



University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

CLASS NOTES

October 2017

CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED JULY 1-SEPT. 15, 2017

'64

Julie Metternich-Olson and **John P. Olson**, both '64, live in Appleton. They spend summers in Crosslake, Minnesota, and enjoy winter months in Orange Beach, Alabama. "Retirement is good!" they report.

'67

Jack R. Vater, Owen, reports he will soon be retired.

'73

Gerald W. Meyer, La Crosse, received the 2016 Chairman's Award for volunteer service from the Wisconsin Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The retired colonel served a 43-year military career.



'74

Meg J. Arnold, Brookfield, is retired but doing some substitute teaching, and having fun spending time with grandkids and family. She and her husband are traveling. They are very grateful for their time together.

'77

Gregory Ormson, Apache Junction, Arizona, has been awarded the Eastern Iowa Review/ Port Yonder Press Issue 3 long-form



lyric essay award for 2017. Ormson's

essay, "Midwest Intimations," along with two other award winners and 17 contributions, were chosen from among 630 submissions. Ormson is a former college instructor, and along with UWL is an alumnus of Northern Michigan University, The Chicago Theological Sem-

inary and Trinity Lutheran Seminary. His work has been published in Quarterly West, Cutbank, The Good Men Project, Turk's Head Review and others. His nonfiction writing earned recognition twice as a finalist and one honorable mention in three national contests. He migrates north and south with the birds.

Denise Rostad, Houston, Minnesota, retired from 28 years in the Platteville, Wisconsin, School District to her hometown. She is a substitute K-6 teacher, and is active in her church and community.

'79

Scott Gilbertson, Pearland, Texas, has been selected as a member of the 2017 class of American Chemical Society Fellows. ACS Fellows are nominated by peers and selected for outstanding achievements in and contributions to the science profession, along

with providing excellent volunteer service to the ACS community.

'82

Janice (Peterson) Hincapie, Northbrook, Illinois, retired in 2015 from a 32-year career in parks and recreation. In May she was hired on a part-time basis to cover a staff vacancy. She thought she was done working in parks and recreation, but as of this fall, she is the director of recreation for the Wood Dale Park District part-time. Hincapie says she loves the challenge and positive impact that parks and recreation have on people's lives. She also loves mentoring young staff.

'83

Kathleen Forslund, Green Valley, Arizona, recently wrote a book, "Lessons I Never Wanted to Learn: Surviving the Death of a Child," available on Ama-

zon. The book traces a personal journey Forslund was forced to embark after her daughter's death following the birth of her first child. It offers practical, manageable steps that could be taken to help alleviate some of the desperation implicit in the grieving process and provides a guide for moving forward in ways that honor that grief along with the loved one who has died. Forslund is retired and is an adjunct professor at Viterbo University.

'88

Jan Von Ruden and Bill Allen were married July 1, 2017. Jan became the UWL registrar in June 2017 after 25 years in the office.

'90

Dawn Peterson, '90, and Keith Roewe, '95, were married July 30, 2016. They live in Colby and are both employed by Marshfield Clinic.

'94

Jean Broadwater, West Salem, has returned to the Coulee Region and is general manager with Express Employment Professionals in Tomah. Those looking for a job may contact her at 608.567.0534.

'95

Lisa Currie lives in Skokie, Illinois. After 21 years of working in college health promotion at the University of Scranton, Wesleyan University and Northwestern University, she recently began a self-created sabbatical to focus on doctoral studies and re-engage in her creative hobbies. She is enrolled in the human sexuality education program at Widener University where her research interests center on reproductive justice. Currently, she's engaged in a research internship at Northwestern University's

Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health. She is still trying to figure out how to keep her 15-year-old cat, Bink, out of her art and jewelry-making supplies.

'97

Mark Richert, Hudson, works for the North Hudson Police Department. He has a daughter who is a first-year student at UWL this year.

'03

Russ Braby, Como, Western Australia, says "Life is great Down Under." He remembers his days at UWL fondly. "Thanks for being an awesome university," he says. "I love UWL."

'05

Lindsay Johnson, Plymouth, Minnesota, was recently named to "America's Top Next-Generation Wealth Advisors" list published by Forbes. She is a financial advisor



with Merrill Lynch in Wayzata, Minnesota, a company she has worked with since 2005. Johnson concentrates on developing investment strategies for high net worth individuals and business owners. In 2010, she earned certified financial planner certification awarded by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. Johnson and her husband, Matt, are active in the community, supporting several non-profit organizations, including People Serving People and Wishes & More.

'09

Kristin Radermacher married Jordan Cabak July 1, 2017. They celebrated with friends and family in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. The couple lives in Roseville, Minnesota. Kristin is a math teacher in Oakdale.

Jessica (Prochaska) Regan, Madison, is a transfer coordinator with the UW-Madison College



of Engineering. She supports off-campus transfer students and re-entry students.

'11

Tyler and Ashley (Eide), '12, Zibrowski live in Melrose. Tyler works for Dynamic Recycling in La Crosse; Ashley is a CMN Hospitals program specialist with Gundersen Health System in La Crosse.

'13

Patrick Holsapple, Denver, has been employed in logistics and transportation at Schneider Logistics since June 2014. He works on-site in a customer environment.

Brianne Unger, Madison, received a master's in bilingual bicultural education and English as Second Language Education from UW-Madison in 2016. She is a bilingual cross categorical special education teacher for the Madison Metropolitan School District.

'14

Christopher J. Degnan, Chicago, is a recent graduate of the Northwestern University master's of public policy graduate program in Evanston.

Nikki Hemmerich, DeForest, is a transfer credit coordinator at Madison Area Technical College. She says the

Enrollment Center at the college currently has four UWL Student Affairs Administration grads — in one department. “As soon as I hear someone is a grad of UWL, I know they are going to be an excellent fit,” she says.

'15

Nathan Elness and Dominic Riel were married July 1, 2017. They live in Woodbury, Minnesota. Nathan is gender and sexuality outreach coordinator at UW-River Falls.

'16

Lisa Yang, La Crosse, completed UWL's Student Affairs Administration re-



quirements and has been promoted to director of Upward Bound, a federally-funded TRIO program that helps high school students prepare for their transition to

college. She had been an adviser for the program. “I am learning new things every day about my new role, the students we serve, and about growth in myself both personally and professionally,” she says.

Class of 20??

Marisa (Meisner), '08, and Kyle **Broesder**, Branchville, New Jersey, triplets, Jan. 27, 2017. The two boys and a girl, — Judah, Eden and Asher — are healthy and happy.

Alumni Remembered

- 1936** — Dora Bartlett Davis, Pendleton, Oregon.
1940 — Merna Adams, Trempealeau.
1940 — Beulah H. Schell, Fond du Lac.
1944 — Lois Dummer, Lake Villa, Illinois.
1949 — Nancy Lefstad, Marysville, Washington.
1949 — Leora Anderson MacDonald, Kissimmee, Florida.
1951 — Betty Carstens, Sturgeon Bay.
1952 — Clinton Strong, Bloomington, Indiana.
1955 — Ruth Spaude, Oconomowoc.
1956 — Myrtle Johnson, Somers.
1958 — Donna Nordstrom, Coon Valley.
1959 — Diana De Voll, La Crosse.
1963 — Mary A. Carr, La Crosse.
1964 & '71 — Sandra Blaney Sullivan Alderman, Lawrence, Kansas.
1964 — Donald L. Roetter, Winona, Minnesota.
1964 — Thema Weber, Kendall.
1970 — Dennis L. Conniff, Caledonia, Minnesota.
1971 — Linda Becker, Sumner, Iowa.
1972 — Mary Scheel, Onalaska.
1977 — Gregory Smith, Milwaukee.
1979 — Laurie A. Sutherland, Rochester, Minnesota.
1980 — Greg Bergwin, Irving, Texas.
1983 — Catherine Giske, River Falls.
1985 — Barbara Lucas, Onalaska.
1987 — George Wheelock, Chadwick, Missouri.
1989 — LaVonne J. Brauer Liebl, La Crosse.
1990 — Scott A. Miller, Horicon.

Faculty & Staff Remembered

DIANA DEVOLL

Diana DeVoll, 89, died July 10, 2017, at Hillview Health Care Center in La Crosse. In 1950, she and her husband, Cliff DeVoll, moved to La Crosse when he became basketball

coach and an instructor on campus. Diana helped raise their two children, earned a master's degree from UWL in 1959 and began teaching in health and physical education

on campus. She became a full-time instructor, specializing in dance and teacher training. She is survived by their children, Jody DeVoll and Chuck DeVoll.

TOM WIRKUS

Thomas Edward Wirkus, 84, died Aug. 21, 2017, at his home in La Crosse. He began a 35-year career at UWL in 1959. He served as department chair in speech communication

and theater for nine years, and was the "voice" of the UWL marching band for 24 years. Wirkus was named Wisconsin's outstanding college speech educator by the Wisconsin Com-

munication Association in 1988, and was elected to the Wall of Fame of the International Listening Association in 2011. He is survived by his wife, Lois, and their four children.

Submit UWL Class Notes

ONLINE: www.uwlax.edu/alumni/contact/whats-new-with-you

PHONE/EMAIL: Brad Quarberg | University Communications
608.785.8572 | bquarberg@uwlax.edu

CLASS NOTES POLICY:

The UWL Alumni Association publishes class notes and obituaries online in January, April, July and October. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the month of quarterly posting. See www.uwlax.edu/alumni for details.

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