

*University of Wisconsin-La Crosse*

# CLASS NOTES

*January 2015*



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**

## *What's new with you?*

Go to [WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG/WHATSNEW.PHP](http://WWW.UWLALUMNI.ORG/WHATSNEW.PHP) to submit your class notes, or contact Brad Quarberg, University Communications, 608.785.8572, [bquarberg@uwlax.edu](mailto:bquarberg@uwlax.edu).

### CLASS NOTES POLICY:

The UW-L Alumni Association publishes class notes and obituaries online in January, April, July and October. The deadline is the 1st of the month prior to the month of quarterly posting. See [www.uwlalumni.org](http://www.uwlalumni.org) for details.

# 44

**John M. Bernd**, Stevens Point, retired in 1984 after teaching 40 years in high schools and universities. He reports he “had fun” taking college students to London, Poland and Taiwan for semester abroad programs. Now 92, he says he is just having some easy travels. Bernd asks if there is “anyone else around from those very early mid-’40s days? If anyone is and would like to just say ‘hello’ it would be great!”

# 56

**Roger L. Nichols**, Tucson, Arizona, stopped teaching two years ago, but clearly has not retired. During the fall 2014 semester he is serving as the University of Calgary Visiting Fulbright Research Chair in History. In October the Western History Association gave him its Award of Merit for contributions to Western History and to the association. A month earlier the Westerners International gave his book, “Warrior Nations,” its Co-Founders Award as the best book in western history for 2013. Nichols is a professor emeritus of history-American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona.

# 58

**Edwin “Ed” Steinbrecher**, Evergreen, Colorado, and Dune-din, Florida, was honored as a 2014 recipient of the prestigious George Norlin Award at the University of Colorado, Boulder. The award recognizes outstanding alumni who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in their chosen field of endeavor and a devotion to the betterment of society and their community. Steinbrecher has spent the majority of his professional career in Colorado. He has a background in teaching and curriculum supervision and has served as director of research for the Colorado Association of School Boards, deputy state commissioner of education, superintendent of the Platte Canyon School District, university professor at the University of Colorado and University of Denver and as executive director of the Association for Education Finance and Policy. He is well known for his work in school finance and was a key person in the development of the school finance legislation in Colorado. Following retirement, he has done consulting work with Colorado school districts, the State of Colorado and the Ministry of Education in South Africa. He has been recognized for his commu-

nity service, serving on many non-profit boards of directors and through work with local Rotary organizations.

# 60

**Richard Schoenfeld**, Overland Park, Kansas, is retired and a consultant. He is in his sixth year consulting for a San Diego-based agriculture biotech firm. He plans to do a seventh year — he’s still having fun with new business and product start-ups.

# 64

**Nancy (Arnold), ’64**, and **Donald Ludwig, ’66**, plan to move from Sebring, Florida, to Eagle River, Alaska, March 1, 2015.

# 68

**James Leonhart**, Madison, retires Feb. 28, 2015, from careers in education and business. Most recently, he was president of the Celebrate Children Foundation, which focuses on improving the quality of early education helping young children under the age of 5 get the best possible start. He is enjoying his grandchildren and expects them to occupy a lot of his time.

# 69

**Carol (Hayhurst) Neumann**, Reedsburg, would love to hear from her AOII sorority sisters.

**Steve Pischke**, Westminster, Colorado, retired in December 2013, but recently found an opportunity “that could not be passed up.” Toward the end of October 2014 he took over managing the Vail, Colorado, Fire Department while the town searches for a new fire chief. With the 2015 Alpine World Ski Championships occurring in February, it is expected a new chief will be on board no later than March. “While retirement was great, living and working in a world class resort is even better,” he reports.

# 77

**Daniel R Heinritz**, Appleton, is retired from the Appleton Area School District. He and his wife, Jill, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on July 25. They began raising their family in La Crosse with their oldest daughter, Jennifer, and she graduated from UW-L and married another UW-L grad, Tom Lee. They have identical twin daughters who are eight years old. They teach in Elkhorn where Tom is the head football coach. Their middle

daughter, Terri, is a sign language interpreter/para profession who is married to Bob Thillens. They live in Kenosha and are parents of Heinritz’s only grandson, Tucker. Their son, the youngest, and his wife have four girls. While Heinritz and his wife don’t return to UW-L and the beautiful city of La Crosse as often as they want, La Crosse and the area will always be their second home.

# 81

**Gayle (McDermott) Petrilli**, Richfield, is general manager of GeminiCares & Harmony Home Concierge, a personal concierge service in La Crosse.

# 82

**Terri Zeh**, Hartland, will be starting her 22nd season as club manager of Songbird Hills Golf Club in Hartland.

# 84

**Daniel L. Kotek**, Viroqua, and his wife, Terri, have two daughters, Kelly and Amy. He has worked for Couleecap Inc. since 1985. Kotek has served as a member of the Westby Area School Board since 1998. He and his wife have

served as royalty advisers for the Snowflake Ski Club since 2008. Kotek is the secretary of the Westby Lions Club, and is a past member of the Syttende Mai Festival Board.

**John Kranstover**, ’84 & ’92, Coconut Creek, Florida, is in his 30th year of working in the field education. “Thanks, Dr. Lee Goodhart,” says Kranstover.

**Gretchen Nies**, Silverthorne, Colorado, retired from a 30-year career in education as high school teacher, coach, athletic director and most recently, assistant principal. She reports her retirement “failed.” She returned to education in fall 2014 as part-time assistant principal where she is “challenging my brain, making a difference for kids ... without the stress,” Nies reports. “Life is good!”

# 86

**Sandra K (Jahn) Lee**, Mount Juliet, Tennessee, has opened her second boutique in downtown Nashville. “The city is buzzing with tourists from all over the world,” she says. See more about Ensemble & Simply the Best \$10 Boutique at: <http://www.tendollarboutique.com/>

# 88

**Suzan (Sobkowiak) Harkness**, Gaithersburg, Maryland, has been named vice president for academic affairs at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. She had been special assistant to the president at the University of the District of Columbia. Harkness has a doctorate in political science and public policy from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a master's in international relations-intercultural studies from the U.S. International University, along with a bachelor's in psychology from UW-L.

# 91

**Tami Carpenter-Olney**, Phoenix, is attending Grand Canyon University to get a doctorate in psychology. She has officially retired from 22 years of elementary public school teaching in Arizona. "I hope to return to Wisconsin someday...because there is no place like home," she says.

# 99

**Amy Huchthausen**, Cambridge, Massachusetts, is profiled in the NCAA's "After the Game" a series celebrates the success of former student-athletes after college. Huchthausen played softball

on campus from 1998-2002. She became the America East Conference's first woman commissioner in 2011. See the feature at: [http://www.uwlathletics.com/news/2014/10/21/WTEN\\_1021144218.aspx?path=general](http://www.uwlathletics.com/news/2014/10/21/WTEN_1021144218.aspx?path=general)

# 01

**Natalie Banach**, Oak Creek, is a certified six Sigma Black Belt in Caterpillar's Global Mining Division. With a focus on product improvement, she enjoys the international travel the role requires. Banach returned to the Milwaukee area after spending more than six years working as a Department of Defense Civilian on U.S. Military Installations in Germany and Italy. She earned her master's from Cardinal Stritch University in 2012.

# 05

**Kristine M (Van Handel) Robarge**, Madison, has been promoted to a team Instructor at the Wisconsin Early Autism Project.

# 06

**Sharon (Colantonio) Carano**, Fort Worth, Texas, completed a doctorate at Texas Woman's University in 2014. She is

currently an assistant professor of kinesiology at Texas Wesleyan University.

**Kelly Kroon**, Reedsburg, recently joined the staff in the School District of Reedsburg as an elementary reading and math interventionist. She works with students in grades kindergarten through third grade. She is currently working toward a reading specialist license.

# 14

**Heather Gage**, Viroqua, recently began an 11-month term of service in the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), an AmeriCorps program. Gage is serving as a one of 36 Team Leaders at the Pacific Region campus in Sacramento, California.

# Class of 20??

**David, '95, and Rebecca (Keller), '96**, Lichter, Arlington Heights, Illinois, a son, Logan Everett, Aug. 31, 2014.

# IN MEMORIAM

TO GIVE A MEMORIAL, SEND A CHECK TO:  
UW-L FOUNDATION, 615 EAST AVE. N.,  
LA CROSSE, WI 54601

## *Staff remembered*

### **ANDREA K. GOUDIE**

Andrea K. Goudie, 74, La Crosse, died, Sept. 2, 2014. She held a bachelor's in English from the University of Minnesota, a master's in English language and literature from Indiana University (Bloomington) and a doctorate in 1969. She earned a doctorate in counseling from Texas Tech University. She joined the UW-L Counseling and Testing Center in 1992 where she worked as a psychologist until retiring in 2004.

### **JEFFERY P. MAIER**

Jeffery P. Maier, 63, Onalaska, died Nov. 9, 2014. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969-72. He was a maintenance mechanic for UW-L for 38 years. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and their two children.

## *Alumni remembered*

- 1932:** Morris Biatch, Oakland, California
- 1933:** Mildred (Mahlman) Larrison, Syracuse, New York
- 1933:** Beulah Yaney, Minneapolis
- 1937:** Grace (Kiel) Van Der Heyden, Orlando, Florida
- 1950:** Frank Pokrop, Milwaukee
- 1951:** William P. Heald, Westchester, Illinois
- 1956:** Marian D. Ford, La Crosse
- 1964:** Hazel Feldhusen, Sarasota, Florida
- 1964:** Judith Winkelman, Milwaukee
- 1969:** Bill Carlson, Las Vegas
- 1972:** William Ritter, La Crescent
- 1973:** Kristine K. Diener, Pewaukee
- 1979:** Dale Bye, Minneapolis
- 1981:** Robbin Le Roy, La Crosse
- 2004:** Sara Mindiola Barse, Waukesha
- 2012:** Angela Carrimon, La Crosse

## *UW-L friends remembered*

Charles Gelatt, Dresbach, Minnesota  
Sue Gelatt, Dresbach, Minnesota

## *80s marching band reunion*

Marching band members from the 1980s returned for this fall's Screaming Eagles Marching Band Fall Review Concert. They are, back from left:



Ryan Ostreng, Candy (Johnson) Ostreng, Jake Olson, Cathy (Beck) Olson, Terri (Schroeder) Kendhammer, Scott Jensen and Michelle (Krahn) Jensen. In front are their children, current UW-L band members, from left: Brianna Ostreng, Lyn Olson, David Kendhammer, Tom Jensen and Hannah VandeBerg-Smith (whose mother is alum Gayle VandeBerg, who was unable to attend.)

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For La Crosse.  
For a lifetime.*

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*Questions? Contact the Alumni Association at 877.895.2586 or [alumni@uwlax.edu](mailto:alumni@uwlax.edu)*