



Upward Bound Alumni Newsletter

May 2013

Darlene Pogue and Jerry Sullivan retire from Upward Bound

I know it is hard to believe, but Darlene retired on December 1, 2011 and Jerry retired soon after on March 1, 2012. Their retirements were amidst many well wishes, tears, and reminiscing. They are and will continue to be greatly missed. I know both of them would love hearing from their old students. You can reach them at their same e-mail addresses (jsulliva@mineralarea.edu and dpogue@mineralarea.edu).



Photos from the past





***Where are they now?
Steven Tedder***

***Friend UB at MAC
on Facebook to see
pictures, videos, and
find your old UB friends!
Search for "Upward
Bound at MAC."***

Steven Tedder graduated from North County High School and Upward Bound in 2006. He later graduated from L'Ecole Culinaire in St. Louis before joining the Marine Corps in 2009. Still serving his country in the Reserves, Steven will soon advance to Sergeant.

Not only does Steven have his degree in Culinary Arts, but he was trained as a Digital Wideband Transmission Equipment Operator while in the service. While on active duty, Steven spent two years on Okinawa, Japan and also Thailand, Hawaii, The Philippines, and Korea. Steven says, "All other countries that I served on I was doing primarily my job but once I went to Korea, I was handpicked by the Major to be the colonel's personal driver. So while everyone was out digging out the roads, I was in my warm brand new KIA Explorer laughing at them. One day he just wanted to go up to Soule and so we hopped in the truck and went off." Steven's latest deployment was to Afghanistan where he just returned last September. Steven plans to continue his education and receive his Bachelor's in Business Management with a focus in Hospitality Management or Culinary Management.

When asked about his favorite UB memory, Steven stated, "It's kind of funny, but my favorite UB memory would have to be the first day at the college for orientation and I was in the back kitchen helping Darlene with dinner and she was trying to make tea and I told her that she was doing it all wrong. So, I make the tea for her and told her that making tea is an art/science, and if you don't know how to make it get out of the way."

What Steven remembers most about UB is "that stupid bus ride back from New York when we got lost and it took us at least an extra five hours to get back and when Jerry got lost trying to find his way back to the hotel the last night that we were in the city."

Steven adds, "What I would like to say to all my UB friends is I miss you all and hope that one day we can run into each other to catch up on events that have happened since we were in the program. And I hope all the success in the world while you continue your lives."

UB is very proud of Steven's accomplishment and his service to our country and are very thankful he has returned from Afghanistan safely.

UB alumni help current UB students raise money for D.C. trip 2013!

On February 23, 2013 UB alumni attended UB trivia night to raise money for the Washington, D.C. trip this summer. Not only did they participate in the trivia, some also donated items for the silent auction and their time to help. We were really excited to see our alumni at the trivia night and hope this will be the start of a fun tradition!

Pictured from left to right: Matt Farr, Becca Harmon, Darlene Pogue, Jayson Smith, Steven Tedder, Rebecca Neighbors, Kevin Biggs, Kristi Cleghorn, Connie Hester, Shirley Gamble-Bressler, Jeremy Leach, Mrs. Rawson (NC teacher), Matt Farr, Jayson Smith, Becca Harmon, Mr. Rawson (NC teacher), Amy Whittier-Ferguson



DOTTIE BANKS

IN MEMORY OF

If you were blessed enough to have had Dottie Banks as an RA in Upward Bound, know just hearing her name will make you smile. She was the kind of person who took the time to listen to everyone and treat them with respect. She was quick to laugh and make the best out of difficult situations. The following are some of the comments students posted to Facebook about Dottie.



“Dottie was my favorite RA.”

“Dottie was an important part of my life.”

“Dottie was absolutely amazing. Passionate, compassionate, friendly, and wise. I loved how she never hesitated to speak to us as if we were adults, capable of mature conversation. Plus, she was FUN.”

Dottie passed away on November 15, 2011.

Quote

“Watch your thoughts, they become words. Watch your words, they become actions. Watch your actions, they become habits. Watch your habits, they become your character. Watch your character, it becomes your destiny.”

Unknown...

From the Archives

Jerry had to explain this picture. These first UB students from 1995 were playing a "nuclear reactor" game. The object of the game was to remain out of the "toxic area" while stacking the "reactor," or coffee cans, with these long strings. Featured in the picture is Collins Henson on the far right who wrote the first Mineral Area College Upward Bound grant funded in 1995. Last summer, we received notification that our grant was funded for the next five years!



One thing I always tried to say to each group of UB students, especially when they were new to the program is, "The UB staff must think you have the ability to make it through college successfully or you wouldn't be in this program." After all these years, I still believe this to be true – if you were in the UB program, you can make it through college. I didn't say you would get straight "A's" or that you wouldn't need help, just you can make it through college. I've seen it happen, the "D" and "F" student who decided to put out his best, set the curve in the UB Chemistry class. Or the barely-getting-by high school student is now working on his Master's and the student who couldn't find her shoes so she had to wear flip flops is making it through Lindenwood.

Persistence is the key. I've seen several bright students who weren't willing to give their best or who gave up easily who didn't complete their degree (YET). And I've seen students who wouldn't give up no matter what. My favorite persistence story came from the fellow who used to run the Mineral Museum in Park Hills. He needed a degree from Rolla to get a job with State Parks and to get a degree from Rolla required a "C" in calculus. His first time through "calc" he failed it, the second time he was failing when he dropped it, and he didn't make it on the third or fourth time. Finally, the seventh time taking the course he got his "C" and completed his degree from Rolla. If you want something, don't tell me you can't achieve it unless you've given it all you've got at least seven times. And I won't believe it then unless you've asked for help along the way.

I'm going to miss Upward Bound – working with great staff and all kinds of outstanding students and hearing about the successes of those of you who have your degree. But what I'll miss most is that email or call from a former student that says "I did it – I got my degree." That's why I plan to check in frequently. I'll be particularly interested in those old timers who finally decide to give it another go. Take care. Jerry

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A Federally Funded Program

The mission of Upward Bound at Mineral Area College is to serve eligible high school students by providing academic enrichment, cultural experiences, and a support network to ensure their success in attaining a four year college degree.

The Mineral Area College Upward Bound I program is a TRIO program funded with a five-year, \$1,511,375 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. This represents 100% of the program cost. Mineral Area College provides 25% of indirect costs to support the program.

The Mineral Area College Upward Bound II program is a TRIO program funded with a five-year, \$1,312,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. This represents 100% of the program cost. Mineral Area College provides \$3,000 of indirect costs to support the program.

Upward Bound is one of five programs established by Congress to help low-income, first-generation students enter college and graduate. These programs are referred to as the TRIO programs.

For more information on Upward Bound I or II or for information on how to apply, contact the Upward Bound office located at Mineral Area College, (573) 518-2156. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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