

# LANTERN

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Volume 37 No. 1  
SUMMER 2011

**HAVE**  
vegetables,  
**WILL**  
educate.

Story on page 16.





10



13



14



20



22

# LANTERN

Summer 2011 | Vol. 37, No. 1

UW-LA CROSSE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

## ON THE COVER

Bjorn Bergman, '08, is an AmeriCorps member for the Vernon County Farm to School Initiative. Bergman visits classrooms in the rural, western Wisconsin county to encourage students to try locally grown, healthy foods while teaching them about nutrition. Full story on page 16.

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View past issues at: <http://murphylibrary.uwlax.edu/digital/uwl/Alumnus/index.html>. The UW-La Crosse Alumni Association funds production of The Lantern.

## FEATURES

### 10 LESSONS LEARNED

Their parents came to the U.S. from a third-world country because of war. Lore and Thiney Vang are well aware of the struggles their parents went through during the Vietnam War. The siblings looked to UW-L for the education their dad wanted his children to have for a good life.

### 13 A BIT OF SIBLING RIVALRY

Jake, Jason and Janelle Boll have always engaged in good-spirited, sibling rivalry. Through high school, they competed for the best report cards. In college, it's the Dean's List. Now, the competition has been extended to earning scholarships, which all three were recently awarded.

### 14 WRESTLING WITH LIFE

The lecture on stress in health psychology class hit home for Albie McKinney. In two months' time, his dad was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident and his mother died from cancer. Wrestling helped McKinney deal with life. And it earned him second place in the national championship.

### 20 MORE THAN A GAME

He was there to win football games. But, he was also there to help develop young men. For recently-retired Football Coach Larry Terry, it's been a job well done.

### 22 THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Gaëlle Talhouarne remembers fellow freshmen crying. Their parents lived an hour away. Her parents were six hours away — by plane. The international student and her brothers, Loïc and Yann, have called UW-L home.

## DEPARTMENTS

Campus news	3
Alumni News	6
Foundation News	11
Sports News	14
Campus & Beyond	20
Class Notes	24

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FROM THE EDITOR: BRAD QUARBERG



## AND A LANTERN WILL LEAD THE WAY

*"We'll hang the lantern in the old college tower over the south door. You won't need a key, the door will be open."*

*English Professor O. O. White, 1931*

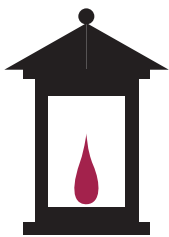
A Lantern. It has been a symbol for UW-L alumni for more than 80 years. Now, it's the name of our university's alumni publication.

Welcome to this first issue of the Lantern. In it you'll find an array of stories that reveal our university is a special place. You'll also stay up-to-date with classmates and other alums. Don't miss the opportunities to stay involved in your alma mater.

In addition to the name change and redesign, the Alumni Association has updated its lantern logo to a more modern version (see below.) Most alums recall the lantern from Homecoming celebrations. Today, students see it daily as they walk the campus mall. The lantern moved to Hoeschler Tower in center of campus in 1997. The flame shines brightly as ever, rekindling fond memories while lighting the way for the future.

The publication's name may have changed (it's been Alumni Briefs, Crossties and the Alumnus) over the years. No matter what size or shape, the lantern will always welcome alumni back, lighting the way in reminiscing about this great institution — and assuring you that "The La Crosse Experience" lives on.

*Brad Quarberg*  
Brad Quarberg, '85



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

POINT OF VIEW: LARRY SLEZNIKOW

# LET'S GET SUSTAINABLE



Larry Sleznikow stands in front of the new academic building on campus that is expected to be LEED Silver certified, a rating for high-performance buildings that have less of an environmental impact. Among the environmentally friendly aspects of the building are bike racks to encourage human-powered transportation, a solar water heating system, solar window awnings and rain gardens to keep rainfall out of sewers.

For as long as I can remember I have always had a deep love of nature and the environment. Now that I have three wonderful daughters, I want them to inherit the same vibrant planet I have been able to enjoy — a world that will sustain them, their children and many generations to come.

As a member of UW-L's Joint Committee on Environmental Sustainability (JCES) for the past three years, I've had the opportunity to see the growing interest and passion about environmental and sustainability issues on campus. Last summer JCES proposed the idea of a year-long, campus-wide theme of sustainability to Chancellor Joe Gow. With his approval and that of the four UW-L governance groups, the sustainability theme will become a reality during the 2011-12 academic year.

The primary objective of this theme year is to raise awareness about sustainability and the challenges we face as a society dealing with issues such as our dependence on fossil fuels, climate change and world population growth. With that in mind, JCES has encouraged faculty to infuse aspects of sustainability into their courses. A significant number of them are already doing just that and our students benefit from this valuable information. Others plan to make sustainability a more prominent feature in their classes.

We are also planning a number of events to illustrate how to take action to live more earth-friendly lives. The common reading book this fall will be *No Impact Man*, which describes how author Colin Beavan and his family spent one year trying to minimize their impact

on the planet. The campus community will have the opportunity to experience a "No Impact Week" and discover for themselves the joys and trials of a greener lifestyle. There will be presentations on a wide variety of sustainability related topics, a film festival and much more.

It's our hope that this year of sustainability will be the catalyst for students, faculty and staff to learn more about sustainability. It is important to us now — and for future generations.

*Larry Sleznikow*  
Larry Sleznikow,  
Chair, Joint Committee on  
Environmental Sustainability

# No. 43

KIPLINGER'S: UW-L A 'BEST VALUE'



Kiplinger's *Personal Finance* has, again, named UW-La Crosse a "best value" among the nation's public colleges. The February 2011 issue put UW-L in its Top 100 list of schools with "top-flight academics and affordable costs."

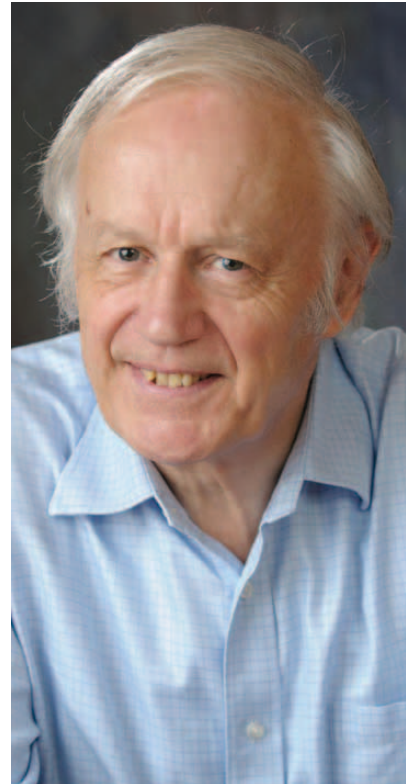
Kiplinger's ranks UW-L No. 43 based on cost for in-state students and No. 41 for those out-of-state among more than 500 public, four-year schools. Those on the list "deliver a stellar education at an affordable price."

UW-L has consistently landed in the upper half of Kiplinger's Top 100 for more than a decade. Last fall, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked UW-L No. 2 among Midwest public colleges.

UW-L was No. 43 on Kiplinger's national list of 100 best value public colleges. See complete rankings at [kiplinger.com](http://kiplinger.com).

## TURNING BACK TIME?

The 2003 Nobel Laureate in Physics Anthony Leggett, right, visited campus in November to discuss the origin of time. Leggett met with student researchers, faculty and physics classes, and gave a public presentation on "Why Can't Time Run Backwards?" He was the 11th Nobel laureate featured in UW-L's distinguished lecture series in Physics. The UW-L Foundation, Department of Physics, and the College of Science and Health sponsor the series that aims to bring physicists to campus who can inspire and enrich the careers of students, faculty and others in the community. UW-L's Computer Science Department also consistently attracts internationally recognized leaders for a Distinguished Lecture Series in Computer Science.



## BUSINESS GRADS IN 90TH PERCENTILE NATIONALLY

Graduating seniors in the College of Business Administration scored higher than 90 percent of students nationwide on a test measuring students subject knowledge in business. The Education Testing Service Major Field Test for the Bachelor's Degree in Business quizzed students from about 600 schools in May 2010.

## ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT RANKS 22ND NATIONALLY

The UW-L Accountancy Department is in the nation's Top 25. UW-L grads ranked 22nd in the nation among schools without advanced degrees in the percentage of first-time candidates passing all four sections of the CPA exam. The rank was posted in *The National Association of State Boards of Accountancy 2010* edition.



## COMMENCEMENT HEADING DOWNTOWN

Students will soon walk across the commencement stage at the La Crosse Center instead of in Mitchell Hall.

After a year-long study, a campus committee has recommended commencement move to the larger venue to ease crowding, provide better access

and reduce the number of ceremonies from five to two. The four governance groups approved the move last fall.

The first ceremonies at the La Crosse Center will take place in December with spring ceremonies moving in 2012.

## THE MURPHY AWARDS FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



### KATE SLISZ, '10

**Majors:** Sociology and Communication Studies

**Hometown:** Rochester, Minn.

**College highlights:**

- Received the 2010 Sociology/Archaeology Department's Undergraduate Recognition of Excellence Award.

- Completed two undergraduate research projects.
- Studied abroad in Ireland and India; completed a community development internship in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, working with women living with HIV/AIDS.

**Plans:** Pursue a master's in applied sociology; work in the Peace Corps with community-based organizations to develop sustainable change.



### NICOLAAS VAN OSS, '11

**Major:** Psychology

**Hometown:** La Crosse

**College highlights:**

- Received Psychology Alumni Scholarship Fund Award; College of Liberal Studies Excellence Award.

- Direct care provider for youth clients with developmental or behavioral disorders.
- Participated in the Psychology Department's Honors Program; presented at the Midwest Psychological Association annual meeting.

**Plans:** Complete more research in trauma and sexual violence before applying to doctoral programs in clinical psychology.

## THE JAKE AND JANET HOESCHLER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE



### JARED AESCHBACH, '11

**Majors:** Marketing and Spanish

**Hometown:** Cross Plains

**College highlights:**

- Completed four unpaid internships, including two with the Kansas City Chiefs.

- Founded the Ultimate Frisbee Club (2008) and Social Dance Club (2009).
- Received the Viggo B. & Madeline C. Rasmussen Leadership Award in Physical Activities.
- Spearheaded a 10-hour Dance-a-thon for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse and dancing series with the La Crosse Health Department to reduce student binge drinking.

**Plans:** Pursue a position in sports marketing.

## THE STRZELCZYK AWARD IN SCIENCE AND HEALTH



### ALLIE WOOD, '11

**Majors:** Biology

**Hometown:** Wausau

**College highlights:**

- Completed research on the parasitic outbreak that affects Mississippi River waterfowl.

- Spent a semester in Costa Rica to improve her Spanish.
- Received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for work at the Children's Hospital in Ecuador, numerous scholarships.

**Plans:** Attend medical school to practice family medicine in a rural clinic in the U.S. or abroad.

## THE JOHN E. MAGERUS AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING GRADUATING COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES SENIOR



### KATY CHRISTENSEN, '11

**Major:** Communication Studies

**Hometown:** Wisconsin Rapids

**College highlights:**

- Received a grant to conduct research on "Breaking the Silence: Selective Mutism and its Treatment in the High School Setting."

- Participated in an honor student panel at the Central States Communication Association conference.
- Served as a research assistant with Professor Sara Docan-Morgan.

**Plans:** Become a high school counselor and continue researching.

## THE UW-LA CROSSE GRADUATE THESIS AWARD



### ANN RENTSCHLER, '10

**Master's:** Clinical Microbiology

**Hometown:** La Crosse

**Graduate studies highlights:**

- Graduate assistant and lab researcher in the Microbiology Department.
- Thesis "In vitro analysis of OmpR regulation of the fimB and fimE promoters of Uropathogenic Escherichia coli" won Best Overall Graduate Poster.

- Thesis received 2nd Place Graduate Oral Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the North Central Branch of the American Society for Microbiology.

**Plans:** Works in the Molecular Epidemiology Department at Marshfield Clinic.

## THE MAURICE O. GRAFF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

**RALPH R. KARST, '58**

- Respected educator; published researcher; humanitarian.
- Retired professor of educational administration at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.
- Grant writer for projects benefiting underprivileged youth in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi.
- Member of Lion's International and Kiwanis International.
- Earned a bachelor's in physical education in 1958. Also, a master's (1959) and doctorate (1967) in physical education from UW-Madison, and a doctorate in educational administration from UW-Madison (1979).

**PATTY LOEW, '74**

- Highly regarded filmmaker; newscaster; award-winning author.
- National leader among journalists of color; educator; Native American role model.
- Recipient of the 2001 Wisconsin Library Association Outstanding Book Award for Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal.
- Associate professor in the UW-Madison Department of Life Sciences Communication.
- Member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe.
- Earned a bachelor's in mass communications in 1974. Also, a master's (1992) and doctorate (1998) from UW-Madison.

## THE MULTICULTURAL ALUMNI AWARD

**VIRGIL JONES, '96**

- Highly regarded educator; mentor to college students.
- Leader in increasing collegiate student diversity and retention.
- Director of Diversity and Office of Multicultural Programs at Gustavus Adolphus College (St. Peter, Minn.) since 2006.
- Group counselor of youth programs, coordinator of various college student affairs programs.
- Recipient of numerous employee and citizenship awards.
- Graduated with a bachelor's in mass communications in 1996; earned a master's degree from the University of St. Thomas in 2004.

## THE RADA DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

**ROBERT F. JACOBS, '94**

- Highly experienced immigration attorney in Los Angeles.
- Founder and senior partner of Jacobs & Vega, PLC, which has immigrant and criminal law offices in Santa Fe Springs and Riverside, Calif.
- Elected to the executive boards of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, Southeast District Bar Assoc. and Mexican American Bar Assoc.
- Member of Kiwanis International. Has done immigration pro-bono legal service and worked with fundraising for various Los Angeles charities.
- Graduated with a bachelor's in economics and political science in 1994; earned a jurist degree from Marquette University, 1997.

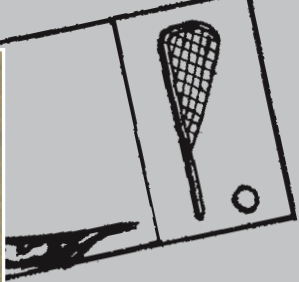
Advertising

Senior  
Sophomore

Ethel Oltman  
Edwin Dahl

Junior  
Freshmen

# RACQUET: Editorial!



once. We have many good things in st  
for The Racquet subscribers, but we can  
hand all of them out at once as they  
and money. Help us and we

## THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER CELEBRATES A CENTURY OF NEWS REPORTING

Along with Graff Main Hall, the one visible thing on campus that remains today from 100 years ago is The Racquet, the student newspaper.

Its roots date to a small room in Old Main. Today its two offices are on the second floor of Cartwright Center.

In 1910 The Racquet was semi-quarterly. Today, a new issue graces newsstands every Thursday – along with online updates. (The Racquet was launched online in 2006.)

The Racquet, first published Dec. 16, 1910, has undergone countless changes in appearance, content and layout, but its name has always been The Racquet. (Even though the name of the school has changed from La Crosse Normal to UW-La

Crosse.) Since its beginning, The Racquet has included advertising. In fact, the first issues in 1910 was comprised of nearly 50 percent ad space. Some of the advertisers in the early editions remain today, including ads for downtown mainstays such as Bodega Brew Pub and Rose Jewelers.

More than 90 students have been Editors in Chief. The most recent, junior Kelli Ponce, took over for the 2011 spring semester.

“I’m really excited and proud to be a part of The Racquet since we just celebrated our 100th anniversary,” says Ponce. “There are a lot of exciting things going on, and The Racquet team has been working hard all semester to get where we are today.”

## what’s in a name?

This is an editorial in the first issue of The Racquet:

*A lacrosse racquet consists of a wooden frame, somewhat the shape of a large, hook-handled walking stick. Fastened to the hook end of this near-frame and along the stick for about two feet is a slack network, forming a triangular shaped net, with the lower end of the stick for the handle.*

*The Indians used this kind of a racquet in a game called lacrosse—the grounds and goals being somewhat similar to a football field—the object of the game being to bat or carry the ball thru the goal. The game was first played by Canadian Indians and later indulged in by the French, who no doubt gave it the name lacrosse.*

*Among the various versions given for the origin of the name of the city, in which our normal school is located, is one claiming that it originated from the sport, by the same name, played by the Indians in this vicinity in an early day.*

*Be that as it may, the name of our beautiful and progressive city is La Crosse and in it is located a new, up-to-date and efficiently managed State Normal school, destined, as we believe, to accomplish much in the great field of intellectual activity. It is, therefore, fitting and proper that the name selected for our school paper — that frame with a network of possibilities — should be The Racquet.*

*The object of The Racquet is to gather up and carry through the goal of publicity the sphere of our school’s activities-intellectual, moral and physical. The La Crosse Normal Racquet is, therefore, the logical name for the paper of this school.*

View the Racquet at <http://murphylibrary.uwlax.edu/digital/uwl/Racquet/>

## know an outstanding alum?

You can nominate them for the UW-L Alumni Association Awards Program! Submit their name by Oct. 1, 2011, to be considered for the 2012 awards. Awards include:

**The Maurice O. Graff Distinguished Alumni Award** recognizes those who attended at least 20 years ago and have achieved honor and distinction with recognition that extends well beyond the immediate environments in which they live and work.

**The Rada Distinguished Alumni Award** recognizes alums who have graduated within the last 20 years who are making exceptional contributions to their professions and/or communities.

**The Parker Multicultural Alumni Award** recognizes living multicultural graduates whose contributions have not necessarily received public acclaim.

The awards program, established in 1977 with the Maurice O. Graff Distinguished Alumni Award, has grown to recognize alumni at different stages of their careers. Visit [www.uwlax.edu/alumni/awards.php](http://www.uwlax.edu/alumni/awards.php) for details. Refer questions to [alumni@uwlax.edu](mailto:alumni@uwlax.edu) or 877.895.2586.

# UW-L ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2011 CALENDAR

DETAILS AT [WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG)

## AUGUST

- 4 Alumni Assoc. Finance Committee
- 5 Alumni Assoc. Membership Committee
- 5-6 Delta Zeta Zeta Omicron Reunion
- 10 Alumni & Friends Golf Outing, Onalaska
- 12 Alumni Assoc. Executive Committee
- 20 Alumni Assoc. Board Meeting
- 31 **Centennial Hall Dedication**

## SEPTEMBER

- 2 Alumni Assoc. Membership Committee
- 3-4 **Welcome Weekend**
- 3 Move-In Day Ice Cream social
- 3 Football vs. UW-Whitewater
- 3 Lighting of the "L"/Hanging of the Lantern
- 16 UW-L Foundation Board Meeting
- 23 Alumni Band Practice
- 23 Pom Pons Reunion
- 23-Oct. 2 Oktoberfest, La Crosse

## OCTOBER

- 1 Football vs. UW-Stevens Point
- 3 Accounting Expo
- 7 Alumni Assoc. Membership Committee
- 8 Football vs. Jamestown College
- 12 Career Day
- 14-16 **Family, Friends and Alumni Weekend**
- 14 Silver Eagles Take an Eagle to Lunch
- 15 Football Captains' Breakfast
- 15 Beta Breakfast
- 15 '61 and 50+ Year Reunion
- 15 Legacy Breakfast
- 15 Football vs. UW-Eau Claire
- 16 **Athletic Wall of Fame Brunch**
- 24 Countdown to Commencement
- 24 Teacher Employment Seminar
- 27 Alumni Association Finance Committee

## NOVEMBER

- 3-4 Alumni Assoc. Executive Committee
- 4 **Multicultural Alumni event, Milwaukee**
- 4 Football vs. UW-River Falls
- 11-12 Student Alumni Ambassador Conference
- 12 Alumni Assoc. Board Meeting

## DECEMBER

- 2 Alumni Assoc. Membership Committee
- 11 CASE V Conference, Chicago
- 18 Commencement, La Crosse Center; Student Alumni Ambassador Flower Sale



## MADISON RECEPTION A SUCCESS

State legislators, past and present, took part in the 21st annual Political Science and Public Administration Alumni Reception in Madison Feb. 9. More than 100 Madison-area alumni and friends attended to reminisce and get updates about UW-L. Alumni legislators included, from right, Rep. Jennifer (Ehlenfeldt) Shilling, '92; Sen. Dan Kapanke, '75 & '87; Rep. Lee Nerison; Department of Administration Secretary Mike Huebsch, honorary alum; Chancellor Joe Gow; Public Service Commissioner Mark Meyer, '88; John Medinger, '70 & '72; and MaryAnn (Tomsyck) Lippert, '76 & '80.

# Come on back!

LEGACY BREAKFAST IS ONE HIGHLIGHT OF FALL CELEBRATION

Several alumni groups will return to campus to reconnect with former classmates and reminisce about college Oct. 14-16. A highlight will be the "Legacy" breakfast Saturday morning, hosted by Student Alumni Ambassadors for the second year in a row. The breakfast is an opportunity to celebrate the tradition and extended family of UW-L alumni. For a complete schedule of events or to register online, visit [www.uwlalumni.org](http://www.uwlalumni.org).

the tentative schedule of events:

### Friday, Oct. 14

Silver Eagles, Take an Eagle to Lunch  
Campus Tour  
Alumni social and sing-a-long

### Saturday, Oct. 15

Legacy Breakfast  
Beta Sigma Chi, 77th annual breakfast  
Football Captains' breakfast  
Pre-game tailgating with L-Club  
Football game vs. UW-Eau Claire  
Campus Tour  
Class of '61 & 50+ year reunion dinner

### Sunday, Oct. 16

Athletic Wall of Fame brunch



# 2011-2012 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

\* NEW MEMBERS

## OFFICERS

**Corey Sjoquist**, '96 & '03, President  
**Lisa Butterfield**, '83, Vice President  
**Jeff Bryant**, '80, Treasurer  
**Amy DuPont**, '01, Past President  
**Janie Spencer**, '85 & '86, Executive Director

## DIRECTORS

**Andre' Deer**, '95  
**Dave Fink**, '85  
**Anne Grayson**, '86  
**Trish Harman**, '95  
**Marlin Helgeson**, '78  
**Maheeruh Khandker**, '00  
**Kevin Mahoney**, '75  
\***David Peterson**, '84  
**Ken Schmocker**, '75  
**Jackie Strutt**, '76 & '80  
**Lore Vang**, '04 & '08  
\***David Wambach**, '80

## ALUMNI NETWORK REPRESENTATIVES

**Jamie Durocher**, '97 & '98, Delta Sigma Phi  
\***Kris Cvikota**, '90, Marching Band  
**Alicia Stratman**, '97, Milwaukee  
**Chris Bowron**, '99, Rochester  
**Kelly Nowicki**, '98 & '02, Silver Eagles  
\***Ed Bremberger**, '09, Twin Cities  
\***Kristina Rynes**, '04, Residence Life  
\***Tom Lynch**, '72, Beta Sigma Chi

## EX-OFFICIO

**Keli Highland**, Program Coordinator,  
UW-L Alumni Association  
**Al Trapp**, President, UW-L Foundation  
**Carrie Stella**, President, Student Alumni  
Ambassadors



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# ALUMNI PRIDE

COREY SJOQUIST, '96 & '03, LEADS ALUMNI ORGANIZATION FOR 2011-12

Accountants, TV anchors, bankers, teachers, graduate students, communication consultants, insurance agents, stay-at-home moms and campus leaders. They're just some of the professions represented by the 2011-12 board of directors for the UW-L Alumni Association.

"Our goal is to have a diverse board of directors with at least five decades represented as well as alums from each of the academic colleges," notes Janie Spencer, executive director. "These alums have been selected because of their commitment to UW-L and their desire to keep 'The La Crosse Experience' alive for generations to come."

Corey Sjoquist, '96 and '03, was elected



at the annual meeting to serve as 20th president of the organization. "Corey loves UW-L and will be a great president," says Spencer.

Sjoquist's wife, Stacey, is an alum, as well as his three sisters, Monica, Molly and Maggie. "He is very proud of his UW-L education and continues to stay involved to make it a great place

for our current students," notes Spencer.

The association and its activities are funded primarily through membership dues. The organization is dedicated to keeping alumni connected to each other and the university.

Find membership details at:  
[www.uwlalumni.org](http://www.uwlalumni.org).

before this spring's commencement, 70,348 called themselves UW-L graduates. UW-L alums live in all 50 states and 57 different countries.

## FUN IN CHI-TOWN



Alumni, faculty and staff reunited at the annual UW-L College of Business Administration reception downtown Chicago in May. Among them, from left, Gwen Achenreiner, Marketing; Nick Rupnow, '04; Linda Sherony, Accountancy; Sue Whitewater, Marketing; and Keith Sherony, Economics. See when a visit is planned in your area at: [www.uwlalumni.org](http://www.uwlalumni.org).

# LESSONS LEARNED

PARENTS, COLLEGE TAUGHT THEM THEY HAVE A CHOICE



ABOVE: Lore Vang, left, and his sister, Thiney Vang, were first-generation college students from Neenah who chose UW-L for the tight-knit campus community. LEFT: Lore Vang, '04 & '08, in his office at UW-L's Career Services. Lore is the employee relations coordinator.

Their parents came to the U.S. in the 1970s as immigrants from a third-world country.

The couple had left their native Laos and comfort zone not by choice — but because of war.

Lore and Thiney Vang are well aware of the struggles their parents went through during the Vietnam War.

“Dad always wanted his children to be educated and have a good life because he knew what it was like to have it and then have it taken away,” Lore says.

The message was well received. All five of his children went to college. The three eldest went to UW-Madison. Lore followed them his first year, but the

“When I came to UW-L, I felt like so many doors opened up for me academically, personally and socially.”

Lore Vang

campus wasn't a good fit.

“At Madison, it's hard to tell where the campus ends and the city begins,” Lore explains. “But here (UW-La Crosse) it seems more like a real campus to me — like a college community.”

Lore and Thiney, the youngest among the siblings, both chose UW-L. They found student organizations, outdoor recreation and a support system of faculty

and staff who were “like mom and dad,” says Thiney.

“They gave great guidance,” she notes. “The networking I had with professionals on campus really helped me learn how to become an adult.”

In college they realized they were adults who had choices. And they had learned from their parents to not take things for granted.

“When I came to UW-L, I felt like so many doors opened up for me academically, personally and socially,” Lore said. “I felt like, wow, there is this sense of control and power and self-identity that I lacked before.”

Lore, '04, became a UW-L admissions counselor, earned a grad-

uate degree from UW-L in 2008 and now is an employer relations coordinator in UW-L's Career Services office. Thiney, '05, travels regularly from Madison to New York City as Human Resources Recruiter of QBE the Americas.

Like their parents who still live in Neenah, Lore and Thiney encountered struggles along the way. They paid for their education. But they didn't take that for granted either. They saw it as an opportunity to learn.

“The world is not going to be handed to you on a silver platter,” notes Thiney. “You have to keep focusing and remember that you need to be willing to work for what you want.”



# On the air

## LOCAL TV STATION DONATES EQUIPMENT, PARTNERS WITH STUDENTS



Pa Moua-Yang, at the desk, graduated in May with a major in communication studies with an emphasis in broadcast and digital media. WKBT-TV recently donated studio cameras to the program. Moua-Yang, who chose UW-L because of its reputable communication studies program, hopes to start a radio station for the Hmong community.

When Pa Moua-Yang started TV broadcasting classes at UW-L, she had the dreaded “teleprompter stare.” Her eyes moved back and forth making it painfully obvious she was reading.

A donation from WKBT-TV in La Crosse is giving UW-L students like Moua-Yang more opportunities to get behind the camera.

The station donated three studio cameras to the Communication Studies Department when it upgraded to high definition cameras. UW-L Foundation Development Officer Joe Kress was instrumental in securing the donation. Students started using

the cameras during spring semester at the student-run TV studio in Wing Technology Center.

“We usually think of UW-L when we are replacing equipment because we know there is a communications department and we’ve had many students graduate and become employees here,” notes Scott Chorski, general manager of WKBT. “It’s a good idea to help when we can.”

WKBT and other local stations, such as KQEG, WLAX and WXOW, have donated desks, blinds, picture backdrops and other equipment and furnishings to make the studio look more

professional, says Pat Turner, assistant professor of Communication Studies.

“We have a close working relationship with all the stations in town and they’ve been very supportive of our program,” explains Turner.

UW-L Senior James Bushman was using his UW-L training on the fly when he was hired at WKBT as a weekend producer and sports camera operator.

“It’s one of those things where a lot of people would say I got thrown into the lion’s den,” says Bushman.

Although the responsibilities are a lot for a full-time student,

Bushman is grateful for the opportunity. Last year Bushman received a \$2,000 scholarship for excellence in broadcasting from the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association Foundation – one of two at this amount awarded in the state.

“Between the station and the university, I’ve gotten a great amount of confidence in this area,” he says. “It’s been nice to have all these opportunities to give me a chance to really prove myself.”

Moua-Yang agrees. Today the recent graduate feels “more natural and confident” and the program has helped her improve on the teleprompter stare.

## VETERANS HONORED IN NEW STADIUM

Plaques were recently installed in the new Veteran’s Memorial Field Sports Complex’s Hall of Honor. The plaques recognize veterans who had been honored in the former hall in the old stadium. Additional plaques in the new hall will honor veterans recognized by supporters of the project. For details, contact the UW-L Foundation at 1.877.895.3863.





Frederick, '40, and Beryl (Wilsey), '41, Standke, pictured in the 1940 yearbook.

# A LASTING IMPACT

## STANDKE ESTATE GIFT HIGHLIGHTS CLOSE OF CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

Sometimes, surprises come in big packages.

At least that is what the UW-L Foundation found out when it received word it had been named a beneficiary of the estate of Frederick '40, and Beryl (Wilsey), '41, Standke. The \$1.39 million gift is one of the largest to the university and will benefit generations of UW-L students well into the future.

"This is a wonderful testament to the quality educational experience and reflects well on those who interacted with them while they were students at

"This gift is a very fitting way to close out our Centennial Campaign, the largest in the university's history."

Al Trapp

UW-L," acknowledges UW-L Chancellor Joe Gow.

Frederick and Beryl were products of the health, physical education and recreation program. After graduating, Frederick served in the Navy during WWII and returned home to find work with the Milwaukee Area Technical College. There, he served as the founding athletic director. He went on to serve as president of the Wisconsin Junior College Athletic Association and the Wisconsin Technical College Conference.

Both were very active while on campus, participating in various athletic events and contributing to The Racquet student newspaper. Beryl died in 2006 and Frederick died in late 2009.

"This gift is a very fitting way to close out our Centennial Campaign, the largest in the university's history," notes Al Trapp, president of the UW-L Foundation. "The Standke's were very committed to this institution and its students. We are very proud to have their legacy live on here."

# \$1.69 million gift

## THE GENEROUS DONATION WILL GENERATE \$65,000 IN ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The largest estate gift ever given to UW-L will fund student scholarships. The Theodore A. and Lillian C. George Trust and Estate gave a bequest of \$1.69 million in late 2010. The gift will generate approximately \$65,000 annually beginning in fall 2012.

"This unexpected, generous gift comes at an ideal time as we look to expand our scholar-

ship program that helps so many needy and deserving UW-L students," notes Al Trapp, president of the UW-L Foundation. "The gift is a great example of how people can have such a lasting impact on an institution they love."

Lillian Clark George earned a teaching degree in 1935. The lifetime UW-L Alumni Association member was a regular UW-L

Foundation donor. She and her husband moved to Napa Valley, Calif., after retiring from careers in Washington, D.C. Lillian died in 2003; Theodore died April 30, 2010. The remainder of their estate was split between their alma maters — UW-L and The Catholic University of America, where Theodore earned a bachelor's.

"We are very excited and thankful for this thoughtful gift

from such a generous alum," says Chancellor Joe Gow. "UW-La Crosse obviously had a profound impact on Lillian. We're grateful that she showed her gratitude for receiving a quality college education at UW-L by helping students here for generations. We anticipate that her generosity will inspire others to 'pay it forward' too."



# NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR 2011-2012

- Russell G. & Gail K. Cleary Scholarship
- Carsten and Zedona Christiansen Memorial Scholarship for Physical Therapy
- Hmong Culture and Education Scholarship
- Linda Host Memorial Scholarship for Incoming Freshman
- Darrell Larson Education Scholarship
- M&I Foundation Freshmen Minority Scholarships for Milwaukee
- The Darlene Joan Zielinski Parker Scholarship for Social Justice Fund
- Pride Center Scholarship
- UW-L Alumni Association Scholarship for Incoming Freshmen
- UW-L Alumni Association Membership Committee Alumni Network Scholarship
- UW-L Alumni Association Band Network Scholarship
- UW-L Alumni Association Silver Eagles Network Scholarship
- UW-L Alumni Association Milwaukee Alumni Network Scholarship

## 570

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY  
THE UW-L FOUNDATION

## \$670,000

AWARDED BY THE UW-L  
FOUNDATION FOR  
SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2011-12

# Sibling rivalry

SIBLINGS WITH STELLAR ACADEMICS ALL SECURE SCHOLARSHIPS



The Boll sibling friendly competition has progressed from the Dean's List to cash. All three, from left, Janelle, Jake, and Jason will receive scholarships for 2011-12. The UW-L Foundation distributes about \$500,000 each year in scholarships.

Jake, Jason and Janelle Boll have engaged in good-spirited, sibling rivalry since grade school.

Growing up they vied to win the most money in Monopoly on family game night. They competed for bragging rights for the best report card. Their father, Joe, would tease them – proclaiming his new “favorite child” when one received an “A.”

In college that family-friendly competition hasn't ceased. Now all attend UW-L and every semester they've made the Dean's List.

“You don't want to be the only Boll sibling left off the Dean's List,” explains Jason, noting the recognition is printed in the hometown newspaper, Darlington (Wis.) Republican Journal.

When it came time to apply for scholarships through the UW-L

Foundation, the siblings were at it again. Only this time they were competing among a vast pool of talented UW-L students – and this time real money was on the line.

Financial aid makes a big difference, especially for three siblings attending college at the same time.

“We knew from the get-go we were responsible for funding our own education,” notes Jake. “And we knew scholarships were one of the best ways to do it.”

All three have stellar academics, high work ethic and involvement, which led to all receiving scholarships for next year.

“It's a huge relief when you find out you are going to get some aid.” Jake says. “I was amazed beyond belief how much was granted. There are some really generous donors.”

Scholarship money

allows Jake, 22, to pursue a fifth year at UW-L, required to complete his social studies education major. The funds will help Janelle, 21, during her senior year as a therapeutic recreation major and will aid Jason, 19, during his sophomore year as a math education major.

“We know furthering our education is something we all need to do,” explains Janelle. “It's such a competitive job market out there. To take that next step in life, you need an education.”

Their father, Joe, says the scholarship process has taught his children something else about taking the next step in life.

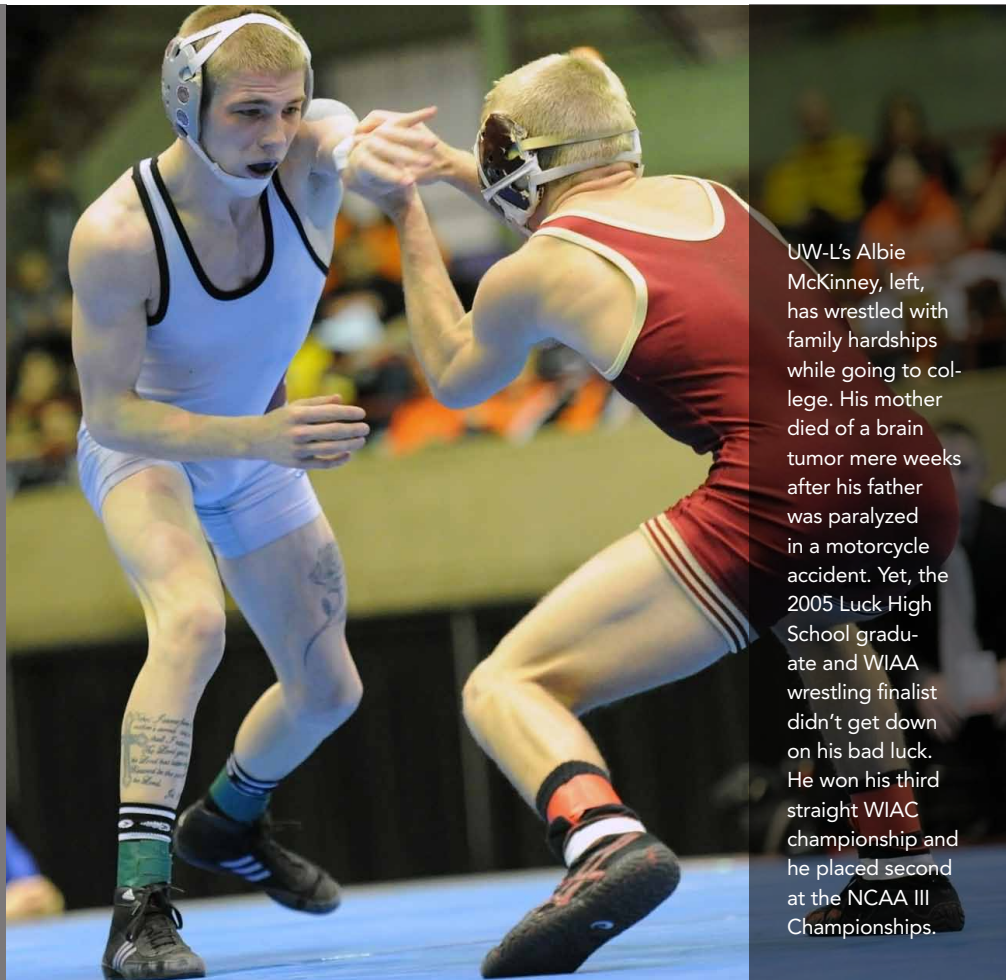
“They are learning if you apply yourself, good things will happen,” notes Joe. “It's rewarding being a parent. It's a lot of fun to watch them grow.”



# WRESTLING WITH LIFE

## ALBIE MCKINNEY OVERCOMES ADVERSITY TO PIN DOWN SUCCESS

BY KIRK BEY, '93



UW-L's Albie McKinney, left, has wrestled with family hardships while going to college. His mother died of a brain tumor mere weeks after his father was paralyzed in a motorcycle accident. Yet, the 2005 Luck High School graduate and WIAA wrestling finalist didn't get down on his bad luck. He won his third straight WIAC championship and he placed second at the NCAA III Championships.

The piece of paper, torn in the lower left-hand corner with a few notes scribbled on the upper half of the page, was placed on the bulletin board.

Albie McKinney couldn't wait to share with his wrestling teammates what he'd learned in health psychology class. Professor Ryan McKelley had talked about the effects of adversity and stress on one's body and mind, and options in dealing with them. McKinney eagerly jotted down what McKelley said. He was just as eager to post his notes next to the practice room.

At first glance McKinney's notes — random words and arrows — seemed difficult to decipher. Yet they make perfect sense when he talks about them. He's more than happy to do so.

The 125-pound senior is where he is today because he chose option No. 4 — step up — when it came to dealing with his personal challenges. He didn't take the easy way out and give up (option No. 1) after a tumultuous two months in

summer 2008. He didn't just put up (option No. 2) with the harsh reality that a brain tumor claimed the life of his mother, Paula Nelson, mere weeks after a motorcycle accident left his father, Stephen McKinney, Jr., paralyzed.

**"Sometimes you have to experience something so extreme to redefine what's important in life."**

Albie McKinney

McKinney has done so much more than just bounce up (option No. 3) and shake off adversity faster than being taken down by an opponent on the mat. This winter

he won his third straight WIAC championship. And, he placed second at the NCAA III Championships, earning his first All-America honor and finished at 21-8.

"(McKinney) has gone through so much. You pull for a kid like that," says UW-L coach Dave Malecek. "As a team we talk about adversity and how you handle it." McKinney makes it very clear he neither expects, nor wants, pity. But even now, his troubles are never far from his mind.

McKinney still is amazed at how quickly his mom died. One moment Nelson simply wasn't feeling well. The next she was in a St. Cloud, Minn., hospital and McKinney was being told her condition was grave. McKinney remembers kissing her and telling her he loved her. She died shortly after McKinney left.

"Sometimes you have to experience something so extreme to redefine what's important in life," notes McKinney.

McKinney's father, who wrestled for Frederic High School,

was paralyzed when he swerved to avoid a deer and landed on the side of the road.

McKinney says his father spends "60 to 70 percent" of his day in bed. Yet McKinney reaps benefits when he spends time with his father.

"Dad is so positive it's scary sometimes," McKinney explains. "Sure, there are days when he isn't motivated. But he inspires me."

Coach Malecek had doubts to what kind of impact, if any, McKinney would have on the team. Malecek recalls McKinney's choice in friends questionable at best, and being "a little stubborn." But Malecek has been impressed not only by McKinney's wrestling, but also by who he's become: a 24-year-old about to earn a psychology degree next year.

"I give Albie a lot of credit," says Malecek. "He made better choices and developed a better attitude. It's all about putting good people around you. He's made some big strides."



## MANE NETS 2,095

Senior guard Tony Mane became UW-L's all-time leading scorer in 2010-11, finishing with 2,095 points. Named to two All-America teams this season, he set five other career records with the Eagles.

Mane, from Milwaukee Thomas More, played in 102 games at UW-L, including 98 starts. He scored in double figures in 88 contests, including 16 with at least 30 points. The success continued off the court as he was named the 2011 Max Sparger WIAC Co-Scholar Athlete.



## winter replay

### Women's gymnastics:

Won its fourth consecutive and 15th overall National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) championship in March. It's the Eagles' 10th national title in the last 11 years and 15th overall — the most in NCGA history. Christa Booman captured the NCGA all-around title, the fourth gymnast in school history.

### Wrestling:

Placed third at the 2011 NCAA III championships; Beбето Yewah won the 141-pound national title. The Eagles also won their 14th straight WIAC title as seven wrestlers earned individual crowns. Head coach Dave Malecek was named WIAC Coach of the Year.

### Men's track & field:

Was third at the 2011 NCAA III Indoor Championships; the 4x400-meter relay of Paul Yerhot, Terrence Thigpen, Tyson Young and Aric Hoeschen captured the national crown. It's the eighth time UW-L has won the national championship in the relay. The team also won its 10th consecutive WIAC title, 20 of the last 22 overall. Josh Buchholtz was named the WIAC Coach of the Year.

### Women's Basketball:

Earned a bid to the NCAA III Tourney for the first time since 1987-88.

# Dettwiler is FB coach

## FORMER PIONEER, KNIGHT SELECTED TO LEAD THE EAGLES

Joel Dettwiler is UW-L's 12th head football coach. Dettwiler had been an assistant coach at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa since 2004. He was the linebackers and head strength coach from 2004-08 before being named the Knights' defensive coordinator in 2008.

A 1997 UW-Platteville graduate, Dettwiler helped lead Wartburg to a 57-18 record in seven years. The Knights advanced to the NCAA III Playoffs in 2004, 2008 and 2010 after earning conference titles.



The Oregon, Wis., native was assistant coach and director of football operations at UW-Platteville from 2000-04, coaching defensive backs and linemen. He played in the Pioneers' defensive backfield for four years and was team captain in 1995. Dettwiler earned a bachelor's degree from UW-Platteville in civil engineering, as well as a master's degree from UW-Madison in civil engineering and UW-Platteville in education.

## ONE OF THE NCAA'S BEST: DAN LAURENT WRESTLES TO TOP AWARD



Dan Laurent, '10, was one of eight winners of the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Today's Top VIII Award which recognizes student-athletes for success athletically, in the classroom and the community.

A four-time WIAC champion at 285 pounds, Laurent (pictured left with coach Malecek) compiled a 124-27 career mark. He went 12-2 in four national appearances, earning a third consecutive NCAA III crown in 2010. He's the second UW-L wrestler to win three titles ('08, '09, '10).

Laurent was also named the College Athlete of the Year at the 2011 Greater La Crosse Area Sports Commission Awards Banquet.

A two-year team captain, Laurent maintained a 3.94 GPA majoring in biochemistry and cellular and molecular biology. He was the 2008 UW-L Biochemistry Student of the Year and received Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarships from 2005-09.

# HAVE VEGETABLES, WILL EDUCATE.



UW-L ALUM  
BJORN  
BERGMAN, '08,  
TAKES GREEN  
CAREER PATH





Bjorn Bergman, '08, left, explains how beets are grown to a class of Viroqua Elementary School. The class, pictured below, later tried pickled beets. As an AmeriCorps member for the Vernon County Farm to School Initiative, Bergman encourages students to try locally grown fruits and vegetables.



**B**jorn Bergman asks Viroqua Elementary School second graders, “What do pickled beets smell like?”

The kids take a whiff of the red, juicy slices sitting in trays on their desks and hands fly up in the air. Their answers range from ketchup to nail polish remover.

Bergman never thought he’d be working with kids after earning a biology degree from UW-L in May 2008. But each day, the children help him focus on the importance of what he does.

“I love my job,” he says. “Before I had this job, I didn’t see myself as an educator. This really opened my eyes to how rewarding it can be.”

### AMERICORPS SUSTAINS HIS SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

Bergman is an AmeriCorps member for the Vernon County Farm to School Initiative. He goes to classrooms throughout the rural, western Wisconsin county

encouraging students to try locally grown, healthy foods while teaching them about nutrition.

Since graduation, Bergman has followed a sustainable path. He harvested crops on a community-supported agriculture farm in Luck, Wis., stocked produce at La Crosse’s People’s Food Co-op, and helped organize an organic food and sustainability festival. He travels everywhere on his bike and admits he has never owned a car.

Bergman says choosing a sustainable career and lifestyle was inspired during college. There he realized the disconnect between the environmental concepts he learned in science courses and public policy he encountered on the streets.

UW-L offered a marriage between academics and participation in student groups such as Student Association, UW-L Progressives and Environmental Council, which helped him see how

book knowledge could be translated to the real world.

“I learned a lot in the classroom, but I think I did most of my learning outside the classroom,” he explains.

Student groups inspired Bergman to get involved. The first time he went to a UW-L Progressives meeting, 80 students broke into subgroups to discuss environmental and other political issues.

“My jaw dropped,” Bergman recalls. “I always had thoughts that we should tread lighter on environment, but this was the first time I saw people acting on those beliefs and inspiring change.”

### COLLEGE INVOLVEMENT PLANTED THE SEEDS

That meeting and others like it inspired Bergman to make change. He heard of a student fund to support environmental projects at UW-Stevens Point and wanted to create something similar at UW-L. Students

“The UW-L environment helped me understand the whole idea of grassroots change.”

Bjorn Bergman, '08



Bjorn Bergman, '08, periodically brings students to an outdoor classroom — the Viroqua Middle School Fifth Grade Garden. The garden, started by a science teacher, is a spot where students learn about nutrient cycles, plant growth and nutrition. Bergman helped the class do a radish experiment this spring where they planted four different varieties of radishes, observed their growth over the course of a month and finally ate them when they reached full size at the end of the school year.

rallied behind the idea. Eventually 89 percent of students voted in favor of the \$5 per semester fee to start a Green Fund. That fund continues today and has generated \$80,000 per year toward environmental sustainability projects on campus.

Bergman also helped collect 1,300 signatures and spoke to the Faculty Senate to get Chancellor Joe Gow to sign the Talloires Declaration, an international agreement for the campus to become more environmentally sustainable and literate.

Out of that declaration came the formation of UW-L's Joint Committee on Environmental

Bjorn Bergman received The Robert and Judy Strzelczyk Award in Science and Health in May 2008. The \$1,000 award recognizes an outstanding senior in the College of Science and Health for academic achievement and service. Robert, '54, and his wife Judy endowed the award in 1996.

Sustainability, which is in the process of organizing a sustainability-themed year at UW-L in 2011-12. Bergman was a "major catalyst" for all of these campus steps toward sustainability, says Rob Tyser, UW-L biology professor and Bergman's college adviser.

"I'd been here 30 years, and this is the first time someone from the student body stepped forward with a green initiative of this magnitude," Tyser recalls regarding the Green Fund.

Tyser says Bergman was "a natural leader," one with big environmental ideas who could build consensus.

Bergman says the experience was inspiring.

## SUSTAINABILITY-THEMED YEAR SET



During 2011-12, UW-L will participate in a sustainability-themed year, involving lectures, films, discussions and even a campus-wide common reading program.

The campus has no shortage of green efforts already underway from low flow shower heads in residence halls to sustainably designed new buildings to open in

August.

Organizers of the university's first themed year say the sustainability theme is one step toward a vision to make the campus even more sustainable.

"This isn't going to end in a year," explains Dan Sweetman, UW-L's environmental and sustainability program manager. "It's my goal

it will continue as long as UW-L exists. We are not going to get to a point where we say we are going to stop being concerned about energy efficiency."

Learn more about UW-L's sustainability theme at: [www.uwlax.edu/sustainability](http://www.uwlax.edu/sustainability).



“As I was graduating, all this stuff happened and I thought, ‘Wow — it’s exciting to go out having such an impact,’” Bergman says.

Today Bergman is still inspiring change. As he walks between the desks of the second grade classroom, he tells kids he has one rule when tasting the beets. He doesn’t take “yuck” for an answer.

Instead kids must explain what they smell, see, taste and why they like it or not.

Eight-year-old Lauren Banks smacks her lips together and concludes the pickled beet is delicious. “It tastes like pickles,” she said.

Bergman packs up his cardboard box of

vegetables and heads across the elementary hallway into the next room. His day is just beginning.

“The UW-L environment helped me understand the whole idea of grassroots change,” he says.



Biology Professor Rob Tyser says with Bjorn Bergman’s academic reputation, he wouldn’t have had any problems getting into a reputable graduate school program. Instead Bergman pursued his interest in sustainability in a hands-on, grassroots way. “He’s trying to make a difference in an area he believes in, but he doesn’t feel obligated to follow the conventional path,” Tyser notes. “It takes more imagination to do what he’s doing.”

## BEYOND THE BOTTOM LINE

The financial bottom line. Management from the top down. Efficiency before sustainability and all else.

These traditional business concepts are being turned upside down, some UW-L business educators say.

“We tend to think of business theory as settled theory,” said UW-L Management Professor Tom Hench. “It simply is not. We are learning and creating as we go.”

As major corporations rethink their practices and embrace efforts such as environmental sustainability, academia needs to follow, they explain.

These instructors are on the forefront of these changes, responding to needs of local and national businesses. As part of this trend, business and other instructors across campus are incorporating sustainability themes into their

classes. Five instructors on an ad hoc committee are in the planning stages of developing a new business sustainability minor within The College of Business Administration.

“We will not be responsible educators if we do not introduce these concepts and ideas,” Hench notes. “It’s that simple.”



These College of Business Administration faculty members have formed an ad hoc committee to study the feasibility of offering a new business sustainability minor. From left, Donna Anderson, Economics; Nicole Gullekson, Management; Tom Hench, Management; Steve Tippins, Finance; and Maggie McDermott, Marketing.



Larry Terry, '77, hung up his cleats as head football coach last fall. Terry, involved with the university's program since 1968, says his immediate family and UW-L family have been with him through good times and bad.

# MORE THAN A FOOTBALL FAMILY

LARRY TERRY RETIRES AFTER 11 SEASONS AT THE HELM

For Larry Terry, football at UW-L was much more than a game. It was part of the family.

Terry, '77, whose father, Bill, coached both baseball and football on campus, has been associated with UW-L football since being a 14-year-old ball boy. He became a standout kick returner in the mid-70s. And as head coach for 11 years, Terry won three conference titles and led teams to four national playoff berths.

"Throughout all of my years in the football program, family has been an important cornerstone," notes Terry. "This family started for me in 1968 when my father first came to La Crosse. I was able to be around athletic greats like

Dewey Stendahl, Greg Mattison and Craig Kusick, Sr."

"It continued when I was a player with my own brother Steve and many close and dear friends like Mike Taake and Tom Gustafson," he says. "I was reunited with this family in 1988 and have been very fortunate to coach many great players. This family has been with me through good times and when the ball didn't always roll our way."

Terry, who retired at the end of the 2010 season, says his immediate family — wife, Lori, and children Kathryn (17) and Devin (16) — were key to his success, along with his parents.

"I want to thank my mother

"I am proud to be a member of this university and the La Crosse community."

Larry Terry

and father for being such great role models," he says. "I also want to thank my children for loving UW-L football as much as I do. And to my wife for allowing me


to pursue the career that I love and for being so supportive of me always."

Terry remains proud of what he and UW-L accomplished.

"I am proud to be a member of this university and the La Crosse community," he explains. "We're grateful to have so many great people help us continue to call La Crosse home. The support my family and I have received during my time here has been unbelievable."

Terry compiled an overall 65-48 (.575) record and a 47-30 (.610) conference mark. He was 89-71-1 (.556) overall as a head coach in 16 seasons, including six seasons at Ripon (Wis.) College.





Ben Levelius, '10, was working as an assistant language teacher at a high school in Japan when the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis unfolded. He remembers colleagues at the school commenting how long the March 11 earthquake lasted, but he didn't realize the scale of the disaster until days later.

# A dream job amid devastation

## ALUM WAS WORKING IN JAPAN WHEN EARTHQUAKE STRUCK

Ben Levelius fulfilled a childhood dream when he traveled across the world to teach English in Japan after college.

But that dream looked more like a nightmare as the ground shook, his coffee cup danced across his desk and a classroom full of students took cover in the wake of the March 11 earthquake.

UW-L's large international student population fueled Levelius' childhood ambition to live and work abroad. Two months after his May 2010 graduation, he moved to Yuzawa, Japan, to teach. Eight months later the earthquake struck,

triggering a devastating tsunami, which destroyed regions less than 100 miles from the school where Levelius taught.

On that March day, people in the classroom cried out and were surprised by the size of the quake. But Levelius didn't feel afraid. "I'd been on amusement park rides that were worse than this," he says.

It wasn't until the next day he began to realize the scale of the disaster. A Canadian friend stopped by his apartment and told him to call his parents to let them know he was OK.

In the days following the

quake, Levelius said the electricity went out and freeways were shut down. When power returned two days later, he avidly read Internet news reports – some calling this the worst nuclear crisis since the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant.

"My parents were basically giving me ultimatums (to return). I was resisting because it's extremely expensive to fly to and from Japan," he explains. "I really didn't want to go. I lived on the other side of a mountain range. The idea of radiation reaching us was far-fetched."

But his extended family pooled

money to purchase the exorbitant \$5,000 return ticket home, and Levelius made the trip March 21.

Upon return, he still felt close to the disaster. He thought about the homeless, the separation of children and parents, and the fear of nuclear radiation.

"I'm not even Japanese and it's devastating to me," he notes.

Levelius doesn't regret going to Japan and he's not about to quit his job. He returned to the country April 5 to continue teaching.

"It's a challenge," he said. "This is exactly what I want to do."

## EAGLE EYE

THIS CAMPUS IMAGE WAS SELECTED AS PART OF A SPRING STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

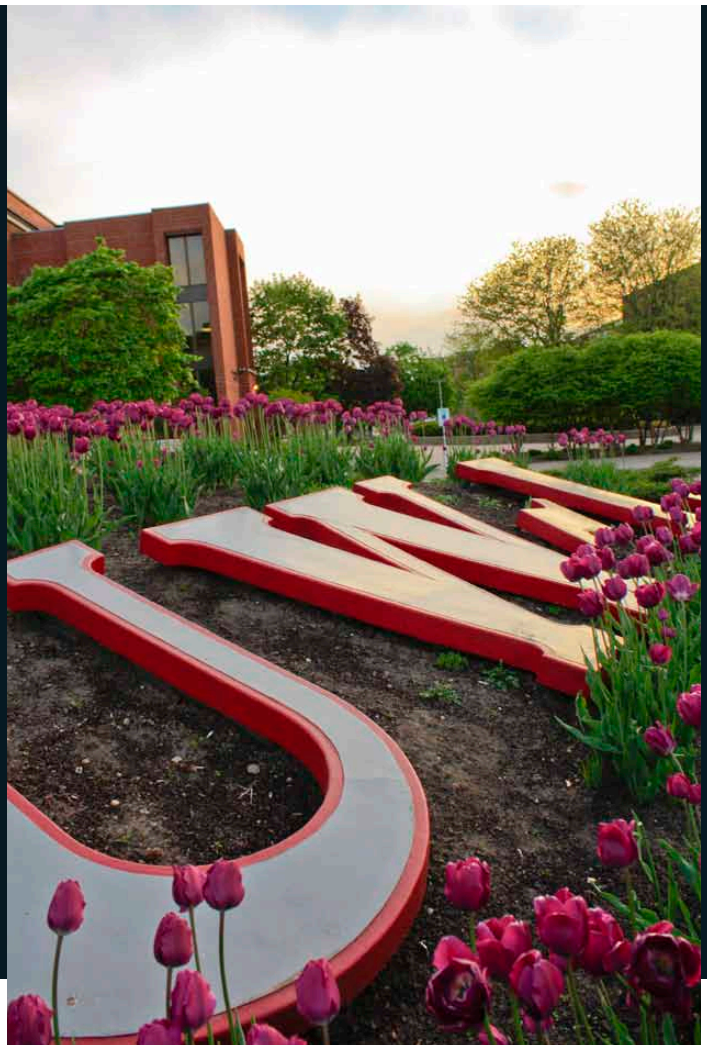
Affectionately dubbed “Grandboy,” this inconspicuous knoll, north of Cartwright Center, is supposed to emulate Grandad Bluff. Grandad Bluff, which dominates La Crosse’s eastern horizon, has always been an integral landmark to campus life and can be seen from almost anywhere on campus.

What appealed to photographer Emily King about Grandboy was its incredibly evident connection to UW-L. Besides bearing the university’s name, the modest slope encapsulates the vibrant scenery core to campus life in spring. The tulips as the sun set took the same tone as the maroon school color.

This summer Grandboy is populated by coleus and alyssum. “We plant different annuals there every year and we just try to change it from year to year,” explains Kim Tiber, UW-L’s Building and Grounds supervisor. “This year I tried to use red and white to kind of go with a school’s color theme.”

King is a senior majoring in communications and minoring in photography. She has worked as an event photographer for a local non-profit organization, a Racquet photographer and a portrait freelancer.

See other images entered in the contest at: [www.uwlalumni.org/photo\\_album.php?album\\_id=672](http://www.uwlalumni.org/photo_album.php?album_id=672).



## THE FRENCH CONNECTION: FAMILY FROM FRANCE CALLS UW-L HOME



Three Dax, France, siblings, from left, Loic, Gaelle and Yann Talhouarne selected UW-L for college. Gaelle graduated in May with majors in molecular biology and biochemistry. Loic plans to major in information systems, with a minor in computer science. Yann plans to study physics.

Gaelle Talhouarne remembers fellow freshmen crying her first year at UW-La Crosse. Their parents lived an hour away. Her parents were six hours away — by plane. She missed them, but didn’t need them by her side.

The UW-L international student and her brothers, Loic and Yann, did a lot of growing up before college in youth summer camps. Every summer they left their southwestern France home to fly to U.S. cities such as Boston, San Antonio and Green Bay. They learned English — and independence.

“We were so young, but it was fine. We are still alive,” says Gaelle joking. “Now

we can go anywhere. We can push ourselves.”

When Gaelle heard about the chance to study abroad at UW-L more than four years ago, she took it. She graduated May 14. Her brother, Loic, will be a UW-L junior and the youngest, Yann, will be a UW-L freshman this fall.

Although Gaelle made some independent moves before college, she still had trouble adjusting. When she started school, American students obsessed about her accent, she says. In class it felt like it took her “forever” to read a simple passage because, as a non-native speaker, she was a slower reader than other students.

But Gaelle quickly

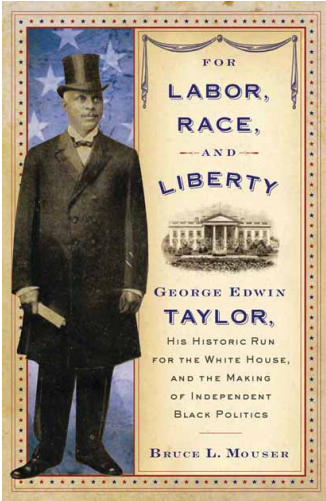
realized that UW-L was home to hundreds of other international students who knew what she was going through. Living in an international student residence hall was “the best experience I ever had. I met my best friends there,” she explains.

Now Gaelle has a full-ride scholarship to Johns Hopkins University in the fall where she plans to earn her doctorate in cellular, molecular and developmental biology.

“It’s visible if you work hard, you’re going to get what you deserve,” she notes. “I’ve been working very hard for four years and it worked for me.”



# FIRST BLACK PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WAS FROM LA CROSSE



More than 100 years before Barack Obama, La Crosse resident George Edwin Taylor made presidential history. Running against Theodore Roosevelt in 1904, Taylor became the first African American ticketed as a political party's nominee for U.S. president. History Professor Emeritus Bruce L. Mouser has published a book on Taylor's historic run, "For Labor, Race, and Liberty: George Edwin Taylor, His Run for the White House, and the Making of Independent Black Politics."

Mouser follows Taylor's life and career in Arkansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Florida.

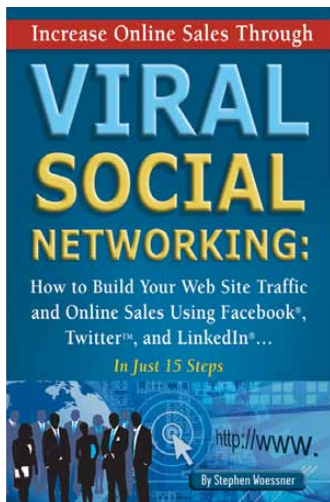
"Taylor's story in 'For Labor, Race, and Liberty,' tells us much about the emergence of independent black politics at the 19th century's end, and of the conundrum of young activists who watched the erosion of rights won through struggle," explains Mouser.

Mouser was recognized during the annual literary awards banquet for The Society of Midland Authors on May 10 in Chicago because his book was a finalist in the biography category of the association's annual Author Awards. One finalist and one winner were chosen in this category in a 12-state region.

"The three of us on the committee appreciate receiving biographies of people who are rather obscure in history," says Rich Lindberg, a judge for The Society of Midland Authors. "It generally takes a lot of work to do an original biography."

Mouser's book is available at Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com and other booksellers.

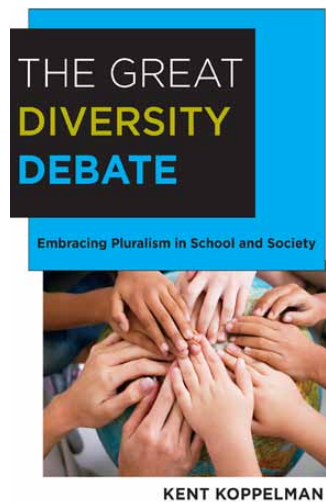
## BOOK OFFERS BUSINESS TIPS



UW-L Business Outreach Coordinator Stephen Woessner answers business owner questions about social media in his latest book, "Increase Online Sales Though Viral Social Networking: How to Build Your Web Site Traffic and Online Sales Using Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn."

"Social networking allows us to develop trust, strong relationships and ultimately the likelihood of people doing business with us goes up," he explains. Get Woessner's book at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

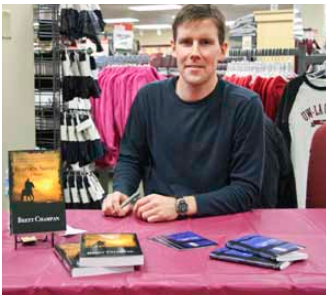
## DIVERSITY DISCUSSION



Professor Emeritus Kent Koppelman has penned a book on The Great Diversity Debate: Embracing Pluralism in School and Society. Koppelman gives us a fascinating, detailed, and evenhanded account of the long historical roots of contemporary controversies surrounding flash-point issues such as affirmative action, multicultural education, and globalization. This well-researched and optimistic book will make you think about, and maybe even re-think, such issues. See more at

<http://store.tpress.com/0807752215.shtml>.

## ALUM AUTHOR RETURNS TO UW-L



Novelist Brett Champan, '00, left, returned to campus for a book signing at the University Bookstore's grand opening in January. After earning a bachelor's in accountancy, Champan's hunger for the written word consumed him. His first book, "Rearview Sunset," unfolded in a small Chicago apartment, propelled by encouragement and strong coffee.

Amazon.com's book review: "Life is more than just a feather in the wind... Young Beau Jamison is backed into a corner due to some poor choices in life. Desperate to find a better way, he is thrust into a winding journey that leads

him through the Midwest and beyond to an unexpected collision with faith and death that changes everything. Along the way he is influenced by a host of people and places, including a wise old friend nearing the end of his days, a beautiful, spirited young woman who captures his heart, and the soft, quiet whisper of the great outdoors. Rearview Sunset is an exciting tale of destiny, miracles, and many second chances that will engage your mind and memory, stir your spirit, and warm your heart."

Learn more at [www.brettchampan.com](http://www.brettchampan.com).

# CLASSES NOTES

56

**Emelyn Burdick Kalinowski**, Lincoln, Calif., says she's probably one of few from the class of '56 that is still practicing her profession. Although technically retired after 30 plus years of teaching (the last 22 year as an adapted physical education specialist), Kalinowski works part time supervising student teachers in the elementary physical education portion of their student teaching internship. With inclusion being the focus for students with special needs, her adapted background enables her to give interns extra help. Along with staying up-to-date, mainly through AAHPERD, the excellent education she received from UW-L has continued to help her. She says UW-L is widely respected for its expertise in physical education from those throughout the country.

**Roger L. Nichols**, Tucson, Ariz., plans to teach American history at Leuphana University in Lüneburg, Germany, during summer 2011. In recent years he has taught at German universities in Cologne, Hälle, Münster and Tübingen.

58

**Thomas Duer** and his wife, Joyce, spend six months in Brunswick, Ohio, and the other six in Key Largo, Fla., "about 800-feet from the ocean." He reports he had a great career coaching swimming and diving, from an early age through college, producing many state champions. He coached several national winners and several went to the Olympics. He and his wife have three daughters and two grandchildren.

63

**Orby Moss, Jr.**, Ellenton, Fla., former director of athletics at North Carolina A&T State University, has received the 29th NACDA/NIT Athletics Directors Award. Also, he was named to the 2009 NACDA Hall of Fame.

**Clayton H. Stone**, Arlington, Va., is employed full time with ASI Government as a senior consultant II in acquisition. He consults on-site at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA).

66

**Margaret R. Connolly**, Evansville, Ind., recently retired from her private practice.

67

**Patrick J. Fleming**, Madison, has retired after 43 years in education, the last 10 in the School of Education at Edgewood College in Madison, where he had been teaching both graduate and undergraduates, and supervising student teachers. After retiring in summer 2010, he spent 17 weeks working for the United Way of Dane County. He serves as a Loaned Executive sponsored by American Family Insurance. His retirement plans included traveling to Colombia, South America, in December with the Friendship Force at Iowa State University in Ames and a trip to Costa Rica in February 2011.

71

**Mark Schmidt**, Madison, has retired from UW-Madison after 26 years. The last 10 he was Assistant to the Director for the Center for Demography of Health and Aging. He's looking forward

to spending time with his three grandsons, golfing and traveling.

**Jerome D. Stremcha** is retired and has moved to Daytona Beach, Fla.

**Larry Yeske**, Verona, is a retired U.S. Marine Corps officer and U.S. Postal Service finance administrator.

75

**Douglas J. Hovde**, Plum City, has signed a two-year contract to be a high school math teacher and basketball coach at the Khartoum (Sudan) American School. He will start in August 2011. This is his eighth teaching job in an international school, his second in Africa.

**Fredrick G. Lautz**, Brookfield, was named to the Wisconsin Super Lawyers list for 2010. Lautz works with mergers and acquisitions for the national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP based in Milwaukee.

76

**Randy R. VanDeLoo**, Stanley is a part-time staff chaplain for ministry at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield.

**Gerald E. Widen**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is newly retired after a 32-plus year career with Rockwell International/Collins Inc. He and his wife, Lynn, also retired, will split time between their homes in Iowa and Colorado. They intend to travel extensively. They have three grown children, two in Chicago and one in Minneapolis.

77

**Terrence Bolda**, Menomonee Falls, is a partner with Oak Hill Business

Partners, a professional services firm serving small and mid-sized business with financial, business, growth development and operational solutions. He works with writing and marketing communications. Bolda has started his own consulting business in communications and fund development for nonprofits. His son, Steven, intends to graduate from UW-L in May with a double major in accountancy and Spanish.

## CONNECT WITH YOUR OLD COLLEGE

The university's three colleges have websites and alumni newsletters. Keep your address info updated at [www.uwlaxumni.org/whatsnew.htm](http://www.uwlaxumni.org/whatsnew.htm)



## COLLEGE WEBSITES

College of Business Administration:  
[www.uwlax.edu/ba](http://www.uwlax.edu/ba)

College of Liberal Studies:  
[www.uwlax.edu/LS](http://www.uwlax.edu/LS)

College of Science and Health:  
[www.uwlax.edu/sah](http://www.uwlax.edu/sah)





## SOME NFL HARDWARE

Bryan Nehring, '83, has handled a lot of equipment for the Green Bay Packers. But he got his hands on some special equipment — the NFC and Lombardi trophies — this winter when the Packers won conference and NFL titles. Nehring, assistant equipment manager for the Pack, has worked for the team since graduating from college.

**Bruce W. Nelson**, '77 & '93, along with his wife, Colleen (O'Leary) Nelson, '93, is in his 13th year teaching choral music at the Anglo-American School of Moscow in Moscow, Russia. He was asked to be choral conductor for the Central Eastern European Schools Association's High School Music Festival in Warsaw, Poland. Spring '11 marks the 35th anniversary of his trip to Russia in March 1976 with a UW-L group headed by Joe Motivans and Bob Wingate as part of a Soviet Seminar. "This life-changing trip inspired my continued interest in Russia and was the determining factor in my accepting an international teaching job here," says Nelson. In addition to teaching vocal music, he composes and has published a number of choral pieces for school use and has written a large body of original music, much of it for his expatriate musical revue, "Notes From Moscow."

## 78

**Beth Murray Black**, Buffalo Grove, Ill., has been a community manager for the Arlington Club in Wheeling for over a year now and enjoys the community and residents very much. Her son,

**Nathan Black**, '00, has been married for four years now and was promoted to major in the Army in October. She sends congratulations to Coach Larry Terry for a tremendous career!

## 79

**Lloyd Everard**, Crystal Lake, Ill., was appointed vice president of Human Resources at Textron with responsibility for Lycoming and Textron Marine and Land Divisions in January 2011. He and his wife, Kim, have three children.

**Robert W. Stauss**, Caledonia, has retired as a police sergeant with 30 years of service, including time with the U.S. Army. He still works as a part-time police officer in another jurisdiction. He reports that: "Life is good ... super wife and a super son who has the potential to be a soccer star." He is considering moving to a warmer climate (Florida or Arizona) in two years.

## 80

**Ray Dretske**, and his wife **Connie (Olson)**, '82, live in Winona, Minn. Ray is president and CEO of Distributed Website Corp., creators of rSchoolToday.com, which produces popular Web applications for K-12 schools. Also, he is an adjunct faculty member in the music department at Winona (Minn.) State University and a saxophone player with the Winona State Faculty Jazz Group.

## 81

**David Bufton**, Dallas, joined TCBA as a principal directing a project team that assists the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in closing insolvent banks. He worked for the FDIC for 16 years after graduating from UW-L, closing banks throughout the '80s-'90s before leaving the FDIC after the last banking crisis. "I never thought we would see another banking crisis like this in my lifetime," he says. "But, it is still better than working in Iraq advising the Central Bank and dodging mortars from fall 2006 through summer 2009."

**Barbara Owens Ettenger**, Johns Creek, Ga., has a new position in clinical research with PPD, a contract

research organization. She had worked in clinical research at Wake Forest University for many years. Ettenger lives in metro Atlanta and enjoys a second home on Hilton Head Island.

**David Wambach**, Madison, is a criminal prosecutor in the complex criminal litigation unit of the Wisconsin Department of Justice. One of his recent cases was a 30-year-old cold case in which Curtis Forbes murdered his best friend's wife, 18-year-old Marilyn McIntyre. Wambach was the prosecutor at the jury trial in which the defendant was found guilty of first-degree intentional murder. The CBS news program "48 Hours" has been covering the case and an episode regarding the investigation and prosecution of the case aired in April 2011.

**James Watts**, Indianapolis, is vice president of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis.

## 82

**Ron Gleason**, Sugar Land, Texas, has joined Ironshore Insurance as the South Central Regional Executive responsible for opening and managing Ironshore's office in Houston.

**Terri (Diekvoss) Silli**, Highlands Ranch, Colo., has been an online physical education/health teacher for the Colorado Virtual Academy (the largest online school in Colorado) for four years. She and her husband have a seven-year-old daughter, Brooke, and enjoy skiing in the Rocky Mountains.

## 85

**Marianna McCourt Gilbertson**, Eau Claire, re-entered college at UW-L in 1982 as a junior after taking a break from Oregon State University in Corvallis. After completing a bachelor's in business she found her first job in Northbrook, Ill., until she could transfer back to Wisconsin to work with veterinary software in Eau Claire. In the 90s she married and started raising a family on a farm in Eau Claire where she still lives and works.

## 87

**Randy M. Dummer**, Appleton, has received a 2010 Outstanding Discussion Leader Award from the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts (AICPA). The award is given to instructors of continuing education courses for the AICPA and is based on scores given by class for knowledge and presentation skills of the instructor. Only 14 of 239 instructors earned the award. Dummer also received the award in 2008 and 2009. He is a partner with Baker Tilly and serves as the firm-wide leader of its employee benefit plan audit practice, and the Appleton office leader of the commercial and not-for-profit audit practice.

**Doug Geiger**, Purchase, N.Y., completed a doctorate from Loyola University Chicago in May 2010 and taught as adjunct faculty there. He moved to New York City in January 2011 to become vice president of Student Affairs at Manhattanville College.



## BEST HOUSE REUNITES

Women who lived in "Best House" in the '60s continue to meet annually. Getting together recently were, from left, Sonja (Pfaff) Haske '66 & '90; Darryle (Damon) Clott '66 & '71; Shirley (Walsvik) Merrill '67; Sue Hickey '67; and Gayl (Gutknecht) Christensen '66. The roommate unable to attend was Andi (Elstad) Sosalla '67.

# CELEBRATING THE SOUNDS OF WORDS

WISCONSIN'S POET LAUREATE IS ALUM BRUCE DETHLEFSEN



1950

at night

my mother bathed me in a white tub  
scrubbed me with white soap  
rubbed me in a white towel  
hugged and plugged me  
into pajamas and the white sheets

an act so kind

so common

it barely even happened

Bruce Dethlefsen, '70

Published in his second chapbook, "Something  
Near the Dance Floor,"  
Marsh River Editions, 2003

**B**ruce Dethlefsen developed a taste for poetry in his mother's kitchen.

She'd sing songs with made up words and the two would dance — free form — in a celebration of the sound and rhythm of words.

That encounter with artistic expression led to Dethlefsen's life-long love of poetry. Now he's Wisconsin's poet laureate.

Gov. Jim Doyle appointed him in November 2010. Through 2012 he'll travel the state to promote Wisconsin poetry. Visits will include stops with writing groups, libraries and schools.

"I try to give young people permission to be artists," he explains. "Art is what makes us human. It allows us to see the

connection in the world among people and nature."

Dethlefsen's father told him writing poetry "don't plant no corn." But he pursued it anyway.

Dethlefsen, '70, learned to read, understand and appreciate modern poetry in a UW-L creative writing class with instructor John Judson. Judson brought nationally accomplished poets, such as Denise Levertov and George Hitchcock, into the classroom.

At 62, Dethlefsen still wakes up every morning with words. He loves the sound of a pen scratching on paper; his thoughts flowing from a fountain of ink. It clears his head and sometimes leads to the ideas that become poems.

"I try to let the poem show me where it wants to go and surprise me with what it wants to say," he notes.

Dethlefsen has published two chapbooks and one full-length poetry book. Many of his poems have appeared in journals, magazines and anthologies.

"I love reading, writing and listening to poetry," he notes. "I agree with Dylan Thomas who said he writes poetry to 'celebrate the sounds of the language.'"

See more about Bruce Dethlefsen at [www.brucedethlefsen.com](http://www.brucedethlefsen.com).

## MAKING THE COVER: ALUM JEFF TAXDAHL, '86



Jeff Taxdahl, '86, made the cover of Minneapolis' Upsize magazine that covers Minnesota business. The magazine named him 2010 Business Builder of the Year. Taxdahl's company also won the 2010 Integrity Award from the Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota. See the cover article at: [www.upsizemag.com/coverstory.asp?issueID=76&articleID=1336](http://www.upsizemag.com/coverstory.asp?issueID=76&articleID=1336).

**Trudy E. (Klemp) Slatter** has relocated to Dallas-Fort Worth Texas with her husband's employer and loves it — especially the weather.

90

**Matt Nowakowski**, Plymouth, Minn., is director of MBA programs for Saint Mary's, and also teaches in the doctorate and master's in education programs.

91

**Tami A. Carpenter-Olney**, Phoenix, is an elementary education and Spanish teacher in the Paradise Valley Unified School District. Carpenter hopes to return to Wisconsin soon, where she sees Midwesterners as "warm and tender-hearted." She is a single mother with three daughters.

**Nancy L. (Schneider) McLean-Cooper**, '91 & '00, Rockville, Md., is proud of her 16-year-old son, Raynell, who won the 2011 Jeopardy! Teen Tournament.

**Lee W. Hoffman**, Brookings, S.D., completed a doctorate in chemistry at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia. He is currently working at South Dakota State University in the chemistry and biochemistry department.

93

**Jennifer L. King**, Simpsonville, S.C., has been promoted to senior event manager at SYNEX Corp. in Greenville, S.C. She has worked for the SYNEX corporate events department since 2006 and has been in the meetings and events industry for the last 14 years, starting in the non-profit sector. She is a Certified Meeting Professional.

94

**Jean M. Broadwater**, La Crosse, became Superintendent of Schools for the Houston (Minn.) School District Aug. 1, 2010. She had prior superintendent experience in Wisconsin, but was able to move back to La Crosse for the position in the Gopher State.

**Samuel Prasetya Dharmatama Anantadjaya** and his wife, **Irma M. Nawangwulan**, '95, live in Bintaro, Tangerang, Indonesia. Sam has completed a doctorate in strategic management and has been teaching since 2005 in Swiss German University. Irma manages the business studies programs at Universitas Pembangunan Jaya in Bintaro. They have two children, Ethan (10) and Eryn (4).

96

**Mary (Tornowske) Lubner**, Cedarburg, has become a fifth-degree black belt in TaekwonDo. In November, she traveled to South Africa with the People to People ambassador program. She continues to be active with 4-H by chaperoning national and international trips.

97

**Ryan P. Morrison**, Franksville, was named to the 2010 Wisconsin Rising Stars list. Morrison works with securities and corporate finance for the national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP based in Milwaukee.

**Zac Triemert**, Omaha, Neb., was named Young Business Person of the Year for 2010 in Omaha. Triemert is brew master and co-owner of Lucky Bucket Brewery and Solas Distillery.

98

**Steven T. Buss**, Tomah, is principal of Tomah Area Middle School. His wife, Melissa, '98, has returned to UW-L to study for a bachelor's in elementary education.

**Laurie A. Johnson**, '98 & '01, Fort Wayne, Ind., is program chairperson and a full-time associate professor of education at Ivy Tech Community College. She has taught there since October 2005.

## HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR HONORED



La Crosse resident Darryle Clott, '66 & '71, has received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor. The National Ethnic Coalition award honors 100 Americans annually whose influence and achievements inspire and touch others.

Clott retired from La Crescent (Minn.) High School in 2004 where she taught a Holocaust unit in her English classes. The classes inspired her to attend the Teachers' Summer Institute on Holocaust and Jewish Studies and Jewish Resistance in Poland and Israel in 2001.

Clott became a member of the American Friends of the Jewish Fighters Museum Consortium of Holocaust Educators and is the founder of the Midwest Holocaust Education Consortium.

Clott, a teacher fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., teaches history of the Holocaust at Viterbo University and leads Holocaust educator workshops.

See more about the honor at: [www.neco.org](http://www.neco.org).

99

**Matthew R. Lennon**, Rochester, Minn., is a procurement specialist for Mayo Clinic. He had been an indirect materials buyer for Trane in La Crosse.

00

**Lucas J. Pagels** Johnson Creek, has been named a shareholder in the Milwaukee firm of Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren S.C. Pagels is a member of the firm's Employee Benefits Practice.



**Jeremy Zirbes**, Stillwater, Minn., is a product specialist for Professional Hospital Supply, a custom procedure surgery tray manufacturer. His territory is Minnesota and Wisconsin.

01

**Marcia L. Kast**, Sparta, retired from Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center in La Crosse Aug. 20, 2010. She accepted an offer for early retirement for anyone over 60. She's looking forward to traveling more and exploring other cultures.

02

**Christopher Keller**, Portland, Ore., had his latest poetry book, "Twenty Four Hours of Darkness Twenty Four Hours of Light," nominated for the Oregon poetry book of the year award. In 2009 he was awarded two fellowships; one at the Penland School of Arts in North Carolina and the other at the Artist Refuge in Basin, Montana. He used the fellowships to write his fourth book, "The Great Room 2003-2010" which he planned to complete in spring 2011. See more at: <http://poetchristopherkeller.com>.

03

**Russ Braby** is coordinator of Study Abroad & Exchange at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia.

**Kory and Kim (Ashbeck) Schooley**, both '03, live in Oconomowoc with their daughter, Lilliana. Kory was promoted to vice president of sales at the Milwaukee Wave. He has experience in every aspect of sales at the Wave through his five years with the team. Kim works with the YMCA at Pabst Farms.

**Karyn Sobczak** married William Elliott July 31, 2010. They live in West Milwaukee. This fall she was promoted to general manager of First Stage Children's Theater where she has worked since 2005.

05

**James Seth Coulson** and his wife **Tanya Hoard**, both '05, live in Huntington Beach, Calif. He works for Pacific Investment Management Co.; she, State Street Bank.

## TEACHING ADDS UP TO AWARD



Walking into the Fennimore High School as the sun is barely peeking over the horizon you'll find Weston Glasbrenner at his desk preparing for the day and tutoring students. He's known for his technologically pioneering lessons and unwavering dedication.

Glasbrenner, '03, was one of only 51 educators nationwide to receive the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching.

"The MEPD (master's of professional development) I received from UW-L has helped me to make many positive changes to my teaching pedagogy," he explains. "The action research techniques that I gained from the program have helped me to continually grow and push myself professionally."

After enduring a rigorous application process, shaking President Obama's hand and receiving his award in Washington DC, Glasbrenner received \$10,000.

"I believe that I owe it to myself and to each student to give each day my best," notes Glasbrenner. "The award means that my reflection, ideas, and hard work toward improvement are appreciated not only by my students, but also by the community of educators."

# STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

## ALUMS, FRIENDS SPORTING UW-L LICENSE PLATES



Alumni and friends are supporting UW-L with license plates that sport the UW-L logo. At the same time, they're funding student scholarships.

Al Trapp, president of the UW-L Foundation, has personalized UW-L plates declaring "We Few" (pictured above). "It's a reference to the famous St. Crispin's Day speech in Shakespeare's play Henry V," explains Trapp. "This particular speech is a very famous one and one that, for a number of reasons, is

near and dear to my heart and some of my circle of friends."

Wisconsin residents may purchase specialized license plates with extra fees of \$20 going to their designated UW campus for scholarships. Students apply through the annual scholarship program to get funds, which have recently amounted to \$3,000 a year. Personalized plates are extra.

Get your plates at: [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/personal/special/universi.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/vehicles/personal/special/universi.htm).



## TROTTING ALONG

Lois (Schmaltz) Gilmore, '52, took to the streets for UW-L's annual Turkey Trot last November. The 5-K run wasn't unusual for the 80-year-old runner. Gilmore started running when she was in her late 50s after surviving a bout with cancer. She then suffered a stroke 10 years ago, but has maintained a running schedule putting on her shoes for 5- or 10-K races throughout the year. The retired Janesville teacher has been nationally ranked in her age group for years. Her husband, Wayne Gilmore, pictured with Lois, typically runs with her.

**Jason Knox**, Chicago, is a media producer at Jellyvision, creators of the game "You Don't Know Jack" and interactive online conversations for a variety of clients.

**Dawn Glaser** married Derek Ortiz Oct. 9, 2010. They live in La Crosse. RehabCare Group employs her.

**Shannon L. Robinson** is a fundraiser for a non-profit orchestra that performs a subscription series at Carnegie Hall. She has been working for The New York Pops and living in New York City for five years.

**Joshua E. Schaub**, Minneapolis, has joined Weber Law Group, P.A. as an attorney and partner. He practices law in bankruptcy, business and sports law.

**Lisa (Koenig) Smith**, Blaine, Minn., is teaching chemistry at North Hennepin Community College. She started working as a full-time, tenure-track faculty member in January 2010.

**Mark W. Wolfgram**, Chicago, was recently promoted to Manager-Tax at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause in Chicago. He has been with the firm since January 2006 and had previously been a senior tax accountant.

## 06

**Megan Drake**, Minneapolis, is operations coordinator in the Birth Defects Monitoring & Analysis Unit at the Minnesota Department of Health's Cancer Control Section.

**Danya (Klages-Mundt) Espinosa** lives in Winona with her husband, Carlos. She recently graduated with a master's in counselor education from Winona State University.

**Timothy Grass**, Tigard, Ore., is a video coordinator with the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers.

## 07

**Cheryl Behnke**, '07 & '08, married Joseph Brazil in May 2010. They live in Lake Forest, Ill., where Cheryl works for Lake Forest College.

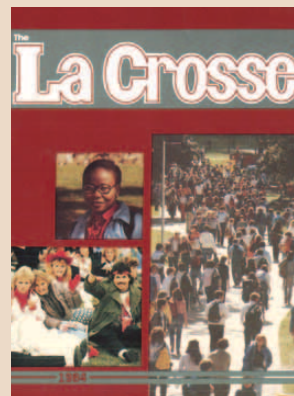
**Stephanie Kotsovos**, Milwaukee, has been promoted to a full-time position with the Milwaukee Brewers. She works with special events and ticket promotions, online messaging and sales channel communication for all online ticket promotions and special events. She's also the primary contact for corporate savings programs.

**Jenna (Peterson) Jensen**, Hudson, is a new associate in the Minneapolis law offices of Fredrikson & Byron. Jensen graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in 2010.

## 10

**Corinn L. Ploessi**, Waunakee, is a marketing assistant at Wegner, LLP CPAs & Consultants.

## YEARBOOKS ONLINE



The Murphy Library's Special Collections Team has digitized UW-L's yearbooks from 1911-90, which was the last year a yearbook was printed for UW-L. The project was initiated in 2008 and took a year to complete. Librarian Teri Talpe says the project is a sign of things to come. "It is such a huge trend [to digitize media]; it was a natural step into the 21st century. People call on a regular basis about yearbooks, so it's great they are able to access them online now." To view them go to <http://murphylibrary.uw-lax.edu/digital/uwl/yearbook/>.

## Class of 20??

**Ryan C.**, '95, and **Jennifer J. Olson**, Holmen, a daughter, Paige Ardene, Aug. 5, 2010.

**Didrik A. Peterson**, '95, and **Elizabeth Schoenkecht**, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., a daughter, Solveig Grace Peterson, in September.

**Kristen (Peot)**, '97, and **Tom Buchmann**, Green Bay, twin daughters, Lauren and Megan, June 1, 2010. They join brother Ben (3).

**Chad**, '98 and **Amy Collett**, Fond du Lac, a daughter, Hailey Sara, Aug. 21, 2010. She joins a sister, Riley (7). Chad works for WOW Logistics.

**Alisa (Rapp)**, '98, and **David Empey**, Mesa, Ariz., a daughter, Indigo Gardner, Feb. 11, 2011.

**Jen (Banda)**, '98, and **Brian Gutekunst**, Raleigh, N.C., a daughter, Kacey Banda, Oct. 31, 2010. She joins sisters, Marley and Joie, and brother, Michael.

**Cristine (Derus)**, '98 & '03, and **Michael Rameker**, '99, Fitchburg, a son, Jacob Michael, Dec. 15, 2010.

**Erin (Kinney)**, '99, and **Randy Helms**, Glen Carbon, Ill., a daughter, Sophia, Dec. 20, 2010.

**Joel**, '00 and **Kelly (Christensen)**, '01, **Gregozeski**, Green Bay, a daughter, Reese, August 2010. They have three children.

**Erich**, '00. and **Amy DuPont Zwicker**, '01, Onalaska, a son, Aiden John, Sept. 7, 2010. He joins brother Bryce (3). Erich works for the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department; Amy, for WXOW TV-19.

**Mandy Bachmann** and **Dustin Checkai**, both '02, a daughter, Ava Lou Checkai, Dec. 11, 2010.

**Robin (Brett)**, '02, and **Benjamin Chambers**, Rochester, Minn., a son, Mason Morgan.

**Lisa M. (Strike)**, '02, and **Luke Engel**, Green Bay, a daughter, Brielle Makenzie, Oct. 11, 2010.

**Tonya (Dorn)**, '02, and **Shane N. Jones**, Lake Geneva, a daughter, Rayna, in December 2010.

**Adam**, '02, and **Crystal (Neeb)**, '03, **Rogahn**, Greenfield, a daughter, Bellamy Elaine Rogahn, Sept. 13, 2010. She has yet to decide if she'll attend UW-L, her dad says.

**Ariel (Perkins)** and **John Heitzman**, both '06, Albuquerque, N.M., a son, Willard Lawrence, June 25, 2010.

## JAMES "JIM" CONWAY

James "Jim" Conway, 79, of La Crescent and Longboat Key, Fla., died Jan. 25, 2011, in Sarasota (Fla.). A 1957 UW-L graduate, Conway joined the UW-L Mass Communications Department in 1971 where he established WLSU-FM, one of only three National Public Radio stations in Wisconsin at the time. He was involved in civic activities, including co-presenting to the National Chamber of Commerce that led to La Crosse being Named an All-American City in 1966. That year he was named Oktoberfest Maple Leaf Parade Marshal.

## TRUMAN DANIEL 'DAN' HAYES

Truman Daniel 'Dan' Hayes, 92, of Westby died Jan. 13, 2011. Hayes taught composition and theory in the UW-L Music Department from 1962 until retiring in 1988. He took part in many local performances at both UW-L and Viterbo University as part of the La Crosse Symphony and Choral Union.

## DAVID WENDELL HOGUE

David Wendell Hogue, 86, died April 2, 2011, in La Crosse. Hogue earned a bachelor's from UW-L in 1949. He became UW-L Assistant Dean of Men in 1960. Later, he became Dean of Students, retiring in 1987. Memorials can be made to the David and Sis Hogue Student Development and Administration Scholarship at the UW-L Foundation, P.O. Box 1148, La Crosse, WI 54602-1148.

## ROBERT "BOB" E. KIME

Robert "Bob" E. Kime, 82, died Jan. 4, 2011, in Folsom, Calif. Kime played football, baseball and track at UW-L and was on the 1954 Cigar Bowl Team. He earned a bachelor's from UW-L in 1954 and a master's in '57. He taught here from 1956-59 and 1960-63. He earned a doctorate at The Ohio State University in 1963 before heading to the University of Oregon for the rest of his career. Kime was inducted into the UW-L Wall of Fame in 1997.

## DONALD LACOSS

Donald LaCoss, 46, died Jan. 31, 2011, in La Crosse. LaCoss taught in the History Department from 2001 until his death. He taught a wide range of courses including world history, European history, historical methods and research, modern Scandinavia, the Holocaust, African civilizations, Islam, Russian history, and European imperialism.

## GORDON J. TEIGEN

Gordon J. Teigen, 88, died Feb. 28, 2011, in La Crosse. Teigen joined UW-L in 1968. With his duties, he coached the men's and women's bowling teams. His men's teams won four national titles and his women's teams made five national tourney appearances. He retired in 1987. Memorials may be sent to the Teigen Scholarship Fund at the UW-La Crosse Foundation, P.O. Box 1148, La Crosse, WI, 54602-1148.

## WILLIAM "BILL" P. VAFEAS

William "Bill" P. Vafeas, 88, died Feb. 11, 2011, in La Crosse. Vafeas joined the UW-L faculty in 1963 and served as a professor of art until retiring in 1978. He owned and operated Studio Gallery 1311 in La Crosse from 1974 until his death. He exhibited artwork throughout the U.S. and in Tokyo.

# MEMORIALS

**SEND MEMORIALS TO THE  
UW-L FOUNDATION  
615 EAST AVE. N.  
LA CROSSE, WI 54601**

**OR GO TO  
WWW.FOUNDATION.UWLAX.EDU**

## IN MEMORY

- 1932: **Phoebe (Pfaff) Gaardner**, Holmen  
1934: **Margaret (Ertel) Lane**, Glen Ellyn, Ill.  
1934: **Audrey (Vogel) Lee**, Whitehall  
1936: **Marianna Margaret (Reuter) Moe**, Black River Falls  
1941: **Gerald (Jerry) Moriarity**, Perham, Minn. (attended 1937-41)  
1938: **Margaret Ziegeweid**, Appleton  
1939: **Janet (Kircher) Isler**, La Crosse  
1943: **Lois E Nelson**, La Crosse  
1943: **Jane C. (Gilbertson) Schwenn**, Onalaska  
1946: **Ruth J. (Fremlin) McDonald**, Onalaska  
1948: **Delores I. Talu (Hesselberg) Olson**, Bangor  
1949: **David Hogue**, La Crosse  
1949: **Lois Gutzke Wollan**, Monicello, Minn.  
1949: **LeRoy Vitale**, La Crosse  
1953: **Betty Anne (Howe) Dietmaier**, La Crescent, Minn.  
1953: **Idella M. Oium**, La Crosse  
1954: **Robert "Bob" E. Kime**, Folsom, Calif.  
1954: **Doris "Dori" (Kriesel) Shillings**, La Crosse  
1957: **James "Jim" Conway**, La Crescent, Minn.  
1957: **Robert F. Owens**, Onalaska  
1958: **Margaret "Peg" (Gasper) Downing**, Tomah  
1959: **Ruth E. (Cox) Hutchison**, Holmen  
1961: **Roger Kalodrich**, Long Prairie, Minn.  
1961: **William B. Meiser**, Eleva  
1961: **Gladys (Cattle) Nuttall**, New Lisbon  
1961: **Shirley Rae (Gates) Stintzi**, Bangor  
1962: **Sharon L. (Richardson) Tietz**, Watertown  
1963: **William T. D. Holstein**, Arnold, Calif.  
1963: **Dean Mewhorter**, Trempealeau  
1965: **Mary "Muggs" Margaret (Stromstad) Hoff**, La Crosse  
1966: **Elly M. Jacobsen**, Sparta  
1966: **Caroline A. "Pip" Pipke**, Norfolk, Va.  
1968: **Mary E. (Cary) Bufton**, La Farge  
1968: **Gary Thomas Monson**, Viroqua  
1970: **Leland "Lee" Lewison**, Viroqua  
1971: **Edmund M. Brunet**, Monona  
1971: **Vern O. Woltersdorf**, Holmen  
1972: **Father Patrick Albert Umberger**, Onalaska  
1973: **John Joseph Kremenski**, La Crosse  
1973: **Shirley Louise Stahl**, South Gate, Calif.  
1975: **Margaret Rose (Stuber) Donndelinger**, La Crosse  
1975: **Patricia A. Forschler**, Brownsville, Minn.  
1981: **Richard Palbicki**, Cottage Grove, Minn.  
1982: **Todd Frederick Anderson**, St. Paul, Minn.  
1983: **Roberta Jean "Birdie" (Fischer) Billing**, Westport  
1984: **Thomas Cantwell Nelson**, Appleton  
1985: **Jerry Seymour**, Germantown  
1987: **Mary Sandberg**, St. Paul, Minn.  
1988: **Lucy A. Davidson**, Cashton  
1992: **Jane Hazel (Malsch) Weiser**, Onalaska  
1995: **Lorilei Marie (Johnson) Eoriatti**, West Salem

# LEAVING A LEGACY

## FORD FAMILY HAPPY TO HELP STUDENTS

Jim Ford came up with the idea to start a scholarship at UW-L to honor his father nearly 30 years ago. Charles "Ben" Ford, who graduated from La Crosse State Teachers College in 1935, taught physical education in La Crosse schools for more than 30 years and coached every sport available.

"He was always very humble about the impact he had on so many students," explains Jim. "I thought this would be the perfect way to perpetuate his legacy for aspiring teachers that want to follow in his footsteps."

Today, the scholarship also honors Jim's mother, Marian, who earned her elementary education teaching certificate from La Crosse State in the late 1950s.

Both Jim and Marian served on the UW-L Foundation Board and have seen firsthand how scholarships help support students. Jim and his wife, Judy, as well as Marian, have all made arrangements in their estate plans to enhance the scholarship's endowment.

"I know dad would be proud to know that we are helping students in his honor," says Jim. "It's a pleasure to have the chance to meet the recipients each year and hear their stories and see how we have made a difference in their lives."



JUDY AND JIM FORD, BACK, AND MARIAN FORD, FRONT RIGHT, WITH SAMANTHA RUEDY, THE 2011-12 RECIPIENT OF THE FAMILY'S SCHOLARSHIP.

## START A SCHOLARSHIP ...

There are many ways to create a scholarship fund to help future generations of UW-L students. Please contact the Foundation at 800.895.3863 or [foundation@uwlax.edu](mailto:foundation@uwlax.edu).



If the address label lists someone who no longer lives here, please send the correct address to: UW-L Alumni Association, 1725 State St., La Crosse, WI 54601 USA.

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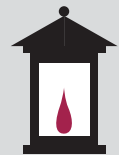
# NETWORKING

ONE OF THE GREATEST BENEFITS OF THE UW-L ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS THE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES IT PROVIDES FOR ALUMNI THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. JOIN THE UW-L ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND CONNECT WITH ALUMNI. FOR DETAILS, GO TO [WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG](http://WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG) OR CALL 877.895.2586.



Lore Vang, '04 & '08, Left, Alicia Stratman, '97, and Andre' Deer, '95, enjoy the wine tasting networking cruise in Milwaukee, organized by the UW-La crosse Alumni Association.

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