

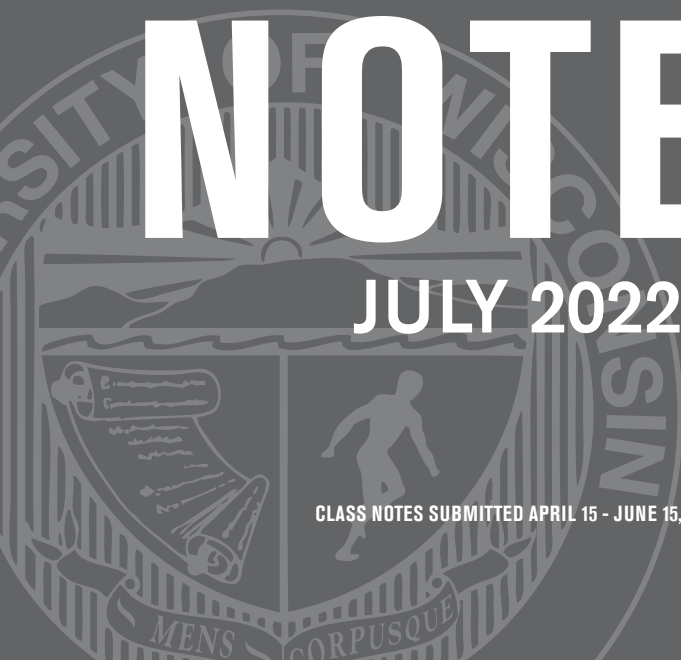


UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

CLASS NOTES

JULY 2022

CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED APRIL 15 - JUNE 15, 2022



'67

Glen Dallman and his wife, Janet, live in Bradenton, Florida. Dallman retired Jan. 4, 2022, after 53 1/2 years in education spent equally between Illinois and Florida. He taught English, math, and physical education. Dallman was also an elementary and high school principal, and worked in dropout prevention, truancy and juvenile justice.

'68

Dean and Dianne (Ostrem) Dickinson, both '68, are retired and living in La Crosse. When Dean retired in 2002, he recalls UWL administrator David Russell, a fellow member of the La Crosse Downtown Rotary Club, saying, "I know what you're retiring from, what are you retiring to?" Dean reports he retired to service in and through Rotary International and the Boy Scouts of America. "It became a full-time avocation that has

taken me to 39 foreign countries over the past 20 years," he says.

Dick Luther, Pewaukee, taught for 32 and 1/2 years in Milwaukee, Spencer and Waukesha. This October, he plans to begin another basketball season, his 56th, as an assistant at UW-Whitewater. This summer and fall he will be busy helping teachers, businesspeople, coaches and players with his program, "Get on Target." He reports that this self-made in-service program is going well. The program discusses "Feel Well" and "Work Well" with strategies that include positive energy, workout plans for any age, eating the right way and other things to find the "Fountain of Youth." He started the program on himself 28 years ago when, after a series of illnesses, he "Got on Target." He says helping people and students is his goal. "Thanks, UWL, for giving me a great start," he says.

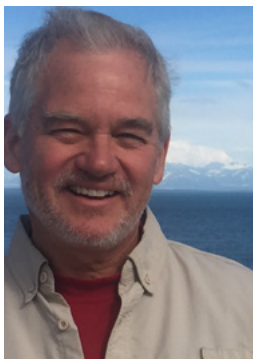


Kristine "Kris" R. Fritz, '70

'70

Kristine "Kris" R. Fritz, Sheboygan, has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators. She was recognized in April during the SHAPE America National Convention & Expo in New Orleans. A SHAPE America member for 53 years, Fritz has been recognized as an outstanding physical educator throughout her career. She received a Teacher of the Year award from Wisconsin Health and Physical Education (WHPE), as well as SHAPE America Midwest District. In addition, Fritz has been recognized by SHAPE America with the Honor

Award, the NASPE Joy of Effort Award, and induction into the North American Society. In her retirement, she continues to serve the Sheboygan School District as a preschool physical education teacher at the Early Learning Center.



Dick Domann

'77

Richard “Dick” and Cynthia (Shaffer) Domann, both '77, are retired and live in The Villages, Florida. Richard published his second novel this year: “The Araknive Deception,” a pharmaceutical thriller.

Gregory Ormson, Apache Junction, Arizona, has written “Yoga Song,” a story of transformation and redemption in 23 lyric vignettes. **Find the book.** Ormson has authored over 100 yoga articles in 23 national and international publications. In 2017, he received the Lyric Narrative Non-Fiction Award from Eastern Iowa Review for “Midwest Intimations.” Ormson was

awarded Indiana Review’s prize for 13-word stories in 2016 and received finalist mentions in writing contests by New Millennium, The Bellingham Review and the Watson Desert Writing Prize. **See more about Ormson.**

'79

Brad Johnston, Palm Bay, Florida, has retired from more than 30 years in the computer industry. He is now “relaxing” as a junior and senior computer teacher. Johnston also retired from his hobby business as a scuba diving instructor. He was recognized with a District Award of Merit for continued work with local Boy Scouts programs.

'71

Charles and Donna M. Dee, both '71, Holmen, own Dee Implement in New Albin, Iowa. Their work with Omegoodness, a trademark of Mai Savanh Lao Fair Trade products, was featured in a front page **La Crosse Tribune** article Nov. 30, 2021.

Gordon L. Zielke, Onalaska, is a retired Dairyland Power associate engineer.

'76

Terrence “Terry” Meister is retired and living with his wife, Darcia, in South Pasadena, Florida.

Julie Pedretti, Naples, Florida, has been promoted to vice president of external affairs for Healthcare Network, Immokalee. She helped organize the network's first multilingual COVID-19 Response Team, expanding existing programs to include increased testing, and eventually vaccines, education and community outreach.



Lynda Kohler, '83

'83

Lynda Kohler, Oconomowoc, has been inducted into the Milwaukee Business Journal's 40 Under 40 Hall of Fame. Kohler, president and CEO of Sharp Literacy, was initially named to 40 Under 40 in 2000.

'85

Michael, '85, and Jill (Vander Leest), '86, Hader have achieved a "long-time goal" by moving back to Wisconsin in Mequon. Michael is vice president of global software for Shure Technologies Inc.

'87

Randal Newton, Lake Elmo, Minnesota, is vice president of engineering for Trane Technologies in St. Paul.

'90

Joseph Abbey, Accra, Ghana, has retired from public service. He is starting his private business of river dredging in Ghana.



Joseph Nyre, '91

'91

Joseph Nyre became president of Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, in summer 2019 following eight years as president of Iona College, New Rochelle, New York. Nyre was named a UWL Graff Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient in 2014.

'94

Michael Doherty, Annandale, Virginia, is a fraud and audit operations manager with Choice Hotels International in Rockville, Maryland.

'97

Kathleen Davis, Crystal, Minnesota, is a recreation therapy director for Redeemer Health Center in Minneapolis.

'98

Brenda (Reible) Endres, Arlington, is a lead medical technologist, with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Madison.

'09

Alan Rubach, Long Grove, Iowa, is a dentist and owns R&R Family Dentistry with his wife, Erin Rubach.

'10

Joshua Keller, Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a space operations officer in the U.S. Army at Fort Carson. He says, "My formative years at UWL helped set the foundation for all that I have achieved today."



Emily Enstad, '13

'11

Ross, '11, and Melany (Vanden Langenberg), '12 & '14, Kornowske live in De Pere. Ross is an attorney with Davis & Kuelthau in Appleton.

'12

Michael Mitchell, Edinburg, Texas, is an assistant U.S. attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas in McAllen.

'13

Emily (Ordway) and Korey Enstad, both '13, live in Lake Mills. Korey works at American Family Insurance. Emily and a special education teacher friend, Abbie, took advantage of late nights and nap times to launch a business inspired by their own experiences being moms during a global pandemic. "Present Not Perfect" aims to support families' emotional wellness and empower the next generation of mindful, creative and resilient kids. They have created and are selling emotional literacy based sensory play kits for kids. They have been featured in Glamour Magazine and by Katie Couric Media. Emily says their inspiration came from wanting to provide practical, hands-on tools that families can use to foster social and emotional literacy at home and to make it more accessible. [Find out more.](#)

'14

Elle M. Nelson, Milwaukee, is a talent acquisition manager for Walmart, Bentonville, Arkansas.

'15

Paige (Kieler) Hendricks, '15 & '19, lives in Madison with her husband, **Connor Hendricks, '13**. Paige is a project manager at the UW-Madison American Institute of Pakistan Studies. She recently received a UW-Madison International Division Staff Excellence Award.

'16

Darren Knox, '16 and Anna Lively, '21, are married and living in La Crosse. They had their first child in February and recently purchased their first home.

'18

Christine Voyer, La Crosse, is a marketing assistant at The Board Store Home Improvements in La Crosse.

'19

Chandra M. Munroe, Madison, is an outreach director with the state Legislature.

'21

Anika Nybo, La Crosse, is an information technology business analyst with Performance Foodgroup in La Crosse.

Megan Runkel, Racine, is a human resources assistant Guardian Credit Union in Oak Creek.

'22

Sydney J. Truehart, Appleton, has been named Carmichael Arena facility manager with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Freeman family tradition

When Regan Barlow graduated this spring, she was following a family tradition. Regan, center, is the daughter of Andy Barlow, '92, and the granddaughter of Alan Freeman, '66 & '70. Welcome to the UWL graduate family, Regan!



Andy Barlow, Regan Barlow, Alan Freeman



Jenna Goodell, Tim Devine

Colfax student is UWL bound

Tim Devine, '84, knows a successful student when he sees one. He's also partial to them when they plan to attend UWL.

Devine made sure he got a photo with Colfax High School '22 graduate Jenna Goodell following the school's Senior Scholarship Banquet in early May. Goodell was a "high-flyer student" recognized at the banquet where she received several scholarships. She is in UWL's incoming fall '22 class as she pursues a degree in health.

"I always pose for pictures with any of our students who enroll at UWL," says Devine. He's completing his 38th year in the Colfax School District.

Grappling with tradition

It was a mini reunion at the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in May. Alums Mike Briggs, '77, left, and Bob Bassuener, '76, right, were inducted into the hall, recognized for their lifetime service to wrestling. They were joined at a reception by alum and former UWL Wrestling Coach Alan Freeman, '66 & '70. Briggs coached and promoted wrestling in Plymouth and east central Wisconsin for more than 40 years. Bassuener coached in the '80s and early '90s in Wisconsin Rapids and Port Edwards. He officiated the sport from 1971-2014.



From left, Mike Briggs, '77, Al Freeman, '66 & '70, and Bob Bassuener, '76.

In Remembrance

Alumni

1955 — James Toennies, Whitewater.

1957 — Patricia (Kahle) Lyga, La Crosse.

1959 — Jerrold “Jed” Jolin, Monona.

1961 — Joann (Finucan) Garvin, Elroy.

1962 — Myleene (Leren) Sohaei, La Crosse.

1966 — Marcus Buch, Waterloo.

1970 — Jacqueline “Jackie” (Rhombert) Bruha, La Crosse.

1970 — Mary (Mattison) Rotering, La Crosse.

1970 — John Philips, New Franklin.

1971 — Monica Fortney, Viroqua.

1971 — James P. Shatto, Madison.

1972 — Virginia (Anderson) Evans, Viroqua.

1973 — Kathy Johnston, Prairie du Chien.

1976 — Barbara Barnard, Onalaska.

1976 — Alexander “Alex” Campbell, Austin, Texas.

1976 — Steven “Steve” Hole, La Crosse.

1985 — Cleo LaVonne (Heiden) McMillen, Burnsville, Minnesota.

1985 — Cleo (Heiden) McMillen, La Crosse.

1985 — Susan Zielke, Readstown.

1990 — John Oliver, La Crosse.

1991 — Greg Lonning, Decorah, Iowa.

1996 — Kristi (Lewis) Duenkel, La Crescent, Minnesota.

2007 — Marcus Heidorf, Belmont.

Faculty & Staff

Karen A. Hansen

Karen A. Hansen died April 2, 2022, in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. Hansen was a staff member on campus for more than 20 years, retiring from the Extended Learning Department in 2012. She is survived by her husband, Allan, and two sons.

See her full obituary.

Michael “Mike” Gasper

Mike Gasper died April 5, 2022, in La Crosse. Gasper worked on campus for more than 12 years as a budget planner, manager of accounts payable in Business Services, purchasing director and interim co-controller.

Gregory Lonning

Greg Lonning died March 8, 2022, in New Jersey of a brain aneurysm. Lonning came to UWL in 1981 to build a championship wrestling program. He was a volunteer assistant coach for three years, while pursuing a master’s degree earned in 1991. Lonning became head coach and professor of physical education in 1992. He was a WIAC Coach of the Year twice and his teams won two conference titles and placed as high as third nationally. He was inducted into the NCAA III National Wrestling Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2017. He is survived by his wife, Kealy, and their six children.

See his full obituary.

Faculty & Staff

James Michael Sobota

James “Jim” Sobota, 77, died April 13, 2022, in La Crosse. Sobota earned his undergraduate degree from the University of St. Thomas and did graduate work at the University of Michigan, earning a doctorate in 1970. He taught in the Mathematics and Statistics Department from 1970 until retiring in 2002. Sobota served on Faculty Senate and the State Math Placement Exam Committee for many years. After retiring, he returned to teach classes and direct the Math Learning Center. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Anne, and daughter and son. Memorials may be given to the James Sobota Mathematics Scholarship at the [UWL Foundation](#).

See his complete obituary.

Jeffrey Paul Steffen

Jeffrey Paul Steffen, 64, Alma, formerly of Holmen, died March 22, 2022 at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, following a stroke with his family at his side. He received a bachelor’s degree at Dakota State University and a doctorate from the University of Iowa. Steffen became a professor in the Exercise and Sports Science Department in 1994, serving as director of the Adventure Program and the Graduate Physical Education Program. He retired in 2015. Steffen is survived by his wife, Katie, and three children.

See the complete obituary.

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Brad Quarberg | University Marketing & Communications
608.785.8572 | bquarberg@uwlax.edu

Class Notes Policy:

Class notes and obituaries are published online in January, April, July and October.
The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the month of quarterly posting.

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