Early Summer 2015

Published by Otterbein University since 1926

Otterbein Towers
Early Summer 2015

Model Community Connections
Our Character Connects Us

What is it about Otterbein people? I’ve heard many thoughtful observations in response to this question — most of which are variations of personality traits like honest, good and caring.

But I think what differentiates members of the Otterbein community is more than altruistic personality traits. Regardless of one’s geographic or economic circumstances, age, academic course of study or personal interests, the Otterbein spirit is distinguished by the nature of our collective character.

The difference between personality and character was aptly expressed in an article by Alex Lickerman, M.D. He explained that personality traits tend to be the things we can see and judge outwardly about a person’s behavior. Character is harder to determine and oftentimes doesn’t reveal itself until we find ourselves responding to a specific situation. Character comes down to how what we believe influences and guides what we do.

Ultimately, our character as a community comes down to what our students, our faculty and staff, our alumni and our friends do in the big public and small private moments that matter.

Earlier this year, I gave a presentation for Cardinal Health’s Executive Leadership Series. While it was impressive to see how many alumni stood in this group of leaders when I inquired about Otterbein connections, the character of those graduates presented itself beyond sheer numbers in the room. One of our Women and Leadership mentors, who was attending with her student protégé, asked if all of those colleagues who stood would meet with her student after the presentation to talk about career opportunities and job openings for this graduating senior.

This alumna stood tall as she shared with the room how much it means to her to be able to connect with and give back to her alma mater. That moment was more than school pride and networking. Character, in that instance, was expressed through advocacy and a reminder about our responsibility to invest in the potential of the next generation of Otterbein graduates.

We understand the moral backbone of that character in difficult moments, too.

Last summer, many members of the Otterbein community joined in a 5K race to raise funds to create an endowed scholarship in memory of Kyle Miller, a zoo and conservation science major and cross country athlete.

As I talked with many of Kyle’s friends, his classmates, Greek brothers and fellow athletes, I approached a young woman to ask about her connection to Kyle. She said she was just starting at Otterbein as a freshman and read the tragic story about Kyle’s death and the efforts to raise funds to support a scholarship in his memory. She said she was there to help because she would be joining the Otterbein community and getting involved in worthwhile causes from the outset was the right thing to do.

That is the character of the Otterbein community. Quietly standing for what’s right, what matters, advancing a greater good not because you’ve been told to do so but because you want to do so.

I hope you’ll read this issue of Towers closely to find the story of our Otterbein character — from how Cardinals are contributing to the mission of Nationwide Children’s Hospital (page 10), to how we’re rallying around the campaign (page 22), to a quiet hero who stood strong in the face of the Ebola virus to provide historic medical care (page 20).

When you can’t put an exact name on the depth of character of those who lead with integrity, advocate for those who need a champion and influence change for a greater good — think of it as the O Factor. When you meet a fellow Cardinal whose goodness becomes more evident the more you learn about why they do what they do — remember, they, like you, have the O Factor.

And the next time someone asks you, “What is it about Otterbein people?” — just say, it’s our authentic character, it’s the O Factor.

Sincerely,

President Kathy A. Krendl
Features

10 The O Factor: Values Connect Us
Many Otterbein alumni call Nationwide Children’s Hospital their work home. The Otterbein connection is in the shared values.

15 New Series! Faculty-Student Connections
Many alumni choose to honor a professor who helped shape their life. This issue features Professor Albert Lovejoy ’87 and Carol Ventresca ’76.

16 Otterbein Connections from Coast to Coast
Stories of Cardinals from San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

20 From Where I STAND: Fighting Ebola
Tim Mosher ’14 was on the frontline of fighting Ebola, treating Dr. Kent Brantly with the first-ever experimental antibody treatment in a human with the deadly disease.

22 Passing the Torch for the Future
Campaign Chairs Laura and Kent Stuckey ’79 encourage alumni to stand with Otterbein by reconnecting and getting engaged with the University.

About the Cover
There are approximately 125 Otterbein alumni working at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Many say that it’s a natural fit as the two institutions share many of the same values. Some of their stories begin on page 10. Some volunteered to meet with the Towers staff for a photo shoot recently at their downtown location. First row: Erin Tracy Grundy ’04, research associate; Stacey Schall ’10, research assistant; Kathryn Weale ’10, certified athletic trainer; Shareena Rhodes Casey ’04, reachout and read coordinator. Second row: Jennifer Seaman ’96, clinical lead supervisor; John Rosenberger ’98, patient care coordinator; Jessica Buschmann ’09, clinical dietitian for sports medicine; Christine Doepker ’11, registered nurse. Third row: Teresa Tabler Young ’06, business analyst; Denise Ell ’98, supervisor, Molecular Genetics Laboratory; Megan Smith Rodriguez ’07, education coordinator; Sue Barkan ’94, registered nurse and clinical leader.
WE’RE LOOKING FOR
FUTURE CARDINALS!

Tell us about promising, college-bound high school students in your family or in your neighborhood who might find Otterbein a good fit. Please take a few minutes to complete and mail the form below or submit information online at www.otterbein.edu/getinfo. We’ll be happy to send information about Otterbein University and why we’re an up-and-coming ranked institution.

PROSPECTIVE CARDINAL

Student’s name___________________________________________________
Address_________________________________________________________
City _______________________________________ ST ______ Zip_________
Telephone ( )__________________________  ○ male  ○ female
Student’s email___________________________________________________
High School______________________________________________________
Graduation Yr. _____ Academic interest_____________________________

YOUR INFORMATION

Name_________________________ Class YR______
Address_________________________________________________________
City _______________________________________ ST ______ Zip_________
Telephone ( )__________________________
email __________________________________
Your relationship to student_________________________

Please check here if you’re willing to help with student recruitment efforts in your area.

Please return this form in an envelope addressed to:
Ben Shoemaker
Otterbein University
Office of Admission
1 South Grove Street
Westerville 43081

Mission Statement
Otterbein University is an inclusive community dedicated to educating the whole person in the context of humane values. Our mission is to prepare graduates to think deeply and broadly, to engage locally and globally, and to advance their professions and communities. An Otterbein education is distinguished by the intentional blending of the liberal arts and professional studies, combined with a unique approach to integrating direct experience into all learning.

Staff
President of the University
Kathy A. Krendl

Executive Director of Alumni Relations/Editor at Large
Becky Fickel Smith ‘81

Executive Director of Mktg. & Communications/Managing Editor
Jennifer Slager Pearce ‘87

Director of Publications/Chief Designer/Copy Editor
Roger L. Routson

Director of Mktg. & Communications/Associate Editor
Jennifer A. Hill ’05

Senior Messaging Strategist/Associate Editor
Gina M. Calcamuggio

Classnotes/Milestones Editor
Becky Hill May ’78

Photographers
Edward P. Syguda, Janet Adams, Roger Routson

Contributing Writers
Jeff Bell, Gina Calcamuggio, Jenny Hill ‘05, Abby Dawson ’17, Shannon Back 15, Roger Routson, Dana Madden Viglietta ’96

Email:
Classnotes/Milestones: classnotes@otterbein.edu
Editor: rsmith@otterbein.edu

Towers (USPS 413-720) is published two times a year by the Office of Marketing & Communications of Otterbein University, 1 South Grove Street, Westerville 43081.

Otterbein University is committed to providing a workplace that is free from discrimination. Otterbein does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status in admissions, in access to, or in treatment within its educational programs or activities, in employment, recruiting, or policy administration.
Summer 2016 • July 15-24, 2015
(limit of 40 travelers)

Rolling Greens, Country Estates and Royal Castles in England and Scotland • $3,000 plus airfare

Join Otterbein alumni and friends on a 10-day tour of England and Scotland as we travel to majestic castles, relax on train rides and experience royal accommodations. Twelve meals included in the price. Highlights will include a visit to Highclere Castle of Downton Abbey fame.

Summer 2017
Canadian Rockies and Glacier National Park
$3,000 plus airfare (estimated)

Visit five world-renowned national parks during this nine-day tour in the Canadian Rockies and Montana including Waterton Lakes National Park, Kootenay, Jasper and Banff National Parks and Glacier National Park. Highlights feature an Ice Explorer ride on Athabasca Glacier, a scenic lake cruise to Spirit Island, and a trip on a historic 1930s-vintage touring bus over the Going-to-the-Sun Road. Sixteen meals included. Watch for more details at: www.otterbein.edu/alumni/travel.
It’s been a long-standing tradition of the Otterbein Department of Music dating back to 1897 to provide tours for choral singers. These tours were initially limited to central Ohio, but expanded in the 1920s through the 1940s to include all of the United States. In the 1960s, Professor Richard Chamberlain conducted the A Capella Choir and they flourished with performances that included overseas tours.

The tradition is going strong with the current Concert Choir’s annual tour taking them to Ireland in December where they performed at Kilkenny Castle and the Black Abbey Priory in Kilkenny, Chapel of the Sacred Heart in Galway, St. Mary’s Cathedral and the Glenstal Abbey School in Limerick and the Dublin municipal New Year’s Day celebration. The photo at right was taken at Kilkenny Castle. Far left, first row, Gayle Walker, director.

“This entire tour has left me with a huge smile and a full heart. I’m so proud of the level of musicianship that we performed at and the way we touched our audiences. The icing on the cake was experiencing all of this with a group of people that I absolutely adore.”

Josh Dufford ’16

“It was an amazing trip. I had a fantastic time exploring the beauty of Ireland with the best group of people ever! I was so fortunate to go on this incredible trip. Ireland, I hope to see you again soon.”

Dillon Cordray ’15

What are your Otterbein choir tour memories? Where did you go? What did you see? How did the tour open your eyes to the world? Share your stories with us and we’ll compile them and have them for the 2015 Alumni Choir Reunion scheduled at Homecoming 2015. Submit to: alumniinfo@otterbein.edu. Order your CD of the tour for $15 by emailing Gayle Walker at gwalker@otterbein.edu.

“I don’t think I have ever been more proud to be in a musical ensemble as the Otterbein University Concert Choir. It was an incredible, magical experience...”

Kate Bohanan ’16
St. Victoria
by Jordan Abbruzzese ’15

I imagine song in hues
Warm air threaded from my lips
Being pulled by God’s steady hand

Bleeding watercolor forms translucent
stained glass
My throat steams
And I blink oranges, pinks, and blues
Infusing grey, cold stone

Oh, we colored that cathedral
With poems about a virgin rose
Our words filled arches
And with a red glow,
Painted Victoria’s bones.

The poem below was written by Jordan Abbruzzese ’15 and was set to music by Ryan Loth ’15 and the Concert Choir performed it at their last concert of the year.

This Irish rainbow was captured by Timothy Andrews ’15 at the Cliffs of Moher.
This spring, Otterbein launched a new partnership in Marysville, Ohio, to expand opportunities for high school students and adult learners. Otterbein’s partnership with the Marysville Early College High School (MECHS) allows students to earn college credit while enrolled in high school and offers adults an opportunity to enhance their education. MECHS is a school of choice created with $12.5 million in start-up funds from the state of Ohio as part of the Governor’s Straight A Fund.

For high school students, Otterbein offers a fast track to college degree completion. “We have mapped the Career Pathways courses directly to Otterbein’s degree programs,” says Jefferson Blackburn-Smith, vice president for enrollment management at Otterbein. “For example, a student completing the engineering design pathway could start at Otterbein as either a systems engineering or physics student with the equivalent of three semesters of credit in the program, allowing the student to graduate early.”

For adult learners, Otterbein is offering a four-course Organizational Leadership Certificate, taught entirely in the evening for adult learners at the Otterbein-Marysville Innovation Center at MECHS. Additionally, four communication courses will be offered, incorporating a hybrid of in-class and online study.

For more information about MECHS offerings, visit www.otterbein.edu/marysvilleofferings. For more information about the adult programs, visit www.otterbein.edu/marysvilleclasses.
Otterbein Earns Continued National Recognition for Community Service

Since its founding, Otterbein has been committed to serving others for the greater good. Two recent honors demonstrate that community engagement remains important to Otterbein and its students.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) named Otterbein a finalist for the President’s Award for Economic Opportunity Community Service in December. This nationwide designation is part of the 2014 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, which recognizes the institution and its students for their commitment to volunteer service. Otterbein also was recognized “With Distinction” for its commitment to General Community Service and Education Community Service.

Otterbein’s dressage team placed third at the 2015 Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA) National Championships, which Otterbein hosted on April 25-26 at the Austin E. Knowlton Center for Equine Science. Kelsie Bricker ’15 finished the competition as the individual champion for the first level division. Kailey Giancola ’16 finished third in the upper training division and Ashley Jungclas ’16 finished 11th in the introductory level.

At the Championships, Kari Briggs ’03, business manager for the Equine Center, was inducted into the IDA Hall of Fame, which recognizes outstanding service in an administrative capacity in the functioning of the association.

Otterbein’s hunt seat team, the Zone Six reserve champion, placed sixth at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) National Championships, held April 30-May 3 at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, MA.

To learn more about Otterbein’s equestrian teams or Department of Equine Science, visit www.otterbein.edu/equine.

Equine Boasts Two Nationally Ranked Teams

This is the eighth consecutive year Otterbein has been recognized by the White House’s Honor Roll with Distinction. Otterbein won the President’s Award for General Community Service in 2007 and was a finalist for the award in 2006 and 2012.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching honored Otterbein with its 2015 Community Engagement Classification in January 2015. Otterbein is the only Carnegie Master’s University in central Ohio to earn the Community Engagement Classification.

Otterbein’s Center for Community Engagement (CCE) coordinates student volunteerism, service-learning and community-based action research programs, providing students with experiential landscapes to apply their knowledge to pressing issues locally and globally.
More than 350 people attended the Women in Philanthropy Summit: Investing in Women for the Common Good on March 3 and 4 at Otterbein. The summit, helmed by Otterbein President Kathy Krendl, featured keynote speeches by Musimbi Kanyoro, president and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, and Katie Koch, senior portfolio strategist and chief of staff for the Goldman Sachs Asset Management Office of the Chairman, United Kingdom.

Kanyoro discussed women’s roles as agents of change in the world, and in developing nations in particular. Her non-profit, philanthropic organization, the Global Fund for Women, invests in women-led organizations and women’s collective leadership for change in developing nations.

Koch discussed Goldman Sachs’ 10,000 Women program, which provides capital, training and support to women entrepreneurs, enabling them to positively affect emerging economies by starting businesses in developing countries.

Koch said Goldman Sachs’ data shows that “when women do better, the economy does better.” She said that in nations where women are seen as wage earners, men value women more. As a result, women are treated better, their opinions are valued, and they are given the opportunities to participate more actively in social and political realms.

The summit schedule also included roundtables, panels, a world café and networking opportunities, all featuring local women leaders. Otterbein’s summit is the second in a series in partnership with The University of Findlay, which hosted in 2014, and Bowling Green State University, which will host in 2016.


Musimbi Kanyoro, president and CEO of the Global Fund for Women.

Katie Koch, senior portfolio strategist and chief of staff for the Goldman Sachs Asset Management Office of the Chairman, United Kingdom.
It was a warm and sunny weekend, both in weather and in mood, as Otterbein hosted commencement ceremonies for students in the graduate and undergraduate programs on May 2 and 3, respectively. Degrees were given to a total of 95 candidates on Saturday, May 2 — 10 in the doctor of nursing practice program and 85 in master’s programs. Tony R. Wells, chief executive officer of the Tony R. Wells Foundation, addressed the class and received an honorary doctor of public service degree from Otterbein. Wells is a philanthropist who provides technology and social entrepreneurship grants to non-profit organizations through his foundation.

The Class of 2015, with 480 students, was honored on Sunday, May 3. Steve D. Steinour, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated, addressed the class and received an honorary doctor of business administration degree from Otterbein. Steinour’s own daughter, Kaitlin, graduated with the Class of 2015. Steve and his wife, Patti, serve as chairs of the Parents-Community Campaign Committee of the University’s Where We Stand Matters campaign.

View photos of the commencement ceremonies at www.flickr.com/photos/otterbein/albums.

New Basketball Coach Named

The Cardinals have welcomed Brian Oilar to campus as Otterbein’s new head coach for men’s basketball. Oilar, 29, comes to Otterbein from DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, where he has served as men’s basketball assistant coach under Bill Fenlon since 2009. He helped guide the Tigers to a 104-58 record over six seasons, including a Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) East Division title in 2009-10. This past season, DePauw won the North Coast Athletic Conference tournament and advanced into the second round of the NCAA Division III tournament. Oilar was selected from a pool of 250 applicants for the position.

Otterbein Students Learn from Preeminent Scholars

Otterbein students learn from some of the best visiting academic minds. This spring, Otterbein hosted visits by preeminent scholars, including one of the world’s leading scholars on language and identity; a leading researcher of animal behavior; and a renowned Buddhist religious leader. The Vernon L. Pack Scholar-in-Residence Series sponsored a visit by Bonny Norton, professor and distinguished university scholar in the Department of Language and Literacy Education at the University of British Columbia. The George W. and Mildred K. White Science Lecture Series hosted Do Animals Lie?, a lecture by Steve Nowicki, a professor in the department of biology and the department of psychology and neuroscience in Trinity College at Duke University, as well as in the department of neurobiology at Duke University Medical Center. Finally, Otterbein hosted a public talk on Buddhism and Development in Contemporary Tibet, with internationally-respected Tibetan religious leader Khenpo Tsültrim Lodrö. Learn more in our Year in Review at www.otterbein.edu/2015/speakers.
It doesn’t surprise Pam Barber ’78 one bit that more than 125 Otterbein graduates work for Nationwide Children’s Hospital, which has built a reputation as one of the finest pediatric medical centers in the country.

The reason, says the hospital’s long-time director of media relations, is the two institutions share many fundamental values and goals. For example, Barber says that inspiring creativity and discovery, fostering innovation, and encouraging critical thinking and compassion are all elements of Otterbein’s mission of building a model community.

“They also are elements that describe why Nationwide Children’s has become one of the leading pediatric hospitals and research centers in the United States,” she says. “Otterbein grads receive ideal preparation to work at a place like Nationwide Children’s, and it makes perfect sense to me why so many of us have gravitated here.”

Nationwide Children’s has become a model pediatric hospital by any measure. It ranks among U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Children’s Hospitals,” and its Research Institute is in the top 10 for National Institutes of Health funding among pediatric hospitals. Its excellence in caring for sick children was recognized when it became the first freestanding children’s hospital in Ohio to achieve “magnet” status that designates it as a facility that provides world-class patient care and innovation in nursing practice.

Those 125-plus Otterbein alumni are part of a hospital staff that totals nearly 10,000 employees and a medical staff of more than 1,000 doctors and specialists. In addition, Otterbein students regularly serve internships at the hospital, and some get to work with Nationwide Children’s researchers because of connections that Otterbein faculty members have there.

“We are so grateful to be able to partner with them,” says Professor of Chemistry John Tansey, who serves as program director for biochemistry and molecular biology at the University. “Our students benefit from their service and research experiences at Nationwide Children’s, and we produce graduates with the skills and abilities they look for in their employees.”

Here are the stories of five Otterbein alumni who are helping extend Otterbein’s mission of building a model community to Nationwide Children’s and all that it does for those it serves.
Building Stronger Athletes

A moment in time can change the course of a person’s life as Jessica Buschmann ‘09 can readily attest.

For her, that moment came when she was an Otterbein senior serving an internship with Nationwide Children’s Hospital’s Fitness and Nutrition Club that works with schools in underserved neighborhoods. To her surprise, a little boy in the program held up an orange and asked her, “What is this?”

“It was life-changing for me,” Buschmann recalls, saying that experience convinced her to shift her sights from a career in athletic training — her major at Otterbein — to educating people about proper nutrition and healthy eating habits.

Today, she gets to mix both worlds as a registered dietitian for the Sports Medicine Department at Nationwide Children’s.

The position was created for her in 2012 shortly after she earned a master’s degree in sports nutrition and exercise science from Marywood University in Scranton, PA.

Buschmann works one-on-one with patients ranging from 6-year-olds to college athletes. Some are underweight or overweight. Some suffer from diabetes or chronic injuries that may be related to diet. All look to her for help on ways to improve their nutrition and become healthier athletes.

Jessica Buschmann ‘09, clinical dietitian for sports and medicine, works with patients ranging from 6-year-olds to college athletes at various locations, including the Westerville Children’s Close to Home Center.


Jessica Buschmann ‘09
Buschmann also leads cooking classes and makes presentations on nutrition at high schools and other venues. She sees patients at five locations and works with nine doctors and 35 athletic trainers in the Sports Medicine Department.

She says the lessons she learned from faculty members, including Joan Rocks, Shelley Payne, Joe Wilkins and Charles Goodwin, in Otterbein's Department of Health and Sports Sciences, helped her better understand the work done by her sport medicine colleagues at Nationwide Children's.

In addition, Buschmann's Otterbein education has helped her grasp the cultural and economic differences among the diverse mix of patients she sees.

"The liberal arts classes helped open my mind to that," Buschmann said. "They definitely provided me with a more well-rounded perspective of the world."

Supporting Cancer Clinical Trials
Denise Baker Ell '98 has visited most of the departments at Nationwide Children's Hospital, and it's not solely because of the work she does as molecular specialist at the medical center.

In 2011, Ell's 4-year-old daughter, Hailey, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. She was admitted to Nationwide Children's where she began receiving intensive treatment in the hospital's oncology unit.

“Our world changed forever,” Ell says of a medical odyssey for Hailey that included long hospital stays, chemotherapy and constant vigilance to avoid being around others who were sick.

Ell says her daughter has handled her treatment remarkably well and remains in remission. While the experience was traumatic for Ell, her husband, Jim, and their other three children, it reinforced her belief in the extraordinary work done at Nationwide Children's.

“I’m constantly amazed by the people who work here,” Ell says. “They are patient, loving and kind. Their first focus is to help the kids be comfortable and feel better.”

She also says the whole experience has reinforced her belief in the importance of the work she does as supervisor in the Molecular Genetics Laboratory. The lab coordinates, prepares and distributes pediatric and adult cancer samples that are banked at Nationwide Children's for future research.

“The specimens we bank now could eventually improve the treatment of children with cancer,” says Ell, who has worked at the hospital for 11 years. “It makes me feel good knowing what I do can help sick kids and give them a better chance of surviving and improve their quality of life.”

A life sciences major at Otterbein, Ell says the passion for science by professors such as Michael Hoggarh and Jeffrey Lehman continues to influence her work at the hospital.

“They set a good example for me to put my heart and soul into what I’m doing,” she says.

And Ell doesn’t have to look hard to see Otterbein’s presence at Nationwide Children's. She has worked on a regular basis with fellow alumnae Heather Richard Jenkins '02, Teresa Young Tabler ‘06 and
Erin Tracy Grundy ’04. In addition, her manager, Yvonne Gonzalez Moyer ’80, attended Otterbein in the 1970s.

Developing Relationships

David Riepenhoff ’99 thinks the good work he does on behalf of Nationwide Children’s Hospital is a reflection of the sense of community engagement that is instilled in Otterbein students and its graduates.

“My feeling is that Otterbein educates the whole person,” he says, “and that includes developing a greater awareness of our obligation to the community.”

For Riepenhoff, that has meant serving as a member of the Development Board at Nationwide Children’s for the past 10 years. As a subset of the Nationwide Children’s Hospital Foundation, the board is comprised of more than 170 volunteers from the business community who work on fundraising projects to support various programs at the hospital.

“The board helps develop business and philanthropic relationships for the hospital and also provides funds for programs that may not exist otherwise,” Riepenhoff says, noting they include programs in patient care and medical research.

He got involved with the hospital after he and college friend, Brian Moore ’00, decided they wanted to do more to give back to the community and were able to land spots on the Development Board in 2005. Today, Riepenhoff serves on the board with Otterbein alumni Janine Wiley Robinson ’99 and Dawn Mamula Stewart ’98, plus faculty member Patty Hohlbein.

Riepenhoff has taken a leadership role on the Development Board, serving as its treasurer, vice president and then president in 2012. That year, the board raised more than $700,000 and created two new fundraising events, including the popular Great Scioto Duck Race in which thousands of plastic ducks raced down the Scioto River.

Riepenhoff says he derives great satisfaction from volunteering his time to help an institution that does so much good for sick children and the community as a whole.

“Nationwide Children’s is really one of our greatest community assets,” he says. “It’s a world-class hospital with a world-class staff, and it is right here and accessible for all the children in our community.”

Providing Passionate Care

Otterbein and Nationwide Children’s Hospital have helped make a dream come true for Kayla Koontz Hollinger ’07.

Growing up in a small town near Canton, Ohio, she knew at an early age that she wanted to become a nurse. Part of it was the example set by her mother, who worked as a medical assistant. But much of it was due to Hollinger’s deep-rooted belief in the importance of helping others.

“I feel I’m a caring person,” she says. “and you have to really care about people to be a good nurse.”

Hollinger was drawn to Otterbein because of its first-rate nursing program — and the fact it had a marching band in which she could continue to pursue her interest in music. But the nursing program was her principal focus, and her achievements in it helped her land a job as a patient-care assistant in a work-study program at Nationwide Children’s in 2006 while she was still a student.

Hollinger has been with the hospital ever since then. She now works as a night-shift nurse, providing the sort of compassionate patient care that is the hospital’s hallmark.

“I knew from the work-study program that working with children was my ultimate goal as a nurse,” she says, “and that I wanted to impact children’s lives in a positive way. I really like taking care of the kids. They are so funny and resilient. I love trying to make them smile when they are scared.”

Hollinger also says that the education, values and experiences she had at Otterbein continue to influence her approach to her work and her life.

“Otterbein has made me a better nurse because of the quality of the
“Otterbein has made me a better nurse because of the quality of the education that I received.”

Kayla Koontz Hollinger ’07

education that I received,” she says. “I am definitely proud when I say I went to Otterbein because I know I am a better person and nurse because of it.”

Singing and Reading with Families

Nationwide Children’s Hospital may seem an unlikely place for a talented singer to find her career niche, but that is exactly what’s happened for Shareena Rhodes Casey ’04.

Casey serves as outreach coordinator for the Reach Out and Read initiative at the hospital. One of more than 5,000 such programs across the country, Reach Out and Read encourages literacy activities in the home with a focus on families living in poverty.

Casey was hired six years ago to implement a music curriculum for the hospital’s program. The project was certainly in her wheelhouse. She combined a business management major with a music minor at Otterbein where she sang in the Women’s Chorale and musical theater productions. After graduation, she worked in the music business in Nashville and sang in a band.

“But I wanted to lay down roots,” Casey recalls, adding that her fond memories of Otterbein helped draw her back to central Ohio and the job at Nationwide Children’s.

Today, the music curriculum she developed for Reach Out and Read is employed by volunteers who engage children and families in the hospital’s primary-care centers. Casey is also involved in the reading side of a program in which pediatricians during patient well visits give developmentally appropriate books to children from six months to 5-years-old and counsel parents about the importance of reading to their children.

“Many of these kids are at the greatest risk of academic failure,” she says. “They may not have books in their home. Our doctors talk with parents about the importance of instilling a culture of literacy in the household.”

Casey says she deeply connects with Nationwide Children’s mission of providing the highest quality of care for children regardless of their family’s ability to pay. Part of that goes back to her time at Otterbein, with Casey remembering that one of her first experiences as a freshman was seeing lines of tables set up on the lawn between Roush and Towers halls by organizations in need of volunteers.

“Otterbein instills a culture of giving back by volunteering and taking care of the community we live in,” she says. “Now I get to work for Nationwide Children’s, which does much the same thing.”

“Otterbein instills a culture of giving back by volunteering and taking care of the community we live in. Now I get to work for Nationwide Children’s, which does much the same thing.”

Shareena Rhodes Casey ’04

14 | Otterbein Towers | Early Summer 2015
Relationships between Otterbein professors and their students are among the most powerful Otterbein connections we share. We remember the mentor who saw more in us than we imagined possible or the professor who helped us understand a truth that guides us to this day. When you value community like Otterbein people do — you feel compelled to honor that impact in a way that has meaning.

This new Towers series will celebrate the many alumni who choose to honor faculty and other mentors who stood out during their education.

"Albert Lovejoy made a significant impact on his students. He loved to help students succeed and students could rely on him always. He had a firm belief in looking at everything from a global perspective and the importance of making the world a better place," remembers Carol Ventresca ’76.

As a sociology and psychology double major, Ventresca took classes from Lovejoy each of her four years on campus, but her admiration for him extended well beyond her years at Otterbein.

"Professor Lovejoy was the sweetest man you’ve ever met," said Ventresca who first met the sociology professor and chair in 1972. She remembers how much he inspired many of his students with his enthusiasm in the classroom and passion for sociology.

When Ventresca turned to Lovejoy for guidance as her graduation neared, he encouraged her to continue her education and helped get into a graduate program at The Ohio State University. She earned her doctorate degree in sociology and business in 1981.

Ventresca stayed in touch with Lovejoy and began to discuss the establishment of an award for Otterbein sociology students in his name. She led the charge, with the help of then new sociology chair, Eva Sebo, and fellow alumni.

The Albert E. Lovejoy Award in Sociology was first awarded in 1988, after Lovejoy retired having shared 31 years of devoted service to Otterbein and its students. Lovejoy was able to see his namesake award assist a decade of students before he died in 2009.

The 2015 recipients of the Albert E. Lovejoy Award in Sociology, Thomas Gillotte Sr. ’16 and Brenna Helm ’17, say the scholarship is not only motivational — it models the care and responsibility of those students who come before them.

"Winning the award really motivated me to step up as a member of the Otterbein community as well as within the department itself," said Helm. "Awards like this one really put it into perspective that alumni care about the students following in their footsteps."

“I find value in being recognized by the professors in the department as an individual that is committed to my education and as someone who sets an example of leadership to my peers," said Gillotte.

“Being a non-traditional student — meaning that I am an adult in my 40s with a family and I decided to pursue my education — this award was very reassuring to me that I made the right decision to attend Otterbein," he added.

Ventresca is glad to see the award’s impact on both recipients and Lovejoy’s legacy.

"This prize is a great way to thank Albert Lovejoy and keep his beliefs moving for students. He always hoped students would use what they had learned to make the world a better place, and we hope this prize can help accomplish that."

Carol Ventresca ’76, Professor Albert Lovejoy ‘H87, Eunice Lovejoy and Carol’s cousin, Elaine Logsdon.
Otterbein University has more than 24,000 alumni living across the United States and around the world. Outside of central Ohio, there are a handful of cities where Cardinals flock in especially large numbers. San Francisco and Washington, D.C., are two of those cities where many alumni have found home, applying what they learned at Otterbein to make a difference in their communities and careers.

San Francisco, California

For many, including alumni on the 20th Annual Otterbein Cardinal Migration in March 2014, San Francisco is a fascinating and scenic vacation destination. For 77 alumni, including three who hosted the Cardinal Migration guests at an event, San Francisco is home.

Nikki Buran-Padovano ’98 is an Ohio native, born and raised in the Cleveland and Cincinnati areas. For Buran-Padovano, Otterbein was a home away from home where she could obtain the full experience of college including academics, athletics, service and friendships. Not only was Otterbein a place where she felt supported, it was a place that pushed her to be the best version of herself.

At Otterbein, Buran-Padovano was a pre-professional sciences major, a student-athlete on the women’s tennis team and a member of Sigma Alpha Tau sorority. Despite her busy schedule, she also established a mentoring program with Indianola Middle School to bring at-risk middle school children together with Otterbein students.

“I experienced so many life lessons while at Otterbein,” explained Buran-Padovano. “It was where I really started to grow up, discover my strengths, realize my interests and make decisions on my own. I got to explore my passion for the sciences, as well as expose myself to the arts. Socially, it was a place I felt comfortable and included — a place where I was exposed to diverse thinking and different lifestyles.”

Five years ago, Buran-Padovano moved to San Francisco with her husband. She now works as an account executive for Wilson Dow Group, an agency exclusive to the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry.

“San Francisco offers diversity like none other — a fast-paced energy, with a laid-back undertone where you can take advantage of the weather and the fabulous wine,” Buran-Padovano said.

Ben Patterson ’06 works as an associate in the Litigation Department of Morrison & Foerster, LLP, and credits much of his

Left: Nikki Buran-Padovano ’98 clowns with Stomper, the mascot for the Oakland Athletics. Right: Ben Patterson ’06 near the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge in the background.
success to his Otterbein education. While studying economics and political science at Otterbein, many of Patterson’s professors became his mentors. They encouraged internships and study abroad opportunities that helped him grow as a student and individual. Patterson spent a summer in Cambridge, England, through a program offered by the University of California, Irvine, and traveled to Vienna, Austria, as part of his Senior Year Experience class at Otterbein.

These opportunities gave him the confidence to branch out. After attending law school at the University of Michigan, Patterson moved to San Francisco. “San Francisco is a great city,” explained Patterson. “It has the benefits of a big city but is less overwhelming than places such as New York City or Los Angeles.”

A Michigan native, Sadie Bartholomew Ingle ’07 is a Midwesterner at heart, but has made herself at home in San Francisco with her husband. Ingle originally came to Otterbein for equine science, but ultimately found her niche in biochemistry and molecular biology.

“Otterbein provided an environment in which I could find my passions, be myself, and be confident in these,” said Ingle. “Even as a scientist, I found the liberal arts approach was profoundly useful. Otterbein prepared me for life by having a diversity of academic pursuits and challenging me to think outside my comfortable science-y box.”

Like Patterson, Ingle also credits her professional success to Otterbein’s personal, yet rigorous, education and the experiences that she received during her time as a student. Ingle said that working in John Tansey’s biochemistry lab was an opportunity that taught her what research is, why it is important and how to be a successful scientist.

Ingle also learned leadership at Otterbein. She was a student member of the Otterbein Board of Trustees and participated in faculty searches, which
allowed her to play a role in the selection of the next generation of professors.

After graduation, Ingle pursued her doctorate degree at Stanford University, studying how molecular motors translate the cell’s chemical energy (ATP) into mechanical energy.

Wanting to use her training to have a more direct impact on human health, she then joined a company called MyoKardia in San Francisco, where she currently uses her experience with myosin motors to develop new therapeutics to treat genetic heart disease.

The diversity of the minds, backgrounds and perspectives are just a few of the things Ingle loves about the Bay Area.

Washington, D.C.

Across the country in the metro area of Washington, D.C., more than 270 Otterbein University alumni have built their nests.

Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington ’07 came to Otterbein an international student from Sri Lanka. Although her aunt was already living in the U.S. and teaching at The Ohio State University, Nanayakkara-Skillington and her sister, Ashika, chose Otterbein because it was similar in size to their high school.

Otterbein allowed for Nanayakkara-Skillington to feel at home even though her country was thousands of miles away. She met with students from diverse backgrounds, engaged in small classes that gave her the opportunity to get to know her professors and peers and traveled across the U.S.

“The trips I went on with the International Student Office and Honors Thesis class made me love traveling around the U.S.,” said Nanayakkara-Skillington. “So far I’ve been to 21 states and I just returned from a road trip from San Francisco to Seattle over a 12-day period with my husband. Living in Westerville brought its own small-town American experience, which I loved and miss now that I live in Washington, D.C.”

After graduating from Otterbein, Nanayakkara-Skillington moved to Maryland to attend graduate school at John Hopkins University, where she studied applied economics. She now works as a senior economic analyst for the National Automobile Dealers Association.

Although she often misses the small town feel of Westerville, she loves living in Washington, D.C., with its countless museums and attractions. In addition, Washington, D.C., is home to the Sri Lankan embassy, which organizes many events throughout the year for the considerable Sri Lankan community living in her area.

Ian Stublarec ’04 also lives in the nation’s capital. For Stublarec, Otterbein was a place where he learned to go above and beyond. “During my time at Otterbein, it truly seemed that professors pushed you to be your very best and were honestly disappointed if they didn’t think you were pushing yourself intellectually to your limits.”

Stublarec was also involved in Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, which he considers a pivotal attribute to his accomplishments at Otterbein. Stublarec said Otterbein and Pi Kappa Phi allowed him to be more comfortable in a room full of strangers, gave him the ability to think quickly on his feet, taught him responsibility and accountability and exposed him to people who held different views than his own.

After graduating from Otterbein with a degree in political science, Stublarec returned to his hometown of Youngstown, Ohio, where he ran for political office in 2006. He did not win the election, but refused to allow defeat to get the best of him. He learned that putting yourself out there and working really hard sometimes means losing, while learning a lot about politics and yourself in the process. In 2008, Stublarec decided it was time for a change and moved to Washington, D.C., where he now works as a political action representative for the International Association of Fire Fighters. He lives less than a mile from the White House.

“Between fairs, festivals and the like, there is always something to do on the National Mall or at one of the world class museums that surround it,” said Stublarec.

Michael Papadales ’05, originally from Seattle, was introduced to Otterbein by a family friend.

As a business major at Otterbein, he appreciated that his professors got to know each of their students on a personal level and recognized that they were all unique and valuable. Professor Allen Prindle, in particular, saw the potential in Papadales and pushed him out of his comfort zone. Prindle mentored Papadales and encouraged him to study abroad and share his experiences with his fellow classmates.

“I valued the fact that my professors and advisors wanted to help me craft my
own path — they found ways to get me to find the opportunities that would allow me to achieve my goals, while also pushing me to continue developing through new experiences,” said Papadales.

The opportunity to study abroad in Maastricht, Netherlands, equipped Papadales with tools for the real world and developed within him a love for traveling that he is able to continue to pursue in his position now. This opportunity also tamed Papadales’ fear of public speaking and enabled him with confidence and skills he uses on a daily basis in his career.

“Otterbein reinforced the importance of challenging yourself and the value of hard work,” said Papadales. “Otterbein also taught me the importance of the people around you and teamwork. Very rarely can you accomplish something in the business world without the help and contributions of those around you.”

After graduating from Otterbein, Papadales moved to Washington, D.C., to work for Avascent, a management and strategy consulting firm where he had served as a college intern. Papadales is a senior associate at Avascent and is often able to combine work and travel for pleasure, having had the opportunity to visit Australia, United Arab Emirates, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom.

Papadales enjoys living in D.C. because it is a crossroads for government and a thriving business community. “I love the international culture and experiences that the city offers—I get to meet people from all over the world and from diverse backgrounds,” shared Papadales.

No matter where they are living or working, Otterbein alumni are putting their skills acquired from their Otterbein educations to work. The valuable lessons and tools that graduates takes with them from Otterbein have a tremendous impact regardless of the location — continent to continent, country to country, coast to coast.

“THE TRIPS I WENT ON WITH THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE AND HONORS THESIS CLASS MADE ME LOVE TRAVELING AROUND THE UNITED STATES.”

Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington ’07

Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington ’07 with the national Christmas tree at the White House.
"It was surreal knowing that millions of people around the world were watching and waiting."
The sweat begins flowing immediately as a heightened sense of purpose and foreboding pushes me forward. Rubber gloves, protective suit, hood and double face mask swallows my body in preparation to work in a sweltering, humid, African jungle clinic. Is this for real?

Just two months prior to this day, I was joyously receiving my master’s degree in nursing to become a nurse practitioner at age 52. Who could imagine that very shortly I would have the opportunity to epitomize Otterbein’s mission of preparing students to “engage locally and globally?” God certainly knew, and had already given me decades of experience in crisis situations to pave the way for my new skills to meet a historic global opportunity.

The call came. “Can you go to Liberia to treat Ebola?” Normally, a “yes” rolls off the tongue without hesitation, but not this time. A 90 percent mortality rate without treatment requires a great deal of consideration. An evaluation of time, resources, skills, experience and calling makes clear that “yes” is the only option—to whom much is given, much is required. I could not turn away from those in dire circumstances and physical anguish. God would carry me through the storm.

In spite of my rapid heart rate and hard breathing, I am able to begin focusing my mind on the task at hand. My vision narrows and anxiety lessens as we pass through the gated entrance of the clinic and into its unlit hallways. Discomfort pales in comparison to the horrors of Ebola. I begin to see for the first time: Yes, this is for real.

Later in this trip I was part of the first-ever infusion of an experimental antibody into a human for the treatment of Ebola. In the confines of his bedroom, we battled for the life of Dr. Kent Brantly, giving the serum in what seemed like his final hours. It was surreal knowing that millions of people around the world were watching and waiting. Within hours his body responded, and he was safely on his way to America, to survive and tell his unique story.

Even though I was a freshly minted nurse practitioner, the pathophysiologic and pharmacokinetic approach to education provided by Otterbein gave me the confidence I needed to function in this unusual clinical setting. The statement is true: Success happens when preparation meets opportunity.

The cutting-edge work of this team resulted in a breakthrough in Ebola treatment that has the potential to change the course of this dreaded disease forever.

From where I stand, to have an impact a person has to engage. Get busy, do something for someone and see what might happen.

Tim Mosher MSN ’14
Passing the Torch for the Future

I always appreciate when President Kathy Krendl reminds others that “the world needs what Otterbein graduates are uniquely prepared to contribute now more than ever.”

I couldn’t agree more. Otterbein graduates stand out among their peers — for the intentional, smartly blended complement of knowledge, experience and values they command. The world is indeed in need of the integrity and leadership qualities that define Otterbein alumni.

When I think of what we’re trying to accomplish with the “Where We STAND Matters” campaign, I know that by investing in our students first we will help make sure the world benefits from more Otterbein leaders. It also occurs to me that with a slight adjustment, Dr. Krendl’s observation captures the same opportunity that Laura and I want to communicate to the Otterbein community as the campaign chairs:

Otterbein needs its alumni and friends now more than ever.

To ensure that Otterbein stands strong into the future, we will need the support of our entire Otterbein community and family. Without question, we find ourselves challenged by one of the most disruptive periods in higher education’s history. Economic, demographic, and technology influences are writing and rewriting the rules every day. I believe, however, that with disruption comes opportunity, and I can attest that Otterbein is doing the right thing to be positioned well for the future.

I’ve had constant reminders of what this campaign stands to do. Comprehensive campaigns such as this one accomplish more than funding priorities. These endeavors offer a moment to pass the torch for the future—for new leaders to step forward and advance the institution for the good of future generations of students.

When Laura and I agreed to chair the campaign, I expressed my admiration for Bill LeMay ’48 and Helen Hilt LeMay ’47 and the success of the last major campaign that Bill led between 1993 and 1998. He served on the board between 1971 and 2007, with seven years as its chairman. His leadership transformed our school and community at a critical time.

When we met with Bill and Helen a few months ago, I was keen to garner whatever advice Bill could share on leadership of the campaign. Among his key points, he urged us to identify and engage people that share our interest in the Otterbein community. “They will naturally do what they can to help Otterbein thrive and build the foundation for our future,” said Bill. He also encouraged us to share concrete priorities of the campaign, so they specifically understand what they are supporting.

I appreciate Bill’s advice and take it to heart. You can count on those kinds of specifics from Laura and me as we move forward. Whether news of our progress toward our goal or success stories made possible by those who decide to stand with us—it’s important you know how we’re working together to secure Otterbein’s future.

As far as engaging with those who share a commitment to Otterbein, I had an important conversation with alumni from the ’70s and ’80s and with fellow trustees during Alumni Weekend. It was evident that what Otterbein stands for on the higher education landscape truly matters.

We discussed the value of the Otterbein experience; the critical preparations of a well-rounded liberal arts education blended with professional studies; the individualized attention and direct engagement; and the values shared by this community. We agreed that Otterbein prepared each of us to realize the people we were capable of becoming. If you’re interested in hearing more of this discussion, I invite you to watch it online at www.otterbein.edu/STAND.

We’re also starting a short video series that brings the University’s mission and vision to life from the unique place that Otterbein champions stand in relation to this institution. The first chapters of this series include a historic conversation among the two presidents emeritus, Drs. Thomas Kerr and C. Brent DeVore,
and current president, Dr. Kathy Kreidl, from the place all three have called home. Don’t miss this series and the presidential perspective of why Otterbein matters.

It’s clear to me that this is our time to invest in Otterbein—like Bill and Helen LeMay did for us. This is the work of our generation and as fellow trustee David Fisher ’75 observed, “All of us can do something. Otterbein is our past but it’s also the future of our society.”

I urge you to join us—to stand with Otterbein in support—by volunteering, by reconnecting, by getting involved, by creating opportunities and by giving. I also welcome your feedback, your stories and your hopes for the future at my Otterbein email, campaignchair@otterbein.edu.

We stand ready to make history for Otterbein—but we’ll only succeed with your support.

**Laura and Kent Stuckey ’79, Campaign Chairs**

“**The world is indeed in need of the integrity and leadership qualities that define Otterbein alumni.**”

**Kent Stuckey ’79**

---

**Campaign Priorities**
- Building a Model Community
- Campus Renewal
- Access and Affordability

Visit www.otterbein.edu/STAND to read how Dick LeGrand ’62 and Nevylan Fritsche Nevil ’71 are standing with Otterbein; watch the first installment of a new series, Presidential Perspective and listen in on the historic conversation between Drs. Brent DeVore, Thomas Kerr and Kathy Kreidl; and learn more about where board members from the ’70s hope Otterbein will stand for years to come.
Rebecca Grimes ’75 of WHIO-TV and Cox Media Group Ohio was awarded “Best Producer” by the Ohio Society of Professional Journalists for her work producing a prime time special, Miami Valley Murder Mysteries. The program profiled four unsolved homicides recently reopened by cold case detectives. She is currently the manager of special projects at Cox Media Group Ohio in Dayton.

Stephen Jones ’75 was named a 2015 Ohio Super Lawyer in the field of business litigation. This is the second year in a row he received this honor.

Alice Heft Hoover ’61, historical dramatist, portrayed Mary Compton in the lecture, Mary Compton’s Memories at Roscoe Village, Coshocton, OH, in March. She portrays Compton as an 1800s Roscoe Village resident, sharing what everyday life was like in the area during the golden age of the Ohio Erie Canal.

Connie Hellworth Leonard ’63 represented Otterbein at the inauguration of Thomas Kruczek of Notre Dame College, Euclid, OH, in November 2014.

Lance Lord ’68 has joined the board of directors at GenCorp Inc., a manufacturer of aerospace and defense systems.

Kay Hedding Mitchell ’68 hosted the 46th reunion of the “OC Gals and Pals.” This group of friends from the class of 1968 met during their freshman year in 1964 in Clements Hall and have continued to stay in touch through the years. Pictured in the reunion photo, front row: Sonja Good Tweedle and Kay; middle row: Jan Coe Noah, Diane Haverkamp McDowell and Terra Baker McCanney; back row: Sharon Anthony, Sandy Hartsough Turner and Linda Keim Huseman. The smaller photo is from their graduation.

Cheryn Alten Houston ’73 hosted the annual reunion of the class of 1973 music majors in November 2014, at her home in Dublin, OH. Vicky Sinclair Capper, Bob Day, Debbie Sahr Munsch, Daniel Clark, Cheryn, David Leist and Helen Herbst.
Jeff Ankrom '78 is the new assistant provost for strategy and planning in the Division of Academic Affairs at Otterbein.

Peggy Miller Ruhlin '79 is the chief executive officer of Budros, Ruhlin & Roe, Inc. She currently serves on the Schwab Advisor Services Advisory Board.

Daniel Pohl '81 represented Otterbein University at President Drake’s investiture at The Ohio State University in March 2015.

Brook McDonald ‘83 is chairman of the DuPage County (IL) Trails Council and also is currently serving as president of the Prairie State Conservation Coalition, a statewide association of conservation land trusts. He was awarded the Nonprofit Executive of the Year by West Suburban Philanthropic Network, which recognizes individuals,

foundations and corporations for philanthropic leadership. He is the president and CEO of The Conservation Foundation, one of the largest and oldest private conservation organizations with more than 4,000 members and 500 volunteers. Their work is focused in Illinois.

Karen Middendorf ‘83 retired from the Franklin County Sheriff’s office after more than 30 years. She is now a volunteer with Columbus Literacy Council.

Don Miller ‘84 is the new director of orientation at Wright State University, Dayton, OH.

Janet Vanditti Hall ‘85, MBA ‘03 was elected to a two-year position as secretary of the Project Management Institute Central Ohio Chapter (PMICOC). Her term began in January.

Erin Workman Tshanen ’87, vice president and commercial lender with Park National Bank, received the Ohio Statewide Development Corporation 2014 Lender of the Year Award. She has worked in banking for more than 17 years, including seven years with PNB.

Dan Gifford ‘88 is executive vice president and chief financial officer at Information Control Company, an IT consulting firm in Columbus.

Beth Slattery ’90 is a store manager for Ross Stores, Inc., Tampa, FL. Ross offers discounted designer and brand name fashions for men, women, kids and home.

Melissa Crohen ’95 chaired her first fundraiser for Focus on Abilities, a political action committee raising funds for the Board of Developmental Disabilities levy in Delaware, OH. This was her way of paying back the community for the services her son has received since the age of 18 months.

Submit your classnote online at: www.otterbein.edu/classnotes

Online forms are available to submit new jobs, family additions, awards and all of those other life changes. Photos can also be included, just follow the easy steps. Please remember that photos used on the web may not be of good enough quality for print use. Photos should be high resolution, which means the SHORTEST side should be at least 800 pixels long.

Gwen Swigart Nichols ‘93 is president of Nichols & Company CPAs, located in Westerville and serving clients throughout central Ohio. Joining her is Wes Harman ’02, accounting manager.
Paul David Robinson ‘67 has published *Before My Shotgun Wedding*, the story of two best friends supporting each other in the Kentucky mountains in the 1950s.

Leroy Gill ‘69 has published a cartoon book, *You Amuse Yourself*. The cartoons involve puns, word play, old familiar sayings and just funny ideas.

Mike Thomas ‘76 has co-authored a book, *The Best Teacher in You: How to Accelerate Learning and Change Lives*. The book provides practical tools and strategies to help teachers get the most from their students.

Craig Merz ‘82 co-authored a book with David Paitson, *Chill Factor: How a Minor-League Hockey Team Changed a City Forever*. It’s the story of how the Chill gained local fan base success and based on that success attracted an NHL team to Columbus. Merz, a 25-year veteran reporter for *The Columbus Dispatch*, is now a freelance writer for the Associated Press, MLSsoccer.com, Buckeye Sports Bulletin and Columbus Monthly among others.

Kelley Grant-Kelley ‘93 has published the first of a three-book epic fantasy series, *Desert Rising*. It tells the story of a young woman from the desert who moves to The Temple at Illian to fulfill her calling. *The Obsidian Temple* will follow in July 2015. She was a featured author at Chicago’s Comic and Entertainment Expo in April 2015.

Shawna Ray ‘95 has published a book, *Take a Trip to Diverse City*. The rhyming picture book encourages children to accept and celebrate one another while welcoming cultural diversity.

Sara Rinfret ‘03 has co-authored, with Michelle Pautz, her second book, *U.S. Environmental Policy in Action*, available from Palgrave Macmillan. The book provides a comprehensive look at the creation, implementation and evaluation of environmental policy. She is an assistant professor of political science at Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY.

Have you written and published a book? Let us know at classnotes@otterbein.edu. Send us a high-resolution photo of yourself and the book cover. Let all your Otterbein classmates know of your publishing success.

Sara Rinfret ‘03 has co-authored, with Michelle Pautz, her second book, *U.S. Environmental Policy in Action*, available from Palgrave Macmillan. The book provides a comprehensive look at the creation, implementation and evaluation of environmental policy. She is an assistant professor of political science at Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY.

Jenna Letzter ‘11 has published *How to Rescue a Horse*, a collection of first-hand stories told from the horses themselves. With over 20 years of riding and training experience, she is now adoption coordinator for the Hooved Animal Humane Society, Woodstock, IL.

Sean Billingslea ‘02 has published his first book, *Arkrames, The Orpheus Quest*. More than anything, Arkrames dreams of being a warrior like his heroes such as Perseus, Achilles and Hercules. He sets out on an adventure that could bring him admiration or total ruin.

Jefferson Blackburn-Smith, vice president for enrollment management, has published his third novel, *Forgiveness*. A wartime drama set in the Balkan nations, the book centers around the relationship of a brutal concentration camp guard, and the inmate who helps him escape when the camp is liberated.
Heidi Adams Gordon ‘96 is the deputy director/chief operating officer at the American Council of Engineering Companies of Colorado, Denver. She is responsible for providing organizational leadership, growing membership and improving awareness about the consulting engineering profession in Colorado. She holds a master’s degree in organizational communication and is a certified association executive.

Wesley Thorne II ‘96 accepted the position of career center director at UCLA, Los Angeles, in January.

Kate Visconti ‘97, MBA ‘03 is the managing director of Global Services (CRM) practice at Acumen Solutions.

Josh Freshour ‘98 is the pastor of Green Camp United Methodist Church, Marion County, OH. He is in his third year with the congregation.

Allan Moore ‘98 is the assistant football coach/defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for the Otterbein University Cardinals.

Debra Scheff MSN ‘98 received the Otterbein University Award for Outstanding Teacher in a Disciplinary Area for her work as a part-time instructor in the Department of Nursing in November.

Lori Walker Smiley ‘98 is human resources director at Real Recruitment Solutions.

Lisa Caudle Tullos ‘99 is co-owner of Illumifi Interactive.

Rob Burk ‘00 was named chief operating officer of the United States Eventing Association, Leesburg, VA.

Tiffany Allison Goodman ‘01 is a senior recruiter for Leroy Springs and Company, a nonprofit organization in Fort Mill, SC, and a talent acquisition consultant for Executive Insight, Inc., in Charlotte, NC.

Daniel Brownstein ‘02 is director of marketing and communications for Richardson, Patrick, Westbrook & Brickman, a national plaintiff’s litigation law firm based in Charleston, SC.

Mandie Burns ‘02 is in charge of children’s services at the Licking County Library, Newark, OH.

Andrew Dearth ‘02 is the employee and volunteer engagement coordinator at Goodwill Columbus.

Margaret (Peggy) Lobb ‘02 received the Otterbein University Award for Outstanding Teacher in the Integrative, General Education Program for her work as a part-time instructor in the Psychology Department in November.

Clayton Oyster ‘02 was promoted to director of strength and conditioning at Iowa State University.

April Orr Dusthimer ‘03 appeared in Business Advocate’s “20 under 40” list. Individuals were chosen for their impressive achievements and the potential to be the next generation of leaders in Licking County, OH. She is vice president, corporate treasury at Park National Bank, Newark, OH.

Mark Welp ‘03 joined the firm of Holbrook and Manter, CPAs, Columbus.

Robert Hatch ‘04 is vice president, senior commercial lender at FC Bank, Dublin, OH.

Aubrey Mayle ‘04 is a sales and service manager at Northwind Safety Corporation, Plain City, OH. Northwind provides supplies, services and training for workplace safety.

Amanda Grear ‘05, science teacher at Trotwood-Madison Middle School, Trotwood, OH, was profiled in the Dayton Daily News in October. She earned her master’s degree from Miami University in 2012.

Jon Juravich ‘05 was named Outstanding Art Teacher 2014 in Central Ohio by the Ohio Art Education Association in November.

Kari Parker Blackburn ‘06 is on the staff of PEACE OUTside Campus, The Lindsey M. Bonistall Foundation in the Greater New York City area. Her responsibilities include development, event planning, fundraising, grant writing, marketing, publications, social media and website development.

Sherry Williamson ‘05 was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award at the annual Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations conference in September at the Sheraton Columbus Hotel. She and her daughter, Brandy Wampler (right in photo), founded the Westerville Share BacAPac program. The program seeks to provide healthy food over the weekend for students in Westerville schools who would otherwise show up to school hungry on Monday.
Martha Paul ‘80

Elementary Education Translates Well in Human Resources

The versatility of a degree from Otterbein is evident in the career of Martha Paul ‘80. Paul graduated with a degree in elementary education, and though she taught as a long-term substitute, she left teaching and spent many years in retail positions. Eventually, the road turned again and she found herself in a career in human resources.

Paul is a human resources business partner for Computershare in Chicago, a global market financial leader in transfer agency and share registration, employee equity plans, proxy solicitation and stakeholder communications. Her main functions include associate relations, dealing with potential conflict, performance appraisal, corrective action processes for employee issues, onboarding and exit interviews. She said she is the “front-line, go-to person to answer employee questions about benefits, performance and policies.”

Her background in education serves her well in human resources. “What you learn as an educator easily translates into human resources,” Paul said. “A teacher has to deal with students and conflict resolution, and that’s not so different than dealing with employee issues. I sometimes use the analogy, ‘You don’t have to be best friends, you don’t have to go out together after work…but just like you were in school, be nice in the sandbox for eight hours a day and life goes on and life is good.’”

Some of her activities beyond the classroom at Otterbein also prepared her for her career. “I was on the campus programming board, I played field hockey, I kind of experienced everything,” she said. “I learned change and how to accept it, and how to be flexible.”

She continued, “You felt like your professors cared about you and you were important. So I try to take that to my job, that each employee is important. I try to get to know everyone, so they feel like they can come to me if there are issues.”

Paul stays involved with Otterbein by helping to plan the 35th reunion for the class of 1980 at this year’s Homecoming celebration, and she currently serves on the Alumni Council.

“Even if you don’t come back here for a certain period of time, it’s like coming home,” she said of her alma mater. “There are so many great memories here. It’s like it never changes and yet is always changing.”

David Hard ‘06 is a segment risk manager senior at Huntington National Bank in Columbus.

Gretchen Streif LaBonte ‘06 is the assistant dean of students and director of campus leadership and activities at Hampshire College, Amherst, MA.

Amber Murphy Mack ‘06 has joined Specialists in Obstetrics and Gynecology of Columbus, Inc., a Division of MaternOhio Clinical Associates, Inc., providing specialized care for women of all ages.

Holly Fenner Ritter ‘06 is a communication manager at OhioHealth, Columbus.

Lindsey Buck ‘07 is a freelance graphic/print designer and is owner of The Hive Studio, an illustration and calligraphy business.

Kevin Crafton ‘07 performed in Two Old Hippies in Nashville in March 2015.

Amanda Applegarth Fisher ‘07 is a chiropractor at Fisher Family and Sport Chiropractic, Barnesville, OH.

James Steelesmith ‘07 is a business analyst at JPMorgan Chase, Columbus.

David Bahgat ‘08 directed the JCC Gallery Players production of Les Miserables in March in Columbus. Previously, he directed Bye Bye Birdie at the SRO Theater Company.

Lucas Buck ‘08 is the national veteran recruitment manager at Farmers Insurance, Los Angeles, CA. Farmers was named a military friendly company for the first time in its history in 2014.

Korie Beight Brittain ‘09 is a child life specialist at Akron Children’s Hospital.

Andy Fries ‘09 is the new assistant football coach at Otterbein.

Rob Rosner ‘09 is the director of compliance in the Lake Erie College Athletics Department, Painesville, OH. He earned his juris doctor degree at the University of Miami School of Law in December 2011.
Jay Donovan '95

Love of Writing and Technology Makes for a Mobile Career

High tech and English literature would seem to be two disparate entities, but not to Jay Donovan '95, who graduated from Otterbein with a major in English and a minor in art. He has melded his love of writing and intrigue with technology together and is a well-respected writer for the online publication, TechCrunch, and has written for other publications like CrunchGear, MobileCrunch and Mobile Marketer in the past. He has been referenced by publications such as The Columbus Dispatch, Business First and the Sacramento Bee.

He is also associate director at Resource/Ammirati, a Columbus-based creative agency where he is “part of a strategy team that conceptualizes and defines strategy for new digital and mobile products for a variety of clients.”

Before going to Resource, he worked for Alliance Data where he led concept, user experience and strategy for their mobile card and mobile account center. While there, he helped evangelize mobile as a priority for the company.

“I just love technology, and I love writing about it,” Donovan said.

Right out of Otterbein, Donovan found himself doing design work (using his minor in art) and learning HTML and various software programs. He worked as an interactive designer for many years.

Donovan’s career has been fluid and without walls, and he gives some credit to Otterbein for preparing him to be flexible. “Otterbein was a whole experience,” he said. “There was structured learning and self-learning. It made a huge impact on me. I experienced a breadth of studies and people.”

He credits many of his professors for helping him see the world in a different way.

He was a member of Jonda at Otterbein and retains close ties with many of its members. “We are good friends to this day,” he said. He also married an Otterbein graduate, Missy Douglas Donovan '94, and they have two children, Jake, 9, and Mattie, 7.

Ashley Shier '09 is part-time faculty in the psychology department at Otterbein.

Ashlie Decker '10 is a clinical pharmacist with Aetna in Phoenix.

Maggie Ellison '10 was selected to serve on the fundraising committee for the non-profit, IGirl, Columbus. IGirl provides leadership development to middle school girls and college women to help close the gender leadership gap.

Andrew Henderson '10 is an account executive at Giant Creative Strategy in San Francisco.

Matthew Hopkins '10 graduated from a physician assistant program at Mount Union University in August 2014.

The John '34 and Donna Patton 'H91 estate provided more than half a million dollars to the University upon the sad news of Donna’s passing. We are grateful for the legacy they left to Otterbein.

Correction from Towers Fall 2014:
John Watts ’86, resource manager, and Andrew Boose ’06, forest ecologist, were part of a management team with the Columbus and Franklin County Metro Parks responsible for winning a 2014 Environmental Conservation Award. Recognizing exceptional effort to acquire, restore, preserve operate or develop unique and significant conservation and natural areas or programs, the award was given by The National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials.

Kyle Williams '07 is the chair-elect for the Pan-African Network within the Standing Committee Multicultural Affairs at the annual American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Conference in Tampa, FL. He will assume the chair position at next year’s conference in Montreal, Canada, and will be the sitting chair when the annual conference arrives in Columbus in March 2017.

Bob Gatti, Alicia Caudill Coburn '95 and Kyle Williams '07.
Adam Kolp ’02

Easy to See this Artist Has a True Vision

It’s likely Adam Kolp ’02 knows how Beethoven felt when the composer lost his hearing. Kolp is an artist who lost most of his sight. And then gained it back again thanks to modern medicine.

Kolp said he always knew he wanted to be an artist, but the vision problems started in middle school when he was diagnosed with keratoconus, a degenerative eye disease that causes the corneas to change shape. Although he retained his sight, for the most part, through high school, it was when he got to Otterbein that his vision really started to go. “It was like looking through a piece of frosted glass, with all the shapes and colors, but no detail,” Kolp said.

He lost his driver’s license and had to drop most of his classes, though he still continued with his art classes. Only cornea transplants could restore his eyesight. He received the first one in 1999. When he took the bandage off and could see again, he said, “it took your breath away.” He received the second transplant in 2001 and, though he still wears glasses, his sight is mostly restored.

Though he graduated in 2002, he returned to Otterbein to earn his teacher’s certificate. In 2005, he was hired to teach art at New Albany Middle School, and he retains that position today, while continuing to make his own art.

“It was a really difficult experience to go through,” Kolp said, “but at this point in my life I have to say I’m glad that it happened because it helped make me who I am as an artist. It reminds me to always stay positive, and don’t let anything bring you down.”

He recently had his first solo art show at Hayley Gallery in New Albany. The show included a series of very blurred images, blurred lights that he said were a glimpse back to what his experience was like.

He also reunited with Otterbein Art Professor, Nicholas Hill, recently, and looks forward to giving back to Otterbein by talking to current students and possibly mentoring student teachers.

“My family, my friends, my classmates and my professors all helped me get through,” Kolp said. “Without them, it would have been easy to give up.”

Premise: “Easy to See this Artist Has a True Vision”

Elizabeth Tracy ’10 is a full-time student and graduate assistant at Case Western Reserve University working toward her doctorate degree in music education. She earned her master’s degree in 2014 from Heidelberg University. She directs the children’s musical theatre class at Heidelberg’s Community Music School and produced Seussical, Jr. last fall.

Nick Wood ’10 is director of development in Institutional Advancement at Otterbein.

Brandon Gessner ’11 is director/co-owner of one of the largest youth baseball tournaments in the country, Buckeye Elite Showcase Tournament, held each July in Columbus. Over 2,900 teams come from 15 states and Canada to participate in the five-day event.

Kayleigh Hanlin ’11 is a marketing generalist at the Junior Library Guild, Plain City, OH.

Jessica Miller Henderson ’11 is content strategist for Choose Energy in San Francisco.

Lucas Homan ’11 is a critical care nurse in the Neuro ICU at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston. He is also working toward a master’s degree in health care administration at Simmons College School of Management.

Lauren Lichtenauer ’11 is the founder of Christopher’s Promise, a grassroots non-profit that provides children in special circumstances with the proper adaptive equipment that will enable them to ride a bicycle, making the typical childhood experiences accessible to all children.

Jimmy Lump ’11 is an account executive at Basecraft, a full-service creative agency, focused on all levels of digital and print design, branding, video production, environmental design and interactive content.

Heather Weekley ’11 is the editor of Columbus Bride, published two times a year by the Dispatch Printing Co. She also maintains her position as assistant editor of the bimonthly, Capital Style.

Sam Weisgarber ’11 was awarded a Juris Doctor in May 2014 and passed the Alabama Bar in July 2014. He was recently appointed as a trial lawyer and staff counsel to the Allstate Insurance Corp. in Birmingham, AL, and as a fellow with the Claims and Litigation Management (CLM) Alliance. The CLM is an international organization dedicated to the advancement and training of insurance law and related practices.
Richie Furay '66 was honored and performed at the Colorado Music Hall of Fame induction concert with other members of the band, Poco, in January 2015. He was inducted into the Rock ‘n’ Roll Hall of Fame in 1997 as a part of Buffalo Springfield. In the photo at left, he performs with Poco member Paul Cotton (right).

Dee Hoty ’74 is Aunt Alicia in the new Broadway production of the musical, Gigi. The musical opened on Broadway in April.

Corey Brill ’97 starred as Pete in season five of The Walking Dead on AMC.

Kolby Kindle ’10 plays the role of Curtis Jackson in the national touring company of Sister Act.

Nicole Gonthier ’14 is the box office manager and social media manager at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble in West Los Angeles, CA.

Tanya Wilhite ’11 sang the National Anthem at the Miami Heat game in February 2015.

Megan Wycuff ’11 is a production coordinator and associate producer for The Ohio Channel/Ohio Government Telecommunications, Columbus. The Ohio Channel is a statewide PBS station covering government, arts, history and culture.

Stephanie Abramczyk ’12 is attending the University College Dublin, Ireland. She is in her third year at the School of Veterinary Medicine. Her white coat ceremony was in March.

Cassie Brungarth ’12 is owner/operator of Cassie’s Cardinals, LLC, a business started while still a student at Otterbein. She provides personnel for various needs including babysitting; part-to-full time nanny placement; travel, house, pet, and overnight/weekend sitting; employing Otterbein students when possible.

Brent Ford ’12 is the new mail services specialist at Otterbein.

Brett Lyzen ’13 is a sales representative at UniFirst Corp., Columbus.

Eric Mohre ’13 is an account executive at WKYC-TV, Channel 3, Cleveland, OH.

Chris Quinter ’13 is a systems analyst at Chemical Abstracts, Columbus.

Tiffany Eifert ’14 is a community educator with Lifeline of Ohio in Columbus. She visits organizations to talk about the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation. She began her connection with Lifeline as an intern while an undergraduate.

Elyce Evans ’14 accepted an auditor procure to pay position at LBrands, Columbus.

Alex Lake ’14 is an inside sales representative for Ryerson Inc., Columbus.

Caitlin Stewart ’14 is the music coordinator at Grace Church, Delaware, OH.

Denton Warburton ’14 is working toward his educational specialist degree at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

Matthew D’Oyly ’04, director of Annual Giving & Constituent Communication at Otterbein, has generously committed to the campaign a gift through an insurance policy. Once realized, his gift will be designated to several areas including but not limited to a named scholarship for a Design Technology major and support for the Sigma Delta Phi Alumni Memorial fund. We are grateful for his gifts of time, talent and treasure.
Marriages


Sarah Sphar '95 to Ivan Sheehan, Sept. 3, 2014 in Fermoy, County Cork, Ireland.

Suzanne Campbell ’06 to Matthew Kola ’05, Sept. 14, 2013. The maid of honor, sister of the bride, was Stacy Campbell ’02. Matthew Singell ’05 provided the music.


Ben Patterson ’06 to Dorothy Eshelman, Aug. 31, 2014. The wedding party included groomsman, Bobby Fink ’07.

Aran Klein Carr ’07 to Christopher Brian Morris, Dec. 23, 2014.

Sandi Thouvenin ’08 to Scot Phillips, Oct. 18, 2014. Anne Elliott ’08 and Beth Brickles Hallauer ’08 were in attendance.

Claire Longest ’09 to Joshua Arias, Nov. 23, 2014. Natalie Bowsher Ritchie ’09 was matron of honor. Also attending were Katie Whetsell ’06 and Steve Czarnecki ’09.

Korie Beight ’09 to Cory Brittain, June 21, 2014. The bridal party included Lindsey Herren Dantonio ’09 and Megan Robideau O’Dell ’09.

Lindsey Herren ’09 to Ross Dantonio Aug. 16, 2014. The bridal party included Michelle Herren ’12, Korie Beight Brittain ’09, Megan Robideau O’Dell ’09, Karleigh Spahr ’09, Jessica Steinkamp ’10 and Amanda Applegarth Fisher ’07.

Emily Hoffman ’10 to Alex Hedstrom, Sept. 20, 2014.

Jessica Miller ’11 to Andrew Henderson ’10, Sept. 7, 2013. The wedding party included Melanie DeBear Smith ’09, Megan Hartley Ford ’10, Todd Thomas ’10, Brennan Smith ’09 and Mark Cramer ’11. The couple met on the first day of class for Jessica and married exactly six years later, on the same date.

Leah Shamblin ’11 to Zach Schuh, Nov. 1, 2014. The wedding party included Caitlin Mulkie Lindemuth ’11, Kelley Folger ’11, Natalee McReynolds ’11, Sara McGaughey ’13, Taylor Cossin ’13 and Lindsay Wargelin ’13.

Monica McDonald ’13 to Bobby Wright ’07, Dec. 27, 2014.

Abby Costello ’14 to David Cydrus ’13, July 26, 2014. The bridal party included fellow volleyball and baseball players, Elizabeth Palmer ’14, Kelsey Berrien ’14, Annie Juenger ’14, Kayla Radekin ’15; best man, Matt Frey ’13; groomsmen, Alex Crane ’13, Scott Staarmann ’13 and Brett Lyzen ’13.


Britney Peck ’14 to Denton Warburton ’14, June 8, 2014. The wedding party included Steven Barros ’12, Jordan Hussey ’12, Evan Keir ’14, Becca Lowe ’13, Zach Lowe ’14, Matthew Soppelsa ’14, Clark Tieman ’14 and Lauren Yoshihiro ’15.

Send your wedding and baby photos with accompanying information by email to:
classnotes@otterbein.edu
or go to: www.otterbein.edu/classnotes

Photos should be medium to high resolution (at least 800 pixels on the shortest side) and clearly in focus. We reserve the right to refuse any photo which does not meet minimum quality requirements.
Iva Sheehan with bride, Sarah Sphar ’95.

Bride Leah Shamblin Schuh ’11 (center), with members of her wedding party.

Korie Beight ’09 with groom, Cory Brittain.

Suzanne Campbell ’06 with groom, Matthew Kola ’05.

Claire Longest ’09 with groom, Joshua Arias.

Ben Patterson ’06 with bride, Dorothy Eshelman.

Shari Alward ’94 with groom, Robert Butcher.

Aran Klein Carr ’07 with groom, Christopher Morris.

Monica McDonald ’13 with groom, Bobby Wright ’07.

Lindsey Herren ’09 with groom, Ross Dantonio.

Otterbein Towers | Early Summer 2015 | 33
MILESTONES

'S91 Beckett Patrick Murray
'S95 Elliott Stobart
'S96 Clara Louise Cullen
'S98 Caleb Louis Charles Shultz
'S98 Samantha Rose Stapleton

'S00 Remi Brannan
'S02 Spencer Wyatt Lastivka with big brothers, Carter and Parker

'S04 Audrey Catalina George

'S04 Mila Rose Scott

'S05 Elijah Matthew Reat

'S05 Tyson Matthew Downing

'S06 Graham David Willyerd

'S06 Francis Raymond Stupica

'S06 Audrey Autumn Hutte

'S06 Camille Madelyn Murphy

'S07 Sawyer Lee Allen

'S07 Eloise Marie Morrow

'S09 Kohen Christopher Bennett

'S09 Selena Lynn Bruno

'S10 Evelyn Colette Beers

'S11 Jack Davis
Additions

Brenda Beck Murray ’91 and husband, Patrick, a son, Beckett Patrick. He joins big brother, Jack, 6.

Michael Stobart ’95 and wife, Claire, a son, Elliott. He joins big brother, Corbin, 5.

Tess Hartman-Cullen ’96 and husband, Sean, a daughter, Clara Louise.

Carrie Oliver-Shultz ’98 and husband, Eddie, a son, Caleb Louis Charles.

Rebecca Devaney Stapleton ’98 and husband, Preston ’98, a daughter, Samantha Rose. She joins big sisters Kaiya and Cassie. Proud aunt is Emily Devaney ’98 and honorary uncle, Eric Van Wagner ’99.

Liz Gerken Brannan ’00 and husband, Steve, a son, Remi. He joins brother Cole, 11, and sister, Lydia, 9.

JaNay Grieser Lastivka ’02 and husband, Tim ’02, a son, Spencer Wyatt. He joins brothers, Parker, 8, and Carter, 6.

Kimberly Patch Stupica ’03 and husband, Andrew, a son, Owen Patrick.

Amber Catalina George ’04 and husband, Daniel ’03, a daughter, Audrey Catalina. She joins big brother, Dominic, 3.

Carissa Hershey ’04 and Jessie Scott, a daughter, Mila Rose.

Brandy Norris O’Hearn ’04 and husband, Matt ’01, a son, Ryan. He joins big brother, Evan, 4.

Sara Smithson Reat ’05 and husband, Zach ’05, a son, Elijah Matthew. He joins big sister, Lucy, 4.

Katelyn Tilley Willyerd ’05 and husband, Scott ’05, a son, Graham David.

Nicole Elder Downing ’06 and husband, Matt ’06, a son, Tyson Matthew. He joins big sister, Chelsea, 3.

Dave Hutte ’06 and wife, Mary, a daughter, Audrey Autumn. She joins big brother, Zachary, 2.

Jessica Medors Laughlin ’06 and husband, Drew ’06, a son, Thomas Alan.

Senchal Shaw Murphy ’06 and husband, Drew ’06, a son, Camille Madelyn.

Brandi Dunlap Stupica ’06 and husband, Aaron ’04, a son, Francis Raymond.

Lydia Hayes Allen ’07 and husband, Scott, a son, Sawyer Lee.

Allison Cooper Morrow ’07 and husband, Keeshon ’08, a daughter, Eloise Marie.

Ursula Guggisberg Bennett ’09 and husband, Kyle ’08, a son, Kohen Christopher.

Whitney Prose Bruno ’09 and husband, Rob, a daughter, Selena Lynn.

Christine Klesta Beers ’10 and husband, Greg ’10, a daughter, Elyvyn Colette.

Erin Cochran Davis ’11 and husband, Sam, a son, Jack.

Sara Jordan Williard ’11 and husband, Tim ’13, a daughter, Emery Grace.

Submit Classnotes and Milestones info via email to: classnotes@otterbein.edu

Deaths

Margaret Burtner Hibbard ’35 died Dec. 9, 2014, at the age of 100. She was a former secretary to academic deans at Ohio Wesleyan University and Augustana College. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmer E. Burtner ’1906 and Zetta Truxal Burtner ’1907; husband, Tom; brother, E. Edwin Burtner ’33 and his wife, Bonita Engle Burtner ’33. She is survived by two daughters and four grandchildren.

Anna Brooks Benjamin ’43 died March 19, 2015. From 1969-1987, she taught eighth grade social studies in the East Troy, WI, public schools. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert; and siblings, George Brooks ’38 and Eleanor Brooks Webb ’41. She is survived by her three children and six grandchildren.

Frances Cummins Courtright ’43 died Jan. 17, 2015. For more than 24 years, she served as the director of product management with the American Red Cross, retiring in 1988. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter D. Courtright ’40, and sister-in-law, June Courtright Stewart ’40. She is survived by one daughter and two grandchildren.

Bob Elliott ’43 died Jan. 8, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving in the Pacific during World War II. He was manager of the Westerville Creamery until his retirement. He was preceded in death by one son. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Jean Frye Elliott ’44.

Richard Gantz ’43 died Aug. 30, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in both Europe and the Pacific during World War II. He practiced law in Akron, OH, until 1959 when he moved his family to Anchorage, AK, and served as city attorney and city manager. He was managing partner of Hughes, Thorsness, Lowe, Gantz & Clark until his retirement in 1989. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan, and relative, Theodore Gantz ’28. He is survived by one son; three grandchildren; one brother; many nieces and nephews, including Bruce Gantz ’59 and Samuel Gantz ’61.

Helen Boyer Jennings ’43 died Jan. 21, 2015. She was a homemaker, supporting her husband in his family medical practice. She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Raymond Jennings ’43; father, Neely Boyer ’27; and sisters, Wilma Boyer Shoup ’43 and
Doris Boyer Fields ’44. She is survived by three children and two grandchildren.

Carl Moody ’44 died April 20, 2013. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty, and survived by two children.

Marjorie Day Frederick ’45 died Sept. 28, 2014. She was a former school teacher, homemaker and active member of the ladies auxiliary at the T.J. Samson Hospital, Glasgow, KY. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence; one daughter, Sarah; and sisters, Joanne Day Sellers ’50 and Marilyn Day ’53. She is survived by one son; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and nieces, Martha Day Sorohan ’70 and Marticia Day McFarren ’72.

Doris Boston Metz ’45 died Jan. 18, 2015. She was a homemaker, avid bridge player and music lover who played five instruments. She was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Roy Metz ’43. She is survived by two daughters and two grandchildren.

Paul Metzger ’46 died Oct. 9, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Naval Reserve, 1943–1978, serving during World War II and the Korean War. He practiced internal medicine associated with the Central Ohio Medical Group, 1956–1994; was former chief medical director, Nationwide Insurance; and clinical professor emeritus at The Ohio State University. He was preceded in death by wives, Jeanne and Mary; mother, Julia Schrock Metzger ’1915; brother, George Metzger ’45; and relative, Dorothy Metzger Fenn ’36. He is survived by his wife, Lee; five children, including Janet Metzger Hull ’99, four stepchildren; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sister, Jeanne Metzger Augustus ’96; and cousin, Elizabeth Fenn Kile ’66.

Marian McNaught Sorrell ’46 died Jan. 19, 2015. She was an English teacher at Highland Springs High School in Virginia and served as the department chair during most of her 31-year tenure. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, James “Gilly” Sorrell ’47; two children; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Cliff Gebhart ’47 died Nov. 12, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served during the Korean War in the medical corps. For 37 years, he was a physician in family practice in Miamisburg, OH. He was preceded in death by his in-laws, Neva Priest Boyles ’1921 and Elmer Boyles ’1916; and sister-in-law, Marilyn Boyles Flanary ’47. He was survived by his wife of 66 years, Wanda Boyles Gebhart ’47, who is now deceased; four children; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Carol Boyles Cramer ’54.

James Kramer ’47 died Nov. 23, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps serving during World War II. He practiced internal medicine at Lovelace Clinic in Albuquerque, NM, and served as the director of the Non-Invasive Vascular Laboratory at St. Luke’s Hospital, Phoenix. He made significant contributions in the use of Doppler technology for diagnosis of vascular disease. He was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Ohla Cave Cole ’1922; father-in-law, Emory Cole ’1923; sister, Mary Ellen Kramer Poff ’40; and sister-in-law, Irene Cole ’44. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Cole Kramer ’49; four children; two grandsons; and brother-in-law, Robert Cole ’60.

Emily Jackson Marks ’47 died Nov. 6, 2014. She was a home economics teacher at Unioto High School, Chillicothe, OH, and fashion and baking judge at 4-H events throughout central and southern Ohio. She was preceded in death by her husband of more than 60 years, Jack Marks ’48 and one daughter. She is survived by her son, Jerry Marks ’85 and two grandsons.

Mary Jo Wood Brown ’48 died Oct. 30, 2014. She served as secretary for Cross Creek Twp. from 1972–1998, and elected supervisor in 1980, serving until 1998. She was the first female elected president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors. As chairman of Cross Creek Valley Regional Planning Commission, she secured numerous grants that encouraged economic growth in northern Washington County. She was preceded in death by her parents, Genevieve Mullins Wood ’1923 and Stanton Wood ’1917; husband, James Brown ’48; and his parents, Thomas Boyd Brown ’1918 and Cleo Coppock Brown ’1919; and brother-in-law, James Gordon Conklin ’46. She is survived by four sons, including, James Brown Jr. ’76 and Thomas Brown ’77; seven grandchildren; and sister, Sally Lou Wood Conklin ’49.

Clifford Kerns ’48 died Aug. 9, 2014. He was a veteran of World War II serving in Africa, Italy, France, Germany and central Europe. He was a music educator in Laurelville Consolidated and Circleville Junior High Schools, and gave private music lessons. He was the owner/operator of Circle K Ranch from 1968 to 1998. He was the director of the Circleville Pumpkin Show Band for 25 years. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Marjorie; four children; two grandchildren; sister, Polly Kerns Thomas ’48; and nephews, Richard Thomas ’71 and Robert Thomas ’74.

Jack Marks ’48 died Dec. 23, 2013. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps serving during World War II. He worked for the Chillicothe Gazette and Columbus Citizen Journal, from which he retired as a journalist and copy editor. He was preceded in death by one daughter. He was survived by his wife Emily Jackson Marks ’47, who has since died. He
is survived by one son, Jerry Marks ‘85 and two grandsons.

Dorothy Mikesell Pfieger ‘48 died July 17, 2014. She was a teacher holding certificates in Arizona, Texas, Ohio and Florida, and was a home economics instructor at Otterbein at one time. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Pfieger ‘48 and sister, Martha Mikesell Duvall ‘45. She is survived by three children; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister, Margene Mikesell Schuller ‘47; brother-in-law, Paul Schuller ‘50; niece, Kathryn Schuller ‘79; and brother-in-law, James Duvall ‘48.

Joyce Kelly Gordon ‘49 died Jan. 10, 2015. She was a teacher at Starlight School in Newark, OH, for many years and a retired case manager for the State of Ohio Department of MRDD. She was preceded in death by her husband, Douglas Gordon ’69. She is survived by four children, 11 grandchildren and five great-granddaughters.

Nancy Jones Simmons ‘49 died Feb. 27, 2015. She was an art teacher, traveling within the Westerville City Schools, before her husband’s career took them away from Ohio. She was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years, Kenneth Simmons ‘50. She is survived by four children and six grandchildren.

Betty Nichols Younger ‘49 died June 13, 2014. She was a psychotherapist in private practice for a number of years. She was preceded in death by her parents, Esther McDonald Nichols ‘1923 and Manson Nichols ‘1922; sister, Martha Joanne Nichols ‘52; and cousin, Evan Schar ‘44. She is survived by four daughters; and cousins, Berneta Nichols Cooper ‘49 and Theodore Nichols II ‘62.

Joseph Albrecht ‘50 died Nov. 3, 2014. He was a physician, retired from South Dayton Family Physicians in 1995, but continued serving at the Dayton (OH) Outreach Clinic. He was a soloist at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, the Dayton Bach Society, the Dayton Opera and the Dayton Philharmonic, where he served on the board of trustees. He was preceded in death by one daughter; an infant granddaughter; and his brother, John Albrecht ‘49.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Peggy; one daughter; six grandchildren; sister-in-law, Joan Hopkins Albrecht ‘50; and nephew, Dan Albrecht ‘79.

Marian Havens Becker ‘50 died March 21, 2015. She was a long-time employee of Otterbein, serving as the housing secretary in Student Affairs from the 1960s to the 1990s. She was preceded in death by her husband of 35 years and former Otterbein librarian, John Becker ‘50; sister-in-law, Marilou Daily Becker ‘48; and brother-in-law, Carl Becker ‘49. She is survived by her children, Robert Becker ‘75 and Rebecca Becker ‘77; and relative, Carol Amlin Hudson ‘74.

Jim Berry ‘50 died Dec. 30, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in the 14th Armored Division, 499th Armored Field Artillery Battalion Battery A, known as the “Liberators” at the Battle of the Bulge. He was a retired dentist in private practice in Akron, OH. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Priscilla Warner Berry ‘51; two children; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother-in-law, David Warner ‘56, and his wife, Joyce Shannon Warner ‘58; and niece, Shari Warner Pennington ‘88.

Jerry Schwarzkopf ‘50 died Oct. 25, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and retired from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He was preceded in death by his parents, Blanche Meyers Schwarzkopf ‘1924 and Roy Schwarzkopf ‘1927. He is survived by three children and four grandchildren.

Frank Truitt ‘50 died Dec. 21, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving under Gen. Patton in the 282nd Combat Engineers Battalion. He was a teacher and coach at both the high school (central Ohio area) and college levels, including The Ohio State University, Louisiana State University, Kent State University and Ohio Wesleyan University. He was an assistant coach for OSU men’s basketball team in 1960 when they were NCAA Champions. He was inducted into three Halls of Fame: the Ohio Veterans, the Ohio High School Basketball and the Otterbein University Athletics. He was preceded in death by two daughters, including Susan Truitt ‘79, and sister-in-law, Margaret Turner Howard ‘49. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Kay Turner Truitt ‘50; two daughters; nine grandchildren; and brother, John Truitt ‘50.

Bob Wells ‘50 died Oct. 30, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving during World War II. He was a retired pharmacist. He was preceded in death by his brother, Charles Wells ‘55. He is survived by his wife, Jean; two children; and three grandchildren.

Rolla Beach ‘51 died Dec. 15, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during World War II. He taught occupational work experience classes and coached golf and football at Delaware Hayes and Marion Pleasant High Schools in Ohio. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Loretta; five children, including Jamie Beach Eckhardt ‘89 and her husband, Aaron Eckhardt ‘89; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Hoover ‘51 died Aug. 30, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving during World War II. He was a former employee of National Cash Register, Dayton, OH, in wage and salary administration. He
also taught business courses, photography and social studies at Belmont High School, Dayton; was pitching coach with the girls’ softball teams at Belmont, Fairmont and Xenia High Schools and at Cedarville College, Wright State University and the University of Dayton. He continued to give private pitching lessons into his 80s. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Martha Jo Holden Hoover ’52; four children and seven grandchildren.

Phyllis Huffman ’51 died Feb. 4, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served during the Korean War. He was previously employed by Big Bear, F & R Lazarus and Carlisle Tire and Rubber. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Jean; three children; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Ronald Smith ’51 died March 14, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during the Korean War. He retired from Equitable Savings and Loan, but continued to work for Jones Cochenour and Company, Lancaster, OH. He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Peg. He is survived by three daughters; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and brothers, Paul Smith ’52 and Fred Smith ’57.

Noyuri Ariga ’52 died April 26, 2015. She retired as professor emerita from Doshisha Women’s College of Liberal Arts, Kyoto, Japan. She was a distinguished harpsichordist performing as a soloist and with artists such as James Galway, Hans-Martin Linde and many others. Ariga was a visiting professor at Otterbein several times and is considered a pioneer of the harpsichord as she reintroduced the instrument to Japan. In 2002, she was awarded an honorary doctor of musical arts degree from Otterbein. Ariga was the ‘elder statesman’ of the Otterbein Alumni Club of Japan.

Robert Lebzelter ’52 died Nov. 20, 2013. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War. He was a teacher and administrator in the Buckeye Local School District near Ashtabula, OH, for 30 years. He served on the board of Kingsville Public Library for many years. He was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Lois Kraus Lebzelter ’53. He is survived by four sons, six grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

Frederick Ashbaugh ’53 died Oct. 16, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and retired from Columbia Gas of Ohio. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce. He is survived by two children, including Kathy Ashbaugh Kohmescher ’79; three grandchildren, including current master of arts in education student, Alyssa Ashbaugh; and one great-grandchild.

David Davis ’54 died Oct. 13, 2014. He spent 45 years in appointed ministry, working the last 29 years as a hospital chaplain. He was a convener of the Michigan State Hospice and led the establishment of Hospice of Greater Kalamazoo. He was preceded in death by sister-in-law, Helen Redinger Backlund ’52. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Barbara Redinger Davis ’54; three daughters; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Robert Dille ’55 died Sept. 1, 2014. He was an appointed minister in the Virginia and West Virginia conferences of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and then served as a district superintendent for the United Methodist Church in West Virginia. He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen. He is survived by wife, Mildred; one son; and two grandchildren.


Mary Lou Stine Wagner ’56 died Oct. 22, 2014. She taught public school music and led children and youth choirs in several United Methodist churches where her husband served as minister. She was on the organizing team that developed the Church For All People in Columbus. She is survived by her husband, James Wagner ’56; three children, including Kerril Wagner Zeuch ’81 and her husband, David Zeuch ’80, and Toby Wagner ’88; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Earl Cline ’57 died Sept. 8, 2014. He was preceded in death by his wife, Diane Renollet Cline ’56. He is survived by five children.

Phyllis (Jean) Pardoe Goff ’57 died Jan. 17, 2015. She already had a nursing degree when she came to Otterbein and was working at the Student Health Center when she met her husband, William Goff ’55. She is survived by three children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Donald Martin ’57 died Jan. 26, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force serving during the Korean War. He was the retired owner of DonMar Sales. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Beverly; two daughters; four granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren.

Dayna Bricker Tschantz ’57 died Nov. 17, 2014. She was a secretary in the Big Walnut Schools, then at the Sunbury Savings and Loan. She also worked at The Ohio State University in the veterans affairs office. She was preceded in death by her husband, Richard. She is survived by one son and three grandchildren.

Marion Billerbeck Forcey ’58 died Oct. 24, 2014. She worked for the Bureau of Employment in both Columbus and Gary, IN; she was a teacher in the Catholic Diocese of Hammond, IN; and she owned La-Z-Boy Showcase
Bob Richardson ’58 died June 6, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He retired from Brewster Academy, Wolfeboro, NH, after teaching social studies and photography, serving as assistant to the headmaster, academic dean, college placement director and serving on the board of trustees. In 2010, he published The Brewster Story, the history of the Academy. He is survived by his wife, Shirley Roe Richardson ’57; three daughters; and four grandchildren.

Donna Taylor Wert ’58 died Jan. 20, 2015. She retired as the registrar at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, in 1999, then worked for a time as the office manager and ministerial assistant at Unity Church in Dayton. She is survived by her husband, Newell Wert; three children, including Michael Olin-Hitt ’86 and his wife, Jennifer Olin-Hitt ’89; two stepchildren; seven grandchildren; and sister, Joan Taylor Pelfrey ’58.

Sally Vore Acton ’60 died May 7, 2014. She was a retired kindergarten teacher. She is survived by her husband, Larry, and two daughters.

Phyllis Volponi Butts ’60 died Jan. 9, 2015. She was a school teacher for 42 years. She is survived by her husband, Alfred Butts ’62; two daughters and three grandchildren.

Judy Wandersee ’61 died Feb. 26, 2015. She was a teacher in the Chicago City, Maple Lake, Braham and Eagle Bend schools in Minnesota, and retired from West Publishing. She is survived by one brother.

Kenneth Anderson ’64 died Feb. 6, 2015. He retired in 2005 after having served the United Methodist Church at Leon, Bulah and Gageville in Ashatabula County; Harmony and Scio in Bucyrus; and East Fairfield, Shreve, West Lafayette and Magnolia. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Mary; three children; and six grandchildren.

Larry Ishida ’64 died Oct. 18, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served in Okinawa and Tachikawa, Japan, during the Vietnam War from 1964-1968 and attained the rank of captain. He was founder, co-owner and operator of the Ishida Concrete Company, Marion, OH. He was a former president of Sigma Delta Phi. He is survived by three children, five grandchildren and relative, Mace Ishida ’63.

Sarah Gauch Barker ’65 died March 2, 2014. She was a teacher for 45 years in the Tri-County North School District, Lewisburg, OH. For the past 10 years, she served as the coordinator of the Monroe Township Food Bank located in Ware’s Chapel United Methodist Church. She is survived by one daughter and two grandchildren.

Roger Blair ’65 died Jan. 25, 2015. He was executive vice president and general counsel for First Community Bank, Columbus. He is survived by his wife, Sherran; three daughters, including Kory Blair ’09; and two grandchildren.

Robert Holycross ’65 died Oct. 15, 2014. He was former chairman of the board of The Citizen’s Bank of Ashville, OH, owner and operator of the Cardinal Market and Ashville Hardware, founder of Ashbrook Development Co., and opened Uniglobe Precise Travel, Grove City, OH. He most recently became a certified pastoral counselor and worked as a mentor at The Refuge in Grove City, a Christian ministry dedicated to rebuilding the lives of men who struggle with addiction and hopelessness. He is survived by his wife, Diana; five children; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Larry Zimmerman ’65 died Jan. 4, 2015. He was a retired electrical engineer with the Alstom Corp. He is survived by his wife, Cherys; one daughter; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Terry Dillon ’66 died Jan. 16, 2015. He was a teacher at Waynesville High School, Waynesville, OH, professor at the University of Minnesota and Miami University and a professional chef. He was a member of Lambda Gamma Epsilon. He is survived by three siblings.
Arboretum and was a docent at the Columbus Zoo. During winter months, she volunteered at Lovers Key State Park in Florida. She is survived by her partner of 28 years, Judy Stanford.

Edmund Redman ‘68 died Jan. 12, 2015. He was preceded in death by a son. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Kaatje; three children; and nine grandchildren.

Kathleen Bump Weisenberg ‘68 died March 12, 2015. She was a teacher in the Westerville City Schools. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Bill; two daughters; and one grandson.

Gary Wolf ‘68 died Oct. 16, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Security Agency 1968-1974 and received a Purple Heart for service in Vietnam. He retired from the Ohio Bureau of Employment after 35 years of service. He is survived by three siblings.

Morgan Winget ‘70 died Oct. 14, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force stationed in Colorado, California and Guam during the Vietnam War. He worked for the J. M. Smucker Company, Orrville, OH, for 35 years. He was a member of Zeta Phi. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Joyce Bristow Winget ‘71; two children and two grandchildren.

Robert Bloomquist ‘72 died Feb. 21, 2015. He was a United Methodist pastor for 35 years. He was preceded in death by his mother, Lois McLeod Bloomquist ‘34. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Rev. Gloria Frank Bloomquist ‘72; one son; and two grandchildren.

Larry Schultz ‘74 died Feb. 16, 2015. He served 23 years in the U.S. Army, including duty in the first Gulf War. After retiring from active duty, he worked for the Department of State and the Department of Defense. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; five children; four step-children; and eight grandchildren.

Keith Shoemaker ‘74 died March 23, 2015. He was a lobbyist at the Ohio Statehouse with the Ohio Association of Realtors, and later, the Ohio Health Care Association. He also established The Shoemaker Company providing legislative representation to a number of clients. He is survived by his wife, Jady; four children; and one granddaughter.

John Seitzinger ‘78 died Nov. 22, 2014. He was a veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam Wars having served in the U.S. Army for more than 20 years. At Worthington Christian Schools, he served as principal of both the elementary and the high school, as well as serving on the pastoral staff of Grace Polaris Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lou. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; three children; two step-daughters; three grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Susan Truitt ‘79 died Sept. 16, 2014. She was a teacher in Columbus City Schools and had practiced law before becoming a full-time mother. She was preceded in death by her aunt, Margaret Turner Howard ‘49. She is survived by three children; her parents, Kay Turner Truitt ‘50 and Frank Truitt ‘50, who has since passed away; and uncle, John Truitt ‘50.

David Butterfield ‘80 died Oct. 21, 2013. He was an artist/cartoonist and active in the EMU Theater, Lawrence, KS, where he served on the board of directors. At the time of his death he was working on a production entitled Horrorshow VII: Tales of Monsters, Malevolence and Mercy. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Kimberle Luther Butterfield ‘82. He is survived by his wife of seven years, Connie; one son; and one stepdaughter.

Toshie Gillis ‘80 died Nov. 22, 2014. She was an ultrasound technologist for OhioHealth when she retired after 44 years of service. Having been born in Yokohama, Japan, of Japanese descent, she provided assistance in language translation and understanding Western culture for Japanese students and professionals while they were at The Ohio State University, OhioHealth and Honda. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald. She is survived by two sons, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Donald DuBrul ‘82 died Feb. 3, 2015. He was preceded in death by one daughter. He was survived by his wife, Colleen O’Neill DuBrul ‘85, who died just three weeks after him; one son and one grandson.

Donna Huff ‘83 died Jan. 24, 2015. She retired from Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC) after 39 years and was inducted into the DSCC Hall of Fame. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bill. She is survived by two daughters.

Barbara Middleton Chakroff ‘84 died Oct. 9, 2014. She was an owner and manager of Melbourne Village Retirement Center, Worthington, OH, and owner of Middleton Place Ltd. She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Richard; five children; and nine grandchildren.

Colleen O’Neill DuBrul ‘85 died March 1, 2015. She worked for the Charlotte County Property Appraisers, FL. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald DuBrul ‘82. She is survived by one stepson and one step-grandson.

Edward Brown ‘91 died Oct. 9, 2014. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving in European assignments. He was an early programmer and systems analyst for General Electric and Honeywell internationally, a congressional candidate and long-time soccer referee. He is survived by a sister, Catherine.
Stephanie Long ’91 died Jan. 19, 2015. She was a special education teacher at Westerville South High School. She is survived by two children, her parents and three siblings.

Joel Chester ’93 died Jan. 21, 2015. He had a career in real estate with R.J. Solove and Associates as well as Casto in Columbus. He is survived by three siblings.

Maureen Mitchell Greer ’98 died Sept. 30, 2014. She was a teacher at Taylor Road Elementary, Reynoldsburg, OH, and Blacklick Elementary, Gahanna, OH. She is survived by her husband of 36 years, Rob; and three children.

Mark Kavy ’98 died Nov. 28, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Julie; five children; three siblings and his parents.

James Boardman ’03 died Feb. 23, 2015. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Army. He was the retired president and general manager of Murray City Coal and Ice Co., Columbus. He graduated from Otterbein two days before his 81st birthday. Preceded in death by wives, Elizabeth and Mary; survived by four children; two stepchildren; eight grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

David Buechner MSN’12 died Feb. 15, 2015. He was employed as a family nurse practitioner with Walgreen’s Clinic and with Pulmonary Consultants. He is survived by his mother, Dana Buechner-Wiegand DNP ’13, and two brothers.

Betty Agler died Jan. 10, 2015. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert “Moe” Agler ’48, former football coach and athletic director at Otterbein. She is survived by two daughters, including Beth Agler Sedlock ’72; two grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Sherwood Fawcett H’77 died Feb. 3, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Naval Reserve serving during World War II, retiring as a captain. He retired as president and chief executive officer from Battelle Memorial Institute in 1984. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Martha; three children and one grandson.

Catherine “Kitty” Kahn H’81 died Oct. 31, 2014, at the age of 96. She was an avid volunteer contributing time to many causes including the Westerville Garden Club, Mount Carmel East Hospital and YWCA. In 1981, she received the Honorary Alumna Award for her many hours of service to the Otterbein Thrift Store. She is survived by three children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Barbara Lindsey died Sept. 16, 2014. She retired from Otterbein, where she worked as the switchboard operator and then in the bookstore. She and her husband were Otterbein basketball season ticketholders and dedicated fans. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Jack; two children; two grandchildren; and cousin, Judith Graham Murray ’62.

Allan McFarland died Oct. 22, 2014. He was a former Otterbein trustee serving on the board from 1985-1989. He retired from State Savings Bank in 1997. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara; three children; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joan Pryor-McCann died March 7, 2015. During her career she taught at Duquesne University, The Ohio State University, Franklin University, the University of Brighton, England and recently retired as professor emeritus and director of undergraduate nursing studies at Otterbein. She is survived by her husband, Dennis; three children; and five grandchildren.

Chuck Zimmerman died May 17, 2015. He was a professor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy at Otterbein for more than 20 years, affectionately known to his students as “Doc Z.” He is survived by his wife, Robin; and two children, Christopher Zimmerman ’01 and Melissa Zimmerman ‘04.
The Peden Cup

Roy F. Peden ’1922 was the quintessential athlete, so much so that the faculty and students of Otterbein presented him with a trophy, referred to as the “loving-cup,” that proclaimed him to be “Otterbein’s Greateast All-Time Athlete.” At far right is a page from the scrapbook of Otterbein President J. R. Howe ’1921, showing Peden holding the cup in front of Towers Hall. Peden played football, baseball, basketball and track and was a four-year letterman in all of them. He also played golf and tennis. He set the conference record for the pole vault, but he was as much revered for his sportsmanship as his athletic prowess. The cup was presented on May 29, 1922, “in appreciation of his loyalty to his alma mater.”

Marian Anderson, Contralto

A scrapbook that belongs to Michael Fensler ’66 is currently on loan to the Otterbein Archives for scanning. This page covers a concert given at Otterbein in 1963 by the world-renowned contralto, Marian Anderson. Anderson was well-known for both her voice and her work as a civil-rights advocate. The Otterbein concert was given just two years prior to her retirement. We thank Michael Fensler for allowing us to borrow his scrapbook and adding these rare and wonderful images to our digital collection.

Who are these Cardinals?

Here’s a photo from the 1976-77 Sibyl, but that’s all we know about it. Can you help us identify these folks? Send your information to rroutson@otterbein.edu.
Cardinal Tales
by Dana Madden Viglietta ’96, assistant director of Alumni Engagement

Want to get more involved with your alma mater?

- Join the Otterbein Alumni Recruiting Students group (OARS)
- Organize a class or affinity group reunion
- Get involved in an alumni advisory network
- Nominate an alumnus or alumna for an Alumni Award
- Become a mentor, campus speaker or host an internship
- Host or organize an alumni event or a traveling faculty or staff member
- Become a social media ambassador
- STAND with Otterbein and share your time, talent, ties or treasure

Read more about how alumni are giving back throughout the year at www.otterbein.edu/alumni/givingback

Save that Date!
Mark your calendar now for these upcoming alumni events and plan on joining us. More information can be found at www.otterbein.edu/alumni, or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-888-614-2600 or 614-823-1650.

- Save that Date!
  August 14 / Alumni Council Meeting
  August 15-23 and August 29-September 6 / Colorado Trains and Parks
  September 25 / Young Alumni Awards
  September 25 and 26 / Homecoming
  September 26 / “O” Club 60th Anniversary Homecoming Dinner
  October 12 / “O” Club Annual Social and Golf Outing
  (for “O” Club events contact: oclub-home@columbus.rr.com)
  April 22-23, 2016 / Alumni Weekend

...Don’t forget to show your Otterbein pride at work and in your community!
Otterbein Homecoming 2015
September 25 & 26

OUR
CARDINAL
Family

CONNECTIONS THAT STAND
THE TEST OF TIME

“Stand With Your Family”
Photos in front of Towers

You bring the family and we’ll bring the photographer! Families of all types welcomed (blood relatives, Greek families, legacy families, music or band families, athletics families, staff and faculty families ... whatever type of Otterbein family in which you are a member). Come have your Cardinal Family photo taken in front of Towers Hall from 9 to 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26! Learn more at www.otterbein.edu/homecoming

Alumnus Jeurell Smith ’06 with his Otterbein Cardinal Family.

Becky Devaney Stapleton ’98 and sister, Emily Devaney ’98, and their children.


Ron Martin ’64 and family.
Join us for an
Otterbein Cardinal Family Reunion
at Homecoming 2015!

“Our Cardinal Family: Connections that Stand the Test of Time” will be an Otterbein family reunion of epic proportions! As students, we were a part of many Otterbein families: our residence hall family, our Greek Life family, or perhaps an athletic team or student organization family. Some families are even lucky enough to have a legacy of history at Otterbein, as multiple generations of students within their family attended Otterbein.

No matter what type of Otterbein family you have, we invite you to come home to celebrate Homecoming on Friday and Saturday, September 25 and 26. This year’s event will include all the fun and traditions that our alumni enjoy, including:

- Annual Homecoming Parade, Grove Street Festival and Liberty Mutual Bandstand
- KidsZone with Luke the Juggler, Columbus Zoo, inflatable, Westerville Fire & Police, face painting, activities and more
- Greekville Tailgate and Charity Craft Bazaar
- “O” Club 60th Anniversary Events
- Academic Spotlight: Biology and Earth Science with alumni/student networking and open house
- Affinity gatherings for Alumni Choir and SYE: Africa Travelers
- 5th Annual Young Alumni Awards Ceremony
- 1847 and JVS Societies Breakfast
- OtterTalks Lecture sponsored by the Class of 1990 25th Reunion
- Football Game and Men’s Soccer Game
- Razzmatazz: All-Alumni Mixer

Registration for Homecoming 2015 will open in August so watch for more details at www.otterbein.edu/homecoming.

Whether your Otterbein Family includes blood relatives, Greek, athletic, student organization friends or another group, ALL kinds of families will be at Homecoming 2015!

Show your Otterbein Cardinal Family spirit at Homecoming 2015!
Awards Gala, Reunions Highlight Alumni Weekend 2015

More than 300 alumni came together to reminisce and celebrate on campus for Alumni Weekend 2015. Highlights from the weekend included the Class of 1965 50th Reunion and Exhibit, the All-Alumni Lunch, class photos and the annual Alumni Awards Gala which included performances from students and alumni, including Eileen Fagan Huston ’57 and Sherri Puderbaugh Sutter ’86. So many great moments...so many great memories! See the Alumni Weekend 2015 online photo albums at: www.flickr.com/photos/otterbein
The 2015 Alumni Award recipients along with President Kathy Krendl included Sherry Williamson ’05 (Community Service), Judge David Fais ’65 (Special Achievement), General Lance Lord (ret.) ’68 (Distinguished Alumnus), President Krendl, Terri Tiberi and Dom Tiberi ’81 (Community Service), Donna Hanly ’00 (Special Achievement) and MaryAnn Everhart-McDonald ’72 (Special Achievement).

Board of Trustees
Kayla Bean ’16
Peter R. Bible ’80
Larry C. Brown ’80
Alicia Caudill Colburn ’95
Deborah E. Currin ’67
David W. Fisher ’75
Amelia Gramling ’16
Jacqueline Havercamp
William Edward Harrell Jr. ’94
Cheryl L. Herbert
Joseph N. Ignat ’65
K. Christopher Kaiser ’77
Christina M. Kirk
Kathy A. Krendl
Mary Navarro
Nevalyn Fritsche Nevil ’71
Rebecca C. Princehorn ’78
James A. Rutherford
Melissa P. Johnson Simkins ’99
Brant O. Smith ’95
Kent D. Stuckey ’79
Mark R. Thresher ’78
Alan Waterhouse ’82
Alec Wightman

Living Trustee Emeriti
Thomas R. Bromeley ’51
Michael H. Cochran ’66
William L. Evans ’56
Judith G. Gebhart ’61
Mary F. Hall ’64
John T. Huston ’57
Erwin K. Kerr
John E. King ’68
William E. LeMay ’48
John W. Magaw ’57
Thomas C. Morrison ’63
Jane W. Oman H’96
Paul S. Reiner ’68
Peggy M. Ruhlin ’81
Wolfgang R. Schmitt ’66

Officers of the University
Chairman of the Board: Mark R. Thresher
Vice Chairman: Alec Wightman
Vice Chairman: William Edward Harrell Jr.
Secretary: Cheryl L. Herbert
Assistant Secretary: James A. Rutherford
President of the University: Kathy A. Krendl
VP for Business Affairs: Rebecca D. Vazquez-Skillings

STAND and be COUNTED!

Every connection COUNTS!

Did you benefit from a scholarship? A travel grant? Or a professor who enabled you to see the world in a different way?

If so, did you know that your support of the Annual Fund makes these experiences and so many others possible?

Every gift COUNTS. Will you put your OTTERBEIN pride to work today?

So far in FY15
539 new donors have made a gift to the Annual Fund.

So far in FY15
49 states are represented by donors making gifts to the Annual Fund.

% of giving participation matters in U.S. News and World Report rankings as well as when Otterbein applies for grants and corporation support.

Please use the envelope provided in this magazine to make a gift, or visit www.otterbein.edu/makeagift

make it COUNT
Put Your Otterbein Pride to Work

All Annual Fund gifts COUNT toward the campaign.
The Office of Alumni Relations can assist you with organizing a “Cardy Party” in your area. We will provide the “Event-in-a-Box” to plan your own Otterbein Alumni local event. Interested in learning more about connecting with alumni in your area? Contact alumniinfo@otterbein.edu