrations with robotics, graphics, gaming and more.
- 9:30 a.m. **ALUMNI FORUM.** Alumni Brick Plaza
Meet the outstanding student recipients of this year's Alumni Endowed Scholarships, and the recipient of the Alumni Board of Directors' "Behind the Scenes" Award. All alumni are welcome to bring business before the meeting. The current Alumni Board members will be introduced, as will candidates for election. (In case of rain, Memorial Student Center)
- 10 a.m. **WOMEN'S JV SOCCER VS. *ALUMNI.** John and Mary Anne Rasmussen "The Razz" Soccer Facility
- 10 a.m. **WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** Closson Center

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 10 a.m. **FUTURE STUDENT CAMPUS TOURS.** Higdon Administration Building / Lobby
Admissions counselors will be available to meet with interested students and their families in the lobby of the Higdon Administration Building to answer any and all questions about becoming a Graceland student.
- 10 a.m. **CHOIR CONCERT.** Cheville Chapel
- 11 a.m. **GRACELAND FOREVER CAMPAIGN KICKOFF.** Campus Quad
Be a part of the launch of the most ambitious fundraising drive in Graceland history. President John Sellars will lay out the game plan for GU's future and will also acknowledge the campaign leadership team.
- 11 a.m. **MEN'S VOLLEYBALL VS. *ALUMNI.** Closson Center
- 11:30 a.m. **MEN'S JV SOCCER VS. *ALUMNI.** "The Razz" Soccer Facility
- 11:30 a.m. **GU SUB & PIZZA PARTY.** Hampton Center / East lawn
High school students are invited to hear all about Graceland and enjoy fresh pizza and sub sandwiches (sponsored by the Admissions Office). Better than that, the food is free! (In case of rain, Resch Science and Technology Hall / Room 106)
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **TAILGATE PARTY.** Campus Quad / Tailgate Tent
Join your friends for a BBQ lunch and live entertainment before the game. Tickets can be purchased at the tent for \$7 per person. (In case of rain, Memorial Student Center / Main Room)
- 12:30 p.m. **HOMECOMING COURT CROWNING OF THE KING AND QUEEN.** Campus Quad
(In case of rain, Memorial Student Center)
- 12:45 p.m. **HOUSE COMPETITION FINAL.** Campus Quad
- 1 p.m. **COC CONGREGATIONAL REPS RECEPTION.** Higdon Administration Building / Harpham Heritage Chapel
- 1 – 1:30 p.m. **SMALL & THOMAS APARTMENTS DEDICATION & OPEN HOUSE.** College Avenue
- 1 – 4 p.m. **EMERITI HOSPITALITY ROOM.** Marietta Walker Hall / Main Floor Lounge
- 1 – 4 p.m. **25 & 50 YEAR ALUMNI HOSPITALITY ROOM.** Tess Morgan Hall / Main Floor Lounge
- 2 p.m. **HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME VS. CENTRAL METHODIST UNIVERSITY.** Huntsman Field
Halftime | Gadets and Cheer Squad performance, Hall of Fame induction (Mark Martin, Dava Nelson Laxton, Billy Gray)
- 3 – 5 p.m. **13TH ANNUAL GALA RECEPTION.** Bill & Lois Russell's home
121 S. Ferguson Street, Lamoni
- 4 p.m. **60 YEAR ALUMNI RECEPTION (CLASS OF '51).** The Helene Center for the Visual Arts / Atrium
Members of the graduating class of 1951 will have a special reception to celebrate their time together at Graceland, back in the day.
- 4 – 5:30 p.m. **DR. BRUCE GRAYBILL'S 80TH BIRTHDAY RECEPTION.** Resch Science and Technology Hall / Room 104
- 4:30 – 6:15 p.m. **POSTGAME TAILGATE DINNER.** Campus Quad / Tailgate Tent
If you are not attending an Honor Class dinner, join the students for a nice evening meal under the tent. Tickets can be purchased at the tent for \$7 per person.
- 5:30 p.m. **WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. MIDAMERICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY.** "The Razz" Soccer Facility
- 7:30 p.m. **MEN'S SOCCER VS. MIDAMERICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY.** "The Razz" Soccer Facility
- 8 p.m. **HOMECOMING PLAY.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
- 9 p.m. **ALUMNI AFTER HOURS.** Alumni Brick Plaza
Okay, maybe Salsa dancing is not exactly your cup of tea. This new event is sponsored by the Alumni Board and is for alumni and friends who simply want more time to hang out together. A DJ will be on hand to spin some of the more familiar tunes from back in the day. Let's celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first officially sanctioned dance at Graceland.
- 10 p.m. **SALSA MAGIC - INTERACTIVE LATIN DANCE PARTY.** Between Zimmermann Hall & Resch Science and Technology Hall
Learn the intricate and tantalizing moves of salsa from Lee Smith, the two-time, world-renowned instructor of the year. After the quick lesson, show off your new skills under the moonlight alongside friends, classmates and house rivals. Alumni and friends are welcome. (Why let the students have all of the fun?)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 8 a.m. **CRESCENT BREAKFAST.** The Helene Center for the Visual Arts / Room E101
- 9:30 a.m. ***ALUMNI CHOIR REHEARSAL.** Community of Christ Church / Lamoni Congregation
- 10:30 a.m. **HOMECOMING WORSHIP SERVICE.** Community of Christ Church / Lamoni Congregation
- 11:45 a.m. **PRESIDENT'S BRUNCH.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
(By invitation only) Presidential Society members will hear the latest news on Graceland's plans for the future from President John Sellars. We will also honor brand new members of the Heritage Club.
- 3 p.m. **HOMECOMING PLAY.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

* If you plan to participate in any Alumni Games or the Alumni Choir, please RSVP the Athletics Department at 641.784.5311 or the Music Department at 641.784.5270.



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UNIVERSITY

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HOMECOMING 2011
OCTOBER 14-16

COME SEE US

**BUILDING A
GREAT FOREVER**



HONOR CLASS YEARS

1961 1981 2001
1971 1986
1976 1991

SPECIAL RECEPTION
Class of 1951

GRACELAND FOREVER CAMPAIGN KICKOFF
Saturday, October 15 — 11 a.m.

**FOR COMPLETE SCHEDULE,
SEE PAGES 22-25 INSIDE.**