

FALL 2003 Frontiers



Spartanburg Methodist College

FRONTIERS MAGAZINE

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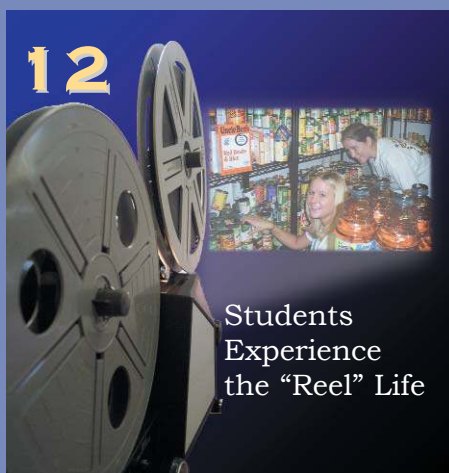
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Susan Bridges, SMC Trustee and Chairperson of the Building and Grounds Committee, cuts the ribbon during a ceremony Sept. 10 dedicating the college's newest residence hall as SMC President Dr. Charles Teague (fourth from left), Trustee Chairperson Dr. Bruce Yandle (right), and college Trustees look on. SMC officials gathered just one year before on the same spot for the groundbreaking ceremony. **Read more about it on Page 6.**



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Experiencing
Growth



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Message from the President



"A Place We Call Home"

Greetings!

It is always interesting to talk with students about why they selected Spartanburg Methodist College as the place to begin their college career. Several consistent responses emerge that influenced their decision to enroll at SMC: Outstanding financial aid awards; the feeling of closeness among students, faculty and staff; leadership opportunities with support from dedicated staff; and courses taught by faculty who demand rigorous work but also offer nurturing guidance. When asked how much influence students feel from their family, the responses are varied. However, I was recently told about one student who said that pressure from his family was not a big factor, but then added, "My Dad was thrilled to see me go to his school."

"His school!" Yes, this student's father is a graduate of SMC and, even many years after leaving the College, he continued to think of Spartanburg Methodist College as "his school." What a wonderful affirmation it is when persons feel and express ownership in our unique College.

You received this publication because, in some meaningful way, we consider you as a member of the SMC family. Alumni, Trustees, faculty, staff, students, parents and family of current and former students, members of the United Methodist Church, friends of the College, and many others all have a very special relationship to our institution. Indeed, SMC is your school! We share a common connection in that we claim and support the heritage and mission of this historic institution.

Many great and exciting things are happening at Spartanburg Methodist College. A new residence hall opened in August, a new entrance is under construction, signage for all facilities will soon grace our campus, road changes that define beautiful "green spaces," a pedestrian friendly campus, and a rapidly growing enrollment with residence halls filled to capacity declare to all that we are on the move. And yet, even as great as these accomplishments might be, they fall short when compared to the wonderful transitions and growth that occur each year as students discover their identity, as they develop an awareness of the spiritual richness of our faith, as they discover that their academic potential far exceeds their previous expectations, as they discover values and truth that help them build character and integrity, and as they stretch their minds and make life-long plans for their future. In a word, our students are happy and secure as they develop into responsible adults who will soon assume their role as leaders in our communities, state, nation and world. Because of the meaningfulness of their experiences and the formative impact of life in our academic community, I am convinced that this new generation of students one day will be thrilled when their sons and daughters select Spartanburg Methodist College, "their school," as the place to begin their academic career.

Our doors are always open and our invitation to visit SMC is genuine and sincere. I hope to see you on campus very soon at "a place we call home."

May God Bless You Now and Always,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles P. Teague". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Charles P. Teague
President

From the alumni director

Phonathon 2003

On September 8, we kicked off our annual Phonathon. We called alumni and friends of the college soliciting pledges to help support our student scholarship program. One hundred and seven student volunteers participated, including the Men's and Women's Cross Country and Softball teams as well as student workers. Volunteers made more than 4,650 calls. Of those called, \$30,700 was pledged, exceeding the \$30,000 goal. Volunteers were rewarded for their participation in this event and enjoyed speaking with former students. Alumni had many questions regarding the new residence hall and enjoyed sharing their experience of being at SMC with the young callers. All in all, Phonathon 2003 was a great success. Next time that phone rings, answer the call! It may be a SMC student on the other end wanting to hear of your college experiences on the SMC campus!

The Lady Pioneers Softball Team recently "stepped up to the plate," and participated in a recent phonathon.



Leah Pruitt

Walk of Memories

Join many alums and other SMC friends who have left their mark on a growing campus. Order a brick in our Walk of Memories. Add your name and class year, remember a classmate, honor your parents or a favorite professor. The cost of each brick is \$100. If you are interested, contact Leah L. Pruitt, Director of Alumni Relations, at (864) 587-4225 or email pruittl@smcsc.edu. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to leave your mark on SMC!



ALUMNI WEEKEND APR. 2 & 3, 2004

Here are some scenes from last year's Alumni Weekend. Many alums turned out for a weekend of reminiscing about their years as SMC, SJC or TII students. Join us Apr. 2 & 3, 2004 for another great time. For details, contact Leah L. Pruitt, Director of Alumni Relations, at (864) 587-4225 or email pruittl@smcsc.edu.



There was food and fellowship "a-plenty" (left) as alums gathered at the Beacon Restaurant for dinner. President Teague congratulates the 2003 Alumnae of the Year, twin sisters Louise Atkins and Lucile Atkins Miller (center). Teague pauses for a photo with alumnus Darryl Windham (right).

New Faces at SMC



Aiello



Bentrim-Tapio



Fluker



Haymond



Newton



Roach



Stokes



Turner



Van Winkle



Vaughn

Megan Aiello is the new Lady Pioneers Volleyball Coach. Coaching volleyball at Spartanburg Methodist College offered Aiello an opportunity to return to her home state from Bluffton, Oh., where she coached volleyball and softball, while earning her M.A. degree in Education at Bluffton College. At Bluffton College, Aiello was head J.V. Volleyball Coach, and also served as an assistant coach in volleyball and softball.

She has a B.S. in Physical Education from Anderson College and is a 1997 graduate of Chapin High School. Aiello played volleyball four years while at Anderson College at a time when the team won the Southeast Regional NAIA title. She also played while in high school. Aiello plans one day to work on a doctorate in athletic administration. Her interests are horseback riding, travel and reading.

She is the daughter of Paul and Jema Durham of Chapin, S.C.

Erin Bentrim-Tapio was named to the position of Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Institutional Research. Bentrim-Tapio comes to SMC after having worked at Wofford College and Green Mountain College in Vermont. She completed her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and Research at the University of South Carolina in December 2002, and also holds a Master of Education degree in Student Personnel Services from USC, and a B.A. degree with a major in English from Wofford College.

Bentrim-Tapio and her husband Eric Tapio have lived in Spartanburg for several years. She is active in community affairs through the Junior League of Spartanburg, the Upstate South Carolina Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae Club, and Kappa Alpha Theta Women's Fraternity, Zeta Eta Chapter Advisory Board.

Bentrim-Tapio also teaches Psychology at SMC.

Troy Fluker – Assistant Basketball Coach, who once played on the USCS Basketball Team, is now reunited with Coach Dale Kuhl, who was once USCS assistant men's basketball coach.

Adam Haymond wears a lot of hats at SMC. He is Hall Director for Willard Hall, Director of Intramurals, and assistant coach for the new Pioneers Wrestling Team. Haymond looks forward to working with the new team.

Kimberly Newton recently joined SMC as a new admissions counselor. A 2003 graduate of Lander University, she holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in History with a minor in Political Science. While at Lander, Newton was a Presidential Ambassador, and received numerous awards, including Greek Woman of the Year and the President's Award. She was also actively involved with Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, holding several offices, including that of Vice President. She also conducted orientation for new students and served as a liaison between students and the Lander administration. Newton is the daughter of Louie and Ann Newton of Yorges Island, S.C. Newton's sister, Chrissy Newton, attended Spartanburg Methodist College in 1997-1998.

Bill Roach is Executive Director of Information Technology and Computer Services. Roach received a Master's degree in Computer Resource Management from Webster University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Southern Wesleyan University. He previously served as the Manager of Network Services for One Price Clothing Stores. Mr. Roach and his wife, Kris, live in Moore, S.C. with their two children Parker and Austin.

Kimberly Stokes is SMC's newest Admissions Counselor. Stokes graduated last May from Clemson University with a B.S. in Parks, Recreation and

cont'd. on page 11

SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague, addresses trustees, staff, faculty, students and friends of the college at the dedication of its newest building, a three-story residence hall.

Residence Hall Dedication



Left: This was the scene just a year before, when U.S. Rep. Jim DeMint (left) joined SMC officials to break ground for the facility.

Hammond Hall. "I looked at it, and it was very austere sitting

Just a year after ground was broken, SMC students, faculty, staff, trustees and guests reconvened on the same spot, standing before a completed three-story co-educational residence hall.

On Sept. 10, 2003, a ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the official opening of the newest and finest building on campus. SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague recognized many individuals who made the facility a reality. Teague said the residence hall will be remembered as a lasting hallmark of Board Chairperson Dr. Bruce Yandle's leadership.

Yandle commended the work of trustees and others for making a dream into reality. He also praised Dan Foster, who is vice chairman of the board, for chairing the Residence Hall Committee. "Many of you were here a year and a day ago. I would ask you to close your eyes with me and see if you can remember what this place looked like a year and one day ago, and think about what it looks like today. This is much more than a new marvelous residence hall. It is a reconfiguration of our campus. This campus is not the same, and this wonderful facility represents a true turning point," said Yandle.

Trustee Susan Bridges recalled seeing a photo of

out in what looked like a field, with nothing around it. But that one building was a place for great hope and opportunity to many of Dr. Camak's vision to come true for a better tomorrow for many of those workers in this local community." Trustee Jerry Calvert praised fellow committee members from the board, faculty and staff for actively contributing and successfully handling each detail of the construction, including selection of an architect and builder, and the type of furniture to order. Dean of Students Arthur Hartzog said that contributing to the creation and operation of the new residence hall is a rare opportunity for student-focused administrators such as himself and his staff. "In the coming years, hundreds of students will live and learn here. The impact on their lives will not be measured in dollars and cents, but in the values they learned here. We thank all of you for having the vision to help form these values," stated Hartzog. Residence Life Director, Stacey Werner, said it is exciting to see the residence hall community growing in such a positive direction. SGA president and resident of the new hall, Clint Settle said the new hall represents "some of the nicest accommodations in the state." Dipali Patel, a resident assistant, said the atmosphere where a student lives impacts the quality of education and the future.

Susan Bridges, a college Trustee and Chairperson of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, has pledged \$1 million toward construction costs. This comes as good news to SMC officials, who are in the middle of major campus improvements, which include a new residence hall and a proposed new entrance.

"We are very grateful for this gift and the expression of confidence in everyone at the College that goes with it," commented SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague. SMC Trustee and alumnus, Dr. Ed Ellis, and his wife, Dr. Charlotte Ellis, made a challenge stating that if the college raised a total of \$5 million by Dec. 31, 2003 – including one required gift in the amount of \$1 million from a single source – they would provide \$2 million.

Teague stated that Bridges' pledge enables the College to meet the most challenging condition set forth in the Ellis challenge, emphasizing that the gift will be of immense help as the college continues its fund raising efforts to pay off the new facility. Teague also praised the efforts of SMC's Office of Institutional

Advancement for helping a list of donors, including the Spartanburg County Foundation, for funding a

portion of the construction costs.

Bridges and her family made the gift to SMC in honor of her father, Jesse L. Bridges, who attended the college, then known as Spartanburg Junior College in the 1950s and served on their board. A nearby athletic arena, built on the SMC campus in the 1970s, also bears his name.

"He sincerely appreciated the opportunity he received when he attended the College," said Bridges of her father, who as a student alternated between attending classes two weeks and delivering food products for two weeks to pay his tuition. Bridges praised SMC faculty and staff for carrying on the proud heritage of founder David English Camak, who nearly a century ago envisioned a place where educational opportunities

were extended to working-class people regardless of their means.



From left: Dr. Bruce Yandle, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, with Trustee Susan Bridges and President Teague at the dedication ceremony. Bridges announced her family would give \$1 million toward the facility's construction.

SMC receives CASE award

International organization praises fund raising program

Spartanburg Methodist College received the Wealth ID Award for Educational Fundraising from CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education), a professional organization for advancement professionals in education who work in alumni relations, communications, and development.

SMC was ranked as the top private community college based on overall fundraising efforts during the CASE International Assembly, held in July at Washington, D.C. CASE recognizes exceptional development programs each year. In 2002, Wealth ID, a provider of wealth screening services and fund raising solutions, joined CASE as a sponsor of the Educational Fund Raising Awards. Awards are given to public and private educational institutions nationwide.

Noting the challenging economic climate, SMC Board Chairperson, Dr. Bruce Yandle said, "The CASE award is marvelous. This, a new residence hall, and record-setting fall enrollment give us much to celebrate." Jerry Calvert, who chairs the Board's Planning and Development Committee, is pleased that SMC's fund raising efforts were recognized by CASE, adding that the award is well-deserved.

SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague, stated, "The successful work of our Institutional Advancement program reflects the importance of our special mission in higher education, the dedication of our Institutional Advancement staff and our academic community to that mission, and the generous financial support we receive each year from SMC employees, Trustees, alumni, the United Methodist Church, foundations, and friends of the College who support our mission. We are grateful for these gifts and are committed to using these resources to ensure that our students receive a quality education that prepares them well for life."

"A lot has to do with trustees, friends, alumni and people who get out and help us raise funds," said Sterling Case, SMC Vice President for Institutional Advancement. "We've been fortunate enough to win five times in recent years," he added. Earlier awards were presented to

Continued on page 8

SMC is Growing!

If the SMC campus seems a little more crowded these days, the reason is a significant increase in enrollment.

According to Dan Philbeck, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, 460 new students are on campus – representing a 19 percent increase over last year and the largest freshman class on record. Philbeck notes that with 738 students, total enrollment is up 16 percent over Fall 2002, when 627 students entered SMC. Within this year's record enrollment picture is an increase in residential students to 505, which is up from 435 last year.

SMC officials cite improved financial aid opportunities, the addition of new athletic programs and construction of a new residence hall as key factors in this growth trend. SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague, credits an outstanding Admissions staff, as well as the efforts of the college's faculty, staff and administration.

Factors fueling the growth include the addition of men's wrestling and men's tennis teams, which attracted nearly 50 new students. A new \$3.6 million residence hall opened last month with all 93 beds filled. Philbeck added that increasing financial aid choices are another factor contributing to the jump in enrollment. Of the incoming students, 47 percent received LIFE scholarships.

For Philbeck and others, this growth reinforces SMC's mission as a private, residential two-year college. Philbeck said the college has experienced what he terms as a "phenomenal" retention rate, considering the large percentage of students nationwide who drop out during their first two years of college.

"The wonderful retention rate indicates that we are recruiting students that can succeed and flourish in the academic and social environment we've created on campus," said Teague, adding, "I salute our faculty, staff and administrators for their continuing excellent work that results in the retention and success of our students as we continue our unique mission in higher education."

Patsy Simmons

Patsy Simmons of Spartanburg is active in several community organizations as a community volunteer and has served on several boards.

She is the co-founder of The Health Resource Center – Alcohol and Drug Prevention for Young People, where she also served as a coordinator for Parent to Parent. Simmons is a member of Spartanburg County Medical Alliance.

She is also an active member of Central United Methodist Church, where she chaired the Church Council. Simmons also chaired the board for Spartanburg Families in Action, Mobile Meals, and was co-chair of Spartanburg County Planning and Development Conference 87. Simmons served on the Founding and Steering Committee for "Youth at Risk, Stop Drugs Now," and served on the Spartanburg District Pastoral Counseling Center Board, as well as Leadership Spartanburg. She has been actively involved in education as PTA president for Jesse Boyd Elementary School and Spartanburg High School, and was president of the Spartanburg District 7 PTA Council.

Among Simmons' achievements are being named South Carolina Prevention Volunteer of the Year, and earning a Master Gardener certification.

Simmons received a BA in Education from Emory University, where she was also named to Phi Beta Kappa at Emory University.

Simmons resides in Spartanburg with her husband, John W. Simmons, MD. They have three children: John, Todd and Andrew.

New Trustees Named

Thomas Howard Suitt

A Spartanburg native and World War II veteran, Suitt is Chairman Emeritus of



Construction Co. of Greenville, the company he founded in 1968. He earned a B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering from The Citadel, and was also inducted into the Tau Beta Pi National Honor Society. Suitt served in the Army of Occupation in Japan.

Under Suitt's leadership, Suitt Construction Co. was ranked among the top 75 construction companies by Engineering News-Record, and has won numerous national and regional awards presented by organizations such as the Design-Build Institute of America, Associated Builders and Contractors, Associated General Contractors, the Themed Entertainment Association and Food Engineering magazine. Suitt is a Registered Professional Engineer in South Carolina and North Carolina, and is a past member of the National Construction Management Committee of the Associated General Contractors of America.

Suitt has served on numerous boards, including the Board of Directors of the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation, Buncombe Street United Methodist Church Trustees, The Citadel Development Foundation Board, and boards of the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport Commission and Greenville Chamber of Commerce. He also chaired boards for the Greenville Hospital System, and Greenville Health Corporation. He is a member of Buncombe Street United Methodist Church.

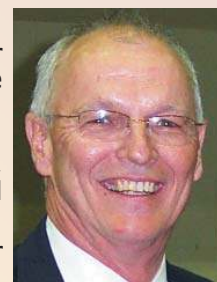
Suitt resides in Greenville with his wife, Hilda Brockman Suitt. They have two children: Thomas Howard Suitt Jr., 51, and Nancy Suitt Bennett, 48.

McLendon assumes Mars Hill Post

SMC bid farewell last summer to Bob McLendon, Vice President and Dean for Administrative Affairs, who went to Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N.C., as their Vice President for Administration and Marketing.

SMC President Dr. Charles Teague says McLendon is a good friend and trusted colleague. "On a professional level, I could not be happier for Bob and his family," said Teague, whose association with McLendon dates to 1984, when both were on the staff of Brevard College. McLendon joined SMC in February, 1999.

"The faculty and staff at SMC have been the best I've ever worked with in my 33 years of higher education experience," said McLendon, who recently saw his son Patrick graduate from the college. "I feel he could have had no finer education at any other college or university."



ESTABLISHING A NAMED SCHOLARSHIP At Spartanburg Methodist College

Endowed scholarship funds provide much needed financial assistance to worthy and needy students at Spartanburg Methodist College.

Scholarship funds can be tailored to meet your specific goals. First, you decide whom you're trying to benefit. You may choose to provide assistance to a student studying a specific major or in a particular program at Spartanburg Methodist College. You may wish to tailor the fund to assist persons of high need and/or those who demonstrate exceptional academic promise. You may wish to direct that students from a particular region be given first consideration for assistance from the fund.

Next, you will need to decide whom you wish to honor by establishing the fund. You may wish to name the fund in honor or in memory of a loved one. Perhaps you wish to honor a former teacher or other person from your past who made a significant difference in your life. Of course, we would be honored to recognize your generosity by placing your name on the fund.

Finally, you must also decide how to fund the scholarship. A

minimum of \$10,000 will establish a named endowed scholarship fund at Spartanburg Methodist College. This size fund will provide partial scholarship assistance to the recipient(s) on an annual basis. You may fund it now with cash, or fund it partially or completely through a planned gift or through a bequest from your estate. If you establish the fund now, you have the opportunity to be recognized for your participation and will be able to meet the recipient(s).

Your named fund can grow with the help of friends and family. Of course, you may make additional contributions to the fund at any time. Often relatives and friends make gifts to such funds in lieu of birthday or holiday presents.

Churches or civic organizations to which the honoree belongs are often looking for ways to both make a difference in the lives of others and honor their members. The possibilities are numerous and varied. Why not enable a deserving student to benefit from the educational opportunities at Spartanburg Methodist College by establishing a lasting tribute to yourself or a loved one?



You can establish a scholarship at SMC

Would you like to establish a scholarship at SMC? Have you always thought you could not afford it? Consider funding a scholarship through a bequest, which is an amount of money or a percentage of your estate that you leave to SMC in your will. A minimum of \$10,000 is needed to establish an endowed scholarship. Through a bequest you can make a gift to provide an opportunity to deserving students. You can:

- ✧ Make a cash gift of \$10,000 to establish an endowed named scholarship
- ✧ Make a gift of \$125,000 and fund a full tuition scholarship
- ✧ Make a gift of \$275,000 and fund a full tuition room and board scholarship
- ✧ Make a gift through your estate while preserving the funds you need to live on
- ✧ Reduce your federal estate taxes
- ✧ Make an enduring contribution to SMC
- ✧ Become a member of the Trustee Society of Spartanburg Methodist College

The Office of Gift Planning would like to explain how you can make a bequest to SMC.

Contact

Rev. Mike Bowers,
Director of Gift Planning
Spartanburg Methodist College
1200 Textile Road
Spartanburg, SC 29301

or call (864) 587-4220.



Throughout history there have been a few privileged authors who gained fame and fortune because of a knack for crafting words into great books.

SMC mathematics professor David Gibson also crafts words in a manner that won him national recognition and also netted him a small fortune. But Gibson's success won't appear on any best-seller list. His claim to fame is based on a popular board game.

Gibson won top honors of \$50,000 during the National Scrabble Association's All-Star Tournament Aug. 15-18 in Providence, R.I. He was one of 24 Scrabble players – all past champions and/or top rated players invited to compete. But the 2003 win wasn't Gibson's first. He competed in national competitions in the 1980s and 1990s, winning several of the competitions, including prior national titles in 1994 and 1995. The competition is grueling, requiring discipline and hours of preparation. Just as an athlete trains several hours a day before a competition, Gibson would spend about four to five hours each day researching words, using his well-worn Scrabble Dictionary as a reference tool.

But Gibson hasn't always had a love for words.

He admits that as a high school and college student he tested low for verbal skills. "I did great on math, but on verbal I was terrible," said Gibson. As a child growing up in the Charlotte, N.C. area, Gibson played Scrabble with family members and became fascinated by the relationship between the small, wooden letters and the numbers that represented points for each.

"I had two sisters that were two or three years younger than I am, so our family – the five of us – kept standings of wins and losses," he recalled. Although Gibson wasn't as talented when it came to finding words, he liked adding points and observed spatial relationships on the Scrabble board. He likens playing Scrabble to playing chess with letters and words.

In 1983, Gibson was hit with a life-changing inspiration.

"All of a sudden this love for words just came over me from out of the blue. I found myself getting up at 5 o'clock every morning to get the newspaper. I would read it from cover to



Gibson accepts his prize at the National Scrabble Association All-Star Tournament in Providence, R.I.

cover just looking for words in context,” Gibson recalled. Fired up by his new fascination for words, Gibson purchased vocabulary books, and contacted fellow SMC professor Jane Brackett, who was teaching a vocabulary course. Gibson feels fortunate that he took several foreign language classes in high school and at Furman University. He also started working crossword puzzles, and observed his mother, an avid crossword player.

Then one morning Gibson read a story in the Spartanburg Herald-Journal about Ruth Cross, a woman who played in Scrabble tournaments. Gibson noticed that in the newspaper photo of Cross was a Scrabble Dictionary.

"I said 'man, this is what I've been getting ready for. I just didn't know it,'" said Gibson, who called Cross that night. He then visited Cross and played some games of Scrabble. "I won the first game," said Gibson, who was full of questions for Cross about words he could play.

In 1986, Gibson was off to his first tournament, traveling to Atlanta and winning in the novice division. The following year, he was good enough to be placed in the expert division, and won the tournament. In 1994, Gibson won the National Scrabble

Championship in Los Angeles. The next year, he won the Superstars Championship, an invitation-only competition featuring the world's top 50 Scrabble players. Gibson managed to win First Place. It was then that Gibson decided against continuing.

"I guess I was kind of burned out. This was 1995, so I had been studying hard for 11 or 12 years, averaging about four or five hours a day," said Gibson, who wanted a break from the long hours of preparation and tough competition. Gibson took time out for the next few years to focus on other interests, such as writing music with his wife, Nancy. During this interim the Gibsons wrote about 100 songs, and produced two compact discs of their music. For five years, Gibson says he hardly played Scrabble at all.



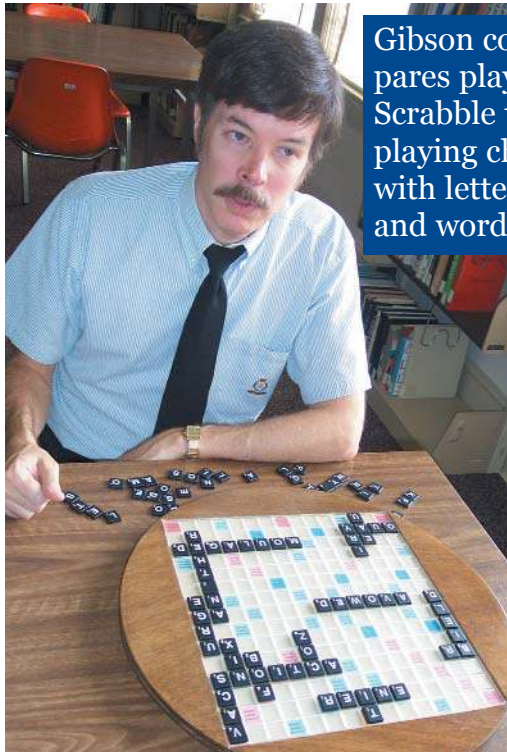
A Scrabble dictionary has become one of Gibson's most indispensable tools when preparing for competitions.

Then in 2001, he resumed competition. Gibson knew that his competitors had improved, and computer analysis of the moves had become a part of Scrabble competitions. In 2002, he won a tournament in Orlando, Fla., his first win since his comeback.

"You're competing against people who have been playing longer than you have, and are smarter than you are. It's kind of like trying to pass the law exam – it's intense and grueling," he said. While most of Gibson's competitors came from academic fields, others come from backgrounds as diverse as law and computer technology. Many of the academics are also mathematicians.

Each Scrabble game is timed, with each player given a total of 25 minutes to make all of his or her turns. During the tournament there were eight games Saturday, eight games Sunday, and the final two games on Monday morning. "After the 18 games, if you were in either first or second place, then you go on to a three-out-of-five finals. Gibson suffered a few serious defeats, but came from behind to win 12 of the 18 games during the regular tournament. The tournament was covered by sports cable network ESPN for airing Nov. 2.

During the finals, Gibson defeated Ron Tiekert, a software editor from Alpharetta, Ga. Gibson says he moved up from behind because of the close scores between his competitors and



Gibson compares playing Scrabble to playing chess with letters and words.

elimination of key players. Gibson is humble about his achievement, stating that he hoped to win at least enough to cover his personal expenses for the trip.

What are some tips for success in Scrabble?

Gibson says learning all of the short words is important, because they provide the possibility of making hooks for parallel as well as perpendicular plays. He also learned strategies for scoring a bingo, where a player puts all seven letters on his rack down on the board for a 50-point bonus. Gibson likens a bingo to hitting a home run in baseball. Top Scrabble players average playing two or three bingos each game. Gibson stressed that players need to learn how to manage their rack to improve the chances of a bingo.

"The 'Wheel of Fortune' type letters – i, n, r, s, t, a, e – are examples of really common letters that go together. You are thinking about that all of the time," says Gibson. Scrabble is a great game for children, adds Gibson, because it helps them to develop in so many ways.

When asked about future competitions, Gibson quipped, "I'll keep it up for a while." He plans to compete in the 2004 National Scrabble Championship in New Orleans, La.

New Faces (continued from p. 5)

Tourism Management. She is a graduate of Byrnes High School and the daughter of Terry and Pam Stokes of Lyman. While at Clemson, Stokes was president of Rho Phi Lambda Honor Fraternity, and treasurer of Sigma Alpha Professional Sorority. She was also a Golden Key member.

Barron Turner began his work at the College on August 8, 2003 as a Hall Director for Hammond Hall for the 2003-2004 academic year. Mr. Turner received an Associate degree in Liberal Arts from SMC in 2001 and is currently seeking a Bachelor's degree in History from the University of South Carolina-Spartanburg. He also serves as a Visitor Use Assistant at the Cowpens National Battlefield in

Cowpens, S.C.

Kerry Van Winkle may be a new face for some, but many remember her from a few years ago, when she worked in the Institutional Advancement Office at SMC. After working at Mid South Management under SMC Trustee Phyllis DeLapp, Kerry has returned as Data Entry Clerk in Institutional Advancement. She has lived most of her life in Spartanburg, and is a graduate of Spartanburg Technical College and Spartan High School. Kerry is married to Dennis "Rip" Van Winkle, and they have three children: Ronni, 14, Willie, 10, and Patrick, 2.

Jerry Vaughn now coaches the Pioneers Golf Team. Vaughn was instrumental in starting golf programs at Polk Central High School and Chapman High School, and

was active in reviving the Golf program at James F. Byrnes High School after

15 years without a team. He has coached several golfers who were recruited by various colleges. Vaughn received his MAT degree from Converse College, and a BA degree at the University of South Carolina - Columbia. He also briefly attended classes at SMC prior to a stint in the Army.

Albert (C. Y.) Westfield, Sr. began his work as a member of the Grounds Crew on August 1, 2003. He and his family reside in Woodruff, S.C.



There was no Hollywood director barking out orders on a megaphone. There were no bright lights. There wasn't a large movie camera or an army of technicians swarming around. But there was plenty of action as nearly 350 freshmen, along with faculty, staff and other volunteers assumed the role of serving others around Spartanburg and surrounding communities.

As students gathered in Camak Auditorium before traveling to their sites, SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague, stressed the valuable life foundation students build when they learn to lead by serving. "When you turn your attention to the needs of others, it becomes difficult," said Teague, adding, "You're going to be rewarded in ways that money never could reward you."

"Discover the Reel Life" was this year's theme. But Freshmen Day of Service wasn't about acting, nor was it just another reality show. Freshmen Day of Service was reality itself. The heat was real, the bugs were real, the sweat was real. But so was the teamwork, camaraderie and making of new friends, the students discovered. The Rev. Candice Sloan, SMC's chaplain, noted that many students commented that teamwork was an ingredient that made the day more enjoyable for them.

Working alongside SMC students and faculty was a group of 18 Alcoa employees and their families. (See Page 18)

Many students also returned to campus with a greater appreciation for the needs of others. Freshman Samantha Page realized how privileged she is, and said she learned to appreciate what she has. Armisha Orr, another freshman who helped Habitat For Humanity build a house in Gaffney, said she worked harder than she ever worked in her life.

"It made me feel good about myself because I was actually helping somebody," said Ayanna Claybrooks. Freshman John Buddin learned valuable lessons about teamwork while helping build fences for Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE). The work paid off for Buddin in other ways, too.

"I met 15 new friends I didn't know before. It makes you feel a lot more like a family," said Buddin.

Sophomore Meka Adams led a group that traveled to TOTAL Ministries to do yard work and sort clothes and food. "Everybody had fun while helping people out, and that's good," said Adams. Terrell Smith, who helped sort clothes and canned goods at Spartanburg Children's Shelter, said "Even though you may not feel like helping someone, once you've been there you feel like you've done something for them. Most of the kids come from broken homes and we've been raised fairly well." Jessica Delcastillo added that even though they could only help for a couple of hours, she felt they made a difference.

At the Goodwill Store in Spartanburg, students sorted and hung clothes, bagged purchases for customers, and greeted them with a smile. Manager Everett Willis said, "They did great. They were a big asset." Julie J. Avritt, Volunteer Coordinator for Goodwill Industries, said she was impressed with Freshmen Day of Service, and with the eager volunteers who came to the store.

During Freshmen Day of Service, students, staff and other volunteers went to Bethlehem Center, Camp Mary Elizabeth Girl Scout Camp, Goodwill Industries, Habitat for Humanity, Jesse Bobo Elementary School, Middle Tyger Community Center, Mobile Meals, New Beginnings UMC, SAFE Homes Thrift Store, S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind, Second Presbyterian Soup Kitchen, Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE), Spartanburg Children's Shelter, Spartanburg Humane Society Animal Shelter, The Haven, TOTAL Ministries, and SMC Alumni Relations.

Also, SMC Athletic Director Brenda Pair and 15 athletes went



to work sprucing up the day-care playground at St. James United Methodist Church in Spartanburg.

Sloan commented that Freshmen Day of Service "would not have happened

Continued on Page 19

Alumni News

1930s

1935 Edgar L. Allen (1935) and his wife Mae Y. of Spartanburg, S.C. write, "Both of us are 87 years of age. I am a 100 percent disabled veteran of WWII and the Korean War. We are happily married and living together. We were married by Dr. Burgess in 1939."

1936 Royal R. Hayes (1936) is retired in Troutman, N.C.

Mack A. Pace (1936) loves retirement in Dallas, Tex.

1937 John C. Young (1937) of Greenwood, S.C. writes, "I lost my wife of 62 years on November 27, 2003. I am now at Wesley Commons, a Methodist Retirement Home.

Francis DeWitt Benson (1937) and his wife Elizabeth, residents of Mobile, Ala., support the SMC Pioneer Club.

Doris Davis Vernelson (1937) is retired and enjoying life in Dunn, N.C.

Marion G. Pratt (1938) is retired in Spartanburg, S.C.

Peter H. Dantzler attended SJC 1937-1938 for only one year, and then transferred to Clemson University.

Claudia Breazeale Smith (1938) lives in Belton, S.C. and loves supporting SMC.

Robert L. Stoddard (1939) is self-employed and resides in Spartanburg, S.C.

Rev. Milton L. McGuirt (1939), Minister of St. Paul's Waccamaw UM Church, and his wife Betty, reside in Pawleys Island, S.C.

1940s

Sara C. Carter (1940) retired from the Aiken County Board of Education and lives in North Augusta, S.C.

Emily Rash Grubb (1940) is a retired teacher in Inman, S.C.

Randy Bradford (1940) is retired in Pauline, S.C.

Mary Gault Smith (1941) lives in Orangeburg, S.C.

Lucy Tedder Davis (1941) is Executive Director of Homeless Ministry in Florence, S.C. She attended the UM Conference in May, 2002 and received the Barbara Boltinghouse Bridge Building award which recognizes promoting equity and inclusiveness.

Rev. H. Robert Reynolds (1941) is retired in Greenwood, S.C. at Wesley Commons.

William C. Boyd (1941) is enjoying life of retirement in Whispering Pines, N.C.

Col. Thomas H. Nichols (1941) and his wife Eyra



Graduating classes of 1953 and 1954 were well-represented at Alumni Weekend last April.

K. love their retirement in Greewood, S.C.

Marcelene Painter Plemmons (1941) received a certificate from the Greenville County, S.C., School District's Administration and Board of Trustees for 32 years of service. Bob Jones University awarded Marcelene with gold certificates representing 18 years in recognition of professional contributions as a Supervisor in the field of Teacher Education. She also taught at Greenville Technical College eight years. Marcelene has been married 57 years and has two sons and three grandchildren. She is 81.

Cumi Harris West (1942) resides in Charlotte, N.C.

D. Jesse Plummer (1942) is enjoying his retirement life in Lamar, S.C.

Howard E. Morrison (1942) is retired and lives in Hartsville, S.C.

Hazel J. Stringfield (1942) sends regards to fellow alumni and best wishes for a "good response" from fellow alums who support SMC. Thank you, Hazel for your long-standing support to your Alma Mater!

Faye Nix Jay (1943) lives in Greenville, S.C.

Dr. James W. Fisher (1943) is Regents Professor & Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Pharmacology, Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, La.

Charlotte Pool Jackson (1943) is a realtor with Century 21, McDaniel & McDaniel, Lugoff, S.C. She writes, "I enjoyed the Frontiers magazine and always love to see or hear from my SJC friends. I keep busy with my real estate, my husband Raymond, and my nine dogs and three cats. We sing in two church choirs at Main St. Methodist in Columbia and Salem Methodist in Elgin. We enjoy that!"

Margaret Holland Ford (1943) of Camden, S.C. writes, "I attended the College when it was Spartanburg Junior College for one year when Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941. We were in the College auditorium when President Roosevelt declared war on Japan. I am now 84 years of age

If you have a story that you would like to share about your time spent at Spartanburg Methodist College, contact Ed Welch at welche@smcsc.edu or 864-587-4254. Maybe your story will be the next one shared in the alumni magazine.

Alumni News *(continued)*

and am in a nursing home. Dr. Rembert Burgess was the President of the College. It was a good school. I worked in the lab and made many friends. You would have been sent home if you were caught smoking."

Beatrice Olson (1943) resides in Grants Pass, Ore.

Marian B. Easler (1943) is enjoying life in Spartanburg, S.C.

Lillian Catoe Galloway (1944) is retired in Hartsville, S.C.

Marguerite Smith Compton (1944) writes, "In 2002 I conquered cancer through the Gibbs Cancer Center and became a survivor. What a year! I will be 79 in October of 2003."

Elizabeth O'Sullivan (1944) writes, "I taught school 42 years in South Carolina." She now resides in Savannah, Ga.

Betty H. Barkley (1944) is retired in Gastonia, N.C.

Sybil I. Price (1944) writes, "I am as free as a dove. I can fly any time and any direction. What a wonderful life!" She is a retired librarian.

Lou Ree Pierce (1944) writes, "Carl and I celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary this May at Picket State Park, Tenn. with our four children and nine grandchildren. We thank God for our family and that we are still active."

Mary Elizabeth O'Sullivan (1944) is a retired teacher in Savannah, Ga.

Lois Redford Parrott (1944), retired, writes, "Sadly to say I lost my beloved husband on June 10. We had 51 1/2 years together. Fortunately, I have the loving support of two daughters, a son, and eight grandchildren. The Lord is good to us!"

1945 Guy F. Fain, Jr. (1945) and his wife, Naomi Scott Fain (1949), reside in Moore, S.C.

Virginia Rushing Boiter (1945) is a part-time Spartanburg County Librarian.

Sue Weathers Shuler (1946) of Holly Hill, S.C. is retired.

Imogene S. Graham (1946) writes, "I would like to attend Alumni Weekend, but I am down with a bad back."

Betty Crocker Shuler (1946) is enjoying life in Holly Hill, S.C. and she is proud to support the SMC Alumni Challenge. Mary Louise Ross Garner has retired from teaching in Spartanburg County School District 2.

J. Fred Lister (1947) of Columbia, S.C. is retired.

Donald Thompson (1947) is retired in Hendersonville, N.C.

Katherine Steppe Hillman (1947) of Mill Spring, N.C. is a retired teacher.

Harry H. Foster (1948) is enjoying his retirement in Gaffney, S.C.

George J. Poole (1948) is retired in Duncan, S.C.

Peggy J. Dean (1948) has retired from Circleville, Oh. City Schools.

Edward T. Hinson (1948) of Rock Hill, S.C. has retired. He writes, "Looking forward to seeing members of Classes of '47, '48, and '49 at next year's Alumni gathering."

Robert Cantrell (1949) has retired from Bowater in Cleveland, Tenn. as Safety Director.

Leonard A. McDowell (1949) is enjoying his retirement years in Chesnee, S.C.

Joseph R. Clary (1949) is enjoying retirement from N. C. State University (1989) at his home in Raleigh, N.C.

William Joe McCurry (1949) writes that he was in the freshman class of 1945, then entered the U.S. Marine Corps and returned to SJC as a sophomore in 1949. He graduated from Erskine College in 1951 with a BS degree, then spent 30+ years in the U.S. Public Health Service. His wife is Rosemary Demaree McCurry. Their sons are Mike McCurry, former White House Press Secretary to President Clinton and David McCurry, Professor of Educational Technology, Monmouth University, N.J."

Albert B. Martin (1949) is a retired cartographer with the Soil Conservation Service USDA, residing in Spartanburg, S.C.

Evelyn Lancaster Vaughan (1949) is in full support of her alma mater. She lives in Anderson, S.C.

Edna Grainger Guthrie (1949) recently moved back to South Carolina after 35 years in New Jersey. She writes, "I worked for 25 years with the Union County, N.J., Educational Services Commission as a teacher, supervisor, and principal. I'm enjoying retirement, especially traveling and family."

1950s

Shirley Patton Adams (1950) is retired in Woodruff, S.C.

Henry G. Flynn, Jr. (1950) is enjoying his retirement in Spartanburg, S.C.

Juanita Guthrie Rogers (1950) is a retired teacher and lives in Greer, S.C.

Helen Gregory Sanders (1950) is living in Charleston, S.C. and fully supports the Pioneer Men's Baseball Team.

John R. "Pete" Brown (1950) is "totally" retired in Pacolet, S.C.

Betty Angel Ridings (1950) has retired in Spartanburg, S.C.

E. Lewis Williams (1950) has retired in Columbus, N.C.

Robert E. Beach (1951) is the owner of Beach Forest Management in Walterboro, S.C.

Claire Ulmer Weeks (1951) is retired in Graniteville, S.C.

Walter Wilcox Howle (1951) is a Pharmacist-Secretary with Marion Pharmacy, Inc., Marion, N.C.

Frances Austin Day (1951) is retired in Whitesburg, Ky.

Ray F. Smith (1951) and his wife Nell live in Greenville, S.C. Ray is now retired.

Lawrence M. Jamerson (1951) writes, "My wife Betty V. and I are retired and living in Virginia Beach, Va. We look forward to receiving the Frontiers magazine with its news of the College and former classmates."

Mitchelle Causey Evans (1951) is retired in Asheville, N.C.

Doris Brown Bowen (1952) is employed with Bank of America in Columbia, S.C.

Maxine Fogle Owen (1952) of North, S.C. writes, "Paul and I lost our nine-year-old grandson, Killian Owen, to leukemia on July 27, 2003. He fought the battle for 3-1/2 years. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Owen of Marietta, Ga. "I have been in touch with Jeannette Blakely Hatzenbuehler and James Brantley this year."

Shirley G. Harris (1954) is retired in Loris, S.C.

Rev. Allen E. (1954) is married to Jean B. Long (Class of '55) and is retired in Pacolet, S.C.

Edith J. Roper (1954) is retired in Matthews, N.C. with her husband Terry.

Vera Wadrep Langston (1954) of Inman, S.C. has retired from Mary Black Hospital.

Mary Arthur Sims Powers (1954) of Union, S.C. has retired.

Jean B. Long (1955) is married to Rev. Allen E. Long (Class of '54).

Ray Petty (1955) of Hartsville, S.C. has retired.

Donald J. Barbare (1955) of Columbia, S.C. is employed with the S. C. Tax Commission.

Judy C. Bishop (1955) and her son James C. Bishop (1990) are joining together in support of Alumni Challenge VI. Thanks, SMC Mom and Son!

Carolyn Ferguson Patterson (1955) of Greenwood writes a note regarding the Alumni Challenge VI, "Good luck on your competition; I hope you are successful!"

Benita Davis Stavely (1956) writes, "The '56 reunion had activities off campus that should be written up as we had more attendees than usual. We had a dessert party and a Sunday brunch here."

Dr. Edgar H. Ellis, Jr. (1956) and his wife Dr. Charlotte Lindler Ellis presented the College with a \$10,000 check from the sale of Quiche Me Loraine, a cookbook in memory of his daughter, Loraine, who also attended SMC.

Sandra Smith Cribari (1957) is a retired Med-Tech and Teacher. Her husband, Don, is a commercial Realtor. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

Marion W. Reid (1957) is retired in Inman, S.C.

Rev. Roger E. Thompson (1958), retired, and his wife Roberts Altman Thompson, (1955), of Laurel Hill, N.C., lost their first daughter in June of 2002 at age 42. Roger is retired but serving a small UM church in Rockingham, N.C. Our deepest sympathy over their great loss.

Lola M. Coleman (1957) lives in Fries, Va. where she is truly enjoying retirement.

Mary Frances L. Cantrell (1958), retired Coordinator of Special Reading Programs for Spartanburg County School District 7, writes, "Bill and I are still enjoying our retirement—working in our church library and with ESL Classes for Internal Students, gardening, and reading. Our most important and enjoyable commitment is keeping our only grandchild, Caroline, while her parents are teaching. Our son-in-law, Kingsley, also enjoys coaching the tennis teams at SMC. We love living close to SMC so we can continue to watch it GROW. When any of you visit our Alma Mater, please come by to see us. The "WELCOME" mat is always out for SMC friends!"

James Hugh Fletcher (1958) has retired and lives in Kershaw, S.C.

Kenneth G. Waddell (1959) is retired in Indianapolis, Ind. 1959 Wayne M. Fields of Lancaster, S.C. has retired from Springs Industries.

Rev. Gary B. Byrd (1959) is minister at Grace UMC in Union, S.C.

1960s

Philip D. Greer (1960) of Columbia is retired.

Leon Troy Nobles (1960) resides in Graniteville, S.C. and is Area Superintendent with Aiken School District.

W. Watkins Martin (1961) of Newberry, S.C. is the proud grandfather of Cole Murph Carpenter, born May 29, 2003, to parents Libby & Guy Carpenter of Wilmington, N.C. Congratulations!

Nat Helms (1961) is retired in Fort Mill, S.C.

Linda Huggins Garner (1961) of Landrum has a new daughter-in-law and another son marrying in August of this year. Congratulations! Linda, a SMC Chorus member who fondly remembers those "good ole days" with Dr. Vergene Colloms directing the chorus.

William F. Hannon, III (1961) is owner of Able Septic Tank Company of Inman, S.C.

Rev. David W. Holder (1962) and Madora B. Holder (1977) of Spartanburg, S.C. are members of the Family of SMC Alumnus Cliff C. Odom who died in August of 2003.

Bebe Kell Wilson (1962) is Records Secretary for Richland School District 2 in Columbia, S.C.

Rev. Quay W. Adams (1962) was appointed as District Superintendent of the Anderson UM District in June, 2002.

James O. Clark (1963) is retired in Columbia, S.C.

Carolyn F. Fowler (1963) is a housewife residing in Spartanburg, S.C.

Croskeys R. Welch (1963) is enjoying his retirement in Charleston, S.C.

Robert MacInnes (1963) is residing in Charleston, S.C.

Steve D. Grissom (1964) retired from DSS, Florence, S.C.

Brenda Anne Wilkie Bender Sayyad (1964) is retired in Columbia, S.C.

Alumni News *(continued)*

SMC Alum is Dean at Francis Marion

James Ron Faulkenberry (1967) of Florence has been appointed dean of the School of Education at Francis Marion University. As dean, Faulkenberry will oversee undergraduate and graduate academic programs in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education and Secondary Education.



"I look forward to the tremendous challenge posed by this position. I hope my 34 years in public education has prepared me for this challenge," says Dr. Faulkenberry.

A member of the FMU faculty since 1974, Faulkenberry holds the title of professor of health education, and he has served as coordinator of FMU's health program. He received the 2002 Honor Award from the S.C. Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, and he has twice received the Outstanding Contribution to Health Education Award from the S.C. Association for the Advancement of Health Education.

Faulkenberry has been a member of SCAHPERD since 1968 and is also a member of several other health education organizations. He is a certified health education specialist and has served as a consultant to several area school districts. Faulkenberry attended Spartanburg Junior College before earning bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at the University of South Carolina.

He has contributed to the literature in the field of health, physical education, recreation and dance through numerous articles in journals such as the Journal of South Carolina Medical Association, the Journal of School Health and the South Carolina Journal of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. He also has conducted numerous regional and national scholarly presentations.

Karen Gowan Nicholls (1964) is Chief Domestic Engineer with Homemaker. She lives in Spartanburg, S.C.

Patricia M. Byrd (1964) lives in Pawleys Island, S.C., where she is employed with the Georgetown Fire Dept. as Administrative Assistant.

William S. Moore (1965), SMC Board of Trustee member, lost his father, Joseph D. Moore, on February 27, 2003. Our sympathy to Bill and his family.

James B. Huggins, II (1965) of Camden, S.C. has retired from Duke Power Co.

Kris Dixon (1966) is a retired educator living in Sumter, S.C.

William Ivey (1966) writes, "I moved to the southwest London borough of Kingston-Upon-

Thames a year ago, where I bought a flat. I took early retirement and have been traveling throughout Europe."

Dr. James "Ron" Faulkenberry (1967) and Edwina C. Faulkenberry live in Florence, S.C. A professor at Francis Marion University, Ron was named Dean of the School of Education. (see story)

W. Buren Martin (1967) is owner of Southeastern Theatrical Productions and resides in Brunson, S.C.

Jimmy C. Graham (1967) said in response to a conversation with Sterling Case, "It was good to speak with you today. Old memories came to mind that brought back some great times. I look forward to staying in touch."

George H. Henry (1967) is President of United Resource Plastics of Elgin, S.C.

Roger Ezell (1968) is self-employed and lives in Marshall, N.C. with his wife Cheryl.

Gene F. Moore (1969) is employed with Tyco Electronics in Shelby, N.C.

Evelyn Wall-Jolley (1969) retired after 30 years as a special education teacher in Spartanburg District 3. She writes that she is spending "golden" time with her four beautiful grandchildren.

E. Michael Dills (1969) resides in Rock Hill, S.C. and is proud to support Alumni Challenge VI.

1970s

John Keith Smith (1970) is an account manager with the Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co. of Columbia, S.C.

Ronald A. Henderson (1970) of Lyman, S.C. is employed with Springs Industries.

Janice Bradley Trantham (1970) is employed with Roger Grant Realty in Asheville, N.C.

Dr. David B. Stout (1970) of Chapin, S.C. is GED Administrator for the SC Dept. of Education.

Dr. E. L. Tate (1971) is a dentist in Spartanburg, S.C.

Mike O'Shields (1971) of Landrum, S.C. is retired and a sales representative.

Lynn George Addy (1971) is living in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Evelyn Davis Shuler (1972) is a third-grade teacher at Clarendon School District One in Summerton, S.C.

Chaplain Thomas A. Kruchkow (1973) is Chaplain Retired Pastor, and a teacher with N.C. Dept. of Corrections. He was recently recognized with an engraved plaque for his 25 years of faithful service to the United Church of Christ.

Avanelle G. Gaunce (1974) of Pauline, S.C. has retired from his teaching position with the Union County, S.C. Schools. He was enrolled in Saturday and Tuesday classes at SMC to get his third year of college courses and received a EDS from Winthrop and Bachelors from Limestone.

C. Wayne Yarborough (1974) is Branch Manager of Palmetto Citizens Federal Credit Union of West Columbia, S.C.

Robert J. Howard (1974) is retired and enjoying

life with his wife Margaret in Greer, S.C.

Brenda P. Foster (1974) is a secretary with the District 4 Schools, Enoree, S.C.

Jamie H. McFadden (1975) of Greenville, S.C. is employed with the Service Transport, Inc. (STI).

Billy Johnson (1975) is a Consultant with C.N.A. in Naperville, Ill.

Mary Lemke Kimmons (1976) and Martin Kimmons (1970) own and drive their own truck. They have traveled to 41 states in their "Big Rig".

Rev. Joe L. Blackwelder (1976) and his wife, Deanne Spake Blackwelder (1984), live in Prosperity, S.C.

Ricky A. McAbee (1976) is proud to support the SMC Alumni Challenge. Ricky works with Roebuck Nurseries in Roebuck, S.C.

Debby Cooper Henderson (1977) is a teacher assistant/interpreter with the S. C. School for the Deaf and Blind, Spartanburg, S.C.

Debbie B. Austin (1977) is a Teacher with the Union Methodist Preschool in Columbia, S.C.

Stephen Eric Lowman (1979) and his wife Jan live in Beaufort, S.C., where he is City Executive, Sr. Vice President of BB&T.

Mark Goss (1979) is owner of Goss Insurance Agency in York, S.C.

1980s

Kim Caldwell Makison (1980) is a CSRIII with Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc. in Greenville, S.C.

Janet Y. Johnson (1980) was excited for our Pioneers Men's Baseball and all our sports teams when she wrote a note along with her recent contribution to the College, "WAY TO GO SMC TEAMS"!

Tamara Barnett (1982) is currently an RN at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center. She donates funds to SMC through the United Way of the Piedmont.

Mary A. Sczechowicz (1982) of Spartanburg, S.C. is the Financial Secretary of St. James UMC.

Denise Asson Clark (1983) is a school secretary with Chandler Creek Elementary School writes, "I'm married with one son, 10 yrs. old, and reside in the Paris Mountain area."

Annirene Childers Caune (1984) is a Realtor with Allen Tate Co. in Charlotte, N.C.

Charles E. "Eddie" Edge (1985) is a Major/Specialist Agent with the United States Army in Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C.

Cynthia P. Edge (1985) of Lyman has two daughters and teaches gifted and talented fourth-, fifth, and sixth-graders in Spartanburg School District 7.

W. Brown Simpson, Jr. (1986) is married to the former Kimberley Paul. They have two daughters, Allison Hannah, 7, and Margaret, 5. He is employed with the Rock Hill Area YMCA, Chester County Branch, S.C.

April Haimbaugh Cooke (1987) of Rock Hill, S.C. is owner of Pal's Printing & Embroidery, Inc.

Candace Pettis Holmes (1987) and her husband Robert Lee, Jr. reside in North Charleston, S.C. They have 3 daughters; Nyemia, 8, Olympia, 6, Rebekah, 7 months; and a son, Deondre, 15. Candace is a safety officer with the City of Charleston.

Wright J. Gaines (1988) of Inman, S.C. is owner of The Inman Agency, a real estate/insurance business.

Carolyn Broome Sparks (1988) was recently promoted to Assistant Dean of Financial Aid. She has been employed with SMC since 1991 and strongly suspects her daughter, Creighton, is a future Pioneer as well!

1990s

James C. Bishop (1990) works with First National Financial Title Services in Spartanburg, S.C.

Stephen Ray Streett (1991) graduated from Erskine Seminary 2002 and is a Pastor at Dunwoody Methodist Church in Dunwoody, Ga. He was Youth Minister and Associate Pastor at Covenant UM Church in Greer, S.C. for eight years.

Leon Toby Myers (1992) of Sumter, S.C. works with WBTW News-13 in Florence, S.C.

Jerry C. Smith is (1994) Vice President of BB&T Insurance Services. He lives in Roebuck, S.C.

Wells Shepard (1995) was named by Spartanburg Methodist College as the Director of Admissions.

Doug Bouknight (1996) and his wife Elizabeth live in Lexington, S.C. where Doug is a computer specialist with U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

Marriages

Chaplain (Col) F. Vernon Chandler (1972) of the U.S. Army and Nataliya of Simferopol, Crimea married December 15, 2002 and are currently residing for a one-year tour of military duty in Heildeberg, Germany. Beth Harris Veyber (1994) married Mikhail Veyber on Marsh 17, 2002. She is Management Analyst with BAE Systems in Charleston, S.C. Heather McKinney (1998) and Josh Waldrep were married in April 2003. She is a reception therapist with Spartanburg Hospital for Restorative Care.

Tiffany Harmon (1998)

Births

Danny (1963) and Gaye Fowler (1962) Broome are the proud grandparents of granddaughter, Creighton and grandson, Tyler. Creighton is the daughter of Carolyn Broome Sparks (1988) and Tyler is the son of Charlene Broome Medford (1994).

Autume Kirby Relich (1988) and husband Mark gave birth to Nicholas Alexander on August 26, 2002.

Alcoa lends a hand during

SMC officials aren't the only ones who think sending new students out into the community for service projects is a good idea.

This year, Freshmen Day of Service got a welcome boost from corporate neighbor Alcoa. A group of 15 Alcoa employees and their families worked alongside SMC students and faculty sprucing up playgrounds, painting walls, sorting clothes, and organized food pantries.

Alcoa also helped out financially with a \$3,000 Action (Alcoans Coming Together In Our Neighborhoods) grant, which helped pay the costs of feeding and transporting students that day.

"Alcoa's investment of 'sweat equity' and their generous gift of \$3,000 to support our Student Activity programs is indicative of their strong commitment of service to others," SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague noted. Teague believes this year's Freshmen Day of Service was greatly enriched by the participation of the Alcoa volunteers.

"Truly this was an outstanding partnership between the Alcoa Foundation and Spartanburg Methodist College as together we addressed many of the needs in our community," Teague added. Alcoa Events and Community Relations Manager Corie Culp explained that the volunteers carried out a key

Alcoa volunteer and SMC alumnae Rebecca Brown (left) assists a student at the Una Habitat house.



mission of the Alcoa Foundation: to enhance the quality of life in communities where their plants are located. Culp said employees volunteer at projects within a 50-mile radius of their Spartanburg County plant.

Day of Service (cont'd. from p. 12)

"would not have happened without a great team of folks helping out." She also recognized area businesses such as Coca-Cola, Pepsi and Bojangles for their role in providing refreshments.

Alumni News (continued)

Betsy Blair Trout Kneisley (1996) and husband Matthew have a baby daughter, Carson Elaine—born April 26, 2003. Lanie (Class of '67) and Jimmy Trout (Class of '66) are the proud grandparents. Welcome to the SMC family, Carson Elaine!

Deaths

Nellie Lister White (1938) died from kidney failure and a heart attack on July 24, 2003. Esma Lister wrote, "I am Nellie White's sister and I need to let you know that Nellie White died July 24. She had a long battle with heart attack and kidney failure. Would you please pass this word on to her friends and classmates, also Ella Rose Lee. I have moved to College Walk, Apt. 73. After two weeks I will be in Apt. 263, if you need to get in touch with me. phone: (828) 884-9667."

Ray Henderson Walton (1941) died on June 1, 2003. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Mae Parker Walton, his daughter, Libby Merritt, and husband David, his brother Waburn, his sisters Pearl Hickman and Nell Bessent, and his granddaughter Laren Elizabeth Merritt. Our prayers for and sympathy to the family of Mason McNinch (1941) at his death.

John Davis, husband of Lucy Tedder Davis (1941)

died 05/29/02. Cecil E. Swain (1949) died May 8, 2003. SMC's prayers and sympathy to his wife Mary Gibson Swain, their three sons, John, Cecil, David, Edwin, and Brent, five grandchildren, and his brother Arthur Lee.

Robert B. Barnwell (1955), died September 17, 2002. Our deepest sympathy to Betty Atkins Barnwell in the loss of her husband.

Merle Stockman Whalen (1956) died March 8, 2003. Our sympathy to her husband, Michael Bernard, her son and daughter-in-law Wesley and Susan Whalen of Taylors, S.C. her daughter and son-in-law Lori and Randall Leathers of Williamston, S.C., her sister Sharon Stockman Jones of Lyman, S.C., and two grandsons Tyler and Chase Whalen. She also had a brother who predeceased her, Leon Stockman.

Robert Gist (Bob) Bolick (1963) died June 8, 2003. Our sympathy to his wife Sarah Louise, his sons, Henry P. (Pete) Bolick III and Robert Edward Bolick, his sister Judith Ann Sparks and his two grandchildren.

Charles "Chuck" L. Wiard (1969) of Centerburg, Ohio, died on November 18, 2002. He is survived by his wife, May and children, Ann, Ashley, and Martin.

Steve Coggins (1974) died on July 8, 2003. Steve was runner-up of the Spartanburg County Amateur Golf Tournament in 1974. Our deepest sympathy to his family, especially his sister, Terri Fuller of Lyman.

If you have a story that you would like to share about your time spent at Spartanburg Methodist College, contact Ed Welch at welche@smcsc.edu or 864-587-4254. Maybe your story will be the next one shared in the alumni magazine.

Freshmen Day of Service



Corie Culp (center) volunteer coordinator for Alcoa, presents a check from the Alcoa Foundation to SMC President, Dr. Charles Teague (right) and Don Tate (left), Director of Development and Church Solicitations. The \$3,000 ACTION (Alcoans Coming Together In Our Neighborhoods) grant will help cover expenses related to Freshmen Day of Service, which took place Aug. 23. Below: Alcoa volunteers and their families ready for a day of service.



GRADUATION 2003



Left: Dr. James E. Bostic, husband of SMC Trustee Edie Bostic, gave a challenging address to 2003 graduates during commencement exercises May 10 at SMC. Above: Graduates line up outside Camak Auditorium in anticipation of their big moment.

2003-2004 EVENTS AT SMC

DISCOVERY DAY

Nov. 1 — SMC campus

GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE

— SMC Players

Nov. 6,7,8 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

MARK TWAIN — George Frein

Nov. 10 — 11:00 am, Camak Auditorium

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Nov. 19 — 11:00 am, Camak Auditorium

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Dec. 1 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

DISCOVERY DAY

Jan. 19 — SMC campus

80s ROCK: MUSIC IN THE VIDEO AGE

— Barry Drake

Jan. 27 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

SOUTHERN VOICES: BLACK, WHITE & BLUES

— Scott Ainslie & Glenis Redmond

Feb. 9 — 11:00 am, Camak Auditorium

FACULTY RECITAL

— Susan M. West & Miranda G.S. DiMarco

Mar. 2 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

SMC PLAYERS (TBA)

Mar. 25-27 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

FAITH & PUBLIC POLICY SYMPOSIUM

Apr. 1 — TBA

FACULTY SHOWCASE

Apr. 2 — 11 am, Davis Mission Chapel

SPRING CONCERT

Apr. 22 — 7:30 pm, Camak Auditorium

FINE ARTS NIGHT

Apr. 27 — 7:30 pm, Davis Mission Chapel

COMMENCEMENT

May 8 — 10:30 am, Camak Auditorium

SPARTANBURG, SC

College Town

SMC has joined forces with the city of Spartanburg and five other Spartanburg Colleges for the College Town initiative. The purpose of College Town is to develop a positive national image and reputation for the six colleges of Spartanburg and to promote Spartanburg as a college town.

The initiative was announced by Spartanburg Mayor Bill Barnett and college presidents

Oct. 15. College Fest, Oct. 25 at Barnett Park was the first College Town event held. College Fest featured live bands, games and refreshments for students. Other activities include a Student Government Association (SGA) summit. Details can be found on-line at collegetownsc.org.



Discovery Day at SMC

Do you have someone in mind that you would like to refer to your alma mater? If so, contact the Admissions Office at Spartanburg Methodist College at 864-587-4213, 800-772-7286 or email admiss@smcsc.edu. We will be glad to send them information about SMC and schedule a time to tour the campus. Make sure you mention our Discovery Days to prospective students and invite them to come and enjoy the campus while meeting the faculty, staff and students of the College.

November 1, 2003 | January 19, 2004 | March 27, 2004

Be sure to check our website for additional information: www.smcsc.edu

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