

# Alumni NEWSLETTER

For Alumni and Friends of Mineral Area College and Flat River Junior College

Fall 2003



1929 FRJC Football Team

## What's Inside

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- Gift Opportunities
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Dr. Terry L. Barnes

## Reflections from the President

Even after 33 years in the higher education administration business, I always look forward to and enjoy the return of Fall—not only because of the change in weather and college football, but because it is a new season in the lives of students who are pursuing their dreams and ambitions for a better life. The same is true at Mineral Area College. We are off to a great start with full classes at our main campus in Park Hills, and at the outreach centers in Fredericktown, Perryville, Potosi, and Winona. We are pleased that enrollment again this Fall Semester exceeds 3,000 students.

Since last communicating with you, more campus improvements are in process. Despite the bittersweet situation with the College's financial stability—meaning that state aid appropriations from Jefferson City for operations were reduced another 10% starting July 1, 2003—increased tuition and enrollment have helped offset this loss. Nevertheless, through the generosity of the local voters in April 2002, the \$6 million in capital improvement bonds are really being put to good use.

When you visit campus you will see some exciting improvements. These include: new heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in the Library and Arts & Sciences Building, four new locker rooms in the Field House, a new Wellness & Fitness Center near the Student Center, 26 newly renovated and furnished faculty offices, new classroom furniture, and a refurbished Student Concourse in Arts & Sciences Building, and a new baseball field situated east of the Field House. By year's end, the music addition as well as the art and theatre department remodeling will be ready for Spring Semester occupancy. Wet soil conditions delayed progress and caused the selection of an alternate site at Black River Electric Cooperative for the Fredericktown outreach facility. The Fredericktown facility should be constructed by May 2004. Other improvements are scheduled to be completed by next summer.

We have so many faithful friends and alumni supporting Mineral Area College through their gifts. As we face these financially troubled economic times, the need to support Mineral Area College has never been more pronounced. Giving a little of your personal finances each year to Mineral Area College is a time-honored tradition for many, and a new experience to others—but is necessary to sustain your College and to invest in the present and future generations of deserving students. As you read further, you will see some exciting opportunities for making your annual gift count.

The first is the **Senator Danny Staples Endowed Scholarship Fund**. Friends and associates of former State Senator Danny Staples wanted to honor this highly respected man for his accomplishments in this region and the College. We have set a goal to raise \$20,000 to scholarship Mineral Area College students to assure each a chance to earn a college degree. Danny would want it this way, and your help is deeply appreciated.

One of the campus's most understated and potentially the most visual areas is the **Quadrangle**, located amidst the original four buildings. The renovation's completion is set for August 2004. A portion of the bond proceeds will be used to match gifts on a 10:1 basis to revitalize our Quadrangle area as a wonderful pedestrian park—complete with a walkway, landscaping, patios, and dogwood trees. Please consider your gift so the College can reach its goal to raise \$30,000 for the Quadrangle beautification.

**Engraved paver bricks** will be a Quadrangle focal point in a commemorative walkway to honor alumni and individual and corporate friends. Please consider purchasing engraved bricks in your name or the name of your children, graduates, special friends, civic organizations or corporations. Your gift will not only help achieve the \$30,000 goal; but, it will also permanently affix the names in a campus sidewalk for years to come.

Best wishes and much kindness to you and your family over these coming months.

Terry L. Barnes  
President

Front page caption

**FLASHBACK 1929.** FRJC Football Squad (left to right) 1st row: Schumitzski, Behrens, Evens, Tiesler, DeGuire, Rice, Starkey. 2<sup>nd</sup> row: Arnez, Haney, Bloom, Slover, Dosing, Saline. 3<sup>rd</sup> row: Muldrow, Maples, Wood, Politte, Marshall, Sacks, Parker. 4<sup>th</sup> row: Coach Bernard, Bradley, White, Fortune, Lemmel, St. James, Dean Fling.

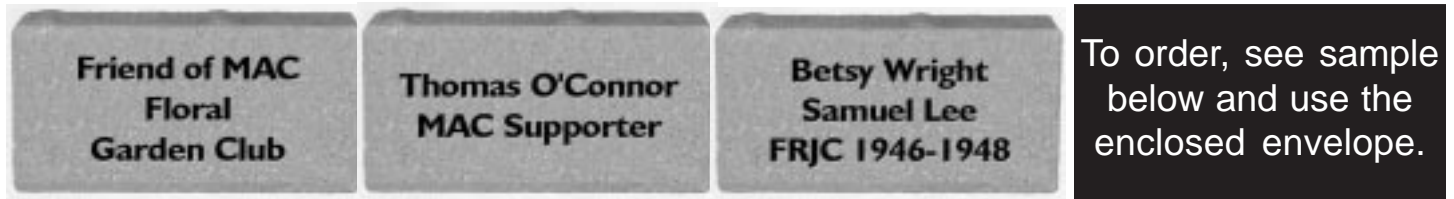
## Purchase a commemorative paver brick

### Make a Lasting Impression on the MAC Campus

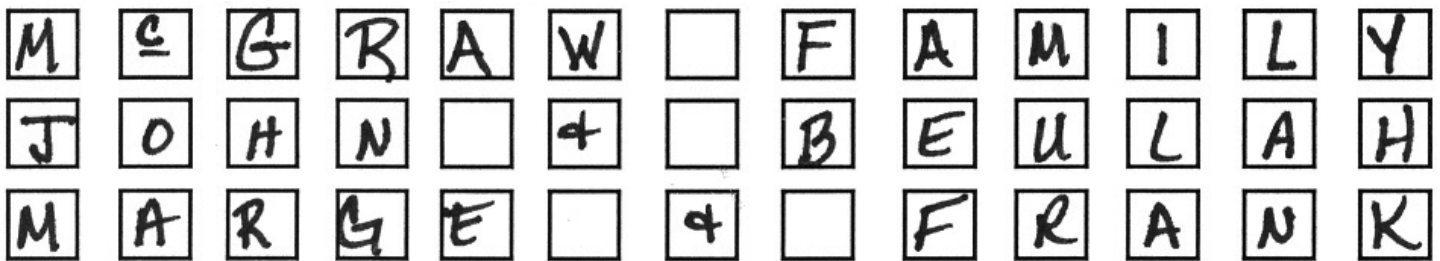
Alumni and friends of Mineral Area College and Flat River Junior College are invited to leave a lasting impression on campus. Paver bricks, a fund raiser, are part of the Quadrangle renovation plan. By purchasing a \$100 commemorative paver brick, your name, your company's name or the name of a loved one can be permanently imprinted on the college campus.

The bricks are a unique way to honor a loved one, a graduate or friend, or recognize retirements, weddings, or other special events. Consider one as a holiday or birthday gift. Perhaps your civic organization is interested in being a part of the college campus. The rectangular bricks can hold up to three (3) lines of black engraved copy with thirteen (13) characters per line. Spaces and punctuation are counted as individual characters.

It is human nature to want to leave a lasting impression. Why not consider a memorial tribute to family members who attended FRJC or MAC? To place your order, please complete the order form on the envelope in this newsletter and mail it with your payment (payable to MAC Foundation). For more information, call Peggy at 573-518-2114.



### Sample Paver Brick Inscription



### Staples Memorial Endowed Scholarship Announced

"Friends and associates of former State Senator Danny Staples, in partnership with Mineral Area College, have established the Danny Staples Endowed Scholarship Fund," announced Mineral Area College President Dr. Terry Barnes at the Desloge Labor Day Picnic. "Major donors have initiated the scholarship fund. Other commitments are underway. The college has received support from Danny's wife, Barbara, as well as Robin Brewer and Jeannine Sturgeon, Danny's daughter and stepdaughter, respectively. A \$20,000 goal is set for the scholarship."

Former Senator Staples died from a heart attack in July. For more than a decade, MAC alumni Mark D. Hughes worked closely with Senator Staples. Mark described Danny's career as state senator, "... In the upper chamber of the great limestone building, a man who has distinguished himself in his own regard steps for the last time onto the floor of the Senate Chamber, a place that has been his second home for two decades. It is September 12 (2002). It is the last day of a regular legislative session for a lawmaker who, more than most, filled Jefferson's dreams. His friends and his neighbors in the deep hills of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways know him as Danny ... Danny Staples. But in Missouri's most exclusive arena, he is universally known as the Senator from Shannon."

Many Missourians who live and work in the Mineral Area College District profited from his work as a legislator. He served six years in the House and 20 years in the Senate before retiring because of term limitations. Al Sullivan, close friend and former MAC dean, emphasizes how Mineral Area residents benefitted from Danny's work, "He realized that strong educational institutions (K-16) and economic growth were essential to have a better standard of living. He fought hard to create jobs in his district and in Missouri. For the college, Danny was instrumental in securing partnerships for the Winona campus, securing the former Troop C Highway Patrol building, and locating the Trap & Skeet and Troop C Highway Patrol facilities on campus."

Donations to the scholarship fund are tax deductible and may be mailed in the Annual Fund envelope in this newsletter. Checks should be made to Mineral Area College Foundation—Danny Staples Scholarship. For additional information, contact Dr. Terry Barnes at 573-518-2146.

# Join us at Mineral Area College for **Homecoming 2003**

**Saturday, December 6, in the Robert Sechrest, Sr. Field House**

Everyone's welcome—students, alumni and friends of the college. Last year's homecoming celebration received positive feedback. Plans are to repeat the popular features as the alumni games, the alumni memory room, MAC music groups, chili dinner, and, of course, the MAC Cardinal basketball games. The men's and women's basketball teams host the Missouri Baptist junior varsity teams at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. In the planning stages are these *tentative* activities and times for the December 6 event:

• **Alumni men's and women's basketball games** are for former FRJC & MAC players. Mid-morning game times will depend on alumni response.

Contact Ken McIntyre at 573-518-2144 or [kenm@mineralarea.edu](mailto:kenm@mineralarea.edu) **by November 10.**

• **Alumni Room** (11:30a.m.-4:30p.m.) featuring yearbooks, newspapers, trophies and photos from 1922 to present. If you have something to display, contact Sarah Haas at [Shaas@mineralarea.edu](mailto:Shaas@mineralarea.edu) or 573-518-2307.

• **"Chit CHATS" for FRJC alumni** (12:30-2:00 p.m.) is a new activity for FRJC alumni to meet & visit. Contact Peggy Ropelle at 573-518-2114 or [peggyr@mineralarea.edu](mailto:peggyr@mineralarea.edu).

• **Chili & Fixin's**, sponsored by Farmington Steak 'n Shake, will be held after the game.

• **Dinner Theatre** featuring an evening catered dinner & MAC theatre production. For ticket prices and details, contact Rick Giles at 573-518-2181 or [rgiles@mineralarea.edu](mailto:rgiles@mineralarea.edu)

• **MAC-nificent Fun** (7:00p.m.) an informal evening gathering for alumni & friends of the college at Spoke's Pub & Grill in Farmington.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2003 Homecoming. If you would like to help with the Homecoming activities or for general information, contact Peggy at 573-518-2114.



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**CLIP HERE & MAIL TODAY!**

**Want to participate in the Homecoming excitement?**

**Here's the information MAC needs:**

\_\_\_ YES! I'D LIKE TO PLAY in the \_\_\_ men's \_\_\_ women's alumni basketball games.

My T-shirt size is: \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ 2XL \_\_\_ 3XL. I played basketball for FRJC/MAC in years \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ No thanks, I'd rather not play, but I WILL BE ATTENDING THE GAME.

\_\_\_ I volunteer to be a scorekeeper or referee for the alumni game(s).

\_\_\_ I would like to contribute items to the following alumni table(s):

1922-30s    1940s-50s    1960s-70s    1980s-2003

PLEASE PRINT & RETURN BY NOV. 10:

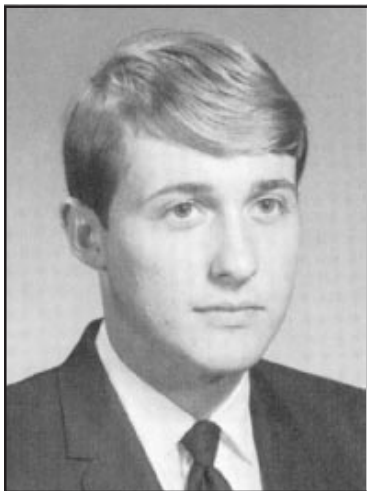
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Years attended MAC/FRJC: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
First MAIDEN Last

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by Nov. 10 to: Ken McIntyre or Peggy Ropelle, Mineral Area College, P.O. Box 1000 Park Hills, MO 63601.

## Retirement Wishes for Two Campus Favorites



Dennis Cox -1968

Mineral Area College employees, Jessie Williams and Dennis Cox, elected to retire in June. Both are MAC alumni who returned to their alma mater as professional educators to shape the lives of many students during their tenure.

After earning her nursing degrees, Jessie's MAC career began in 1976. Like many other Allied Health instructors, Jessie listened when students needed to talk, demanded quality nursing work, and formed lifelong friendships.

Jessie's affiliations with MAC extended beyond the Allied Health Department. She taught classes for CMC, starred in various theatrical productions, traveled to Jamaica sharing her nursing skills with the less fortunate, maintained friendships with dozens of MAC colleagues, forged partnerships with the area's health care providers, and cared for her family.

Jessie looks forward to traveling, writing, community theater, motorcycling with her husband, and caring for her grandson.

Although he retired as the Dean of Students, many of his professional peers would say Dennis's greatest talent was as a counselor working with students. Countless numbers of MAC students—all ages—laud his

personal attention to their needs and help to make the "right choices." He joined the MAC faculty in 1979 as a counselor and director of assessment. In 1998, Dennis was named the Dean of Student Services.

Dennis, MAC 1967-69, earned his bachelor's degree in psychology/sociology and a master's degree in guidance and counseling. His accomplishments were recognized by his peers in 1993 when he was honored with the Faculty Member of the Year Award. After working with school counselors, testing at the correctional centers and other community sites, and serving on the state's executive committee for the American College Testing Program, Dennis still made time to attend MAC Cardinal sports, theatre and music events.

Dennis and his wife, Rhonda (Dunlap), also a MAC graduate, live in Farmington. Rhonda and Dennis hope retirement brings travel and more time to spend with family and friends. Dennis admits he is not sure he's ready for "full retirement" and may investigate some career counseling related endeavors.

Jessie and Dennis expressed bittersweet sentiments as they retire. Both say, "Although we look forward to a more carefree, less structured lifestyle, we will miss the people at MAC—the students, faculty and staff." Best wishes on a great retirement to Jessie and Dennis.



Jessie Williams



### FLASHBACK

**1947.** The 10:10 Coffee Club met at Martin's Drug Store. The informal group of veterans enjoyed coffee, smokes and tall tales. Left to right are: Leo Bieser, Victor Cova, Burnett Poston, Ralph Vergenz, Omer Norman, Matt Sullivan, Ed Lewis, William Harter, and James Morris.

# Alumni . . . Where Are They Now?

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## MAC's Nursing Program: You Never Know Where It May Lead

Lana (Poston) Jinkerson launched her nursing career as a MAC student and is now a member of MAC's Allied Health faculty. Lana, who has many fond MAC memories to share, attended classes in 1968-69 and 1977-80 completing her Associate Degree in Nursing. She holds degrees from Central Methodist College (Baccalaureate in Nursing) and the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Barnes College of Nursing (Master's in Nursing).

Lana joined the Allied Health faculty full-time in 1986. Currently, she coordinates the Practical Nursing program and teaches a variety of classes. Her insight led to MAC's PN-ADN Fast Track articulating nursing program, a concept Lana developed with support from Teri Douglas and Jessie Williams. "The PN-ADN Fast Track enables students to earn their LPN certificate in one year. Then, they are required to only complete another two abbreviated semesters to earn the Associate Degree in Nursing (RN degree)," explains Lana. "This program really benefits the students and the community by meeting the nursing demands for both LPNs and RNs." Lana is a member of various professional organizations such as the Missouri's State Board of Nursing IV Therapy Rule Review Committee. One of her most memorable experiences was being invited to speak at Legislative Day in the rotunda of our State Capitol.

"I have one fabulous daughter, Marla, a great son-in-law, Jason Brunk, and two grandbabies, Zoe and Ty," says proud "Nana" Lana.

As for her "MAC student years," Lana snickers, smiles and says, "Oh, I could write a book of memories. There are so many . . . Jane Hulsey, Vicki (Bone) Scism, Tom Eck, Bobby Sechrest, Mugsy Moran, Kathy Littrell, Chuck Wiley, Dennis Cox, Marilyn (Pocahontas) Nolan, Terry Huff, Terry McDaniels, Rod Lake, Ron Crites, Kenny Flick, Bob and Steve Burch, Bev Hovis, Joan Tieman, Jerome Freeman, Larry Price, Rick Ichord, Jack Abboty, and so many more! All the wonderful memories from Dolphins dances, Junction City, climbing the fire escape, cave exploring, eating Blinky's doughnuts before classes, sitting in George Hampton's "elite" English class, watching Mr. Dotage create the paper mache dancing girls, Paul Lusk shaving all his hair on a dare for a basketball game, finishing classes at Farmington High School when the college building burned, and on and on! I loved it all. What a great time we had!"

**First: A Wife & Mother. Next: A Student.  
Now: A Nurse.**

One remarkable facet of the Allied Health Department is the working relationship built among the students and faculty. Cindy Strange earned her LPN degree in August 2003 and credits Lana Jinkerson as one catalyst behind her success. "Lana was there as a classroom instructor as well as a person to keep us motivated toward our goals," notes Cindy. "I investigated several schools and determined MAC was the best value. Any student will tell you MAC's nursing instructors are 'the cream of the crop' and they really care about each student."

Estimates indicate about 90 percent of the local nurses earn their degrees at MAC. Cindy is working toward her RN degree via the Fast Track program. Her ultimate career goal is to become a school nurse. "Another great thing about MAC's nursing program," confidently adds Cindy, "is hospitals from St. Louis to Cape Girardeau are actively seeking MAC grads. Nursing recruiters express interest in us because of MAC's reputation of quality. It's a huge bonus to know we are highly regarded because of *where* we earned our degree." Cindy encourages others to come to MAC, "As a mother, wife, and student, you can earn your degree if you are willing to keep motivated and make some short-term sacrifices for a great reward. Your degree will pay for itself many times."

## Hitch Hiker Always on Time for Classes

John E. Swink, FRJC 1939-40, remembers his FRJC days, "I hitch hiked everyday from Farmington to Flat River. And, I was never late—not even one day!" Hitch hiking was a common method for many FRJC students to get to classes. John recaps his life experiences since his FRJC days. "Since World War II, I was a farmer and in 1957 I went to



Cindy Strange (left) gives high marks to Lana Jinkerson on her ability to be a great teacher and motivator.

work for the Missouri Highway Department as a construction worker. I retired from the Highway Department in 1983 and went back to farming.

In 1941, I enlisted in the Army Air Force and served at Jefferson Barracks; Radio & Mechanic School at Scott Field, IL; Lukefield, AZ; and finally Roswell, NM. In 1942, I hitch hiked home on furlough and married my sweetheart, Norma Watson. We returned to Roswell by bus since she wouldn't hitch hike with me! Our stay in Roswell lasted a year. Then, I received my orders to be shipped to England on July 1. I had to leave my wife who was 9 months pregnant. I remember my mother and aunt coming to Roswell by train to take Norma home. Our daughter was born on June 28. I made the invasion from England to Normandy, France on D-Day, June 6. We advanced to the German border where I was wounded. I was evacuated to a hospital in England and eventually sent home. I received a Purple Heart Medal, a Bronze Star Medal, Sharp Shooter Medal and various other smaller honors."

So many FRJC alumni have wonderful stories to share that intertwine college life, sweethearts, the military, and so much more. FRJC stories teach us so much about FRJC years and life in our local area. Let us hear from you.

## Family Histories Book Donated to MAC

A pictorial family history book, entitled *McHenry, A Family History, Including Boswell, Helber, Krekel, Fraizer, and Murrill*, has been donated to the MAC Library by its compiler Robert E. McHenry (FRJC 1949) of Adrian, Michigan. The book focuses on living in Southeast Missouri from 1765 through 2003.

The book's publication fulfills the dreams of Robert's late mother, Hilda Mae Boswell McHenry. Recollections of Robert, and his brother Milton R. McHenry (now in California) and his cousin Naomi Williams Doss (FRJC 1948) form the basis of the new 467 page book. Early family history and information was shared by distant relatives including Floriece LaBare (FRJC 1939), Dr. Kenneth McHenry, Dr. Richard Earl Moore, the late Margaret Faenger, and Randall T. Murrill. Contained in the book is a 15-page chart prepared by Floriece listing all the descendants of Archibald McHenry beginning in 1765. For additional information, contact Robert at 665 Richlyn Drive, Adrian, MI 49221.

## Number 999, 1000 and Counting

More than one milestone was reached when Candice and Matthew Pullen, 2001 MAC graduates, earned their elementary education degrees from Central Methodist College at Mineral Area College this summer. Not only did they achieve their personal graduation milestone, the couple marked the 999<sup>th</sup> and 1,000<sup>th</sup> graduates of the CMC-MAC 2+2 program.

Sam Mason, director of CMC at MAC, says the couple represented more than a statistical milestone in the CMC program at MAC. "Candice and Matt represent a composite of many of our most successful graduates. Many of our students juggle career, family, and other responsibilities in addition to their education."

The couple credits earning their diplomas to the support and help they received from their family, friends and employers. "We couldn't have done it without every one of them!" exclaims Candice. "My grandma and grandpa helped pay for my books . . . When we really needed their help, our families were there to offer it. We also thank our employers for their understanding and encouragement to finish the program. Once we finished the student teaching, we could go back to our jobs." At the time, Candice worked at the Farmington License Bureau and Matthew worked for Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy in Leadington.

For the Pullens, MAC was their choice for their first two years of college. Transferring to CMC for the final two years was a natural decision. "Going to college here was something I always wanted to do," said Candice. "I don't think anyone else in my family had been to college. Because we came to MAC, we knew about CMC. I think we're more homebodies and this allowed us to work, attend college and stay close to our families."

The couple contends working full-time and attending night classes was tough. But, they are convinced it would have been more difficult if they attended a college miles away from home. The Central High School graduates did the calculations and estimate, "When we consider all the costs associated with getting our degrees, we probably would have paid maybe two or three, or even four times as much for our education if we selected another institution . . . plus, we'd have more student loans to pay off."



CMC Director Sam Mason (right) poses with the Pullens. Matthew is a second-grade teacher in the Central School District. Candice is still working at the License Bureau and directs the Farmington after-school program.

## Celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> year . . .

### Mineral Area College Foundation Enhances the College Mission

In 1983, civic-minded individuals created Mineral Area Community College Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit 501(c)3 fund raising appendage, whose sole benefactor is Mineral Area College. For two decades, the Foundation's work as a silent partner has enhanced the teaching-learning environment for students and community members.

#### The Foundation raises funds and lobbies for Mineral Area College in many ways.

##### *It secures matching funds by generating "dollar-for-dollar" matches.*

- ◆ *The Endowment Challenge* raised \$250,000 locally and earned a \$250,000 match from the U.S. Department of Education.
- ◆ Wise planning turned \$35,000 of local funds into nearly \$141,000 of *Enhancement Grant* matching state funds for vocational division needs.

##### *It identifies special interests and requests.*

Alumni, friends of the college, and corporate donors take special interest in the college's impact on our community. The Foundation works with donors to accomplish their special requests.

- ◆ Gifts remembering college alumni and community members have purchased library books, artwork, and campus furnishings.
- ◆ Financial gifts fund student scholarships, lectures, special program equipment and various campus needs.

##### *It does what the college cannot do.*

Foundation support also funds projects for which the college cannot pay, such as bond election expenses.

#### Gift Giving Opportunities

Gifts of any size are welcomed. If you are ready to make a gift or contemplating a gift and are uncertain how to proceed, the Foundation staff can assist you. Gift opportunities include:

- ◆ Monetary gifts
- ◆ Underwriting special events
- ◆ Scholarships
- ◆ In-kind gifts
- ◆ Personal or real estate
- ◆ Bequests
- ◆ Gifts of securities
- ◆ Pledges over a period of time
- ◆ Memorials

The current State's budget scenario does not favor Mineral Area College. The receding budget is not a short-term situation and Mineral Area College faces shrinking state funding and additional budget withholdings. For this reason, Mineral Area College Foundation is a significant partner as the college continues to provide the educational quality that ultimately benefits our local employers and community. For Foundation information or charitable gift opportunities, contact Peggy at 573-518-2114 or Randy at 573-518-2322.

**Gift giving starts on campus.** College employees realize first-hand the funding shortfalls. Some employees earmarked tax refunds for the Annual Fund.

### **\$80 for 80 Years Campaign**

#### **Annual Fund Totals**

Enhancement Grant	\$1,971
Annual Fund	\$3,520
Scholarships	\$1,154
Quadrangle Renovation	\$1,700
Unrestricted	<u>\$2,655</u>
Total	\$11,000

*Thanks to Everyone  
Who Contributed*



## Rains Joins MAC Foundation Fund Raising Team

Mineral Area College Foundation welcomes Randy Rains as its part-time fund raiser to primarily target the corporate sector. College President Terry Barnes and Foundation President Cara Detring concur that Randy's fund raising efforts are significantly more valuable due to substantial declines in state funding.

Randy is a seasoned business professional whose work experience includes Vice-President of Operations/Plant Manager of the Ni-Med/Allegiance manufacturing facility in Farmington. He has been involved in a variety of fund raising endeavors. As an active community member, Randy served on the Farmington Chamber of Commerce, serving two years as president. He also served as a member of the SEMO Private Industry Council and the Presbyterian Children's Services Board. His community involvement is welcomed by the Farmington R-VII School Board, Farmington Board of Adjustments, and the Mineral Area Youth for Christ Board. Randy is a youth pastor at the Farmington First Free Will Baptist Church. He and his family live in Farmington.

As the new fund raiser, Randy is learning about the college's programs and needs. Randy says, "I'm amazed at how much MAC has to offer students and area businesses. I'm learning just how valuable MAC is to our community."



### Foundation Board Members

2003-2004

Cara Detring, President	Farmington
Sally Shinkle, Vice President	Ironton
T.V. Mattingly, Treasurer	BonneTerre
Charles Cozean	Cape Girardeau
Carl A. Dobrzeniecki	Farmington
Kenneth M. Douglas	Park Hills
Stephen R. Green	Farmington
Jeffrey W. Krekeler	Farmington
Dennis E. McIntosh	Farmington
Brian J. McNamara	Farmington
Sally Parker-Nash	Park Hills
Peggy Ropelle	Farmington
Connie Sayers	Potosi
N. Gayle Simmons	Desloge
Nancy R. Silvey	Farmington
Thomas J. Steska	Fredericktown
Harold E. Turner	Potosi
Donna Jean Weber	Bonne Terre
Dale L. Wright	Farmington



Mineral Area College Foundation welcomed four new members (left to right): Dale Wright, Nancy Silvey, Connie Sayers and Tom Steska



**You came to MAC. Now, MAC comes to you.**



**MAC Foundation**  
Charitable giving is important to MAC.

# What's Happening Around Campus?

## Alumnae Returns to Women's Volleyball

Cindy (Crain) Martin, MAC 1977, enters her second year as the head volleyball coach for the Lady Cardinals. Last year, the Cardinals finished with a season record of 27-13. Coach Martin says, "Season highlights were having five players honored as All-Conference and All-Region; two girls—Casey Carson and Jessica Freibich—moving on to play volleyball at Avila College; and, taking a set from Jeffco in the regional tournament."

This is her 24<sup>th</sup> year of teaching health and physical education and coaching track at Central High School in Park Hills. She left her high school volleyball coaching position for MAC's head coaching position. Cindy is well-respected in the volleyball community and brings an outstanding coaching reputation to MAC.

The Crystal City graduate was one of the first to earn an athletic scholarship to play volleyball for MAC in 1975-77. Her MAC court abilities earned her All-Region recognition and a chance to play volleyball at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She completed a master's degree and course work toward her specialist degree. Cindy enjoys time with her two teenage sons, working out, and activities with the Farmington United Methodist Church.

### Meet the 2003-04 volleyball team.

Back row (standing, left to right): Head Coach Cindy Martin and Assistant Coach Nancy Neal. Kneeling, Jessica Davis

(graduate assistant), Colleen Crider (Mount Vernon, MO), Josephina Hola (Euless, TX), Jessica Bollinger, Jane Latu (Watauga, TX), Deborah Childers, Crystal Stigler (Houston, TX). Front row: Erica Hankins (Crystal City, MO), Tracy Branson (New Haven, MO), Hinemoa Lafaele (Euless, TX), Jessica Wines (Euless, TX), Ali Tyson (Cape Girardeau, MO). Kellie Kramer (Mountain Grove, MO) not pictured.



## Busy Days for the Business Office Staff

Employees are sometimes overlooked for their contributions to the college's success. MAC considers itself fortunate to have dedicated Business Office employees whose responsibilities include the unenviable challenge of asking students to pay their school-related bills.

Rita Strauser, a 23-year veteran, is an accountant responsible for customer service calls, audits of student loan checks, housing accounts, and past due account collections. "One interesting incident I remember is trying to explain to an adult student that she really did have to enroll in classes to be able to receive financial aid," Rita recalls. "We are so fortunate to have the college in our area. Many of our area children might never attend college if it weren't for MAC."

Maggie Elliot covers the accounts payable sector and is a 1976 MAC alumnae who also holds a CMC degree. "I take care of paying the bills. I enjoy the people I work with and since most of us have been here for a while, we know our jobs well."

Accounts receivable cashier, Canna Wisdom, recently joined the full-time Business Office staff after working as a part-time employee. She enjoys helping the students and the co-workers in her office.

Clint Minx is chief accountant and is responsible for monitoring the college finances. "My work has been both challenging and rewarding. Closing the books for



The Business Office staff (left to right): Clint Minx, Linda King, Maggie Elliot, Canna Wisdom, and Rita Strauser.

the end of the fiscal year was a goal successfully accomplished because everyone was willing to work together,” reports the 1996 MAC grad. “People ‘go the extra mile’ when needed. It’s this type of work environment that makes it good to work at MAC.”

Overseeing the business operations is Business Manager Linda (Murray) King, who completed her MAC degree in 1981 and later earned her bachelor’s degree from SEMO and a master’s degree from CMC. Her responsibility is the management of the college financial affairs and verifying that MAC complies with federal and state regulations and laws. From the financial standpoint, Linda explains, “Financially MAC plays a huge role in the local economy. MAC’s \$7 million payroll generates much cash flow for all local businesses and some of the \$3 million in student Pell grants is also spent locally. MAC employees are supportive of a wide range of community services in St. Francois, Madison, Iron, Perry, Washington, Ste. Genevieve and surrounding counties.”

“As a nontraditional student, MAC offered me the ability to receive a two-year degree after starting a family,” stresses Linda. “The MAC faculty was more concerned about my education than the four-year institutions I attended. My husband, Danny, and two children, Julie and Doug, are also MAC graduates. We credit MAC with providing a good foundation. MAC employees are some of the best people in the community.”

## Always A Smile & Helpful Attitude

Pam (House) Bruce has many job-related memories. As the Administrative Assistant to the Vocational Dean, Pam has provided the behind-the-scenes helping hand to former vocational deans Al Sullivan and Fred Linhardt and current dean Gil Kennon. “During my 21 years, I have seen many wonderful faculty and staff members work and retire from MAC,” recalls Pam. “I also have had the pleasure to welcome and work with many new employees as well. I feel extremely fortunate to be a part of the MAC family because of the employees and the services MAC provides to the community.”

To keep her job skills current, Pam has taken a variety of MAC classes since 1983. Her husband, Kevin, is a MAC graduate who transferred to SEMO. He is employed by Union Electric where he has worked for approximately 30 years. Pam and Kevin have a teenage daughter, Mandi, who attends Central High School.



## MAC: A Place for Those Who Are Still Undecided



Holly Brenneke, like many MAC students, is undecided about her college major and career goal. “I’m not exactly sure what my plans are after MAC,” says the Bonne Terre freshman. “I’ll probably attend a four-year university. Right now, I’m getting some ideas that will help determine what my next college step will be.”

“So far, my experience here at MAC has been very good. It’s easy to get everything done, there’s always something going on and you meet new people all of the time. In fact, if you live close to MAC, you also get to see people from high school which is pretty neat!” As a freshman, Holly finds MAC as a comfort zone combining reasonably priced college tuition and a collegiate atmosphere. “MAC’s a great place to start, especially if you’re undecided on a major like I am,” advises Holly. “You can take all your basic courses here where the classes are small and the instructors are very willing to help you.” Her mother, Lisa (White) Brenneke attended MAC in 1988-90 and her brother, Derek Lees, attended in 1996-98.

## FLASHBACK 1967

Leonard Schramm, Business  
Jack Pace, Psychology  
Eugene Mueller, History  
Laura Wadsworth, History



## The Campus Welcomes New Employees

**Melinda O'Connor** joins the nursing faculty to coordinate and teach in the freshman year of the Associate Degree Nursing program. She holds a B.S. degree from Fayetteville State University and a M.S.- Family Nurse Practitioner from Duke University. "I chose MAC because of its supportive work environment and autonomy in teaching," says the MAC 1986-87 alumnae. "My colleagues have a strong work ethic and desire to prepare nursing students to be competent in the work force. The students are open to new ideas and eager to learn."

College Park's new director and manager is **Richard V. Backlin** whose law enforcement and security training come from the University of Illinois, Northwestern University, and Chicago State University. He was employed for 28 years as a police officer in Calumet City, IL where he retired as the assistant chief. He describes his new managerial position, "I accepted the position as a challenge to help reorganize College Park to maintain a safe, clean and fun place for students to live and learn."

The Talent Search program welcomes **Christina Weiss** as the program secretary who is responsible for incoming communications, managing participant records, and general office duties. "I am able to put my A.S. in Computer Network Administration to work in this position," says the 2002 MAC graduate. "While I was enrolled at MAC, I worked part-time with the summer Scholars Academy program."

The newest member of the English/Communications Department faculty is **Keith Massie**. He reports, "The students are quite respectful and attentive. MAC is a beautiful campus and the Quadrangle between the buildings gives a 'university look.' My colleagues have a ton of experience and have been helpful." Keith holds a B.A in Philosophy and a B.S in Speech Communications with a secondary concentration in chemistry from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and an M.S. from Illinois State University. Why did he choose MAC? "I found the personality of the faculty, staff and administration to be impressive. And, the location is only about one hour from my hometown. "

**Heather Essenburg** is the director of MAC's newly remodeled Wellness Center. This Texan says, " Working with the students is most enjoyable. Expanding the Wellness Center is an exciting task. My position allows me to share my knowledge and experience in fitness. Keeping everyone motivated and in correct form is important but keeping them coming is the goal." Heather holds degrees from Southwestern University and the University of North Texas in the area of kinesiology. Also, she was an exercise specialist for the Cooper Fitness Center in Dallas, TX and is a certified strength and conditioning specialist with the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

**Nancy S. Roberts** transitions from the adjunct faculty to a full-time position in the English/Communications Department. She holds a master's degree in English from Texas Women's University. She is a member of the National Council of Teachers of English and the Midwest Modern Language Association.

For several years, **Amy Bell** has served as the campus computer network administrator. Now, she is teaching general business and computer networking classes. She completed her Master's in Business Administration from Maryville University in 2002. Prior to MAC, Amy worked as a computer programmer at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, MO.

The Science Department added geology and earth sciences instructor **Dennis Torok**, formerly of Pikeville, KY. Dennis holds a master's degree in science education from the University of Buffalo, New York. His prior positions include a math/science professor at Pikeville College, a physics instructor in the Erie Community College, a New York State Parks naturalist, and a geological field technician for RECRA.

## Buck-A-Month Scholarships: Still Making Dreams Come True

Fall 2003 Buck-A-Month scholarships are making differences for three students. Kaye, Bonnie and Barbara commend the faculty and staff who are always willing to assist students accomplish their goals. Now, they thank the Buck-A-Month Scholarship donors for their willingness to assist them financially.

Kaye Beavers is enrolled in the L.P.N. program and plans to bridge to the R.N. program. She hopes to be a traveling nurse and grandma. "I chose MAC because of its nursing program," says Kaye. "I've had so many good instructors here. Mrs. Hawn never gave up on my math abilities. Mrs. Wilke showed me I can achieve goals and to have a positive attitude. Mrs. Helbig helped me start believing I can succeed. The Upward Bound staff has been pushing this



Three of the new faculty members take time to pose for a photo. Pictured left to right are Heather Essenburg, Richard Backlin and Christina Weiss.

old caboose uphill for nearly two years. Undoubtedly, MAC is giving me more than a college education.”

Bonnie Nations, a special education major who plans to continue her education at UMSL, is proud to be active in the EXCEL program and Student Government. “One of my favorite things about MAC is the student-teacher atmosphere,” says the Perryville sophomore. “Teachers are incredibly friendly and helpful. Besides that, I’ve met some really wonderful friends here.” For Bonnie, MAC was just the “right size”—not too big nor small—and just far enough from home. She encourages others to check into MAC.

Fredericktown student Barbara Hargiss is a pre-social/community service and psychology major. As a Christian Student Union member, she says making new friends has been one of the greatest treasures. “If I knew I would have the opportunity to finally go to college at age 44, I wouldn’t have waited so long,” proudly exclaims Barbara. “MAC has enriched my life academically and personally. I have enjoyed my teachers who have been ‘life teachers’ like Ms. Barton and Ms. Hinze. Teachers like Mrs. Karraker-Bohnenkamp, Mr. Drye, Mr. Richardson and Dr. Nute are just excellent at what they do—expand my thoughts and make me think more.” Barbara’s daughter, Jennifer Hargiss, is a nursing student.

All three students express gratitude to the donors who realize what a difference financial assistance can make. If you wish to contribute to the Buck-A-Month Scholarship, contact Peggy at 573-518-2114.



Kaye Beavers, Bonnie Nations, and Barbara Hargiss are the Fall 2003 Buck-A-Month Fund scholarship recipients.

## FRJC Alumni Lose Two Respected Faculty

Not only were they teaching colleagues, they were good friends. Their lives ended only a day apart. Mary Helen Bloom, 92, died April 3 in Desloge, MO and Minnie (Morris) McGregor, 100, died in McCrory, AR on April 4.

These exceptional educators touched the lives of many FRJC students. Mrs. McGregor held a B.A. degree from Hendrix College and a master’s degree in history from Columbia University in New York City. She taught Latin and history at the high school level in various states. Her teaching career ended with her nine years at FRJC (1928-37) where she taught history, Latin, and sociology and was the Phi Theta Kappa sponsor. MAC 1968 alumni Joe Lee, who is related to Mrs. McGregor by marriage, recalls once mentioning to Minnie that he was going to Flat River. It was then he discovered she taught at FRJC. Joe invited Minnie along on his Flat River visits and she visited with her friend Mary Helen Bloom. Minnie was delighted to receive a call from former President Clinton on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.



Minnie Morris

Jacqueline “Ike” (Sperry) McCaulla, one of Miss Bloom’s students, kindly states, “Miss Bloom was an amazing woman—as a teacher and as a 92 year old woman.” Years after FRJC, Ike rekindled her relationship with Miss Bloom, visiting her weekly at the local health care facility where she lived. “I was in her French and Spanish classes,” says the 1946-47 FRJC alumnae. “I think she sponsored student trips because she talked about taking students places. She and her sister, Irene, dedicated their lives to Flat River Junior College students. She remembered everything—even my nickname, Ike. We talked about everything. On occasion, when I said something that Miss Bloom didn’t think was appropriate, she would quickly correct me. It made me feel like she was still ‘my teacher’ even at 92!” Miss Bloom earned her B.S. in Education and M.A. degree from the University of Missouri. *The 1949 CHATS* noted her field of study as “romance languages.”



Mary Helen Bloom

These extraordinary educators impacted the lives of so many. Thanks to Ike McCaulla and Joe Lee for sharing this information. If you care to share a paragraph about these women for the next newsletter, please send it to Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1000, Park Hills, MO 63601 or e-mail [Peggyr@mineralarea.edu](mailto:Peggyr@mineralarea.edu). Please include your name, address, phone number and years of attendance.



**Elaine (DeVore) Hogan** attended MAC on a scholarship and graduated with an A.A. degree in 1982. She is married and has three children and six grandsons. This Bismarck resident graduated cum laude from SEMO in 1984 with a B.S. in Secondary Education. Her career includes two years in the West County District, nine years at Parkland Health Care Center and four years in her current position at Ozark Regional Library. Elaine recalls one of the unexpected benefits of Doc Reney's speech classes as eating fresh blueberry cheesecake.

**Kevin L. Redhage** attended MAC in 1975-77 and transferred to the University of Missouri-Rolla where he completed a B.S. in Civil Engineering. He earned an MBA in Finance from Webster University. Currently he lives and works in the St. Louis area as a financial specialist for Ameren Services.

**Mary (Wade) LeTourneau**, MAC 1972-73, earned her journalism degree from the University of Missouri in 1976. She and her husband Harold have two children, Sara and Aaron, who attend the University of Texas at Austin. Mary is a human resources director at H. Lorimer Corporation in Longview, TX. Mary notes she participated in her first triathlon in 1999 at 45 years of age.

**Annalea Van Slyck**, of Grosse Pointe Shores, MI, writes, "My years at FRJC, 1940-42, were decidedly happy ones. As a student, I had the pleasure of doing secretarial work for Dr. Coyle, our unflappable, witty, gentleman Dean. I earned the princely sum of 25 cents per hour under a government program. Our faculty included Mr. Bess (English Literature), the Misses Bloom (French and Spanish), Mr. Fowler and Miss Huggins (Music and extravaganzas), Mr. Mangan (Science and Math), Dr. Nahm (Biology), Miss Wadsworth (History), and, of course, Miss Wood (Librarian and Keeper of the Quiet). We knew the faculty well, as they knew the students well. I returned for a short stint as Registrar of FRJC from 1942 until I departed in 1944 to enter Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, receiving my law degree there in 1946. My best wishes for the continued progress of Mineral Area College!"

**Dennis Norris**, FRJC 1960-62, finished his career as principal in the Central School District (Park Hills) after 30 years of service. He married MAC 1966 graduate **LeAnn (Mackley)** who is also a retired teacher. They live in Bonne Terre and have one son, Shannon, and a granddaughter. Dennis currently is employed by the Potosi Correctional Center as an education supervisor. He serves as treasurer of the Central School Board and is a member of the Farm Mutual Insurance Board.

**Harvey C. Moore**, FRJC 1949-51, married Allene Fadler. They have four children, eight grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Harvey holds a degree in Industrial Engineering from Lincoln Extension University and retired after a 32 year career with Granite City Steel Company. He has great FRJC memories of the remarkable Bloom Sisters and Dr. Bess as instructors as well as the Lead Belt Chat Dumps and Burns Hamburger Restaurant. Retirement allows this Fredericktown resident to explore the history of Madison County, MO.

**Virginia L. (Meyer) Schneider**, now of California, attended FRJC in 1943-45. She attended Valparaiso University in Indiana, and later graduated from Harris Teachers College in St. Louis. She taught five years in St. Louis County and also in Huntington Beach, CA. Although she retired at 56, Virginia has returned to the classroom at age 78 as a volunteer to help teach the first and second graders.

**Dr. Darrell C. Richardson**, FRJC 1936-38, was CHATS editor, a member of the basketball, swimming and tennis squads and B.S.U. president. He is a retired minister and writer who earned recognition in the 1954 WHO's WHO and winner of the Freedom Foundation's Honor Medal for Outstanding Sermon of 1953 in the USA. He is also a graduate of Furman University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, with graduate studies at Yale, Columbia, Kentucky, and Cincinnati Universities. His latest book, *King of the Pulps – The Life and Writings of H. Bedford-Jones*, was published in January 2003 and is his 48<sup>th</sup> book published since 1952.

MAC 1975 graduate **David D. Hart** shares his post-MAC story: "I never had any additional education beyond the Associate Degree in Business Management I received in 1975. Directly after leaving Mineral Area College, I joined a financial

services corporation and more or less learned the loan business. To follow my career, I have lived in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Texas. I spent 16 years as a Federal Banking Regulator with the Treasury Department, FDIC and the Federal Reserve System. I am also a Certified Information Systems Auditor. I recently moved back to Iowa to take a vice-president position with a growing banking organization. I have good memories of my two years at Mineral Area College. While I haven't kept track of them, I made several friendships that I will always remember. The MAC of 1975 didn't have dorms, but several of the buildings were new. My marketing instructor was Steve Easter and Patrick McMurray taught economics. I was involved with DECA and now participate in helping out an Iowa school-to-work program."

After earning his A.A. in 1991, **Tony Compton** continued his education earning a B.A. in Psychology and Religion from William Jewell College, a Master of Divinity from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Master of Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He currently is a math instructor in the Kansas City School District and attended the Missouri Math Academy. Tony published a paper on the effect of religion on a person's view of death and dying. In his spare time, he collects Superman memorabilia.

**Curt Boyer**, MAC 1976, earned his A.A. degree and played baseball and basketball for the MAC Cardinals. He earned his B.S. degree in accounting from William Jewell College. Since 1988, Curt has owned his own accounting firm, Boyer & Associates, PC in Park Hills. Curt recently announced his candidacy for the 107<sup>th</sup> District of the Missouri House of Representatives.

## Volleyball Team 1974



## Phi Theta Kappa 1956



### FLASHBACK 1974.

Volleyball team (left to right): Peggy Bohnenkamp, Imogene Lenz, Lu Ann Thurman, Becky DuVall, Ginger Detring, Becky Allen, Nancy Wadlow, and Linda Yeargin.

### FLASHBACK 1956.

Phi Theta Kappa (left to right): Whitener, Beard, Stover, McFarland, Patt, Lawson, Asberry, Hager, Brann, Thompson, DeClue, Hausherr.

# What's Your Story?

You can update your information through the e-mail. Send to:  
[peggyr@mineralarea.edu](mailto:peggyr@mineralarea.edu)

Mail responses to:

Alumni Association  
Mineral Area College  
P.O. Box 1000  
Park Hills, MO 63601

Your story may be published in a future "Grapevine" section.

## What have you been doing since your FRJC or MAC days?

We don't think you're bragging...We're just interested in what you've been doing!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dates of Attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated/Degree \_\_\_\_\_

MAC/FRJC Activites \_\_\_\_\_

Present Occupation/Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Marriage/Children \_\_\_\_\_

Employment/Educational History \_\_\_\_\_

Interests/Activities \_\_\_\_\_

Honors, Publications, Awards, and Fond Memories \_\_\_\_\_

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