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# Eastern Kentucky University Magazine, Summer 2008

Eastern Kentucky University, Alumni Relations

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# Eastern

*The* EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



SUMMER ISSUE 2008





# Embrace the Past Sustain the Future

As archivist at Eastern for 25 years, it wasn't merely the meticulous cataloging of Eastern Kentucky University history that Charles Hay embraced; what he considered so important was how that history would shape future generations of students and alumni. "We are made wise not by the recollection of our past," writes George Bernard Shaw, "but by the responsibility for our future."

Hay, who retired in 2001, and his wife, Melba, have accepted that responsibility, including in their will a provision to help sustain the EKV archives so that history may continue to make its mark on the future.

"We're in the memory preservation business," explains Hay. "You want to see the institutional memory go on because it's so important to the development of the institution. Quite frequently, you go a couple of generations out and people want to make decisions *ex cathedra* without recognizing what has been done in the past and why." Archives, treasure troves of letters, papers and other primary source material, are often the last line of defense for the truth.

The Charles and Melba Hay Memorial Fund will establish an endowment that will allow EKV's archives to acquire rare items for its special collections, purchase the equipment needed to properly document and care for these items, present workshops and seminars, and implement a host of other enhancements.

Charles and Melba Hay met in a history class at the University of Kentucky where he was a graduate assistant and she an undergraduate. The couple shares a passion for the past. Melba spent 11 years editing the papers of Henry Clay before joining the Kentucky Historical Society as division manager of research and publications. She retired in 2004.

Charles became Eastern's first archivist after being introduced to then-president Bob Martin by one of his UK professors. "On April 1 I began work, and on April 3 Dr. Martin announced his retirement. Some friends at UK called and said, 'We know your sterling personality,

but we didn't know you could run off a powerful man like Bob Martin in only three days!'" Hay laughs. From that moment, however, he knew categorically what his mission would be. He set about the arduous task of organizing the University's historical documents, especially those of President Martin.

Hay was the lone archivist at EKV until 1991, but his tenacity more than compensated for his lack of staff. The rows of file boxes housing institutional papers were organized and moved from the basement of the Coates Building to the newly-created archives. A records management program was established so that faculty and staff would know what documents should be kept for posterity and how to facilitate that process. The oral history program initiated by Hay with assistance from the history department now boasts over 3,000 recordings. Hay also set about acquiring the papers of individuals of importance to the region. At the home of former Kentucky Governor Keen Johnson, "we found a steamer trunk full of letters he wrote in World War I back to his new wife," Hay marvels. More than 60 file cabinets of records of powerful U.S. Congressman Carl Perkins (D-Ky.), a pivotal player in Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, were also transferred to EKV.

"When people give you their funds, it's a trust relationship," Hay says. "It's the same thing when people give you their family papers."

When it came to their estate plan, the Hays decided to put their trust in EKV. "We need to plan where our money is going, and we want to make sure it goes to a place that is dear to us," says Hay.

You, too, can help write the next chapter in EKV's rich history. To learn more about making a planned gift to EKV, please contact Bill Melton in the Development Office at (859) 200-3510 or e-mail [bill.melton@eku.edu](mailto:bill.melton@eku.edu).

*If you have already included the EKV Foundation in your estate plan, please notify us so that we may thank you and welcome you to our Legacy Society. EKV*

# Eastern Contents

## FEATURES

**4** **Cover Story**  
**For Such A Time As This**  
Dr. Doug Whitlock inaugurated  
as Eastern's eleventh president

**10**  
**Not Your Parents' Library**  
Studio for Academic Creativity  
debunks traditional concepts

**16**  
**2008 Alumni Awards**  
Eastern lauds extraordinary  
accomplishment

## DEPARTMENTS

**14** **Alumni Weekend Retrospective**  
**20** **Campus News**  
**24** **Class Acts**  
**33** **In the End**  
*Dr. Joe Gershtenson*



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# AlumniMatters



What an exciting and historic time to be a member of the Eastern Kentucky University family! While there are always abundant reasons to be proud of our Eastern, as you'll read in the pages that follow, this has been a year of particular significance for the University and those it serves. For starters, a new president sits at the helm. It was appropriate that on Alumni Weekend in April Eastern inaugurated one of its own, Dr. Doug Whitlock ('65, '66), as the University's eleventh president. Both as a student and during his long tenure as a professor and an administrator, Dr. Whitlock grew to understand Eastern as perhaps no other president before him. His love of and respect for this place are infectious. Rest assured that under his guidance, EKU will continue to flourish.

Another momentous occurrence took place only last month as we surpassed our \$25 million capital campaign goal 13 months ahead of schedule! The *Moving Forward Together* campaign is the first in school history, and you rose to the challenge in true Colonel style. Thanks to your generosity, new generations of students will don the maroon and white and earn their place in the ranks of those whose talents were nurtured here.

Given that EKU was initially founded as a teachers' college, it seems only fitting that the first doctoral degree offered is the Doctor of Education. The initial class of 15 students will begin its studies this fall. The program has a specific focus on rural schools and communities, further solidifying Eastern's place as the dominant force in educational leadership and research throughout Appalachia.

Don't forget to make your reservations to travel to Ireland with your Eastern friends in September! If you've long desired to kiss the Blarney Stone, dress like a leprechaun, and find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow...or if you've just always wanted to gaze upon the splendid beauty of the Emerald Isle, call me today at (859) 622-1260. Eastern looks forward to hosting you and your classmates in the Land of Saints and Scholars!

Mark your calendars now for Homecoming 2008, October 24-26! We'll be celebrating the campaign completion with great food, good friends, and even a special guest or two. This will definitely be a weekend to remember!

*Jackie Collier*

Jackie Collier

Director of Alumni Relations

## Eastern

The Magazine of Eastern Kentucky University

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# President's Perspective



## My fellow Eastern alumni,

As I write this, almost a year has passed since I was given the opportunity to serve our *Alma Mater* as her president. During the intervening months, my wife Joanne and I have had the chance to meet with many of you at alumni events across the country, at Homecoming, and during this April's Alumni Weekend. We have been overwhelmed with the outpouring of support.

If the past year has taught me anything, the lesson is that Eastern is as strong and resilient as ever. During the same period of

time that we were absorbing the largest dollar reduction ever in our state appropriation (the result of two back-to-back three percent cuts) we also—

- Received official notification from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges that our accreditation had been reaffirmed for a 10-year period.
- In that process we received plaudits for the institution's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that focuses on the development in our students of critical and creative thinking skills.
- The Commission on Colleges also recognized Eastern's readiness to offer doctoral degrees and in February the Council on Postsecondary Education authorized our proposal for the Ed.D. in educational leadership. Our program will focus on developing leaders for rural school systems.
- Also during the year, we had successful accreditation visits for our Masters in Public Health, Associate Degree Nursing, Bachelor Athletic Training (BS), Clinical Laboratory Science (BS), Clinical Laboratory Technology (AAS) and Computer Science.
- And, while I cannot take credit for it – or for any of the preceding accomplishments – I was delighted that our football team went undefeated in the conference, winning the OVC and making the championship playoffs for the first time in 10 years.

But, for me, the highlight of the year had to be the pleasure of announcing to the Board of Regents at its June 6 meeting that we had surpassed the \$25 million dollar goal of Eastern's first comprehensive capital campaign 13 months early. We have decided to keep the campaign open through September 30 and to officially celebrate its completion at the Circle of Opportunity Dinner on October 24 – the evening before Homecoming.

Even as we rejoice in all these great happenings at Eastern, we must turn our attention to what lies ahead of us. The Board of Regents on

June 6 extended my contract through July 31, 2011. I have indicated to them that any future extensions would need to be held until they have conducted a comprehensive evaluation of my performance. This is scheduled for mid-year 2009 and will include substantive input from alumni, faculty, staff, students, and other constituencies.

At my formal installation on April 25, I outlined about a dozen initiatives I thought were important for Eastern to be addressing. All of them can be collapsed into these three – student success, regional stewardship, and our Quality Enhancement Plan.

The public policy agenda in Kentucky makes it essential for Eastern to be a player in the state's objective of increasing educational attainment levels in the Commonwealth. For this to happen, we must enroll more students, retain a higher percentage of them, and increase our graduation rates. And, these things must be done without an iota of compromise in educational standards. The keys lie in advising, mentoring, and learning made better through faculty development. These and other good ideas were outlined in a recruitment and retention task force report before I came back to work.

Regional stewardship is the current catch phrase for engagement in our service region. Beyond that, it too is a major public policy focus in Kentucky. Our current model will involve work with a region-wide advisory body that will identify issues, needs, and solutions. All three elements of the institution's mission – instruction, scholarship, and service – will find a home in this effort. Wayne Andrews, the president at Morehead State University, and I are committed to our institutions' finding ways to partner in serving our remarkably similar service regions.

How well we do in these two areas will have a significant impact on our state support in coming years. So, in addition to the fact that they are things we should be doing in the first place, our viability in the state's post secondary education system is at stake.

Our QEP, with its goal of developing critical and creative thinking skills in our students, embodies the quintessential Eastern. As I said in my installation remarks, it is what separates the Eastern higher educational experience from purely vocational and professional education. While the focus and discrete identification of it as an objective are new, it has long been a part of Eastern's educational heritage. Eastern graduates, to a person, speak of the profoundly life changing experience their education at EKU wrought.

While it has long been a strength, our lifting it up in the QEP will make it our beacon. The Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel Studio for Academic Creativity, being implemented in the Crabbe Library, will provide a remarkable resource in its support.

When we accomplish the things I know that we can in student success, regional stewardship, and the QEP, Eastern will have earned the distinction she has long deserved.

Charles D. Whitlock, '65, '66

President



# FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

**J**ust as most of us can arise in the middle of the night and walk through our homes in the dark without stubbing a toe, Dr. Doug Whitlock navigates the campus of Eastern Kentucky University with the ease of a man whose shoe tread has been worn slick by its paths. For almost 40 years, these have been his stomping grounds, beginning as a first generation college student seeking his bachelor's and master's degrees, then extending to his time as a professor and administrator.







Now Whitlock strolls The Campus Beautiful bearing yet another moniker—that of president. In a ceremony imbued with all the pomp and circumstance befitting the occasion, Charles Douglas Whitlock ('65, '66) was inaugurated as the eleventh president of Eastern Kentucky University April 25 in conjunction with Alumni Weekend festivities.

By his own admission, Whitlock's road to the presidency was unusual. Having retired from his post as ECU's vice president for administrative affairs in 2003, he was called back to the service of his *alma mater* August 13, 2007 as interim president. Only 10 weeks later the board of regents, citing support of his leadership from all segments of the University community, tapped him as ECU's president with a three-year contract ending July 31, 2010.

So convincing has been Whitlock's impact in the intervening months that, in another surprise move at its June meeting, the regents voted to extend the president's contract by a year. This will allow Whitlock a

more realistic period of time to implement his initiatives and move the University forward, indicates board chairman Hunter Bates.

"This is the third time in eight months and a couple of weeks that my breath has been taken from me in this room," the president told the board as the contract extension motion carried 9-0 with three regents absent.

Whitlock was a finalist for several presidencies over the years, but the fact that he'd spent his entire career at one institution, ECU, was always referenced as an impediment to his being hired. Little matter. There was only one presidency he truly desired. "This is a situation that I aspired to, I freely admit," he nods. What thrills him daily as chief executive officer of his beloved Eastern is coming on the campus each morning and feeling that somewhere along the line he might well have done something to make it a little better. He has long asserted that ECU's regents have done a remarkable job historically of selecting presidents who were right for the time they were chosen. "I would like to think that has happened again and that there is need for someone firmly rooted in the Eastern tradition," he says. For those who have followed the news out of Kentucky's capital of Frankfort this year, there's little doubt that President Whitlock's understanding of Eastern's heritage and his profound knowledge of the workings of state government are right for such a time as this.

President Whitlock assumed office as the University was preparing its 13-year business plan with the aim of increasing its undergraduate population to just over 20,000 by the year 2020, a relative expansion of 70 percent. The 20K2020 growth goal is in keeping with Kentucky's target of doubling its number of baccalaureate degree holders during the same time period. "If we double the number of degree holders, per capita income can also double," Whitlock states. Most of ECU's opportunity lies in south central and southeastern Kentucky, what it calls its 22-county campus and one of the most economically depressed areas of the state. The foundational element of Eastern's regional stewardship plan is education extension agents who help create a workforce based on what the people of the region identify as their needs. These agents also work with local K-12

public schools to raise educational expectations. Consulting with the Kentucky School Boards Association during his retirement, working with schools having difficulty meeting No Child Left Behind mandates, "really

deepened my understanding of the issues that our primary and secondary schools face," says Whitlock. Instead of allocating the majority of budgetary funding toward remediation, the proposed plan is part of a strategy to lower the number of students requiring remediation. "The agricultural extension agent concept was so successful in an agrarian economy. Well, we're in an information age economy now," reminds the president. The first education extension agent is already at work in ECU's home of Madison County.

The euphoria over the business plan's outreach efforts had barely reached its peak when, in December, news of a \$434 million state budget shortfall was announced by newly-elected governor Steve Beshear. The possibility of double digit percentage reductions in state budget allocations to Kentucky's public educational institutions loomed. For ECU, the proposed 12 percent cut for 2008-10 would mean a loss of nearly \$10 million.

"That came like a dash of cold water," admits Whitlock. "There were all these exciting things we had planned and new initiatives." Whitlock set about pleading Eastern's case before the state legislature and Kentucky's Council on Postsecondary Education, calling on all the powers of persuasion and lobbying skill he'd honed representing Eastern at the capital as a member of ECU's previous five administrations. "My purpose is to be Eastern's advocate. Frankfort

**Our real mission is the business of building better lives.**

—President Whitlock







will get all my attention that it deserves,” Whitlock promised as the new semester got underway, adding with a laugh, “I rather enjoy it, which may be a sign of a psychological quirk.”

Driving Interstate 75 North one winter morning to testify before a state House Committee on Appropriations and Revenue subcommittee, however, even the typically unflappable Whitlock was despondent. Then he remembered the advice of former Western Kentucky University president Tom Meredith: if you listen to any country music station, you can hear a song about somebody who’s having a lot worse time than you. “So I turned on a country music station,” Whitlock grins, “and as luck would have it, it was Dierks Bentley singing, ‘What Was I Thinkin’?!’”

In the end, the financial impact to Eastern was held to three percent for 2008-09 or \$5 million, which was absorbed through internal reallocations and an overall employee reduction brought about by attrition. Funding for the construction of Phase II of the new Science Building was not included in the state budget this year, but the project could still proceed as anticipated if the funding is approved in the next legislative session.

“I expect that we will meet our 20K2020 goals. This just means that when we start running, we have to run harder,” declares Whitlock. “I’m very thankful to President (Joanne) Glasser because she left the institution on very sound financial footing that will make it easier to handle this budget cut.”

Espousing the view of former ECU faculty member and noted humorist Dr. Carl Hurley ('64, '66), who wrote, “We weren’t poor; we just didn’t have any money,” President Whitlock has his eyes set to Eastern’s future. You simply can’t overestimate what well-intentioned people working together can accomplish, he says of the Eastern family. As evidence of this, Whitlock recognized his mentor and Eastern’s eighth president, Dr. Hanly Funderburk, with the Presidential Award of Merit during the inaugural ceremony. Funderburk was also made an honorary member of the Society of Foundation Professors. Eastern Kentucky University has long been a bastion of excellent teaching, and the Society evolved of Funderburk’s collaboration with faculty and staff to elevate the stature of professors who emulate the standard. Today, “[the Foundation Professors] are taking a role individually and as a group in faculty development,” Dr. Whitlock expressed. “What you started, now that it’s all grown up, is something that’s really creating a powerful and profound impact on this campus.”

In the year since his road to the presidency began, Whitlock has realized that the impact of Eastern Kentucky University is, indeed, as profound today as it was when his journey with her began four



“My purpose is to be Eastern’s advocate.”  
—President Whitlock







decades ago. Traveling the country with Joanne, his wife of 39 years, steadfastly by his side, Whitlock has met scores of alumni. One recurring message rings in the couple's ears: for her sons and daughters, the Eastern experience was life changing.

Although Eastern Kentucky University is not the same institution it was when Doug Whitlock walked its pathways as a student, there is an institutional DNA that runs in an unbroken strand from her past to her present. There's a remarkable consistency in the testimony of her graduates...a testimony found in anecdotes about great teachers who opened their minds to a world of ideas, the new president told the audience at his investiture. And no different than in generations past, by the time they complete their tenure, the students who come to her today will have realized that they have been taught how to learn.

"Our real mission is the business of building better lives," President Whitlock suggests. Building better lives for such a time as this. **EKU**



# Not Your Parents' Library

## THE NOEL STUDIO FOR ACADEMIC CREATIVITY AT ECU

All across the country, the traditional concept of the library is being redefined from a place to access paper records and books to one that also houses the most advanced electronic resources and provides remote access to a wide array of information. At Eastern Kentucky University, this departure from traditional notions is being taken one step further.

The Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel Studio for Academic Creativity at ECU will soon come to life at the heart of the University's original Crabbe Library. The first program of its kind in the nation, the Studio will do more than recreate the library to accommodate a changing curriculum and a technologically savvy student body. The multi-million dollar facility is expected to transform the learning experience through its emphasis on the integration of critical thinking practices, technology, collaborative work, research, writing and presentation skills—all hallmarks of contemporary curriculum standards.

According to Dean of Libraries Carrie Cooper, currently underutilized space adjacent to the library's Grand Reading Room will be renovated to house the Studio. On one side of the Reading Room will be the Research & Instruction Commons. An existing, highly successful library instruction program is a foundational element of this reference suite. Gone are the days of the card catalog, and shelves of dauntingly thick reference books are no longer the most common source material. One-on-one consultation with librarians teaches students to organize and refine their ideas and support them with research from modern information sources. A state-of-the-art teaching lab provides a quiet area for this interaction in proximity to all of the tools necessary for the rigors of research.

On the Grand Reading Room's opposite side, students will find technologically sophisticated areas designed to inspire both individual and collaborative learning. A media production center will afford the latest editing equipment for presentation production, and fully equipped practice presentation rooms will simulate real-world business experiences. Writing and speech coaches as well as technical experts will be available to students in one, comprehensive and convenient space. Currently, such support services are spread across campus, making it less likely that busy students will avail themselves of all the help they might need.

As part of the renovation project, two of the Crabbe Library's original main entrances, hubs of campus life for generations, will once again burgeon with activity, one as an outdoor reading porch

and the other providing direct access to the Studio. The first phase of construction will begin later this year and is slated for completion by spring 2009.

The idea for the Studio came about as early as 2003 and was developed as part of Eastern's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a focused, university-wide initiative to improve student learning. "The QEP challenges us to graduate young men and women who can think critically and creatively, and who can communicate their ideas to others," explains Provost Rodney Piercey. "The Studio for Academic Creativity really embodies that premise. It makes an important statement about the progressive academic program at ECU."





“The Studio will encourage students to be active learners,” echoes English Professor Sherry Robinson. “Because it accommodates various learning styles, students can really figure out what works best for them in terms of communicating better. This will be beneficial to them while students at ECU but also in the workforce after graduation.”

Cooper says the Studio has broad appeal to ECU supporters as well. “Every time we get up and talk about it, it piques people’s curiosity and they tend to want to know more,” she says. Hearing Cooper speak, it’s hard not to be enthused about the possibilities the Studio affords. It’s apparent that her ardor for the project is difficult for her to contain. She explains, “It has great appeal because this is for all students.”

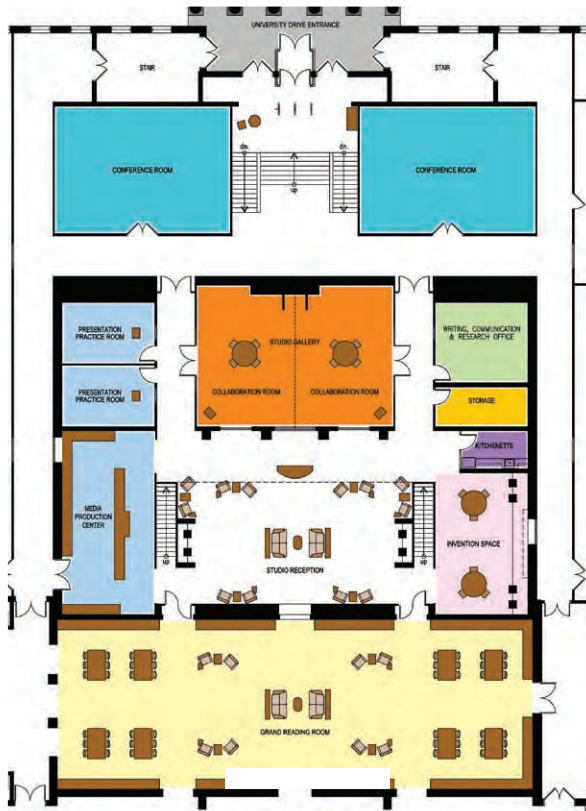
Cooper has been a driving force behind the movement to raise the \$2.8 million to fund the Studio for Academic Creativity, and in February the University announced a \$1 million naming gift from 1964 alumnus Ron Noel and his wife Sherrie Lou. The gift represents one of the single largest donations ECU has ever received. “Carrie took us on a tour of the project and we came to the conclusion that



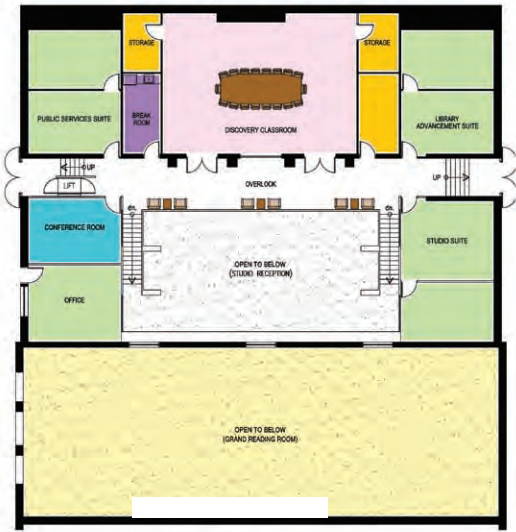
Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel







STUDIO FIRST FLOOR PLAN



STUDIO SECOND FLOOR PLAN



RESEARCH & INSTRUCTION COMMONS





we wanted to do something for the University and we wanted to write a check right then! We were so impressed with it and how it would help students,” Ron Noel declares.

The Noels, who live in Union, Ky., are long-standing supporters of Eastern and have helped engage alumni and friends in the Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati areas. For several years Ron has been on the board of directors of the EKU Foundation, the University’s philanthropic support arm, and is currently its vice chair.

“The students, faculty and staff of Eastern Kentucky University are eternally grateful to Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel for their investment in the students of this institution,” EKU President Doug Whitlock told the Board of Regents at its quarterly meeting. “Their generosity will allow Eastern to offer students an inspiring and creative academic environment within the University library that is uniquely conceptualized beyond traditional research typically offered by academic libraries.”

One of the things that stands out to the Noels about the proposed Studio space is how open and free flowing it will be, allowing for growth interaction between students. Making the decision to put their resources behind the project, they say, wasn’t hard at all. “If we were going to spend a million dollars, we wanted to get a big result out of it,” Ron Noel explains. In his mind, the Studio will deliver a big result for Eastern students.

Cooper agrees, “This institution is committed to graduating students who are productive in the workplace and are successful when they leave here. This kind of project supports that goal.”

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, EKU leads Kentucky’s regional comprehensive universities in the number of students who enter the library, and it ranks near the top among peer institutions nationally. Cooper says, “The Noel Studio for Academic Creativity will place services that are critical to student success in the direct path of thousands of students each day. Having a positive impact on the academic performance of our students by helping with writing, research and speaking skills is the desired outcome.”

To learn more about the Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel Studio for Academic Creativity and specific giving options and naming opportunities available to you, please contact the Office of Development at (859) 622-1583. **EKU**

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# Alumni Weekend '08







*Congratulations to the Class of 1958...our newest group of Pioneers!*





# 2008 Alumni Awards

During a banquet held in conjunction with Alumni Weekend April 26, EKU's National Alumni Association recognized eight Eastern sons and daughters who have distinguished themselves in their professions, contributed to their communities, and brought honor to the University. Nominations for the annual awards are accepted in five categories. To nominate individuals deserving of recognition, visit [www.eku.edu/alumni](http://www.eku.edu/alumni).



**Dr. Thomas Baechle, '66**

Dr. Thomas Baechle has reconciled his mid-1960s role as a student and an athlete through his profession as an exercise science educator and administrator. The former swim team co-captain has spent the past 27 years swimming to the top of his field.

After acquiring a master's degree from the University of Nebraska and his doctorate in adult and higher education from the University of South Dakota, Baechle's competitive spirit led him to positions at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, Iowa. Apparently, his skills at multi-tasking did not end at balancing academics and extracurricular activities. Baechle joined Creighton University in 1979, where he concurrently served as director of the University's morning cardiac rehabilitation program, strength conditioning coach, and departmental chair. Baechle has also acquired such prominent titles as founding father and former president of the National Strength & Conditioning Association (NSCA) and executive director of the NSCA Certification Commission. In 2007 Human Kinetics Publishers honored him with the Outstanding Writing Achievements in Sports and Exercise Science award in recognition of his book having sold more than 500,000 copies.

Memories of Eastern have helped motivate Baechle to the level of professionalism, commitment and vision he has achieved today. He recalls that it was "Dr. Walter Soroohan's excitement for what he teaches (exercise physiology) that really made an impression on me"

and "EKU's swimming coach, Don Combs, also taught me a lot about commitment and work ethic."

While the pool of Eastern Kentucky University alumni is wide, Dr. Thomas Baechle's contributions, dedication to, and influence on the strength, conditioning and personal training professions is unmatched.



**Col. Ronald Coffman, '56, '66**

A natural talent for leadership and service was evident in Col. Ronald Coffman back in 1954 when he served as the first president of Eastern's Student Government Association. After his undergraduate experience concluded in 1956, the former Corps Commander with EKU's ROTC program went on to a distinguished military career. His 25 years of service included two tours of duty in Vietnam, where he led the advanced party of the First Cavalry Division headquarters from northern Vietnam to the central area in 1968.

Coffman continued to climb the military ranks as Division Artillery Operations Officer and Operations Plans Officer for the Division. He was assigned to the Office of the Operations Directorate for the Army General Staff in the Pentagon and, after a promotion to Colonel, to the Joint Chief of Staff, commanding a Battle Staff Team at the Alternate National Military Command Center supporting Camp David and the U.S. President. At one point, Coffman even returned to Eastern to teach military science and earn his master's degree in education.



His military background and natural leadership ability led Coffman to launch his second career as president of Central Aviation Inc. and assist his *alma mater* with the establishment of its aviation program. Coffman continues to be active in Rotary International, having served as Richmond club president and District Governor. He is also a team leader for short-term mission trips to Haiti and has been integral to the development of St. Andrews Retirement Community in Richmond.

Coffman gives much of the credit for his success to three of his EKU mentors: Dr. Ralph Whalen, Dr. John Rowlett and Col. A.L. Hatch. “I have long since attributed my basic understanding of the world we lived in at the time to these fine gentlemen (and I continue to keep them in my heart as I endeavor to emulate their very genuine leadership of duty, honor and country,” he asserts. Eastern Kentucky University is proud to keep Col. Ronald Coffman in its heart as well.



Class of 1980 EKU graduate Steve Crump not only tells you the day’s top news stories, he makes them. Native to the old Smoketown neighborhood in Louisville, Ky., Crump is both a long-time reporter and an accomplished documentarian. He has earned numerous Emmy Awards and an Eclipse Award for his work.

It was at WEKY Radio that Crump says he learned to “immerse” himself in the communities he serves and understand their issues on a much broader scale. That approach served him well as one of Lexington’s first African-American television reporters and in his subsequent travels around the globe in hot pursuit of stories about societal issues or cultural touchstones. Crump has tackled such eclectic documentary subjects as the extreme poverty of Sudan, the travails of South Africa, southern church arson, black radio, “Carolina Bebop Kings” and the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II. However, it is in his Bluegrass roots that he finds some of his most personally fulfilling and professionally rewarding works. “Louisville’s Own Ali,” his piece about the legendary boxer, earned him one of his five

regional Emmy awards. “Forgotten at the Finish Line,” documenting the achievements of African-American jockeys at the turn of the 20th century, earned him the prestigious Eclipse Award.

While definitely proud of his many honors and esteemed awards, Crump finds his biggest rewards come from knowing that his work has broken barriers, both real and imaginary, given a voice to society’s underdogs and prompted a cultural awareness that sparks critical thinking in viewers. “While there are people who are still able to tell these stories,” he told the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, “I think that we have an obligation to get them told.”



Brigadier General Walter T. Hatcher III can almost still feel the cold of the Hanger Field bleachers on fall football Saturdays. He can picture the freshmen in their beanies and polishing his military shoes and the brass of his ROTC uniform to a brilliant sheen. “That after all these years so many of my memories seem like only yesterday says a great deal about how very much of an impression EKU made on me,” Hatcher recalls.

The Pikeville, Ky., native went on to make plenty of impressions of his own. After graduation, Hatcher received his commission in 1967 through the Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. Soon thereafter he took to the skies, earning his pilot wings and flying more than 150 missions in Vietnam as well as Japan, Korea, Thailand, and Iceland. In 1972 he entered the Air Force Reserve but soon found himself mobilized for active duty once again to support the airlift requirements of Operation Desert Storm. Serving as Commander of one flying group, two flying wings, and as mobilization assistant to the Director of Operations Air Mobility Command, Hatcher accumulated more than 5,600 flight hours and earned a promotion to Brigadier General prior to his retirement from the AF Reserve in April 2000. His more than 33 years of service earned him numerous awards such as the Legion of Merit (3 oak leaf clusters), the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (4 oak leaf clusters), Vietnam Service Medal, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.



“I’m not sure to what degree success is measured,” Hatcher says, “but I do believe my time at EKU allowed me a significant opportunity to grow as a person and develop the discipline and many of the skills required to prepare me for what turned out to be my profession as an officer and a pilot in the Air Force.”

Whatever the yardstick, Brig. Gen. Walter Hatcher measures up.



For Overton “Tony” Parrent, Eastern Kentucky University was the addition symbol that brought together his love for music and his interest in math and physics. Parrent graduated from Eastern amid fervor over the success of the Russian satellite Sputnik, and the need for college graduates with training in science and mathematics was perhaps never so apparent. “Eastern had provided me with a sound education that enabled me to contribute and to compete quite favorably in that technical and global environment that was aggressively responding to all of the challenges that were amplified by the success of Sputnik,” Parrent says. He was readily accepted to Vanderbilt University, where he earned a master’s degree in physics, and then to the University of Southern California for a master’s in systems management. He put his skills to use as a civilian scientist for the Navy, becoming an authority on the safe design and testing of underwater naval weapons and founding the U.S./U.K. Memorandum of Understanding on Safety and Suitability for Service Use of Munitions & Explosives. He is the principal author of the U.S. Military Standard that identifies hazard assessment tests for weapons. Upon his retirement in 2002, Parrent founded OCP Ordinance System Safety, Inc., a private consulting firm in safety program management and engineering.

During his 42 years of government service, Parrent never gave up on his life-long avocation for music either. He was director of the U.S. Navy laboratory employee band, chorus, and madrigal singers for 35 years and has been director of music at his church for 25 years.

When added together, the two sides of Overton “Tony” Parrent’s life undoubtedly equal success.



When Lu Settles Young was introduced as superintendent of Jessamine County, Ky., schools in 2004, it was no surprise to those who knew her that she called upon the words of a Spanish poet to express her feelings. After all, Young has taken an educational journey fueled by her love for teaching the Spanish language she discovered while earning her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in the subject at EKU. Young recalls, “One of my professors, Dr. Maria Scorsone, enlisted me during my sophomore year to some volunteer teaching at St. Mark’s Catholic School in Richmond. From there, I changed my major to education.”

After leaving Eastern, Young returned to her native Jessamine County and rapidly began to climb the educational leadership ladder. First a classroom Spanish teacher, she went on to be a curriculum resource teacher, assistant principal, director of curriculum, assistant superintendent, and now superintendent. She has authored or co-authored grant proposals that have garnered more than \$700,000 for the school district. Young’s dedication to her profession earned her the 1993 Jessamine County High School Teacher of the Year award, and last year she was appointed by Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher to the School Curriculum Assessment and Accountability Council, which advises the Commonwealth’s General Assembly and the Department of Education on education-related issues.

“It would not be an exaggeration to say that much of who I am as a professional educator today can be traced to my roots as an undergraduate and graduate student,” Young says. “I am proud of the almost literal ‘world of opportunities’ that was afforded me.”

Young says her experiences at EKU were life changing, and in turn, she uses them as motivation to change the lives of future generations.





When Charles Neal arrived on The Campus Beautiful from the small coal mining town of Harlan, Ky., he had high expectations of his education and what it would mean for his future. “My family raised me to always believe in myself and take control of my destination,” he remembers.

Take control he has. Armed with an economics degree from Eastern and an MBA in finance from the University of Wisconsin, the first-generation college student quickly established himself as a rising star with Hilliard Lyons, Inc. In fact, in 1999 he was named the youngest manager in the firm’s 146-year history. In 2003, as a financial advisor with UBS Financial Services, he received the company’s national Financial Planning Award.

Today, Neal is founder and CEO of CFN Wealth Management of Louisville. He shares his financial and insurance planning knowledge with others, lecturing fellow professionals and aspiring students, writing a monthly financial column for a public affairs magazine, and serving as the financial expert in the development of a popular brand of computer software. In addition, he pens a weekly opinion column that appears in newspapers across the country, is a volunteer coach and mentor with the YMCA of Southern Indiana, and is involved with the United Way and the American Heart Association. After several years as a volunteer with the Greater Clark County School System, Neal threw his hat in the ring as a candidate for the school board.

Despite his hectic schedule, however, Neal always manages to find time for his *alma mater*. He is chapter president and board member of ECU’s National Alumni Association and volunteers with Eastern’s Career Services office.

“I feel fortunate to have found ECU,” explains Neal. It is a sentiment ECU reciprocates proudly.



Most parents dream of having a child who grows up to be a top notch lawyer, a talented medical professional or a government official working for societal change. Misty Whitaker is all three rolled into one.

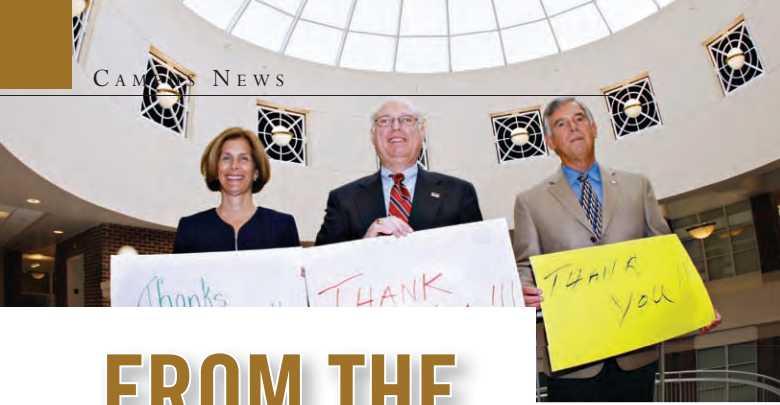
After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in occupational therapy, Whitaker earned a law degree from the University of Kentucky. Within a year’s time she became certified and licensed as an occupational therapist and admitted to the Maryland Bar. Her studies continued at the Innsbruck Institute on World Legal Problems in Austria, under the guidance of U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist. As an attorney, Whitaker worked for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). As an expert on therapy and appeals issues, she provided guidance to various CMS groups and traveled across the U.S. to train Medicare contractor medical directors and nurse reviewers. Her hard work and contributions earned her numerous CMS awards, including Special Achievement Awards in 2004 and 2005.

In 2006, Whitaker accepted a position with pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, marketing products to physicians and hospitals in the Baltimore area and serving as the managed care expert for her district. During her tenure, she has been the recipient of numerous performance-based incentive awards.

Whitaker’s contributions extend to the community as well. She volunteers as a planning committee member for the Great Strides Against Prostate Cancer 5K Run and as a member of the League of Women voters in Maryland.

Last year ECU’s Department of Occupational Therapy recognized Whitaker as its Outstanding Alumna. Whitaker, however, deflects the credit, stating, “From my first day as a nervous freshman until the day I graduated, I was guided and inspired by extraordinary educators committed to making a positive difference in my development. For these and many other reasons, ECU has impacted my life like no other university could have.” **ECU**





# FROM THE CAMPUS BEAUTIFUL

## Capital Campaign is One for the Books

The first capital campaign in Eastern Kentucky University history has exceeded its \$25 million goal more than a year early! Kicked off July 1, 2003, the *Moving Forward Together* campaign was intended to be a six-year effort. Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, however, Eastern surpassed its fundraising mark 13 months in advance of the June 30, 2009 projected completion date. The amount raised as of the June 2 was \$25,216,561. This total could climb even higher as the University will continue to accept gifts until the end of September in order to give individuals opportunity to fulfill their pledges or to become part of this historic moment in the life of EKU.

"It's really important for Eastern that we've reached this point 13 months early," EKU President Doug Whitlock told the board of regents. "It demonstrates that this is a place that people care enough about to make contributions of their resources. I think it certainly bodes well for the future."

Forty percent of funds raised go directly to student scholarships and enhancement opportunities. The remaining 60 percent is divided equally among programs, faculty, campus improvements and new initiatives.

A celebration of the campaign success is set for Friday, October 24 as part of Homecoming festivities.





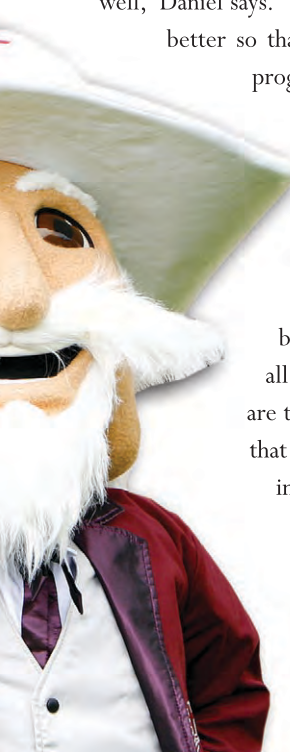
## Bid, Bid, Bid for the Home Team!

It promises all the excitement of your favorite Colonel sporting event combined with the anticipation of an eBay down-to-the-wire bidding frenzy. The Colonel Club Online Auction kicks off late August and runs through October. Sports memorabilia from some of your favorite teams, coveted vacation getaways and promotional items from Richmond, Lexington and surrounding area hot spots will all be on the auction block. You might even find a piece of Eastern tradition...priceless! Proceeds benefit the more than 300 student-athletes of ECU. Don't wait for the bottom of the ninth. Log on to [www.ekusports.com](http://www.ekusports.com) today and get ready to bid, bid, bid for the home team!

The Colonel Club is at the heart of everything ECU athletics. As the cost of operating a quality athletics program escalates, Colonel Club memberships and activities help fund athletic scholarships, equipment purchases, facilities improvements, team travel expenses and, perhaps most importantly, academic support programs vital to the mission of developing and graduating student-athletes. Director of Athletics Mark Sandy explains that "we are very proud of our student athletes' all-around education. These resources help ECU in its academic and career development endeavors and allow ECU to compete on an elite level as we work toward our goal of winning Ohio Valley Conference championships and participating in post-season competition."

Colonel Club President Keith Daniel, '79, says the group recently helped fund the consolidation of the women's and men's basketball programs into one facility to capitalize on the teams' camaraderie and competitive spirit. There's also a new team lounge so that players have somewhere to gather together off the court. "We're competing every day with other schools, not just on the playing field but in recruiting as well," Daniel says. "It's our goal to make the Colonel experience even better so that prospective student-athletes think more of the program and want to come here."

Thirty years since its establishment, the Colonel Club is going strong with almost 500 members. ECU student-athletes aren't the only ones enjoying the rewards of the Colonel Club, however. From tailgates to priority tickets, golf tournaments to preferred parking, there are many benefits to being a Colonel Club member. Best of all, memberships start at as little as \$50 and all gifts are tax deductible. Be a part of the esteemed tradition that is Eastern Kentucky University Athletics. For information about how you can show your Colonel Pride in the Colonel Club, call (859) 622-2046 or e-mail Treka Adams at [treka.adams@eku.edu](mailto:treka.adams@eku.edu).



## Life Lessons

During commencement exercises May 10, two individuals who have achieved great success counseled Eastern's Class of '08 on learning from failure. William Daugherty, a member of the ECU Foundation board, grew up on a farm, but the sage advice of his father—don't get kicked by the same mule twice—has applied as handily to his time in corporate America. "Use the information of your failures as well as your achievements to make good decisions," Daugherty stressed to the graduates, "and you will have a lot less regrets in life." Daugherty is president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors for NGAS Resources, Inc., an oil and gas exploration and production company. Eastern bestowed on him an honorary doctor of science degree.



William Daugherty

Craig Williams, '78, is executive director of the Chemical Weapons Working Group and has received international acclaim for leading a grass-roots effort to ensure the safe disposal of obsolete chemical weapons. Eastern recognized his efforts with the honorary doctor of humanities degree. Dubbed a "distinguished activist,"



Craig Williams

Williams spoke of the importance of standing up for what is right and not simply settling for the way things are. "You will find a world of exciting opportunities but also a world full of injustice," he cautioned. "Please don't shy away from working to make things better just because the odds against succeeding seem too overwhelming." When one is willing to deviate from a structured path is when one's "genuine identity rises, like cream to the top."

A total of 1,694 degrees were conferred during spring commencement exercises.



## SACS Commends EKU for “Exemplary Service”

Not only has the high quality of Eastern’s academic and support programs been reaffirmed by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), but the University has been commended by the accrediting body for its “exemplary service” in preparing its Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

SACS granted Eastern accreditation for a 10-year period following an intensive institutional self-study. EKU was also invited to share its QEP process at the annual SACS conference in December. The QEP calls for Eastern to nurture “informed, critical and creative thinkers who communicate effectively.”

“As important as reaffirmation is, the process is really about the betterment of the University,” reflected EKU President Doug Whitlock. “Because we better understand our strengths and have identified areas for further improvement, we are a stronger institution today.”



## Doctor, Doctor

Given its roots as a teacher education college intent on improving the quality of learning in the Commonwealth’s public schools, it seems fitting that Eastern’s first doctoral degree program focuses on the improvement of P-12 public education, particularly in rural Kentucky. EKU’s Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies will admit its first class in the fall. Responsive to its Appalachian context, the program will include a rural studies core and will imbed educational, cultural and sociological content within the coursework as appropriate. The program’s interdisciplinary focus will also provide enough flexibility to allow students to pursue specific areas of interest, such as school safety, organizational dynamics or school finance. With little education research focused on rural schools and their needs, research conducted by students and faculty as part of the program is expected to hold national significance.

## Cooperative Effort

Much as cooperative extension services were formed years ago in response to needs in an agricultural-based economy, the knowledge-based economy of the 21st century cries for education extension agents. Living and working in the communities they serve, these individuals would be at the heart of the postsecondary education reform movement, interacting directly with local educators and employers who know the needs best.

In keeping with the goals outlined in its comprehensive Business Plan, unveiled last fall, to provide grass-roots solutions to the challenge of overcoming educational under-preparedness, Eastern has named long-time education faculty member Dr. Carol Gabbard to the full-time role of education extension agent for EKU’s home of Madison County. Gabbard will work to match University resources with school and community needs, including workforce training and adult education.

Additional education extension agents will be placed throughout the University’s Eastern Kentucky service region to promote the importance of education and develop educational opportunities suited to local needs.

## Back to School

The average age of a college student is on the rise, but for the more than 300,000 Kentuckians between ages 25 and 50 who have some college credit but no degree, the thought of going back to school can still be daunting. To help those who have amassed at least 90 credit hours take the first step toward the classroom, Eastern Kentucky University is taking part in Project Graduate. The statewide initiative “cuts through the red tape and eliminates the hassles they might associate with coming back to school,” explains Lisa Cox, EKU retention coordinator and Project Graduate liaison. “We want people to know that it’s okay just to check it out and see what their options are. Sometimes people are surprised to see how easy it is to finish their degree.”

Qualifying students enjoy application fee waivers, streamlined records reactivation, and flexible degree completion options. Eastern is already well equipped to help adult learners feel at home through services and student organizations tailored to their needs. Evening, weekend and online course offerings also make it easier to juggle school, work and family responsibilities.



## Graduate Occupational Therapy Program One of Best in Nation

EKU's graduate occupational therapy program is ranked 24th in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*. The magazine's "America's Best Graduate Schools 2009" edition surveyed 152 occupational therapy programs. Rankings are based on two types of data: expert opinion about program quality and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, research and students.

Dr. David Gale, dean of the ECU College of Health Sciences, says he's extremely pleased by the news but not surprised. "We've had this program for about 25 years, and we've been recruiting nationally recognized faculty," he explains.

Students who complete Eastern's two-year occupational therapy graduate program are eligible to sit for the national certification examination.



## Total Tech Satisfaction

Whether they live and die by the Mac or swear to the superiority of the PC, Eastern students find satisfaction in the Powell Technology Commons. Located in the space that once housed the ECU bowling alley on the plaza level of the Powell Building, the Technology Commons is equipped with the latest in business technology to give students every advantage after graduation. The Commons features a computer lab with both Windows and Mac applications as well as black and white and color printers. An Emerging Technology Studio and student meeting room sport projection units and multi-functional conference tables, and students may log in to ECU's wireless network as they get comfortable in the plush student lounge, complete with 22" monitors and a projection screen. The Paper Jam business center not only provides the campus community with printing, copying and binding services but also offers high tech equipment rental.

## Ambassadors Earn Goodwill

Eastern's Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA) chapter continues to set the standard for programs across the nation, recently earning three of five awards presented at the District 3 conference. ECU's SAA was named Most Outstanding Internal Program while Chapter President Jackie Lazaro was recognized as Most Outstanding Student Leader and Jey Marks ('00) was named Most Outstanding Adviser. District 3, one of eight districts in the U.S., comprises 74 member institutions from Kentucky to Florida.

In addition to their service to the University as hosts to alumni, prospective students, and others visiting campus, Eastern's 85 SAA members are civic minded, raising funds for charitable causes and participating in community activities. They accomplish all this while maintaining an average GPA of 3.54. **EKU**





# CLASS ACTS

## Summer 2008

### 1930s



**Ruth Talbott George**, '35, McArthur, Ohio, was nominated for Poet of the Year

honors from the International Society of Poetry. She is understandably proud of the merit trophy she received, which weighs a full 10 lbs.!

### 1940s



**Hansford White Farris**, '41, '42, and **Vera Maybury Farris**, '42, Gainesville, Fla., celebrated

their 65th wedding anniversary June 2, 2007. **Louanna Noel Combs**, '43, Louisville, Ky., retired from teaching after 13 years in the Harlan, Pulaski, and Jefferson County schools. Her husband, Travis, died in 1975. **Isabelle Greene Kentner**, '49, Sparta, Tenn., celebrated her 80th birthday in January. She sends warm greetings to all her classmates.

### 1950s



**Hugh Brooks**, '54, McIntosh, Fla.; **Jim Winn**, '55, Lexington, Ky.; **Bill Vendl**, '53, Long Beach,

Calif.; and **Dave Caylor**, '55, Newport Beach, Calif., sang ten, one-hour concerts in eight days as part of the Singing Colonels "World Tour." Traveling more than 1,200 miles in Pa., the group received standing ovations "everywhere there were people who could stand" in medical centers, nursing homes, and other public gatherings. **Calvin L. Whitt**, '54, Danville, Ky., was named Music Alumnus of the Year by EKU's department of music. During a 23-year teaching career, Whitt was band director in several school districts in central and eastern Ky. He was named Kentucky Star Teacher in 1969 and received a Citation for

Service from the Kentucky Music Educators Association in 2000. Since retiring as an educator, Whitt has maintained involvement with the Alumni Band. He is married to **Dora Spears Whitt**. **Lois Lowe Amlin**, '58, Miamisburg, Ohio, has been retired from teaching for 20 years. **John Payne, Jr.**, '58, Bowling Green, Ky., earned All-American honors with the Trapshooting Assn. of America for the second consecutive year. For the third year, he was named to the Kentucky All-State team. The sport feeds the competitive spirit he cultivated as co-captain of Eastern's swim team. A retired school psychologist, Payne founded Limestone Lake Photography and embarked on his second career as a professional photographer.

### 1960s

**Paul Vaughn, Jr.**, '60, Lawrenceburg, Ky., retired from Lawrenceburg Bank & Trust Company after a 50-year career. Friends and colleagues held a celebration in his honor Dec. 7, 2007. Vaughn is married to **Eva Kidwell Vaughn**, '59. **Ronald Ford**, '64, Somerset, Ky., retired after 33 years working with Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society. His wife, **Linda S. Ford**, is also retired. **Michael R. Gilbert**, '64, '67, New Albany, Ind., retired from teaching in the New Albany schools in 1999. However, he continues to work part-time at the local Kroger grocery store. **Carolyn Haag Seiffert**, '64, Louisville, Ky., and husband Gordon celebrated the marriage of their daughter, Michelle, last October. They also greatly enjoy their two-year-old twin granddaughters, the children of their son, Michael, and his wife. **Steve A. Leach**, '65, '66, Kissimmee, Fla., retired after 40 years of teaching at Pikeville College, Ky., and Osceola High School in Kissimmee. **Alois McIntyre Moore**, '65, Hazard, Ky., has been named to the board of directors of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. She is a realtor and owner of Moore Real

Estate. **Ronald Sanders**, '65, Madisonville, Ky., is president of People Plus, Inc., a staffing solutions company. He has been named to the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce board of directors. **William Bearse**, '67, Bethlehem, Pa., retired in December after a 35-year career at Northampton Community College. A founder of the Eastern Pa. Collegiate Athletic Conference, Bearse currently serves as the organization's president. **James A. Holmes**, '67, Roswell, Ga., retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1984. In 1997 he underwent a double lung transplant and reports that he is doing great! Holmes and wife Joann, a retired school teacher, have three granddaughters. **Alex Cawthon**, '69, Thomson, Ga., was the first recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Mining Association. Executive vice president of Thiele Kaolin Company, Cawthon was president of the Georgia Mining Association four times, is a current member of the board of directors and was twice named Miner of the Year. "A great education," says Cawthon, "helped me more than you will ever know." **Jon Draud**, '69, Edgewood, Ky., was unanimously selected by the state board of education to serve as Kentucky Commissioner of Education. Draud has been a teacher, principal, superintendent and an adjunct professor. He served in the state legislature for nine years and was a member of the House education and budget committees. **Sylvia Hoskins Howard**, '69, Callihan, Fla., retired from state government in Aug. 2007. She and husband Charles have six grandchildren. **Kenneth Ledford**, '69, '72, London, Ky., continues to put his EKU geography and planning degrees to good use as a professional management consultant, selecting and developing sites for car wash locations.

### 1970s

**William S. Mullins**, '70, Roanoke, Texas, retired from Verizon as executive director of network operations. For 32 years, he served the company in Ky., N.C. and Texas.



**John A. Noland**, '70, Fort Myers, Fla., was named to the 2008 edition of *The Best Lawyers in*

*America@*. This is the third consecutive year that he has been recognized in the peer-review survey. Noland is chair of the Commercial Litigation practice area of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., one of the state's oldest law firms. **O. Kent Reed**, '70, Palmyra, Pa., has retired from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa. He was associate professor and long-time chair of the physical education department as well as coordinator of Track & Field and Cross Country. He received national recognition for having coached 13 Track & Field All-Americans. He also had a distinguished, 13-year football coaching career. **William Zwick**, '70, Lady Lake, Fla., was named principal of The Villages, Fla., High School, a charter school serving 477 students. A former Colonel linebacker, Dr. Zwick went on to earn his Ph.D. and has been a school superintendent and a college professor. He and wife **Linda Ferguson Zwick**, '71, have three children. **Donald B. Clardy**, '71, Shawnee Mission, Kan., retired after 17 years as executive vice president and dean at Baker University. However, he will continue his association with the school as a tenured faculty member. **Larry S. Fields**, '71, Ashland, Ky., received the Alumni Service Award from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. Fields was recognized as an outstanding proponent for change in American medicine, working for malpractice and health care reform changes in Kentucky. He has also been a strong advocate in the U.S. Congress for universal health care coverage. Dr. Fields is



current board chair and immediate past-president of the American Academy of Family Physicians. **Vivien Durham McAninch**, '71, '72, Richmond, Ky., retired after 32 years as a high school biology teacher and principal. She and husband Marshall now devote their days to travel, gardening and their grandchildren. **Janice Burdette Blythe**, '72, Berea, Ky., is associate provost for advising and academic success as well as full professor at Berea College, where she has served since 1986. **W. Thomas Chaney**, '72, '73, Florence, Ky., has devoted his 34-year career to environmental, licensing and human resources issues. Chaney retired in 2006 after 25 years with Duke Energy and opened an office for GAI Consultants, an engineering and environmental consulting firm. His efforts to grow the business earned Chaney a promotion to assistant vice president and managing officer of both the Florence and Cincinnati offices. Chaney is married to **Patsy Auxier Chaney**, '73, a special education teacher at Erpenbeck Elementary School. **Jerry L. Parks**, '72, '74, Lexington, Ky., was named to the final *USAToday* All-American Teacher Team for 2007. Only 20 teachers from around the country were selected from hundreds of nominees. Dr. Parks is a social studies teacher at Georgetown Middle School and has written numerous books on teaching. **David L. Stapleton**, '72, '75, Richmond, Ky., retired July 1, 2007, after serving 32 years as librarian/media specialist at Big Walnut High School in Sunbury, Ohio. **Peggy McKeen Tracy**, '72, Wilmington, Del., retired after 22 years as an art teacher in Wilmington's Brandywine School District. Her husband, **Marty**, '71, is school district coordinator. The couple has been married 34 years and has two children. **Robert O. Click**, '73, Hilliard, Ohio, is involved in several volunteer activities, serving as president of the Brookside Golf & Country Club, chairman of the Columbus Cancer Clinic, and president of the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) Foundation of Chicago. **Deborah Jenkins Cook**, '73, Danville, Ky., has been promoted to managing editor of *The Harrodsburg Herald*, a privately owned weekly newspaper in

Harrodsburg, Ky. Her daughter, **Kristi Cook Blakemore**, '04, teaches Spanish at Garrard Co., Ky., High School. Her son, **David**, '09, is a junior at ECU. **Walter "Marshall" Garrett**, '73, Jakarta, Indonesia, worked 23 years for Philip Morris in Louisville, Ky., Richmond, Va., and Hong Kong. He is currently manager of flavor technology for PT HM Sampoerna, a clove cigarette company subsidiary of Philip Morris. He anticipates returning to the U.S. upon his retirement in 2011. **Gary Montgomery**, '74, Louisville, Ky., retired in Sept. from a long broadcasting career which culminated with a 13-year tenure as sports director at WDRB, Louisville's Fox affiliate. Over the years, Montgomery covered many sporting events, but his favorite was always the Kentucky Derby. He looks forward to watching future races, not from the crowded press box, but from the comfort of his own home with his wife of 35 years, **Judy Wessel Montgomery**, '72. **Jeff Ratliff**, '75, Speedwell, Va., retired after 29 years of law enforcement. He served in the Kentucky Dept. of Justice, the Wythe Co., Va., Sheriff's Office, and was chief of police of Rural Retreat, Va. He also served as a cryptologist in the U.S. Navy. **Ray Spenilla**, '75, Wise, Va., has marked his 23rd year at the University of Virginia at Wise and his 32nd year in the education profession. No one has a longer tenure in UVA-Wise athletics than Spenilla, director of athletics. A standout baseball player at ECU, Spenilla went to UVA-Wise to take over a struggling baseball program that had never had a winning season. In only four years, he guided the Cavaliers to the first NAIA Championship in any sport in the college's history. Under his guidance, athletic department teams have earned 22 NAIA championship banners. Spenilla is married to **Jennifer Belcher**, '75. **Sheila Matthews Wilson**, '75, Owensboro, Ky., retired from a 30-year teaching career. **Mary Ann Wood Evans**, '76, Carlisle, Ky., is a customer service representative with Mallinckrod & Baker, Inc. Her son will graduate from ECU this year. **Bruce F. Kraus**, '76, North Bend, Ohio, retired following 30 years as a microbiologist in the water quality and treatment division of Greater Cincinnati Water Works. **Reed "Bailey"**

## Help Us Celebrate Your Little Colonel

Let your Alumni Association know about your Little Colonel's arrival, and we'll send you an ECU baby bib—free! It's our way of saying congratulations. We will also run your announcement in an issue of *Eastern* magazine. Information, including parent's name and baby's name and date of birth can be submitted using the form on p. 27. If sending a photo, please note that computer-generated photos cannot be published.



**Norris**, '76, '80, Bowling Green, Ky., has been named director of district-wide student and support services of Warren Co., Ky., Schools. Norris' career as an educator spans 25 years. Most recently he was principal of Warren East High School, a position he'd held since 1997. **Charlene Turner Walker**, '76, '88, Lexington, Ky., was keynote speaker at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. community diversity breakfast sponsored by Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College. Walker is vice president of multicultural affairs and a full professor at Bluegrass Community and Technical College. She is in demand nationally as a speaker on issues related to sexism, racism and classism. **William D. Beasley, Sr.**, '77, Shelbyville, Ky., retired after 27 years with the Kentucky Cabinet for Family & Children. He is now preaching and substitute teaching. **Janie Abbott Miller**, '77, Shelbyville, Ky., joined EDS State & Local Health and Human Services as an account executive for the Kentucky Medicaid program. Miller has more than 31 years of experience working in Ky. government, including 21 years in the development and administration of state healthcare programs. She retired from government service in Sept. as staff economist and deputy director of budget review for the Legislative Research Commission. She was inducted into the ECU Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 2002. **Christine Elaine Walker**, '77, '80, Berea, Ky., is a substitute teacher at Berea Community School. In the summer months when she's not busy teaching, she enjoys raising a vegetable garden.



**Jan Cairnes**, '78, West Palm Beach, Fla., is a certified addiction prevention

professional with the Hanly Center, a premier alcohol and drug rehabilitation center. Cairnes developed a model approach to educating coaches, athletes and the community on science-based steroid prevention for Fla. high school athletes. She was a finalist for 2007 Sports Person of the Year and was recognized by Palm Beach County Sports Commission as Sports Contributor of the Year in Feb. **Leanne DuBois**, '78, Williamsburg, Va., has been appointed to the James City County Economic Development Authority (EDA). She comes to the EDA with a wealth of experience assisting agricultural-based businesses, having served as an extension agent for agriculture and natural resources since 2003. She holds a bachelor's degree in technical horticulture with a business minor from ECU and is now completing a master's degree at Virginia Tech. She is married to **Glen DuBois**, '78.



**Debra Clancy**, '78, Frankfort, Ky., the first female police officer in Frankfort Police

Department history, has retired after 29 years of service. During her tenure, she rose to the rank of captain. Clancy is now a tax fraud investigator for the Kentucky Department of Revenue. **Stephen B. McSwain**, '78, Louisville, Ky., has published his second book, *The Giving Myths: Giving Then Getting the Life You've Always Wanted*. A senior minister for



more than 20 years, Dr. McSwain is now senior vice president at Cargill Associates, a fundraising and development firm serving religious and non-profit institutions.

**James S. Parker**, '78, Austin, Texas, is receiving positive reader reviews of his novel *The Dark Side of the Cross*. Described as a "fast-paced mystery that keeps you guessing and on the edge of your seat," the book explores what happens when shaky faith meets growing uncertainty and danger. **William Prather, III**, '78, Owenton, Ky., was named president/CEO of Farmers Rural Electric Cooperative in Glasgow, Ky. **Richard "Rick" Preston**, '78, '81, Maysville, Ky., has taken a position with the City of Maysville's Public Works Department after 17 years in Florence, Ky. **Londa A. Strong**, '78, Rockwell, N.C., was named director of Cabarrus County, N.C., Parks and Recreation last summer after serving the organization in various roles since 1981, most recently as park development manager. In her new role, she oversees the operation of four countywide parks and 39 school park sites. These parks provide more than 400 acres of recreational space, including tournament-quality athletic fields, gymnasiums, playgrounds, picnic shelters, tennis courts, mountain bike trails, horseshoe pits, disc golf courts, bocce courts, volleyball and basketball courts, miniature golf, paddleboats, fishing lakes, rental cabins, walking and jogging trails and more. In addition, Parks and Recreation offers recreational sports leagues, road races, tennis lessons and summer camps. **Carol Hatfield Estes**, '79, Warsaw, Ky., is branch manager of supported employment services for the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. She has a 28-year tenure as an employee of the Commonwealth and is pleased to have hired another ECU graduate, **Margaret Thurman-Moreland**, '95, as a member of her team. **Jillana Jackson Ledford**, '79, Washington, D.C., was named vice president for health promotion for the Center for Healthy Aging of the National Council on Aging (NCOA). She will work with public and private organizations to develop health promotion, disease prevention and chronic disease

self-management programs. Ledford is a nationally renowned expert on issues affecting aging Americans.

## 1980s

**Patrick Best**, '80, Allentown, Pa., has worked with Lehigh County Juvenile Probation for 23 years. The department was one of the first to institute the concept of community-based juvenile probation, and Best works in the Allentown center city with the most serious juvenile offenders--those considered at risk to kill or be killed. For his innovation and service, Best received the 2007 Lehigh County Judicial Recognition Award for Community Spirit. "None of this would be possible if it were not for my ECU education and degree," says Best. "Thank you for providing me with the foundation I needed to achieve the success I have." Best hopes his children will one day follow in his footsteps as ECU graduates. **Kevin Wayne Cosby**, '80, Louisville, Ky., is president of Simmons College of Kentucky, one of the oldest black-owned and operated colleges in the nation. He had served as senior pastor of St. Stephens Church since 1979, helping grow membership from 500 parishioners to more than 10,000. In 2007 he was among the Louisvillians of the Year. Dr. Cosby is married to **Barnetta Turner Cosby**, '80. **John W. Croxton, II**, '80, Cincinnati, Ohio, enrolled in the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science upon graduation from ECU. In October 2007, he celebrated a 25-year career as a licensed funeral director and embalmer in the family business his ancestors established in 1870. **Timothy E. England**, '80, Breeding, Ky., is an Army National Guard instructor specializing in infantry, non-commissioned officer leadership development and officer candidate school. He helps train soldiers preparing for overseas deployment, a duty he's held since 1996. A 28-year veteran of the National Guard, England says he's humbled by the heroes he works with and the sacrifices they make to ensure the future of the U.S.



**Rick Robinson**, '80, '83, Ft. Mitchell, Ky., has put his 30 years of experience in politics and law behind his novel *The Maximum Contribution*, whose characters are touted to be so well developed that you'll expect to see their names on the ballot in the next election. Robinson, who served a stint on Capitol Hill as legislative director/chief counsel to then-Congressman Jim Bunning (R-Ky.), currently practices law and is a member of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce board of directors. He is married to **Melinda Brewer Robinson**. **Peggy Simpson Hyde**, '81, Haymarket, Va., and husband Rick have two sons, Will, 16, and Drew, 15. The boys are active in inline hockey and are members of the percussion section of the superior-rated Battlefield High School marching band. **Don McNay**, '81, Richmond, Ky., has released his new book, *Son of a Son of a Gambler: Winners, Losers and What to Do When You Win the Lottery*. In the book, McNay reflects on the worlds of gambling, addiction, celebrities and business through the prism of his childhood as the son of a professional gambler. A syndicated columnist, McNay is one of the world's most successful structured settlement consultants for injury victims and lottery winners. **Anthony Duncan**, '82, Houston, Texas, is celebrating 25 years as an officer with the Houston Police Department while his wife, **Cheryl Dabney Duncan**, '83, is in her 25th year as a registered nurse. **Robin Spangler Epstein**, '82, Pelos Verdes Peninsula, Calif., has returned to the stage after working in the feature film publicity department of Disney Studios. Recently she appeared in two theater productions in Los Angeles. Epstein earned a vocal scholarship at ECU and plans to release her first CD this year. **Sharon Farthing Graves**, '82, Richmond, Ky., is one of only 20 teachers across the Commonwealth of Kentucky to receive a 2008 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Award sponsored by Ashland and the Kentucky Department of Education. Graves is a history teacher at Clark-Moores Middle School, where she has been on staff for 18 years. **J. Andy Stephenson**, '82, '89, Win-

chester, Ky., teaches 8th grade technology education in Fayette County and is president of The International Technology Education Association (ITEA). Stephenson has also previously served as region director of ITEA and as president of the Kentucky Applied Technology Education Association. He is married to **Laura Flowers Stephenson**, '83. **Barry Teater**, '82, Mount Desert Island, Maine, has been appointed director of communications for The Jackson Laboratory, a biomedical research firm which investigates the genetic basis of cancers, heart disease, Alzheimer's, diabetes and many other diseases and disorders. Teater has spent the last 20 years with the North Carolina Biotechnology Center in Research Triangle Park, N.C., rising to vice president of corporate communications. In addition to his work there, he is an award-winning freelance journalist. **Marc Whitt**, '82, '85, Richmond, Ky., has been named to the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' Advisory Council on Communications and Public Affairs. His excellent volunteer service to the organization's 2007 conference planning committee led members to suggest he join the council. Whitt is associate vice president for public relations and marketing at ECU.



**Karen Marlowe Bowen**, '83, '85, Spring Hill, Fla., has been named a Child Find Specialist for Hernando County Schools by the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System. She will identify children who may potentially be eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and link them with needed services. Bowen worked for Hernando County Schools for 17 years. **Judy Leonard Bruckner**, '83, Richmond, Ky., was certified as a graphoanalyst in 2005 and was named Graphoanalyst of the Year in 2007. She offers handwriting analysis workshops as part of ECU's Community Outreach Program. Her son Eric is a current ECU student and daughter Sarah is a high school junior. **Sam Champion**, '83, New York, N.Y., is weather anchor of *Good Morning America* and weather editor of ABC News. In



addition to reporting the latest national weather throughout the morning program, he travels to various weather-related stories around the globe. Champion continues to be at the forefront of reporting on the environment and global warming. Before joining ABC News, Champion spent 18 years at WABC-TV in New York where he was the city's most-watched weatherman in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut area.

**Lawrence F. Dawson**, '83, Roaming Shores, Ohio, and wife Karen have two children, Stephen and Jennifer. Stephen is in the Air Force assigned to Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas. **Michael J. Ernst**, '84, Atlanta, Ga., was selected as one of Georgia's "Legal Elite" and "Most Effective Lawyers" for the third consecutive year by *Georgia Trend* magazine. He is a partner in the law firm of Stokes, Lazarus & Carmichael, LLP.

**Johnny B. Martin**, '84, Lexington, Ky., retired Aug. 2007 from the Kentucky State Police after 25 years of public service. During his career, he served as a U.S. Park Ranger, a Kentucky State Park Ranger and Kentucky State Parks recreation supervisor.



**Shawn Mountjoy**, '84, Danville, Ky., has been named vice president and district sales manager for the

Lexington, Ky., region of OfficeWare, a provider of document management and print solutions. Mountjoy has worked with OfficeWare for 14 years. **Marvin Hayden**, '85, Owensboro, Ky., was a member of the 229th class to graduate from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy. He is a captain with the Owensboro Police Department and commander of the support services division. Hayden's daughter, Brittney, is a current EKU student. **Timothy S. Mattingly**, '85, Bardstown, Ky., a captain in the U.S. Navy, has assumed the duties of commanding officer assigned to Mid-Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center in Norfolk, Va. During his military career, he has served in various shore and sea billets. He has also received numerous awards and commendations, including the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy Meritorious Service Medals, and two Navy and Marine Corp Commendation Medals. **Tammy Gay Spratt**, '85, '97, Louisville, Ky., was named 2008 Kentucky Elementary School Teacher of the Year. A 17-year teaching veteran, Spratt teaches fifth grade social studies and language arts at Shepherdsville, Ky., Elementary School. **Melissa Edwards Rogers**, '86, Frankfort, Ky., is interim

principal at Elkhorn Middle School in the Franklin County, Ky., school district. Rogers has been with the school district since 1994 and was most recently principal at the Educational Development Center. She has been elected president of the International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention.

**Jolene F. Wiley**, '86, Manalapan, N.J., recently took a new job as director of sales administration at CCA Industries, Inc., a developer, manufacturer and marketer of health and beauty products. **Timothy R. Estes**, '87, Stanford, Ky., was the recipient of the 2007 Big Apple Award from the Lincoln County, Ky., Chamber of Commerce. The award is given annually to an outstanding educator in the community. Estes has been teaching social studies at Lincoln County High School for 20 years. **Jennifer Leinweber Ritz**, '87, Chesterland, Ohio, continues to be active in theater. She is the director and choreographer of "Beauty and the Beast," which opened in April in the Cleveland area.

**Lloyd Spencer**, '87, Great Falls, Va., has been named partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Nixon Peabody law firm. He is a securities and transactional attorney with substantial experience in equity and debt securities issues; mergers,

acquisitions and strategic stock purchases; and federal securities law and stock exchange rules.



**Donna Wooton Wheeldon**, '87, Somerset, Ky., holds a master's degree in education and

Rank I in educational leadership. She is principal of Waynesburg Elementary School in Lincoln County, Ky. **Tracy Hobbs Wilkerson**, '87, Louisville, Ky., was named corporate security manager for Kentucky Farm Bureau. She provides oversight and direction for all aspects of the organization's safety and security program. **Sammy K. Lee**, '89, Paint Lick, Ky., was appointed by the board of directors of Hospice Care Plus of Madison County to serve as president. Lee is currently self-employed as a Certified Public Accountant in Berea. **Cat Timmerman**, '89, Louisville, Ky., successfully defended her dissertation, *The First Amendment in Academia: A Public School Teacher's Right to Free Speech*, and graduated with her doctorate in education from Spalding University.

## For the Record

Don't forget to keep us up-to-date with your latest news items—family additions, job changes, relocations, promotions—anything you'd like us to know! Include your photographs<sup>1</sup>, too.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ EKU Class \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ EKU Class \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_ Tel\* \_\_\_\_\_

News Item \_\_\_\_\_

### Send to:

Eastern Kentucky University Magazine  
Richards Alumni House, EKU  
521 Lancaster Avenue  
Richmond, KY 40475-3102

**Telephone:** 859/622-1260  
**E-mail:** alumni.relationships@eku.edu

*All submissions to Class Acts are edited for style and brevity.*

<sup>1</sup>Computer printouts cannot be accepted; please include a SASE for photo return. \*Please include; this information will not be published.

The Eastern Kentucky University family has a rich and proud history of military service to our great country. Many among our number made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives in protection of the freedoms we hold so dear.

In tribute to those students, alumni, faculty and staff who died in military service to the United States of America, Eastern has established the Veterans Wall in Memorial Plaza, which currently reflects the following names:

Jesse C. Booth USN	James E. Gott USA
Lee Cox Jr. USN	George N. Hembree USA
John S. Foote USN	Venard B. Jones USA
Cecil M. Hall USA	Robert R. Pigman USA
Fred W. Johnson USA	James D. Stephens USA
Thomas Earl Moberly USA	Harry B. Wilson Jr. USN
Clarence R. Rice USA	Clarence M. Wright USA
Orval "Tom" Sawyer USA	Paul E. Vanhoose USA
Edwin Forrest Tarter USA	Z. T. Rice Sr. USA
Everett Eugene Snider USA	Donald Osborne Richardson USA
George R. Wilson USA	James Louis Sizemore USMC
John C. Stringer II USA	James L. White USA
Joe Paul Hughes USN	Charles "Rock" Fields USA
Arnold Kendrick Roy USA	Clayton Craft USA
Roy E. Moores USA	James Bryon Farmer II USMC
Donald H. Jordan USA	Russell McKee Childs USN
James O. Dudding USA	Ralph Martin Duffie USA
Donald R. Cawood USA	Joseph Greenwell USA
Morton Cundiff USA	William Offard Herndon USA
Paul C. Franklin	George M. Lewis USA
William Chealis Hammonds USA	James Glyndon Masters USA
George E. Jones USA	Ormond E. Powell USA
Cyrus Curtiss Parks USA	Leslie G. Roth USA
Jimmy Johnson USA	Alan Yelton USA
William Patton Cornell USA	William T. Pryse USAF
Kelly Fields USA	James Harold Porter USA
Donald A. Grollig USA	James S. Rodgers Jr. USMC
George T. Innings USN	Bert J. Smith USA
James E. Menifee USA	Alfred P. Wilson USA
James K. Purdon USA	Andrew Judson Leach Jr. USA
Elmer Sharpe USA	Robert Hacker USA
Edward Walker USA	Edward Arnold Barlow USA
William "Jack" Brewer USA	Orlis Collins Combs USA
John Nick Combs USA	Jacob Thomas Farris USA
Robert Ward Worthington USA	Jas. Greenwell USA
Mac T. Childers USMC	Dorell James Holcomb USA
Donald Hugh Dorris USN	

*EKU's ROTC Alumni Association wishes to ensure that all who are eligible to be enshrined on the Veterans Wall are so honored. To submit a name for consideration, please contact Lt. Richard Livingston at richard.livingston@eku.edu or by calling (859) 622-1207.*

## 1990s

**Michael Ballard**, '90, '91, Richmond, Ky., was named College/University Health Educator of the Year by the Southern District of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Dr. Ballard is chair of EKU's department of health promotion and administration. **Robert Bryan Carpenter**, '90, '93, Independence, Ky., is executive director of two non-profit organizations focusing on behavioral health care, including foster care, outpatient therapy, medication management and community support services. ENA, Inc. serves Ky., Ohio, and W.Va. YDCA covers N.C. and Ga. **Natalie Ann (Rupinski) Carpenter**, '93, '95, '00, was named assistant principal at Ryland Heights Elementary School last year. **Scott Jeffries**, '90, Hustonville, Ky., is a Class IV wastewater system rehabilitator with the Danville, Ky., wastewater department. Class IV is the highest classification for his position. **Michael Goins**, '91, Georgetown, Ky., was named director of public relations for Forcht Group of Kentucky, a management company, in August. Goins will work with the chief marketing officer on issues related to public, community and government relations. **Earl Ray Neal**, '91, Richmond, Ky., was elected district judge of Kentucky's 25th District, which includes Madison and Clark counties. Neal, a local attorney, emerged from a field of seven candidates in the May primary and then went on to defeat the interim District Judge. Neal is married to **Holly Westerman Neal**, '95. **Cheryl A. Nolan**, '91, Lawrenceburg, Ky., is a legal secretary and paralegal for the Department of Public Advocacy, Appeals Division, in Kentucky's capital of Frankfort. **Dina Hamming**, '92, Louisville, Ky., has been honored by Baptist Hospital East as a champion for exemplary service to patients. The recovery room nurse was lauded by a breast cancer surgery patient who she cared for twice. Hamming has worked with Baptist Hospital for 15 years. **Cheryl Welch**, '92, Augusta, Ga., has joined Eye Care One, LLC as chief operations officer. Welch has published articles on practice management, motivation and profitability. **Amy Hayes**

**Deskins**, '93, Prestonsburg, Ky., has been acting food services director of Morrison Health Care at Pikeville Medical Center for the past three years. **Kelvin Ford**, '94, Lawrence, Mass., is in his second year as assistant athletics director for compliance at Merrimack College. He spent four years at the national headquarters of the NCAA as assistant director of enforcement and is currently a member of the NCAA Leadership Institute for Ethnic Minority Males and Females. While at EKU, Ford earned three letters in football and played on two NCAA semi-finalist teams guided by Hall of Fame coach Roy Kidd. **Teresa McCane Scott**, '94, Lancaster, Ky., has returned to her home of Lancaster to become executive director of the historic Governor William Owsley House, a museum illustrating the life and times of Kentucky's sixteenth governor. Scott is also a part-time health sciences faculty member at EKU. **Chryssa Zizos**, '94, Alexandria, Va., was recognized by *The Washington Business Journal* as one of the region's 25 most influential women. Zizos is the founder and CEO of Live Wire Media Relations, LLC, which teaches executives how to use their personality to communicate sincerely. **L. Martin Cobb**, '96, Oxford, Ohio, was presented the 2007 *Perspectives* Award from the Association of Fraternity Advisors. The award recognizes authors who have written thought-provoking articles that are educational and enlightening. Cobb co-authored the article, "Why We Should Close More Chapters," which appeared in the Spring 2007 issue of *Perspectives*. Cobb is director of advancement for the Beta Theta Pi Foundation. **Tim Rose**, '96, McDonough, Ga., is a major account manager for CCLD of Atlanta, the exclusive telecommunications provider for the Georgia World Congress Center, the Georgia Dome, and Centennial Olympic Park. **Chris Johnson**, '97, Summerfield, N.C., became chief of the Summerfield, N.C., Fire Department September 1. He steps into the boots of his grandfather, who served 36 years as the department's first chief. A full-time firefighter with the Greensboro Fire Department for a decade, Johnson has been a volunteer firefighter with the Summerfield department for 17 years. As chief, he oversees



more than 50 volunteer and paid firefighters. **Steven Minter Kirkwood**, '97, Arlington, Va., was accepted to the law school of George Washington University. He will join the Washington, D.C., office of Shook, Hardy & Bacon as a patent agent while he earns his law degree. Steven and wife **Jenae Elizabeth Grader Kirkwood**, '98, are the parents of a son, Ty.



**Jeffrey S. Newton**, '97, Brooklyn, N.Y., received both an Emmy and an Overseas

Press Club Award as a producer for the CBS Evening News documentary "Ramadi: On the Front Line." The report focuses on Marines with the Kilo Company of Camp Lejeune, who were guarding a government center in Ramadi, the capital of Al Anbar province in central Iraq. A staff producer for the CBS news magazine "60 Minutes," Newton has embedded with military units in the Middle East, including the 101st Airborne Division. During his career, he has been in 43 countries and covered seven wars. **Douglas Wilder**, '97, Beattyville, Ky., was named 2007 Ranger of the Year by the Kentucky Department of Parks. Wilder, who works at Natural Bridge State Resort Park, became a ranger five years ago. His award nomination credited Wilder with having learned park boundaries so well that he could pinpoint the location of a lost hiker just by the description of a landmark. **Tina Renee Barron Hasty**, '98, Orlando, Fla., is a certified wound care specialist and wound care nurse at Florida Hospital Hyperbaric and Wound Clinic. She is now obtaining a bachelor's degree through the online program of Florida Hospital College of Health Science. **Amelia "Amy" Pence Prater**, '98, Campton, Ky., is rehabilitation manager for Wolfe County Healthcare Center. **Josh Broaddus**, '99, '02, Huntsville, Ala., was promoted to managing director of risk control for J. Smith Lanier & Co., one of the largest privately owned insurance brokers in the U.S. While at J. Smith Lanier, Broaddus has set up a web-based time tracking software program that details reports for risk control clients. He has also been managing and marketing training opportunities for the risk control department.

**Robin Wilson Kelly**, '99, Bardstown, Ky., was appointed principal of Bardstown Elementary School. Kelly had been assistant principal of the school, which serves students in grades three through five, for four years.

## 2000s

**Jennifer McQueen Napier**, '00, '03, London, Ky., is the new program manager with Christian Appalachian Project in Lancaster, Ky. Christian Appalachian Project is an interdenominational organization providing adult education, family restoration, domestic shelters and substance abuse recovery for Appalachian people in need.



**William Nay**, '01, La Grange, Ky., was promoted to horticulture supervisor at the Louisville Zoo,

where he has been employed since 2002. In his new role, Nay will do everything from supervising a horticulture crew and overseeing a volunteer program to maintaining turf areas, landscaping plant beds and labeling plants. He says he enjoys the unique challenges his work presents. "One day I might be planting a tree to provide shade for the public in a picnic area, and the next day I could be positioning a log in an exhibit as a climbing structure for a lion or gorilla," he says. **Joyce Haste Stevenson**, '01, Somerset, Ky., works for LifePoint Hospitals as coordinator of the occupational medicine department of Lake Cumberland Medical Associates. **Laura Guerrant**, '02, Danville, Ky., is coordinator of children's photography at the studio of Mary Robin Spoonamore. She directs children's portrait campaigns and is the chief photographer of children's portraits. Additionally, Guerrant will offer interior design services as related to photography.



**Chris Steward**, '02, Independence, Ky., was recognized by the Kentucky State Police for

his efforts to reduce the number of injuries and fatal collisions on a stretch of Kentucky interstate that had seen a growing number of traffic-related issues. Steward, a Trooper, earned both the Excellence in Highway

Safety and Speed Enforcement and the Occupant Protection Awards. He is credited with decreasing fatalities in his patrol area by 21 percent in 2007.

**Phillip Powell**, '03, Berea, Ky., has graduated from the Kentucky State Police Academy. Trooper Powell was previously an officer with the Richmond Police Department. **Mary Hall Raider**, '03, '06, has been promoted to assistant director of career services at EKU. After joining Eastern's Career Services program in 2003 as job development coordinator, Raider developed part-time, full-time and internship employment opportunities for students and established valuable ties with the local business community. In her new role, she will be the primary liaison to the colleges of Business & Technology and Health Sciences. Mary is married to **Aaron Raider**, '05, '07.

**Jacqueline Richardson**, '03, Nicholasville, Ky., has been an officer with the Lexington Police Department since 2003. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree in criminal justice at EKU. She and husband Jeffrey Presley married in Sept. 2003. **Emily Van Winkle**, '04, Indianapolis, Ind., was promoted to manager of corporate communication and market research at Speedco, Inc., the only national network of service centers specializing in quick lube and tire service for heavy-duty trucks. **Kenneth Cundiff, III**, '05, Liberty, Ky., graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J. The eight-week program consisted of both academic and practical instruction. Seaman Cundiff joins 36,000 other men and women who comprise the Coast Guard's force. **Jonathan Michael Potts**, '05, Lexington, Ky., graduated last fall from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J. During the vigorous eight-week training program, Potts completed instruction on water safety and survival, first aid, fire fighting, and more. **Ren C. Scheuerman**, '05, Louisville, Ky., is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at Texas Wesleyan University. **Kim Van Til**, '05, Plainfield, Ind., is a missionary associate with Great Lakes Area Chi Alpha Campus Ministries. She works with two to three campuses simultaneously, helping plant new ministries and coach their leaders. Van Til is also enrolled in a missionary associate training program

through Kentucky School of Ministry. **Whitney L. Prather**, '06, Owenton, Ky., was named manager of communications and advertising for Owen Electric Cooperative in March. **Arielle Reese**, '06, Irvine, Ky., is the community relations coordinator for Rockcastle Hospital and Respiratory Care Center. She previously worked with the area Chamber of Commerce. **Katie Poplin**, '07, Rome, Ga., accepted a position as a microanalyst with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Division of Forensic Sciences' Trace Evidence Section. **Derrick L. Trammell**, '07, West Hollywood, Calif., is an associate consultant with Morgan Samuels Company, one of the leading executive search firms in the nation. He assists with the interviewing process and edits questionnaires. Trammell was offered the position after four grueling telephone interviews. He says Dr. Rudick's interviewing class helped prepare him for this overwhelming process.

## Non-degreed Alumni or Alumni of Unknown Class Year

**Eileen Farchmin**, Babson Park, Fla., has been promoted to associate professor of sports management at Webber International University. Dr. Farchmin earned her master of science degree from EKU. In addition to teaching sports management courses at the bachelor's and master's level, Farchmin is the university's NAIA faculty athletic representative and chairs the NAIA's committee on gender equity. **Donnie Foley**, Williamsburg, Ky., graduated in February from the Kentucky State Police Academy. A U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Army National Guard, Trooper Foley was an officer with the Chesterfield, Va., Police Dept. **Joe Hilley**, Ala., has released the fifth book in his series of legal thrillers. *The Deposition* continues the story of Mike Connolly, a down-and-out attorney in the Gulf South, where Hilley cut his own teeth as an attorney before leaving his law firm to pursue his writing ambition. **Elizabeth Huebner**, St. Louis, Mo., has joined Lockton, the world's largest privately held insurance broker, as account manager on the company's property and casualty insurance team.

She is responsible for the day-to-day marketing and servicing of property and casualty insurance products to clients in the healthcare industry. Huebner was previously medical staff office manager at Christian Hospital of St. Louis. **Bryan Jared**, Lexington, Ky., has been recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for heroism in the rescue of the sole survivor of the Flight 5191 crash at Blue Grass Airport in Aug. 2006. Jared, a Lexington police officer, helped pull co-pilot James Polehinke from the cockpit of the crashed jet. **Anthony M. Mira**, Kahului, Hawaii, has been named federal security director for Kahului Airport by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Mira came to TSA from the Department of Commerce, where he was assistant director of the anti-terrorism division. He served more than 30 years in the U.S. Air Force and also held positions with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), including international physical security specialist for Eastern Europe and senior security officer for the USAID in Baghdad, Iraq. **Kirby Osborne**, Fort Myers, Fla., who studied apparel design and merchandising at EKU, accepted a position as assistant merchant for shoes at White House Black Market, a subsidiary of Chico's. **Lee Anthony Smith**, Los Angeles, Calif., returned to his hometown of Corbin, Ky., Aug. 22 for the screening of his film *WAR*. Released by Lionsgate, a leading independent film studio, the martial arts thriller stars Jet Li and Jason Statham as two adversaries set on a violent collision course in the Asian mob underground. Smith studied martial arts at the famed Degerber Martial Arts Academy in Chicago.

## Newlyweds

**Carol Elizabeth Diem**, '79, to Gregory Manaugh on December 22, 2007. The couple live in Murfreesboro, Tenn., where Carol is a teacher of the visually impaired for the Murfreesboro City Schools. **Debra Booher**, '82, to John Tann on July 28, 2007. They live in Olathe, Kan. **Veronica Hensley**, '91, '04, to **Tom Martin**, '93, '01, on July 2, 2005. Veronica teaches at Danville, Ky., Christian Academy in the couple's hometown. Tom is a member of Eastern's Alumni Association board.

**Donald Ison**, '93, to Buffy Peterman on September 22, 2007. The Isons live in Easley, S.C. and are the parents of four children. **Kelly M. Fread**, '99, to Mark Fada on August 18, 2007. Kelly is a Cat Scan technologist at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati and Mark is a pharmacist. The couple resides in West Chester, Ohio. **Robyn Reynolds**, '00, to **Kevin Fields**, '95, October 6, 2007. **Tracie Lynn Gay**, '01, to Joel Colin Brashear on June 2, 2007. Tracie teaches middle school science in the couple's hometown of Hyden, Ky., and Joel works for WYMT-TV in Hazard. **Kimberly Kiser**, '01, to Derick Nicholas Brumbaugh on September 8, 2007. Kimberly and Derick live in Richmond, Ky. **John Stratman**, '02, to **Tiffany Taylor**, '02, on October 6, 2007. John is an academic advisor with EKU's College of Business & Technology. **Marita Ann Jones**, '04, '05, to Jeffrey Kinley on December 15, 2007. The couple live in Richmond, Ky. **Stephanie Csizma**, '05, to **Jonathan Sikora**, '06, on September 1, 2007. **Tiffany Nicole Rodgers**, '05, to **Kevin Michael Engstrom**, '04, in May 2006. Tiffany and Kevin make their home in Clinton, Tenn.



**Jessica Lou Snapp**, '05, to Dr. Paul Edward Collins on September 23, 2006. Jessica is a marketing representative for Gator Custom Mobility in Ocala, Fla., where the couple reside with their Australian Shepherd, Kylee. Paul is an optometrist.



**Lindsay Blank**, '05, '06, to **Lance Melching**, '06, '07, on June 23, 2007. Lindsay is a teacher at Boone County, Ky., High School, and Lance teaches at Two Rivers Middle School. The couple lives in Independence, Ky., with their two dogs, Riley and Tommy. **Lacey Ryan**, '06, to Adam Kilchenman on April 7, 2007. Lacey will graduate in December 2008 with a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy degree from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. **Megan Wise**, '07, to Charles Anthony Bowling on July 14, 2007. Megan has a new job as an eighth grade social studies teacher. The couple makes their home in Beattyville, Ky.

## Junior Alumni

Clare Marie to **Mike Schwendeman**, '79, '84, and Cindy Schwendeman on December 12, 2006.



Lucas Clark to **Rebecca Clark Brothers**, '86, '95, '04, and Tommy Brothers on August 20, 2007. Lucas joins 2-year-old brother Samuel.



Braden Jonah on December 7, 2003, and Luke Christian on August 4, 2006, to **Bradley Craig Lambdin**, '92, and **Dustance Leann Hyslope Lambdin**, '02.

Dane Kevin to **Tara Boh Klute**, '93, and Kevin Klute on May 17, 2007.



Camden Brent Maxim was adopted from Kursk, Russia, by **Kelley Leigh McCowan Tackett**, '93, '95, and Jim Tackett. Camden arrived home March 16, 2006.



Liam Hamilton to **John Hamilton Bland**, '94, and Elizabeth Marie Bland on January 9, 2007.



Jaelyn to **Ronnie Bell**, '95, and Sonya Bell on March 14, 2007. Jaelyn's big brother is Ron Darius.



Andelyn Brooke to **Coni Gray Duning**, '95, and David Duning on August 10, 2007.



Joshua Aaron to **Aaron Cox**, '96, and **Tamala Cole Cox**, '98, on November 18, 2007.

Josiah Alexander to **Katrina Fields Harris**, '96, and Rev. Leslie J. Harris on January 10, 2007.



Alexandria Kathryn to **Lori Hummel Jones**, '96, and **Travis W. Jones** on November 3, 2007. She joins her 4-year-old sister Abigail.



Sarah Caroline was adopted from Guatemala by **Tim Rose**, '96, and Bethany Rose.



Reade Davis to **Tracy Michelle Carmicle Tunstill**, '96, and Duane Carl Tunstill on June 29, 2007. Reade has an older sister, Ashlin, born August 19, 2002, and an older brother, Jacob, born February 16, 2004.



Gavin Brooks to **Christy Brown Rock**, '97, '99, and Troy Rock on December 12, 2007.



Daniel Lewis to **Tracey Ruth Kilgore Bellerjeau**, '98, and Lewis Bryan Bellerjeau on November 7, 2007. Daniel's big brother is Jason.

Lyndsay Ella to **Robert Hartman**, '98, and Susan Hogg Hartman on August 11, 2007.



Lydia Claire to **Jenna M. Kubitskey Simpson**, '98, and Wayne Simpson on May 8, 2007.



Lucas Michael to **Leeann Gay Uebel**, '98, and **Gabriel Harvey Uebel**, '98, '99, on November 1, 2007.



Alexandria Brooke to **Ben Wilcox**, '98, and Angie Wilcox on July 3, 2007.

Hayden Micah to **Josh Broaddus**, '99, '02, and Katie Broaddus on June 22, 2007.



Samuel Everett to **Nathan Iles**, '99, and Erica Iles on January 23, 2008.



Samantha Grace to **Darrell J. Foltz**, '00, and **Dyane Kostek Foltz**, '02, on March 27, 2007.

Jebediah Bryant to **Angela Snow Sayers**, '00, and **David Sayers**, '06, on November 19, 2007.



Jessica Grace to **Christy Michelle Hamilton Larson**, '00, and **Matthew Dean Larson**, '03, on April 19, 2007.



Anna MacKenzie to **Melinda Hall Neltner**, '00, and Jon Neltner on July 12, 2007.



Brandon Thomas and Zachary James, twin boys, to **Amanda MacSwords Stucker**, '00, and Dan Stucker on August 9, 2007.



Riley Brooke to **Robert William Harris**, '01, and Kelly Graf Harris on May 14, 2007.



William Henry to **John Christopher Reynolds**, '01, and Aurea Reynolds on June 21, 2007. William joins big sister Ava Elizabeth.



Kaitlyn Nicole to **Ashley Malinda Kensrue Tyson**, '01, and Ryan Michael Tyson on July 25, 2003. Kaitlyn was joined by sister Ava Ryanne on May 30, 2006.

Alyssa Klaire to **Tracy Lynn Feltner Dixon**, '02, and Mark Aaron Dixon on August 14, 2007. Alyssa was welcomed by her big sister Kailey Brace.



Lilly Katherine to **Joshua C. Davis**, '03, '05, and **Samantha Courtney Davis**, '05, on December 28, 2006.



Benjamin to **Matthew Joseph Keller**, '03, and Amanda Morgerson Keller on September 18, 2007.



Anna Grace to **Kelly Ramsey Winebarger**, '03, '07, and **Jarred Adam Winebarger**, '05, on July 6, 2007.

Krysta to **Michael Wynn**, '03, and Brittany Wynn on June 2, 2007.



Rylee to **Jessica Anne-Marie Cima**, '05, and Ronnie Lee Simpson on January 29, 2007.

Lydia Elizabeth to **Jessica Mullins Willmes**, '05, and Will Willmes on November 15, 2007.



Ava Angela to **Khandan Rezvannjad**, a current ECU graduate student, and **Ferooz Rezvannjad**, '95, on June 21, 2006.

## In Memoriam

**Ray Fritts**, '38, Boca Raton, Fla., died June 4, 2007.

**T. J. Black**, '39, Richmond, Ky., died Jan. 1, 2008. As a student at Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College, he was senior class president and business manager for the *Milestone* yearbook. Upon graduation, he put his business acumen to work on the farm, constantly searching for ways to increase production and improve the return for crops and livestock. He earned several Madison County, Ky., Green Pasture awards and the 1999 Madison County Farm Bureau Agricultural Award for outstanding lifetime contributions to farming.



**Virginia Stith Morgan**, '40, Dunedin, Fla., died Sept. 13, 2007. Morgan grew up on a Ky.

farm but traveled the world as an Army wife, living in Japan for two years with her husband, Dale. Always eager to learn, she agreed to teach a neighbor English in exchange for flower arranging lessons. She was also a horsewoman, played bridge and, at age 70, began tennis lessons. She was a preschool teacher for over a decade and volunteered as an usher at a local performing arts center. **Mayme F. Bales Powers**, '40, Lexington, Ky., died June 16, 2007. Powers, who earned a home economics degree from ECU, retired as assistant director of the Fayette County, Ky., school lunch program. She returned to her *alma mater* to attend many alumni activities over the years. **Madge Wilma Selvey Safriet**, '40, Sebring, Fla., died Dec. 19, 2007. She was a teacher for 32 years in Harlan and Paintsville, Ky. She moved to Sebring in 1983 following retirement. There she was a member of the Garden Club, the Women's Club and the Readers' Club. **Virginia Strohmeier Tinchner**, '46, Auburn, Ala., died Oct. 8, 2007. She taught in the Ft. Knox, Ky., schools, at Elkhorn High School of Frankfort, Ky., and was an elementary physical education teacher in the Auburn, Ala., city schools, from which she received the distinguished service award upon her 1987 retirement. She was an active member of the National Woodcarvers Association and was ruling elder at First Presbyterian Church, Auburn.

**Nancy Riley McClure**, '47, Rochester, N.Y., died July 15, 2007. McClure entered Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College upon high school graduation, but her education was interrupted by World War II, when she completed a special course for engineering assistants and worked for Hamilton Standard Propeller in Hartford, Ct. After the war, she returned to Eastern, earned her B.S. in mathematics, and began working in lens design for Eastman Kodak in Rochester. She retired in 1986.

**Vernon L. Harris**, '48, '50, died Oct. 24, 2007 in Lexington, Ky. A retired school teacher, he dedicated 30 years to the education profession. **Joseph Lambert Rich**, '52, Rio Rancho, N.M., died Aug. 26, 2007. After graduating from ECU, he served with the U.S. Army in Korea before graduating from the University of Cincinnati Law School and being admitted to the Ohio, Kentucky and New Mexico Bar Associations. In addition to being a lawyer in private practice, Rich worked as a special agent for the FBI, an assistant district attorney, and as the southwest regional chief trial attorney for the risk management division of the Navajo Nation. In 1988 he was appointed McKinley County, N.M., district judge, a post he held until his 2006 retirement. **Geneva Wilkerson Owens**, '54, '56, Boerne, Texas, died in Aug. 2007. She was a retired ECU faculty member. **Sarah L. Robinette**, '57, Scottsdale, Ariz., died Nov. 7, 2007. Armed with an ECU biology degree, Robinette performed government research in Washington, D.C., for many years before moving to Arizona, where she opened a health food store. She later founded Sci-Ma Education, a provider of scientific and educational products to schools, which she operated until her 2004 retirement. **Edith Waldroup Withers**, '57, Kings Mountain, Ky., died Nov. 18, 2007. She received both a bachelor's degree and a master's of library science from ECU. She was a teacher and librarian at Kings Mountain School for 39 years and librarian in Waynesburg, Ky. **Virgil Butler**, '58, Hamilton, Ohio, died Feb. 23, 2008. While an undergraduate at ECU, Butler was a center on the varsity basketball team. Following graduation, he entered the U.S. Army Reserve and served as an infantry officer from 1959-69.

A devoted educator for many years, he retired in 1989 from Fairfield School District. He is survived by his wife, **Eleanor Cole Butler**, '61.



**Shelby H. Crowe**, '58, Dayton, Ohio, died Aug. 18, 2007. He earned the bachelor of arts

degree in art education from ECU, where he was voted Mr. Popularity. He went on to receive a master's degree from Miami University and a doctorate from Ohio State University. For 37 years Dr. Crowe was a professor at Wright State University, where he earned multiple Teacher Excellence Awards. **Richard L. "Dick" Horn**, '59, Lexington, Ky., died Jan. 12, 2008. Having earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from ECU, Horn taught and coached football and baseball at Danville, Ky., High School as well as at his *alma mater*. He was a former probation and parole officer and director of highway enforcement for the state of Kentucky. Semi-retired, for the last 11 years Horn was associated with Dever, Inc., which specializes in the golf car and equine service industries. **Vinson Watts, Sr.**, '59, Morehead, Ky., died March 17, 2008. **Clarence Scott**, '60, Somerset, Ky., died Feb. 8, 2008. A veteran of the Korean Conflict, Scott earned a science stipend to attend ECU, where he earned his master's degree. He was a retired educator. **Fred Edwin Meece**, '64, Prestonsburg, Ky., died July 22, 2006 as the result of a car accident. **Needham Saylor**, '65, Wallins Creek, Ky., died March 11, 2008. Saylor earned his master's degree and Rank I Title from ECU and was employed with Harlan County for 44 years as a teacher, coach, principal and superintendent. **Dianna Kay Risk**, '70, Madison, Ind., died Nov. 29, 2007 of pancreatic cancer. She retired from Madison Junior High School, where she was a guidance counselor, last summer. During her career she instituted many innovative programs that steer students away from being bullies and toward achievement. Many of these programs have been copied elsewhere, and Risk's dedication earned her middle school counselor of the year honors from the Indiana Counseling Association in 2002. **J. Carleton Bowling**, '72, Bakersfield, Calif., died Nov. 2,

2007 following a brief illness.



**Kathleen Geist Long**, '83, Signal Mountain, Tenn., died July 18, 2007. After earning her

accounting degree from EKU, Long became a Certified Public Accountant in 1986 and earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Louisiana. She was an assistant professor of accounting at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga for seven years. **Scott Young**, '89, Frankfort, Ky., died July 19, 2007, following a battle with cancer. Scott, a member of Sigma Chi, was a dedicated high school guidance counselor. **Frank Denzinger**, '08, Lanesville, Ind., died June 18, 2007. A law enforcement officer, he was killed in the line of duty.

### Non-degreed Alumni or Alumni of Unknown Class Year

**Krista Lynn Lewis Adams**, Millersville, Md., died March 23, 2008. Adams was an employee of Sylvan Learning Center in Elkridge, Md., and a licensed real estate agent for Long and Foster. At Advent Christian Church she helped with the youth group and sang with the praise team. **Charles E. Beck**, St. Petersburg, Fla., died March 14, 2008. He received an honorary doctor of laws degree from EKU. **Brian Matthew Chic**, Burbank, Calif., died June 21, 2007. Chic attended EKU in the mid 1970s, acting in many theater productions. For 28 years, Chic worked in the Hollywood entertainment system, spending the past 17 years as an employee of Paramount Studios. **Harry Doepke**, Bellevue, Ky., died Oct. 31, 2007. An avid sports fan, he was the Kentucky high school state champion in tennis singles and played basketball for EKU. He was ordained in the Assemblies of God church in 1966. For more than 40 years, Rev. Doepke led Glad Tidings Temple, the church founded by his parents in 1926. He led a Bible study for the church's remaining 20 members the Sunday before his death. **Estill J. Fannin**, Lake Panasoffkee, Fla., died Feb. 27, 2006. He earned a master's degree from EKU and was a retired teacher and principal of the Carter County, Ky., Technical School. Having served in both the U.S. Army and Air Force, he was a lifetime member of the

Disabled American Veterans, was a Kentucky Colonel, and a Mason with over 25 years' service. **Margaret Gabriel**, Stanford, Ky., died Jan. 21, 2008. She was a member of SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church of Danville, Ky. **Martha Lovelace Gray**, Louisville, Ky., died Dec. 9, 2007. She attended both EKU and LaVarenne Cooking School in Paris, France. In addition to being a gourmet cook, she was an avid fisherman and an accomplished interior decorator. **Paul Hickey**, an EKU student killed in a car accident in 1999, was honored on a Rose Parade float sponsored by Donate Life America, an organization that encourages organ donation. Hickey was selected to have his image appear on the float as Kentucky's representative. After the accident, Hickey's heart, liver, kidneys, pancreas, and eyes were donated to individuals from North Carolina to California. **Ryan P. Love**, Harrodsburg, Ky., died Dec. 19, 2007. He was a decorated member of the Army Reserve Unit No. 728 and an Iraq war veteran. Among his recognitions were the Army Commendation Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. **Brenda Carolyn Belcher Mattingly**, Danville, Ky., died Jan. 19, 2008. She was the owner of Brenda's workshop for eight years and Belcher's Upholstery for 18 years. **Jon T. McKeever**, Kettering, Ohio, died March 14, 2008. He retired from Irwin Auger Bit after 30 years. He was a proud member of the Vette-Set Society. **Mary Smoot**, Shelbyville, Ky., died Nov. 26, 2007, ten days after her 100th birthday. A former teacher, she was the last surviving member of her immediate family. **Lena Beatrice Fisk Steinhauser**, Rogersville, Ala., died Oct. 23, 2007. She taught in the Kenton County, Ky., school system from the mid-1940s until her retirement as both sixth grade teacher and principal of Visalia School in 1974. Steinhauser lived on a 208-acre farm from the time she married until 2006, when she was 96. **Gregg Taylor**, Milford, Ohio, died Feb. 5, 2008 of a brain tumor. As a sergeant with the U.S. Air Force's Security Service, Taylor analyzed the military communication of other countries. He toured the Philippines and Japan, playing guitar in rock bands, and traveled the U.S. with Willie

Nelson and country group Alabama as a rigger before working on a shrimp boat in the Gulf of Mexico. In 1985 he joined ITA Audio Visual Solutions as vice president of hotel services.

## Former Faculty and Staff

**Dr. Paul Blanchard**, EKU professor and administrator for 35 years, retired in December. A Foundation professor of government, Blanchard began teaching in the department in 1970 and over the next three decades became a widely sought and highly valued expert on Kentucky government and politics. In 1999 he became the first director of Eastern's Center for Kentucky History and Politics. Since 2003 he served as EKU's executive director for governmental relations, working with local and state leaders as well as the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. **Dr. Don Calitri**, professor emeritus of health promotion and administration at EKU, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. The Foundation seeks to address the health care needs of Kentucky citizens by influencing health policy, reducing health risks and promoting health equity.



**Dr. Robert W. Hartwell**, long-time director of bands at EKU and director emeritus of the Stephen Foster Music Camp, died Feb. 15, 2008. Hartwell helped lead Eastern's

band program to become one of the finest in the region and oversaw the expansion of Foster Music Camp, the second oldest music camp in the nation, from a single emphasis on high school band and orchestra to one serving both middle and high school students and embracing instrumental, piano and vocal instruction. Hartwell retired in 1999 after 32 years with EKU. However, he remained actively engaged as a consultant with the Kentucky Music Educators Association and other groups. Memorial donations may be made to the Dr. Robert W. Hartwell Scholarship for Musical and Leadership Excellence, c/o EKU Foundation, CPO 19A, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, Ky. 40475. **G. Ann Uhlir**, Denton, Texas, died Nov. 28, 2007. Dr. Uhlir was chair of the physical education department at EKU for 14 years, and over the course of her more than 40-year career, was an avid promoter of opportunities for women in sport. She left EKU to become executive director of the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women from 1979-82. She then returned to higher education as dean of the college of health, physical education, recreation and dance at Texas Woman's University. Dr. Uhlir's leadership and dedication to opening doors for women were recognized by many honors and awards. Following her 1996 retirement, she enjoyed international travel, particularly her work with Earthwatch Research Expedition Teams to the Czech Republic, Estonia, Costa Rica and Kenya.

*Eastern Kentucky University congratulates several sister colleges and universities who recently celebrated the inauguration of a new president and thanks the following alumni who represented Eastern at the investiture ceremonies:*

University of Southern Mississippi—Dr. Jeanie Bowman, '66  
Haverford College—Tom Coffey, '65  
Wright State University—W. Michael Conway, '72  
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania—Dr. G. Michael McDavid, '72  
Eastern Illinois University—Dr. John Messer, '72  
Owensboro (Ky.) Community & Technical College—Cheryl Roberts, '76  
Southern College of Optometry—Greg Ryan, '79  
Coastal Carolina University—Paul F. Daniel, '89  
Northeastern Illinois University—Tom Larence, '91





# A PRIME SOURCE

While the late date of Kentucky's presidential primary usually renders its outcome somewhat of a moot point, with Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama slugging it out for the Democratic nomination long after a candidate is typically anointed, this year's May 20 balloting was touted as having real potential to impact the race for the White House. This combined with the everyday drama of state politics found Joe Gershtenson, a professor in Eastern Kentucky University's department of government and director of Eastern's Center for Kentucky History and Politics, fielding multiple calls a week from reporters across the Commonwealth looking for insight and analysis.

The Center serves a variety of purposes, from preserving oral history to citizenship education to providing expert sources for the media on important political topics.

Gershtenson is a prime resource for journalists. As a matter of course, he's quoted in almost every major news story on Kentucky politics, he makes frequent appearances on the statewide public affairs television program, and is a sought after radio talk show guest.

Kentucky politics have never been for the faint of heart, but no matter how volatile the climate, the state's political game is one Joe Gershtenson doesn't mind dealing himself in. He pays no heed to the etiquette mavens who warn that politics don't have a place in polite conversation. Whether a media outlet in need of analysis of the coal severance tax or a local resident wondering about the 25-year age disparity between Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo and his fiancé, Gershtenson will gladly discuss everything from the most controversial of hot button issues to the seemingly mundane.

The Colorado native became entranced by the Commonwealth's political atmosphere when he and his family returned to his wife's home state in 2003 after he completed his doctorate at the University of Texas at Austin. He learned at the feet of now retired ECU director of government relations Paul Blanchard and sees it as part of his mission to share his enthusiasm with others, encouraging them to gain a better understanding of the process of government.

"I don't shy away from anything because, 'Oh my gosh, it's too touchy a subject'," Gershtenson says. "My role as I see it is to bring that academic perspective as non-partisan and objectively as possible."

Gershtenson has tackled matters from gay marriage to abortion to the posting of the Ten Commandments—social issues that evoke fiery response from the public. "These are things people hold very deeply and have strong feelings about, more so than if we talked about education or healthcare," the professor contends. "Those aren't cutting to the very soul of their being quite the same way."

Some argue that the media inflames debate over such issues, sensationalizing the stories in an effort to boost sagging circulation figures and ad revenues. "That's what gets covered because the media is giving people what they want to hear," Gershtenson asserts. Overall, however, he contends that the media strives to be fair but cautions that news outlets are corporate enterprises. "This is something we professors constantly try to communicate to our students—it is a business," Gershtenson maintains. "You have to understand that, for the most part, these are not non-profit entities whose mission it is to better the world. They're driven by advertising, subscription rates, viewership rates."

There is always a concern that repeated negative news coverage will cause people to lose faith in politics. However, although pundits often lament low levels of political trust among Americans, Gershtenson embraces what he refers to as healthy skepticism, asserting that citizens have a vital role to play as watchdogs. Blind trust is not beneficial to a democracy, he declares. It's that assertion that makes ECU's work through the Center for Kentucky History and Politics so vital. "Students aren't nearly active enough, in my mind," he says. "That's one of the major challenges for folks on college campuses—to actively engage younger individuals in political dialogue and encourage their participation." **ECU**



# THIS FALL, HAVE A BALL!

**INAUGURAL CHAMPIONS WEEKEND!  
A SPECIAL WEEKEND FOR ALL FORMER COACHES,  
PLAYERS, TRAINERS AND MANAGERS.**

**SEPTEMBER 5-6  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

**Annual Worn Cleat Club Golf Scramble**

- Tee it up with friends at the early morning Golf Scramble.
- Join us for an evening reception filled with memories and probably a few tall tales.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6**

**Eastern Kentucky University vs. Western Kentucky University  
Kickoff is at 6 p.m.**

- All former players, coaches, managers, and trainers will be introduced by decade prior to kick-off.
- Watch the Colonels tackle the Hilltoppers in what could be the last game in Richmond in this storied rivalry.

Now that WKU has moved to Division 1A in football, NCAA regulations forbid them playing teams from Division 1AA on the road. While the NCAA ponders our request to waive this ruling in light of the long-standing nature of this rivalry, make plans to be here and cheer on the Colonels. Hey, whether it's our last home game against the 'Toppers or not, it's still Western. Need we say more.

- We'll be honoring the 1979 and 1982 National Championship teams at halftime.

# HOMECOMING 2008

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Come back to The Campus Beautiful when the colors are beautiful, the air teases with the first bites of fall and, oh yeah, Colonel football.

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