



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

CLASS NOTES

JULY 2024

CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED APRIL 15 - JUNE 15, 2024

'79

Gary Dunn has been retired for 11 years after a 34-year career in public education. Dunn says: "UWL holds a special place in my professional development. I had excellent instructors through all four years of my undergraduate training. The social aspects weren't bad, either. Thanks, UWL."

'05

Joshua Koch is an attorney/shareholder with Conway, Olejniczak & Jerry, S.C. in Green Bay.

'12

Sarah Swanson is a UX researcher for Xcel Energy.

'14

Douglas Appel is a biologist for the U.S. Geological Survey in La Crosse.

'16

Heidi (Gempeler) Olson is an associate director for the Medical College of Wisconsin and Froedtert Hospital.

Kyle Sensiba is a sports performance coach for Ethic Sports Performance in New Berlin, Wis. Sensiba says: "I've been in my exercise and sport science field since I graduated from UWL, and I wanted to continue to stay involved and up to date on what is currently going on with the university that gave me so much."

'18

Sarah (Wanek) Johnson is an operations assistant for College Pads in Charlotte, N.C.

'20

Katie Phipps is an annual meeting program coordinator for the American Urological Association in Linthicum, Md.

Hui Xin Wong works for the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany.

'22

Grace Stoneman is the alumni engagement operations and website coordinator for Viterbo University in La Crosse.

'23

Andrew T. Bates is a research analyst for the Expert Institute in Milwaukee.

A hall-of-fame career



Former PBS Wisconsin host and producer Patty Loew, '74, was inducted into the Wisconsin Broadcasters Hall of Fame on June 20. Loew, who got her professional start at WKTY and WXOW in La Crosse, went on to co-host "Weekend," an interview and public affairs series on PBS Wisconsin. From 2003 to 2011, Loew hosted "In Wisconsin," another PBS program that highlighted notable people, places and issues in the Badger State. Loew went on to teach at UW-Madison and at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. She was the

inaugural director of Northwestern's Center for Native American and Indigenous Research before her retirement.

Radio remembrance



A new radio station based in Rice Lake honors Eugene Patrick Purcell, '83, a longtime leader of Wisconsin public media who died in 2021. Purcell was the executive director of Wisconsin Public Media at UW-Madison, which includes both Wisconsin Public Radio and PBS Wisconsin. Previously, he was the executive director of the Educational Communications Board of the State of Wisconsin. The new station, WEPP, fills a service gap between Eau Claire and Superior. The station's call letters mirror Purcell's initials.

In Remembrance Alumni

1951 – Phyllis (Bryhn) Berg, West Salem

1955 – James Sturgis, Onalaska

1961 – Thomas Bina, Onalaska

1961 – Wayne Wedwick, West Salem

1963 – Edward Gansen, La Crosse

1963 – Margy (Olson) Kersten, Saint Bonifacius, Minn.

1967 – David Johann, Hayden, Idaho

1970 – John Weymiller, Caledonia, Minn.

1971 – Judy (Radspinner) Ballard, Oronoco, Minn.

1971 – Joyce (Zitzner) Funk, Viroqua

1971 – Dennis Guagliardo, Louisville, Ky.

1971 – Kathy (Dunnum) Mannstedt, Onalaska

1971 – Robert Seaquist, Holmen

1972 – Philip Blackman, Crown Point, Ind.

1972 – Jean Knutson, Viroqua

1976 – James Grosch, Lady Lake, Fla.

1981 – Mike Thesing, La Crescent

1983 – Gina Le Roy, Fort Pierce, Fla.

1983 – Toni (Stephens) Stenger, Saint Paul

1985 – Libia Reynolds, Onalaska

1985 – Tom Schmitz, La Crosse

1989 – John Dudley, The Villages, Fla.

1992 – Larry Pedersen, La Crosse

1999 – Kathy Mathweg, Sparta

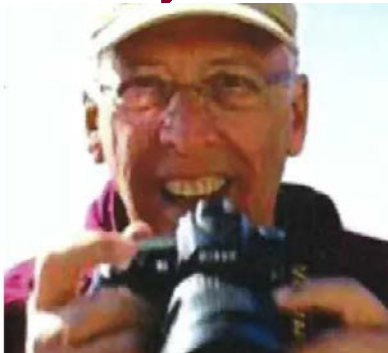
No year listed: Natalie Hartigan, La Crosse

No year listed: Bill Kish, La Crosse

No year listed: Rosie (Thayer) Werner, La Crosse



Faculty & Staff



Robert Seaquist

Robert Seaquist, 77, of Holmen, died May 7 from intestinal lung disease. Seaquist graduated from UWL in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in mass communications. He worked in communications for most of his career, starting as a reporter

and photographer at WKBH-AM and WKBT-TV in 1968. He was the first news director for WXOW-TV when the station began local origination in 1972. Seaquist went on to become a station director at UWL, completing his career in the University Communications office. Brad Quarberg, a friend and colleague of Seaquist, said: "Whether he was struggling to unfreeze his camera while taking photos of the UWL marching band at the Packers' Ice Bowl or simply interviewing a student or alum on campus, Bob always worked professionally to get the story done accurately and interestingly. He could always find that nugget or two that made the story memorable. Bob's humor and

Submit UWL Class Notes

Online

www.uwlax.edu/alumni/about/whats-new-with-you

Phone/email

Kyle Farris | University Marketing & Communications
608.785.6640 | kfarris@uwlax.edu

Class Notes Policy:

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

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