

*University of Wisconsin-La Crosse*



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN  
**LA CROSSE**

# CLASS NOTES

*July 2014*

CLASS NOTES SUBMITTED APRIL 1 - JUNE 30, 2014

## *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.

## 56

**Roger Nichols**, Tucson, Arizona, has received his fourth Fulbright award, a Visiting Research Chair in History at the University of Calgary, Canada. Also, the University of Oklahoma Press published the second edition of his book, "American Indians in U.S. History."

**John A. Thomas**, Fishers, Indiana, has received the 2014 Society of Toxicology Founders Award. The professional association of more than 7,700 toxicologists annually honors a member who has led efforts to improve the ability to make distinctions between safe and unsafe levels of chemical exposures. Thomas is an adjunct professor at Indiana University.

## 59

**Dick Heller**, Bristol, Tennessee, was elected president of the local Twin Cities Civitan Club and elected vice chair of the Bristol Parks and Recreation Committee.

## 64

**Leo Chiappetta**, Kenosha, was honored as a Kenosha Bradford High School Alumni Association 2014 Distinguished Alum June 21 with two other individuals. In June he and his wife, Marikay, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They have four children and five grandchildren.

## 70

**Warren Dahl**, Osseo, was inducted into the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame March 29, 2014. Dahl has been an assistant football coach for the past 44 years at Osseo-Fairchild High School where he coached five state championship teams and two state runners-up, along with 14 conference champions. Dahl is also a Hall of Fame mem-

ber in the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association, where he was inducted October 2011. The Dahls have three grown children: Kerry, Keenan and Kyra; and three grandchildren: Coltan, Carly and Jennings.

**Cindy Maddox**, Rogers, Arkansas, is enjoying retirement now that she no longer has to get up at 5:30 a.m. and drive an hour each way to and from school. But, her final school employment was only three miles from their country home where they raised Paint and Pinto horses and emus. In the summer they would take their emu meat on the road and sell "Bar-B-Mu-Q" sandwiches at area craft fairs and motorcycles rallies. Maddox had a Honda Goldwing trike she rode while her husband, Mark, rode his BMW KLT 1200 Touring bike. Lately the couple has become interested in bass and walleye fishing and camping in their travel trailer. They now live on Beaver Lake in Northwest Arkansas and no longer raise horses and emus. "Come by and see us some time," she says. "There really is a peacefulness here."

**Donald Thesing**, La Crescent, Minnesota, wants to thank UW-L for starting a computer curriculum back in 1969. As he approaches retirement, he's looking back at what that degree in computer information provided him. He spent 30 years in private industry in various computer positions. For the last 14 years he has taught computer courses at a technical college. "The computer degree afforded me a good living and a quality life," he says, noting it also prepared him for a master's degree in a computer-related field. Thesing says he's also thankful for a wonderful wife, three kids and six grandkids.

## 71

**Brian A. Kangas**, Greenfield, retired in June following a 42-year career in secondary education. He plans to travel and write.

## 79

**Matthew J. Guth**, Palatine, Illinois, retired in June 2014 after a 34-year career as a teacher/head athletic trainer at Prospect High School, in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. "The excellent education I received at UW-La Crosse provided me the tools needed to make an impact and develop the athletic training program at this award-winning school in Illinois," he says. Guth hopes to make it back to La Crosse this fall to enjoy a football game without having to work the sidelines.

**Julie Pedretti**, Naples, Florida, is director of development for the annual fund and communications of NCH Healthcare Foundation, a two-hospital system located in Naples.

## 81

**David J. Wambach**, Lake Mills, was appointed by Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker to fill a judge vacancy in the Branch III Circuit Court in Jefferson Co. on July 1, 2013. He was elected to the position April 1, 2014. Before becoming a judge, Wambach served 28 years as a prosecutor in various capacities in Wisconsin. He has also served since 2011 as a director on the UW-L Alumni Association Board and is the incoming vice president.

## 83

**Bradley Heinkel**, Weston, has been station manager for a little more than a year at WAOW-TV in Wausau. Prior to that, he was in sales at four Wisconsin TV stations for more than 27 years.

# 84

**Beth Ann Schefelker**, Milwaukee, has been awarded the 2014 Distinguished Mathematics Educator Award by the Wisconsin



Mathematics Council Inc. Schefelker was honored and presented with the award at the Wisconsin Mathematics

Council's annual conference at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake. Schefelker has been a teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools since 1985. She has been a classroom teacher for grades 1-6 and has held the position of mathematics specialist for Milwaukee Public Schools since 2004.

**Daniel L. Tri**, Woodbury, Minnesota, says given all the things he has experienced since graduation, it seems like it's been forever. When he thinks about it, his time at UW-L seems like it was "just the other day." He says his torch is being passed — his oldest daughter is off to UW-Madison in the fall. "The UW tradition continues!" he notes.

# 87

**Karen Wrolson** has moved to Camarillo, California, and re-opened a business she had in Wisconsin — Excite Ed. She is a speaker, author and life coach. See more at [www.excite-ed.com](http://www.excite-ed.com).

# 88

**Chuck Barta**, Osseo, Minnesota, received the 2014 Fred Zamberletti Award. Barta joined the Minnesota Vikings organization in a full-time role as an assistant athletic trainer in 1988. While with the Vikings for 18 seasons, Barta made numerous contributions to the team

and to the NFL. As a member of the NFL's cardiovascular health subcommittee, Barta's expertise led to improved health and safety standards for players league-wide. In 2006, Barta joined the Fairview Sports and Orthopedic clinic in Burnsville, Minn., as a triage coordinator. For six seasons he has been the head athletic trainer for the Minnesota Lynx WNBA organization. Barta is a member of the National Athletic Trainers Association and Minnesota Athletic Trainers Association (MATA) and served as vice president of the MATA from 1990-92.

# 89

**Michelle C. (Quillin) Reinke**, Milwaukee, is proud that her son, Sam, starts at UW-L in September.

# 94

**Lisa Ann Krutzikte**, Silver Creek, New York, recently started a master's program in theology at Christ the King Seminary in East Aurora, New York.

# 01

**Shannon A. Kennedy**, '01 & '02, Brooklyn, Wisconsin, recently purchased a travel franchise and runs the full-service travel agency, Cruise Planners, out of her home. "I love helping people plan their vacations and getting them the best value for their money," she says.

# 03

**Amanda Lyn Converse** married Eric Conte April 3, 2014. They live in Seminole, Florida. She was hired by the City of Pinellas Park in January 2014.

**Kory Schooley**, Oconomowoc, has been hired as director of season tickets with the Milwaukee Admirals.

# 06

**Ben Greuel**, Seattle, had been appointed Washington State Director for The Wilderness Society. He works in the organization's Seattle office. Before joining The Wilderness Society, Greuel served as the Alaska Program Director for the Conservation Lands Foundation. He has also worked for the Sierra Club and the Alaska Wilderness League.

# 10

**Bradley R. Burmeister**, Wauwatosa, graduated from Michigan State University and is now an emergency medicine resident physician at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

# 11

**Matt Moes**, Charlotte, North Carolina, is an account executive with the Carolina Panthers.

# 12

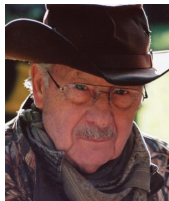
**Maria Betz**, Caledonia, Minnesota, is a tax associate at Hawkins Ash CPAs in La Crosse. She recently achieved her Certified Public Accountant designation from the State of Wisconsin Department of Regulations & Licensing. Betz joined Hawkins Ash CPAs as an intern in 2012. Prior to graduating, she was hired as a full-time tax associate. She prepares business and personal tax returns, compilation and review engagements, Form 5500s, and Wisconsin manufacturing property tax returns.

# IN MEMORIAM

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

## BOBBY B. GOWLLAND

Bobby "Pro" B. Gowlland, 88, of La Crosse, died April 6, 2014, in La Crosse. Gowlland, who worked at UW-L from 1956-90, taught science



and math at the Campus School before teaching in the Teacher Education Department. He served as department chair and established the Masters of Education and Professional Development Program. Gowlland is survived by a daughter and grandchildren.

## RUTH NIXON-DAVY

Ruth Anderson Nixon-Davy, 98, died June 30, 2014, in La Crosse. She taught Spanish on campus from 1945 until retiring in 1984. Professor Emeritus Nixon-Davy



chaired the foreign language department for many years, introduced the national honorary fraternity of Sigma Delta Pi for Spanish students and initiated an annual conference for area foreign language teachers. She is survived by children and grandchildren. Memorials may be sent to the Ruth Nixon-Davy scholarship at the UW-L Foundation.

## NORENE SMITH

Norene A. Smith, 84, of Onalaska died April 17, 2014, at Kindred Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, following a short illness.

She became the first assistant dean of women at UW-L in 1961. Among her accomplishments on campus, she initiated and created the Counseling and Testing Center and authored the College Student Personnel master's program and served as its first



chair. After completing an administrative internship with UW System Administration in 1978, she became executive director of University Outreach before retiring in 1985 as professor emeritus and associate dean of students. She is survived by cousins. Memorials may be sent to the UW-L Foundation, Norene A. Smith and Jean L. Foss OCW Scholarship, P.O. Box 1148, La Crosse, WI 54602.

## HONG XIANG ROST

Hong Xiang Rost, 55, died in an auto accident June 19, 2014. Rost came to the U.S. in 1991 to pursue a master's degree in college student



personnel at UW-L. After graduating in 1994, she took a position at North Park University in Chicago. A year later she returned as assistant director of international education. In 2010, she became director of international education at UW-Stout. She is survived by her husband, Francis (Rusty) Rost.

## Alumni remembered

**1950:** Maurice (Mac) Mc Cauley, Sunrise, Florida

**1972:** Thomas M. Lynch, Onalaska

**1973:** Thomas W. Davenport, La Crosse

**1994:** Hong Xiang Rost, Menomonie

**1996:** Donna M. Bradshaw, Olympia, Washington

**2006:** Daron Williams, Foster City, California

## 50s alums still gathering



Over the years, graduates from the '50s have gathered in Gulf Shores, Ala., during winter. The group has dwindled through deaths, especially during the past five years. Those remaining who gathered this past winter included, from left, Bill Burns, Gene Duerst, Toni Rhode, Thomas P. Rosandich, and Don Rhode. They gathered at the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama, founded by Rosandich.

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*For you.  
For La Crosse.  
For a lifetime.*

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*Questions? Contact the Alumni Association at 608.785.8494 or [alumni@uwlax.edu](mailto:alumni@uwlax.edu)*