

Hedging Bets on  
African Ecotourism

Marketing the  
Great Outdoors  
with Upgrades

Translating Memphis  
Beat Into Words

Mr. Russell  
Bids Farewell

# FISHTALE

Paul Moinester '04 Embarks on North American Angling Odyssey



In 2002 Paul Tudor Jones II '72 established a 99-year lease with the Tanzanian government to protect the 350,000-acre Grumeti Reserves, part of the Serengeti Mara ecosystem. In association with the conservation-conscious, luxury hospitality company Singita, the project has generated high-end, low-impact ecotourism that is helping to preserve native habitats and wildlife, create jobs, and develop sustainable programs for local communities. Read about Jones' Africa efforts on page 14.







MEMPHIS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL  
Founded 1893

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Memphis University School is a college-preparatory school dedicated to academic excellence, cultivation of service and leadership, and the development of well-rounded young men of strong moral character, consistent with the school's Christian tradition.

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**ON THE COVER:** Paul Moinester '04 spent six months exploring North American waters to assess environmental effects on fisheries. Here he holds "the biggest rainbow trout of my trip" on the Lower Sacramento River in Redding, CA. Read his story on page 10. Photo: T.O. Smith, Trout Unlimited

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## My life as a Tenderfoot Scout was like being an extra on the set of *The Dirty Dozen XII: The Middle School Mission*,

a film that never made it to the big screen but replays often though the DVR in my mind.

When I moved from Cub Scouts to the varsity ranks, I was a *little* green in the ways of scouting with boys who shaved on occasion and had their learner's permits, much in the way Pvt. Pyle was a *little* unprepared for the rigors of life in the barracks with Sgt. Carter.

The den mothers back in Cub Scouts taught us how to run an honest Pinewood Derby – I'll grant them that much. Five ounces was the limit. One too many bullet weights sunk into the back, and your General Lee was tossed in the kindling box. However, they failed to prepare us for this abrupt social transition – going from hanging out with friends who still somewhat bought into the myth that the New Kids on the Block had come up from the streets, to now mixing with boys who only purchased the cassette tapes that were marked with the Parental Advisory labels. Troop 206 had a council-wide reputation as being the destination for castaways, a platoon of renegades. And we wide-eyed newbies had all heard the rumors of midnight raids and sleeping bags loaded with rattlesnakes or snapping turtles or both. We didn't get a lot of sleep during campouts that first year. But, we adjusted. We adapted.

Noogies and snipe-hunting expeditions were taken in stride as we earned our stripes and merit badges. We were beginning to understand the ways of the world. As such, we knew to earn the respect of our so-called superiors, we had to show them we weren't afraid to mix it up every now and again. A plan was devised.

Late in our rookie season, a band of khaki-shortened rebels conspired to pull a stunt that would serve as a statement to all that it was now "our time."

On the third night of the Spring Jamboree, long after the fires had died out, we crept around the camp, attaching lengths of binder's twine to the base of every aluminum tent pole on site. We gathered in my tent, and with lines gripped in sweaty palms, we drew the flaps. On the count of three, we set the hooks, yanked the twine, and started reeling in the slack like we had just landed an epic marlin out in the Gulf Stream somewhere north of Cuba.

The genius of the design was that the loose knots at the bottom of the posts would provide just enough tugging force to take the legs out from under the snoozing campers' tents while allowing us to pull the empty cables into the safety and under the

disguise of our cotton-canvas fortress. All tents would collapse simultaneously, and no one would be the wiser.

What we had not considered was how suspicious it would look to the older boys that only one tent was left standing and appeared to be shaking with laughter, or how easy it would be to track us down by following a single clanking and meandering tent pole whose slip-knot had tightened around the base fast enough to drag it across the entire campsite and lead the amped-up trackers like rabid greyhounds chasing a mechanical rabbit right into a criminal lair of voice-cracking villains.

We brought them all to us. We brought it all upon ourselves.

I will spare you the atomic details of the events that followed and let you know only that we slept out under the stars for the rest of the Jamboree. It was cold. It was beautiful. And those few nights spent under Orion, hashing it all out with my brothers in arms as we stared at our ceiling, watching falling stars outrun the ambling jet airliners, stirred something inside one young trooper for which he is eternally grateful – a deep and profound love for the big sky at night, for the outdoors.

This issue of *MUS Today* has a nature, wilderness, and great outdoors theme – minus the juvenile pranks. This theme is unintentional, the result of pure coincidence, but a fortuitous one. We are proud to present the breathtaking images and the compelling narratives about how MUS alumni are embracing, protecting, and building thriving businesses around our natural world and its wonders. We hope you will be inspired by their stories to follow in their paths – or forge new ones – like Paul Moinester '04 did on his fly-fishing journey of personal and professional discovery across the United States and into Canada (page 10). Perhaps you will be inclined to take an outdoor vacation on properties such as those Andy Cates '89 is turning into RVC Outdoor Destinations throughout the country (page 20). If you are looking for an epic adventure, you might book passage to the Singita Grumeti Reserves in Tanzania, made possible by Paul Tudor Jones II '72 through a 99-year lease with the government (page 14). There you will find a luxury safari adventure, an enterprise dedicated to conservation, and incredible accommodations named No. 1 in *Travel + Leisure* magazine's Top 100 Hotels list for 2011 and 2012.

We present these and many other stories, photographs, class news, and the debut entry from our new columnist, Norman Thompson. We hope you will enjoy them. As always, if you have a story, photos, an idea for a feature, or a letter you would like our staff to consider for publication, please do not hesitate to share your thoughts. Contact me at [andrew.payne@musowls.org](mailto:andrew.payne@musowls.org).

Like that motto we so often used for a Wikipediaic-variety of circumstances in Troop 206, we will endeavor to "be prepared" to capture your stories and share them with the generations of MUS alumni whom we are proud to serve.



# Our Mission is Real

by Ellis Haguewood

We find great truth in the wry humor of a conversation between Alice and the Cheshire Cat in Lewis Carroll's

*Alice in Wonderland:*

*Cat: Where are you going?*

*Alice: Which way should I go?*

*Cat: That depends on where you are going.*

*Alice: I don't know.*

*Cat: Then it doesn't matter which way you go.*

At MUS our mission statement provides a map to tell us where we are going, just as it defines who we are and why we are here. We have a *why* to live, as Nietzsche put it, that allows us to find meaning in our work together. We have purpose. We have direction.

Our mission is noble, clear, certain, and it continues to stand the test of time: We are a "college-preparatory school dedicated to academic excellence, the cultivation of service and leadership, and the development of well-rounded young men of strong moral character, consistent with the school's Christian tradition."

These words are not hollow. Our mission is *real*. It is backed by a tradition of excellence that remains vigorous through the commitment of a broad community – students, faculty, parents, and alumni. Excellence is the ideal in all that we do here. We would never suggest in some pretentious manner that we are perfect or that we have all the answers. Rather, our days are marked by a constant striving.

We strive for excellence in support of our mission because that commitment allows boys to find meaning in what they do here, to play a role in something greater than themselves, to discover a sense of competence and thus confidence in themselves and in their abilities. If what we do here with our classes, our sports, our arts programs, our community service, our publications, if these lack a significant challenge, if they are not engaging, if the boys perceive that the quality of their performance is not critical, then the experiences lack the capacity to transform.

The struggle for excellence makes experiences both inside and outside the classroom *real*. And boys need something real. Boys need a sense of place and a center that holds. Commitment to a real mission provides that bedrock center and that sense of place.

Some years ago, at a school not far from this school, there was a parking lot that served a small dormitory on campus. The few students who could afford cars liked to park in the shade of the two oak trees that grew beside the lot. One of the trees was straight, lithe, even elegant. The other tree was gnarled, twisted,

misshapen. The campus groundskeeper had been asked to cut down that ugly, bent tree – it was an accident waiting to happen – and the job was on his to-do list. Before he got around to it, a late-night storm struck, the kind we know all too well in Memphis, and with it came the phone call to the groundskeeper: "Tree blown over. Two cars crushed. Come to school as soon as possible." Driving to the lot, he berated himself for having procrastinated. "If I had just cut the tree down earlier," he thought.

When he arrived, he was surprised to see that the old, gnarled tree was still standing. Lying atop the cars was the tree that had *appeared* perfectly healthy. Closer examination revealed that the elegant oak had been so diseased it had a hollow core. What everyone had assumed about the two trees, what had appeared to be true, was not really true. The inside part, the part not visible, was rotten.

Appearance is important, perception is important, reputation is important, but more important is the *reality* that lies beneath the appearance. What is true of trees is also true of education. Will a school's mission stand firm, supported by the commitment of its constituents? Or will it blow over in time, hollowed by the latest trends in academia?

In the world of education, as in all things in our world, so much that is *insubstantial* passes for important. But it has *always* been so. "The glories of our blood and state are shadows, not substantial things," wrote the poet James Shirley centuries ago. Further back in time, God admonished the prophet Samuel, as he was selecting one of Jesse's sons to succeed Saul as king of Israel, not to choose the boy who *looked* like a king: "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

Though much has changed at Memphis University School over the past 120 years, much abides. The important things have not changed – a tough-minded liberal arts curriculum, a serious attitude toward our work balanced with an ability to laugh at ourselves, allegiance to the Honor Code, opportunities for student service and leadership, individual accountability within an atmosphere of freedom, an emphasis on gentlemanly behavior, development of lifetime friendships, strong bonds and non-adversarial relationships between faculty and students, and athletic competitiveness.

These ideas, these characteristics constitute the MUS tradition, a solid heritage that we will never willingly let die. We have a mission. It's real. And we're committed to it.

## Eason Family Reaches Back to Old MUS

by John E. Harkins, Ph.D., School Archivist and Historian

**R**edmond Renn Eason '27 served as president of the Memphis chapter of the Sewanee Alumni Association in 1938, when Sewanee: The University of the South played Southwestern College (now Rhodes) in football at Crump Stadium. MUS Director of Advancement Perry Dement recently sent **Bobby Eason '79** a news clipping describing the event and asking if there is a family connection. Bobby's response, along with consulting some school publications in the Harkins Archives, quickly brought us up to speed.

Redmond "Red" Eason – rumored to have had red hair – transferred to MUS from archrival Central in 1926. Even so, he was very popular and played halfback in football and right field in baseball, lettering in both sports and being admitted to the prestigious U Club. Described as "one of the best sports" ever to play for MUS and one of the best-liked boys in the school, he was also treasurer of the senior class and a member of the Jeffersonian Literary Society. Although he earlier had expressed interest in attending Southwestern, the University of Virginia, and his father's alma mater, Ole Miss, he ended up going to Sewanee.

"Fortunately, both of his sons saw better sense and went to Southwestern/Rhodes after their own MUS years," Bobby Eason said.

Red was no doubt saddened when MUS closed its doors in 1936. He became actively involved in the school's re-establishment in the 1950s. He further agreed to send his sons to the new MUS, if and when he had sons. Since he was unmarried and in his 40s at the time, having sons may have seemed an improbable eventuality. However, in 1960 he married and was in his early 50s when he and his wife, Eula, had two sons – **Redmond Renn Eason '78** and

**Robert G. Lee Eason '79** (Bobby). These boys' father was about a generation older than the fathers of their contemporaries. Their classmates may have had grandfathers and/or great-grandfathers who had attended the original MUS, rather than fathers. It is likely few, if any, contemporary students besides **Renn Eason '14** connect across just one generation to reach back to the original school on Manassas at Monroe.

Renn is highly conscious of his family's MUS heritage. He has been actively involved in football, basketball, track, and soccer. His vital partnership as holder to **Gary Wunderlich's '14** role as kicker set school records. Besides athletics, Renn has served as a Student Ambassador, in the Civic Service Organization, and he is a member of the Latin Club. In addition to his paternal grandfather, father, and uncle, Renn has two additional uncles, **Wiley Robinson '75** and **Stilly McFadden '75**, who are MUS alumni. The next generation of the family also includes **Fort Robinson '13**, **Trammel Robinson '16**, and **Stillman McFadden '19**.

Often, when people are just beginning to get acquainted with Memphis University School, they think the institution seems like an overgrown family. There is a good bit to substantiate that view. Moreover, like the Eason family, many MUS families are highly conscious and appreciative of how meaningfully the school has influenced their lives. Over generations reaching back to 1893, many of these families have known each other and functioned as a "tribe," in the sociological sense of that term. Some families have intermarried. Often they have club and/or church memberships in common. Their unity is far-reaching, held together by cores of common values and virtues. Through these associations have come many projects that have improved the school and the community.



Redmond Eason '27



Bobby Eason '79



Renn Eason '14



Photo: Trey Harrison

# SOUL WRITER

How **Robert Gordon '79** Tuned in to the Memphis Beat

by Christopher Blank

**R**obert Gordon '79 cares about the facts. After all, his growing number of books, films, and album liner notes concern real people and historic events. Accuracy in the storytelling is part of the reason he can claim, among his many accolades, a Grammy Award for writing.

But there is a difference between a purely factual story and a richly compelling one, and it is akin to reading the sheet music to “Dock of the Bay” and listening to Otis Redding’s version of it. The latter takes feel into account.

And that is where Gordon stands on the subject of facts. He wants people to “feel” them with the same enthusiasm that he does.

“You give up on objectivity right away,” Gordon said. “I think that anyone who believes in objectivity is fooling himself.”

For most of his life, he has been deep in the groove of his subject matter, as Gordon is one of the world’s foremost authorities on Memphis music.

His latest book, *Respect Yourself: Stax Records and the Soul Explosion* (Bloomsbury) delves into the heart of the Memphis record label that cranked out hits such as “Try a Little Tenderness” and “Green Onions.” It is a story not easily unraveled. When music and business collide, there are winners, losers, bruised egos, momentous achievements, and hundreds of

dynamic characters.

For Gordon, detachment is not the goal of a music historian. The goal is “to not apply formulas,” he said.

“What you get to decide on as a writer is what parts get turned up and focused on, and what parts get elided. That is what makes the story. You have to listen to what the story is telling you. You become aware that many of these stories can be told again by someone else who might think that another facet is more important.”

The important facets of Gordon’s own story – at least, the ones that inspired his life’s dedication to music and culture – come readily

into his own mind.

One clear, early childhood memory is of looking out from a window in the Lincoln American Tower on Main Street and seeing the marchers during the 1968 sanitation workers' strike. His father, Alvin Gordon, a lawyer, brought him there to bear witness to history. Only later, as Gordon explored the cultural influences of his musical heroes, did he appreciate the power of that moment.

Growing up in a house off Yates Road in East Memphis, Gordon and his brother, **Baruch '80** (Bruce), would often peer through the cyclone fence into the yard just behind theirs, where they would spy on a regular conclave of rambunctious hippies.

Years later, during an interview with producer and Memphis music icon Jim Dickinson – an interview that provides grist for his creative mill to this very day – he learned that his neighbors were Dickinson and his various bands.

Dickinson himself called Gordon a kindred spirit. “We were drawing from the same well,” the late producer said of the neighborhood kid who had become the chronicler of Memphis’s greatest musical achievements.

“That was always a compliment for me,” Gordon said. “You know, to come from someone who was a kind of mentor. He liked me. I soaked up as much of his knowledge as I could.”

Arriving at MUS as an eighth grader in the mid-1970s, Gordon was primed for the biggest discovery of his life. One day some upperclassmen arranged for the bluesman Furry Lewis – then in his late 70s – to play at school during the latter part of lunch. Gordon had seen Furry once before, opening for the Rolling Stones at the Liberty Bowl Stadium.

As Gordon later wrote: “That day I realized that hearing the music was just the first of a two-part punch: The knockout was that these musicians were alive, accessible and living in Memphis.”

The teenage Gordon, who was writing regularly for *The Owl's Hoot*, sought out the bluesman's friendship.

“It took on a whole new facet after I walked into Furry's duplex,” Gordon said. “Sure, all teenagers are into the music. But with Furry, I went from seeing him alongside 50,000 people, to seeing him in a room with 50 people, to it just being him and me. And he was living in poverty. It was about more than the music at that point. But then, it's always been about more than just the music.”

At MUS Gordon learned to stand out in what he described as a “sea of preppiness.” He sported an enormous afro and found inspiration in the suspender-wearing “odd duck” of an English teacher, William R. Hatchett, who did not just teach the works of Thomas Wolfe, Ernest Hemingway, and John Steinbeck – he taught his students to appreciate the lives of the authors.

“More than anything,” Gordon said, “his very presence there, looking so unlike everyone else, was an invaluable lesson in and of itself. A lesson about individuality, a lesson in non-conformity.”

## From Baker to Filmmaker

Robert Gordon does most of his writing and planning at his dining-room table.

He enjoys being in the midst of his wife, Tara, and their two teenaged daughters, Lila and Esther.

“We eat at this table, so I have to pack it all up every day,” he said.

In the winter he migrates to the living-room couch, working by the warmth of his fireplace.

Though an upright piano sits in the living room, Gordon is not the one to strike up a tune on it. He does not play any instrument. Nor does he listen to music while he is at work.

“I do my best writing in quiet,” he said, which may sound odd for a guy who vividly chronicles the noisy, dynamic Memphis music



*Robert Gordon's afro hair helped him stand out in what he called “a sea of preppiness.”*

scene of the 1970s and '80s. As he writes of seeing Dickinson's band Mud Boy and the Neutrons in 1978, “This was the guttural howl of the bump and grind, the madness of urge, the flaunting of that which we've been taught to repress. The power of the blues – the violence, the energy, the sex – was laid bare.”

He knew the scene because he had been part of it – a teenager hanging out in clubs that were notoriously lax about checking IDs.

For about a decade after high school, Gordon lived in Philadelphia. He spent some of that time earning an English degree from the University of Pennsylvania. The rest of the time, he was studying the nightlife. To get serious about writing, he knew he had to make a change.

He took a full-time job as a baker.

“It got me out of nightclubs,” Gordon said, “and that's when I got my writing chops. As a baker, I'd work from about 10 p.m. till 6 a.m. By early afternoon, I was at the manual typewriter.”

He contributed a review of the band Sonic Youth to *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and soon he was writing for the newspaper's lifestyle section. In Philly he also met his best friend, future wife, and front-line editor, Tara McAdams.

They migrated to Austin, TX, for grad school. Then Gordon was hired by the Center for Southern Folklore to edit a film in 1989. The job brought him back to Memphis for 15 weeks. “It's ended up being quite a long 15 weeks,” he said. (He now lives in Central Gardens.)

Gordon wrote for national music magazines in the late '80s and early '90s. “Everybody was pitching the Prince article or the Madonna article,” he said. “But then there was the back of the magazine, and that was me. I was like, ‘Hey man, what about an article on Furry Lewis or Mud Boy and the Neutrons?’ So I got to work on my little niche. I didn't care about all those big feature articles that everybody else was jockeying for.”

His interviews and stories evolved into his debut book, *It Came From Memphis* (Atria

University of Memphis Library, Special Collections



*Robert Gordon heard bluesman Furry Lewis perform at MUS when he was an eighth grader. That day he said he realized “these musicians were alive, accessible, and living in Memphis.”*



With Robert Gordon, second from left, as editor, the 1979 MUSE staff worked to make the publication “eye-pleasing,” according to an article in the ’79 yearbook, “matching pictures with similar writing ... in an attempt to increase the effectiveness of both.” The staff included, front row, from left, Andy Kaplan, Gordon, Greg Meyer, Mark Crosby, Jef Kaplan, Hugie Foote, and Baruch (Bruce) Gordon; middle row, John Jennings, Bo Smith, Stephan Sharp; back row, Marty Lifer, Dan Daniel, Breck Bolton, and Steve Threlkeld.

Books), published in 1995. The book is still in print.

Gordon was off and running. He wrote two books with the cooperation of Graceland, delving deep into their archives for both *The King on the Road* (Bounty Books, 2005) and *The Elvis Treasures* (Carlton Books, 2002). He wrote the biography of iconic bluesman Muddy Waters, *Can't Be Satisfied* (Back Bay Books, 2003), setting it amidst the sweeping social changes of the industrializing South and the resulting Great Migration north. His research on Muddy Waters led to rediscovering forgotten essays by the African-Americans who accompanied Alan Lomax to Mississippi

in the 1940s. He and co-editor Bruce Nemerov reproduced them in *Lost Delta Found: Rediscovering the Fisk University – Library of Congress Coahoma County Study 1941-1942* (University Press, 2005).

His film work has appeared on PBS and A&E and been broadcast around the globe. He collaborated with photographer William Eggleston to make *Stranded in Canton* (2008). His film, *Johnny Cash's America* (2008), featured Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Snoop Dogg. In *Shakespeare Was a Big George Jones Fan* (2005), Bono imitates Marlon Brando. He also wrote an episode of Martin Scorsese's *The Blues* (2003) series.

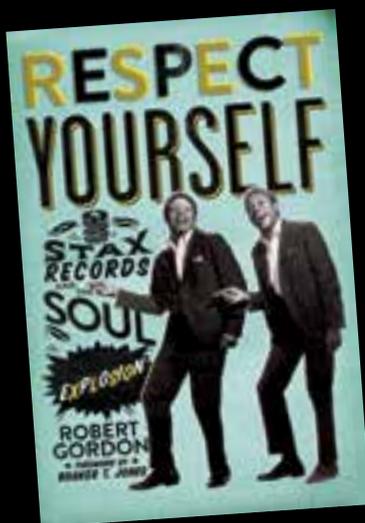
Gordon's work on Stax has spread across

several platforms. He formed friendships with Stax artists, including Rufus Thomas, for whom he wrote several scripts to the Blues Foundation's W.C. Handy Awards. He helped develop the Stax Museum of American Soul Music, including writing wall text. At a Stax press conference before the museum groundbreaking, he reunited with former classmate and “Saturday school enthusiast” **Mark Crosby '79**, and they set about making a Stax documentary. *Respect Yourself: The Stax Records Story* aired to great acclaim in 2007.

With the movie done and the interviews transcribed, Gordon thought writing a book would be relatively easy. Five years later, *Respect Yourself* is finally on the bookshelves, chronicling the epic achievements of the Stax label along with the difficulties Memphis faced in adjusting to racial equality.

“Every day is different for me,” he said. “I have a whole range of jobs, and I'm always looking for the next one. I get up early in the morning and start the process, whether it's writing, working on a film, or the business part,

## (RE)TELLING THE STAX STORY



Robert Gordon's latest book, *Respect Yourself: Stax Records and the Soul Explosion*, explores the history of the Memphis label.

Stax Records, whose logo famously depicts fingers in the snap position, remains one of the most iconic labels in the world of soul music. Its roster included Otis Redding, the Staples Singers, and Booker T. and the M.G.'s. You have only to see Jake and Elwood Blues cover Sam and Dave's “Hold On, I'm Coming” to appreciate the label's impact on pop culture.

Robert Gordon's new book, *Respect Yourself: Stax Records and the Soul Explosion* (Bloomsbury), tells the story of a white, West Tennessee fiddle player who thought there was money in the recording business.

Jim Stewart convinced his sister, Estelle Axton, to invest in this risky venture. They combined their last names – Stax – and got off

to a shaky start until Axton's son, Packy Axton, helped lure black artists through the door of the studio, a converted movie theater in South Memphis.

Early on, Rufus and Carla Thomas wrote popular hits such as “Gee Whiz” and “Walking the Dog.” Later, the house band, Booker T. and the M.G.'s, would lay down the groove on some of the world's biggest soul hits.

It is also a story of a record studio where white and black musicians worked together in a segregated Southern city.

The saga does not have a happy ending: Stax went into foreclosure in the 1970s, and the property was torn down. But it does have a coda: The museum and educational institution built in its old location on McLemore Avenue.

The Gordon family, from left, Esther Gordon, Tara McAdams, Robert Gordon, and Lila Gordon



like getting clearances and licenses.”

Another aspect of being an independent filmmaker is raising money. He’s been developing – and seeking funding for – a documentary about the tightrope-tense 1968 debates between the liberal Gore Vidal and conservative William F. Buckley. He said their often-personal jibes and fiery invective speak to today’s heated political climate.

“They were two towering names, and there are hours of footage. I think it can be a metaphor for our times,” Gordon said.

Though he seems busier than ever, Gordon sees nothing expeditious about the process of writing – it has not gotten easier over the years. “Writing is hard for me,” he said. “I’m a good re-writer. It takes me a while to hone my stuff. Christopher Hitchens, Greil Marcus, and Bill

Clinton: they can sit down and spew beauty in a first draft. I have to work on it.”

He earned his Grammy Award in 2011 for writing the album notes to the box set, *Keep an Eye on the Sky*, from the band Big Star (which featured **Andy Hummel ’69** and **Chris Bell ’69**). It was Gordon’s second nomination; the first was for the notes to Al Green’s *Anthology* in 1997.

He missed the award ceremony because he was on location for a film project. A friend called him and said, “Dude, you won!”

Gordon thanked him for the news, adding, “I gotta get this tripod inside.”

He recalls the memory and smiles. “Look,” he said, “awards are fine. But I was more glad to be working.”

## PLAYLIST: A look at Robert Gordon’s top 5 tunes and why they strike him.

1. Rufus Thomas, “Walking the Dog” – “It’s always a mood changer. You know, cocktails at 5.”
2. Al Green, “Simply Beautiful” – “You can hear all the guys in the world wishing they could sing the same thing.”
3. Beethoven, Symphony No. 6 “Pastoral,” First Movement – “The melody is sublime.”
4. Muddy Waters, “Rolling and Tumbling” – “They didn’t care about the marketplace. They took a chance and just put it down on a record. And it’s great.”
5. Alex Chilton, *Like Flies on Sherbert* – “The whole album. They were breaking rules and reigning chaos. It’s an off-putting sound, but if you can give over to its spirit, you realize how carefully considered it is.”

### ROBERT GORDON SELECTED WORKS

#### Books

*Respect Yourself: Stax Records and the Soul Explosion* (Bloomsbury, 2013)

*Lost Delta Found: Rediscovering the Fisk University - Library of Congress Coahoma County Study, 1941-1942*, (Vanderbilt University Press, 2005), co-written by John W. Work, Lewis Wade Jones, and Samuel C. Adams Jr.; edited by Robert Gordon and Bruce Nemerov.

*Can’t Be Satisfied: The Life and Times of Muddy Waters* (Back Bay Books, 2003)

*The Elvis Treasures* (Carlton Books, 2002)

*It Came from Memphis* (Atria Books, 1995)

#### Films

Some of Gordon’s short films about the blues can be found on [msbluestrail.org/films](http://msbluestrail.org/films).

*Very Extremely Dangerous* (2012)

*Johnny Cash’s America* (2008)

*Respect Yourself: The Stax Records Story* (2007)

*Shakespeare Was a Big George Jones Fan:*

*‘Cowboy’ Jack Clement’s Home Movies* (2005)

#### Album Liner Notes

*Elvis at Stax: Deluxe Edition* (2013)

Big Star, *Keep an Eye on the Sky* (2009)

Al Green, *Anthology* (1997)

#### Was this a difficult story to tell?

**Robert Gordon:** It’s a big story. There’s a lot that goes on. Figuring the architecture was a major part of it: what events to focus on, which best help to tell the story.

#### Were there any surprises for you?

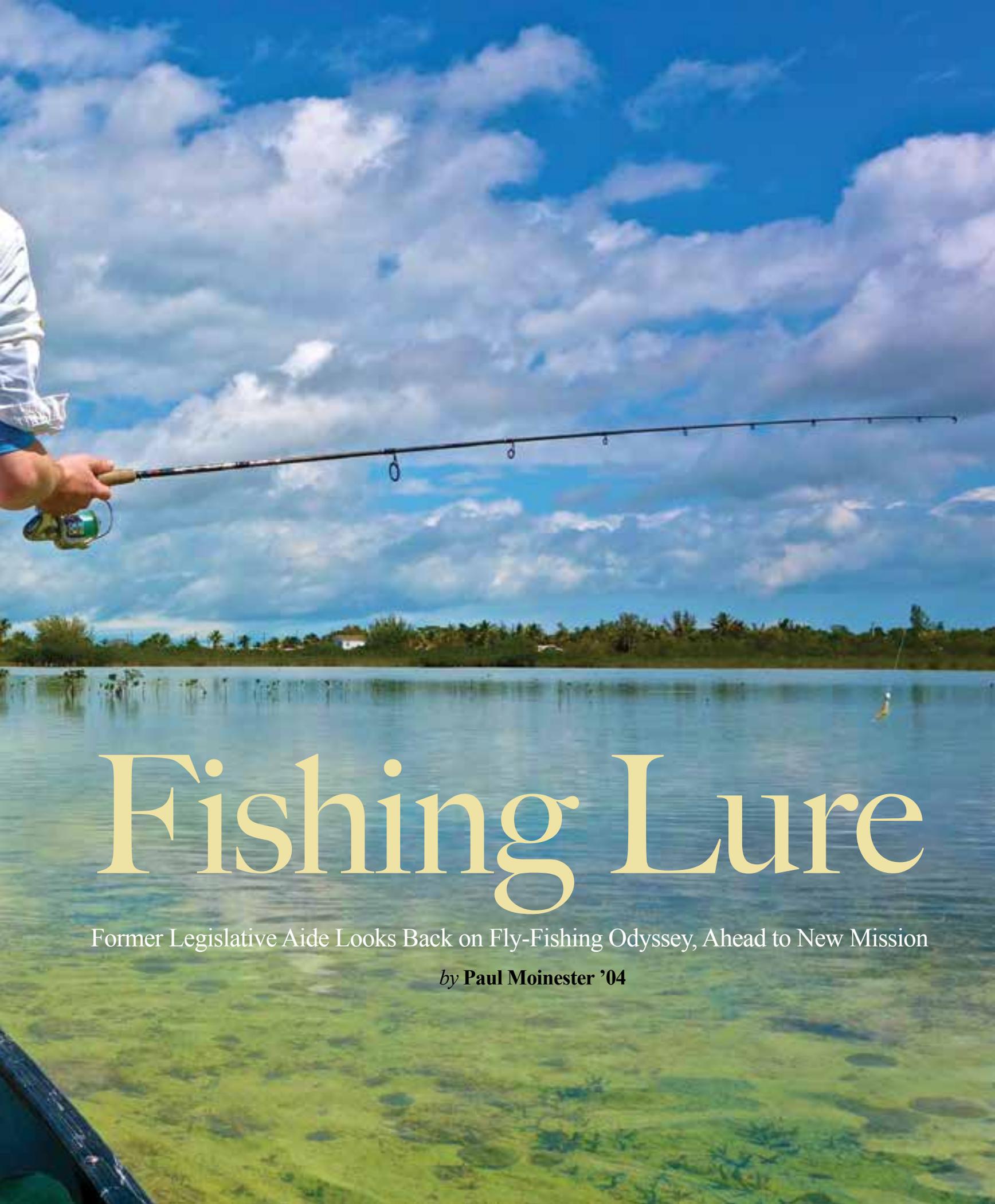
I thought about the story initially driven by the music. But what I didn’t anticipate was this notion of everyday people doing epic and heroic actions and the consequences of that. There is a sense of the magnificent that comes from the ordinary. And then, all the incidents of how so many songs came to be – a guy leaving the bathroom saying, “Hold on, I’m coming,” and it becomes the sound of a generation. All of it comes down to Jim and Estelle giving people opportunities they might not have had.

#### What is the big takeaway from the book?

It’s about individuality, thinking for oneself. If the Stax heads had listened to society, we’d never have *Walking the Dog* or Otis Redding or *Theme from Shaft*. It’s about being kind to others, giving everyone a chance. There was one song that went something like, “Listen to your garbage man, he might be an artist, too.” To me, that captures the Stax philosophy that everybody has talent. And that’s the Memphis story, too. When Elvis walked into Sun, he wasn’t supposed to be the one to change the world. He was a kid from the projects who didn’t have much opportunity. Sam (Phillips) was open to something different. The everyday hero can do so much.



*Tab Bainum, a friend from Paul Moinester's days in Washington, DC, joined him in the Florida Keys to prowl the flats for camouflaged redfish.*



# Fishing Lure

Former Legislative Aide Looks Back on Fly-Fishing Odyssey, Ahead to New Mission

*by* **Paul Moinester '04**

**The fly-fishing gods were smiling down on me.** A week earlier I had been making arrangements to ditch my car in Alaska and find another way back to Memphis. I was 4,000 miles from home, 17 days out from shipping off to Ireland for grad school, and the proud owner of a car with a blown-out engine that GM denied accountability for. Getting back on time seemed inconceivable.

But Jim Greeson, the GM service manager in Anchorage and a fly fisherman, promised me he would make it happen. It took a little arm-twisting, but Jim convinced GM to cover the damage under warranty and had the company express-ship a new engine up to Alaska. Four days later I was back on the road with enough spare time to make a detour to fly-fishing paradise. So there I stood in the midst of a British Columbia deluge feeling like the luckiest man in the world as I held the greatest fish of my life – a 40-inch steelhead trout.

It was six months to the day since I had left the driveway of my parents' house in Memphis and embarked on what I hoped would be the adventure of a lifetime. When I bid farewell to the comforts of home and greeted the great unknown, I struggled to wrap my head around everything I would encounter over the next 180 days. I had dreamed of moments like this: moments spent kneeling in a remote river, my body coursing with adrenaline, my arms straining from the weight, my hands spread wide, gripping the slick flesh of a wild fish.

My journey to that unforgettable moment on the Skeena River began 14 months

earlier on the opposite side of the continent, in Washington, DC. At the time I was a senior legislative assistant in Congressman Steve Cohen's (D-TN) office, working on environmental and transportation issues. I had just completed my third year on Capitol Hill and my fourth in Washington, and I had reached a professional crossroads. I wondered if my days in DC were numbered.

It seems bizarre to think this juncture, at the tender age of 26, was such a pivotal moment, but that is the nature of Capitol Hill. Generally, you start at the age of 22 or 23, quickly assume significant responsibility, rapidly progress up the ladder, and decide within your first few years either to get out or remain in the political scene for the long term. With all of my contemporaries applying to grad school, leaving town, or committing themselves to Washington, it felt about time to make my decision.

The only problem was that for the first time in as long as I could remember, I felt conflicted about what to do next. Working in the heart of American politics had been the most exciting and educational experience of my life. But the political turmoil and eroding discourse in

Washington made committing myself to our political system less appealing. After much deliberation I decided to reshuffle the deck and see what would come out on the other side.

One of the major downsides of Capitol Hill is that being immersed in the epicenter of the DC bubble had shielded me from understanding how what is done inside the beltway affects our environment and the public. Although I met regularly with conservation organizations, sitting behind a desk thousands of miles away made comprehending the value of these natural resources and the magnitude and scope of the damage difficult.

I wanted to see and understand the wonders of our environment as well as the realities of environmental destruction firsthand. I devised a plan to do both. I applied to graduate school to pursue a master's degree in environmental resource management so I could better comprehend the scientific basis of management policy. I also planned the journey of a lifetime – six months driving 20,000 miles across the United States and Canada fly fishing and exploring threats to wild fish populations and their habitats.

*Fly rods in hand, Zack Fields and Sam Weis cross a river on their way to Symphony Lake, just outside of Anchorage, AK, to cast dry flies for small Dolly Varden trout.*



The trip seemed like a perfect nexus of my two greatest passions, fly fishing and preservation. With the help of some friends and colleagues, I was able to transform this fun, personal trip into a professional endeavor. I enlisted the support of Orvis, Patagonia, Advanced Elements, Trout Unlimited, National Wildlife Federation, and a number of other conservation partners, which provided me with world-class gear and connected me with conservationists and fly fishermen across the continent.

I named my project “An Upstream Journey,” an allusion to the arduous journey species such as salmon undertake to reproduce and ensure the propagation of their species. The name is also a tribute to the upstream battle fish species are undergoing in the face of myriad threats.

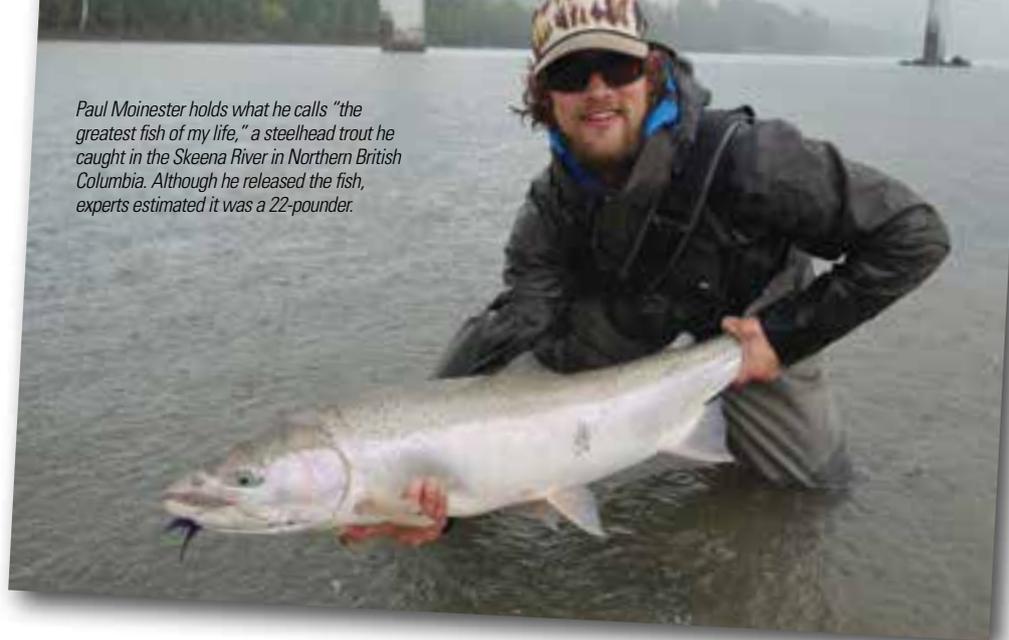
The six months and six days I spent traversing the United States and Canada from the Florida Keys to Alaska’s Kenai Peninsula was the most eye-opening, inspirational, and transformative experience of my life. I waded

**“What I never expected was that traversing the continent, sleeping in my car, going days without showering, shattering every rule in the MUS handbook on dress and personal appearance, and fishing my brains out could ignite a career, but it has.”**

– Paul Moinester

waist-deep into endangered waters and dove headfirst into exploring and documenting the issues these invaluable habitats face.

Through the eyes of avid anglers and conservationists, I obtained a holistic understanding of the intrinsic value of these irreplaceable resources and the complex issues that threaten them. Gordy Hill, a saltwater fly-fishing pioneer, taught me about the dramatic decline in Florida’s tarpon and bonefish populations. Randy Scholfield and Rob Firth from Trout Unlimited showed me why the Colorado River is in danger of getting sucked dry. Terry Jorgensen, a commercial salmon fisherman in Alaska, explained to me how a proposed low-grade coal mine would irrevocably damage one of the world’s most



*Paul Moinester holds what he calls “the greatest fish of my life,” a steelhead trout he caught in the Skeena River in Northern British Columbia. Although he released the fish, experts estimated it was a 22-pounder.*

prolific wild salmon runs. Unfortunately, the list goes on and on.

I also did my fair share of fishing in many of the world’s premier fly-fishing destinations and caught – and released – some fish that will forever be etched in my memory. However, I try not to evaluate the success of my fishing odyssey on the number of fish caught, the different species knocked off my bucket list, and the length of my grip-and-grin photo album. That just feels shortsighted.

I have always found fly fishing to be an ironic endeavor. I spend an excessive amount of time with my eyes firmly affixed to the water searching for the subtle flash of a camouflaged tail or the delicate rise of a feeding fish. My mind feels at ease yet it’s constantly analyzing a litany of minute details. For all of the brain activity and energy exerted on trying to trick fish, the true lasting value of these ventures is not what I catch but what I discover about myself and about my life in the process.

Many of my expectations for my journey came to fruition. I expected I would catch fish of a lifetime, and I did. I expected there would be days when I would be humbled by wily fish, and there were more than I care to admit. I expected this journey would fuel my fire to continue fighting for fish preservation, and that fire got stoked. What I never expected was that traversing the continent, sleeping in my car, going days without showering, shattering every rule in the MUS handbook on dress and personal appearance, and fishing my brains out could ignite a career, but it has.

Through my travels I befriended many like-minded contemporaries whose passion for fly fishing is only surpassed by their commitment to preserve the great outdoors through their writing, film, photography, art, and advocacy. These fellow addicts and

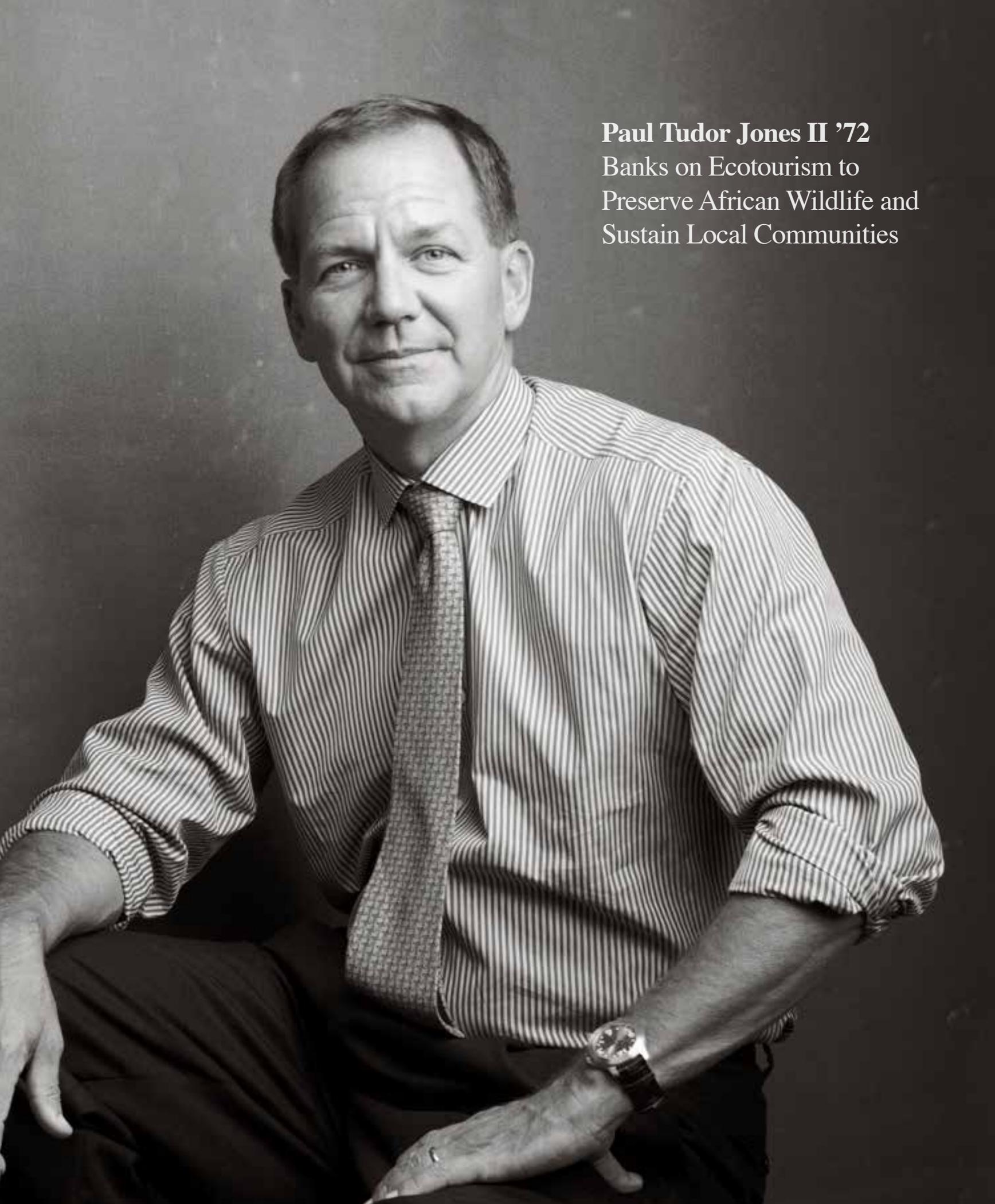
I have formed a community of individuals looking to utilize our varying talents to develop conservation-focused capitalist enterprises.

I’m working with a number of them now to launch a fly-fishing apparel company that aims to raise money and awareness for critical conservation issues. And there is constant chatter about films to be made, books to be written, and projects to be started. It’s a less-linear career path than the obvious stepping-stones of Capitol Hill, but I’m confident I can weave a path to success.

Twenty-four hours after catching that incredible steelhead, I packed up my tent for the last time, stowed my fishing gear, and punched Memphis into my GPS. I spent the next five days racing 3,500 miles home. As I inched closer and closer to the end of my adventure of a lifetime, I expected to feel an overwhelming sense of sadness.

At the very least, I thought I’d get a little misty-eyed as I pulled into my driveway after 28,220 miles and six months and six days on the road, but it didn’t happen. As I sat there in my car, exhausted from the brutal drive and lack of sleep, I didn’t feel sad. I was overcome with a sense of excitement because I knew this wasn’t the culmination of my life’s greatest adventure. It was just the beginning.

*Paul Moinester’s Upstream Journey continues in Ireland, where he is working on a master’s degree in environmental resource management at University College Dublin. Find out more about his adventures and fly-fishing apparel at [www.upstreamjourney.com](http://www.upstreamjourney.com). Contact him at [upstreamjourney@gmail.com](mailto:upstreamjourney@gmail.com).*



**Paul Tudor Jones II '72**  
Banks on Ecotourism to  
Preserve African Wildlife and  
Sustain Local Communities

# Game On

by Liz Copeland

**O**prah Winfrey is on *Late Show with David Letterman* talking about her summer visit to a Tanzanian wildlife preserve at the invitation of **Paul Tudor Jones II '72** and his wife, Sonia. Winfrey shares an iPhone video she captured of an elephant charging their truck – before the guide claps his hands to deter the “irritated” pachyderm. It was good for a laugh, and then the media mogul makes her point:

“They are doing all kinds of conservation there to preserve the elephants. Because what they told me, and this is true: If we don’t do something to save the elephants – and all of the people who are going in and poaching the elephant tusks for ivory – in 12 years you won’t have elephants.”

Winfrey was visiting the 350,000-acre Singita Grumeti Reserves on the edge of

Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, which Jones established in 2002 through a 99-year lease with the government. They also traveled to Zimbabwe, where in 1994 Jones began to work with the Malilangwe Trust to protect 135,000 acres adjacent to Gonarezhou National Park. Winfrey’s *Letterman* appearance highlighted these preserves, which – in association with the conservation-conscious luxury hospitality company Singita – have quietly generated high-end, low-impact ecotourism designed to combat wildlife poaching, preserve native habitats, create jobs, and develop sustainable programs for local communities.

Anti-poaching measures on Singita Grumeti include the employment of 120 game scouts – many of whom were formerly poachers. Animal census reports from the area

reveal that their efforts have been effective. From 2003-2010, for instance, the number of elephants more than doubled, from 355 to 743, and the buffalo population grew from 600 to 3,290. The Singita Grumeti Environmental Education Centre trains young people from local communities about the importance of preserving the wildlife on their communal lands and reserves.

In addition Jones said, “In Zimbabwe around Malilangwe, we provide a nourishing meal to 50,000 kids every day.”

First known as the billionaire founder of Connecticut-based Tudor Investment Corporation, Jones has also made a name for himself in philanthropy. In 1988 he founded the Robin Hood Foundation, with backing from many of his fellow hedge-fund operators, focused on subsidizing results-



*Singita Serengeti House, located on the slopes of Sasakwa Hill in Tanzania’s 350,000-acre Grumeti Reserves, welcomes up to eight guests to enjoy vast Serengeti Mara vistas.*



driven programs that battle poverty in New York City. The foundation has distributed more than \$1.25 billion to date, according to the foundation website.

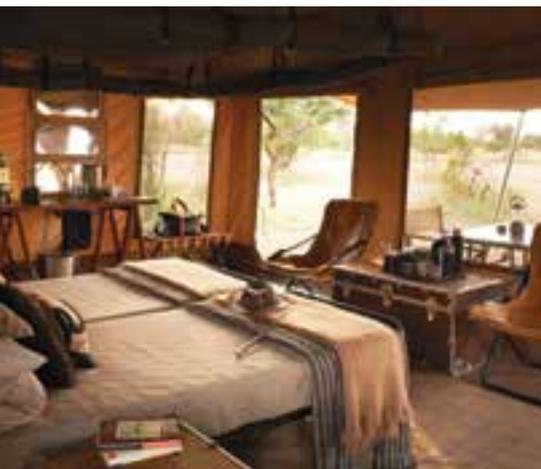
The Africa projects have a particular appeal to Jones. “They combine environmental protection with humanitarian aid. It’s a twofor that fits perfectly in my wheelhouse.”

Jones said he enjoys spending time on the African lands – including the visit with Winfrey and her partner, Stedman Graham – “but for me it’s always a working vacation because I trade the entire time.”

We caught up with the busy chief investment officer – between trades – to ask him a few questions about his Africa initiatives.

**What drew you to these projects – why Africa?** Ever since I was a small boy, I have had a love affair with Africa. Maybe it was watching *Tarzan* or *Ramar of the Jungle* when I was a kid, but for some reason the continent has always fascinated me. I had probably read every Hemingway and Ruark book on Africa by the time I was 14.

**Have your initial goals for these properties been realized? What do you see there today?** We got involved in Zimbabwe and Tanzania because we wanted to find a way to harmonize the relationship between humans and animals. Ecotourism is the best nexus to achieve a long-term sustainable balance between man and nature. But it’s not enough for us to do this well – we want to show that other people could successfully adapt our ideas. We’re closing in on that goal, but we’re not there yet.



Singita Explore Mobile Tented Camp provides a roughing-it-with-style experience that gets visitors close to wildlife and nature.



Singita Sasakwa Lodge offers a turn-of-the-century manor house, private cottages, and a pool that seems to connect with the endless landscape.



European style and East African influences create a sense of grandeur in Singita Sasakwa Lodge.

**What have been the most important factors in the success of these programs?**

The most important thing we have done is to secure both areas. The history of nature and mammals globally is that if animals do not have some consumptive value in some way, shape, or form – we think it should be through tourism or hunting – they will not survive. The animals will be poached or hunted out of existence, and the land is likely to be used and spoiled. We have made those animals valuable because of the jobs that we have created and the ecotourism that we now offer to the world. It is a wonderful combination in which an incredible resource is protected for time eternal.

**What do you want to occur with these properties during your lifetime?** The most important goal for these properties is to become cash-flow positive, so that we can demonstrate that the model works and people can do the same things in others areas. The model is simple: Invest private capital to a point where ecotourism becomes cash-flow positive, and you protect an incredible area for future generations. It does take some initial capital outlay that in reality is not going to be recouped. But we're approaching the financial break-even point. And in the meantime it is a small price to pay for giving that particular place the muscle memory to survive the onslaught of civilization and future generations.

**Did you apply lessons learned through the Robin Hood Foundation to your efforts in Africa?** One of the key lessons learned from Robin Hood was that strategic planning and identifiable goals are absolutely critical to the success of any project. It is hard to reach your destination if you don't know where you are going, so any good project really needs to have a 10-year window with virtually all contingencies accounted for before the spade hits the ground. The lack of a plan is going to be followed by a lack of success.

## Singita's Vision Blends Luxury with Social Responsibility in the African Wilderness

**S**ingita, the company Paul Tudor Jones chose to manage the hospitality concessions on the Zimbabwe and Tanzania reserves, claims as its vision "to preserve and protect large tracts of wilderness in Africa for future generations . . . through environmentally conscious hospitality, sustainable conservation, and the empowerment of local communities." The result of that vision is a collection of a dozen lodges and camps in three African countries that channel the history and culture of the regions while maintaining a high level of luxury. Singita properties have consistently ranked among top resorts on the continent and in the world by travel magazines such as *Condé Nast Traveller* and *Travel + Leisure*.

At Singita Grumeti Reserves in Tanzania, ranked No. 1 in the *Travel + Leisure* Top 100 Hotels Overall, World's Best Awards for 2011 and 2012, guests choose from five types of accommodations,

including luxurious lodges, cottages, and villas, a 1920s-style explorer's camp, and a mobile, tented camp. Adjacent to Serengeti National Park, the region is on a major migration path for wildebeests. More than one million of these antelopes, also called gnus, move through the area, accompanied by other wildlife, including zebras and impalas.

In the southeastern Zimbabwe wilderness area managed under the Malilangwe Trust, Singita Pamushana Lodge features one-, two-, and three-bedroom suites, and a five-bedroom villa. Near Gonarezhou National Park, the region is home to zebras, giraffes, waterbuck, hippos, elephants, leopards, cheetahs, and a host of other wildlife.

**To find out more about Singita properties and to view monthly wildlife reports, visit [singita.com](http://singita.com).**



*Singita Sabora Tented Camp is created in the adventurous style of a 1920s-style explorer's camp.*



*Singita Faru Faru Lodge, positioned near the Grumeti River on the migratory route, features two swimming pools in the lodge area.*



*Comfort blends with easy elegance in Serengeti House, which features with two suites in the main home and two garden suites.*



Boyle Investment Company's MUS alumni at the company-sponsored Brooks Museum exhibit *The Crossroads of Memory: Carroll Cloar and the American South*. Pictured from left are Paul Boyle, Rusty Bloodworth, Joel Fulmer, Henry Morgan, Mark Halperin, Tom Hutton, and Cary Whitehead.

Photo: Lance Murphey

# Long-Time Past, Long-Term Future

## Celebrating 80 Years, Boyle Investment Company Continues to Develop

by Gaye Swan

In April 1907 *The Commercial Appeal* published a plan for a development on what was then the outskirts of town. With its wide avenue, shady trees, and stately homes, the plan was deemed “too visionary to ever be realized.” Today Memphians know this unrealistic vision as one of our showplaces: Belvedere Boulevard.

The pioneer behind the boulevard was Edward Boyle, whose sons carried his visionary spirit into the creation of the Boyle Investment Company 80 years ago. To mark this milestone, four of the eight MUS alumni employed at Boyle took a long look into the future – of Memphis, of their company, and how the two are intertwined.

These four men have been instrumental in Boyle's success, as evidenced by their promotions in the recent company reorganization. As president, **Paul Boyle '87** now oversees all company operations. **Henry Morgan '61** is co-chairman, **Rusty Bloodworth '63** is executive vice president, and **Mark Halperin '67** is executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Other alumni serve in key positions: **Cary Whitehead '68**, as executive vice president; **Joel Fulmer '67**, as senior vice president; and **Tom Hutton '91**, as vice president. An eighth alumnus, **David Ruben '09**, recently joined the team, and **Jake Rudolph IV '10** – grandson and namesake of the former MUS football coach – is an intern.

“In many ways Boyle has paralleled MUS,” Bloodworth said. “The growth of each has kept pace with Memphis, and both have planned carefully and intentionally over the years to keep that pace. MUS and Boyle both started out on what was considered the fringe of town – but both are now in the heart of Memphis, both physically and as a part of what makes this city great.”

Halperin also spoke about the symbiotic relationship between the company and the city: “Boyle is only as good as Memphis is,” he said. “We are aware of our past achievements, but we don’t rest on them – we look to the future.”

Paul Boyle sees continued growth on the horizon. “We have large strategically located properties primed for future development,” he said.

Local projects include 443-acre Schilling Farms in Collierville, which has been under development for more than 15 years; and the 1,375-acre mixed-use Fisherville Farms community on the Shelby/Fayette County line at I-240 and Macon, which is in the planning stages.

The company continues to focus on the East Memphis office market, as well, and plans to keep the Poplar corridor up-to-date.

“Most of our major cultural amenities are sprinkled along Poplar,” Morgan said. “It is important to the future of Memphis to keep it current and vibrant.”

The four executives are in agreement that another key to Memphis’ success is providing the quality of life necessary to attract and retain the younger generation. To that end Boyle has made land donations and provided easements to support the creation and extension of the Shelby Farms Greenline and Wolf River Greenway. In addition, the company

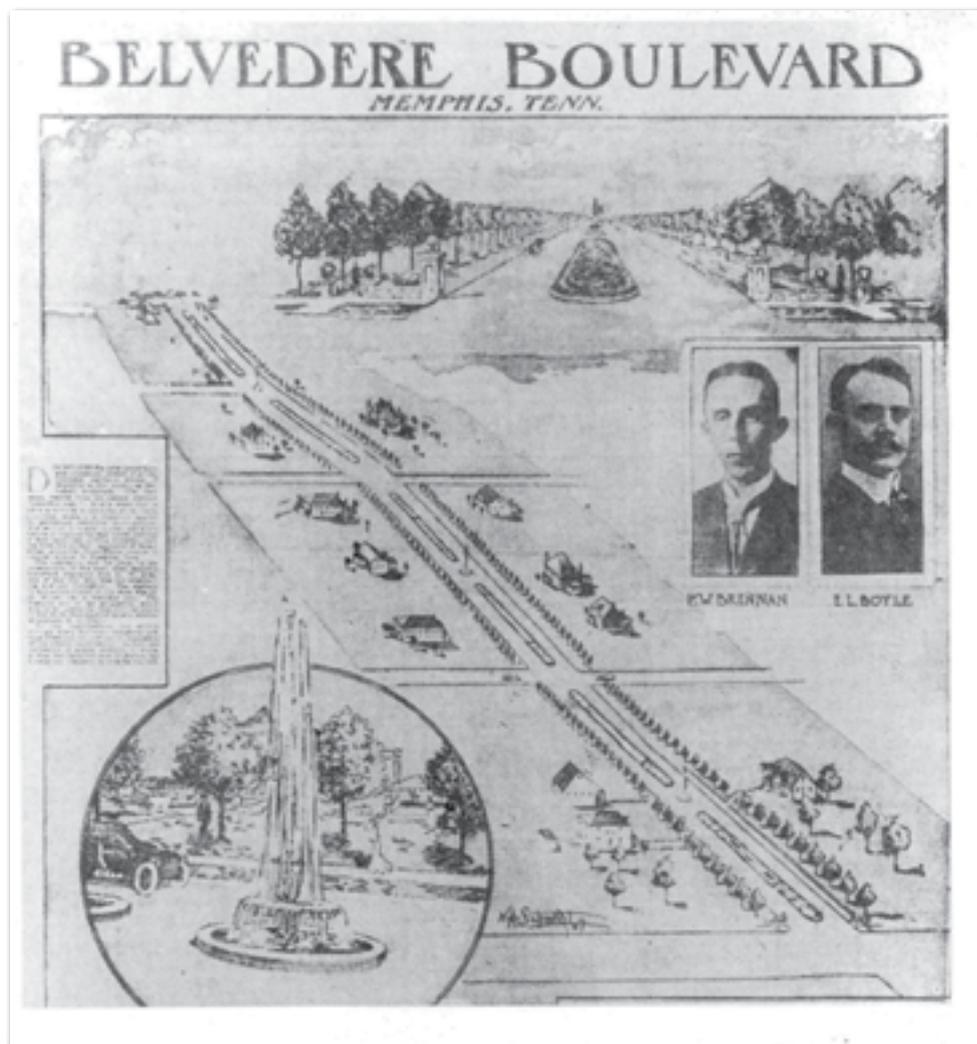
recently contributed \$50,000 to the Harahan Bridge Trail Project, which will connect Memphis and West Memphis with a boardwalk across the Mississippi River.

“We envision the greenway and the trail system as knitting the community together using our natural resources,”

exhibition at the Brooks Museum this summer.

“We were proud to celebrate by bringing art to Memphis that speaks to our cultural heritage,” Morgan said.

After eight decades Boyle’s projects, philanthropy, and leadership have contributed greatly to the Memphis



The plan for Belvedere Boulevard that was published in *The Commercial Appeal* on April 7, 1907.

Bloodworth said. “Helping make the greenway and the bridge possible were the right things to do to help the community.”

The company has not neglected promoting the finer things in life: To commemorate their 80th anniversary, Boyle was the title sponsor of *The Crossroads of Memory: Carroll Cloar and the American South*, a major art

landscape. The leaders of this family-owned company said they are staying true to the visionary spirit of its forebears, while keeping established developments up-to-date and viable.

“We are excited about our city’s future and our role in it,” Boyle said. “We remain dedicated to maintaining a long-term vision that delivers enduring value to Memphis, our partners, and our tenants.”

Photo courtesy of the Memphis Room



# Call of the Not-So-Wild

Andy Cates '89 and Company Offer the Great Outdoors with Clean Sheets and Wi-Fi

by Ralph Ellis

After helping launch Soulsville and lure the Grizzlies to Memphis, **Andy Cates '89** was itching to start a new business. He found it in a recreational vehicle.

At a party Cates visited with a friend who described her adventures traveling the country in an RV.

"I was fascinated talking to her about where they'd stay," he said. "The answer was totally random. It was hit or miss."

Intrigued, Cates spent months traveling the country touring properties, even renting a recreational vehicle for one of his research trips. He sensed an opportunity and created Memphis-based RVC Outdoor Destinations, which he hopes will reshape outdoor hospitality, an industry that includes campgrounds and RV resorts.

The United States has thousands of places to park an RV or rent a cabin. Cates' idea is to brand RVC properties as something special: Places where people can experience the outdoors while enjoying amenities and creature comforts, including furnished, air-conditioned cottages, Wi-Fi and cable TV. The industry calls this "glamping," for glorified camping.

"Our guests are people who want to camp and get into nature but be comfortable," he said. "They are interested in fitness, so there are fitness centers. They want wine and Diet Coke, so there are high-quality lobbies and retail areas so you can get what you need. They want to hike or get on the water, but they also want a nice bed and Wi-Fi at night."

Cates often invokes hotel-brand comparisons, saying he doesn't aspire to be the

Motel 6 or Best Western of the business, nor the Ritz or Four Seasons. "We want to be the Hilton of outdoor hospitality," he said.

Since forming in 2006 RVC Outdoor Destinations has grown mostly through acquisition, as well as two joint ventures, all followed by renovation and/or construction. The company now has eight locations in six states, all but one in the Southeast. Garden of the Gods opened in 2012 in Colorado Springs, CO, and more sites are coming in the West and Northeast. RVC will have 10 properties by the end of the year, including a new Texas Hill Country property.

"We've got continued revenue growth," Cates said. "Our guests are extremely happy – Trip Advisor and social media sites reflect that. It's logical – an outdoor experience at a price

that's reasonable on land that's wonderful."

RVC brands its properties as "RV resorts" or "outdoor destinations" because, according to Cates, the phrase "RV park" alienates many customers – "they think trailer park," he said.

The company selects names for its properties that avoid the term while reflecting a sense of place, such as Catherine's Landing, which is on Lake Catherine in Hot Springs, AR, and Carrabelle Beach, which is near Apalachicola, FL.

RVC properties offer varying amenities, including water slides, saline swimming pools, fitness areas, boat rentals, and Wii game rooms. Lodging options, which vary from site to site, include well-appointed, modern cottages with kitchens, dishwashers, flat-screen TVs, and air-conditioning. Some sites also offer yurts – circular, framed, tent-like structures with wooden floors, windows, comfortable beds, and climate-control systems.

RVC also provides concierge services, which can include the delivery of firewood and clean linens or arranging for activities.

"That's the little extra people appreciate," Jim Anderson, manager of the Pine Mountain, GA, property, said.

Each site has some distinctive offerings. Pine Mountain, 70 miles southwest of Atlanta, features Yurt Village, where every yurt site includes a picnic table, deck, and fire ring. Garden of the Gods in the shadow of Pikes Peak, offers its Garden Suites with private decks among its accommodations. Mountain Springs Cabins in Asheville, NC, has 13 individually decorated cabins that sleep from two to 10.

To start RVC Cates sought help from MUS alumnus **Gil Uhlhorn '93**, his Memphis real estate lawyer. They didn't know each other at

school but had met through community projects, and Uhlhorn had done real estate work for Cates on non-RVC investments.

"Andy really created a new industry in outdoor destination space," Uhlhorn said. "It's a visionary idea."

**Hunter Fleming '74**, a Memphis architect, has worked with Cates since RVC acquired its first property, Pine Mountain.

"He leads his organization by example," Fleming said. "The performance expectations and standards that he sets for his organization are uniform and consistent with his own. His work ethic is remarkable."

Cates said he learned the importance of hard work at MUS. Among his many activities, he was president of the Civic Service Club, worked



on *The Owl's Hoot* staff, and played basketball.

"I remember teaching Coach [Jerry] Peters everything he knows, thanks to his giving me ample time to sit on the bench next to him," he said.

After graduating from the University of Texas, Cates stayed in the Lone Star State for six years to start his real-estate career.

Catherine's Landing is on the shore of Lake Catherine in Hot Springs, AR.



Carrabelle Beach Haven Cottages sleep six and feature two queen-sized beds and a queen sofa-sleeper, spa-type bathroom, full kitchen, and two TVs.

Left, a yurt at Catherine's Landing in Hot Springs, AR, is nestled among the trees.

Right, yurt at Pine Mountain, GA, offers the comforts of home with a camping feel.



He returned to Memphis in 1999 to serve as project developer for the \$20 million Soulsville Revitalization Project and help bring the Grizzlies to town.

He jumped into outdoor hospitality because he saw an opportunity to build a long-term business in the real estate industry, his passion. As company president, he recruited people with expertise in the hospitality industry, campgrounds, and RVs, and he now has 86 employees.

They are learning as they go, he said.

For instance, Cates expected to cater primarily to baby-boomer retirees. He has

since discovered many customers are younger families who don't necessarily travel in RVs but want to get their families to "high-quality outdoor destinations that offer a great value." Many of them are more interested in the cabins and yurts, so RVC is expanding these offerings. He also discovered the price of gasoline is not the biggest factor in the outdoor destination business.

"We always have to fight the weather to some degree," he said. "Our business is much more affected by weather and natural disasters than by fuel costs. I didn't realize I was going to feel like a farmer when we got into this."

In 2013 RVC acquired two new properties: Lake Raystown Resort near Entriiken, PA, and Koyote Ranch near Medina, TX. Cates predicted the expansion would continue – perhaps drawing on his 10th-grade experience as secretary of the MUS Professional Prognosticators Club.

"I'm sticking by the notion that if you're building a better mousetrap you'll be rewarded," he said.

**For more information visit [rvcoutdoors.com](http://rvcoutdoors.com) or call (901) 432-4748.**

## Old Florida al fresco: Former Angler's Camp Reborn as RVC's Live Oak Landing *by Liz Copeland*

Not far from my family's all-time favorite seafood spot, 20 minutes from pristine Grayton Beach State Park, 30 minutes from the Destin Commons shopping mecca – yet still tucked away from it all on Black Creek, a short canoe-paddle away from Northwest Florida's Choctawhatchee Bay, I discovered RVC Outdoor Destination's Live Oak Landing.

Teen-era memories of family gatherings at Nick's Seafood Restaurant in Freeport, FL – not far from my parents' Fort Walton Beach home – rippled to mind as I passed the eatery on the northern shore of Choctawhatchee Bay this fall. Soon turning off State Road 20, I headed south on U.S. Highway 331, west on Black Creek Road, and south on McDaniels Fishcamp Road to the resort.

McDaniels' Fish Camp, established in the 1930s, is the reason Live Oak Landing is here, nestled among the 200-year-old trees dripping with Spanish moss that gave rise to its moniker. RVC Outdoor Destinations bought the defunct camp and surrounding land in 2008, transforming about a third of its 74 acres into one of its outdoor vacation properties. The remaining acreage, mostly wetlands, form a buffer to any future development, said Neil Sorrell, general manager at Live Oak Landing as well as RVC's Carrabelle Beach near Apalachicola, FL.

Sorrell provided a golf-cart tour of the resort, with its screened-in swimming pool, air-conditioned pavilion, and immaculate bath house, along with a children's play-

ground, dock, and private boat ramp. Live Oak has 57 RV sites, soon expanding to 120 sites, and 15 pastel-painted cottages – each with pillow-top mattresses, full kitchen, washer/dryer, flat-screen TV, porch, and grill. (Cottages are available for purchase on this and some other RVC Outdoor Destinations properties, and owners put them into the rental program.)

Northwest Florida's river, bay, and coastal ecosystems provide countless opportunities for outdoor pursuits, Sorrell said, including bountiful fishing in both fresh and salt water as well as bird and wildlife watching. The concierge can arrange pontoon boat, canoe, and kayak rentals, fishing trips and airboat tours.

The river basin is part of the 57,000-acre Choctawhatchee River Wildlife Management Area, Sorrell said, indicating surrounding lands, "so it's just filled with wild animals."

Indeed, when Sorrell and his wife, Helen, first arrived at Live Oak in their RV three years ago, they experienced a rare wildlife sighting.

"My wife got up just as the sun was rising and saw an animal that looked like a Labrador retriever, but its tail was too long. It looked back at her, and she saw big white whiskers. It was feline, not canine – a Florida panther."

Within the confines of the resort, RVC provides guests with a balance between nature and civilization, Sorrell said. Amenities, after all, include Wi-Fi, satellite TV, and the soft, nighttime illumination of LED lights

strung through the live oak trees. Plus, Nick's Seafood Restaurant is just a short drive away.

**For more information visit [rvcoutdoors.com](http://rvcoutdoors.com)/liveoak-landing or call (877) 436-5063.**



Above, furnished cottages have flat screen TVs, washers/dryers, and fully appointed kitchens. Below, the saline pool features a screen enclosure.

# Abroad Vision

by Aimee C. McMillin

**Don Austin III '84** builds a life and career on the far side of the world

In the 1967 film *The Graduate*, Mr. McGuire has but one word of advice to young Benjamin Braddock: Plastics.

If **Don Austin III '84** had one word for today's students it might be this: Travel.

"Americans don't travel enough. If I were a senior today at MUS, I would take a gap year before starting college," Austin said. "They are commonplace in the U.K., New Zealand, and Australia and not as popular in the States, but it's a great way to immerse yourself in a culture and a language."

Austin's first overseas adventure was to Hong Kong in 2001. He was on a two-year assignment for PricewaterhouseCoopers, working in the U.S. Business Consulting and Enterprise Resource Planning practice. After IBM bought out PwC, Austin remained with

made their home in Hong Kong. It's a different lifestyle, for sure, than one he and Kelly – his wife of more than two decades and a partner in the Hong Kong office of a Los Angeles-based law firm – might have created had they remained in the United States.

Their sons, Peyton, 10, and Graham, 7, attend the Chinese International School in Hong Kong, where they are taught in both English and Mandarin. The boys find among their classmates a multinational blend of Americans, British, Chinese, and Europeans.

The family, like most everyone in Hong Kong, lives in an apartment. Theirs is an urban existence, with play dates at friends' apartments or in local parks. They walk or take public transportation most everywhere. Hong Kong is an international city, and the family

His father, **Don Austin, Jr. '59**, often meets the family in New Zealand, where he enjoys rabbit shooting. The senior Austin served on the MUS Board of Trustees for 21 years before retiring in 2001.

"My grandkids are having a different childhood than my own kids did," the elder Austin said. "But these kids are experiencing



*Hong Kong's cosmopolitan culture is a good fit for Don Austin.*

the company for several more years before striking out on his own. Today, Austin is the managing director of Austin Pacific Ltd., an Asian-based IT and business services provider he founded in 2006. Austin Pacific works primarily with U.S.-based multinational corporations.

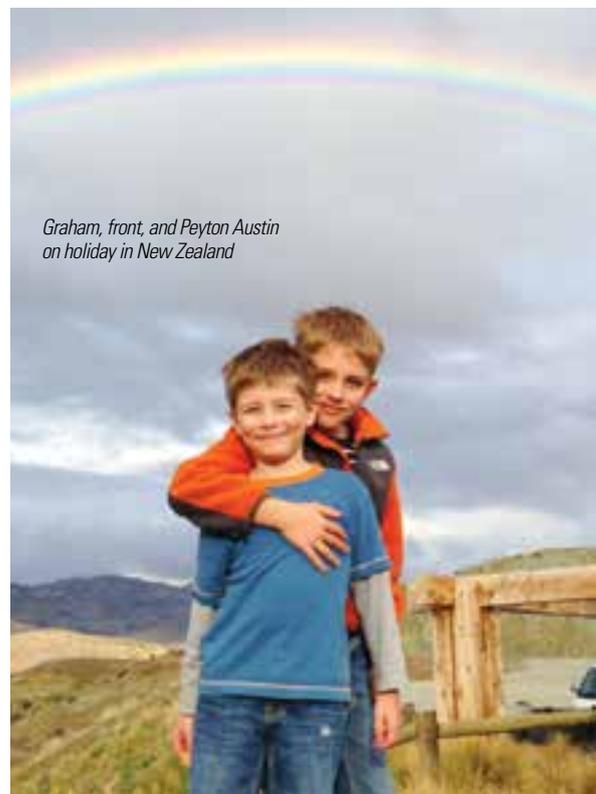
"I saw a better way of doing work for my current clients so was able to retain several of them when I first started," he said. "Today, we work all over Asia – Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, the UAE, China."

For 12 years Austin and his family have

enjoys friendships with the locals and many expatriates who have made Hong Kong home. MUS alumni occasionally pass through and get together with Austin. **Don Lake '85** and **Woodson Dunavant '97** shared a Hong Kong chili crab dinner with him in July.

Instead of the weekend trips to duck hunt and family vacations to Florida Austin once knew, there are elephant rides in exotic locales.

"We holiday in places like Tibet, Burma, Malaysia, and Australia," Austin said. "New Zealand is a family favorite, and we go there a lot."



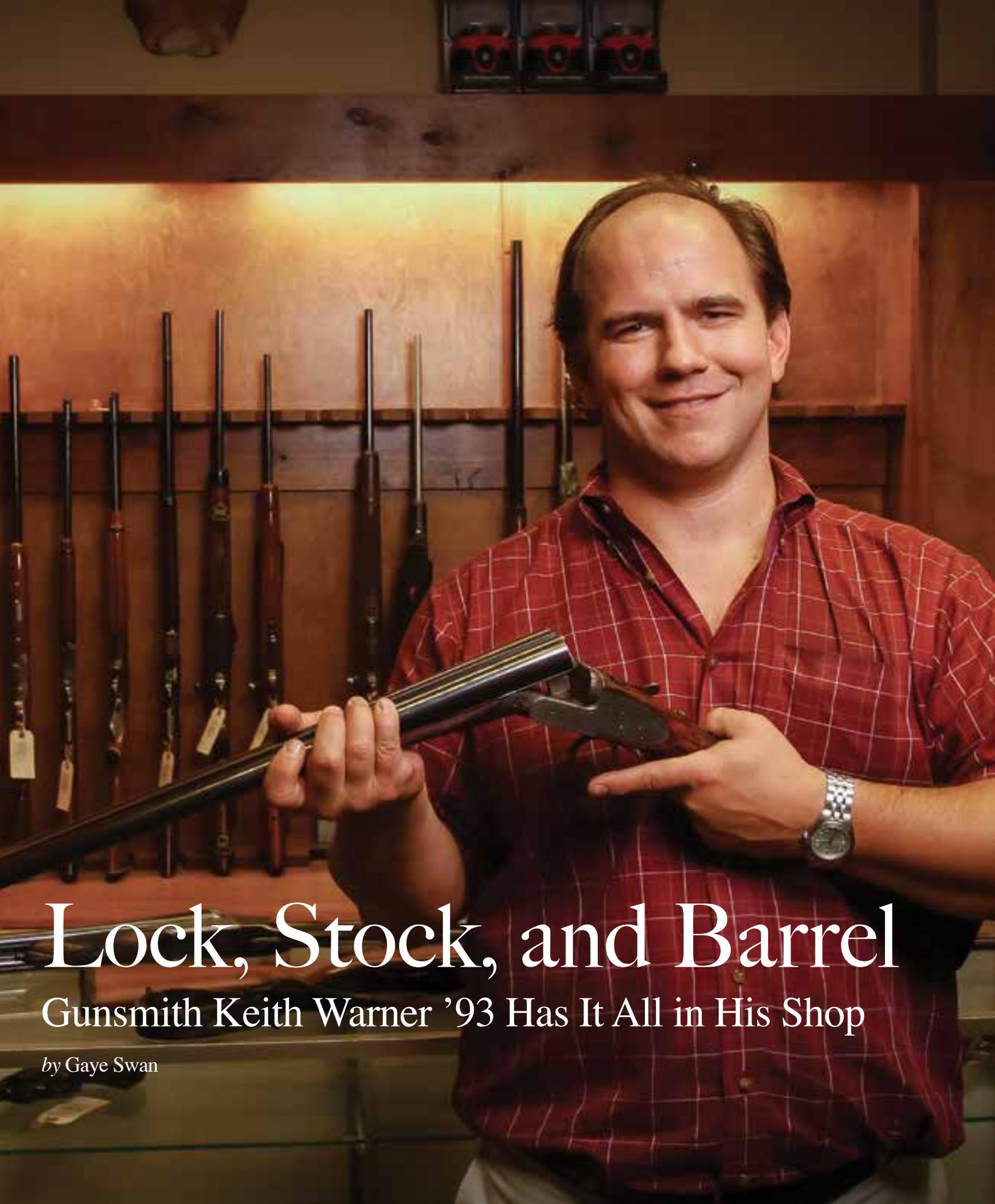
*Graham, front, and Peyton Austin on holiday in New Zealand*

so much, learning another language, traveling. It can only be helpful to them as they grow."

Yet for all of the benefits, there are challenges to living and working in Hong Kong. The cost of living is relatively high – 62 percent higher than Memphis, according to [expatistan.com](http://expatistan.com) – and the pollution can be brutal. Some days, Austin said, the smog is so thick that you can't see across the harbor.

Still, he believes that Asia is filled with opportunities for employment and adventure.

"If you're an American student just out of college or single, places like Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore are great and very welcoming," he said. "Most everyone there is from somewhere else, so it's easy to make friends, and there's lots of business. Even if you are settled down and have kids, it's still a great place to live."



# Lock, Stock, and Barrel

Gunsmith Keith Warner '93 Has It All in His Shop

*by* Gaye Swan



Encounters with big-game hunters, antique firearms collectors, and competitive marksmen are all in a day's work for **Keith Warner '93**. One of only a few certified gunsmiths in Memphis, Warner welcomes a wide range of gun enthusiasts to his shop, Warner Gunsmithing in CarreFour at Kirby Woods shopping center. Some visit the store to purchase custom rifles and shotguns by Winchester, Parker, or Fox. Others browse the handgun selection, which includes Colt, Smith & Wesson, Glock, and STI. Many patrons are undoubtedly drawn by the proprietor's specialized skill set – modifying, repairing, designing, and building firearms.

A recent day began with Warner adapting a Remington 870 shotgun for a Memphis-based shooting instructor who teaches classes worldwide. He made adjustments to the length of pull and shortened the barrel, fine-tuned the mechanics, and installed

at a young age by his father, Harry Warner, he quickly became interested in hunting and competitive shooting. His love of history fostered an interest in vintage firearms and gun restoration that grew into an appreciation of modern weaponry.

A graduate of the University of Montana, he attended Pine Technical College in Minnesota to study under a nationally recognized gunsmith and metal artist, then returned home to serve a five-year apprenticeship. For the next 10 years, Warner worked as a certified gunsmith, leasing space for his own shop at Tommy Bronson Sporting Goods in Memphis.

He opened Warner Gunsmithing in November 2012 to expand into retail, renting his CarreFour space from **Henry Cannon '68** and **Nelson Cannon '96** of Cannon Austin & Cannon Inc. He got some logistics and marketing help from a friend, MUS history and social studies

Photos: Lance Murphey



Warner works on the sight of a Ruger revolver.



Warner helps customer Richard Morrow '86.

a custom sight. Later he worked on the trigger and optics mount of a 50-caliber Barrett for a Homeland Security officer, and he ended his day cleaning and repairing a collection of firearms a client recently inherited.

“My favorite part of my job is fine-tuning and enhancing a gun to fit the owner, and seeing a customer's satisfaction at the instant improvement to a firearm, new or old,” Warner said.

Introduced to gun sports and collecting

teacher **Ross Rutledge '02**. The shop has attracted other alumni, and Warner said he enjoys swapping stories with them whenever they stop by.

Although there was no gunsmith class in his MUS curriculum, Warner attributes much of his success to the solid foundation he received during his years at the school.

“I feel I was phenomenally well-prepared for all I have encountered,” Warner said. “College was great, but what I learned at MUS is what I fall back on.



# Bank Building

Hank Holmes '89 Helps Make Cadence Bank a Success

by Gaye Swan

Hank Holmes

**H**ank Holmes '89 has built a banking career in Texas, but his foundation is in Memphis. In his view the seeds for success were planted during his days at MUS – academic, social, and ethical strengths that provide a personal and professional compass to this day. Most of all, he said, his MUS experience taught him the importance of capitalizing on opportunities and rising to challenges, a lesson he put to good use in 2011 when he joined the newly formed Cadence Bank, and again in spring 2013 when he launched a commercial banking group in Memphis.

“The opportunity to build a new banking franchise that would be a great place to work and take care of clients appealed strongly to me,” Holmes said. “I’ve always had an entrepreneurial spirit, a mentality that is shared by Cadence’s leadership team. That’s a requirement for building a bank fresh out of an economic downturn.”

His past experiences in the financial field laid the groundwork for his contribution to Cadence. A graduate of the University of Missis-

sippi, Holmes joined Amegy Bank of Texas in Houston in 1993. After completing the officer development/credit program, he spent seven years as a relationship manager in the commercial real estate department. From 2003 to 2009 he managed the private banking department, which grew from \$400 million to \$800 million in total loans under his leadership. In 2009 he was promoted to executive vice president and given charge of the special assets group.

“My years at Amegy equipped me with the tools – the education and management experience – that allowed me to progress to the job at Cadence. I honed leadership, decision-making, and communications skills there, skills instrumental in building a new bank,” he said.

The bank’s leadership tasked Holmes with creating and running the Birmingham, AL-based bank’s business services department. With no manual to follow, he designed a strategy and recruited a corporate commercial team that has grown to 125 people in six states, managing \$2.5 billion in total assets.

Though he makes his home in Houston with his wife, Claudia, children Harrison, 12,

Caroline, 10, and Charlie, 7, Holmes has not forgotten his Memphis roots. He has kept in close contact with his hometown market, and he said he knew the time was ripe for the development of the new commercial banking group, dedicated to supporting Memphis and Mid-South businesses as they grow and thrive. The group is headed by Phil Stevenson (father of **Andrew '12** and **Grant '15**) and includes **Glynn Alexander '83**.

“It was important to me that we recruit a team that knew Memphis well and had a long-standing history with the market,” he said. “It was equally important this team share Cadence’s service-oriented culture.”

In Holmes’ view the Cadence focus on “the right services offered by the right people” has already translated into a positive performance in Memphis, and he sees a promising future.

“I anticipate Cadence will grow as a strong, financially sound Southeast regional bank,” Holmes said, “and I am proud to be a part of the planning and the growth.”

# TEAM WORK

## Eighteen Owls Lend Talents – and Friendly Rivalry – to Duncan-Williams

by Gaye Swan

**A**hh, autumn in Memphis. The time of year when leaves turn vibrant shades of gold and red, high school football stadiums fill to capacity on Friday nights, and the plays of the games are rehashed over many a water cooler on Monday morning.

At Duncan-Williams Inc. autumn's drifting leaves are accompanied by a flurry of emails and remarks extolling the athletic prowess of rival area football teams. That's the inside story from four of the alumni who work at DWI: **Kevin Ogilby '88, Joey Griesbeck '02, Clay Chapman '03, and Hudson Atkins '08.** With 18 alumni on board, the Owls are well represented. The roster also includes **Greg Meyer '79, Joe Pierce '79, Paul Luttrell '82, Jim Cherry '87, Adam Tooley '89, Patrick Burnett '90, Ben Clanton '94, Phillip Rogers '95, Rich Bollinger '04, Harris Jordan '04, J.P. Zdancewicz '05, Doug Boyer '06, Donnie Malmo '06, and Zack Rutland '06.**

"There are plenty of good rivalries with grads from other schools," Atkins, a financial advisor with DWI's Private Client Group, said. "We launch friendly email salvos, praising our team's achievements, especially when we play Christian Brothers, Briarcrest, or Montgomery Bell Academy."

Griesbeck, vice president of the Investment Research Group, agreed. "My group is made up of a CBHS alum, a Germantown alum, and myself," he said. "Our boss and head of the Private Client Group is an MBA graduate. Unfortunately, another CBHS grad sits next to our group, so we have to suffer through stories about their wonderful football days. That's my cue to go to Hudson's or Clay's desk."

In football season and out, the alumni say they enjoy the good-natured banter between high school loyalists, but more importantly, they appreciate the overall environment of DWI, one they agree is very similar to that of MUS.

"They are culturally similar places, inclusive and community-oriented," Ogilby, executive vice president and head of Investment Banking, said. "Both organizations empower those associated to become the best they can be."

Chapman, who works with Atkins in the Private Client Group as a financial advisor, says the culture and giving nature were a big draw to the company. DWI sponsors or partners

with several community programs, including the Germantown Performing Arts Center and Live at the Garden to foster an appreciation of music and theater, and the Memphis Grizzlies Charitable Foundation's Team Up Youth Mentoring Program to provide mentors.

The alumni remarked on another similarity with MUS: the freedom to have a good time, but with an expectation to excel at the job.

"Dedication to your career is expected," Atkins said, "but the mantra of 'work hard, play hard' is also ever-present."

Working with so many fellow alumni is a positive, the MUS grads said, and not just when

you need someone to have your back in football season.

"Having a lot of MUS guys makes the workplace transparent because you know what they're about and that you have common values with them," Chapman said. "You also know that you are working with people who have a love and vested interest in the welfare of Memphis."

Griesbeck said the shared culture and values of Owl alumni are also attractive to Duncan-Williams' management: "They know they are getting great employees who will work hard and give back to the Memphis community."



Duncan-Williams Inc. employees include, from left, Patrick Burnett '90, Kevin Ogilby '88, Ben Clanton '94, Jim Cherry '87, Donnie Malmo '06, and J.P. Zdancewicz '05.



MUS alumni at Duncan-Williams Inc. include, front row, from left, Greg Meyer '79, Joey Griesbeck '02, Harris Jordan '04, Adam Tooley '89, and Paul Luttrell '82; back row, Clay Chapman '03, Zack Rutland '06, Rich Bollinger '04, Doug Boyer '06, and Hudson Atkins '08. Not pictured: Joe Pierce '79 and Phillip Rogers '95

# SLOW-FIRED SEAFOOD

Chef Ryan Prewitt '94 Adds Salsa Verde to Smoky Whole Grilled Redfish

Just downriver in New Orleans, Chef **Ryan Prewitt '94** is slow-grilling seafood on an open hearth over hardwood coals at Peche Seafood Grill. Opened earlier this year, Peche is in the city's trendy Warehouse District in a restored 19th century building where – it so happens – Jefferson Davis was embalmed. Prewitt's trips to Uruguay and Spain, alongside partners Donald Link and Stephen Stryjewski of Link Restaurant Group, inspired the open-pit, seafood-cooking concept. (Another alumnus, **Alex Williams '85**, crafts the pottery for the restaurant at nearby Potsalot Pottery.) Until you can make the trip to The Big Easy for the real thing, stoke up your grill and try out Prewitt's recipe for Whole Grilled Redfish with Salsa Verde.

"The whole grilled redfish epitomizes what we are trying to accomplish at Peche," Prewitt said. "It is a simple dish that highlights a great product and a great wood-fired cooking technique."

**Peche Seafood Grill, 800 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA, (504) 522-1744, pecherestaurant.com.**

*Chef Ryan Prewitt of Peche Seafood Grill in New Orleans said grilling times for this redfish will vary depending on the heat of your grill. "Ideally, a good medium heat will allow the wood flavor to infuse the fish as it slowly cooks," he said. "It really is worth burning down wood into coals for this dish. A well-maintained bed of wood coals is an amazing medium to cook over. Use a lot of wood and start your fire early, as it may take an hour or so to get the coals right. Make sure your grill grates are very clean and well oiled. Also, you can use any fish for this, as long as it is perfectly fresh."*

## Whole Grilled Redfish with Salsa Verde

For the redfish:

*2 ¼ - 2 ½ pound redfish (or other delicious fish), gutted, gilled and scaled*

*2 tablespoons olive oil*

*Salt and freshly ground black pepper*

For the salsa verde:

*2 salt-packed anchovy filets, \* rinsed*

*2 garlic cloves, peeled and thinly sliced*

*1 shallot, minced*

*½ cup finely chopped fresh parsley*

*½ cup finely chopped fresh mint*

*½ cup green onions, thinly sliced*

*1 lemon, zested and juiced*

*1 tablespoon Dijon mustard*

*½ cup red wine vinegar*

*½ teaspoon salt, or to taste*

*½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, or to taste*

*1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes, or to taste*

*¾ cup extra-virgin olive oil*

To finish:

*Sea salt*

Prepare a medium-hot grill, preferably with wood burned down to coals.

Make sure the redfish is scaled and the inner cavity is completely clean. Make several evenly spaced deep cuts into each side of the fish. Dry the fish off thoroughly with a towel and, if you have time, allow it to sit in front of a fan for about 15 minutes to finish drying. You can also leave the fish standing upright and uncovered in the refrigerator overnight to dry thoroughly.

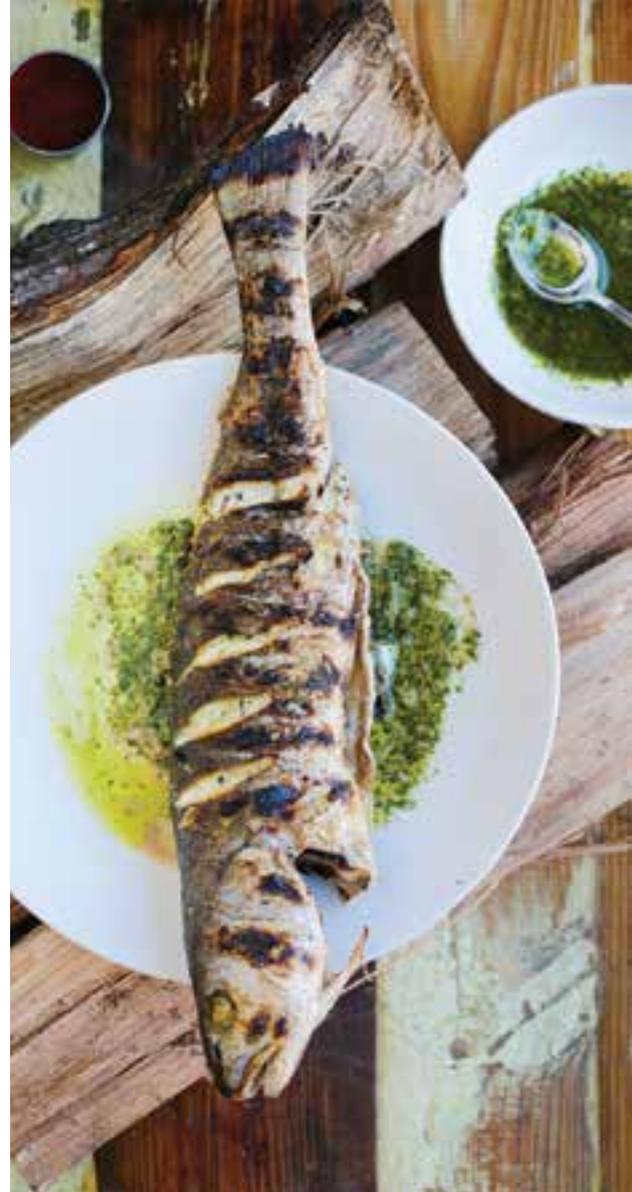
Spread the oil on both sides of the fish and season generously with salt and pepper. Clean and oil the grill. Place the fish on the grill (or in an oiled grilling basket) and cook on one side until the skin no longer sticks to the grill, 10-15 minutes. Using an oiled metal spatula, turn the fish to the other side and cook for another 10-15 minutes, or until the flesh has turned from opaque to white and the meat around the collar is soft.

Meanwhile, make the salsa verde. Mash the anchovies and garlic together with a mortar and pestle and scrape into a small bowl. Mix in the shallot, parsley, mint, green onions, lemon zest and juice, Dijon mustard, red wine vinegar, salt, pepper, and chili flakes (for milder flavor add less of the chili flakes, or to taste). While stirring briskly with a fork or small whisk, slowly pour in the oil and blend. Taste and adjust seasoning as needed. (This can also be prepared in a food processor, pulsing enough to blend but not pulverize the ingredients.)

When the fish is cooked, heavily sauce a platter with salsa verde, place fish on top, and add more salsa. Finish with a sprinkle of sea salt. To serve, slide a metal spatula just above the cavity to avoid getting any rib bones, place on serving plates and spoon salsa on top.

Makes 2 servings.

*\* Meaty and sweet, salt-packed anchovies are available at specialty food shops. You may substitute better-quality, oil-packed anchovies, which are available in supermarkets. Rinse and blot before adding.*



# Finding *True West* with a Great American Playwright

by Christopher Blank

**James A. Crank '96** – or Andy as he is known to fellow MUS alumni – got a call from an editor a couple of years ago asking if he would like to write a short book for the academic series Understanding Contemporary Literature.

Not on the list of literary icons was Tennessean James Agee, about whom Crank wrote his doctoral dissertation at UNC Chapel Hill in 2007. A number of other Southern authors were already covered, leaving Crank to hunt for subject matter outside his purview of Southern literature and culture.

“When I saw Sam Shepard on the list, I was actually surprised no one had done a volume on him,” Crank said. “So I said that he was my No. 1 choice, even though he has nothing to do with my area of expertise.”

Crank assigned himself two years to complete the task. He finished in eight months.

*Understanding Sam Shepard* (2012, University of South Carolina Press) provides a short biography and scholarly analysis of Shepard’s work for students and drama fans.

“I think he might be the greatest living American playwright,” Crank said. “I was amazed by the breadth of his talent and his ability to re-imagine himself every few years. In the 1970s and ’80s when he was at the height of his career, he captured what America was all about – its obsession with rock and roll, the American West, and the counterculture.”

For movie fans Shepard is most recognizable as the bronzed, cowboy-slim actor who played Chuck Yeager in *The Right Stuff*, for which he earned an Oscar nomination. He is regularly typecast as sage tough guys, introspective sheriffs, trim military men, and laconic husbands with long-distance stares.

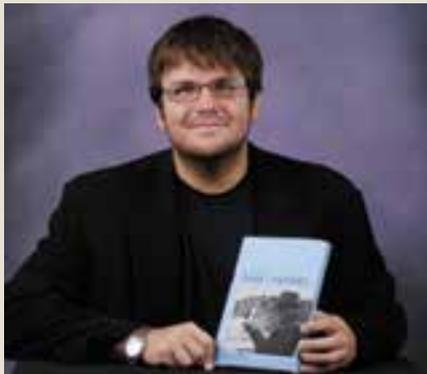
But a quick scan of the drama shelf at any major bookstore reveals his profound interior life as a writer. Shepard’s theatrical works, such as his 1979 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama *Buried Child*, or his breakout play *La Turista* (starring a young Sam Waterston in 1967), have been widely anthologized and vetted by scholars and critics.

Shepard’s plays launched some notable acting careers. Gary Sinise and John Malkovich were little-known actors in 1982 when their production of *True West* at Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre Company transferred to an Off-Broadway theater. They both won Obie Awards (for Off-Broadway productions).

Shepard’s work played a role in Crank’s life, as well. He first read the playwright while studying drama with **Flip Eikner '77** at MUS, while another teacher, Lin Askew, inspired his appreciation of literature. In college Crank further explored Shepard’s work while majoring in theater and literature.

“I remember acting in scenes from *Buried Child*, and I was struck by how difficult it was to say his lines,” Crank said. “Sometimes his characters start talking to mythic creatures or instruments or ghosts. You just don’t do this in an Ibsen play. I think so many actors want to be in his plays because it’s a real acting challenge.”

Now a professor of English and Southern culture at the University of Alabama, Crank is back to his academic roots – currently editing a book of James Agee’s unpublished works.



# Inside *le film d'horreur*

by Christopher Blank

In the annals of *The Things We Do for A Living*, **Ian Olney '91** has witnessed more than one person devoured by cannibals. In fact, he has seen scores of people get flayed, dismembered, roasted, and eaten in the interest of researching his latest book, *Euro Horror: Classic European Horror Cinema in Contemporary American Culture* (2013, Indiana University Press).

Olney, a professor of film studies at York College of Pennsylvania, delves into a genre rarely explored by American critics: the Golden Age of European Horror films, from the late 1950s through the early 1990s.

While American horror filmmakers such as Roger Corman and Wes Craven were turning out blood-splattered thrillers with monsters, aliens, and serial killers, European filmmakers were setting their own B-movie standards with unique regional quirks and socio-political allusions.

“What piqued my interest about them was that they seemed so different than American horror movies,” Olney said. “They were so over-the-top in every way, especially in the 1960s. They are absolutely exploitative, but while American horror movies have a kind of commercial basis, European directors were geared more toward art than commerce.”

Cannibalism, for example, was a peculiar fetish in Italian cinema in the late ’70s and early ’80s, with shock titles such as *Cannibal Apocalypse* and *The Mountain of the Cannibal God*. Olney attributes their popularity to the country’s fascination with primitive cultures and savage headhunters.

In Spain director Jesus “Jess” Franco made dozens of popular women-in-prison films, known for their scenes of torture carried out by sadistic wardens.

“Spain was a fascist country at the time,” Olney said. “I think there’s a clear allegorical connection to the country feeling like a prison for many people. It was a way artists could respond to their situation.”

Olney first realized the artistic impact of film in AP English at MUS. He read Ken Kesey’s novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (Signet, 1993) and then got an entirely different perspective of it from watching the movie in English instructor Terry Shelton’s class.

“It was a paradigm shift for me,” he said, “seeing movies not just as entertainment but as an expression of our culture.”

Olney says that European horror films are often just as hokey as their American counterparts – the kind of prurient, cheaply made, politically incorrect flicks that live on mostly as inspiration for neo-grindhouse filmmakers such as Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez.

“I wouldn’t want to lead any of my fellow alumni astray,” said Olney, who watched hundreds of movies from the period. “These are disturbing films that should come with all sorts of warnings. I wouldn’t call myself a fanboy of Euro Horror. I call myself an admirer of the tradition.”

He says a good introduction to the genre might be a 1963 film called *Black Sabbath*, which may be best known for inspiring the name of the ’70s rock band whose lead singer later became infamous for his own oddly horrific act: biting off the head of a bat.



RUN-ON SENTENCES RUN *from* HIM.

MATADORS USE HIS GRADED ESSAYS  
*to* DISTRACT RAGING BULLS.

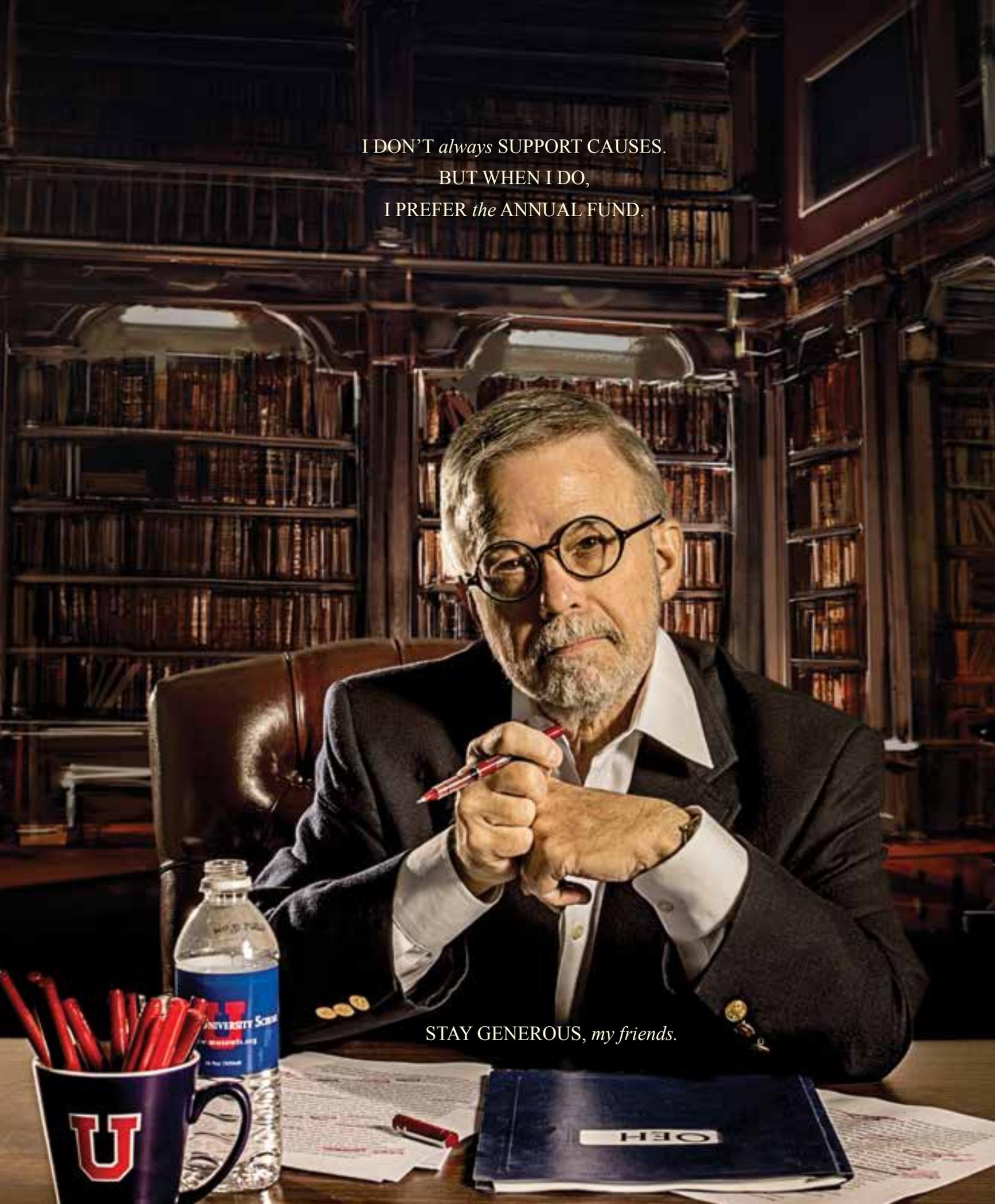
HE *was* UNABLE *to* CORRECT YODA'S SYNTAX,  
*so* HE TRAINED HIM *to be a* JEDI.

HE *is* ...

THE *most* INTERESTING  
ENGLISH TEACHER *in the* WORLD.

I DON'T *always* SUPPORT CAUSES.  
BUT WHEN I DO,  
I PREFER *the* ANNUAL FUND.

STAY GENEROUS, *my friends.*





# AN END ... A BEGINNING ...

With a Fond Farewell, the Class of 2013 Takes Flight

by Andrew Millen '08

Every year Commencement gives seniors the chance to look back on their Memphis University School experience – and look forward to a bright and promising future. The ceremony is a celebration of the school's most cherished traditions, its highest honors, and all of its scholars. On May 19 students, faculty, and administrators gathered at Second Presbyterian Church to recognize the achievements of the newest graduating class.

Student Council Chaplain **Bennett Mercer '13** opened the program with a prayer, followed by an address from salutatorian **Farhan Kathawala '13**, who advised his classmates to remember the support they received from parents, teachers, and friends.

"You have a lot to be thankful for," he said. "I hope you celebrate with as many people as you can, because you're celebrating all the people who have ever touched your life in some way."

After a performance by the a cappella group *Beg To Differ*, **Marshall Sharp '13** took the podium to give his valedictory address, which mapped his progression from an outside admirer of MUS, to his nervous orientation at

Owl Camp, through the academic crucible of Upper School, and to his final maturation into an MUS graduate. With humor and friendly jabs at his classmates, he touched upon the importance of upholding tradition as an MUS student, even if it means "instilling morality in the uncivilized underclassmen."

Sharp enumerated the impressive accomplishments of the senior class, in academics, athletics, and extracurricular endeavors, highlighting the group's most outstanding quality – the way students came together to achieve their goals.

"We have truly been a great, unified class that I'm very proud to be a part of," he said.

"MUS has equipped us with the tools to go out and conquer our lives," Sharp said. "Perhaps the most important we will have."

After the conferring of diplomas and individual awards, Headmaster Ellis Haguewood addressed the graduates, congratulating them on a distinguished record of success.

"To whom much is given, much is expected," he said. "And you've met, and often exceeded, that which we have expected of you. I'm thankful that we've had the opportunity to

know you and to watch you as you have moved inevitably toward this day."

Haguewood reiterated the outstanding accomplishments of the class, but he insisted that their greatest quality transcended all of them: "You were good citizens," he said, "and excellent ambassadors for the school." He then recited a favorite verse of former Headmaster Ross M. Lynn:

*You have each been given a bag of tools,  
A formless rock, and a book of rules,  
And each must make, ere life has flown,  
A stumbling block, or a stepping stone.*

"We'd like to believe that your habits of mind, your pursuit of excellence in all to which life calls you, your self-reliance and perseverance – all of those will be informed by the intellect you sharpened at MUS, by the moral sense you quickened here, by the challenges you met and overcame, and by the judgment you developed here," Haguewood said. "God bless you."

## CLASS OF 2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

26% were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation:  
16 National Merit Semifinalist (15 Finalists), 13 Letters of Commendation,  
2 National Achievement Semifinalists (1 Finalist)

50 students (42%) scored 30 or higher on the ACT

75 seniors took 165 AP examinations, which were offered in 19 subjects

Led state championship teams in Latin, fencing, lacrosse

Led state runner-up teams in football and bowling

Led Shelby County championship teams in swimming

Led regional championship teams in golf and track

Accepted to 109 colleges and universities in 29 different states,  
Washington DC, and Great Britain

Offered more than \$8.6 million in merit-based scholarships



John C. Reed, Hurston Reed '13, Lita Hurston-Reed, and Evelyn Reed - Faculty Cup for General Excellence



Tausha, Sylvester '13, and Sylvester Tate - Mark Cooper Powell Memorial Award



Walker Thompson '13 - Scott Miller Rembert Senior Service Award



Zachary Olsen '13 - D. Eugene Thorn Award



Class of 2013 D. Eugene Thorn Award honorees: Brian Ringel, Philip Aiken, James Rantzow, Seth Carson, and Marshall Sharp (not pictured: Zachary Olsen)



James '83, William '16, Lee, and James '13 Rantzow - D. Eugene Thorn Award



Robert '08, William '13, Cindy, and Bob '76 Hoehn - Leigh W. MacQueen Dean's Cup for Academic Excellence



Class of 2013 Ross McCain Lynn Award honorees: Peyton Klawinski, Andrew Miller, and Matt Bolton (not pictured: William Hoehn and Sam Shankman)



Robert, Nancy, Andrew '13, Katharine, and Meredith Miller - Ross McCain Lynn Award



Brian Ringel '13 and Sam Shankman '13



# Commencement Awards and Honors

## **VALEDICTORIAN AWARD**

**Marshall Sharp**

This award is presented to that senior with the highest average over eight semesters of work at Memphis University School.

## **SALUTATORIAN AWARD**

**Farhan Kathawala**

This award is presented to that senior with the second highest average over eight semesters of work at Memphis University School.

## **FACULTY CUP FOR GENERAL EXCELLENCE**

**Hurston Reed**

The Faculty Cup for General Excellence is the highest honor given to a member of the graduating class. The recipient has demonstrated qualities of leadership and strength of character, which have earned him the highest respect of his peers and his teachers. He must have given generously of his time, talent, and energy in service in a way that reflects his devotion to the school and his dedication to the ideals for which it stands.

## **ROSS MCCAIN LYNN AWARD**

**Matt Bolton, William Hoehn, Peyton Klawinski, Andrew Miller, Sam Shankman**

The Ross McCain Lynn Award is given in memory of the school's former headmaster. This award recognizes distinction in the areas of school citizenship, leadership, service, and character.

## **D. EUGENE THORN AWARD**

**Philip Aiken, Seth Carson, Zachary Olsen, James Rantzow, Brian Ringel, Marshall Sharp**

The D. Eugene Thorn Award is given in memory of the school's former headmaster. This award is presented to those members of the Senior Class who best demonstrate the dignity, integrity, humility, and sincerity that characterized Thorn's years as coach, teacher, and headmaster at Memphis University School.

## **LEIGH W. MACQUEEN DEAN'S CUP FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

**William Hoehn**

Named in 1998 in honor of the first academic dean of MUS, Leigh Windsor MacQueen, this award was originally donated by Mr. and Mrs. MacQueen in 1967. The award is given to a senior who, based on his academic record and his performance on both a written and an oral examination, has demonstrated a high level of academic achievement along with a marked depth of intellectual maturity and curiosity and who, in the minds of the examining committee, has indicated sound intellectual attainment.

## **SCOTT MILLER REMBERT SENIOR SERVICE AWARD**

**Walker Thompson**

This award, established by family and friends, is made in memory of Scott M. Rembert, Class of 1970. It goes to that senior who has shown the most unselfish service to the school.

## **MARK COOPER POWELL MEMORIAL AWARD**

**Sylvester Tate**

The Mark Cooper Powell Memorial Award is given in memory of Mark Cooper Powell, Class of 1980, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Powell, to the graduate who, through persistence and courage during his career at MUS, has shown the greatest development of character and scholarship.

# Senior Awards

## **RUSSELL JOHNSON CREATIVE WRITING AWARD**

**Farhan Kathawala**

## **WILLIAM D. JEMISON III AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DRAMATICS**

**Sam Shankman**

## **BRESCIA AWARD FOR UNSELFISH SERVICE IN DRAMATICS**

**Walker Thompson**

## **CHORAL MUSIC AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

**Sam Shankman**

## **ART AWARD**

**Mark Weaver**

## **ENGLISH AWARD**

**Brian Ringel**

## **WAYNE E. DUFF LATIN AWARD**

**Andrew Raves**

## **SPANISH AWARD**

**David Montgomery**

## **HISTORY AWARD**

**Andrew Raves**

## **CHRISTA GREEN WARNER MATHEMATICS AWARD**

**Andrew Miller**

## **MARGARET OWEN CATMUR SCIENCE AWARD**

**Seth Carson**

## **RELIGION AWARD**

**Sylvester Tate**

## **DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

**Andrew Raves**

## **PAUL TROWBRIDGE GILLESPIE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD**

**Andrew Renshaw**

## **JAMES R. HAYGOOD III BEST ALL-AROUND ATHLETE AWARD**

**Peyton Klawinski**

## **AL WRIGHT CHRISTIAN CHARACTER AWARD**

**Matt Bolton**



## Class of 2013 Matriculations

Pete Abston.....	University of Alabama	Fraser Humphreys.....	Furman University	Andrew Raves.....	United States Naval Academy
Wills Abston.....	University of Mississippi	Drew Hutson.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Remy Rea.....	University of Miami
Tiger Adams.....	University of Arkansas	Jarrett Jackson.....	Howard University	Hurston Reed.....	University of Mississippi
Philip Aiken.....	Washington and Lee University	Wells Jackson.....	Northern Arizona University	Matthew Reid.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Nick Antonelli.....	Southern Methodist University	Nedas Jakstas.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Andrew Renshaw.....	Vanderbilt University
Jared Ashkenaz.....	University of Miami	Michael Jalfon.....	Texas A&M University	Austin Riggins.....	University of Tennessee, Chattanooga
Selby Austin.....	Sewanee: The University of the South	Srujan Jampana Raju.....	University of Alabama	Brian Ringel.....	University of Michigan
Derrick Baber.....	Vanderbilt University	Arbre Jones.....	Murray State University	Fort Robinson.....	College of Charleston
Warren Ball.....	University of Mississippi	Will Jones.....	University of Arkansas	Jordan Rodgers.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Hall Ballinger.....	Auburn University	Scott Kadien.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Jordan Rogers.....	Birmingham-Southern College
James Belina.....	University of California at Los Angeles	Will Kaelin.....	Furman University	Sam Rosenberg.....	Ohio State University
Srujan Bethi.....	Millsaps College	Farhan Kathawala.....	Stanford University	Jake Rudesill.....	Auburn University
Matt Bolton.....	University of Mississippi	A.J. Kharbada.....	Vanderbilt University	Christian Sanders.....	University of Mississippi
John Brand.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Farhan Kheraj.....	University of California at Los Angeles	Frederick Scharff.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Daniel Britton.....	University of Arkansas	Peyton Klawinski.....	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Bobby Scott.....	University of Arkansas
Tucker Brock.....	Tulane University	Edward Lake.....	University of Mississippi	Amit Shah.....	Rhodes College
James Burnett.....	University of Mississippi	John Lewandowski.....	Belmont University	Sam Shankman.....	Northwestern University
Walker Bussey-Spencer.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Jackson Loeb.....	University of South Carolina	Marshall Sharp.....	University of Pennsylvania
Daniel Camuti.....	United States Naval Academy	William Mann.....	University of South Carolina	Alexander Shores.....	University of Mississippi
Seth Carson.....	New York University	Taylor Martin.....	University of Mississippi	Edward Simpson.....	University of St. Andrews
Ashton Clark.....	Auburn University	Ryan Mayzell.....	Tulane University	Blake Smith.....	Georgia Institute of Technology
Marshall Clark.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Caleb McCoy.....	Middle Tennessee State University	Sylvester Tate.....	University of Pennsylvania
Pace Clark.....	University of Georgia	Daniel McGowan.....	Rhodes College	Alexander Taylor.....	Rhodes College
Aaron Clift.....	University of Memphis	Bennett Mercer.....	Texas Christian University	Ben Taylor.....	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Dustin Conway.....	Belmont University	Andrew Miller.....	University of Virginia	Noah Thomas.....	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Tripp Crews.....	University of Mississippi	Utkarsh Mishra.....	Furman University	Walker Thompson.....	George Washington University
Colin Donoghue.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Shaheen Mokhtari.....	Colorado State University	Mac Trammell.....	Washington and Lee University
Jefferson Douglas.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	David Montgomery.....	University of Pennsylvania	Nathan Vogt.....	Washington University in St. Louis
Dalton Dulin.....	University of Mississippi	Sam Moore.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	DJ Walker.....	Rhodes College
Dobson Dunavant.....	College of Charleston	Trey O'Bannon.....	Rhodes College	Alex Weaver.....	University of Oregon
Chris Evans.....	University of Tennessee, Chattanooga	Chip Ogles.....	University of Arkansas	Hayes Westlake.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Chris Fiedler.....	University of Mississippi	Zachary Olsen.....	Oklahoma State University	Will Whitley.....	University of Tennessee, Martin
Forrest Field.....	Texas A&M University	Chima Onwuka.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Jesse Wilcox.....	University of Arkansas
Cole Flemmons.....	Auburn University	Alec Ossorio.....	University of Mississippi	Jonathan Wilfong.....	Southern Methodist University
Nourse Fox.....	United States Naval Academy	Antonio Parr.....	University of Memphis	Chip Womack.....	University of Mississippi
Charlie Goodfellow.....	Auburn University	Christian Patterson.....	Loyola University New Orleans	Jake Woodman.....	Auburn University
Kyle Gossett.....	Texas Christian University	Andrew Plunkett.....	University of Tennessee, Knoxville		
Wellford Gould.....	University of South Carolina	Austin Pretsch.....	Furman University		
Buckner Hasenmueller.....	Samford University	Van Putman.....	Southern Methodist University		
Grant Hechinger.....	Rhodes College	Wil Rainer.....	Sewanee: The University of the South		
William Hoehn.....	Vanderbilt University	James Rantzow.....	University of Alabama		
Ford Howell.....	Wake Forest University				



# THE LEGACIES

## Father-and-Son Alumni Honored at Legacy Luncheon

*Twenty-seven members of the Class of 2013 and their dads celebrated their MUS experience in April.*



Josh Abston '75 and Pete Abston '13



Wills Abston '13 and Fleet Abston '79



Chip Austin '75 and Selby Austin '13



Derrick Baber '13 and Rodney Baber '67



Hall Ballinger '13 and Lynn Ballinger '81



Jim Burnett '83 and James Burnett '13



Ashton '13, Marshall '77, and Marshall Clark '13



Tripp Crews '13 and Johnny Crews '84



John Dunavant '82 and Dobson Dunavant '13



Wellford Gould '13 and Alan Pritchard '80



William Hoehn '13 and Bob Hoehn '76



Fraser Humphreys '13 and Fraser Humphreys '75



Edward Lake '13 and Don Lake '85



Jackson Loeb '13 and Bob Loeb '73



Bryan Luttrell '13 and Paul Luttrell '82



Greg McGowan '86 and Daniel McGowan '13



Sam Moore '13 and Bruce Moore '77



Alec Ossorio '13 and Jess Ossorio '78



Jim Rainer '77 and Wil Rainer '13



James Rantzow '13 and James Rantzow '83



Drew Renshaw '85 and Andrew Renshaw '13



Austin Riggins '13 and Trent Riggins '76



Fort Robinson '13 and Wiley Robinson '75



Frederick Scharff '13 and Richard Scharff '80



Marshall Sharp '13 and John Sharp '81



Ted Simpson '85 and Edward Simpson '13



# BRINGING HOME THE LAUDS



MUS National Merit and National Achievement Semifinalists, front row, from left, Stephen Pacheco, Samuel Ostrow, Davis Howe, Salman Haque, Josh Hawkins, Zain Virk, Matthew Gayoso, Garret Sullivan, William Lamb, Kameron Bradley; back row, David Blankenship, Ben Ormseth, Sam Neyhart, Aditya Shah, Josh Douglass, Harrison Williams and Paul Stevenson

## 17 OWLS EARN NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

Fourteen students from the Class of 2014 have been honored as National Merit Semifinalists, which is the highest number of any school in the Memphis area and the second highest in the state (University School of Nashville has 22). Three additional seniors are semifinalists in the National Achievement Scholarship Program, which recognizes outstanding black high school students in the United States. Together these honorees represent nearly 16 percent of the senior class.

The National Merit Semifinalists are **Josh Douglass, Matthew Gayoso, Salman Haque, Davis Howe, William Lamb, Sam Neyhart, Ben Ormseth, Samuel Ostrow, Stephen Pacheco, Aditya Shah, Paul Stevenson, Garret Sullivan, Zain Virk, and Harrison Williams.** The National Achievement Semifinalists are **David Blankenship, Kameron Bradley, and Josh Hawkins.**

More than 1.5 million high school students entered the 2014 scholarship program through the 2012 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, according to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. About 16,000 were selected as National Merit Semifinalists based on their scores, making them eli-

gible to advance to finalist status and compete for 8,000 scholarships worth about \$35 million. In the National Achievement Scholarship Program, 1,600 students were named semifinalists. If they become finalists they have an opportunity to compete for \$2,500 National Achievement Scholarships or corporate-sponsored scholarship awards.

## MUS FENCING REPEATS AS STATE CHAMPIONS

The fencing team amassed the largest medal count to date on its way to a second consecutive state title at the Tennessee State Secondary School Fencing Championships in April 2013.

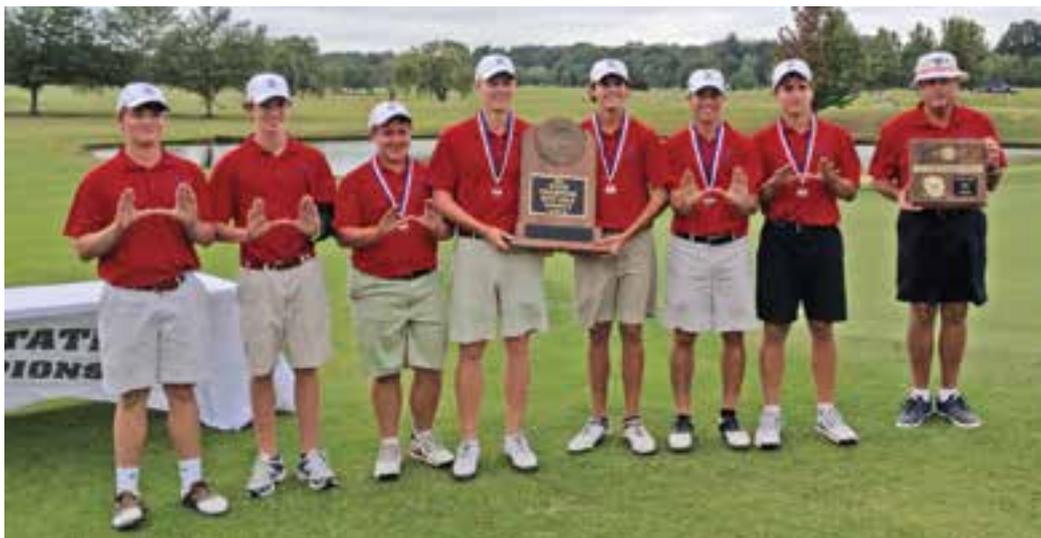
New Assistant Coach **Skip Aymett '08** finished with three golds for the season, and **Drew Hutson '13** brought home two. Earning one gold medal each were **Ben Taylor '13, Andrew Elsagr '15, Jeffrey Zheng '15, and Mackey Alexander '17.** All told, the team collected 41 medals: 10 gold, 9 silver, and 22 bronze.

The state championship win came on home turf, as MUS welcomed 76 fencers from 15 schools. The MUS team topped the epee and saber divisions, and a second-place finish in foil secured the overall trophy.

"I was very pleased with the hard work done in preparation for the championship tournament," Coach Brad Kroeker said. "I congratulate the Class of 2013 on a fine effort and look to the rising class of 2014 for an even stronger team this year."



Tennessee State High School Epee Champions, from left, Nick DiMento, William Lamb, Ben Taylor, Aaron Clifft, and Sam Neyhart



Owl golfers with the state trophy, from left, Lamar Mallory, Parker Sexton, Goodman Rudolph, Hayden Combs, Tucker Fox, Hays Moreland, Mason Rudolph, and Coach Cliff Frisby

## STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CROWNS GOLF SEASON

The varsity golf team racked up a 34-14-1 overall record this fall, winning both the regional tournament and the state tournament to claim the Owls' first TSSAA II-AA team golf championship since 1996. In addition **Hays Moreland '15** took the state individual championship.

Moreland, along with **Hayden Combs '14**, **Tucker Fox '14**, **Goodman Rudolph '17**, and **Mason Rudolph '17** traveled to Manchester's WillowBrook Golf Club on September 23 for the state tournament. The Owls finished day

one in a three-way tie for third place, just three strokes behind first-place Baylor. The squad pulled together to knock 14 strokes off its tally, surging to an 11-shot win over Baylor to win the tournament. Fox finished with a 148 (+4), Combs and Goodman Rudolph both shot 4 under their day-one score to finish at 150 (+6), and Mason Rudolph improved by 3 strokes to finish at 159 (+15). Moreland led the team and the tournament with a 140 (-4) on his way to earning medalist honors and winning the individual state championship.

"These guys played hard," Coach Cliff Frisby said. "They followed the game plan, and they peaked at the right time after a slow start

to the season. They found their stride right as they got near the championship."

## LACROSSE WINS THIRD-STRAIGHT STATE TITLE

The varsity lacrosse dynasty continued its domination of state play, winning its third consecutive TSLA state championship and its 10th overall in a 16-4 season.

Head Coach Elliott Dent said Class of 2013 athletes played a major role in the success of the program over the last several seasons. **Philip Aiken, Selby Austin, Peyton Klawinski, Jackson Loeb, Andrew Miller, Wil Rainer, and Fort Robinson** not only brought talent and experience but also strong leadership skills, he said.

In the TSLA playoffs the Owls easily dispatched Houston (15-3) and Ravenwood (15-2) in the first two rounds to advance to the semifinals in Nashville. After a hard-fought, 9-6 victory over Brentwood, the team took on rival Montgomery Bell Academy in the finals, beating the Big Red, 11-3, to claim the state championship.

Dent said he was pleased with how the season transpired.

"Every season should be about the journey," he said. "We experienced a rough 1-and-4 start to this season, but I am proud of how we reacted. We regrouped as a team, and we focused our sights on the details of our journey and the challenges we faced along the way."



The varsity lacrosse team celebrates a third-consecutive state championship.



The 2013 varsity tennis team: front row, from left, Christian Schneider, Michael Birnbaum, Michael Apple, Austin Hord, Arnav Thakur, and Andres Carro; second row, Alec Carro, Edward Apple, Alex Carruthers, Alex Taylor, Walker Sims, and Stephen Ogle; third row, Paul LaHue, Frederick Scharff, Wellford Gould, Jacob Birnbaum, Spencer Richey, and David Scharff; fourth row, Jack Richman, Tully Dicken, Marshall Sharp, Colin Donoghue, and Davis Owen; not pictured, Brian Ringel

## TENNIS WINS STATE TEAM, SINGLES, AND DOUBLES TITLES

The varsity tennis team cut through TSSAA Division II-AA state competition to win the team title, singles title, and doubles title – its first sweep of the three major awards since 1999.

In the spring of 2013, Coach Bill Taylor and Coach Phil Chamberlain fielded one of the most talented squads in school history, and they were rarely tested.

**Marshall Sharp '13** led the team, winning his third state singles title by besting his

McCallie opponent, 6-1, 6-3, in the finals, adding to the singles championships he won in 2010 and 2011.

Sophomores **Michael Apple '15** and **Spencer Richey '15** were not to be outdone, winning the doubles title by beating their teammates, **Colin Donoghue '13** and **Jacob Birnbaum '14**, 6-2, 6-3, in the state finals.

In the team competition the Owls shut out McCallie in the semifinals as **Sharp, Birnbaum, and Paul LaHue '15** all won their singles matches in straight sets. In team doubles action **Sharp and Walker Sims '14**, defending singles state champion and two-time High School All-American, won their match, as did the team of Donoghue and Birnbaum and the

team of Apple and Richey.

That victory advanced the Owls to the finals, where they faced Montgomery Bell Academy, which had defeated Baylor in the semifinals. The team lost the doubles point early on as Sharp-Sims and Apple-Richey lost their matches. However, they made up for it in singles play, where the Owls surged and took the first four matches to win the title – Sharp, Sims, LaHue and Richey, all won in straight sets. The team championship is the program's 14th TSSAA title and 15th overall (including the Southern Interscholastic title in 1958).

# A TEACHER'S TEACHER

## Eikner '77 Bids Farewell to the Legendary Jim Russell

*At the end-of-year faculty luncheon in May, paying tribute to Jim Russell and his 48 years of service to MUS was foremost on the agenda. Academic Dean Flip Eikner '77 offered this heartfelt – and at moments emotional – tribute to his teacher, mentor, and friend.*

by Flip Eikner '77



One of my favorite cultural artifacts of the twentieth century is Stephen Sondheim's Broadway musical *Sunday in the Park with George*. It blends music, art, literature, history – in short, the humanities – a keen appreciation for all of which I, and many hundreds of others, learned in Mr. Jim Russell's Humanities class. *Sunday in the Park* both begins and ends with these words, "A blank canvas. So many possibilities."

The concept "so many possibilities" is a hallmark of the humanities, and this is exactly how Mr. Russell views his

world. An eternal optimist, he always sees and finds more and better, where others may see only less and worse. And the transformational results are almost magical – alchemical. As an admiring 1976 yearbook section editor describes it, Mr. Russell "has turned many cultural idiots into interested students of the fine arts."

Mr. Russell's professional career at MUS began in 1965, thanks to his optimism. When his cab from the train station arrived at 6191 Park Avenue – a scrubby field with only a few buildings – the driver saw only barren, blank

nothingness. Mr. Russell saw possibilities for greatness.

My own professional career at MUS began in 1983, thanks to his optimism. In my job interview with Mr. Leigh MacQueen and Mr. Russell, I was asked to describe a course I might hope to add to the MUS curriculum. Having freshly finished several books by J. D. Salinger, I said I hoped to add a course on J. D. Salinger and gave a couple of nothing justifications for such a thing. Mr. Russell's response was to agree with me enthusiastically and proffer several additional and more persuasive reasons why

such a course might enrich the school. “So many possibilities.”

In almost any conversation with Mr. Russell, this is his method. Instead of tearing down whatever you might say, he agrees, and then jumps in with many more additional possibilities. When you think about it, this is a cunning way to teach. While seeming merely to agree with you, he’s simultaneously reinforcing *and* augmenting your knowledge and understanding. He never teaches through tearing down, intimidation, or humiliation – and in this he is a model for us all. As Board of Trustees member **Andy McCarroll ’86** commented not too long ago, Mr. Russell creates an environment where no one fears looking stupid about asking questions. Always in the forefront with Mr. Russell is his humility, not your humiliation.

Even when you actually have done something wrong, and you’ve offered your genuinely stupid explanation for your error, Mr. Russell empathizes with you and generously suggests several additional excellent and more valid excuses for your deficiency, before then gently reminding you that, nonetheless, a regeneration is in order. This is grace of the first water.

In his lessons on essay writing, Mr. Russell would often proffer Mr. Bill Hatchett’s famously rigorous program of five-paragraph essay organization and single-page succinctness – indeed, a severely constrained blank canvas on which to paint. But then Mr. Russell would add, “In my class, I don’t mind that you exceed

## Legacy of Excellence

Jim Russell retired this spring after 48 years as an instructor in English and fine arts and chairman of the English Department. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Tulane University and his master’s degree from Vanderbilt University before joining the MUS faculty in 1965. He became chairman of the English Department in 1969, a position he would hold for the next 44 years, teaching English, Shakespeare, British Literature, Southern Renaissance Literature, Modern Literature, and Art Appreciation. Along with

Mr. Hatchett’s single-page limit if you wish to explore additional possibilities.”

Mr. Russell gave us permission to see *all* the possibilities.

A week or two before my graduation from MUS, my parents hosted a party at which their close friend, Mr. Jim Napier, a fellow parishioner of Mr. Russell’s at St. George’s Episcopal Church, offered to me the polite blandishment that it must be enormously rewarding for a teacher like Mr. Russell to have a student like me. I can still feel my burning self-reproach in that moment, for I knew that *at* that very moment, I still owed Mr. Russell a research paper on *The Merchant of Venice* that was more than a week late. It wasn’t that I hadn’t written it – it was that I couldn’t *stop* writing it. Under his tutelage, I had seen so very many possibilities and therefore had so much more I wanted to say about the immortal Shakespeare – a feeling

Terry Shelton, he created and published *The Owl English Handbook*, a valued reference for students and faculty since 1985.

Russell received numerous awards and honors during his tenure. He held the Sue Hightower Hyde Chair of English and received the Jean Barbee Hale Award for Outstanding Service, the John M. Nail Outstanding Teacher Award, and the school’s first Distinguished Teaching Award. The Tennessee Association of Independent Schools honored Russell with their Loyalty Award and the Hubert Smothers Award for distinguished teaching and dedicated service.

I echo here in trying to express all my appreciation for the immortal Russell. In my eventual epiphany on Mr. Napier’s remark, I suddenly understood the much truer possibility: How very rewarding it was for a student like me to have a teacher like Mr. Russell. And in that pivotal realization, I decided that I wanted to be like him. That’s the moment when I chose to teach. So if I’m going on too long now, it’s only because I owe him my 30-year life at MUS.

In my senior year I took three courses from Mr. Russell. In one, we read Southern Renaissance poems by a man named Ransom. In another, we read a science fiction novel about a man named Ransom. What a curious and apt coincidence! *Ransom* comes from the same word root as *redemption*. It means *to save, redeem, or rescue, often at deep personal cost or sacrifice*. Throughout his career Mr. Russell has redeemed those around him, often at deep personal cost or sacrifice – whether suppressing his own opinions instructively to support and reinforce yours; or generously helping struggling students for countless hours after school; or laboring ceaselessly to transform even the idiots into connoisseurs; or as department chair, perennially assigning to himself all the least-popular period-7 classes; or as the man who taught me humanities and allowed me a passing grade on a term paper that should have been unforgivably late; or as the supervisor who helped craft my answer about J.D. Salinger into just enough to warrant ransoming me an opportunity as an MUS teacher.

Thank you, Mr. Russell, for always looking for the possibilities, and for persistently and tirelessly *ransoming* so very many of the people who have enjoyed the transformational and rewarding privilege to know you.

English Department colleagues gather to celebrate Jim Russell, center, at his retirement party: from left, Dax Torrey ’94, Spencer Reese ’94, Michelle Crews, Eric Dalle ’93, Russell, Sally Askew, Terry Shelton, Lin Askew, Headmaster Ellis Haguewood, and Elizabeth Crosby. In front: Norman Thompson



## HARKINS HONORED WITH FACULTY PORTRAIT

Historian Dr. John E. Harkins made some Memphis University School history himself October 3, when he joined the distinguished company honored in the Alumni Executive Board's Faculty Portrait Series. During an unveiling reception in the Dining Hall, family and friends gathered to pay tribute to the retired history teacher and current school archivist.

Harkins' portrait, the ninth in the series honoring faculty members who have made major contributions to the school, celebrates his 26 years as an MUS history teacher and 19 years as chair of the History Department. He also held the endowed Ross M. Lynn Chair of History from 1992 until his retirement in 2009 and earned the school's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1996. The Daughters of the American Revolution named him Tennessee's Outstanding American History Teacher in 1997. The MUS archives bears his name, thanks to a gift by a former student, PayPal and Yammer entrepreneur **David O. Sacks '90**.

**John Barton '95**, president of the Alumni Executive Board, presided over the evening, first introducing former student **Clayton Chandler '97**, who called Harkins "the most beloved MUS figure in my eyes, in the eyes of the Class of 1997, and in the eyes of the MUS community as a whole."

Chandler relayed tributes from several classmates, including **John Pettet '97**, who described how Harkins "injected humor in the seemingly mundane" and always demonstrated a passion for history, particularly local history."

**Justin Giles '96** told Chandler that Harkins was a teacher and mentor who helped him overcome academic difficulties. "I can honestly say if it were not for Dr. Harkins taking an interest in me as a junior at MUS, I do not think I would be where I am today – his impact on my life and my career has been that substantial," Giles said.

Describing Harkins as "a real historian, as well as a teacher," Headmaster Ellis Haguewood listed a few of his writings, including *Metropolis of the American Nile: An Illustrated History of Memphis* (Windsor, 1982; Guild Bindery Press, 1991), *Historic Shelby County: An Illustrated History* (HPN, 2008), *The New Orleans Cabildo: Colonial Louisiana's First City Government, 1769-1803* (with Gilbert C. Din, LSU Press, 1996), and *The MUS Century Book* (August House, 1993, 2002), a history of Memphis University School.

In addition to serving as the MUS



archivist, Harkins writes a monthly history column for *The Best Times*, a Mid-South news magazine for seniors. A longtime member of the West Tennessee Historical Society, he has served as president for 11 of the last 23 years, and he was Memphis/Shelby County archivist from 1979-1985.

"John Harkins remains a true scholar, an excellent writer, and a man who loves Memphis University School," Haguewood said. "His intellectual honesty and objectivity, his commitment to honor and fairness, his wealth of knowledge and his insatiable desire to learn, his wry sense of humor and his pleasant collegiality always made him an ideal faculty member, scholar, and teacher."

Haguewood and Barton unveiled the portrait, painted by award-winning artist Steve Moppert from Chattanooga, who attended the reception. The artwork will hang in the campus Dining Hall alongside the images of other MUS legends.

In accepting the honor Harkins said he felt privileged just to be part of this faculty. "Sometime back in the '90s I went through the whole faculty roster, and it worked out that about 80 percent of the people on the faculty were, to one extent or another, personal heroes of mine. I am so very appreciative of this series and so very grateful for this image. . . . I can't

thank you enough for the generosity that you've shown me tonight."

He also praised his wife, Georgia, for her support throughout their nearly 48-year marriage. "She has been unfailingly patient and supportive, and she's the No. 1 accomplishment in my 75 years. I asked her to marry me two years before she did, and I've never quite forgiven her for the delay."

Longtime colleague Norman Thompson, instructor in English, likely spoke for the entire gathering – especially fellow faculty members – when he expressed appreciation to his friend: "We thank you, Doctor, for the memories and for the knowledge and scholarly attitude that you imparted to us," Thompson said. "We will continue to be inspired by your benign and sagacious presence looking down on us from your framed image on the wall as we consume our country-fried steak and prepare to launch another error-filled opinion or reminiscence that only your corporeal presence could correct."

\*

*The Alumni Executive Board initiated the portrait series in 2005 to honor MUS faculty members who have given much of their lives in service to the school. Each year the board commissions a new portrait, honoring the recipient in an unveiling ceremony.*



Wayne Mullins, left, and Lin Askew have been honored with endowed chairs.

### **ASKEW HOLDS SUE HIGHTOWER HYDE CHAIR IN ENGLISH**

Lin Askew, instructor in English, has been awarded the Sue Hightower Hyde Chair of English.

Headmaster Ellis Haguewood expressed high praise for Askew, who joined the faculty in 1979: "Excellence in the classroom, a keen intelligence, a strong sense of humor and wit, integrity of character, and a profound love for the school make Lin Askew an excellent choice for this endowed chair," he said.

Askew's classes have long been favorites with MUS students, earning him the school's John M. Nail Excellence in Teaching Award in 1996 and the Distinguished Teaching Award in 2004. He has developed many upper-level courses, including War and Literature and Southern Renaissance Literature. In addition he has led four MUS in Europe trips.

Although he served as director of admissions from 1995-2005 and coached basketball and golf, the classroom is where he feels most energized.

"I love to share my passion with the students," he said.

The Sue Hightower Hyde Chair in English was established in 1963 by the Hyde family and renamed in 1977 in memory of Sue Hightower Hyde, wife of Joseph R. Hyde, Jr. A lover of books, Sue Hyde held education in high regard, and she actively supported her husband in his educational philanthropies.

### **MULLINS HOLDS SALLY AND WIL HERGENRADER CHAIR OF EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE**

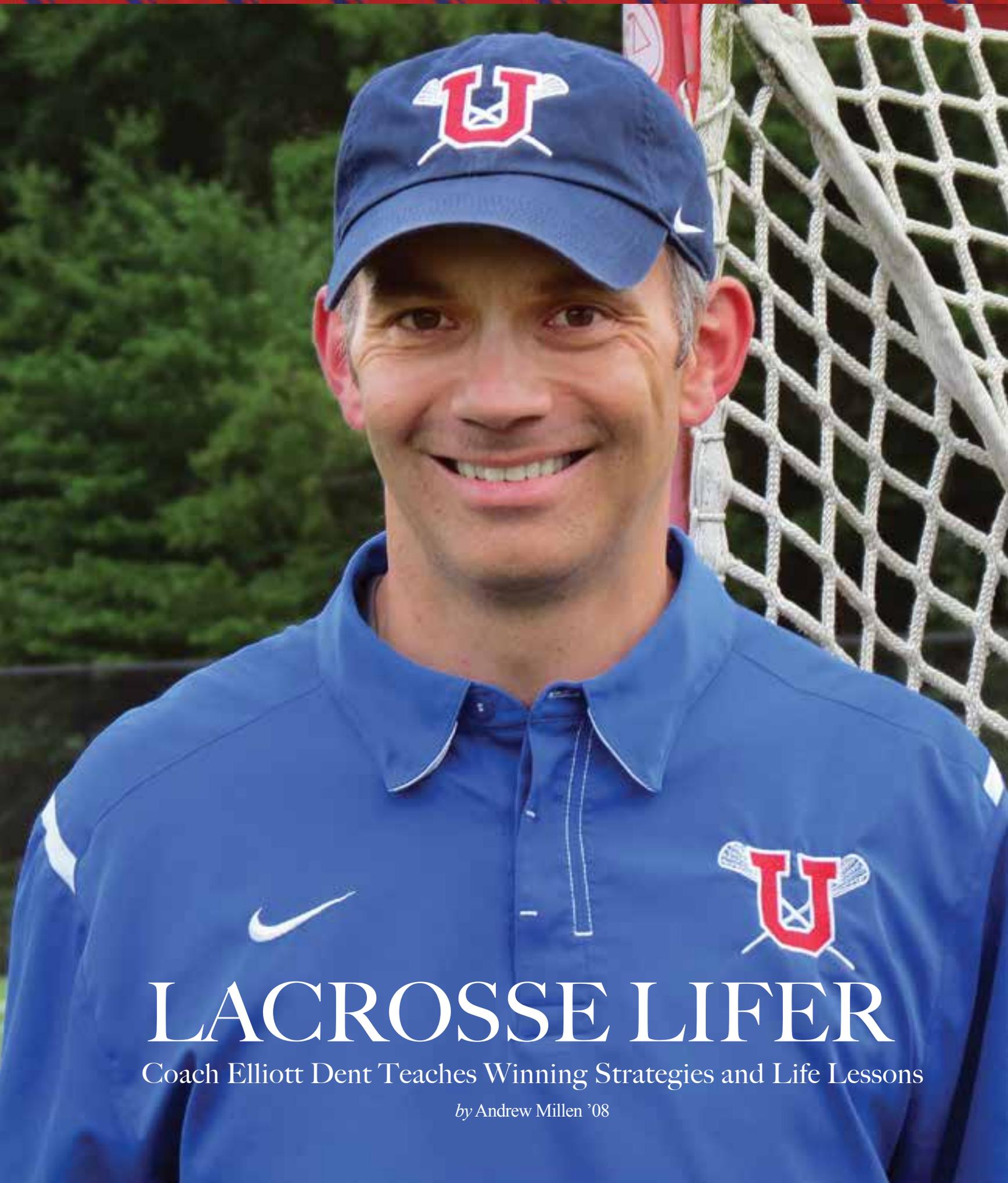
Physics instructor Wayne Mullins now holds the Sally and Wil Hergenrader Chair of Excellence in Science. Headmaster Ellis Haguewood said Mullins is deserving of this honor, due to his "conscientiousness, his unselfish service to his students and teachers outside of MUS, his depth of knowledge, his enthusiasm for teaching, and his understanding of students."

Mullins admits his passion for his subject:

"I eat, sleep, and breathe how to deliver the physics lesson to the classroom," he said.

He teaches Advanced Placement and Honors Physics at MUS, and he has served as an AP Physics exam reader since 2007. He is a leader in the local physics education community, dedicated to increasing the number of physics courses and programs in the region. He has been honored with many awards, including Outstanding Teacher for Tennessee by the American Association of Physics Teachers in 1993, Distinguished Teacher award by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars in 1994, Teacher of the Year for Alabama by the University of Alabama in 2006, John M. Nail Award for Outstanding Teaching by the MUS Class of 2012, and Hubert Smothers Award by the Tennessee Association of Independent Schools in 2012.

Sally and Wil Hergenrader endowed this chair in 2007 to support the school's science department, recognizing that the best and brightest teachers are required in this ever-changing field.



# LACROSSE LIFER

Coach Elliott Dent Teaches Winning Strategies and Life Lessons

*by Andrew Millen '08*

In his senior year at Virginia's Hampden-Sydney College, Elliott Dent noticed a letter on the bulletin board in the lacrosse team locker room. It was from a private school in Tennessee: Memphis University School Headmaster Ellis Haguewood was looking to fill a teaching and head lacrosse coach position.

"I was a religion major at Hampden-Sydney," Dent said. "I had thought about getting a master's in divinity and maybe entering the clergy. But from a young age, I had thought about teaching at a private school, and I wanted to give it a try."

Dent called Haguewood that afternoon, and the two met for an interview shortly thereafter.

"I'll never forget the first interview with Elliott," Haguewood said. "He didn't wear socks, he had on a madras sport jacket – I knew immediately he was our kind of guy."

A native of Washington, DC, Dent attended all-male schools during his junior high and high school years. After graduating from Hampden-Sydney, another all-male institution, he was well prepared for the rigors and rewards of teaching at MUS.

"Within a few weeks, I fell in love with teaching," he said.

Dent teaches seventh-grade Old Testament and ninth-grade New Testament in the Religion Department, and he has also taught English in the Lower School. He credits his fellow teachers with showing him how "masters of their craft" operate day to day.

"I look around at my colleagues, and I think, 'I'm no Terry Shelton,'" he said. "I can't do what he does in a classroom."

But then, there are not many teachers who can do what Dent does on a lacrosse field. In 1998, just two years after taking over as head



*Elliott Dent, right, during his Hampden-Sydney College days*

coach of the newest MUS varsity sport, Dent had his first state championship (the second for Owl lacrosse). In the spring of 2013 he marked his 200th MUS win – with a victory over CBHS – and he coached his ninth state-champion squad. MUS lacrosse has become a true powerhouse under Dent's leadership, beating teams from 12 different states and sending players to college programs across the country, including Division I schools such as Dartmouth College and Cornell University.

**Thomas Robinson '00**, former MUS team captain and current White Station lacrosse coach, called Dent's record exceptional, even when compared with other great coaches' records. Robinson said his mentor's success stems from his exceptional attention to detail, his ability to blend consistency with flexibility, and his gift for motivating his players.

"Most MUS lacrosse alumni will remember his common refrain, 'Rome was not built in a day.' He showed us that a championship team is built much like an empire," Robinson said. "His teams have a solid foundation of fundamentals, understanding, and work ethic. They pay attention to the little things; and with that knowledge, they have the flexibility to play to their strengths. Finally, they are motivated to be their best regardless of the opponent."

**Whit Tenent '00**, assistant varsity lacrosse coach and instructor in history, said Dent's dedication to excellence stems from his love of the game: "He is a very driven individual, and he shows his passion for the game to the guys he coaches. I truly fell in love with playing lacrosse and being a part of lacrosse when I played for Coach Dent."

Pat DiMento, volunteer lacrosse coach for 20 years, remembers Dent's arrival in 1996 and how he immediately began shaping the growing program. "From the moment Elliott arrived on campus, he was able to

transform a ragtag team into a respectable program," he said.

One of Dent's initial challenges was finding squads to play. In 1996 there were only three high school lacrosse teams in Memphis, so the coaches had to stir up interest. Realizing they could not have a Lower School team until they had opponents to play against, Dent, DiMento, and David Gearhardt (a former Owl coach and current coach at Hutchison) helped start the spring and fall recreation league Memphis Youth Lacrosse Association as an offshoot of summer-league Memphis Lacrosse.

"The idea was to offer a recreational lacrosse league for junior high or high school players, and we hoped that those players would pass on their enthusiasm for the game and try to start lacrosse at the schools they attended," Dent said.



*Dent assists with practice on the sidelines.*

The plan worked. MYLA recreational players began to start up and play for school-associated teams. Now there are 11 high school programs and nine middle-school programs in the Memphis area, Dent said.

DiMento launched Crusaders Lacrosse Club in the mid-2000s, which has evolved into Buzzard Lacrosse, serving kids from kindergarten through sixth grade. Year by year, these programs have expanded lacrosse in the Mid-South.

"It's definitely more than just a sport," Dent said. "It's a community."

That sense of community was evident when parents and alumni raised funds to install artificial turf and a scoreboard on the MUS



*The Dent family: from left, Eliza, Coach Elliott Dent, Elliott, Stephanie, and Isabel*

lacrosse fields. At the dedication in April 2013, Dent thanked supporters and their families with his own daughters, 8-year-old Isabel and 6-year-old Eliza at his side. Dent and his wife, Stephanie, also have a son, 3-year-old Elliott (Elliott Johnstone Dent IV).

“I could not do what I do without the support of my wife and children. They work as a team at home to compensate for my erratic schedule in the spring,” Dent said.

Lacrosse games and trips are always family affairs, he said. “We have gone from DiMento diapers, to Dent diapers, to Tenent diapers.”

A sense of family extends to the team, with Dent emphasizing the importance of support for one another and teamwork. At the beginning of each season his players develop a covenant – a mutual agreement, rather than a set of rules. These covenants change slightly every year, but each one emphasizes certain cornerstones: unity, commitment, leadership, respect, and focus. (Every squad has a few more specific goals, too: The 2008 team included “Beat McCallie [2X]” in its covenant.)

“The purpose of the covenant is to help build a team in which every player commits to making a mutual and cooperative effort,” Dent said. “Every individual needs to have faith, trust, and belief that everyone else on the team is doing the same.”

The covenant is just one way Dent teaches his players and students the importance of values and good character.

“I think team sports can play an important role in the development of young men,” he said. “There are some basic Judeo-Christian values that can be learned. For instance, it’s human nature to be selfish. Team sports teach you to put something else before yourself – the good of the team. You’re serving your teammates. And you can’t serve the team if you make bad decisions off the field.”

Dent’s players, many of whom go on to play lacrosse in college and to coach the game, testify to his influence not just as a coach but also as a teacher whose lessons extend far beyond the playing field. Robinson, who played for the 2003 national champion Colorado State University team, now views his former coach from the opposing side of the field when MUS plays White Station.

“Coach Dent has been and still is an important mentor of mine,” Robinson said. “He has taught me to do things the right way and for the right reason. My sports career, my work career, and my life have been better for his teaching.”

**Peyton Klawinski ’13**, another former team captain now playing at Division I University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said Dent is a teacher first. “He helped me

grow in my understanding of the game. He always held me to a high standard, and for that I am very thankful,” Klawinski said.

Tenent, who played at Lynchburg College and now serves at Dent’s side, said the playing field is just an extension of the classroom for Dent.

“When he gives assignments he expects his students to follow through with their best effort. It’s the same on the lacrosse field,” Tenent said.

Dent credits his lacrosse coach at Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA, with not only instilling a “blue-collar mentality” in him as a player, but also showing him the connection between teaching and coaching. In addition to lacrosse, James Robert MacDonald coached Dent on the football field and taught him Spanish.

“Coach Mac was a big influence and a mentor,” Dent said. “He certainly taught me a lot about how to play sports – how to scout and read an opponent, how to execute a game plan. Those lessons were valuable, but it wasn’t until later that I became fully aware of how they rubbed off on me. They were lessons that I could apply to a much wider array of circumstances I would encounter in life.

“That, in my opinion, is a master teacher,” Dent said. “And at the end of the day, that is the goal of a coach.”

## MUS IN EUROPE TRAVELERS RECALL LA GIRAUDIÈRE HOST

Hundreds of alumni who attended MUS in Europe trips to La Giraudière in France will remember Bruno Dalle, who passed away March 19. Before retiring, Bruno was a journalist who interviewed the likes of Churchill, Reagan, Carter, and de Gaulle. Several faculty members shared fond memories of the lighthearted and hospitable Dalle, brother of French instructor emeritus and La Giraudière host Reginald Dalle and uncle of English instructor **Eric Dalle ’93**.

“Bruno Dalle was an exuberant and generous host to hundreds of MUS boys in Europe. Each summer he made a point of learning all of their names as well as the groups’ interests. Noticing that one of my groups loved playing soccer, for example, Bruno had one of the fields mowed and leveled for their games and organized a

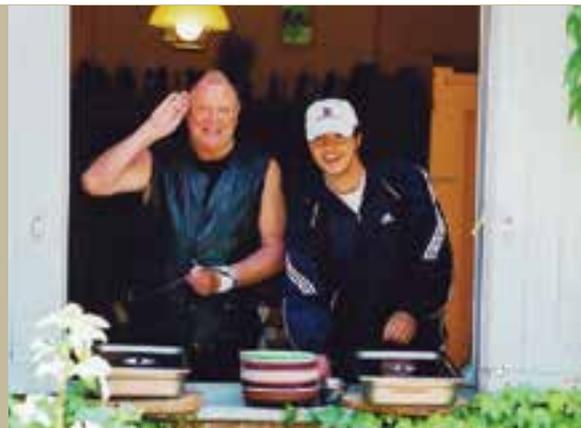
match with some local players. He enjoyed celebrating the boys’ birthdays, offered them impromptu instruction about French cheeses, and kept the freezer stocked with ice cream.”

– Elizabeth Crosby, instructor in English

“Kay and I remember fondly Bruno’s assuring every guest, young student or adult, extremely gracious hospitality. Occasionally, he would reminisce about his acquaintances and conversations with world leaders of the past several decades. He was a true bon vivant. When I twisted my knee on one of our tours from La Giraudière, Bruno expressed great concern. He forthwith phoned his own masseur to come to the chateau to give me physical therapy. What a gracious host and fascinating personality Bruno was!”

– Jim Russell, faculty emeritus

“The summer after I graduated from MUS, I spent the month of July in France. At that time Bruno was with Europe 1 (the biggest radio station in France), and they were in charge of broadcasting the Tour de France. The tour came



Bruno Dalle salutes the MUS contingent from the La Giraudière kitchen, alongside Mohammed Gourir, another friend of the MUS in Europe program.

near where I was vacationing, and through Bruno’s influence, I was able to ride in the caravan that precedes the bikers. What you don’t see if you watch the Tour de France on TV is the three-week, continuous party that hits each destination point along the route. Bruno was in charge of orchestrating those parties, and they were all-night affairs. It was neat to be a part of those festivities for a week that summer.”

– Eric Dalle ’93, instructor in English



# Alumni Honor Loeb and Stevenson

Each year the Alumni Executive Board honors two alumni for their outstanding service to the community and the school. At the board's annual luncheon November 12, **Bob Loeb '73** was named *Alumnus of the Year* and **Cleo Stevenson '68** was named *Volunteer of the Year*.

## Alumnus of the Year: Bob Loeb '73

The *Alumnus of the Year Award* is presented to an MUS alumnus who exemplifies community leadership and personal integrity, personifying the school's guiding principle of developing well-rounded men of strong moral character.

As president of Loeb Properties, **Bob Loeb '73** oversees the development and management of more than 100 retail properties, including the revitalization of Overton Square in Midtown Memphis. Those who have observed his longtime support of MUS say he brings his management expertise and drive to every role he undertakes, including chair of the Board of Trustees from 2008 through August 2013.

In presenting the Alumnus of the Year Award, Alumni Executive Board President **John Barton, Jr. '95** cited Loeb's qualities of leadership and integrity.

"Bob Loeb exudes the essence of this honor as he has initiated and supported change throughout our city and has played a significant role in improvements to our campus and community," he said.

**Sam Graham '80**, who took over as chair in August, said a steady hand and a focus on the long-term health and continuous improvement of the school marked Loeb's chairmanship.

"His ability to promote thoughtful, strategic discussion and to engage our talented board in meaningful work produced plans for the school's future from which we will enjoy the benefits for years to come," Graham said. "His shoes will be hard to fill."

Headmaster Ellis Haguwood said the MUS community owes Loeb a "great debt of gratitude" for his leadership as chairman of the Board of Trustees. "His honesty, his ability, his commitment, his patience, his wisdom, and his humility – all of these characteristics conspired to make him an effective and unselfish leader. His obvious affection for the school, his belief in the good, and his sense of personal responsibility inspired and encouraged all of us. The mark of a great chairman is that he leaves the post with the school better than he found it. Bob surely did."

Under Loeb's leadership the MUS campus underwent several improvements, including the construction of the Field House indoor athletic facility (opening in January 2014), the baseball grandstand, and other vital renovations and

repairs. More importantly to Loeb, during his tenure board members devised a new strategic plan to advance the Memphis University School legacy, and they also fine-tuned the mission statement and philosophy to better reflect the school's emphasis on service, leadership, honor, integrity, personal responsibility, and respect for individual differences.

Loeb sees the update of the strategic plan, led by fellow trustee Suki Carson, as a stellar example of board members' passion for their assignments.

"MUS is blessed to have a board of talented trustees who serve by leading and lead by serving," Loeb said. "For the strategic plan we chose not to engage a professional consultant since most come with a bias toward their particular models."

Instead, Carson recruited a team from the board and divided them into subcommittees led by Graham, **Steve Morrow '71**, and **Andy McCarroll '86**, he said. Team members interviewed dozens of friends of the school to gather input and develop a strategic plan that was custom-designed for MUS.

"It is a masterful work, and it will direct

MUS initiatives for a number of years," Loeb said. "The Strategic Planning Committee identified a number of priorities in the areas of organization and structure, mission and philosophy, and finance that will help us focus on sharpening the saw at MUS."

Loeb has been a strong proponent of increasing the school's endowment in order to weather future economic conditions. In 2003 he established the Loeb Endowment for Academic Support, used by the academic dean to develop and fund programs that foster continuing academic excellence.

A Thorn Society founding member, Loeb was president in 1998-99, and he is a member of the Lynn Society. A Board of Trustees member since 1999, he provided leadership on the Physical Facilities Committee for the Strategic Plan 2004-05, and he served on the steering committees for the Doors to New Opportunities Campaign and the Multi-Sports Stadium Campaign.

Loeb, who earned his undergraduate degree and MBA from Southern Methodist University, has a long record of community involvement. He chaired the \$26.5 million



Bob Loeb, Alumnus of the Year, and Cleo Stevenson, Volunteer of the Year



“For Girls, For Life, For Generations” capital campaign at St. Mary’s Episcopal School, and he currently serves on the boards for Midtown institutions Memphis College of Art and Playhouse on the Square. As always, he enjoys his three children Win ’10, Hensley (St. Mary’s Episcopal School ’10), and Jackson ’13.

Loeb said he will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees and to support his alma mater.

“I have been blessed to be a student, an alumnus, a parent, and a trustee at MUS,” he said. “I am very grateful for each of these roles, and I am mindful that to whom much is given, much is expected. MUS has given much to me, and to give back seems natural.”

### Volunteer of the Year: Cleo Stevenson ’68

*The Volunteer of the Year is presented to an MUS alumnus who serves Memphis University School in a significant and needed way throughout the year, seeking out opportunities to promote the interests of the school.*

**Cleo Stevenson ’68** kindled twin passions for service and music during his MUS days. He learned the joy of making music as a young teen when he played in the school pep band and joined with several other MUS buddies to start a garage band called The Strangers. He exercised a servant spirit when he worked with classmates on the March of Dimes drive and organized student efforts to provide for a needy family at Christmas. His guitar playing waned after The Strangers scattered to various colleges – Stevenson to Southern Methodist University – but he started up again in 2008, when the band resurrected for the Class of 1968’s 40th reunion.

This experience, combined with his penchant for leadership and service, sparked his idea to organize an MUS Battle of the Bands that would provide a showcase for student and alumni musicians while raising funds for the Civic Service Organization. With support from the Alumni Executive Board, Stevenson launched the first show in 2010, and the production is now an institution – as evidenced by the plaque hanging in Humphreys Hall, engraved with the names of winners from the past four battles.

When he is not playing guitar with The Strangers, Stevenson is a regional real estate appraiser with Synovus Financial Corporation in Memphis. He and his wife, Prudy, have two daughters – Elizabeth, who earned her master’s degree in education

at Furman University and now teaches kindergarten in Greenville, SC; and Mary, a pre-med senior at University of Georgia majoring in biology.

Stevenson enjoys staying connected with students and faculty by attending events such as the senior brunch and faculty portrait unveilings. He has spent a couple Saturdays working alongside CSO volunteers cleaning up a Raleigh neighborhood and packaging meals during a Student vs. Hunger project.

“Reconnecting with the MUS community these last four years has been very fulfilling,” he said. “I have spent time with some of the students, and I am very impressed with these fine young men. Every alumnus should volunteer for at least one MUS event each year to meet these students.”

In presenting the Volunteer of the Year award at the Alumni Executive Board luncheon, President **John Barton Jr. ’95**, praised Stevenson’s work with Battle of the Bands: “We recognize him for the energy and time he has spent to create a great and lasting program that blends the efforts of students and alumni to serve both MUS and the community.”

Stevenson is looking forward to the fifth Battle of the Bands on Saturday, February 1, 2014, in Hyde Chapel (time TBA).

“We have had tremendous support from the MUS faculty, Alumni Executive Board, Civic Service Organization, and Student Council,” he said. “I have enjoyed working with the talented student bands, and the alumni bands have been pretty good, too. We are trying to make this event a major fundraiser for the CSO, so I encourage everyone to come and enjoy the show.”



## Sam Graham ’80 Begins Board Chairmanship

Headmaster Ellis Haguewood said the Board of Trustees could not have elected a more “dedicated and effective” leader than **Samuel N. Graham II ’80**, who assumed the post this fall.

“Sam’s thoughtful, positive style will continue the legacy of superb alumni board-chair leadership that we have come to expect but must never take for granted,” Haguewood said. “Sam’s love for the school and his passion for excellence follow the pattern set by board chairs **Kent Wunderlich ’66**, **Ben Adams ’74**, **Trow Gillespie ’65**, and **Bob Loeb ’73**. “MUS is fortunate to have Sam lead an extremely

talented and involved group of trustees. Under his leadership the school will continue to grow and improve in serving its mission.”

Loeb, who recently stepped down as chair, also expressed his support for Graham, who served as his vice chairman: “Sam brings to the table his strategic management skills and a heart for the Memphis University School mission,” he said.

Graham is CEO of Diversified Trust, a wealth-management firm based in the Southeast with more than \$5 billion of client assets under management. He is one of the company’s founding shareholders. A Board of Trustees member since 2004, Graham said he sees his service as an expression of gratitude for the education he and his family members have received at MUS.

“The faculty and coaches pushed me beyond what I thought I could do,” Graham said. “They often believed in me more than I did myself. Three of my brothers and, more recently, my two sons also benefited greatly from an MUS education.”

Graham served as Thorn Society president from 2004-2006 and as an Alumni Executive Board member from 1998-2003. He is married to the former Margaret Stone, an alumna of St. Mary’s Episcopal School’s class of 1980. Sam and Margaret are the parents of **Nelson ’08** and **Garrott ’12**. Graham received a Bachelor of Science in finance from the University of Tennessee and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Memphis. He also graduated with honors from the ABA Graduate Trust School at Northwestern University. Graham is a past president of the Memphis Estate Planning Council and a Masters alumnus of The Leadership Academy of Memphis (now New Memphis Institute). He is a board member of Teach For America in Memphis and Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis.



### SHIFTING ROLES

In other Board of Trustee changes, **Gary Wunderlich ’88** moves from treasurer to vice chairman of the board, and **Steve Morrow ’71** joins the leadership team as treasurer. **Tom Hutton ’61** continues in his role as secretary.

# Gifts in Memory and Honor

Your gifts in memory of loved ones or in honor of special friends directly enable young men at MUS to receive the best education available. Memorials to Memphis University School support the Annual Fund program. Families of those whose memories are honored will be notified by an appropriate card with an acknowledgment to the donor. We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the school.\*

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CHASE H. WYATT '14  
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Mrs. Jimmie Ann Wyatt

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Send news to your class representative listed below or to Ann Laughlin at [ann.laughlin@musowls.org](mailto:ann.laughlin@musowls.org).

'59 John Lawo ..... <a href="mailto:johnlawo@bellsouth.net">johnlawo@bellsouth.net</a>	'93 Thomas Quinlen ..... <a href="mailto:tquinlen@gmail.com">tquinlen@gmail.com</a>
'60 Met Crump ..... <a href="mailto:metcrump@crumpfirm.com">metcrump@crumpfirm.com</a>	'93 Gil Uhlhorn ..... <a href="mailto:guhllhorn@bassberry.com">guhllhorn@bassberry.com</a>
'60 Alex Wellford ..... <a href="mailto:awellford@farris-law.com">awellford@farris-law.com</a>	'94 Ben Clanton ..... <a href="mailto:bclanton@duncanw.com">bclanton@duncanw.com</a>
'61 Scott May ..... <a href="mailto:sfmay@bellsouth.net">sfmay@bellsouth.net</a>	'94 Kirby May ..... <a href="mailto:kirbymay@hotmail.com">kirbymay@hotmail.com</a>
'62 Jerry Bradfield ..... <a href="mailto:jbradfi293@aol.com">jbradfi293@aol.com</a>	'95 David Bradford ..... <a href="mailto:dbradford@ssr-inc.com">dbradford@ssr-inc.com</a>
'63 Doug Ferris ..... <a href="mailto:dferris@ffcfuelcells.com">dferris@ffcfuelcells.com</a>	'95 Gideon Scoggin ..... <a href="mailto:gideon.scoggin@banktennessee.com">gideon.scoggin@banktennessee.com</a>
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'65 Bob Heller ..... <a href="mailto:hrheller3@comcast.net">hrheller3@comcast.net</a>	'96 Nelson Cannon ..... <a href="mailto:nelsoncannon@hotmail.com">nelsoncannon@hotmail.com</a>
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'67 John Pettey ..... <a href="mailto:john.pettey@raymondjames.com">john.pettey@raymondjames.com</a>	'97 Trey Jones ..... <a href="mailto:trey.jones@ld.com">trey.jones@ld.com</a>
'68 Bill Ferguson ..... <a href="mailto:bill@anfa.com">bill@anfa.com</a>	'97 Michael Thompson ..... <a href="mailto:mthompsonjr@gmail.com">mthompsonjr@gmail.com</a>
'68 Terry Wilson ..... <a href="mailto:theactor@cypressusa.com">theactor@cypressusa.com</a>	'98 Erick Clifford ..... <a href="mailto:eclifford@leadcp.com">eclifford@leadcp.com</a>
'69 Scott Wellford ..... <a href="mailto:spwellford@gmail.com">spwellford@gmail.com</a>	'98 Don Drinkard ..... <a href="mailto:Don.Drinkard@cbrememphis.com">Don.Drinkard@cbrememphis.com</a>
'70 Warren Ayres ..... <a href="mailto:wwayres@bellsouth.net">wwayres@bellsouth.net</a>	'98 Justin Lohman ..... <a href="mailto:lohmanjw@yahoo.com">lohmanjw@yahoo.com</a>
'71 Barlow Mann ..... <a href="mailto:barlow.mann@sharpenet.com">barlow.mann@sharpenet.com</a>	'99 Richard Burt ..... <a href="mailto:richardtbert@gmail.com">richardtbert@gmail.com</a>
'71 Phil Wiygul ..... <a href="mailto:philwiygul@earthlink.net">philwiygul@earthlink.net</a>	'99 Chip Campbell ..... <a href="mailto:chip.campbell3@gmail.com">chip.campbell3@gmail.com</a>
'72 Denby Brandon ..... <a href="mailto:denbybrandon@brandonplanning.com">denbybrandon@brandonplanning.com</a>	'99 Norfleet Thompson ..... <a href="mailto:fitbuck@aol.com">fitbuck@aol.com</a>
'72 Joel Hobson ..... <a href="mailto:jhobson@hobsonrealtors.com">jhobson@hobsonrealtors.com</a>	'00 Michael Liverance ..... <a href="mailto:liverance.michael@gmail.com">liverance.michael@gmail.com</a>
'73 Cecil Humphreys ..... <a href="mailto:chumphreys@glankler.com">chumphreys@glankler.com</a>	'00 Ryan Miller ..... <a href="mailto:phillipryanmiller@gmail.com">phillipryanmiller@gmail.com</a>
'73 Wise Jones ..... <a href="mailto:Wise.Jones@regions.com">Wise.Jones@regions.com</a>	'01 Paul Gillespie ..... <a href="mailto:pgillespie@wundernet.com">pgillespie@wundernet.com</a>
'74 Mark Ruleman ..... <a href="mailto:mark.ruleman@unitedcp.com">mark.ruleman@unitedcp.com</a>	'01 Daniel McDonell ..... <a href="mailto:dmcdonell@gmail.com">dmcdonell@gmail.com</a>
'74 Walker Sims ..... <a href="mailto:wsims@walkersims.com">wsims@walkersims.com</a>	'01 Battle Williford ..... <a href="mailto:battlewilliford@gmail.com">battlewilliford@gmail.com</a>
'75 Lee Marshall ..... <a href="mailto:lee.marshall@jordanextrusion.com">lee.marshall@jordanextrusion.com</a>	'02 Gene Bledsoe ..... <a href="mailto:gene.bledsoe@ftnfinancial.com">gene.bledsoe@ftnfinancial.com</a>
'76 Gib Wilson ..... <a href="mailto:gwilson@lehmanroberts.com">gwilson@lehmanroberts.com</a>	'02 Frank Langston ..... <a href="mailto:flangston@gmail.com">flangston@gmail.com</a>
'77 Bruce Moore ..... <a href="mailto:jmoore1977@comcast.net">jmoore1977@comcast.net</a>	'02 Will Saxton ..... <a href="mailto:wsaxton@gmail.com">wsaxton@gmail.com</a>
'78 Joe Morrison ..... <a href="mailto:jmorrison@sentryllc.com">jmorrison@sentryllc.com</a>	'03 Jamie Drinan ..... <a href="mailto:james.drinan@gmail.com">james.drinan@gmail.com</a>
'79 Arthur Fulmer ..... <a href="mailto:afulmer@fulmerco.com">afulmer@fulmerco.com</a>	'03 Edward Nenon ..... <a href="mailto:enenon@gmail.com">enenon@gmail.com</a>
'80 Mel Payne ..... <a href="mailto:mel_payne@yahoo.com">mel_payne@yahoo.com</a>	'04 John Collier ..... <a href="mailto:jcollier@collier.com">jcollier@collier.com</a>
'80 George Skouteris ..... <a href="mailto:skouterislaw@aol.com">skouterislaw@aol.com</a>	'04 Elliot Embry ..... <a href="mailto:elliotembry@gmail.com">elliotembry@gmail.com</a>
'81 Rob Hussey ..... <a href="mailto:rjththree@gmail.com">rjththree@gmail.com</a>	'05 Kane Alber ..... <a href="mailto:kane.alber@gmail.com">kane.alber@gmail.com</a>
'81 Kelly Truitt ..... <a href="mailto:kelly.truitt@cbre.com">kelly.truitt@cbre.com</a>	'05 Sam Sawyer ..... <a href="mailto:samhuttonsawyer@gmail.com">samhuttonsawyer@gmail.com</a>
'81 Boyd Wade ..... Fourth-year intern	'05 Sam Coates ..... <a href="mailto:coatescompanies@gmail.com">coatescompanies@gmail.com</a>
'82 John Dunavant ..... <a href="mailto:john.dunavant@dunavant.com">john.dunavant@dunavant.com</a>	'06 Chad Hazlehurst ..... <a href="mailto:chazlehu@gmail.com">chazlehu@gmail.com</a>
'83 Jim Harwood ..... <a href="mailto:jim.harwood@fabsv.com">jim.harwood@fabsv.com</a>	'07 West Askew ..... <a href="mailto:west.askew@gmail.com">west.askew@gmail.com</a>
'83 Trey Jordan ..... <a href="mailto:tjordan@jordanco.cc">tjordan@jordanco.cc</a>	'07 Blake Cowan ..... <a href="mailto:jblakec89@gmail.com">jblakec89@gmail.com</a>
'83 Gwin Scott ..... <a href="mailto:gwin.scott@gmail.com">gwin.scott@gmail.com</a>	'08 Michael Cross ..... <a href="mailto:mscrossjr@gmail.com">mscrossjr@gmail.com</a>
'84 Bob McEwan ..... <a href="mailto:robert.mcEwan@raymondjames.com">robert.mcEwan@raymondjames.com</a>	'08 Connell Hall ..... <a href="mailto:wcchall1@gmail.com">wcchall1@gmail.com</a>
'85 Craig Witt ..... <a href="mailto:craighwitt@hotmail.com">craighwitt@hotmail.com</a>	'09 Rhobb Hunter ..... <a href="mailto:rhunter5@slu.edu">rhunter5@slu.edu</a>
'86 Brad Conder ..... <a href="mailto:Brad@unitedcapitalrecovery.com">Brad@unitedcapitalrecovery.com</a>	'09 Jim Moore ..... <a href="mailto:jimmoore910@gmail.com">jimmoore910@gmail.com</a>
'86 Andy McArtor ..... <a href="mailto:andy@mcartor.com">andy@mcartor.com</a>	'10 Stephond Allmond ..... <a href="mailto:allmonds@goldmail.etsu.edu">allmonds@goldmail.etsu.edu</a>
'86 Ted Miller ..... <a href="mailto:ted.miller@mac.com">ted.miller@mac.com</a>	'10 Hank Hill ..... <a href="mailto:hillh14@mail.wlu.edu">hillh14@mail.wlu.edu</a>
'87 Jonny Ballinger ..... <a href="mailto:jonnyballinger@hotmail.com">jonnyballinger@hotmail.com</a>	'10 Jake Rudolph ..... <a href="mailto:rudolphj14@mail.wlu.edu">rudolphj14@mail.wlu.edu</a>
'87 Bo Brooksbank ..... <a href="mailto:boandalanna@bellsouth.net">boandalanna@bellsouth.net</a>	'11 Blake Hennessy ..... <a href="mailto:bhenness@utk.edu">bhenness@utk.edu</a>
'88 Max Painter ..... <a href="mailto:max.painter@att.net">max.painter@att.net</a>	'11 Chase Schoelkopf ..... <a href="mailto:cschoelk@gmail.com">cschoelk@gmail.com</a>
'88 Fred Schaeffer ..... <a href="mailto:fschaeffer@memphis.nef.com">fschaeffer@memphis.nef.com</a>	'11 Scooter Taylor ..... <a href="mailto:ritaylor6@gmail.com">ritaylor6@gmail.com</a>
'89 Scott Sherman ..... <a href="mailto:scott.sherman@ftnfinancial.com">scott.sherman@ftnfinancial.com</a>	'12 Edward Francis ..... <a href="mailto:jfranci9@utk.edu">jfranci9@utk.edu</a>
'90 Brian Eason ..... <a href="mailto:be@qifab.com">be@qifab.com</a>	'12 Anthony Hodges ..... <a href="mailto:ewokking@gmail.com">ewokking@gmail.com</a>
'90 Philip Wunderlich ..... <a href="mailto:pwunder@wundernet.com">pwunder@wundernet.com</a>	'12 Lee Marshall ..... <a href="mailto:lmarsha8@utk.edu">lmarsha8@utk.edu</a>
'91 Trent Allen ..... <a href="mailto:Trent@teacosteel.com">Trent@teacosteel.com</a>	'13 Derrick Baber ..... <a href="mailto:jbaber1@comcast.net">jbaber1@comcast.net</a>
'91 Darrell Cobbins ..... <a href="mailto:darrell@universalcommercial.com">darrell@universalcommercial.com</a>	'13 Matt Bolton ..... <a href="mailto:wmbolton@go.olemiss.edu">wmbolton@go.olemiss.edu</a>
'91 Brett Grinder ..... <a href="mailto:bgrinder@grindertaber.com">bgrinder@grindertaber.com</a>	'13 Jarrett Jackson ..... <a href="mailto:jmj7851@gmail.com">jmj7851@gmail.com</a>
'92 Chuck Hamlett ..... <a href="mailto:chuck.hamlett@versopaper.com">chuck.hamlett@versopaper.com</a>	'13 James Rantzow ..... <a href="mailto:jtrantzow@crimson.ua.edu">jtrantzow@crimson.ua.edu</a>
'92 Brandon Westbrook ..... <a href="mailto:brandon.westbrook@gmail.com">brandon.westbrook@gmail.com</a>	

# CLASSES

'58

The home of Marsha and **John Evans** was featured in the *Memphis Magazine* series "Great Memphis Homes" in the February 2013 issue. Marsha McKee Evans is artistic director of the Memphis Chamber Music Society. Classmate **True Redd** also gets a mention in the article as having contributed designs and printing of logos, brochures, and programs for the society.

'60

By the time you read this, **Allan Gold** will have completed trips to the Dordogne in southwest France, plus Cuba, and East Africa. I bet he took his camera.

**C.D. Smith** reports that he and Sarah are grandparents for the 10th time with the arrival of twins over the summer.

'61

The Class of 1961 had a mini reunion in Ennis, MT, in mid-August. Tammy and **John Bell** and Snow and **Henry Morgan** invited your class rep [**Scott May**] to spend a few days with each of them. You'll recall the old saying that guests are like fish – they start stinking after three or four days. John, Henry, and I had a great time fly fishing for trout on the Madison River and Ennis Lake. In the evening we would find a local cowboy bar after visiting one of the many fine restaurants in Ennis or Twin Bridges. Our new drink of choice was the Fireball (ignite the night).

Kay and **Hammond Cole** went to Portland, OR, for a medical convention, in mid-September and said they saw the sights. They traveled down the coast to San Diego to visit their youngest son, Andrew, and his family. Andrew is career Navy.

**Dan McGown** is now a full-time resident of Memphis. We run into Dan from time to time at the Belmont Grill Restaurant (Mendenhall and Poplar).

**Pitt Hyde**, our class entrepreneur, was recently featured in a daylong seminar with Kem Wilson, Jr., and Duncan Williams, Jr.

**Bill Oxley** was a Road to Recovery Coordinator for the Mid-South Division of the American Cancer Society.

'65

**Trow Gillespie** and **Steve Morrow '71**, founders of NewSouth Capital Management in Memphis, were honored by Carnival Memphis with the President's Award at the annual Business and Industry Salute Luncheon recognizing civic leaders and businesses helping to make the community a great place to live.

'67

Pamela and **Mike Harris** are expecting their second grandchild in December from daughter Emily. Daughter Lucy recently completed the New York Marathon.

**Ray Higgins** began his 40th year of teaching and coaching at Jackson Academy in Jackson, MS. To make his coach, Jerry Peters, proud, this year he was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Independent Schools Coaches' Association Hall of Fame. He has two boys at Ole Miss.

**John Pettey**, managing director with Raymond James, was named to Barron's list of "The Top 1,000 Advisors" in 2012 and 2013. Pettey ranked 12th overall in the state of Tennessee. Barron's produces this list each year after conducting research, surveys, and interviews, and weighing factors such as assets under management, revenue generated, quality of service, and regulatory records. Pettey, who manages more than \$575 million in client assets, offers his clients financial and estate planning, risk management, and investment advisory services. His partner is **Wilson Moore '96**.



**Hugh Sprunt** and his wife, Eve, are retired. Eve had a very successful career in the petroleum business. In 2013 she was the recipient of the highest award given by the Society of Women Engineers, the SWE Achievement Award, for outstanding contributions

to the field of engineering for a significant period of time. They have traveled to 120 different countries.

**Walter Sprunt** continues his work in the development of senior housing. He and Libba have four grandchildren, and his third daughter, Julie, was recently married.

'68



**Ernie James '68**, left, and **Kelly McGuire '70** were inducted into the Rhodes College Athletic Hall of Fame in October. They were members of the 1970 football team, which compiled a 7-1 record – at that time the most winning record in the history of the college's football program. That year the Lynx captured the College Athletic Conference title and defeated archrivals Sewanee and Centre. "I hear the camera adds 100 pounds to its subject, but in this case, it only added it to me," McGuire said. "Ernie made it to the game Saturday from Greenwood, IN. Both of us also played together on the 1967 MUS undefeated football team. He looks great, and I was thrilled to see him."

**Bruce Hopkins** is heading the 2013-14 fundraising campaign for United Way of the Mid-South. In his day job, Hopkins is president of the West Tennessee region for First Tennessee Bank.

**Wis Laughlin** is in his sixth year of piano lessons with no prior musical experience, and he is having a blast. His latest piece is "Send in the Clowns" by Sondheim. He is also an award-winning wood carver. He pursues these activities when he is not beating the IRS and Probate Court out of taxes and fees for his clients. He is willing to make a bet: Give him a half-hour with your most recent tax return, will, trust, or other legal document. If he cannot tell you how to improve it, you get the half-hour free.

# NEWS

**Bill Patterson** is the CEO of Delta Medical Center in Memphis.

'69

**Chris Craft**, Shelby County Criminal Court judge, is among three nominees to the Tennessee Supreme Court to fill a vacancy that will occur in 2014.

**Joel Bailey** has been named head tennis coach at Lausanne Collegiate School.

**John Remmers** and **Scott Wellford** recently ran into each other at "hot yoga" when John was in town from Virginia. They both have become avid supporters of this program and recommend it to all of their classmates. They say it will increase flexibility, help you sleep better, and reduce your weight. **Joel Bailey** and his wife, Lisa, also go regularly.

'70

**Ralph Braden** is chairman of the board of Emmanuel Center, formerly Emmanuel Episcopal Center, an outreach ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee. The center serves

residents of Cleaborn and Foote Homes public housing communities by providing spiritual direction, social service programs, educational enrichment, organized sports, and career-development training.

Coach **Bobby Alston**, director of Athletics, presented **Kelly McGuire '70** with the Carter Lee Murray Spirit Award at the spring sports banquet. "Kelly McGuire has shown his love for MUS as a student/athlete, teacher/coach, and now as an invaluable volunteer, serving as the official clock operator at MUS football and basketball games," Alston said. McGuire was also inducted into the Rhodes College Athletic Hall of Fame (See page 56).

The Riverfront Development Corporation in Memphis has named **Jimmy Ogle** general manager for Beale Street Landing.

**Rod Riggins** is sales director at BNY Mellon Wealth Management in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

**Henry Sullivant** has been named chief medical officer for Baptist Memorial Health Care's Select Health Alliance, a physician-led clinical integration project. "The ultimate goal is to improve the quality

of care, minimize redundancies of care, eliminate waste in health care delivery, and reduce health care costs," Sullivant said.

'71

**Bruce Edenton's** son, Carlisle, recently had his 16th birthday and can't wait for his dad to give him the keys to the Aston Martin.

**Phillip Gould** has joined the board of the Memphis Development Foundation, which operates The Orpheum Theatre.

**Steve Morrow** and **Trow Gillespie '65**, founders of NewSouth Capital Management, were honored by Carnival Memphis with the President's Award at the annual Business and Industry Salute Luncheon recognizing civic leaders and businesses helping to make the community a great place to live.

'73

**Bradford Beck** had to cancel his plans to attend the 40th class reunion because his son, Bradford, Jr.'s, football team was in the state playoffs. The team

## Methodist Healthcare Foundation Honors Ingram Brothers

The Methodist Healthcare Foundation presented **Kent Ingram '60** and **Keith Ingram '73** with the Life Inspiration Award on October 3. The award is given annually to former board members who have provided "exemplary wisdom, encouragement, and generosity to the mission of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare." (Keith Ingram served on the board from 1995 to 2004, and Kent served from 2004 to June 2013.)

Gary S. Shorb, president and CEO of Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare, said the Ingrams' passion and dedication to the system's mission is exemplary.

"They have been most generous with their time, talents, and treasures," he said. "The close relationship we enjoy today with the West Memphis [AR] community in so many areas is clearly the result of our friendship with Kent and Keith Ingram."

The Ingrams support Methodist's Congregational Health Network, a program designed to build stronger relationships between faith communities and Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare and to build healthier communities in the Mid-South. The system employs community case workers, called



Keith Ingram and Kent Ingram

navigators, who work with volunteer liaisons to help people in nearly 500 area congregations and faith communities navigate their health care journeys, including gaining access to preventive care.

The brothers made a gift to the Methodist Healthcare Foundation for the resources necessary to extend the network to West Memphis. They are quoted in the 2012 Methodist Foundation Annual Report expressing their belief in the Community Health Network mission:

"There's a desperate need for contact, follow-up, and healthcare education in our community," Kent said. "The navigators can do a tremendous job. It's the 'do right' responsibility of the churches to not only minister

spiritually but also physically – that's part of our mission and should be part of every church and denomination."

"The thing that always struck me about Methodist," Keith said, "is that it lives its mission. Methodist takes patient-centered care very seriously. They have found a way through ministry, through churches, to further their outreach. Not everyone has the same access to healthcare, so you have to think outside the box in order to bring that healthcare to them."

came in second in state, he said. “Lost the ball on a drive inside the 20-yard line (not my son).” Bradford, a sophomore at St. Marks School of Texas, plays cornerback on defense and slot and wide receiver on offense, and he was clocked at 4.6 in the 40-yard run. He reports that his daughter, Regan, graduated from Hockaday School in Dallas last spring and has pledged Theta as a freshman at the University of Georgia, although she is technically classified as a sophomore since her AP scores got her out of 15 freshman hours. Bradford remains in the apartment-development business, and he has expanded into the oil and gas business – because his children spend everything he makes in real estate.

**Kip Caffey** can still run a mile in under 12 minutes and has 75 percent of his hair left, although the white streaks are increasing. His daughter Grace graduated from Alabama last year and is gainfully employed; daughter Reed graduated from University of Virginia this year; daughter Liz is in her third year at UVA; and son, Lee, is a freshman at Woodberry Forest School.



Buck Lewis receiving the University of Tennessee Alumni Service Award

The American Bar Association has honored **Buck Lewis** of the law firm Baker Donelson with its Presidential Citation, recognizing his efforts to improve access to justice. During his term as president of the Tennessee Bar Association from June 2008 through June 2009, Lewis launched

the 4ALL campaign to bring much-needed legal services to Tennesseans of modest means. Proposals developed as part of the 4ALL campaign resulted in eight Tennessee Supreme Court rules and legislative changes that have been instrumental in enhancing the delivery of pro bono services in Tennessee. Lewis also recently received the University of Tennessee’s national Alumni Service Award, given in recognition of extraordinary service to the University of Tennessee. Lewis earned three degrees at the University of Tennessee: a B.S. in business administration in 1976 and a J.D./MBA in 1980. Douglas A. Blaze, dean of the University of Tennessee College of Law, said, “Buck is an extraordinary individual who has devoted his career to serving his clients, his alma mater, his profession, and his state. He represents all that is great about the University of Tennessee and the legal profession.”

**Bob Loeb** has been named to the board of trustees for the Memphis College of Art.

**Mac McCorkle** is director of graduate studies for the Master of Public Policy Program at the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University.

’74

*MBQ* magazine named **Ben Adams** CEO of the Year 2013 for local companies with 200-1,000 employees. He is the chairman and CEO of Baker Donelson in Memphis.

**Chuck Day** reports that his son Charlie graduated in December 2013 with honors from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, GA, with a mechanical engineering technology degree. No schlepping kitchen equipment for him. (Chuck is the owner of a commercial food equipment and supply business in Athens, GA.) His son Will is on the junior varsity wrestling team at Archer High School in Lawrenceville, GA. “They call him Pocket Hercules,” Chuck said. “He is 5’7, weighs 132, and bench presses 190 pounds. He is a BEAST on the mat!”

**Sandy Schaeffer** is a grandparent. Madeline Stine was born in May 2012.

**Gerald Wade** and his wife, Pamela, make their home in Grand Junction, TN. In their free time they enjoy riding horses, attending bird dog field trials (spectators only), and tending to their chickens, cats,

and an English Setter named Lucy. Gerald is a client advisor with SunTrust’s Private Wealth Management Group in Memphis. He and Pam have five children between them ranging in age from 23-29, and they also are proud grandparents of three. **Gerald III**, MUS Class of 2006, recently began medical school at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

’75

For the second year in a row, **Dave Malone** won two of the three races at Trifest for MS in Bentonville, AR, over the Labor Day weekend. He was fourth in his age group for the sprint triathlon on Saturday morning (500-meter swim, 15-mile bike ride, 5-kilometer run); that night he won the Super Sprint in his age group (200-meter swim, 10-kilometer bike ride, 1.1-mile run). He got some sleep and won the Olympic triathlon, conducted in Formula 1 format with multiple combinations (800-meter swim, 12.4-mile bike ride, 5-kilometer run; 700-meter swim, 12.4-mile bike ride, 5-kilometer run; 1500-meter swim, 40-kilometer bike ride, 10 kilometer run). He’s proud to see that he can still beat up on folks even with a gimpy knee and shoulder, and he gets great pleasure seeing ages such as 28, 37, or 46 on the backs of other athletes’ calves as he passes them. He is now preparing for the national age-group championship at the Olympic-distance triathlon event in Milwaukee in August 2014.

’77

**Malcolm Aste** is director of development at the Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center at the University of California, San Diego.

’78

**Newton Allen**’s oldest daughter, Sarah, got married in June 2013. His youngest daughter, Mary, is breaking into the singer-songwriter world. Search Mary Allen Lighthouse for her EP debut.

**Cecil Godman** is a partner and chief marketing officer at Mercury Investment Group. Outside of work he is on the boards of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Discipling Men Inc. and an elder at Idlewild Presbyterian Church.

**C STUDENTS WANTED** – Maybe you were an average student, but at some point – either during school or in your career – the light bulb went off and you found your passion, a focus, a way to succeed. If you would be willing to share your story for a future article in *MUS Today*, please email Managing Editor Liz Copeland, [liz.copeland@musowls.org](mailto:liz.copeland@musowls.org).

**Jim Wilder '82, Owen Tabor, Jr. '85, Miles Fortas '89, and Brian Eason '90** went out for a bike ride on October 5 and ended up – five days and 500 miles later – at Rosemary Beach, FL. They were among 19 riders promoting cancer awareness and raising funds for Wings Cancer Foundation's Wellness Programs on the Third Annual Wings Ride. The foundation offers free programs and services to help people with cancer and their loved ones through treatment and recovery.

For Wilder, whose mother and mother-in-law

battled cancer through The West Clinic and with the help of Wings, this is a way to give back and help others fighting the disease. He described the journey as difficult, yet fun.

"The camaraderie among the riders and support crew is the most enjoyable aspect," he said. "We ride mostly back roads and see parts of the country that few people take the time to visit. Most of these small towns don't know what to think about a group of middle-aged men wearing Spandex and riding bikes. The most

challenging part of the ride is a series of long climbs just outside of Andalusia, AL. We remind ourselves, though, that the suffering we endure at that time is nothing compared to what cancer patients go through in their treatments."

This year the ride raised more than \$100,000 for Wings. Each rider makes a contribution that covers his expenses so 100-percent of additional money donated goes to the Wings Foundation. For more information visit [wingscancerfoundation.org/wingsride](http://wingscancerfoundation.org/wingsride).



# Alumni Ride with Wings

*Wings riders included, from left, Brian Eason '90, Owen Tabor '85, Jim Wilder '82, Mark Parker, Mason Ezzell III, Brad Adkins, Ben Pope, Frank Smith, Keith Merriman, Jim Lenschau, Todd Tillmanns, David C. Jones, Pat Williams, Miles Fortas '89, John Kakales, and Jon Ewing.*

'79

In December 2012 **Bill Gano** hit the jackpot in the Missouri Lottery for \$4.2 million. He's keeping his day job.

'80

**Jay Good** and a partner have opened ATV Memphis on Shelby Oaks Drive. Go see him for all your all-terrain vehicle needs.

'81

The boys of '81 are encountering a number of milestones this year as most of the class is turning the big 50. (Watch for increasing Viagra sales). Allison Crews gets the "Bride of the Year" award as she is taking hubby, **Jim Crews**, on a hunting/fishing expedition to Alaska for his 50th. **Chip Clay**, never the conformist and always a man of vigor, welcomed daughter, Louise, born in February, keeping his 4-year-old son, James, company. Many of our classmates have sons at MUS, and several have sent children to college. **John Sharp**'s son, **Marshall Sharp**, was valedictorian of the MUS Class of 2013 as well as the top-ranked male high school tennis player in Tennessee (inherited his dad's athletic prowess, fortunately, not his dad's academic aptitude). Marshall has gone on to play tennis in the Ivy League at the University of Pennsylvania. **Boyd Wade**'s and **Eddie Murphey**'s daughters are at University of Alabama; **Robert Shy**'s daughter

chose Furman. On a business front **Philip Cox** is taking over the food-service industry in Alabama, adding an IHOP to his Back Yard Burger portfolio. He and his wife, Celia, live in Mountain Brook, AL. Phillip is offering a free short stack to any of his old classmates.

'82

**Dan Barron**, vice president and market manager for Entercom Radio Memphis, was named among the nation's top radio station general managers by *Radio Ink* magazine. Entercom's Memphis stations include WKQK 94.1 FM, WMFS 92.9 FM/680 AM, WMC-FM 99.7, WRVR 104.5 FM, and WMC-AM 790.

**Lee Hollis** was recognized in the 2013 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Lee is a trial attorney in the Birmingham law firm of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC.

**Bill Lansden** has been named senior associate athletic director for external affairs at University of Alabama, Birmingham, overseeing all external operations, including development, marketing, media relations, and ticketing for the Blazers' 18 intercollegiate sports. Lansden previously served as the associate athletic director for development at the University of Memphis.

**David Rosenthal** was named a finalist in the *Memphis Business Journal*'s fourth annual CFO of the Year Awards. Rosenthal is CFO of Buckman Laboratories International Inc.

'83

**Glynn Alexander** has joined the commercial banking group at Cadence Bank. (See story, page 26)

**Tom Hayes** was featured in an article in *The Commercial Appeal* about his role in the rejuvenation of Overton Square as vice president of construction management with Loeb Properties.

**Charles Jalenak** has become a certified financial planner. He's employed with Legacy Wealth Management in Memphis.

'84

**Walker Hays** is a managing director at Wunderlich Securities. His son, Jordan, is in the eighth grade at MUS.

**Charles Yukon** continues his pediatric practice at the Yukon Clinic in Germantown.

'85

**John Apperson** and his wife, Lucy, pulled up stakes last summer and relocated to Austin, TX, with their two children, Margaret and Jack, after John's firm merged with Meritage Capital. John is a fund director at Meritage where he manages portfolios of hedge funds for their investors.

# Gotten '60 on Gotten '90: Still Flying High



When **William M. Gotten '60** received a USO calendar in the mail, he almost threw it away. Luckily, he opened it and saw this photo of his son, **Will Gotten '90**, being welcomed home to Atsugi, Japan, by his wife, Jennifer, and children, Claire and Trey. The photo inspired the senior Gotten to share this report about his son:

“Cmdr. William (Will) Gotten, Jr., recently completed a tour of duty as the commanding officer of Strike Fighter Squadron 195, Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan. He and his family returned to the United States in May, and he is now assigned to the Pentagon. Will was valedictorian of the MUS Class of 1990 and went on to the United States Naval Academy where he was commissioned in 1994, graduating with distinction with a Bachelor of Science in systems engineering. He was selected for flight training and reported to Pensacola, FL;

designated a naval aviator at Kingsville, TX, in 1996; and thereafter trained at Naval Air Station, Lemoore, CA, in the F/A-18 Hornet.

“‘Lamont,’ as he is known in the strike-fighter community, has logged more than 3,000 hours flying time and has more than 800 arrested carrier landings. He also served in Afghanistan, with NATO in Mons, Belgium, and with the Air Force in Okinawa. His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), the Air Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards) as well as numerous unit and service awards.

“I hope you will forgive his father for being justly proud of his outstanding service and career, which continues.”

**Michael Armstrong** has been with Koyo Bearings for more than two years as materials and production control manager. Koyo manufactures transmission and steering column bearings for such customers as GM, Ford, Toyota, and other major auto companies, as well as for John Deere, Caterpillar, and others. He enjoys being close to the beach in South Carolina as well as the Blue Ridge Mountains.

**Ken Jones** is an attorney with Bourland Heflin Alvarez Minor & Matthews where he practices in the areas of commercial litigation and employment law. He also performs pro bono work through Memphis Area Legal Services (MALS), and he is serving as the president of the Kiwanis Club of Memphis for 2013-14.

**McNeal McDonnell** has been named to the new advisory board for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine. McDonnell is co-owner/chief manager of Brussels Bonsai in Olive Branch, MS.

**Drew Renshaw** is simultaneously running three businesses: Drew Renshaw - Builder; Sports Clips Haircuts (two locations); and a vacation rental located in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Ted Simpson** has been promoted to senior executive vice president and chief lending officer at Magna Bank.

**Chris Teague** says that after 19 years working with his family at Southern Concrete Products, he is now the administrative pastor at Grace Bible Church in Oxford, MS. He and his wife, Leigh Ann, helped start the church, based on the Fellowship Bible Church model, in 2005. He handles the financial responsibilities, training of volunteers and staff, oversight of children and youth ministries, plus

whatever else needs to be done. Leigh Ann is an individual and family therapist, and their son, Elijah, is a sophomore at Oxford High School.

## '86

**Bo Allen** has been elected to the board of trustees at Christian Brothers University.

For the fifth year attorneys Elizabeth and **Ben Daniel '86** of the Daniel Law Firm helped make it possible for 200 inner-city children to attend summer camp in Memphis. After sponsoring the first 50 campers, the couple recruited friends and businesses to sponsor 150 children. The Daniels presented a check for \$11,980 to the Division of Parks and Neighborhoods for their Worry Free Summer Camp Scholarships.

**Richard Werman** is an interventional radiologist with Cape May Associates in Radiology at Cape Regional Medical Center in Cape May County, NJ.

**Andy Wright** has a new job at Magna Bank as senior vice president and manager of the Commercial Banking Group.

## '87

**Richard Hussey** was named to the list of “Power Players” among area chief operations officers in the January/February 2013 issue of *MBQ*. Hussey is COO at Southeastern Asset Management.

**Kyle King** is owner of nexusSTOR, a national provider of data storage, backup, and disaster-recovery solutions (nexusstor.com).

**Brian Yates** earned a master’s degree in nursing from DePaul University and is working at the

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

## '88

The YMCA of Memphis & the Mid-South honored **Dabney Collier** with the Red Triangle Award, the highest honor the organization bestows. The award recognizes an individual who has devoted significant time and volunteer service.

**Brian Mallory** has been licensed by the Tennessee State Board of Equalization as a registered property tax appeal agent. In addition to his current business, Mallory Appraisals, he has opened Mallory Property Tax Advisors, which will provide residential property tax appeal services to homeowners.

## '89

**Joe Boone** is the new music editor for the *Memphis Flyer*.

**Horace Carter** is the head of trading for fixed-income capital markets at Raymond James & Associates. He has been with Raymond James/Morgan Keegan for 20 years. He and his wife, Missy, have two sons; Joe, who is an eighth grader at MUS, and Gus, a sixth grader at Presbyterian Day School.

**Rob Edwards** was recently promoted to corporal at the Tupelo Police Department where he has been for 15 years. He has reached 19 years in the Mississippi National Guard with two tours in Iraq, and he is waiting on promotion-board results to see if he will be promoted to lieutenant colonel. He and his wife, Kimberly, recently celebrated their 20th anniversary, and they have three sons. Their oldest plans to attend Ole Miss next year to study cyber security. Their ninth grader is in the Beta Club, and their seventh grader

was recently inducted into the junior Beta Club.

**Cameron Jehl** recently started his own law firm, the Jehl Law Group in Memphis. He specializes in elder care law, an area in which he has practiced for many years, defending the rights of the innocent, defenseless, and infirm.

**Jason Fair**, senior vice president at Wunderlich Securities, recently achieved CFP (certified financial planner) designation. He has been a financial advisor with Wunderlich for more than four years. He and his wife, Meredith, have 3 children: Judson, 11; Brooke, 9; and Hunter, 6.

**Miles Fortas** is CFO and chief compliance officer for Gavion LLC, an investment consulting firm in Memphis.

After 18 years working in finance, **Eben Garnett** is taking a break to catch up on his personal life. He spent the past year renovating a new home in San Francisco, hitting the gym (lost 45 pounds!), and is spending more time with his wife, Bella, and daughter, Maisy.

**Richard Wanderman** is a supervising agent with Liberty National Life Insurance Company in Memphis, with licenses in Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee. He, his wife, Theresa, and 5 dogs live in Cordova and would love to hear from some old classmates.

'90

**Don Bradford** has been named president and CEO of Memphis-based environmental engineering firm EnSafe.

**Jeff Kerlan** has been elected to the board of directors of the Memphis Medical Society.

**Andrew Sutherland** is a vice president with Raymond James Financial Inc. in Macon, GA.

**Jonathan Weinberg** has joined the faculty of the University of Arizona as an associate professor in the Department of Philosophy and the Program in Cognitive Science. He serves as the co-director of the Arizona Experimental Philosophy Laboratory. He and his family live in Tucson.

'91

Lt. Col. **Trevor B. Benitone** is the commandant of the United States Air Force Special Operations School (USAFSOS) at Hurlburt Field, Eglin Air Force Base, in Northwest Florida.

**Darrell Cobbins** has joined the board of directors

of the Family Safety Center, an organization that combines civil, criminal, health, and social services for victims of family violence.

**Brandon Williams**, a member of the Vanderbilt Center for Surgical Weight Loss team, has been elected secretary/treasurer of the Tennessee chapter of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. He also serves as chair of the Program Committee.

'92

**Duncan Chesney** is an associate professor of European literature at National Taiwan University in Taipei.

**Harry Sayle** has recently been featured on several local news spots for his new venture, Farm Truck Organics. This is a food subscription and delivery service for organic foods. You can check out what they have to offer at [farmtruckorganics.com](http://farmtruckorganics.com).

'93

**Dean DeCandia** was one of three attorneys the Tennessee Judicial Nominating Commission presented to Gov. Bill Haslam to fill a vacancy in Criminal Court.

**Jackson Moore** is co-founder of Anchor Investments, a private, Nashville-based real estate investment company that has a strategic focus to acquire, own, develop, and manage income-producing commercial properties in the Southeast.

**Thomas Quinlen** is a senior attorney with FedEx Trade Networks.

'94

**Trent Benitone** is an IT finance account executive at VeriStor Capital & State Bridge Capital in Nashville.

**Reed Deupree** is a portfolio manager at GMT Capital Corp. in Atlanta.

After rewriting the football record books at Colorado College, **Brian O'Sullivan** traveled extensively in China and Hong Kong. He has most recently been working for Intel in the Bay Area. He earned his MBA from the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, a few years back, and in August he matriculated to Columbia University to pursue a master's degree in international affairs.

Chef **Ryan Prewitt** is manning the kitchen at Peche Seafood Grill, the highly anticipated new seafood

restaurant in New Orleans he opened with Donald Link and Stephen Stryjewski of Link Restaurant Group. The group's other restaurants are the critically acclaimed Herbsaint and Cochon. (See Prewitt's recipe, page 28.)

**Andrew Schaeffer** is senior vice president and treasurer at Mid-America Apartment Communities in Memphis.

**Wade Stooksberry** is a broker with Hobson Realtors in Memphis.

'95

**Jason Dunn** has founded the investment advising company White Bison Capital and lives with his family in Boulder, CO.

**Jeff Murray** is working as a deputy legislative director for Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas).

**Brian Paris** has been married for eight years to Melissa and is producing concert and festival events. He lives in Memphis and Miami.

**Stephen Weinberg** is the director of the Master of Public Administration program at State University of New York, Albany, and an assistant professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy where he researches the economics of health policy.

'96

**Tom Burnett** works as a communications associate for the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC.

**Elliott Ives** came home to Memphis November 18 with Justin Timberlake: The 20/20 Experience World Tour. Ives continues on the tour through the United States, Canada, and on to Europe, making it back to Memphis whenever he can to wash his socks – but only metaphorically. “We have a professional launderer out here with us,” Ives said.

Tennessee Sen. **Brian Kelsey** (R-Germantown) has been appointed chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee of the Tennessee legislature. In September he completed a five-day hike to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro, which, at 19,341 feet, is the tallest mountain in Africa.

**Cameron Mann** has joined the staff of Shelby Farms Park Conservancy in Memphis as development manager for corporate and foundation support.

**Cory Prewitt** was recently promoted to COO of Laurelwood Shopping Center in Memphis.

**Rob Tom**, an attorney with Baker Donelson, has been named a shareholder in the law firm.

**Matt Weathersby** completed the requirement for membership in the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR). He is a principal at Commercial Advisors in Memphis.

'97

**William Brakebill** is director of financial services for REPAY Realtime Electronic Payments in Atlanta, a full-service provider of electronic transaction processing services for retail merchants. REPAY processes for more than 5,000 merchant locations.

**Byron Brown** has become a partner in the law firm of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs in Memphis.

**Clayton Chandler** is an attorney with the Memphis firm Evans Petree. He focuses his practice in the areas of corporate transactions and business litigation.

**David Hwang** and his wife, Janice, moved to Connecticut this year, and David is an assistant professor of neurology at Yale University School of Medicine.

**Brian Yoakum** has joined Evans Petree law firm in Memphis as a shareholder. He focuses on commercial litigation and corporate law.

**Jim Cochran** recently became the owner of Valley View Agri-Systems, headquartered in Jonesboro, AR. He said VVA is a leading design/build firm in the grain storage and handling industry.

**Trevor Houseal** was recently married to Mercy Sanders and is working toward his graduate degree in pharmacology at the University of Tennessee.

As a veteran, **Bob Sayle** writes that he is grateful to the Class of 2010 for the memorial plaque on campus that is dedicated to alumni who have served in the military. He lives in Atlanta and works for Reliable Roofing Company, which does business in the Southeast, Mid-South, and the Mid-Atlantic regions.

In April **Clay Shelton** opened Mad Earl Bar on Madison in Memphis.

'98

**Erick Clifford** is a managing partner of Lead Capital, which was founded in 2011, based in Nashville.

**Jonathan Mah** and his restaurant, Sidestreet Burgers, were featured in the September 2013 issue of *Click* magazine. The restaurant is in the Old Towne section of Olive Branch, MS.

'99

**Tyne Brownlow** completed the requirement for membership in the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR). He is principal broker with IP Commercial Properties Inc. in Memphis.

**Nick Chimenti** is a senior accountant with Fred's Inc.

**Kyle Gowen** recently earned his MBA at Tulane University and is a financial advisor at Swain Wealth Partners/Raymond James Financial Services Inc. in Memphis.

**Will Johnson** lives in Washington, DC, where he is senior director of strategic services at Bully Pulpit Interactive. The company was founded by the digital marketers of the Obama presidential campaign to help clients in the public and private sectors create modern versions of what Theodore Roosevelt once called a "bully pulpit," or a platform, to tell their story, increase their bottom line, and shape public opinion.

## MARRIAGES

John Marcom '75 to Arif Hasyim on September 5, 2012

Trevor Houseal '97 to Mercy Sanders on July 6, 2013

Philip Cruzen '98 to Whitney Nick on April 27, 2013

Chad Keller '99 to Catherine Homra on December 15, 2012

Kip Gordon '01 to Christina Cupples on October 20, 2012

Battle Williford '01 to Ann Ezell on May 12, 2012

Stephen Cruzen '02 to Vickie Moffett on September 21, 2013

Preston Blankenship '03 to Margaret Ellen (Molly) Pendarvis on November 9, 2013

John Phillips '03 to Ivy Bryant on March 2, 2013

Benjamin Jaqua '04 to Kaitlin Ridder on December 29, 2012

John Conrad McCrary '04 to Meghan Parham on June 22, 2013

Phillip Flinn '05 to Katherine Veazey on May 11, 2013

Trevor Skelley '05 to Ashley King on May 4, 2013

Hugh Francis '06 to Natalie Duke on June 23, 2012

Paul Morrow '06 to Joy Thompson on June 15, 2013

Reid Wesson '06 to Callie Mounger on April 6, 2013

Dexter Witte '06 to Anna Elizabeth Honig on June 15, 2013

Louis Amagliani '07 to Natalie Britt on March 16, 2013

Chase Moore '07 to Lauren Cook on June 2, 2012

Lee Moore '07 to Becky Brasher on May 4, 2013

John Reinhardt '07 to Devon Branham on June 23, 2012

Ross Montague '08 to Rachel Atkins on June 15, 2013

## BIRTHS

Joanna and Jonathan Weinberg '90, a son, Ulysses Endeavor, born September 28, 2012

Hillary and Tate Conrad '92, a daughter, Catherine Bay, born September 4, 2013

Emily and Kelly Ensor '95, a daughter, Eleanor Clare, born August 16, 2013

Jenny and Trip Miller '95, a daughter, Dorothy Grace, born February 25, 2013

Jocelyn and Oscar Atkinson '96, a son, Stuart Boyle, born June 17, 2013

Katie and Wilson Moore '96, a daughter, Elizabeth Adair (Liza), born August 29, 2013

Helen and Don Drinkard '98, a son, Frederick Senter Balch Drinkard, born March 22, 2012

Elizabeth and Wes Scott '99, a son, William Edward (Witt) IV, born September 24, 2012

Whitney and Ben Trusty '00, a son, Miller Price, born October 12, 2011

Lea and Ben Adams '01, a daughter, Elizabeth Conlee, born August 24, 2012

Shanna and Brian Eason '01, a son, Brock Daniel, born August 20, 2013

Kristen and Derek Clenin '03, a son, Colt, born January 28, 2013

Mary Chris and Ryves Moore '03, a daughter, Darby Dabbs, born November 15, 2013

Malaney and Mason George '06, a son, Crawford Wellington, born June 25, 2013

## DEATHS

Kerry T. Patteson '58

Stephen L. Bain '67

J. Barry Barton, Sr. '68

Gayden Drew IV '71

Charles C. Wilkinson '71

Dee J. Canale, Jr. '75

Bradford L. Sides '75

W. Glenn McPherson '82

Clarence G. Herrington III '89

T. Justin Pitts '02

**Alston Meeks** was featured in the *Memphis Flyer* review of Twelve Bar, the new supper club on Beale Street above the Jerry Lee Lewis Cafe and Honky Tonk. Check it out at [twelvebarbeale.com](http://twelvebarbeale.com).

**David Willson** has been named head men's basketball coach at Emory & Henry College, Emory, VA, in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference.

'00

**Brian Bailey** is vice president of the residential division of Mustang Realty Group in Dallas.

**Collins Rainey** completed his residency and is now practicing with Baptist Medical Group's Family Physicians Group in Memphis.

**John Rodney** is an assistant professor of family medicine at the Texas A&M Health Science Center.

'01

**Harry Ford** recently graduated from the Graduate Acting Program at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

**Reid Hettinger** works for the Shelby County District Attorney General's office as an assistant victim/witness coordinator.

**Al Newberry** recently completed a fieldwork program in documentary photography and multimedia at the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Portland, ME. Last summer he attended Middlebury College in Middlebury, VT, for their intensive summer language program in Mandarin Chinese.

**Patrick Quinn** is doing his internship at the University of Indiana Medical School and is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology at the University of Texas, Austin.

**Dalton Rushing** has taken a new position as the senior pastor of North Decatur United Methodist Church in Decatur, GA.

**Hank Sullivant's** indie-rock band, Kuroma, toured with MGMT this fall. He also filled in for MGMT guitarist Andrew VanWyngarden this summer when he was recovering from shoulder surgery.

Lt. **Eddie Wright** earned his Master of Arts in English literature from Catholic University in Washington, DC. He is stationed at the United States Naval Academy as an English instructor.

'02

**Peyton Broer** lives in London where he is a ship broker for Braemar Seascope. He specializes in buying and selling commercial container vessels, and he travels frequently to Greece, Germany, Singapore, Korea, and Japan. Give him a call when you get ready to trade in your tanker.

**Scott Douglass** is a contract attorney with Waddey & Patterson PC in Nashville.

**Jeff Hackmeyer** and his brother, Jonathan, founded GreenLit Financial Solutions, which focuses on financing packages for commercial lighting projects. According to the website: "Due to the efficiency and durability of LED, the investment payback period when converting to LED is often less than 36 months, allowing GreenLit to finance the retrofit solely out of redirected savings to the customer."

**Brett Meeks** graduated from Ole Miss Law School in May 2013 and passed the Tennessee Bar in the summer. In September he began working at Kimbell & Associates in Washington, DC, a boutique healthcare lobbying firm representing pharmaceutical and device companies.

**Stephen Rodda** has a new job in institutional fixed income sales in the Memphis office of KGS-Alpha Capital Markets.

**Robert Rowan** participated in the 48-Hour Film Project this summer ([48hourfilm.com](http://48hourfilm.com)), co-writing, directing, producing, and editing a film in just two days. "Our film *Chess Club* won for best writing, best acting, and the Audience Award," he said. "Peter Phillips '14 and Brock Wright '14 acted as production assistants, and A.J. Kharbanda '13 was my assistant. They were consummate professionals and worked extremely hard." Watch *Chess Club*, a dark comedy, here: [tinyurl.com/pktk8hd](http://tinyurl.com/pktk8hd).

**Justin Sharpe** is an affiliate broker with Keller Williams Realty in Memphis.

**Ben West** is an associate in the Houston law office of Reed Smith LLP. His practice focuses on energy litigation, complex business and commercial litigation, toxic tort, and product liability.

'03

**Geer Alexander** has been promoted to audit senior associate at Dixon Hughes Goodman in Memphis.

**George Edwards** lives and works in Dallas where he is a senior analyst for EXCO Resources Inc., a natural gas and oil company engaged in

the exploration, exploitation, development, and production of onshore natural gas and oil properties.

**Marshall Goldsmith** is working in New York City as an associate at Palladium Equity Partners, a private equity firm with more than \$1.4 billion of assets under management, focused on making investments in lower-middle market companies.

**Jeff Grimm** is a registered representative with Shoemaker Financial in Germantown.

**Joel Iglehart** is an associate with McKinsey & Company in Atlanta.

**Alex Lawhorn** is a portfolio analyst with Robert W. Baird & Co. in Nashville.

**Clark Mayfield** is a designer at David Lawrence Studio in New York City.

**Hite McLean** is working at Pounders Coleman PLLC in Memphis.

**Ryves Moore** graduated in May from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. While in medical school he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honorary Medical Society, served as an officer of the Associated Student Body, was class representative to the Curriculum Committee, and was an American Medical Association Medical School Ambassador. During his four-year tenure as a medical student, Ryves was the 2013 recipient of the Donald T. Imrie Award for outstanding performance in orthopedic surgery and the 2012 recipient of the Trustmark National Bank Scholarship, recognizing a junior medical student for academic excellence. He was also the 2011 recipient of the American Medical Association Foundation Scholarship, honoring distinguished medical students for outstanding academic achievement, and the Miller-Pittman Medical Scholarship, given to deserving medical students enrolled in the School of Medicine. He participated in the Dean's Summer Externship Program and volunteered at the Jackson Free Clinic. As a volunteer on a medical mission to Honduras, he served on a medical team that provided care to several communities surrounding the Lake Yojoa area and helped construct a water-purification system for local villages. In July Ryves began a five-year orthopedic surgery residency at Campbell Clinic, through the University of Tennessee School of Medicine.



**John Phillips'** firm, Red Door Wealth Management, was included among the nation's fastest growing investment advisors by *Financial Advisor* magazine. The article quoted Phillips, who said the goal for the \$74 million company is to reach \$200 million in assets in two to three years.

**Conor Quinn** is the dean of students at Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy, The Exelon Campus of the Noble Network of Charter Schools in Chicago.

**Scott Williams** is working with Liberty National Life Insurance Company in Memphis as an assistant manager, providing life and supplemental health benefits to families and businesses.

'04

**Brandon Arrindell** has been named to the board of trustees of BRIDGES in Memphis.

**Dean Atyia** graduates from Michigan Law School in December and will take a position in San Diego.

**Tyler Beard** lives in Jackson, MS, where he is a nuclear fuels engineer for Entergy Corp., which

operates the second largest fleet of nuclear reactors in the United States. He is a member of the Nuclear Fuels Department, which is responsible for uranium purchasing, nuclear fuel inventory oversight, and fuel forecasting.

**Brent Boswell** is a mechanical design engineer at Neumitra, a startup company in Boston building wearable and mobile technologies to address the effects of stress on human performance and health. His focus is on designing an attractive, comfortable biosensor watch that, paired with a smartphone app, monitors and provides feedback on the wearer's stress levels.

**Tyler Fisher** lives in Atlanta and works as a prosecuting attorney.

**Stuart Gillespie** is an equity research analyst with Wells Fargo Securities in Denver, CO.

**John Conrad McCrary** is a teacher with Shelby County Schools and an assistant football coach at Lausanne Collegiate School.

**Austin Rainey** graduated from University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and is

a litigator with the Putnam Law Firm in Memphis. Prior to law school he completed his undergraduate studies at Clemson University in civil engineering.

**Morgan Rose** is a financial advisor with Duncan-Williams Inc. and serves on the boards for Knowledge Quest and Friends of the Levitt Pavilion.

**Will Stubblefield** is a part-time teacher and whitewater trip leader at French Broad River Academy in Asheville, NC, an independent, all-male middle school that provides students with a challenging and compelling educational experience by engaging them with the French Broad River. Will is also an instructor with the National Outdoor Leadership School, which takes students of all ages on remote wilderness expeditions and teaches them technical outdoor skills, leadership, and environmental ethics. Will leads expeditions through the canyons of the Green River in Utah. In his free time he chases world-class whitewater with Team Renegade and explores the Blue Ridge Mountains on his bike.

**Colin Thomas** is in his senior year at Vanderbilt University. He received a grant to further some independent research he was conducting along with

## Slice of Lives

### Mason George '06 Launches Trucking Business from Truck

*Editor's note: In this new recurring feature we take a look at the stories behind alumni ventures. To submit a Slice of Lives idea, contact Managing Editor Liz Copeland at [liz.copeland@musowls.org](mailto:liz.copeland@musowls.org).*

**Mason George '06** has made a splash in the intermodal-freight industry. Since moving to Kansas City, KS, in 2011 to open a regional office for Chicago-based DNJ Intermodal Services, George has expanded his business – which started in the cab of his red pickup – to offices in Kansas City, St. Louis, and Omaha. What began with just a few trucks generating \$15,000 a week has grown to a fleet of 50 generating more than \$200,000 a week, he said.

DNJ President Joseph Tovo III praised George's character and business acumen, noting that the new Midwest region has experienced "staggering growth" in just two years.

"Mason has a strong balance between ethics and profitability that has helped him grow this business," Tovo said. "He has the unique ability to see situations from multiple points of

view and make decisions that benefit all ... not just one. It has been a pleasure working with Mason, and our shared vision of what we can accomplish in this industry is promising."

At home George and his wife, Malaney, are busy with another promising venture – raising their son, Crawford, born in June.

**What has been your greatest challenge in business?** The greatest challenge was trying to fully understand another part of the country. Even watching sports was a challenge – we had to force ourselves to follow football teams like Mizzou, K-State, KU, and even the Chiefs. They're fun to watch, but it's much easier to brag on our SEC schools.

**What are you most proud of in business?** I am most proud of developing and leading a team of people with one goal in mind: to produce a high-quality product in the transportation industry that each day serves the customers, employees, and drivers in the best way possible.



Mason George and his son, Crawford.

**Did any aspect of your MUS education help you?** I think what prepared me the most for this position was the MUS socially competitive atmosphere – it was productive and structured but also humorous and laid-back. Mr. [Norman] Thompson's English class helped me understand how to get work done while having fun on the job.

several Vanderbilt professors building a CubeSat. This small, cubical satellite will run radiation experiments in Earth's orbit. Colin is working on the design of its electrical power system. He has been on the Dean's List every year since enrolling at Vanderbilt in 2010 and plans to graduate in May 2014 with a double major in electrical engineering and physics.

**Kyle Vogel** works at Commerce Asset Management LLC in Memphis as a trader/analyst.

'05

**Sloan Abernathy** is an assistant district attorney for Jefferson Parish, LA, working in the family violence division.

**Paul Anderson** is a graduate student studying pharmaceutical evaluation and policy, and he plans to graduate from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in December 2013, after he finishes his thesis, a clinical trial entitled "Is a Smartphone Application Effective as an Oral Medication Adherence Aid." He published a paper in the March 2013 issue of the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association entitled "Smartphone Medication Adherence Apps: Potential Benefits to Patients and Providers."

**Alex Chinn** will graduate from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in May 2014 and begin residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee next summer.

**John Daniel** earned his MBA from Carnegie Mellon University Tepper School of Business.

**Watt Eford** is working as a management trainee at Independent Bank in Memphis in the Commercial Lending/Business Banking Division.

**Ryan Freebing** lives in Nashville where he works on the Nissan account for Designory Inc., a full-service marketing/technology firm.

**Will Hickman** is a chef at Erling Jensen in Memphis.

**Bo Ladyman** is a senior research associate at Raymond James Financial Inc. in Memphis.

**Harry Mayfield** lives in Washington, DC, where he is a government relations associate with Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a leading full-service government relations firm specializing in advocating for the public policy interests of institutions of higher education and other research and education organizations. Mayfield advises Lewis-Burke clients in the areas of homeland security, transportation,

defense, cyber-security, natural disasters, emergency preparation, and immigration. Prior to joining Lewis-Burke in 2010, Mayfield worked for the U.S. House Committee on Homeland Security and The Consilio Group, a government affairs firm.

**Scott McLeod** is an associate in the law firm of Bass, Berry & Sims PLC in Memphis.

**Mason Mosby** graduated from Rhodes College in 2009 and received his master's of accounting degree from Rhodes in 2010. While at Rhodes he played football and baseball. Since graduation, he has been working as a junior equity bank analyst for Guggenheim Securities.

**Randall Noel** is a client relationship manager with Green Square Capital LLC, an independent wealth management firm in Memphis.

**Jayshal Patel** is in medical school at the American University of Antigua, and he will begin doing rotations in the New York City area and the East Coast in the spring.

Following his graduation from Ole Miss, **Nelson Rainey** has returned from a yearlong deployment as an army sniper in Afghanistan and is now enrolled in the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. Prior to his deployment he placed sixth in an international military sniper competition.

**Trevor Skelley** is a commercial banking portfolio manager with Regions Bank in Memphis.

**Hunter Swain** received his law degree from the University of Colorado Law School and has accepted a position in New York City with the firm Outten & Golden, which focuses on employment law.

**Jon Michael Taylor** lives in Nashville and works as an inventory analyst for the clothing and e-commerce divisions of Tractor Supply Company, with responsibility for inventory forecasting and replenishment for 1,200-plus TSC retail stores nationwide.

**Rayner Turley** is an associate on the Advisory Services Team at NASDAQ OMX in New York City.

**Jacob Weinstein** has joined the law firm of Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada in the Memphis office.

'06

**Beau Creson** earned his J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School where he was named to the Order of the Coif. He is now trial lawyer at Walker Tipps & Malone

PLC in Nashville. His practice primarily involves general business and tort litigation in state and federal courts and arbitration.

**Phillip DeBardleben** has been promoted to senior associate in the dealer services group at Dixon Hughes Goodman in Memphis.

**Oliver Green** is employed by Bessemer Trust as an associate client advisor.

Since his marriage in 2010, **Frank Jemison** and his wife, Amanda, have done a good deal of traveling. He is now in his second year of teaching third grade at Cornerstone Preparatory Academy in Memphis.

**Blake Karban** is in his third year at the University of Tennessee College of Law.

**Paul Morrow** is employed at Dixon Hughes Goodman in Memphis.

**Logan Welch** is working at Independent Bank in Memphis.

**Reid Wesson** is a financial analyst with Reliant Investment Management LLC in Memphis.

**David Wilcox** is working for Deutsche Bank in London and spends his free time traveling in Europe.

**Preston Battle** taught English to primary-school students in the south of France through the Teaching Assistant Program, which brings non-native French speakers from all over the world to live and work in France for up to two school years. He taught in three schools in poorer, immigrant neighborhoods. He is in his first semester at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, along with **Weller Drennon '05**, **Nelson Rainey '05**, **Jonathan Wolf '05**, **Ben Arnold '08**, **Vance Montgomery '08**, and **Coleman Kimbrough '09**. "So a pretty healthy MUS representation in the Memphis Law Class of 2016. In fact I think we are the most represented high school in the class."

**Gerald Wade** recently began medical school at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

'07

**Alex Carter** is in Chongqing, China, where he teaches English to Chinese preschool, elementary, and secondary school students. He is also playing musical gigs as a violinist and as a guitarist in a band. He has been in China since April and plans to stay at least a year.

**John Catmur** is in his third year at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

**Blake Cowan** is a corporate strategy and marketing analyst at ServiceMaster in Memphis.

**Bret Freebing** works for UBS Financial Services in Austin, TX.

After receiving both his undergraduate and master's degrees in management from Wake Forest University, **Neale Hicks** is working as a consultant with FactSet Research Systems in Austin, TX.

**Luke Jensen** is working in commercial real estate at Commercial Advisors in Memphis.

**John Reinhardt** was promoted to 1st lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Seymour Johnson Air Force base in Goldsboro, NC, as a logistics officer.

**Daniel Smith** is living and teaching in China.

**Christopher Summerlin** graduated from U.S. Air Force pilot training. Now he will fly MC-130H aircraft at Hurlburt Field in Northwest Florida.

**Crispin Watson** has been promoted to a manager at Trader Joe's in Mt. Pleasant, SC, and enjoys golf on his days off.

British Invasion! **Simon Wigfield** reports that he is planning to immigrate to the United States in June 2014. He writes: "On a personal level, I am currently dating a girl from Charleston, SC, ironically called Caralina. In a roundabout way I owe this achievement to my MUS experience. Having had such a fantastic year in Memphis, I urged my brother to take the same gap year. He agreed and ended up being posted at Porter-Gaud School in Charleston. My family and his 'adopted' families became very close friends. To cut a long story short, Caralina is actually the daughter of one of my brother's adopted parents and now studies over in the UK at the University of St. Andrews. So if it wasn't for me coming to Memphis, Martin wouldn't have gone to Charleston, and I wouldn't have met Caralina!"

'08

**Ben Arnold** is enrolled in the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

**Hudson Atkins** is a financial advisor in the Memphis office of Duncan-Williams Inc.

**Paul Billings** is working for Georgetown University's Campus Outreach, a Christian ministry, while being enrolled as a part-time seminary student.

**Patrick Boyer** is a registered representative in the Memphis office of Strategic Financial Partners, focusing on retirement funding, wealth accumulation strategies, and personal insurances.

**Tucker Carr** is in Washington, DC, where he is a staff assistant for the House of Representatives Committee on Ethics. He supports staff attorneys in approving travel and gifts for members of Congress and their staffs, issuing advisory opinions to members, and investigating members and their staffs. The Committee on Ethics is the only non-partisan committee in the House of Representatives.

**Michael Cross** completed his Master of Arts at Vanderbilt University in medicine, health, and society, focusing on the social foundations of health. He has now started medical school at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine. He is an M.D. candidate for 2017.

**Daren Freebing** is a CPA in the Chicago office of PricewaterhouseCoopers, working as a taxation analyst. He's working toward his CFA (chartered financial analyst) certification.

**Sam Goldstein** has been promoted to partner integration and project management lead at GAIN Fitness in San Francisco.

**Nelson Graham** is teaching Algebra II at Greenwood High School in Greenwood, MS, as part of the Teach For America program. Over the summer he sold his first company, RageChill, and helped start a new company, Stadium Stock Exchange, a fantasy stock market for college football.

**Grant Heflin** is a registered representative with Shoemaker Financial in Germantown.

**Christopher Kennedy** graduated with a Bachelor of Science in aerospace engineering from Embry-Riddle University in December 2012. He is working on his master's degree in mechanical engineering and had an internship at Dahlgren this summer.

**Stephen Maroda** has accepted a job in the healthcare field with Huron Consulting Group in Houston, TX.

**Scott McClintock** is living in Jackson, MS, working as Gov. Phil Bryant's aide-de-camp.

**Michael Stein** is a global banking and markets analyst at Bank of America in Charlotte, NC, in Real Estate Syndicated Capital Markets.

U. S. Army Spc. **Mark Andrew Wiygul** has returned safely from his tour of duty in Afghanistan. After surviving many episodes of IED explosions

and sniper attacks, he was awarded the Purple Heart. He is in Ft. Lewis, WA, but ready to go again if called upon.

**Malcolm Wood** is working in Jackson Hole, WY, at Snow King Resort.

**Luke Wynn** is attending the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies.

'09



MUS '09 classmates celebrate their graduation from Vanderbilt on May 10, 2013. Pictured, from left, are **Michael Edwards, Lowell Hays, Walt Wepfer, Will Stokes, and Andrew Maroda.**

After graduating from the University of Virginia in May 2013, **Will Benton** headed to New York City where he has accepted a position with Credit Suisse.

**Robert Counce** is living in Knoxville where he works for Capital Financial Group LLC.

Cpl. **Michael Delugach** continues his service in the United States Marine Corps in the Memphis area.

**Johnny Dillon** had an internship at Dixon Hughes Goodman over the summer.

**Robert Duffley** entered the MFA program in theater studies at the American Repertory Theater at Harvard in July.

**Lowell Hays** graduated from Vanderbilt University in May with a Bachelor of Engineering in biomedical and medical engineering. He is a business analyst with Deloitte in Atlanta.

STAY UP-TO-DATE



[musowls.org/media](http://musowls.org/media)



*Sewanee: The University of the South won the inaugural 2013 Southern Athletic Association Men's Tennis Championship April 28, by topping Rhodes College 5-1. Grant Hopkins '09, co-captain of the men's tennis team (pictured above at center in gray T-shirt), graduated from Sewanee in May 2013. It has been 16 years since Sewanee brought home a tennis conference championship.*

**Rhobb Hunter** is majoring in communications at St. Louis University where he is also pursuing a certificate in Asian studies and a minor in Mandarin Chinese. He spent a semester in Washington, DC, where he had two internships; one in the office of U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN) and another at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. He returned to DC in the summer of 2013 and then went to Beijing, China, for a semester.

**Thomas Ivy** graduated from the University of Tennessee with a degree in civil engineering and has secured a job as an estimator with Turner Construction Co. in Charlotte, NC.

**Mathew Jehl** received the Abe Fortas Award for Excellence in Legal Studies at the Rhodes College Awards Convocation in May. He is employed in the Development Office at Rhodes College where he is G.O.L.D. coordinator, working with graduates of the last decade.

**Graham Jones** graduated from the Ole Miss Patterson School of Accounting summa cum laude, Phi Kappa Phi, Beta Alpha Psi, and received a Taylor Medal, the highest academic honor awarded to a student. He served as president of both the accounting student body and Phi Delta Theta, and he was recognized among Who's Who of American Colleges and Universities. He is working on his master's degree in accounting, and he holds a graduate assistant position.

**Lawson Mann** is a senior at Tulane University studying molecular biology and finance.

**Jack Steffner** has joined the commercial real estate firm Newmark Grubb Memphis.

**Kimbrough Taylor** is a writer for the Sharpe Group non-profit consultants in Memphis.

## '10

**Eric Catmur** is an English major in his senior year at the University of Alabama. He spent the past summer traveling in Ireland and studying James Joyce.

**Tyler Efird** is in his senior year studying mechanical engineering at the University of Alabama Honors College. Last summer he held an internship at Grace Medical in Memphis where he learned about engineering from a medical perspective.

**John Austin Monteith** is a senior at Ole Miss and has risen through the journalism program to the rank of station manager of the college news broadcast, NewsWatch 99. He was selected for this position by an eight-person committee that included the dean of the Journalism School and WMC-TV's Lindsey Brown. Last March under John's leadership, NewsWatch 99 won the Best College Newscast award by Mississippi Associated Press Broadcasting.

**Patrick Nenon** is majoring in management information systems at the University of Alabama. He participated in a co-op program with BMW in Greenville, SC.

**Wilson Orr** is an associate for the Kenan-Flagler Private Equity Fund, which is the only actively managed student-run fund in the country. Undergraduate students and MBA's at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Kenan-Flagler Business School serve on the fund. Orr is also serving as CEO of the Carolina Challenge, the

university's entrepreneurship/business plan competition that awards \$50,000 to deserving business venture ideas in the UNC community across multiple tracks.

**Thomas Silas** is working toward a double major in economics and accounting at Millsaps College. He stays busy juggling school and two campus jobs, but he is having a great time.

**Rocky Stone** is in his second semester of business graduate school at the University of Alabama. In addition to a bachelor's degree in economics and finance, he will have a master's in finance in May 2014. He is in the top 10 percent of his class, and he received the Business Honors Program Award presented by the Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society and an officer in Phi Gamma Delta. He was on the President's List last school year, and he did a summer internship with BHR Capital in New York as a hedge fund analyst.

**Will Taylor** will graduate from Princeton in June 2014 with a degree in physics and continue his studies in graduate school. He worked in Italy in October 2013 at the world's largest particle physics lab.

**Ian Turner** was an intern at Dixon Hughes Goodman over the summer.

**Peterson Wellford** has been accepted in the Alabama Honors Society. He is majoring in public relations and plans to work in hospital administration.



**Franklin Martin '10**, left, and **Matt Williams '10**, both seniors at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, stopped for a photo before their ring ceremony in May. Matt reports he is majoring in biology and keeping busy. "This summer I was a parachute instructor as a member of the USAF Parachute Team, the Wings of Blue, where I helped instruct over 70 students on how to jump out of an airplane," Matt said. "I also participated in an internship at Alliant Techsystems in Plymouth, MN.

Lastly, my girlfriend of two years, Hannah Peterson, and I got engaged.” Franklin is also majoring in biology, and he plays attack for the D1 Air Force lacrosse team. “I’ve been on the Dean’s List all but one semester of my career, and I am trying out to be a Special Forces air liaison officer attached to Army units after graduation,” Franklin said.

## ’11

**Forrest Baty** received the James W. Davis Scholarship in Accountancy at Ole Miss where he is a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College and is on the Dean’s Honor Roll.

**Terrence Cole** is studying kinesiology at the University of Tennessee, and he completed a summer internship with oral surgeon **John S. Cannon ’67** in Memphis. He has also finished United States Air Force ROTC field training and is scheduled to commission as 2nd lieutenant in May 2015.

**Sam Cox**, a junior mechanical engineering major at Mississippi State University, is a President’s List scholar, and he continues to pole vault with the track team on an athletic scholarship. He also made the SEC academic honor roll for his sophomore year and spent two weeks in Europe last summer.

**Ivan Denson** is a junior at the University of Tennessee. For the past two summers he has worked as a management intern at Bryce Corporation in Memphis

**Michael Glenn** has completed the Wealth Management Internship Program with FTB Advisors Inc.

**Clifton Jordan** spent another summer as an intern at UPS working with the U.S. Finance and Accounting Department. He is a junior at Morehouse College.

**Ben Roberts** is serving as the philanthropy chair of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity at University of Alabama.

He has been inducted into Order of Alpha Greek Honor Society and made the Dean’s List last semester.

Water Wars Atlanta, co-founded by **Scotter Taylor**, funded its first well at the Ematawa Primary School in Kenya. For more information on this project, visit [waterwarsatlanta.com](http://waterwarsatlanta.com).

## ’12

**Ben Benton** pledged Sigma Alpha Epsilon at the University of Arizona.

Former Owl teammates **Britt Colcolough** and **Daniel Cunningham** met on opposite sides of the gridiron in October when the Princeton Tigers took on the Cornell Big Red. Colcolough is an offensive lineman for Princeton, and Cunningham is an offensive lineman for Cornell. The Tigers took the game 53-20.

**Lee Downen** was named to the Southern Methodist University Honor Roll for the fall 2012 semester and the spring 2013 semester.

**Garrott Graham** was elected as a representative to the Honor Council at Vanderbilt University.

**Jake Greenstein** was an intern at Duncan-Williams in Memphis over the summer. He is a student at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Wil Hergenrader** is a teaching assistant at Georgia Institute of Technology where he is pursuing a double major in industrial and systems engineering and computer science with concentrations in information Internetworks and modeling and simulation.

**Jack Shawkey** was named to the Southern Methodist University Honor Roll for the fall 2012 semester.

**Drew Stevenson** is studying finance at SMU and is involved as a student senator.

## ’13

Last summer **Zachary Olsen** won the 2013 Tennessee Match Play Championship at the Nashville Golf and Athletic Clubs and the championship title at the 107th Southern Amateur golf tournament at The Club at Carlton Woods in The Woodlands, TX. The Southern Golf Association named him Amateur of the Month in July. He is playing golf for Oklahoma State University.



*Mary Nell Easum, MUS registrar and Upper School administrative assistant, posed as Rosie the Riveter for our 2013-14 Annual Fund poster image. Miss Easum has been a stalwart of the administration for 52 years.*

# WE SAW U

## HOMECOMING 2013

'68



*The Strangers, a band formed in 1964 by Class of 1968 friends Steve Rhea, Jim Robinson, Peter Schutt, and Cleo Stevenson, played for the '68 reunion. The band members are, from left, John Murrah '77, Stevenson, Robinson, Allen McCool '77, Schutt, and Terry Wilson '68.*



*The Class of 1968 celebrated their reunion at Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects.*

*Stephanie and Gary Garner '73 of Heber City, UT*



*Brad Adams '78, with Bill Taylor, instructor in science, arrives for Alumni 8th Period.*



*Class of 1983 cohorts, from left, Marshall Odeen, Jim Burnett, Danny Mansberg, Mac McCarroll, and Jimmy Ringel*



*Lisa and Bo Mitchum '75 are dressed to cheer on their son, Jay '14, at the Homecoming game, which was also Senior Night.*





*The Class of 2003 celebrated at the home of Rebecca and Edward Nenon.*



*The Class of 1993 got together at the home of Kathy Gale and Gil Uhlhorn.*



*Members from the Class of 1958 and their wives attended the 2013 Homecoming game, where they served as honorary captains at the coin toss. Pictured, from left, are Marsha Evans, John Evans, True Redd, Leslie Patton, Clyde Patton, and Les Nicholson. Celebrating their 55th high school reunion, the alumni were from the first class to graduate from the new MUS.*

*The Cove Cocktail and Oyster Bar hosted the party of the Class of 1998.*





The home of Ginger and Dabney Collier was the setting for the 1988 reunion.

The Class of 1983 took over the Kitchen Dining Room at Alchemy in the Cooper-Young district.



Members of the Class of 1963 got together in the Wiener Hospitality Room to celebrate their 50th reunion. Pictured, front row, from left, are Lee Wiener, Edwin Hussey, Doug Ferris, Rusty Bloodworth; back row, Wilson Barton, Frank Doggrell, Jere Crook, and Alan Catmur.

The Class of 1973 celebrated poolside at the home of Lucia and Hal Crenshaw.



The Class of 1978 shared dinner together at the home of Pam and George Sousoulas.



*Brandon Westbrook '92 and Morgan Westbrook and Christian and Pam Woods*



*Brennan Sweeney and Duncan Adrian '06*



*Kelly Dobbins and Laurence Dobbins '69*



*Harry Sayle '92 and Erin Sayle*



*Stuart and Patricia Hooser*



*Kaitlyn Fredrick, Craig Witt '85, and Linda Fredrick*



*Ted O'Brien '77 and Cliff Phillips '77*



*Ted Angelakis '81 and Jennifer Angelakis and Muffy and Michael Turley*



*John Summers '05 and Duncan Galbreath '94*



*Barbara Low and Willis Ayres '72*



*Fred Hidaji '84, Jill Hidaji, Robert Hollabaugh '84, and Cary Hollabaugh*



*Windy and Kirby May '94*

# YOUNG ALUMNI MINGLE

Alumni keep up their connections as they gather at Cheffie's Café in the Memphis High Point Terrace neighborhood in May.

*Collins Roll '03, Paul Gillespie '01, and Paul Morrow '06*



*Trevor Knight '02, John Collier '04, Andrew Hooser '04, Neil Taylor '04, and Sam Buckner '04*



*Zack Rutland '06, Logan Welch '06, and Watt Efird '05*



*Nathan Haynes '03 and Brian Eason '01*

## OGLE-EYE VIEW

The Alumni Executive Board, Emerging Leaders, family, and friends joined **Jimmy Ogle '70** for a tour of Downtown Memphis in June.

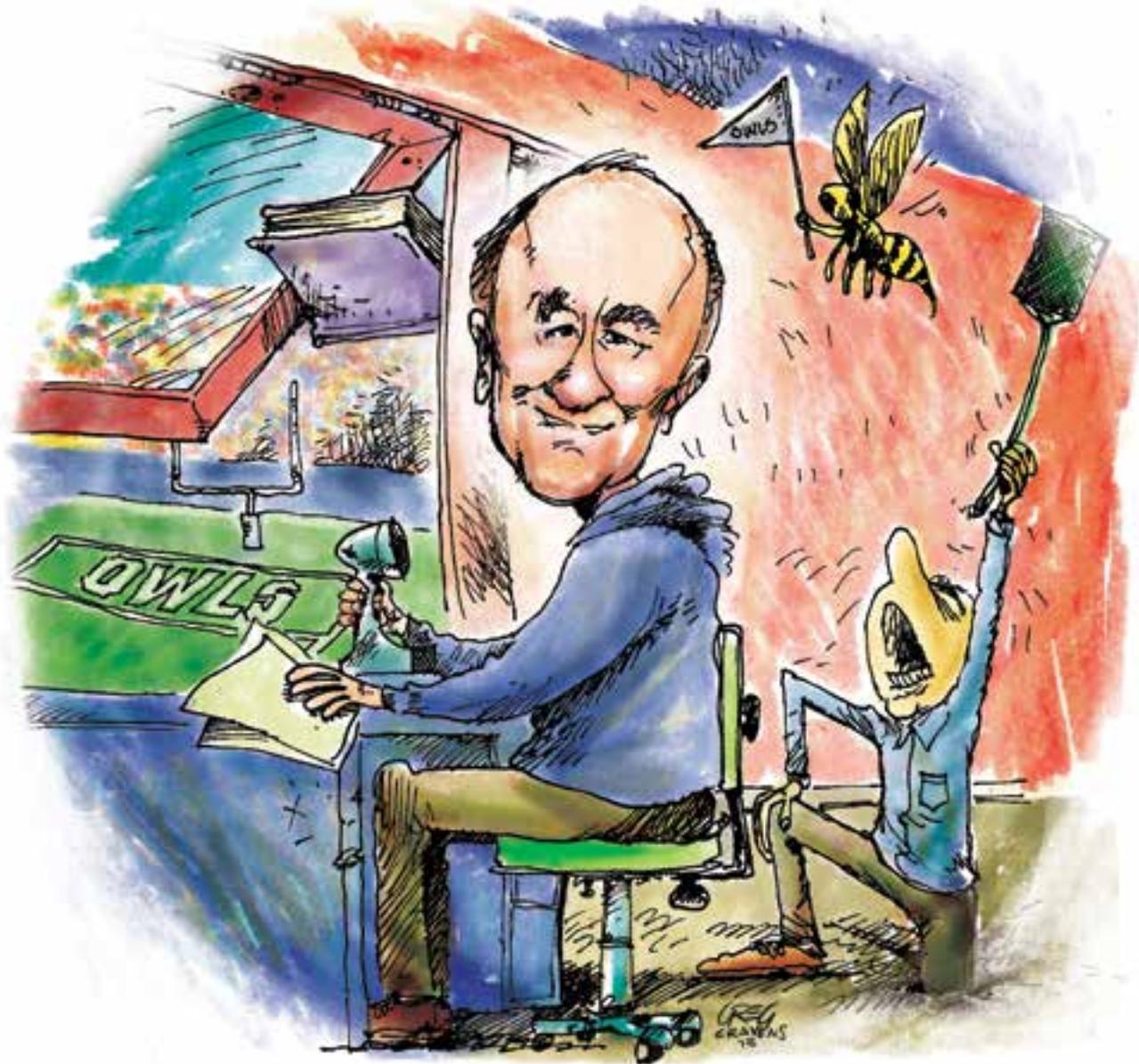
*Ogle wraps up his tour along the riverfront. Pictured, from left, are Pat Hopper '89, Lauren Hopper, Ellis Haguewood, Lillian Russell, Beverly Russell, Allen McCool '77, Nelson Adrian '00, Peggy Haguewood, Chris Hamilton '00, and John Russell '87.*



*Ogle, far right, tells tales about the famous and infamous at Lansky at the Peabody. Pictured, from left, are Nelson Adrian '00, Allen McCool '77, Bill White '87, Garrott McClintock '06, Cleo Stevenson '68, math/economics instructor John Knaff, Headmaster Ellis Haguewood, and Peggy Haguewood.*



# THE LAST WORD



## Reflections from a Cloudy Mirror

by Norman Thompson

“That was then; this is now.” Such was my thought as I stepped into the elevator and ascended to the ethereal heights of Stokes Stadium to take my accustomed place behind the public-address microphone in the luxury of the

air-conditioned press box, a vantage that affords a panoramic view of this impressive campus. As I was early for this, the last regular-season game of 2013, early even for the pre-game meal that awaited me (which turned out to be delectable

Rock'n Dough sandwiches), I availed myself of the spectacular view. Through trees just turning russet and crimson peeped the new Field House. The lights of the stadium and of the baseball field were illuminating facilities that are the envy of many colleges. In this light the colors of the field and of the facade of the Upper School to my left assumed an almost surreal vividness.

As I stared into the middle distance, my mind floated back many years, as even then I stared from the window of the press box. But, oh, how different was the prospect and the experience then. Then, rather than riding an elevator, I ascended two flights of iron steps leading into a low, cramped, dilapidated box sitting atop a concession stand. No pre-game meal awaited me, but a hot dog could be procured from the stand. Not air-conditioned, this box had aluminum windows on the field side only, windows that had to be propped open with sticks, for they did not wish to stay open of their own volition. The heat of the first games of the season made the atmosphere of the press box stygian. The door had to be left open, but this open-door policy proved to be a seductive invitation to Owl fans past and present, who sometimes crowded in, visiting, offering unsolicited commentary on the game, and raising the ambient temperature to near-combustible levels. Later in the season, when the temperature dropped to near the freezing point (as it seemed to do more often back then), the press box became an igloo, and the windows fogged, limiting our visibility to the top row of fans shivering on metal bleachers just below us. The now opaque windows had to be propped open, but while we could then see, a continuous blast of arctic air hit us at throat level, making speech difficult. Once, the window-propping sticks had

mysteriously disappeared, but we found some schoolbooks abandoned in the stands that served our purpose.

The eaves of the press box were home to nests of yellow jackets during games in August and September. One year, before the kickoff of an early season game, I was standing on the iron landing outside the box, breathing the hot but marginally fresher air there, when a dive-bombing yellow jacket with nothing good on his mind hit me above my left eye, catapulting me into a chair in the relative safety of the box. As my eye swelled, I had a distorted vision of **Dax Torrey '94**, on top of the press box doing battle with the incensed insects, swinging wildly with what appeared to be a meter stick. The yellow jackets waged battle with us year after year, and they enjoyed the home-field advantage.

During every game, and especially at halftime of these games, on what is now the capacious parking lot west of the stadium but was then merely a dusty field, scores of boys played a rough-and-tumble game, a game that they called something politically incorrect beginning with the word "smear." Sometimes the carnage on that dusty field behind us exceeded that on the football field before us.

Though with the windows open we suffered excessive heat and cold in those days, we had one advantage lost to us today: We were not hermetically sealed off from the excitement generated by crowd noise. One of my fondest memories could not have been acquired today. One Homecoming night long ago, as I introduced the young ladies of the Homecoming Court, I read not only their academic accomplishments but also their social affiliations. This reading of each candidate's *bona fides* seemed to go on interminably, because they included sororities and social clubs. I read over and over, "She is a member of Decem, Four

Seasons, Chez Nous," and so on. Windows propped open, we in the press box could hear the crowd's reaction and applause for each court member. In the crowd that night was a beloved MUS English teacher, Mrs. Jane Caldwell, and her husband, Charlie.

After I had intoned the more or less same liturgy for four or five young ladies, and the crowd was quiet, awaiting the next introduction, the high, nasal, comic voice of Charlie Caldwell wafted over the crowd, as he queried, "Why didn't that last one get in that Chez Nous?" The crowd howled in laughter as Jane "whispered" so she could be heard even up in the press box, "Oh, Charlie, hush!" Not to be so easily silenced, and oblivious to the possibility that the girl's parents could be sitting in the next row, Charlie rejoined, "Well, what's wrong with her? Why didn't she get in that Chez Nous?" The crowd loved it, and I will always remember it, but I have forgotten even whom we played that night.

One Friday football night not many years before the old press box was demolished to make way for the splendor that is today's Stokes Stadium, a stellar Owl football player from an earlier era came up to visit. As he was crossing the box to shake hands with the broadcast crew, the floor gave way and he found himself up to his knee in the concession stand below. Though the gaping hole was repaired with a piece of plywood, it was evident that an upgrade in facilities was indicated.

So, that was then and this is now. Is *this* superior to *that*? From an aesthetic, indeed from *any* rational point of view, of course it is. Still, I would not trade these and many other memories of long ago Friday nights for all the luxury skyboxes and Rock'n Dough sandwiches on the planet.

*Norman Thompson has been an MUS instructor in English since 1972, and he holds the L. Edwin Eleazer III Chair of Excellence in Teaching.*



As the summer sun sets over the mountains surrounding Anchorage, AK, at midnight, fly fisherman Zack Fields casts to rising rainbow trout. Paul Moinester '04 took this photo on his 28,000-mile journey across North America to explore environmental effects on fisheries. Read his story on page 10.



# MUS TODAY

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