

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

CLASS NOTES

October 2015

CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED JULY 1 - SEPT. 30, 2015



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE

What's new with you?

Go to WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG/WHATSNEW.PHP to submit your class notes, or contact Brad Quarberg, University Communications, 608.785.8572, bquarberg@uwlax.edu.

CLASS NOTES POLICY:

The UW-L Alumni Association publishes class notes and obituaries online in January, April, July and October. The deadline is the 1st of the month prior to the month of quarterly posting. See www.uwlalumni.org for details.

44

John M. Bernd, Stevens Point, is 93. He and Marilyn (Kapter) have been married for 16 years. They no longer participate in sports, but they have season tickets to the symphony and to "First Nites" for UW-Stevens Point plays, and attend many other local events. When Marilyn visits her daughter at Lake Superior for a week, John stays with his daughter in Ogema. If there are any other "old classmates" out there, John would be pleased to hear from them, or any others who worked on the "Racquet" with him when he was editor.

60

Louise Rhead, Cottage Grove, and her husband, Larry, are enjoying retirement, including trips to Alaska, Florida, Canada with a side trip to Victoria, and Air Force reunions in different states; and visiting relatives in North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas and in the eastern U.S. They enjoy keeping up with their three daughters and their families. Louise would enjoy hearing from '60 classmates.

67

James C. Kaleas, Madison, retired from pharmaceutical industry after 35 years in 2005. He is a veteran of U.S. Navy. James and his wife, Jean, have two daughters. They enjoy traveling, reading, working out and biking state trails.

70

Margaret A. Ewert, Hudson, Florida, recently bought a bungalow in historic Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. She plans to live there part of the year and work as a docent at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum and the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum, both located in the historic town. Her family is from Williamsburg and still owns some properties there, including the Wetherburn Traven on the Duke of Gloucester Street, the Print and Cabinet-maker's shop, and Redwood Ordinary. Ewert recently learned how to make jewelry called Sami, traditional pewter bracelets using reindeer hide from Norway.

73

Scott Chovanec, Highland Park, Illinois, retired in June from Maine Township High School. He was humbled

to receive Administrator of the Year by the Illinois Association of Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance and the Park Ridge "Community Star" in April. He will continue to consult for health, fitness and recreation facilities across the country in areas of customer service and strategic planning and operations.

78

Bart S. Gray, '78 & '83, Forest City, Iowa, was inducted into the Hastings (Nebraska) College Athletic Hall of Fame as coach of the 1992 and 1993 men's cross country teams in September 2014. Gray is the director of athletics at Waldorf College in Forest City.

84

Lynn (Collins) Simpson, Ho-



nolulu, director of Total Fleet Force Man-

power and Personnel for U.S. Pacific Fleet, visited Green Bay in September as part of the U.S. Navy's Executive Outreach Visit program. Simpson, led meetings with corporate executives, government officials,

veterans organizations, and other community leaders to increase awareness of the Navy and naval personnel.

89

Duane Ring, Minneapolis, has been named senior vice president of global field operations for CenturyLink. He is responsible for global data center operations that support CenturyLink cloud, hosting and managed services businesses at more than 55 data centers located in North America, Europe and Asia. Ring was previously CenturyLink's region president for the Midwest.

97

Jason Herbers has been named director of intercollegiate athletics at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Herbers comes to Morris after serving as associate athletic director in charge of development and operations at Dixie State University in Saint George, Utah, for five years.

05

Kristine (Van Handel) Robarge, Madison, was promoted to senior therapist in May at the Wisconsin Early Autism Project.

08

Steven Amoapim, Lakeville, Minnesota, completed a master's in Instructional Design & Technology with a specialization in Online Learning and Performance Improvement from Walden University in 2013. He maintains membership with Toastmasters International and Who's Who Among Students In American Universities & Colleges. Amoapim became a Certified Fireman/Emergency Medical Responder in 2014. He is currently employed by Oracle as a CX Applications Consultant. He is engaged with wedding plans for Feb. 13, 2016, in the Riviera Maya, Mexico.

13

Ha Truong, Milwaukee, has earned the Certified Public Accountant designation. Truong has worked with RitzHolman CPAs since 2014.

14

Heather Gage, Viroqua, graduated from AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) July 23, wrapping up 11 months of community service nationwide. Gage was a team leader and was one of 247

AmeriCorps NCCC members honored from the Pacific Region campus located in Sacramento, Calif.

Mercedes Siegle-Gaither, Starkville, Mississippi, is working on her master's degree research and looking for financial supporters at: <https://www.instrumentl.com/campaigns/mercedessieglegaither/> Siegle-Gaither says she is busy taking classes, doing project and lab work, helping other graduate students, taking exams, writing grants and proposals, and doing research. "On top of this I'm trying to pay all of my bills and get good grades while still having time to call my mum on weekends," she says. "It is certainly a full time job and I'm striving to do it well." She is passionate about the environment and studying hydrology of forests in efforts to help the planet.

Class of ??

Matthew, '03, and Gina (Witkowski), '05, Jorgenson, Madison, a daughter, Charlotte Anne Jorgenson, June 16, 2015. She joins sister Melanie (8) and brother Daniel (5). Gina is a music teacher at Sacred Hearts School in Sun Prairie; Matt works in Information Technology at UW Credit Union in Madison.

ALUMNI REMEMBERED

1937: Vera Knudson, Phoenix, Arizona.
1946: Ona Volden Allen, Corunna, Michigan.
1949: Donald Meinert, La Crosse.
1951: Gerald F. Davis, Bloomer.
1952: Mary Wohlheter Bartz, Winter.
1953: Emma (Collova) Nepper, Kenosha.
1953: June Rood Zalewski Pedretti, Viroqua.
1955: Edna Athnos, La Crosse.
1957: Donald Peacock, Olympia, Washington.
1956: Lenore Ustby Strub, St. Paul, Minnesota.
1960: Robert J. Richards, Richmond, Michigan.
1960: Vernie Sheffield, Viroqua.
1962: Myrtle Sullivan Weber, Cashton.
1963: Richard Joseph Kujak, La Crosse.
1965: Richard T. Malstrom, Medford.
1966: Gerald William Laabs, Black River Falls.
1966: Susan McCurdy, Burnsville, Minnesota.
1969: Nicholas J. Fiore, Poynette.
1970: Kay L. Krumenauer, Chippewa Falls.
1983: Michael Jon Bernd, Casper, Wyoming.
1983: David Roth, Gulfport, Florida.
1983: Robert Strous, Brooklyn.
1985: Catherine A. York, Green Valley, Arizona.
1992: Ken Meyers, Cottonwood, Arizona.

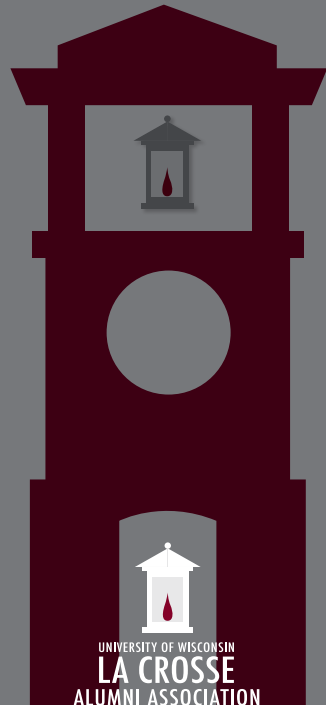
FACULTY/STAFF REMEMBERED

ROY NELSON VAN NOTE, 98, died April 9, 2014, in Tucson, Arizona. He worked in Murphy Library from 1964-1981. He is survived by a brother, Donald.

BETH KABAT, 81, died Aug. 15, 2015. She taught physical education at the Campus School/UW-La Crosse from 1962-93 with a philosophy of "everyone wins." She is survived by her daughter, Lori, and grandson, Cody Tate, of Edina, Minnesota.

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