

# HORIZONS

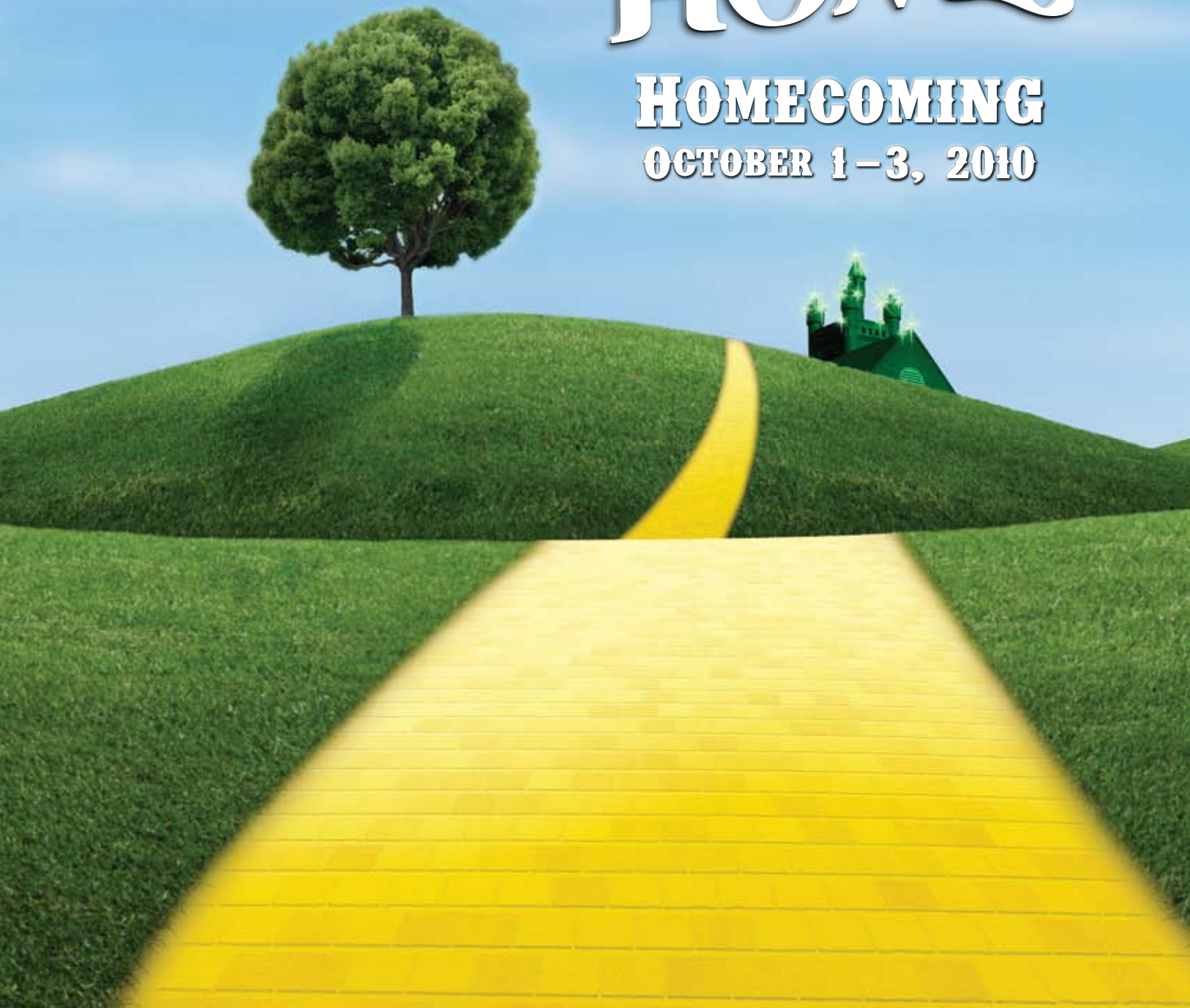
Alumni and Friends Magazine

Graceland University

Fall 2010  
Vol. 26, No. 2

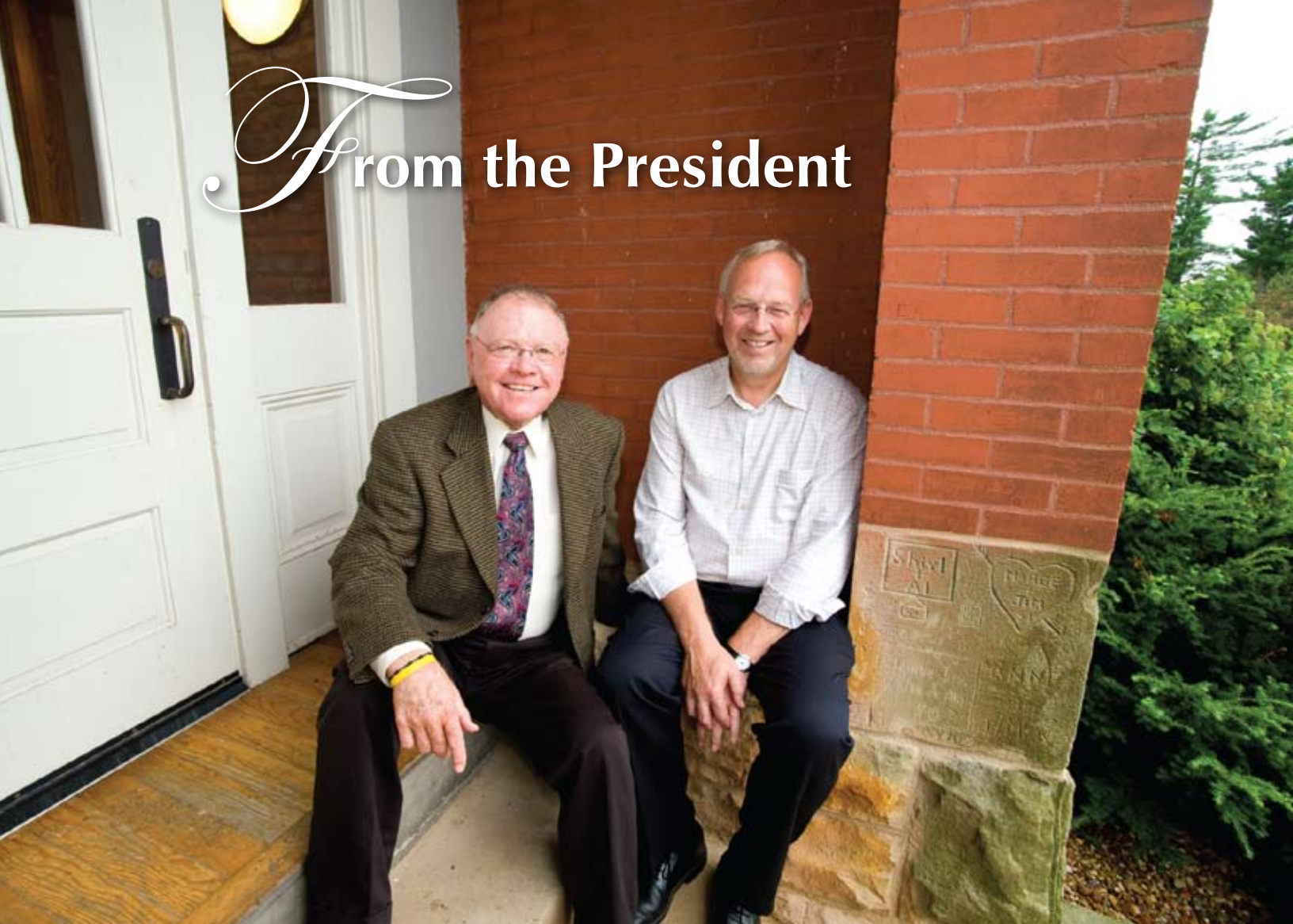
There's  
**NO PLACE** Like  
**HOME**

**HOMEcoming**  
**OCTOBER 1-3, 2010**





# From the President



## I hope to see you at Homecoming, October 1-3

Jerry Hampton just completed his 50<sup>th</sup> year as an educator and coach at Graceland and he received professor emeritus status at Commencement. It is fitting that our Homecoming theme this year is *There's No Place Like Home* because Jerry, a 1952 graduate, has made Graceland his home for more than half the life of the university.

We have a wonderful variety of events and activities planned for you Homecoming Weekend. Among them are dedication ceremonies for our newly remodeled athletic offices, renamed the Hampton Center in Jerry's honor. Gifts from Jerry's family, friends and alumni made it possible. I hope you will join us at the Hampton Center at 11 a.m., Saturday, October 2 for the dedication. By the way, Jerry will be featured with the cover story in the next issue of *Horizons*.

You will find a complete guide to Homecoming 2010 on pages 2-5 of this issue. I hope you can make it back to "the Hill" for our annual fall classic. It is always so good to visit with Gracelanders from every generation.

Whenever I think of coming home, I think of that sacred place that makes you feel at ease with friends

and loved ones. I have been at a lot of universities but Graceland is that sacred place for me. And perhaps no place strikes me as a sacred place on campus more than North Door of the Higdon Administration Building. Jerry and I are pictured there in this photo. There are all those names carved in the bricks and stone, from generations past, and it makes me think back to the great Graceland leaders, like G.N. Briggs, Ed Gleazer, Barbara Higdon and so many others. They are giants at Graceland. When I look at those names it is like the testimony of those who have gone before us and made such a huge difference in the world.

Jerry Hampton is so committed to our university. You can tell that he just loves being here. It is my great pleasure to be pictured with Jerry at this sacred place on campus.

John Sellars, Ph.D.  
President

# Graceland University Horizons

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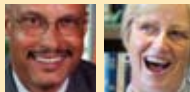
Aaron Neeley '03, Photographer

Tiffany Smith '06, Homecoming Graphic Design



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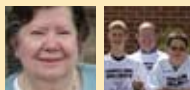
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## Horizons, Volume 26, No. 2

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](http://www.graceland.edu).





There's  
**NO PLACE** like  
**HOME**

## From our President

Welcome home! We are delighted to have you back with us to renew old ties and touch base with what's new on campus.

Feel free to drop in to the Resch Science and Technology Hall and relive memories of your early morning chemistry classes. Wander through the beautiful hallways of The Helene Center for the Visual Arts and recall the art studios of yesteryear in Kelley Hall.

We especially invite you on Saturday morning to the dedication of the remodeled offices in Closson Center, a tribute to the 50+ years Jerry Hampton has mentored Graceland students and athletes. Above all, however, join with your classmates and friends to celebrate the worldwide Graceland family who share a common bond with these hilltop acres.

We are so glad you are here because indeed, "*there is no place like home!*"







## ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

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*Please take the time to submit your vote by visiting [www.graceland.edu/alumni/boardballot](http://www.graceland.edu/alumni/boardballot). 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 2 — 5:30 p.m.**

- 1960. Floyd McDowell Commons
- 1970. The Helene Center for the Visual Arts, Rm. E101
- 1975. The Helene Center for the Visual Arts, Rm. E205
- 1980. Resch Science and Technology Hall, Rm. 106
- 1985. Higdon Administration Building,  
Harpham Heritage Chapel
- 1990. Memorial Student Center, South Americas Room
- 2000. Resch Science and Technology Hall, Rm. 103

***Tickets required.** Day care will be available from 5 – 10 p.m. at Funshine Learning Center, 423 N. Walnut, Lamoni.*

For more information, go to  
**[www.graceland.edu/HOMECOMING](http://www.graceland.edu/HOMECOMING)**



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

- 1–8 p.m. **Homecoming Registration and Opening Reception.** Memorial Student Center / Americas Rooms
- 1 p.m. **Registration/Homecoming Benefit Golf Tournament.** Lamoni Golf Course  
The \$35 entry fee is a gift to the Graceland golf program. Play starts at 1:30 p.m. (Four-person best shot format)
- 5:30 p.m. **11th 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 (1959). 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 [www.graceland.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.graceland.edu/alumni/homecoming) or call 866.GU4.EVER
- 5:30 p.m. **Women's Basketball vs. \*Alumni.** Closson Center
- 6 p.m. **Alumni Art Shows & Reception.**  
The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts Gallery will feature photography and graphic design by Corey Brown. The Constance Gallery in The Helene Center for the Visual Arts will showcase various ceramic masterpieces by Charles Manuel ('73).
- 6:30 p.m. **Women's Softball vs. \*Alumni.** North Park
- 7 p.m. **Baseball vs. \*Alumni.** North Park
- 7:15 p.m. **Men's Basketball vs. \*Alumni.** Closson Center
- 7:45 p.m. **S'more Memories.** Alumni Brick Plaza  
All are welcome to enjoy this new event featuring a campfire, s'mores and ice cream, along with historic monologues by Graceland "blasts from the past." Remember to bring your sweaters!
- 9 p.m. **Student Airband Competition.** Closson Center  
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.

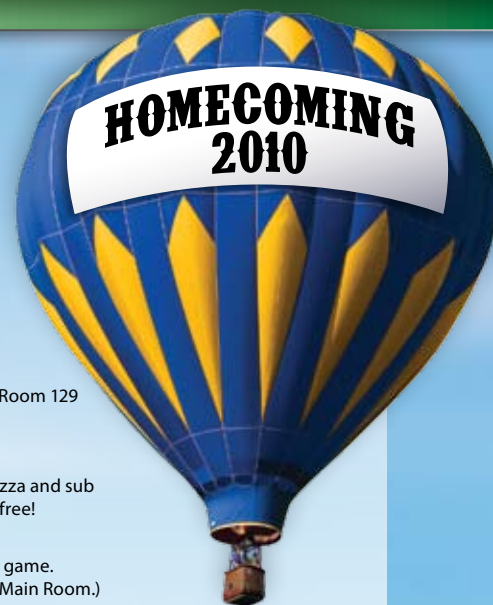
## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2

Parking shuttle available until after the football game. For medical emergencies, call 911. For campus security and assistance, call 5199 from any campus phone.

- 8 a.m. **Cross-Country Alumni & Friends Fun Run/Walk.** Meet at the outdoor track  
(Cancelled, if rain.) Variety of distances (open to all).
- 8–9:30 a.m. **Aaron House Pancake Breakfast.** Memorial Student Center / South Americas Room  
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 Fair.** Memorial Student Center / Mezzanine  
Calling all Spartans, Gimpers, OOHs, K Alphas, K Zetas, FNPs, ETAs, KOGs and all other social clubs! Come to the MSC Mezzanine, find your club's table and join your friends.
- 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 activities and games. 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.
- 10 a.m. **Alumni Forum.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room  
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 of Directors will be introduced, as will candidates for election.
- 10 a.m. **Women's JV Soccer vs. \*Alumni.** Rasmussen Varsity Fields
- 10 a.m. **Women's Volleyball vs. \*Alumni.** Closson Center
- 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. **Gadet Reunion.** Higdon Administration Building / Harpham Heritage Chapel  
Join past and present Gadets for snacks and reminisce about your days as a member of this unique dance team!



## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2



- 11 a.m. **Hampton Center Dedication.** Closson Center  
Join Graceland in honoring Jerry Hampton for his 50+ years of service to the University by attending this official dedication. Coach Hampton will be sharing his thoughts and then tours of the renovated athletic administrative offices will be available.
- 11 a.m. **Choir Concert.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts
- 11 a.m. **Men's Volleyball vs. \*Alumni.** Closson Center
- 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. **50 Year Alumni Hospitality Room.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts / Room 129
- 11:30 a.m. **Men's JV Soccer vs. \*Alumni.** Rasmussen Varsity Fields
- 11:30 a.m. **GU Sub & Pizza Party.** Huntsman Field / Endzone — Picnic Shelter  
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!
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Tailgate Party.** Campus Quad / Tailgate Tent  
Join your friends for a BBQ lunch and live entertainment, *Family Fat*, before the game. Tickets can be purchased at the tent. (In case of rain, Memorial Student Center Main Room.)
- Noon **Student Life Reunion Celebration.** Higdon Administration Building / Harpham Heritage Chapel  
All former Assistant Hall Directors and House Presidents are encouraged to attend and salute Marian Killpack for her many years of service.
- 1 p.m. **Pre-game Hall of Fame Induction.** Huntsman Field  
Dan Hanton, Alphonse Fulton, Daryl Frain
- 2 p.m. **Homecoming Football Game vs. Missouri Valley.** Huntsman Field  
Halftime | Spirit Squad performance, Wall of Fame induction (2004 women's soccer team)
- 3 – 5 p.m. **Emeriti Hospitality Room.** Memorial Student Center / South Americas Room
- 3 – 5 p.m. **12th Annual GALA Reception.** Bill & Lois Russell's home  
121 S. Ferguson Street, Lamoni
- 4 p.m. **60 Year Alumni Reception (Class of '50).** The Helene Center for the Visual Arts / Atrium  
Members of the graduating class of 1950 will have a special reception to celebrate their time together at Graceland, back in the day.
- 4:30 – 6:15 p.m. **Postgame Tailgate Dinner.** Campus Quad / Tailgate Tent  
If you are not attending an Honor Class dinner, come join the students for a nice evening meal under the tent. Tickets can be purchased at the tent.
- 5 p.m. **Women's Soccer vs. Missouri Valley.** Rasmussen Varsity Fields
- 7 p.m. **Black Student "re"-Union Reception.** Zimmermann Hall / Room 201
- 7 p.m. **Men's Soccer vs. Missouri Valley.** Rasmussen Varsity Fields
- 8 p.m. **Graceland Homecoming Fine Arts Gala.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts  
Enjoy and admire the musical talents of both alumni and current students during this 90-minute presentation. Performers have been carefully selected to showcase the very best in a long tradition of Graceland past and future musical stars. Tickets will be available for purchase two hours before each performance at The Shaw Center Box Office (Adults: \$7; Employees, students and children: \$4).
- 9 p.m. **Simply Ben Glenn.** Memorial Student Center / Main Room  
A different twist for this time slot at Homecoming. Ben Glenn is an extremely talented public speaker who dazzles audiences with his personal testimony of dealing with dyslexia and attention deficit disorder. This author of five books has travelled the globe inspiring audiences with a Christian message which is both pertinent and applicable in today's trying times. At the end of his show he paints a portrait on stage that magically comes alive with a dazzling spotlight effect. Those who have seen it say it is pretty amazing.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

- 8 a.m. **Crescent Breakfast.** The Helene Center for the Visual Arts / Room E101
- 9:30 a.m. **\*Alumni Choir Rehearsal.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts / Room 167,
- 10:30 a.m. **Homecoming Worship Service.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts  
Join with the campus congregation for a dynamic worship service with speaker, Michael Lewis ('90), President of Graceland's Alumni Board of Directors.
- 2 p.m. **Graceland Homecoming Fine Arts Gala.** The Shaw Center for the Performing Arts  
An encore performance of Saturday night's premier showcase of both alumni and student musical talent

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



(photo by Andy McNeill, UW-P)

*Dennis Shields has some simple advice:*  
**“Show Up, Pay Attention and Engage in the Moment”**

**D**ennis Shields was the product of an unmarried couple. He lived in a Des Moines orphanage until he was 5. Then there were abusive foster home situations that left him traumatized. By 1966 when he got to the YMCA Boy’s Home in Johnston for 6<sup>th</sup> grade, his chances for a meaningful education and success in life were not looking good. He was the only black kid in his class and he didn’t know anybody.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> Dennis Shields ’77 became the 14<sup>th</sup> Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. He now leads an institution with 7,500 students and 700 faculty and staff, and he is responsible for an annual budget of over \$100 million. This follows a remarkable career in higher education administration, with top leadership positions at the University of Iowa College of Law (where he earned his J.D. in 1982), the Phoenix School of Law, Duke University School of Law, University of Michigan Law School and City College of New York-City University of New York.

His odyssey of growth and success began back at that YMCA Boy’s Home when he met “one of the sweetest souls I ever knew,” Jack Braby ’52. “He didn’t see a black kid,” Dennis remembers. “He just saw a kid who needed help.” Jack, who later became principal of Lamoni

High School, and his late wife Lois, who later worked in admissions at Graceland, took 11-year-old Dennis under their wings and gave him a couple of things he had never known: role models and love. He hung out with them on weekends. They threw him his first birthday party, a surprise, at age 13. They took him to reunion camp. They made a difference, and he flourished.

“Nobody gets ahead in life without a lot of help,” says Dennis. “I learned that from Jack and Lois and it has stuck with me.” As he progressed through the Boy’s Home, went to live with a great foster family, graduated from Johnston High School and began college life at Graceland (assisted again by the Brabys), Dennis began to understand something else, a personal rule that became a kind of guide in life. He shows up everyday. That’s right, he shows up, he pays attention, and he is always ready to connect with people at important times, to “engage in the moment.” It is a simple concept that has taken him far.

“It isn’t the smartest one who gets ahead,” he says. “It is the one who shows up, shows humility and always tries to understand.” He showed up at Graceland ready to engage. He played basketball, “even though we were terrible – 0-22 my first year.” He became president of the Black Student Union. And, now-retired Professors Bill Russell, Bill Juhnke and Jon Wallace provided him with opportunities. You don’t get ahead without help, remember? For example, he had the chance to pick legendary civil rights leader Julian Bond up at the airport and spend time with him. “Talk about role models,” Dennis says. “Graceland gave me that.”

He can’t speak highly enough about the importance of a liberal arts education. Lois Braby told him to think about law school after graduation and he paid attention. He says a solid grounding in the liberal arts and his student leadership roles at GU were perfect preparation for law school and beyond.

All the help he has received along the way, from wonderful university friends and mentors, has helped him understand the critical importance for faculty to engage personally with students. “That is my commitment now at UW-P. Inspire our faculty to inspire our students.” He is delighted to be at UW-P, glad to be back in the Midwest, in a rural setting, with small classes and great faculty. Sound familiar, Gracelanders?

Along his way Dennis met his wife to be, Aundra. She was also a lawyer, and Dean of Students and Admissions at the State University of New York, Buffalo. They met at a recruiting conference, learning how to attract students to their respective schools. He’s glad he “showed up and engaged” at that conference. They married and have three grown boys: Carver, Julian and Jake.

*Horizons* caught up with Dennis recently at a conference in Vermont for new college presidents. The question came up: Would you like to be President of Graceland someday? “Well,” he said, “that would be something to show up for.” ♦





## Marian Killpack is our new Dean of Students Graceland – It's where she belongs

For 39 years Marian Killpack has belonged at Graceland. If asked about their best residence life experiences in college, thousands of our alumni would surely reply "Marian." Graceland's long-serving Residence Life Director is respected by current students, faculty and staff, and adored by House Presidents and Hall Directors, past and present. Marian and Graceland have enjoyed a mutual love affair that has gone on "forever," she says with a laugh – a big, booming laugh that resonates up and down the halls of the MSC.

"You know what I love? I love to laugh," she says, that patented Marian smile beaming. And she belts out another laugh that draws more laughter from her colleagues around the corner and down the hall. *Horizons* stopped by recently to congratulate her on becoming our new Dean of Students. She has taken over for Graceland's much-loved Tom Powell who passed away in January. Tom Powell was Marian's colleague, collaborator, teacher, student, mentor and friend during a nearly 27-year partnership in Student Life.

"I have no intention of taking his place," she says, still smiling, remembering. "I hope to follow in his footsteps, not walk in them, but follow in them." It was a legendary friendship on "the Hill." They lived and breathed this university, together, sharing with students and all Gracelanders what Marian calls "Graceland's two basic values: worth of the individual and value of community." She said, "He will always be beside me, as he was for so many years."

But, there is hard work to do now, she acknowledges. The university faces serious challenges, like all small, private schools. For Marian, the questions and the answers are all about our students, as they have always been. She has a new mantra to share with students, current and prospective: Graceland – it's where you belong. She asks, "Doesn't that say something to you? I think it carries our message."

Marian '70 and her husband Dale '70, Lamoni's long-serving police chief who just retired ("doesn't he remind you of Andy Griffith," she asks, with that laugh again), have century-old roots at Graceland. Her grandmother graduated in 1932, his great, grandmother in 1898. Their three children are alumni: David '96, Kimberly '99 and Kristina '05; 12 of 14 nieces and nephews are alumni. "I can't think of my family or myself without thinking of Graceland," she said.

She was a House President as a student and later a Hall Director, as was Dale. In 1979 she became Coordinator of Housing, a "temporary job," she laughs, that lasted until 2010. The day Tom became Dean of Students in 1984 he asked her to be Associate Dean and Director of Residence Life. The team was born that day. "True synergy, every day thereafter" she said. "From day one until a week before his death."

She has known 700 House Presidents in 39 years. No one believes in the integrity and importance of our unique 'House' system more than Marian. "HPs make all the difference on campus. They set the tone. They are the core of how we build community. Student ties to their House last forever." She points out that how students do in the dorm in many ways determines how they do academically.

As Dean she wants to continue doing what she has always done, helping students feel accepted for who they are, helping them realize their dreams. Graceland is famous for this and Marian is a big reason why it is so. With cell phones, texting and new social media, it is easy for students to feel detached socially. "Our students connect, person to person," she said. "We help make that happen and I am proud of that."

Most of all perhaps, Marian is a people person. You appreciate that from the moment you meet her. "I love people," she says, with warmth that makes *you* feel loved. "I feel so rich, for all the people I've known at Graceland, and will know in the future."

Graceland – It's where Marian belongs. ♦



Marian with Debbi Knotts '93 Skinner, Marian's replacement as Director of Residence Life. 'Deb' was a House President and later a Hall Director. She also worked with the SIFE team. Marian's advice for Deb: "Build your team and trust them to do their jobs."





## Puzzle Master Jeremy Graybill Creates Graceland Brainteaser



Jeremy Graybill '98 was playing the piano one day seven years ago and the idea for a new kind of puzzle "popped into my head." About 10,000 hours later – working full time in his spare time – Jeremy developed his unique Pazurgo software and dealt with patents, trademarks, submissions and his website. It took three months to create the first puzzle and

now his first book of the pesky puzzles (96 of them) has just been published. Learn more at: [www.pazurgo.com](http://www.pazurgo.com). The publisher is looking at the long view of many more books to follow.

Jeremy was a math, computer science and computer engineering student at GU and like so many alumni he credits great teachers, like Math Professors Steve Murdock and Ron Smith, for "making a real difference in my life." He is now Manager of Biostatistical Analysis and Chief Statistician with Lockheed Martin in Denver, providing support to the Department of Defense. He can't tell us more about that or he would have to kill us all!

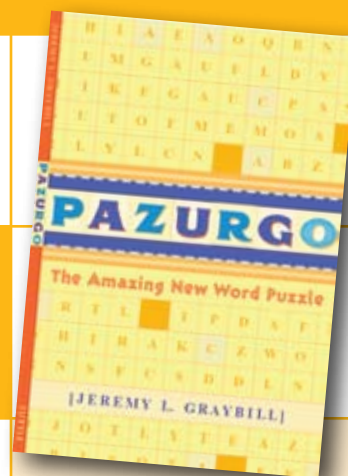
Getting the Pazurgo software right was the secret – the secret that took five years to unravel. Now he can create puzzles based on any subject – like this Graceland teaser he made just for *Horizons*' readers – by inputting words and letting his computer do the work.

Jeremy and his wife Mendi LaRue are expecting their first child as *Horizons* goes to press. Our puzzle master has a few important things on his mind! So, thank you kindly Jeremy for thinking of your alma mater. To you readers, have fun, and remember that Jeremy says you will figure out Pazurgo quickly after you get started on the puzzle. Catch up with Jeremy at: [jlgraybill7@yahoo.com](mailto:jlgraybill7@yahoo.com).

### *(instructions)*

(Read the instructions below and remember that Jeremy says, "Pazurgo becomes intuitive half-way through solving the first puzzle." If you get stumped, the solution is on page 22.)

Similar to the example word provided, the object is to solve each of the clues by forming a "word chain" which begins with one of the pre-circled letters. Each letter is discovered in turn in a horizontal or a vertical direction from the previous letter, crossing out letters which fall in between. These word chains may cross over themselves or over other word chains, but they may not cross through black squares. Each letter may only be used once and any letter which is crossed out may not be used in another word. Once the clues are solved, the leftover letters which were not circled or crossed out will unscramble to form the answer to the Scramble clue.



Go to [www.pazurgo.com](http://www.pazurgo.com) for more information on Jeremy's new book of puzzles.



U	M	E	B	O	R		J	E	Y	T	E	E	B	K
K	N	J	(B)	V	C	R	M	P	(A)	C	C	D	C	C
L	K	X	V	V	(A)	U	N	C			L	R		
	I	N	N	H	Q	H	E		(S)	B	U	H	E	
H	Z	G	I	L	M	K	E	G	N	O	A	D	X	R
O	H	U	(H)	S	O		C	B	U	O	I		D	P
Y	L	I	C	F	H	A	F	(C)	I	M	L	W	L	S
I	J	P	U	E	A	U	G	O	X	S	D	O	D	O
(H)	Y	U	I	M	Z	R	G	B	Y	F	I	W	R	T
	M	T	V	S	Z	I	M	J	L	N		(B)	(B)	H
(S)	B	K	T	P	T	Z	T	R	Q	I	(C)	L	(G)	(E)
A	S	T	S	M	J	Y	M	A	(A)	C	(A)	W	T	(N)
I	S	P	E	H	E	U	Q	O	H	A	(S)	O	(A)	(D)
K	K	H	L	W	Q	L	A	(H)	(C)	K		X	O	N
P	L		E	N	O	H	B	V	F	L		S	S	G

Difficulty: ★★☆☆☆ G7000032

1. He just reached a half-century at Graceland \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  2. A Hall is named for Graceland's longest-serving president \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  3. The house where presidents live \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  4. They come home for Homecoming \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  5. The C.H. of our new School of Business S A N D A G E
  6. These scholars know their computers \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  7. Historian and Herald Hall expert (2 words) \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  8. Bonita and Howard \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  9. The man, the Chapel and the legend \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  10. The pride of Graceland, Montreal, 1976 (2 words) \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  11. This seminar giant is Graceland owned \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  12. "There's No Place like Home" in 2010 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  13. Eugene and Julia's Athletic Center \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  14. This business-savvy president invented "Ronald McDonald" \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
  15. He leads us into the future \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- Scramble: Family heritage on "the Hill" \_ \_ \_ \_ \_





## *There's No Place Like Home* Homecoming Theme has Double Meaning for Tracy Bridge

**G**rowing up 40 years ago in a small, quiet Midwestern town, insulated from the outside world, might have thwarted the dreams of a kid who yearned to tackle that daunting world and reach for success in business. How could he amass the confidence and leadership wherewithal to challenge big-city rivals for sought-after spots at graduate schools and in a competitive job market? How could he overcome obvious disadvantages of growing up in a place like Lamoni, Iowa?

Wait a minute. Scratch that entire first paragraph, because according to Tracy Bridge '80, the kid in question, there were *no* disadvantages. There were advantages. "You really get to know more people in a small town than in a big city," he says from his office atop a 47-story skyscraper in downtown Houston. "And you get to know them better." He uses an insightful phrase to describe the scrutiny and attention a kid with curiosity and enthusiasm gets in a small town, like it or not. "Accountability goes along with visibility! I remember fondly people like Rich Harrop and Larry Sturgis, who coached me, held me

accountable, and provided life lessons I use every day."

In 1968, when Tracy was 10 years old, he remembers thinking, "If I could ever own a \$25,000 house and earn \$10,000 a year, I'd be successful. My professional dream was to wear a suit and tie and work in a tall building in a big city." Today he is Division Senior Vice President of Support Operations with CenterPoint Energy, a gas and electric utility giant that serves 2.1 million electric utility customers in Houston and 3.2 million gas utility customers from Minnesota to Texas. And he wears a suit and tie everyday.

In a company with 8,800 employees, Tracy oversees 1,275 of them who work in 'shared services,' including customer service that fields 11 million calls per year; management of rights of way and one million utility poles; 'Call Before You Dig' for thousands of miles of underground gas lines, operations technology such as radio systems, and 4,500 vehicles and trailers in the CenterPoint fleet. The list goes on. Earlier this year he was given leadership responsibility for a \$1 billion 'Smart Grid' initiative, a massive deployment of new technology designed to modernize the way electric utilities serve customers – like using sensors to identify line problems, automated switching to minimize outages, and eliminating the need for manual meter reading. There is more than a bit of serendipity here because during his college years at Graceland, Tracy read meters for Lamoni Municipal Utilities.

The Bridge family moved to Lamoni in 1960 so Rollin Bridge could buy Varsity Drug, a business that stayed in the family for nearly 40 years and is still in operation. Tracy's older sister Bonnie Bridge Orris ran the pharmacy after Rollin's death in 1993. Tracy's mother Jo Ann (who passed away in 2003), along with Bonnie, Tracy and younger brother Greg '84, enjoyed small-town life to the fullest. Rollin was a born leader, involved in myriad civic roles, including serving as mayor for 22 years. "My dad is my role model," says Tracy. "He made a positive difference and he was a very likeable guy. He treated everybody with respect, from the window washer to the doctor." Graceland President John Sellars could not agree more. "Tracy reminds me of his dad. He has that same personality, a take-charge leader. He makes great things happen wherever he is. That's just the kind of leader he is."

Leadership with humility is perhaps the key to Tracy's growth and development as a corporate executive. "Dad used to tell me, 'the most important thing you can learn in life is how to get along with people.'" From the time he delivered his Lamoni paper route on his Schwinn bike, to the heights of business success, he has never forgotten that his dad led with "authenticity and integrity." He now recognizes the obvious correlation between growing up in a



**"I never sought promotion. I think they just saw an authenticity that came from growing up in Lamoni."**

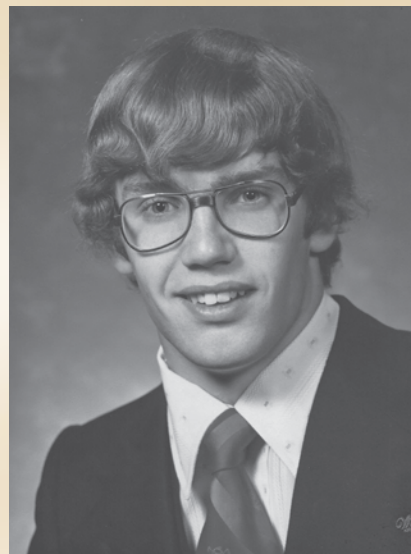
small-town and developing strong leadership skills. When he started school he became involved in as many sports and activities as possible and he learned to get along with everyone. He was voted class president. It was a natural for him and his friends were drawn to him as a leader. He says, "It is surprising how much confidence that gives you, perhaps undeserved, but confidence nonetheless."



Tracy and his dad, Rollin in 1970.



With his sister, Bonnie in 1964.



High school graduation.

Small-town life became small-college life when he came to Graceland. He majored in Business Administration and was senior class president. He ran track, continuing what became a life-long love for running. He just lost 25 lbs. by running three miles daily for three months. GU Coach Bill Dudek spotted him running one day and coaxed him into joining the football team. "I didn't plan to join because I didn't think I was good enough, but I did," he says. Leadership kicked in again. He made friends with the players and was elected senior co-captain. "I wasn't a great player but I got along with everybody." He helped make the team click.

He also met Chris Helene Robino '80 at Graceland and married her. They have two boys, both GU graduates, Tyler '08, a first-year student at the University of Minnesota Medical School, and Andrew '10, who is starting a joint J.D./M.B.A. program at the University of Houston. Chris is a wonderful artist, children's book author and a great friend to Graceland fine arts.

After GU Tracy earned his J.D. from Drake Law School and went to work as a corporate and regulatory attorney for Iowa Power. Counting meter reading at LMU, he's been in the utility business for 34 years. From there he went to Minnegasco in Minneapolis, the largest natural gas utility in Minnesota. With two more years of legal work he moved into business management with respon-

sibilities for rates and government and public relations. Twenty years later, the company restructured and eliminated all five VPs and the President position. Tracy was made the Regional VP responsible for all operations and profit in Minnesota. One leadership position followed another and less than a year later, in 2008, he was promoted to his current job and the Bridges moved to Houston.

"I never sought promotion," he says. "I think they just saw an authenticity that came from growing up in Lamoni. They know I am sincere." His sense of humor doesn't hurt either. "Everyone I work with knows I'm from Lamoni. When I say I am going to visit "God's country", they know where I'm going."

In 2005, the Bridge family created the Bridge Endowment at Graceland to annually recognize and financially reward student groups who make significant contributions to the Lamoni community. It has proven to be a wonderful conduit between town and gown. The same year he helped create the Yellowjacket Club (YJC), Graceland's athletics booster club. "Thanks to the generosity of Johnny Huntsman '62 and his wife Sharon, (who funded GU's new football field), and many others, the YJC has helped raise more than \$2 million for Graceland athletics."

Tracy has also served in a variety of roles for community and industry organizations, including leadership posts for the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery and the Rates Committee of the American Gas Association. He was Chair of the Building Committee for the Community of Christ church in Minneapolis.

"Ironically," Tracy says, "Graceland's Homecoming theme this year, *There's No Place Like Home*, is also my story. Lamoni is my hometown."♦





# Com



Ryan Sheehy and Brittany Longsdorf







# Commencement 2010

**Y**ou never know about Iowa weather and so a chilly, drizzly Sunday, May 16th, Graceland's 113th Commencement Convocation, was no surprise to the more than 2,000 friends of the university welcomed by President John Sellars to the Eugene and Julia Travis Closson Athletic Center. Dr. Fred Hausheer, a 1977 Graceland alumnus, delivered a stirring commencement address, urging the Class of 2010 to reach for their goals, no matter how lofty they might seem.



Dr. Hausheer recounted his path toward founding BioNumerik Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a unique company that utilizes high performance computing technology in the clinical development of cancer drugs. He is a globally-recognized expert in drug discovery research operations and a long-time friend and supporter of his alma mater. President Sellars awarded Dr. Hausheer an honorary Ph.D.

Students from 43 states and 17 countries joined the ranks of GU alumni. A total of 722 degrees were conferred representing 45 majors – 326 Master's degrees and 396 Bachelor's degrees.

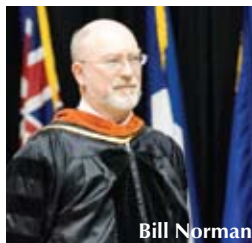
Dr. Steve Anders, Dean of the C.H. Sandage School of Business, was installed as only the third Distinguished Professor in Graceland history. Professor Emeriti status was conferred upon Sherri Kirkpatrick, VP for the Independence campus; Jerry Hampton, Coach and Professor in the Health and Movement Science Division; Phyllis O'Daniels, Professor in the Health and Movement Science Division; Tom Hart, Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies; Bill Norman, Professor of Sociology; and Bill Armstrong, Professor of Education.



Phyllis O'Daniels



Sherri Kirkpatrick



Bill Norman



Tom Hart



Steve Anders

Dean of Students Marian Killpack presented the 2010 Student Life Awards to Brittany Longsdorf and Ryan Sheehy at Baccalaureate. The award honors seniors who have made significant contributions to the university community and exhibited excellence in academics, leadership, service and co-curricular involvement.

Ryan double majored in Chemistry and Mathematics, with a minor in Spanish. He participated in a prestigious University of Iowa Biomedicine program and presented original research there. Marian described him from nomination papers as both "a clown and a genius" who came to play football but found his stride in the classroom and campus leadership roles. He was Agape House President, performed community development work in Nicaragua with Outreach International (OI) and played football. Marian said, "He found that balance between high academic achievement and having a blast as a member of the student body."

Brittany majored in Philosophy and Religion. She is the first GU student to earn 'Best Honors Seminar Presentation' as a junior and senior. Her list of honors, awards, achievements, scholarships and leadership positions is a city block long. She was GSG President and she worked with OI, the CofC Peace Colloquy, WorldService Corps and played several key roles with Campus Ministries. She will be a student this fall at the Princeton University Theological Seminary. Marian described Brittany from nomination papers as a "wildly intelligent, warmly genuine human being who recognizes the unending potential in others, with strength, patience and love." ♦





## 'Excellence in Teaching' Award Winner Teri Foster Says, "It's just plain fun to be around my students"



There is a joyful energy that comes across when you talk to Teri Foster. When *Horizons* caught up with her this summer she had a dozen things going but she cheerfully took some time to talk about her feelings of surprise and appreciation at Commencement in May when she received the 2010 Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching. The expression on her face when Alumni Board of Directors President Michael Lewis presented her with the award pretty much tells the story.

Graceland students nominate their favorite professors each year. The tradition dates back to 1978 and the list of recipients is a roll of honor for standout educators in recent university history. Teri is a 1976 Graceland alumna who returned to "the Hill" 10 years ago, first as an adjunct instructor, and she now begins her eighth year teaching Biological Science, Anatomy and Physiology.

That *joie de vivre* Teri exudes also plays out in her classrooms and labs, as evidenced by her students nominating her for the prestigious award – it includes a Golden Apple and \$1,000 for professional development. "I was very touched that students think so much of me and that they appreciate how hard I work," Teri said. "I'm glad they understand that I am trying my best. But, I still feel like I have a lot to learn."

Teri Nixon and Doug Foster met at Graceland. She majored in Psychology, Art and Music. That may sound like an obscure academic beginning for a pharmacist and science educator, but Teri is a person with a lot of interests. From the 'things you may not know about Teri Foster' file, she once rode with a hunt club, resplendent in formal riding attire and high black boots. She hasn't had time to ride lately but she and Doug own land near Lamoni and they have dreams of constructing a barn and getting back to riding. She

pursues working with stained glass as a hobby and she has shared her skills in two Winter Terms. And, she has become a whiz at *Guitar Hero*.

Teri and Doug moved on to Kansas University where she shifted gears and earned her B.S. in Biology and later a degree in Pharmacy. They married and Doug joined the Navy. For the next 23 years they traveled the world. Teri worked as a pharmacist in a lot of different places, acquiring specialties in geriatrics, diabetes and mental health. She now works part time at Varsity Drug in Lamoni. Doug retired from the Navy as a Commander. Now he serves on the Lamoni City Council and he is an adjunct instructor at GU. He will teach an Astronomy course this fall. Their son Richard Foster '05 is now a naval officer. He just graduated from nuclear power school.

To give you an idea of Teri's dedication to Graceland, she spent a part of her summer last year writing a grant that brought two high-tech simulation manikins to her lab in Resch Science and Technology Hall. 'Anne' and 'Kelly,' the manikins, allow students to study the human body in ways not previously possible at Graceland, or in the region. The amazing VitalSim manikins can be programmed for various scenarios to demonstrate heart and respiration rate, abdominal sounds and much more. They were a hit at GU's first Science and Technology Summer Camp for area public school students in June and they are available for regional EMS training.

Her professional focus nowadays is her students. "I enjoy so much interacting with my students, watching them grow and change, helping them figure out what they want to do with their lives. That is a big part of the joy of teaching." She added that it is just plain fun to be around her students. Based on the teaching excellence award, it is clear her students feel the same way about her. ♦



Teri Foster receives the Golden Apple from Alumni Board President Michael Lewis.



Gary, Brian and Tracy ham-it-up in the makeup room.

## New 'Film, Theatre and Performance Studies' Major Reunites Professor and his Students after 22 Years

It will be a bit of déjà vu for Gary Heisserer when he directs Tracy Salter and Brian White in *Sure Thing*, a comic one-act play by David Ives that will be part of a Fine Arts Gala set for Homecoming weekend. Tracy and Brian were Gary's students in the first Acting I class he taught at Graceland in 1988.

Gary is our Interim Dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences but he will be teaching courses along with Tracy and Brian in Graceland's new 'Film, Theatre and Performance Studies' major. Tracy '93 is our new theatre coordinator, direct from teaching at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. Brian '92 is Assistant Professor of English at GU, *The Tower* director and he will share his film expertise with students in the innovative new major.

Gary was a faculty member at Graceland and theatre department coordinator from 1988-95. He will teach an 'Intro to Theatre' online course this fall. It is a serendipitous surprise for him to be back together with Tracy and Brian. "They were extraordinary students," he said. "I can't think of better people to get this interdisciplinary new major up and running." Brian was the guiding force in creating the new major. He conceived it and designed it with help from fellow faculty members.

Graceland has a long tradition of high quality theatre. Students, faculty and staff, and a loyal following from the community have taken part in and enjoyed the many productions over the years. Gary points out, though, that the nature of theatre is evolving into more of a multimedia phenomenon. He wants Graceland to be a leader of the evolution. "You often see film included in theatre productions these days. I think you will see a much wider film influence on campus now." Students in the new major will be trained for both the stage and film. They will study performance itself from a societal perspective and how it impacts our culture through film, theatre and TV – how our notions of certain types of people are formed by what we see in those mediums.

Gary holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in Theatre and Drama and an M.S. in Educational Technology from Boise State University. He has unique insights into the art of theatre and performance studies and the technology of online delivery. Being Interim Dean of our College of Liberal Arts and Sciences now places him in the right place at the right time with the right skills to build and enhance Graceland's private college leadership in online offerings. The new 'Film, Theatre and Performance Studies' major will benefit from his combined knowledge base. Students can look forward to a significant course offering that will include lots of choices. "The new major is designed so students can focus on what they are interested in," he said. "Graduates from this program will have a good background in lots of disciplines."

Gary calls Tracy "probably the most qualified theatre educator we've ever had." She will direct *Almost, Maine* this year, a 2006 poignant-yet-quirky play by John Cariani, set in, well, Almost, Maine. On a single winter night the residents of Almost fall in and out of love under the magic of the Northern Lights. Gary thinks it will appeal to a wide audience. "We want to serve our greater community, on campus and off, with a range of entertainment." Time has shown that this can be a tough balancing act but the diverse components of the new major certainly promise a variety of learning opportunities for students and enjoyment for members of our communities.

When you are back on "the Hill" for Homecoming 2010 on October 1-3, our annual reunion of Gracelanders, be sure to attend the Fine Arts Gala. And when you experience *Sure Thing*, remember that another reunion between a professor and his prize students is taking place up on stage, after 22 years. ♦





# GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

## Graceland's New Athletic Director is Jeff Falkner



**J**eff Falkner has been named Graceland's new Athletic Director. He comes to "the Hill" from Brescia University in Owensboro, Kentucky where he served as Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach. President John Sellars praised the AD search committee and Parris Watts, VP for Academic Affairs and committee chair, for their "perseverance in finding a perfect match for Graceland and our outstanding athletic program."

President Sellars said he is impressed with Jeff's strong record of promoting academic standards for student-athletes, something for which GU has a long, proud history. Jeff developed a new

Academic Eligibility standard at Brescia that is stricter than NAIA requirements. He taught a First Year Experience course, served as academic advisor for his students and implemented a student-athlete orientation program. Jeff also lowered the tuition discount rate for student aid to athletes by 10 percent in his first year at Brescia and participated in successful fundraising efforts.

Jeff told *Horizons*, "I'd like to thank President Sellars, Dr. Watts, the search committee and everyone else who I met with during the interview process. It was clear to me that athletics play an important role at Graceland and that many people were interested in who the next Athletic Director was going to be. I look forward to working with Gracelanders to build on the success of Yellowjacket athletics."

Falkner earned a B.A. from Grand View College in Des Moines and an M.A. in Intercollegiate Athletics Administration from California University of Pennsylvania. Before Brescia, he coached baseball at Santa Barbara City College, Grand View and Ohio Dominican University. At Brescia he was responsible for a significant athletic budget and he supervised 16 full-and-part-time coaches.

Dr. Watts said he is confident in Jeff's commitment to developing the total student-athlete. Veteran GU Women's Volleyball Coach Stew McDole praised Jeff's belief in the true student athlete and his commitment to "raising the bar for both academic and athletic performance."

Jeff said when he visited Graceland he recognized "an atmosphere where students are able to realize their potential and lay a strong foundation for success in their lives." He also said he has received emails of support from Graceland alumni across the country. "Alumni genuinely care about Graceland. They want students to enjoy the same great experiences they had."

An ice cream social was held in mid-August to welcome Jeff, his wife Hannah and their infant son Casey to the Graceland community.

## Jeff Douglas Named Head Football Coach

President Sellars also named veteran GU coach Jeff Douglas '84 as Head Football Coach. Jeff has served



as Assistant Football Coach and Head Softball Coach at Graceland. "We are excited to have Jeff take charge of Graceland's football program," President Sellars said. "He has proven himself as a coach and innovative recruiter, and as a valued member of the Graceland community."

"I am excited about this opportunity," Jeff said. "I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead." After graduating from Graceland, Jeff served 14 years as a Yellowjacket assistant football coach in several key roles. He also served as Head Baseball Coach for 11 years, Assistant Athletic Director and as Assistant Dean of Admissions.

About this year's football squad, Jeff said, "We have had a tremendous recruiting year. We have upgraded ourselves both offensively and defensively. I believe our total number of recruits will also be up."

Jeff was a four-year varsity football letterman at Graceland as a defensive back. He was selected to all-conference and district teams as a junior and senior. He earned All-American honors as a senior and was ranked second nationally in pass interceptions. He also earned All-Conference and district honors in baseball, earning four varsity letters. He earned his M.A. in Education from Northwest Missouri State University.

Jeff and his wife Lena Baskin '84 Douglas have twin boys, Brandon and Brett, and a daughter, Briana, who will attend GU this fall. ♦

# NEWS

## It's Been a Summer of Upgrades for Athletic Facilities

By Matt Shelton  
Sports Information Director

**T**he Graceland athletic department has received several generous donations this past year used to upgrade both the Health and Movement Science (HMS)/Athletic offices and the Rasmussen Sports Complex soccer field. GU alumni have been major donors, including Johnny '62 and Sharon Huntsman, Jim '78 and Pam Smith '77 Ash and the family of Jerry Hampton, otherwise known as Team Hampton.

The HMS/Athletic offices are experiencing immense changes thanks to the lead gift from Team Hampton. Every office will have new furniture, a fresh paint job, new carpet and oak trim. In honor of Head Coach Jerry Hampton's legendary career at Graceland, the offices will be named in his honor: the "Hampton Center."

Dedication ceremonies will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Homecoming Weekend, outside the Hampton Center. All are invited to attend. The celebration will mark 50 years Jerry has dedicated to the University as a coach and educator. During that time at Graceland he has served the university in a variety of roles. Whether it be coaching and mentoring students on the fields and courts, or leading them in the classroom, Jerry has clearly set the standard for what it truly means to be a "Yellowjacket." The Hampton Center is a tribute to this remarkable love affair, since his graduation in 1952, which has lasted for more than half of Graceland's 115-year history. Jerry has abundantly blessed generations of colleagues, students and student athletes.

"Every day I have spent at Graceland I have received more than I have given," stated Coach Hampton about the naming honor. "I consider it a great privilege to be involved with such a fine institution."

Over the past decade, the Graceland University men's and women's soccer programs have pushed their way to national prominence. To carry on the prestige the programs have attained, an updated

soccer playing surface has been installed this summer. Thanks to donors including Yellowjacket soccer boosters and Graceland alumni John '74 and Mary Anne Hoss '74 Rasmussen, and again Jim and Pam Ash, both teams will be able to enjoy the new field this fall.

The old field was completely removed and the surface was graded down to a desired playing elevation. A new drainage system will vastly improve the draining time following a heavy rain. There is new bluegrass sod with a sand base for softer play and better traction.

The final upgrade of the summer was a football/HMS locker room makeover. The old, outdated locker room saw extreme changes, including 144 new lockers, air conditioning units for all the lower-level Closson Center locker rooms, new carpet, new paint, oak trim and a beautiful oak centerpiece with a flat screen TV for game film viewing. These upgrades were the work of Graceland's own Facility Services staff members and many hours labor by the football coaching staff.

Donations for the football/HMS locker room project were once again spearheaded by Johnny and Sharon Huntsman. The Huntsmans also funded the new football playing field, and resurfacing of the Robert and Leland Ackerley Outdoor Track and the Hal McKain Tennis Courts in 2007. Those improvements vastly upgraded the Bruce Jenner Sports Complex. Gifts for individual locker naming rights, and additional contributions for all of the exciting athletic upgrade projects, can be made through the Graceland Development Office by calling 641.784.5125. ♦





## 50's

**Robert Edgar Nelson Harder '58**, a retired teacher with the District of Columbia Public Schools, has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for demonstrating dedication, leadership and excellence in mathematics education.

## 60's

**Ree Davis '65 Nathan** was named Music Educator of the Year for outstanding merit in music teaching by the Florida Music Educators Association.

**Sharon "Sherri" Minton '65 Kirkpatrick** has retired after three decades of Graceland service, most recently as Vice President for the Independence Campus and formerly as VP for Institutional Advancement, Dean of Nursing, and Professor of Nursing. She and husband Jac Kirkpatrick '62 have launched a Graceland-affiliated NGO, *HealthEd Connect*, to assist women and children in the third world (<http://healthedconnect.blogspot.com>).

**David M. Irby '66** has been named winner of the prestigious Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education and will be flown to Stockholm for the award ceremonies November 2-4. Only three other researchers have won the award.

**Tom Morain '69** spoke on a panel honoring Iowa historian Dorothy Schwieder at the Fourth Biennial Conference of Women's and Gender Historians of the Midwest.

## 70's

**David Clinefelter '72**, former Graceland President, has been named Chief Academic Officer of Walden University, an online institution.

**Diane Blair '76 Kunzler** will display her paintings and pastels at the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site in West Branch, Iowa.

**Veronica Waterman '76 Stalker** has been named Interim Executive Director of the Iowa Association of School Boards.

**Lucinda Sage '70 Midgorden** has self-published her children's book *Scottosaurus The Little Dinosaur* (<https://createspace.com/3410265>). Her husband Barry Midgorden illustrated the book.

## 80's

**Terry A. Green '80**, screenwriter and director, is President/CEO of Strata Productions and its affiliate Windstorm Entertainment, companies that have financed \$20 million in private equity for the production of feature films. His companies have worked with 750 financial partners in producing films that have earned awards at prestigious film festivals.

## 90's

**Gina Alton '91 Leckron** has been promoted to Indiana State Director of Habitat for Humanity, heading 68 Habitat affiliates in the state.

**P. Corey Phelps '95**, former Graceland volleyball team captain, has been named head coach for the St. Catherine University Wildcats



## Student Center Committee takes it Easy in the "Living Room"

The Student Center Committee recently presented its case for a new facility to the Graceland Board of Trustees after a year of hard work by this dedicated group of volunteers. Eight general meetings were held, a three-day retreat, six sub-committees, visits to 25 universities, 15 focus group meetings and much more. Even with committee work completed the mantra for this group is still, "Now let's get it built!" In this photo the committee relaxes inside the proposed glass wall (orange flags) of what is hoped will be the new "Living

Room," with a beautiful view of west campus and the Higdon Administration Building. They are, left to right: Brad Carr '91, Connie Thatcher '75, Dave Heinze, Christi Dickerson, John Sheehy '79, Committee Chair Bob White '77, Mark Richards '77, Paul Davis '77, Brett Simpson '96, Collin Isham '11, Randy Fitzgerald '91 and Rick Forth '78. Not pictured, Kurt Remmenga, Jennifer Abraham and Diane Bartholomew. For more information, go to [www.gracelandforever.com](http://www.gracelandforever.com).♦

volleyball program. He received his Master of Arts Degree in Human Development from St. Mary's University this year.

**Chad R. Schutte '96** won the "sales rep of the year" award in addition to numerous other honors from Integrated Medical Systems, a surgical instrument management and consulting company.

**Alan J Skiles '96** has been named Director for Pricing Analytics by MillerCoors in Chicago.

## 00's

**Kristy Feldman '02** was awarded the degree Doctor of Physical Therapy by Des Moines University.

**Joe J. Aulwes '03** placed 214<sup>th</sup> out of 22,000 runners in the 2010 Boston Marathon. He trains by squeezing a 10-mile run into his lunch break at Wells Fargo Financial in Des Moines.

**Kristin Weuve '03 Aulwes** has an art studio from which she travels to shows to display her floral and landscape pieces.

**Amy Hynek '03** was awarded the degree Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine by Des Moines University.

**Andrea Barber '06 Chatburn** has completed the Doctor of Osteopathy and Masters of Bioethics degrees at the University of Missouri. She won the "Missouri State Medical Association Honors Graduate Award" for outstanding achievement in the study of medicine.

## WEDDINGS

**Jeffrey Leckron and Gina Alton '91**, April 24, 2010.

**Kendall Kelson and Pohai Kealoha Kaho'onei '03**, May 29, 2010.

## ANNIVERSARIES

(Those celebrating 50 years or more of matrimony)

**Ed '36 and Charlene Allen '38 Gleazer** celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on April 14, 2010.

**Donald '58 and Mary Bavington '59 Mitchell** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 4, 2010.



## Ed and Charlene Gleazer Celebrate 70th Anniversary

**E**dmund J. '36 and Charlene Allen '38 Gleazer celebrated 70 years of marriage on April 14 with a romantic dinner at a restaurant. You can only imagine how many romantic dinners they have enjoyed in 70 years.

A reception for friends and family took place later in the month at the Massachusetts Avenue Community of Christ congregation in Washington, D.C., where the Gleazers have been members since 1957. It was then that they moved from Lamoni to Washington where Ed soon became Executive Director of the American Association of Junior Colleges. He shepherded that organization for the next 25 years during a period of phenomenal growth for community-based education in the United States. He is considered by many to be the Father of the American Community College.

Ed became Graceland's youngest president in 1946 and served until 1957. He is now namesake of the university's Edmund J. Gleazer School of Education. Since their "retirement," Ed and Charlene have traveled the world from Baghdad to Bangkok, from Moscow to Zimbabwe, advocating for community-based education.

They now spend summers at their home on the church campgrounds in Onset, MA, an annual three-month stay they have enjoyed for many years. *Horizons* caught up with them at Onset and learned that after 15 years of doing the weekly community newsletter they have "passed that job to other hands." They actively support the Cranberry Coast Concerts, according to Ed, "an activity aimed at raising the level of music appreciation of the communities of the Upper Cape." They are also active in helping shape the future of the Campgrounds Community. He adds, "We believe this is a unique community in many ways. By the way Graceland graduates are numerous here and are providing helpful leadership."♦



**Bill '49 and Barbara McFarlane '49 Higdon** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 11, 2010.

## BIRTHS

**Brett '99 and Sarah Ward '03 Talcott**, Gardner, KS, Maleah Alani, April 7, 2007.

**Aaron '98 and Robyn Anderson '00 Luffman**, Dulles, VA, Rhys Robert, December 30, 2009.

**Brian and Monica Johnston '97 McKevitt**, Omaha, NE, Madeline Kelly, March 3, 2010.

**Aaron '02 and Beth Sperry '02 Comer**, Lamoni, IA, Aiden Daniel and Belle Analyne, April 24, 2010.

**Jesse '07 and Alexandra Bolinger**, Creston, IA, Emma Pace, April 29, 2010.

**Chris '09 and Teal Bell**, Columbus, GA, Blake Andrew, May 11, 2010.

**Andrew '04 and Kelsey Byrn '05 Cole**, Gilman, IA, Addilyn Briley, May 17, 2010.

**Brandon '03 and Kelly Reiff '04 Yoder**, Mount Ayr, IA, Kamryn Shea, May 23, 2010.

**Micah '02 and Amanda Williams '01 Allison**, Alvin, TX, Caylee Diane, June 29, 2010.

**Brian '96 and Hannah Brock**, Muscatine, IA, Kaylin Ann, June 30, 2010.

**Chad '04 and Alexandra Van Eeghen '04 Weikel**, Oxford, OH, Bowen Thomas, July 2, 2010.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Joyce Richardson '60 Shireman**, Nauvoo, IL, September 23, 2006.

**Robert P. Munch '54**, Santa Rosa, CA, December 8, 2007.

**Arline F. Fowler '38 Cackler**, Independence, MO, August 21, 2009.

**Karen Speigle '65 Jackson**, Lawson, MO, March 7, 2010.

**Don E. McIntosh '54**, Saint Clair, MI, March 8, 2010.

**Dwight P. Linkhart '51**, Boulder, CO, March 11, 2010.

**James E. Ricker '58**, Lakewood, CO, April 8, 2010.

**John L. Whipple '47**, Columbia, MO, April 14, 2010.

**Letha A. McCallister '71 Markham**, Jackson, OH, April 17, 2010.

**Paul M. Ackley '66**, Independence, MO, April 24, 2010.

**Eloise F. Moffet '29 Allingham**, Independence, MO, April 27, 2010.

**Gladys Irene Crane '46 Jennings**, Little Rock, AR, May 5, 2010.

**David J. Shippy '50**, Lexington, KY, May 7, 2010.

**Arnold Brice Booker '54**, Midland, TX, May 14, 2010.

**Edith "Dea" Davey '41 Nikel**, Blue Springs, MO, May 17, 2010.

**Jack P. Mann '54**, Independence, MO, May 19, 2010.

**Christi Sheehy '70 Zerr**, Independence, MO, May 19, 2010.

**R. Edwin Browne '36**, Blue Springs, MO, May 22, 2010.

**William 'Rick' Dodds '79**, Kansas City, MO, May 24, 2010.

**John D. Stone '88**, Leon, IA, June 1, 2010.

**Brian K. Drake '76**, Traverse City, MI, June 9, 2010.

**Harold L. Foster '65**, Lamoni, IA, June 9, 2010.

**Frances Hartman '49 Mulliken**, Independence, MO, June 9, 2010.

**Donovan D. Wardrip '70**, Oak Grove, MO, June 10, 2010.

**Judy Travis '26 Closson**, Lamoni, IA, June 12, 2010.

## Graceland Wrestlers Reunite in Independence



**D**o you recognize these guys? Members of Graceland's wrestling teams over the years met June 19 at our Independence Campus for a potluck picnic and "a chance to tell war stories," as event coordinator Ed Gensler '70 described it. Ed is Director of Admissions at GU for the Kansas City area and a former Graceland wrestler from the 1960s. Graceland enjoys a proud tradition of wrestling teams from 1957-1982.

Twenty-three wrestlers and families from across the country attended the reunion, along with coaching legend Jerry Hampton '52 and former coach Tom Nowlin '60. Many of the wrestlers went on to coach wrestling as careers. "It was a great time and we hope to make it an annual event," according to Ed. "It was fun to see old friends get back together again." For information about future reunions you can email Ed at: [gensler@graceland.edu](mailto:gensler@graceland.edu). ♦

Betty Watts '45 Mortimore,  
Coventry, England, June 17, 2010.

Karen J. Ferris '66, Eugene, OR,  
June 19, 2010.

A.D. McClain '62, Saint Louis, MO,  
June 19, 2010.

Pollyanna Bolinger '45 Hubble,  
Independence, MO, June 24, 2010.

N. Josephine Wolfenbarger '44 Mosney,  
Bothell, WA, July 4, 2010.

Marie Bormann '36 Shank,  
Independence, MO, July 19, 2010.

William A. Piedmonte '48,  
Independence, MO, July 22, 2010.

LaVon Crum '50 French, Washington, D.C.,  
August 5, 2010.

## Former Board Chair William Piedimonte Passes Away

William A. Piedimonte '48 passed away in Independence, MO on July 22, 2010. He hailed from a family of Gracelanders and he was a valued trustee and Chair of the Graceland Board of Trustees for 12 years. He was 88 years old and passed away in his home, surrounded by family.



William and two of his three brothers attended Graceland: the late Michael

Edward Piedimonte '48 and Daniel Piedimonte '51. William is survived by his wife of 67 years, Catherine Piedimonte '48, and his four children: William D. '69, Cynthia L. '73, Ozmo and James '82.

He practiced law in Independence, with offices located across from the Court House on the Square. He served as a High Priest in the Community of Christ and an advisor to the Stake High Council. ♦

## Independence Park Named for Bob Clothier

A new park in Independence, MO was dedicated this summer to the memory of Dr. Robert W. Clothier '59, a well-known pediatrician who was fondly referred to as "Dr. Bob."

The land for the two-acre Clothier Park was donated by HCA, Inc., and the facility now boasts a basketball court, walking track and new playground equipment. Bob passed away in January at age 68.

Family and friends and area residents gathered for the dedication. Bob was known for his tireless service to community and especially to the children who were his patients for 38 years. He also served as Chair of the Pediatrics Department at Medical Center of Independence and Chief of Pediatrics at St. Mary's Medical Center in Blue Springs. ♦



Pictured at the dedication are, from left, Louita Goode '56 Clothier, Dick Clothier '55, Layne Kapp, Russell Clothier, Ann Clothier, Mike Bover, Sharon Hetrick '59 Clothier (Bob's wife), Julie Clothier '92 Bover, and Katie and Hannah Bover.

## International Alumni Make Quick GU Visits



Milena Andonovska '00 stopped by Graceland in May with her husband Zoran during a vacation to the U.S. They live in Skopje, Macedonia where Milena works for the American Embassy and Zoran is a lawyer. This was Milena's first trip back to the states since graduation and Zoran's first time in America. They are pictured with Director of International Programs Diana Jones. Milena worked in the International Programs Office when she was a student. Email Milena at: [amilena2001@yahoo.com](mailto:amilena2001@yahoo.com).

Wei-Hsiung Huang '94 celebrated his 40th birthday with a vacation to the U.S. from his home in Taipei, Taiwan. He stopped at Graceland in May to see his former Computer Science Professor and Ackerley Scholars Director Jim Jones (pictured here with Wei-Hsiung). Email Wei-Hsiung at: [wei48221@gmail.com](mailto:wei48221@gmail.com). ♦

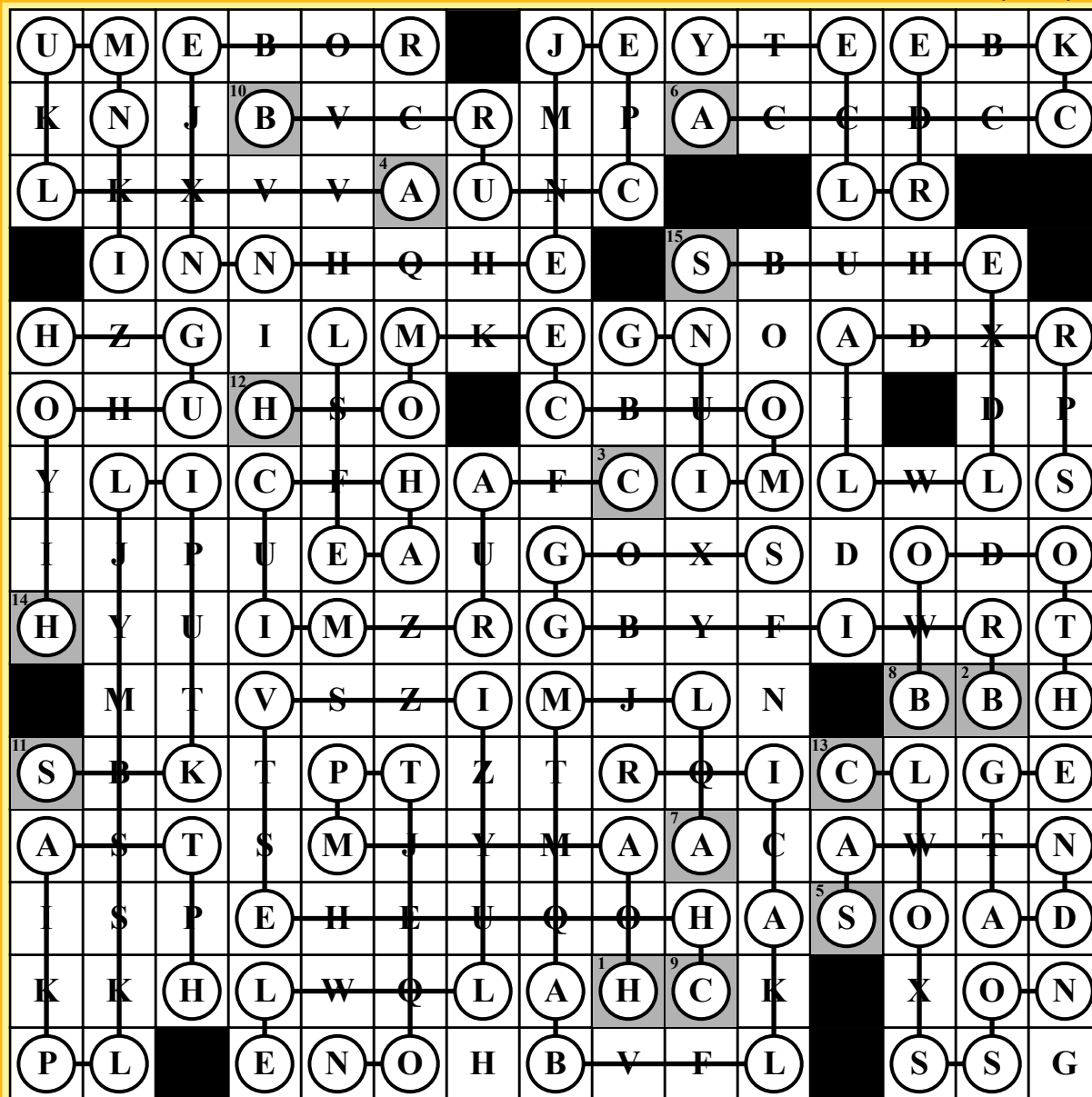






## View from "the Hill"

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1. HAMPTON
2. BRIGGS
3. CARMICHAEL
4. ALUMNI
5. SANDAGE

6. ACKERLEY
7. ALMABLAIR
8. BOOTH
9. CHEVILLE
10. BRUCEJENNER

11. SKILLPATH
12. HOMECOMING
13. CLOSSON
14. HOUGH
15. SELLARS

Scramble: HIGDON

Solution to the Pazurgo puzzle  
from page 8.

# Gracelanders Lose Two Pioneer Women Educators



**J**ulia "Judy" Travis Closson, the mother of Graceland women's physical education, and Betty R. Watts Mortimore, a pioneer GU science educator, both passed away in June.

A 1926 Graceland graduate, Judy brought women's P.E. and athletics into the

modern era when she taught here from 1931-1946. She was a tremendous athlete in the mid-1920s when she competed in the Graceland Girls' Athletic Club (GGAC), long before 1973 federal gender equity legislation was even a dream. As a teacher, she moved the GGAC into the national Women's Athletic Association and women could finally earn athletic letters. She taught women the modern game of basketball and coached field games and track and field. She even had her women wear shorts rather

than bloomers. The Eugene E. and Julia Travis Closson Athletic Center is named for Judy and her late husband, another long-time Graceland educator. She passed away on June 11. A memorial service was held in Lamoni (her home for 83 years) on June 26. Judy was 106 years old.

Betty passed away on June 17 at age 84. She was a 1945 Graceland graduate and a tenured professor of Biology from 1965 to 1988. She was married to the late Roy H. Mortimore, long-serving Graceland Physics professor. Betty was the first woman in the Division of Science and Math to hold a doctorate and the first woman to be coordinator of the Biology Department. She was the church organist and was active in choir and the orchestra while teaching and taking science courses at Graceland. She lived in Lamoni for 42 years. A gathering of friends and family was held June 20 in Madison, WI, her home in recent years. A Memorial service will be held in Lamoni in December. Friends may call Betty's daughter Ruth Mortimore '79 Peach at 608.469.6065 for details. ♦



## Young Scientists Explore at Graceland's First Science and Technology Camp

**P**ublic school students from southern Iowa and northern Missouri attended the first annual Science and Technology Camp at Graceland this summer. GU science professors led the young scientists in experiments exploring robotics and computer science, rocketry, crime scene investigation, chemistry, information technology, biology and physiology, all utilizing the labs and equipment in Graceland's new Resch Science and Technology Hall.

Dr. Kevin Brunner, GU Professor of Information Technology, who oversaw planning and development of the camp, thanks his faculty colleagues, GU students and alumni who volunteered as instructors. "We are all inspired by the wonderful new surroundings here in Resch Hall. Our sincere thanks go out to Dick Resch '58 and GU alumni and friends who made this tremendous facility possible." The idea for the camp was born during Dr. Brunner's Winter Term

in January. His students were instrumental in getting the idea off the ground.

"We want this to be an annual summer event at Resch Hall," Dr. Brunner said. "It is inspiring to see young people open their eyes to the world of science and technology, and to do it at Graceland." A grant from the DEKKO Foundation helped fund the camp. The Educational Talent Search program also provided support. ♦





## Updates from Recent Graduates of the C.H. Sandage School of Business

**H**orizons has heard recently from four young graduates of the C.H. Sandage School of Business who are doing great things out in the world of business and graduate school. A world-class education in a nurturing community at Graceland helped them attain their goals and reach for their dreams.



**Shelby Williams '07** earned a B.A. in Accounting and Business Administration and a minor in Economics and Information Technology. She is an auditor for Henry & Horne, LLP, in Tempe, AZ and she is working toward becoming a Certified Public Accountant in Arizona. She was named Outstanding Member for 2008-09 of the Mesa/East Valley Chapter of the

American Society of Women Accountants. Shelby credits leadership positions she held during her Graceland years with preparing her for the rigors of a very competitive career field. She served as Aponivi Chaplain, Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Financial Education Team Leader, a mentor in Macro and Micro Economics and a mentor to high school students through the TRIO Program Educational Talent Search.

**Dzemila Helac '06**, B.A. Economics/Business Administration began her career in development finance to help eradicate poverty, a desire she greatly developed at Graceland. She was working as an Investment Analyst for a development finance firm in her hometown of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina when the company fell victim to a hostile takeover. "I refused to take part so I had to resign when the takeover was complete." Dzemila credits close relationships with her professors, like Assistant Professor of Economics Rob Poulton and Assistant Professor of Business Administration Max Pitt, with keeping her "focused on the ethics of business despite the culture of corruption which is prevalent in post-war Bosnia." She is currently doing a summer internship with the Financial Sector Stability Division at the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She hopes to move on to graduate studies in finance.



**Terra Paialii '09** Whipple studied Business Administration in the Sandage School of Business with emphases in Management and Leadership. And, it was leadership that Terra excelled at when she was at GU. She was GSG President, a COSA Board member, a student representative on the Graceland Board of Trustees,

played varsity tennis and she was a standout member of our SIFE team, including participating on the national championship presentation team in 2006. She accompanied the team to Paris for the World Cup Championships. Terra is a member of the Leadership Development Rotation Program with the Principal Financial Group in Des Moines. She reports that she is learning a great deal "about a broad range of business acumen," and she also started "the first of many businesses," Downs Pest Control in March 2010.

**Nikky Closson '10** graduated in three years from the C.H. Sandage School of Business with a Business Administration and Accounting degree and a minor in History. Nikky won area awards in both Business Administration and Admissions. She was very active with the SIFE program, serving as project manager of three teams and as a member of eight. She traveled with the SIFE team on Winter Terms to Thailand and Zambia. Nikky credits the "hands-on experiences" she had at Graceland through SIFE and the Ken and Cindy McClain summer internship program in Independence, MO for helping her prepare for law school and "future endeavors." She started at the University of Iowa College of Law in August as the youngest member of a class of over 200 first-year students. ♦



# 'Snapshots' of Graceland's Board of Trustees

President John Sellars remarks frequently about how proud he is to serve Graceland's Board of Trustees. "You won't find a more dedicated, more professional, more accomplished group of trustees serving at any university in the country."

At Homecoming 2009, when our new Resch Science and Technology Hall was dedicated, President Sellars personally thanked those board members present, and the entire board, for their tireless fundraising efforts. He noted that trustee giving accounted for half of Resch Hall's total cost. "They are a true inspiration to us all," he said.

The president's appreciation of Graceland board members prompted this new feature in *Horizons*, 'snapshots' of these servants of the university.

## Helen Pearson Smith - Class of 1958



Helen is a retired professor from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, and someone President Sellars refers to as "a strongly spiritual person." In fact he remembers her "I am persuaded" Baccalaureate sermon at Homecoming 2008 as "one of the best sermons I've

heard in my life." He adds that there is a beauty about Helen and a spirituality that makes her presence on the board very special. Helen played a major role in helping to establish Graceland's Seminary, never losing faith that it would become a reality. She and fellow board member Bob Bruch are sister and brother. Her husband Luther also taught theology. "Helen and Luther are a wonderful team," added President Sellars.

## Robert 'Bob' Bruch - Class of 1952

Bob is a great entrepreneur and initiator, a board member with a strong business mind, and a man who "attracts people wherever he is," says President Sellars. "He is a *people whisperer*, a man with the ability to get people excited, get them pointed toward a cause and get things done." He is also a "great personal mentor," the president said. A long-time CofC Appointee, Bob was Lamoni Stake



President and very active in the community. He encouraged Leonard Boswell to run for Congress and he was the guiding force behind getting Crown Colony built – it became a national model for retirement centers. And, he is Helen Pearson Smith's brother. "Wherever Bob goes, good things happen," the president said.

## Kay Johnson Mussell - Class of 1963



Kay has held many positions at the American University in Washington, D.C. since 1974, most recently as Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Academic Affairs. "She is one of the brightest people I have ever met," said President Sellars. She is well spoken, thoughtful and she brings to our board all those years of experience in higher education. She chairs the Academic

Affairs Committee and because of Kay and her fellow committee members the president said, "It is the strongest academic affairs committee I've ever been with." She and her husband Boris are taking a year-long sabbatical to Ireland, a place they both love to explore. President Sellars stayed with them in Washington and attended President Obama's inauguration.

## Don Brown - Class of 1957

President Sellars praised Don for his valued 10 years of service when Don departed the board in May. He has been a successful business person involved with turnarounds. "He brought business acumen to the university that was unique, providing a perspective that often made us all look a little differently at an issue," the president said. Don would share testimony about playing football at GU and majoring in business and "about the change and difference Graceland made in his life." He is someone who loves everything about Graceland and credits GU for preparing him for success in business. He served on the Business Affairs Committee and also on the SkillPath board. "He was such an asset in both roles," said the president. ♦







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Class of 1950

*For complete Schedule of Events,  
see pages 2 – 5 inside.*