

Summer 2010

VISIONS

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF MUW



MUW Alumna on 'Mississippi Remixed'

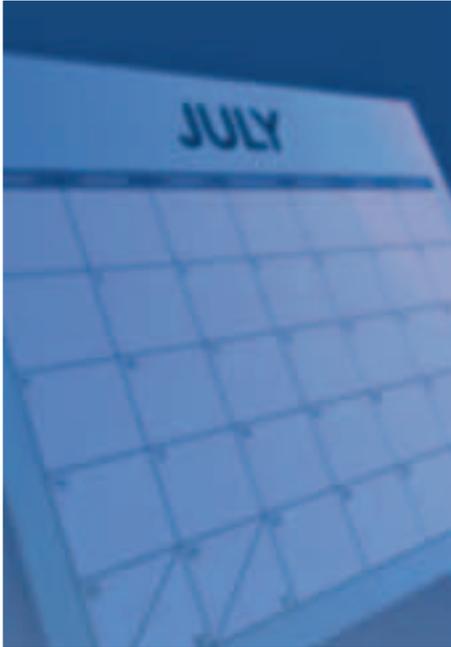


Mississippi University
for Women

A Tradition of Excellence for Women and Men



Calendar of Events



JULY 27



Mississippi University for Women English professor, Dr. Nora Corrigan, will appear on the game show, “Jeopardy,” set to air on ABC on Tuesday, July 27. Originally from Reston, Va., Corrigan holds multiple degrees in English from The College of William & Mary and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She spent a year as a visiting assistant professor at McKendree University in Illinois before starting at MUW in August 2008. She currently teaches Shakespeare, English Literature I and II and composition.



For MUW news and events:



“WHO IS GOING TO HELP ME PAY FOR COLLEGE?”

- More than 80% of MUW students receive some form of financial assistance.
- Many college students struggle to afford a quality education.
- Your planned gift could provide scholarships to MUW students.



You may not be able to make a gift today, but your planned gift can mean a brighter tomorrow for some very deserving students. Making a gift through a bequest in your will can be rewarding for you, your family and future MUW students.

LEAVE A LEGACY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AT

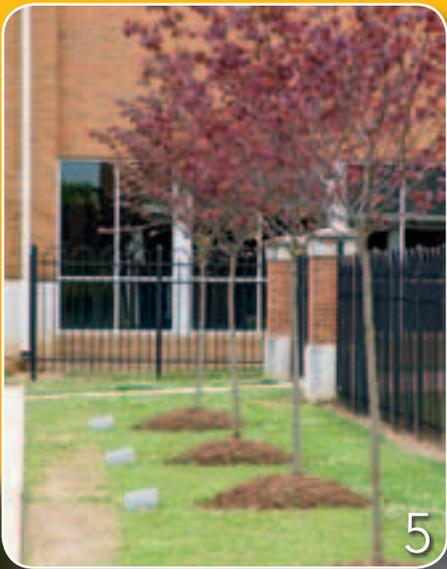
MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN

PLEASE CALL BRANDY WILLIAMS, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, AT 1-877-462-8439 EXT. 7151 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN MAKE A MEANINGFUL GIFT TO MISSISSIPPI UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN.

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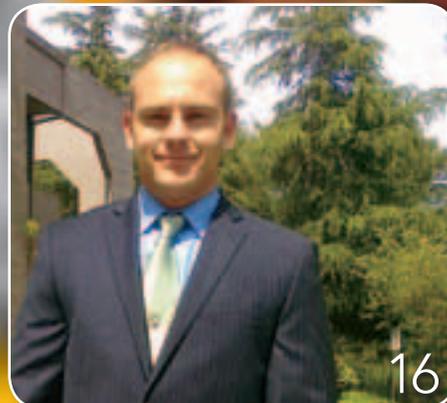
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NEXT ISSUE

At press time, Mississippi University for Women alumna Allegra Brigham was appointed as the university's interim president by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. She currently serves as 4-County Electric Power Association CEO and general manager. Details about Brigham joining MUW will be included in the next issue of Visions.

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Dear Friends,

In May 2002, I came to MUW to interview for the position of president. I will never forget the moment I first saw our beautiful campus, and knew, without a doubt, that I wanted to be part of what it stood for and meant. That's when I fell in love with MUW.

Eight years have passed. Those eight years have been among the most rewarding of my life. Yes, there were challenges that began the fourth month after my arrival with the tornado of November 10, 2002, that hit 26 of our buildings, destroying four of them and taking the third floor off the Art and Design Building. Since then, there have been many more challenges including, most currently, the budget crisis that is being felt everywhere.

I am an optimist by nature. Rather than dwell on challenges, I prefer to concentrate on the successes we have had because we worked together as a team. I think immediately of the restoration of our campus. Who would have guessed that we would not only recover from that damage, but with the help of \$47,000,000 from FEMA and MEMA, would turn those lemons into lemonade with a campus master plan and beautiful new buildings such as the Stark Recreation Center or totally restored Art and Design Center? But it did happen.

So did many other things. Let's look at the makeup of our student body. Our student number is up 17 percent, our minority enrollment is now 41 percent and our adult learners make up about 1/3 of our student population.

We have continued to be highly rated by *U.S. News & World Report*, including being ranked #7 of 80 southeastern colleges and universities because of our commitment to teaching. We were the only Mississippi institution so ranked. We continue to offer multiple delivery systems to suit the lives of today's students and currently are preparing to launch an e-college.



I believe that our programs are the best in the state and the best in the southeast. We continue to add new programs that our students need such as the bachelors of general studies, a bachelors in culinology offered in partnership with MSU, an MFA in physical theater, a BA/BS in public safety administration, the bachelor of technology for community college transfers, and the 2 + 2 program, also for community college transfers. On the graduate level, we are part of a state consortium offering a doctoral program in nursing.

We have connected the separate units of admissions, financial aid and student affairs into a larger unit (student services) to provide greater student service. We have moved our academic areas from seven divisions into four colleges, and our faculty have revised our core curriculum. We hired our first professional vice president for institutional advancement and set up a supporting office for that function.

We are proud of the new Ina E. Gordy residential Honors College as well as the Study Abroad program and the prestigious Hearin Leadership and Brenneman Leadership programs that take today's students and turn them into tomorrow's leaders.



Shortly after my arrival, we began a very vigorous grant writing program that has brought us millions of dollars and has provided us with extra programs such as the Wicker Center for Creative Learning as well as the floating laboratory we have at Plymouth Bluff, physical plant enhancements, opportunities to involve our undergraduates in research, funding for greater campus safety—programs helpful to us and to our students but also services that we could not have otherwise afforded to do for MUW or for our community.

Working more closely with our greater community, we have instituted a dual credit/dual enrollment program with public and private high schools. We have signed memorandums of understanding with the Columbus Police Department, the National Restaurant Association and the city of Columbus.

We have increased endowed scholarships to help our students, 85 percent of whom need that financial aid. We have also brought in gift dollars to do such things as the Honors College, the Brenneman Leaders Scholarships and the Neill James Memorial Scholarships for Creative Writers as well as to gain hospital funding to provide extra faculty support for our nursing program and private funding to equip nursing with the latest in robotic teaching equipment. When I arrived at MUW, our endowment was about \$17 million. Today, even with the economy being what it is, our endowment now stands at \$32.4 million.

MUW continues to be a community center, offering plays, music, lectures and many other activities that are often free to the public. Too, during the fall semester of 2005, we housed 150 Katrina evacuees, and we have hosted a naturalization ceremony for more than 150 people from 50 countries.

The things I have mentioned are all important, but for me the greatest achievement of these past eight years has been seeing our students successfully move into wonderful jobs or be accepted into great graduate or professional schools. Our students often come here a little unsure of themselves, but with the one-on-one attention of our faculty and staff, some leadership training, our great academic programs and the other advantages that we are able to give them, our students leave here confident and ready for the future. Our graduates are our greatest accomplishment.

In the upcoming months, you will be learning more about the university's ongoing efforts to increase private support of scholarships for deserving students and to enhance funding for faculty, staff and programs. This increase in philanthropic support is vital in order for the university to continue to exist as a high quality institution. Please know that your financial support is very important to MUW.

It has been my honor to serve the institution as president. I will always cherish my experience here and will never forget the wonderful people I have met. You have truly enriched my life.

Sincerely,

Claudia A. Limbert, Ph.D.

President

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Technology and Public Safety Administration Degrees Approved

By Anika Mitchell Perkins



Mayfield

The Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning approved two new degree programs at Mississippi University for Women which are aimed at transfer students and public safety administrators.

"These programs are unique to the state and to MUW as we now have a complete workforce development package that works with the majority of students transferring from junior colleges

and community colleges," said Dr. William "Bill" Mayfield, dean of the School of Professional Studies. "Further, with the public safety degree, we are serving a very unique niche that takes them above and beyond the typical criminal justice degree."

The bachelor's degree of technology will allow transfer students from junior and community colleges with associate degrees in technology and applied technology to transfer into MUW to complete their bachelor's degree.

"We are working at this point in time to transform this degree to an online degree thereby allowing the place bound student the opportunity to complete their bachelor's degree."

The bachelor's degree in public safety administration is for first responders, firemen, policemen, troopers and emergency personnel to find a path to complete their degrees.

"There is a law in the state of Mississippi that requires the first responder to have a bachelor's degree in order to receive promotions."

John Michael Brackin, who serves as police chief in Southaven, was approached by the Mississippi Fire Chief's Association to head a committee with the focus of trying to get a Mississippi university to develop an in-state fire service degree for fire service personnel.

"We approached MUW to see if they were interested in pursuing

such a degree and they indicated that they were," he said.

As part of the committee's preparation for the venture, Brackin conducted a survey (approximately 208 respondents) that showed that most personnel responding were in favor of an in-state bachelor level degree as well as other professional development opportunities. Talks progressed and it was decided that the public safety administration degree would be the best approach with discipline specific specialty areas.

"The advancement of technology and the types of hazard that emergency response personnel face dictate that current and future fire officers in the state be better trained and educated to face the hazards of tomorrow," Brackin said. "Typically the state does an excellent job of teaching fire personnel the skills needed to perform their jobs. Where we are lacking is in the area of critical thinking skills to approach current and new types of incidents in a safe and effective manner."

Columbus Fire Chief Kenneth Moore also served on the committee.

"I am excited that this program is being made available locally," he said, noting that he earned his bachelor's from a university in Tennessee. "That's why we pushed it and we appreciate The W getting behind it."

MUW also has a 2+2 degree program, which has been in place several years, but has not been an online degree with completion in 18 months for the junior or community college transfer student.

"The great advantage to this degree is that a person who is working can complete the degree while still working and therefore reduce their student loans or even pay as you go every six weeks an amount that is doable in order to complete his or her education," Mayfield said. "The six week terms will allow the student to finance their education using their credit cards or through their pay checks on a pay as you go type of mechanism."

MUW is currently enrolling for the 2+2 program and will accept applications for the technology and public safety degrees, which will not be operational until the fall of 2010.

For more information, call the School of Professional Studies at (662) 329-7152 or email deansoffice@bu.muw.edu.



MUW Honors Memory of Four Students

By Anika Mitchell Perkins

Family and friends, as well as the campus community of Mississippi University for Women, recently gathered at a tree dedication ceremony to celebrate the lives of Jamelia Brown, Jaslynn McGee and cousins Catherine Ann Muse and Alondan “Angel” Turner. Redbud trees now stand firm and tall across from Kincannon Hall, where the freshmen were residents.



Brown McGee Muse Turner

Their lives were claimed in a hotel fire in Hoover, Ala., in January.

“Thank you to the many family members and friends who are here today to help us celebrate the lives of these four special ladies,” said MUW President Claudia A. Limbert. “Although I did not know Jamelia, Jaslynn, Catherine and Alondan personally, I have heard many wonderful things about them and know that they touched the lives of so many while members of our campus community. Our university felt that planting these trees would help serve as way to honor their memory. They truly are missed, but they will not be forgotten.”

Musical selections were provided by the campus group United Harmony, and family members of each student placed flowers at the memorial markers during the dedication. Fellow classmates also released doves, representing the spirits of the students.

Anyea Muse, father of Catherine Ann Muse, said, “The dedication was so beautiful.”

He added that it is touching to know that he can return to campus and see the tree and marker as a reminder of his daughter.

“I cannot put into words the amount of support that has come from the university,” he said. “I appreciate everything the college has done from the bottom of my heart.”

Catherine Ann Muse was from Cordova, Ala. She was majoring in theater and a pledge of the Highlander social club.

Angel’s mother, Alondan M. Turner, said it was the family-like atmosphere that drew her daughter to MUW.

She also echoed that the ceremony was beautiful and described support from the university, particularly the staff in community living, as a “blessing.”

Angel also was from Cordova. Her major was accounting, and she worked in MUW’s on-campus daycare center.

Jacquelynn McGee, the mother of Jaslynn McGee, said, “We are so proud of the school and what it has done. It shows the love from the school especially to the families. Everything was beautiful.”

Jaslynn McGee was from Corinth and was studying pre-nursing BSN.

Jamelia Brown’s mother, Sandra Townes, also said the ceremony was beautiful.

“She (Jamelia) would have loved it. She loved this school. Everyone here has been so wonderful. I would like to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart. They have helped me get through this.”

Brown, a native of Grenada, was a pledge of the Troubadour social club and a W-Rep. She was majoring in pre-nursing BSN. 📍



Four redbud trees were planted across from Kincannon Hall, where the students were residents.



Campus Master Plan Renovations Continue

By Sarah Perry



Poindexter Hall

Mississippi University for Women is continuing renovations as part of its Campus Master Plan.

“We have completed Phase 1 of Poindexter Hall (demolition phase). We’re anxiously awaiting a bid date for Phase 2. In that phase, the interior will be fully restored and renovated. Once Phase 2 begins, we are expecting the project to take between 15-18 months,” said Nora Miller, vice president for finance and administration at MUW.

Poindexter, which includes classrooms, teaching studios, a music library, practice rooms and a recital hall is one of the 23 buildings on the MUW campus listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The demolition phase was completed in January.

According to Miller, the Poindexter renovation will address Americans with Disabilities Act codes (ramps and elevators), more and better rest-room facilities, particularly for public use when performances take place.

Pre-planning for Fant Memorial Library is complete. Plans for improvement include a group meeting space, large multi-purpose rooms for classes and other activities, archives space for restoration, storage and display and a cyber-cafe to provide a retail dining space in a high-traffic area.

Plans for the library also include 24-hour zones of the library and an Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) for volumes not in frequent circulation. As the first ASRS in Mississippi, this robotic storage and retrieval system will allow students to “order” their books on-line from anywhere and the books will be waiting when they get to the library.

Fire suppression in 100 percent of MUW’s residence halls has been added to the campus master plan, with the goal being to have all residence halls equipped with fire suppression by 2016. Fire suppression was added to Goen Hall last year. Frazer Hall will be the next project. 🏠

MUW Signs Agreement with National Restaurant Association

By Anika Mitchell Perkins

An articulation agreement signed between Mississippi University for Women’s Culinary Arts Institute and the National Restaurant Association will give the university a statewide and regional presence as well as an opportunity to recruit more students.

“We become the culinary school in Mississippi,” explained Dr. William “Bill” Mayfield, dean for the School of Professional Studies. “It puts us on the national recruiting stage equal to Clemson and Cornell.”

The agreement also gives MUW access to the 13 Mississippi schools that offer the ProStart program, which is the career-building program for high schools students who are interested in culinary arts and foodservice management.

Mike Cashion, CAE, executive director of the Mississippi Hospitality and Restaurant Association, was on hand to represent the National Restaurant Association.

He said, “We are pleased to be a formal partner with Mississippi University for Women’s Culinary Arts Institute. Each year, the ProStart program graduates students seeking to further their culinary education. This partnership with the Culinary Arts Institute will provide Mississippi students with the opportunity to receive a great culinary education without having to leave the state.”

Chef Erich Ogle, interim director of MUW’s Culinary Arts Institute, said, “This agreement is a great opportunity for the Culinary Arts Institute, MUW and the ProStart students in the state of Mississippi.”

The Culinary Arts Institute, which is an institute of the School of Professional Studies at MUW, is the only culinary institute in the state and the only one in the region that offers a B.S. in culinary arts. It was started in 1996 and the first seven students were admitted in the fall of 1997.

For more information about the School of Professional Studies, call (662) 329-7152. 🏠



Dear Alumni and Friends of MUW,

As chairman of the Board of Directors of the MUW Foundation, I want to express my gratitude to those of you who have chosen to support the university through your generous contributions to the Foundation. Your financial support has provided additional funding necessary to meet the university's needs.

Our ever changing world has brought many challenges this past year to our university, the Foundation and each of us individually. With these challenges have come change and uncertainty as well as new opportunities. Even in these difficult times, we continue to receive support from prior donors as well as new donors to the university. In fact, during the past four years, over 70 new endowed and non-endowed funds have been created within the Foundation to support faculty, staff and programs at MUW.

The Foundation has also been able to generate a consistent level of available support to the university while making progress on our targeted goal of investing for growth. The Foundation's endowment has grown over the past four years from \$23.6 million to more than \$32 million during a period of unprecedented uncertainty in our world's financial markets.

Effective July, I will transition into the role of past chairman of the Foundation. It has been an honor for me to serve in this leadership position the past four years along side a very talented group of alumni and friends of MUW who make up our Foundation's Board of Directors. I have appreciated their commitment of time and resources to continually improve the university and the Foundation. Through such efforts as the creation of an annual report and the establishment of a board committee on strategic planning, we continue to look for ways to better this organization and take very seriously our responsibilities as board members. The opportunity to serve as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Foundation has offered me a personal occasion to give back to the university for everything I received when I attended MUW. I would encourage each of you to remember what you gained from your experience while attending and seek opportunities to give either time or monetarily to the university so the students of today may experience similar rewards.



The MUW Foundation remains a viable and important organization, and I want to thank you for the support and confidence you have shown in our efforts to manage and administer private funds for MUW. We remain committed to our high standards and performance and to assisting the university as it moves into the future.

Sincerely,

R. Edward Betcher, M.D., Class of 1988

Chairman

MUW Foundation Board of Directors



Bridging the Gap: Donors and Recipients Forge Bonds

By Sarah Perry



Dr. Martha Jo Mims is pictured with Christina Tsimpides at the first Scholarship Donor Appreciation Dinner.

The goal of bridging the gap between donor and recipient was met at the first Scholarship Donor Appreciation Dinner held at Mississippi University for Women. The event was an opportunity for scholarship donors and recipients to meet one another.

Guests gathered at the Pope Banquet Room for a meet and greet followed by dinner. Speeches and messages of thanks were given by Dr. Gary Bouse, vice president for institutional advancement; Lindsay Freeman, junior business marketing major and scholarship recipient; and Dr. Bucky Wesley, former vice president for student services.

Dr. Martha Jo Mims, class of 1964 and a retired professor, was one of the donors present at the dinner. She had the pleasure of meeting her scholarship recipient, Christina Tsimpides, a junior English education major. Her scholarship, known as the Martha Jo Mims Education Scholarship, was designed to aid in preparing a student for a career in education.

“Tuition is only part of the cost in preparing to be a teacher. Hopefully, if the scholarship can relieve some of the financial stress, the student will be able to focus on assignments and field experiences,” said Mims, who’s been building on the scholar-



MUW President Claudia A. Limbert visits with scholarship recipient Kassie Abel.

ship for 10 years, as well as contributed to other scholarships throughout the years.

Tsimpides was very grateful for the scholarship and the opportunity to meet Mims. “I enjoyed speaking with her over the dinner, hearing about her experiences and background in the field of education. I was able to not only thank her in person for being my scholarship donor, but also to hear her great advice,” she said.

Mims added, “I learned that she is a fellow Lowndes County resident, and consequently we discovered friends we knew in common. I’m anxious to hear about her new semester and eventually where she will be doing her student teaching.”

The dinner concluded with closing remarks by MUW President Claudia A. Limbert, who has endowed the Ethel Tucker Lowe Scholarship at the university to honor her mother and to pass on the favor that benefited her years ago. The balance of the scholarship is now more than \$70,000.

“When I received my bachelor’s degree, I asked the faculty member who had mentored me how I could pay her back, and she said, ‘Claudia, you don’t pay people back. You pass it on.’ This is my way of passing that blessing on.” 🙏



Myra Williams Ottewell is pictured with Joel Scott Davis, who is the son of alumna Cynthia Acee Davis.

Alumna Explores History of Segregation through Documentary

By Anika Mitchell Perkins

What started as an opportunity to speak to a group of high school seniors about her experience growing up in Mississippi in the 1960s, ultimately turned into a lesson for alumna Myra Williams Ottewell.

Ottewell was able to capture part of her journey in a one-hour documentary titled “Mississippi ReMixed,” which explores the history of segregation in Mississippi and progress made since that time. Written, produced and directed by Ottewell, “Mississippi ReMixed” recently aired on Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

It was almost six years ago that Ottewell was invited to recount her days of growing up in the South to a Canadian classroom that had recently watched the movie “Mississippi Burning.”

Ottewell remembers those days as peaceful and explained that while the facts of the movie were true, that was not her experience.

Despite her intentions, Ottewell’s recollection did not set well with the students. “They could not buy it,” she said. They couldn’t get it.”

At that point, she set out to prove the students wrong and began interviewing her subjects—some well known such as James Meredith, a figure in the civil rights movement, and others not so well known, including Brenda Travis, who was arrested at the age of 16 for entering a whites only waiting room.

Ottewell said she knew nothing about Travis’ story growing up. “I was completely ignorant about what was happening to my African-American contemporaries.

As we got feedback about our early edit from PBS evaluators, they said that the original film was too informational. We should follow somebody. So, essentially the film I started to make changed into my own personal journey.”

Throughout the process, Ottewell said a lot of her friends from college were her support system.

“I called my W friends and we met at Juleps in Jackson. They became my team. They were really key in helping me know whom to contact and were a great support for six years—especially Jan Wardlaw McSpadden (‘68).”

Another interesting MUW tie in the documentary came through alumna Cynthia Acee Davis, who has known Ottewell for 45 years. Both attended MUW from 1965-1969.

“We knew each other because we were both involved with Baptist Student Union and campus publications. Our senior year she was editor of the *Meh Lady*, and I was feature editor of the *Spectator*.”

Davis and Ottewell reconnected (for the first time since graduation) at their 40th class reunion during Homecoming 2009.

“As we were participating in the Long Blue Line March for Convocation that morning, Myra was taking pictures of our class and handing out cards about the documentary she had just completed. My son (who is working on his doctorate in music theory and composition) had a piano composition performed at Carnegie Hall in October 2008.”

At the class dinner, Davis decided to take an article about her son’s recent accomplishment and share with Ottewell in case she needed someone to score her documentary.

“She told me she had already used some prerecorded music in the documentary. I was disappointed but gave her the article



Williams interviewed many subjects as part of her documentary including James Meredith.

anyway, and she gave me a rough cut DVD of the documentary. Then, exactly one month later (on my birthday), I had an email from Myra saying she had looked over the information about Joel and wondered if he would be interested in scoring the documentary.”

The rest is history, and ironically, the producer and composer never met face-to-face until the premiere in Jackson.

Joel Scott Davis, who works as a composer in Los Angeles said, “Working with Myra Williams Ottewell was both a pleasure and a privilege. She is, in my

mind, the essence of a well-rounded director. She is an extremely gifted person, and her knowledge of storytelling, video editing and musical style made for a rewarding collaborative process.”

Cynthia Acee Davis added, “I feel honored and blessed that Myra gave Joel the opportunity to be involved in such a worthwhile project. As an Alabama native, I

shared many of the experiences Myra did in regard to race relations.”

Ottewell said MUW provided her with a strong foundation, especially the relationships developed with faculty and staff.

“I was a late bloomer, and I lacked self confidence academically. I found *The W* gave me a tremendous environment to be nurtured.”

Ottewell, who majored in physical education and

minored in social studies while at MUW, resides in British Columbia, Canada.

For more information about the documentary, visit www.mississippiremixed.com. 📺

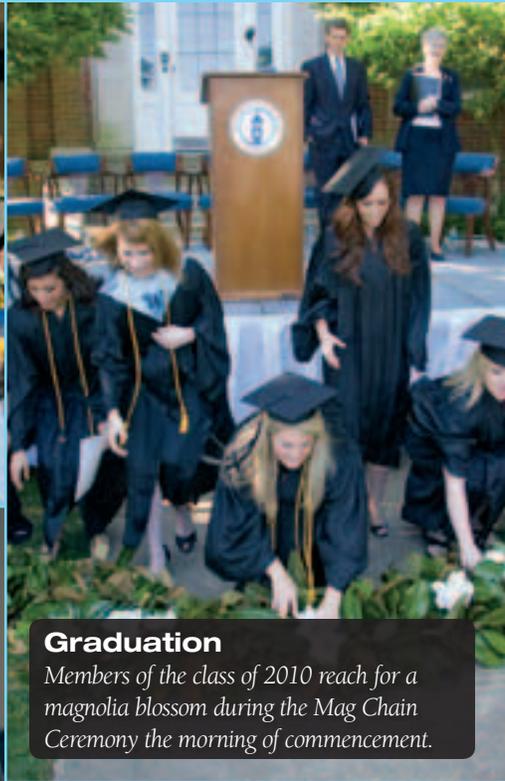


Brenda Travis, who was arrested at the age of 16 for entering a whites only waiting room, also was interviewed by Williams.



Homecoming

Elizabeth Smith Gwin '30 was present at Homecoming for her 80th class reunion. She recently celebrated her 101st birthday.



Graduation

Members of the class of 2010 reach for a magnolia blossom during the Mag Chain Ceremony the morning of commencement.



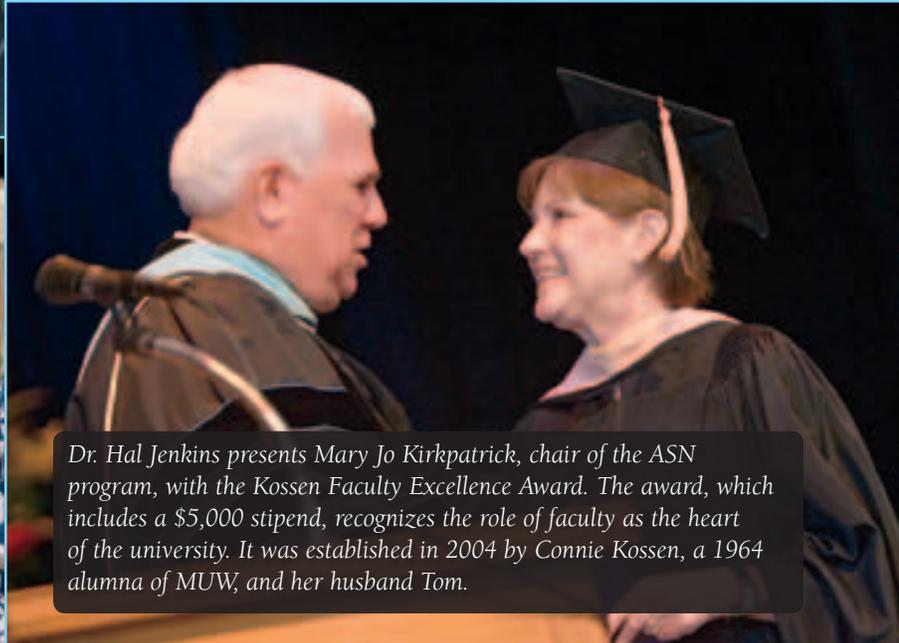
Sam Bartell '10, MUW class cheerleader, leads the Magnolia Chain crowd in song.



A group of alumni sing "Hail To Thee" during Saturday's festivities.



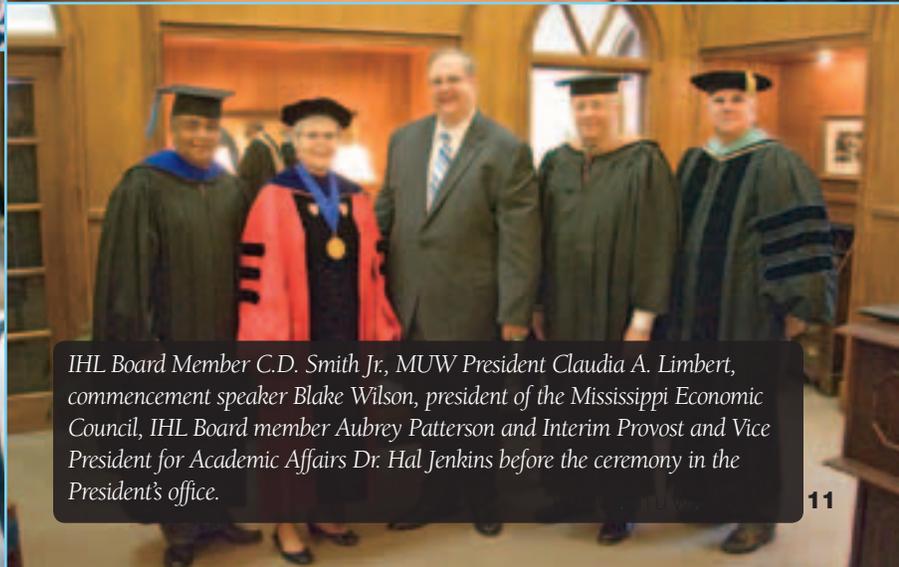
The Honorable Lenore Loving Prather '53 and the Honorable Mary Libby Bickerstaff Payne '54 chat with Macaulay Knight Whitaker, MUW alumni relations assistant director, after the Golden Girls Luncheon.



Dr. Hal Jenkins presents Mary Jo Kirkpatrick, chair of the ASN program, with the Kossen Faculty Excellence Award. The award, which includes a \$5,000 stipend, recognizes the role of faculty as the heart of the university. It was established in 2004 by Connie Kossen, a 1964 alumna of MUW, and her husband Tom.



Jane Izard Turner '80, her mother Becky Izard '45 and Janet Stewart '80 are all smiles at the Golden Girls Luncheon.



IHL Board Member C.D. Smith Jr., MUW President Claudia A. Limbert, commencement speaker Blake Wilson, president of the Mississippi Economic Council, IHL Board member Aubrey Patterson and Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Hal Jenkins before the ceremony in the President's office.



April 25, 2010

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Whether we walked the MUW campus in uniforms of blue or in blue jeans, we share some common experiences as members of The Long Blue Line of MUW alumni. Certainly chief among those things we treasure most are the value of friendships made and education earned at this most unique university!

As you most likely know, MUW and all other Mississippi public universities and state agencies are faced with a deep, painful budget shortfall. Academic and extracurricular programs are being cut. Some faculty and staff positions will be lost.

Between now and fiscal year 2012, MUW stands to lose more than 20 percent of its operating budget funding. You may have already read or heard the news that the university is exploring consolidating a number of its office operations with Mississippi State University in order to cut costs. In addition to these and other on-campus efforts to try and meet the budget cuts, more private dollars are needed.

We, as alumni, will be called upon to help our alma mater meet this enormous financial challenge. We need your energetic support, your financial contributions and your influence within your networks.

Please begin to consider how you may be able to help, and please be prepared to give more and more meaningfully than ever. We ask that you consider the other educational institutions, religious organizations and civic causes that you and your family support and the investments you have made in those entities. MUW needs this same level of investment in order to secure its future. This is like no other time in our history and requires us to reach giving levels of new heights.

If ever there was a time when MUW needed us, we face it now. If ever there was a time when we determined, loyal alumni, faculty, staff and friends could help save MUW, we face that time now. Please anticipate being asked to join us in rising to the challenge that lies before our beloved university and the challenge that lies before us as alumni.

Patricia Ainsworth
Patricia Ainsworth, M.D. '70

M. Anghaarad Teague Dees
M. Anghaarad Teague Dees '95

Andrea Overby
Andrea Overby '68

Linda Ross Aldy
Linda Ross Aldy '73

Cindy Dunbar
Cindy Dunbar '81

Carolyn Vance Smith
Carolyn Vance Smith '60

Kay Beevers Cobb
Kay Beevers Cobb '63

Ricki Rayner Garrett
Ricki Rayner Garrett, Ph.D. '73

Eugenia Summer
Eugenia Summer '45

Lynne Bryson Curtis
Lynne Bryson Curtis '74

Betty Lou Stuart Jones
Betty Lou Stuart Jones '66

Nancy Fancher Yates
Nancy Fancher Yates '63

Connie Sills Kossen
Connie Sills Kossen '64



Classnotes

1930s

Addie Adair '35 of Hamilton celebrated her 100th birthday on Nov. 22, 2009.

1950s

Leslie Threadgill '52 and her husband Bill of Columbus were presented the award for outstanding service in the community at the Town & Tower Club's annual Christmas program. Her family established the Leslie Farrell Threadgill Lecture and Artist Series to promote family and cultural influences, to advance the artistic and intellectual environment of university and to strengthen the cultural bond between the university and the public.

1970s

Shirley Brantley '73 of Clinton was promoted to vice president of the Trustmark National Bank in Jackson.

Belinda Russell '73 of New Albany was named Mississippi Virtual Community College Online Instructor of the Year for 2008-09.

Dianne Walker '73 and her husband Gene of Forest were recently named Citizens of the Year. Walker studied music with an emphasis on piano and is now the pianist for the Forest Baptist Church.

Janice Kemp '78 of Ridgeland recently joined Prudential Good Earth Realty as a sales manager.

1980s

Charlotte Wilson '80 of Hamilton was inducted into the Mississippi Hall of Master Teachers at Mississippi University for Women.

Angela G. James '84 of Booneville joined the Senter Medical Clinic of Belmont staff as a Certified Nurse Practitioner.

Myra Kinchen '84 has been nominated as Clinton Teacher of the Year. She has taught first grade at Clinton Park Elementary School since 1993.

Scarlett Walker Clark '86 of Macon was named this year's Hall of Fame honoree by the Macon Jr. Auxiliary.

Janice Diane Rhoads '87 was recently named the 2010 Hinds County School District Teacher of the Year.

Teresa Crockett '89 of Byhalia is a family nurse practitioner for the Byhalia Family Health Center of Northeast Mississippi Health Care Inc. and recently celebrated more than 20 years of service.

1990s

Pamela Q. Guyton '90 has been nominated as Florida's Orange County Teacher of the Year.

Elizabeth Grafe '91 of Bay St. Louis was named district teacher of the year at Hancock Middle School.

Arthur Rodgers '95 received a Certificate of Competency in Occupational Health Practice Management.

Dr. Wendy McCullough '97 of Aberdeen was honored by the Prairie R.C.D.C.

Cindy Blaylock Davis '99 joined Saint Joseph's Hospital - East Georgia as a physical therapist.

Cathy J. Waldrop '99 of Hamilton was named director of nursing at North Mississippi Medical Center.

2000s

Stephany Owens '03 of Corinth was named employee of the quarter by North Mississippi State Hospital.

Crystal Chamblee '08 recently joined Madden Medical Clinic as a family nurse practitioner.

Vickey Hall '09 joined Iuka Medical Clinic as a family nurse practitioner.

Weddings

Lynne Alison Jackson '95 of Gretna, La., and Harold William Street were married Jan. 16, 2010.

Tracy Lewis '96 and Mark Hoover were married Oct. 3, 2009.

Susan Parker '02 and Jeffrey Bryant, both of Tupelo, were married Nov. 28, 2008.

Courtney Paige '03 of Baldwin and Richard Anthony Skelton were married Jan. 9, 2010.

Brandy Houlk '05 of Columbus and Neil Larmon of West Point were married Oct. 17, 2009.

Rachel Rae Kent '06 of Southaven and Dustin Worley of Lenmoore, Calif., were married Nov. 14, 2009.

Kimberly Nicole '06 of Columbus and Kelly Robertson of Mobile, Ala., were married April 24, 2010.

Brittany Archer '07 and Chris Pace, both of Aberdeen, were married Nov. 16, 2009.

Christopher Breland '07 and Phoebe Temple, both of Columbus, were married Oct. 24, 2007.

Jodie Lee Rawson '07 of Corinth and Daniel Holleyman of Starkville were married March 20, 2010.

Haley Michelle Cochran '08 of Olive Branch and Gilbert Matthew Comola '08 of Tupelo were married Aug. 9, 2009.

Kimberly Cooper '08 of Louisville and Michael Doolittle were married Nov. 5, 2009.

Rachel Ledbetter '08 of Benton and Howard Hearst of Ridgeland were married Nov. 7, 2009.

Brooke Newell '08 and Justin Campbell, both of Meridian, were married Sept. 26, 2009.

Kathryn Diane Oaks '08 and Dr. Jonathan Ryan Cooksey, both of Corinth, were married Oct. 10, 2009.

Laura Katherine Foster '09 of Louisville and John Franklin Maxcy of Fulton were married Sept. 5, 2009.

Leslie Lann '09 of Starkville and Charles Nicholas Dimino of West Point were married Oct. 4, 2009.

Robin Lazarus '09 and James Carl Garton '08, both of Columbus, were married Nov. 7, 2009.

Mackenzie Leigh Shanklin '09 of Corinth and David Cousino of Leland were married Sept. 19, 2009.

Casey Kyle Parkman '09 and Margaret Ann Thomas were married Dec. 6, 2009.

Christina Amy Valsamakis '09 and Benjamin Childers, both of Aberdeen, were married Oct. 10, 2009.



Deaths

1920s

Annie Claire Mayfield Hornaday '25 of Washington D.C., March 31, 2010.

Sarah Margaret Stuart Cook '27 of Aiken, SC.

Louise Woods Boschert '28 of Baton Rouge, La., Jan. 27, 2010.

Linda Lacey Kellerhouse '29 of Longview, Texas, Feb. 2, 2010.

1930s

Sallie Johnson Farrell '31 of Baton Rouge, La., Nov. 20, 2009.

Adele Smith Williams '31 of Indianola, Nov. 10, 2008.

Arbelle Webber Barkemeyer '33 of West Point, Sept. 25, 2009.

Hudean Windham Burkhalter '34 of Ruleville, March 19, 2010.

Jewel Alice Green '34 of Oxford, Sept. 11, 2009.

Vera Walker O'Brien '34 of Collins, Feb. 23, 2010.

Addie Posey Adair '35 of Hamilton, April 25, 2010.

Mary Corrine Rogers Ridophi '35 of Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 1, 2009.

Louise Wilkins Anderson '36 of West Point, Nov. 11, 2009.

Mildred Cavett Pearson '36 of Macon, July 28, 2009.

Ernestine Wright Berry '37 of New Hebron, Jan. 19, 2010.

Helen Abston Breckenridge '37 of Madison, March 19, 2010.

Annie Ruth McElroy England '38 of Tupelo, March 19, 2010.

Helen McMahan '38 of Union, March 11, 2010.

Miriam Boyd Atkinson '39 of Cleveland, April, 2010.

Mary Helen Graves Cranwell '39 of Florence, Ala., Oct. 1, 2009.

Rachel Anne Tillman Laney '39 of Jackson, April 27, 2010.

Jane Seward '39 of Jackson, Feb. 8, 2010.

Lorraine Sugg '39 of Eupora.

1940s

Bobbye Murphree Ayres '40 of Leland, March 30, 2010.

Mary E. McDade Garrett '40 of Vicksburg, Nov. 14, 2009.

Elizabeth Coffey Gladney '40 of Myrtle, Dec. 31, 2009.

Catherine Ouida Bush Hamilton '40 of Ecu, Nov. 9, 2009.

Mable Clare Clark Pittman '40 of Greenwood, March 21, 2010.

Margaret Hunt Richardson '40 of Germantown, Tenn., March 24, 2010.

Margaret Miller Beard '41 of Meridian, April 21, 2010.

Winifred Cook Carver '41 of Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 18, 2010.

Mary Jane Sanders Chandler '41 of Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 15, 2010.

Kathleen Steele Cooper '41 of Birmingham, Ala., June, 19, 2009.

Margie Phelps Jones '41 of Yazoo City, Feb. 21, 2010.

Mary Evelyn Scuggs Mitchell '41 of Tupelo, Sept. 25, 2009.

Mary Francis Hogan-Bradley '42 of Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 11, 2010.

Virginia Howorth Mims '43 of Tupelo, Jan. 14, 2010.

Helen Bernice Harrold Naugle '42 of Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 20, 2009.

Jimmie Dennis Wailes '42 of Florence, Oct. 10, 2009.

Frances Williams Curtis '44 of Jackson, Jan. 19, 2010.

Molly Doris Brewer Parker '45 of Metairie, La., March 20, 2010.

Mary Richardson '45 of Starkville, Feb. 13, 2009.

Martha Donaldson Wheeler '45 of Philadelphia, Feb. 15, 2010.

Tell Us Your News or News About a Friend!

Have you been promoted? Earned another degree?

Have you married or had an addition to the family?

Send us your news, comments and suggestions to

Alumni Relations, Mississippi University for Women,

1100 College St., MUW-10, Columbus, MS 39701-5800.

Please circle the line that tells us what has changed - such as your name, address, etc. Use an additional sheet to tell us your news.

Name _____

Occupation _____

Class Year _____ College _____

Social Security No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-mail Address _____



Mary Louise Fant Carlson '46 of Vicksburg, Feb. 28, 2010.

Ruth Richardson Perkerson Ebersole '46 of Columbus, March 26, 2010.

Bettie Hudson Hawkins '46 of Calhoun City, March 18, 2010.

Dorothy Fuqua Hogan '46 of Houston, Texas.

Mamie Mangold Rhodes '46 of San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 21, 2009.

Hazel Natalie McInnis Summerour '46 of Lucedale, Oct. 30, 2009.

Norma Alford Hodges '47 of Meridian, Sept. 27, 2009.

Joan Bolton Rakestraw '47 of Booneville, July 10, 2009.

Margie Phelps Jones '48 of Tchula, Feb. 21, 2010.

Connie Lucille Gower Juno '48 of Whitefish, Mont., May 24, 2007.

Elizabeth D. "Libby" Gasaway '49 of Vicksburg, Dec. 22, 2009.

Still Going Strong



Juanita McCown Hight '34, is pictured at the Golden Girls Luncheon during Homecoming. Hight was recently presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by Sen. Giles Ward for her outstanding service and dedication toward making Louisville and Winston County a better place to live and work at the Louisville 53rd annual chamber banquet. She will celebrate her 97th birthday in August.

Alumni Association Presents Awards



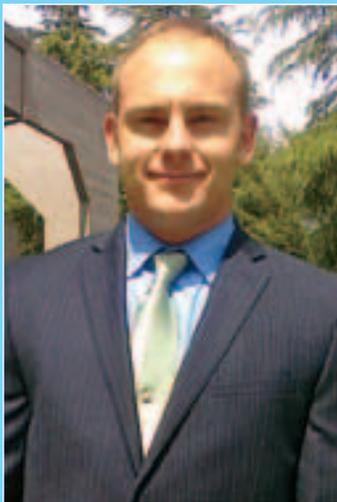
The Alumni Association of Mississippi University for Women recently recognized three deserving individuals for contributions to their respective fields and the university. All three awards were presented by Dr. Pat Ainsworth, president of the Board of Directors.

Dr. Barbara Garrett, professor emerita of health and kinesiology, was the recipient of the Alumni Service Award, and Chef Erich Ogle, who teaches at the Culinary Arts Institute, was presented the Recent Graduate Award. MUW President Claudia A. Limbert was honored with the Distinguished Achievement Award.



Steele Lands Job as Operations Manager

By Anika Mitchell Perkins



Steele

While Tim Steele was able to land an ideal job fresh out of college, he noted that a key skill he learned from Mississippi University for Women's Office of Career Services and professors made the deal even sweeter.

Steele, who graduated in December 2009 with a degree in business administration with an emphasis on entrepreneurship, is now operations manager for Zero

Waste Solutions, a privately held corporation that is based in Newark, Calif.

He joined the company the first of January and serves as the link between the director of operations and site supervisors, who are on location at projects in New Jersey, Florida, Mississippi, Oregon and California.

"Career Services helped prepare me for my job search two years ago when I first transferred to MUW. Career Services held events such as Career Marathon for students to participate in. It also provides student with information packets to assist with preparing resumes, searching for jobs, corresponding with potential employers and interviewing," he said.

Steele noted that he was on the fence whether to go straight to graduate school or look for a job. During that time, he was

contacted by the owner of Zero Waste Solutions, who said there were three things that made Steele stand out after coming across his resume on the Career Services website. First, he was near completion of a degree in entrepreneurship, second, he had an interest in recycling and last, his military service.

He explained that the College Central Network site is similar to Monster.com or careerbuilder.com, but employers can directly target college students, employers can post jobs and students can search for potential jobs.

"A key to the job search process I learned from Career Services and professors in the School of Professional Studies pertains to the negotiation process," he said. "I used the information they gave me to research salary and benefits for an operations manager located in San Francisco.

"I used the tips they taught me to get a good salary. I was able to get a company car and gas card—for California that was big. I can still hear words of Dr. (Dee) Larson, echoing in my head, 'Everything is negotiable, ask for things like company cell phone.' I asked for a company cell phone and it worked. They gave it to me."

Steele added that MUW also prepared him in other ways.

"I was able to gain the knowledge I needed for my field. Further, the small class sizes enabled me to apply that knowledge by working on projects like case studies, company interviews and business proposals," he said. "MUW gives you the opportunity to learn in class and practice what you learn. Practical application is very important. At MUW, I could apply what I was learning in the school environment. I knew if I had any problems there were people there to help." 🗨️

Doris Dollar Godd '49 of East Point, Ga.

Annie VanLandingham Roush '49 of Edmond, Okla.

1950s

Bobby LaGrone Dudley '50 of Huntsville, Ala., July 14, 2009.

Louise Lee Scruggs '50 of Carrollton, Dec. 25, 2009.

Mary Ann Smith Templeton '50 of Starkville, March 27, 2010.

Cornelia Garrott Seat Barrentine '51 of Pass Christian, June 2, 2009.

Anne Campbell '51 of Brandon, Dec. 6, 2009.

Anna Lehmann Noble '51 of Fayette, Jan. 30, 2009.

Clara Galtney Dupree '52 of Lexington, Ky., Feb. 21, 2009.

Imogene Black Gordy '52 of Hazlehurst, Feb 23, 2010.

LaVerne Reynolds Heslep '52 of Cleveland, March 25, 2010.

Dorothy Andress '53 of Tyler, Dec. 3, 2009.



Alumni Association Announces Board of Directors

By Anika Mitchell Perkins

The Alumni Association of Mississippi University for Women announced its 2010-2011 Board of Directors election results at its annual meeting during Homecoming.

Dr. Pat Ainsworth from Brandon currently serves as president. She is a 1970 graduate.

Dr. Mitzi Chandler Green, a 1977 graduate from Columbus, will serve as president for the 2010-2011 year.

Board members returning for a second term are Becky Tate Cade '76 and Renee Nick Flynt '81, both from Jackson; Irene Turner Guthrie '80 from Port Gibson and Kim Triplett '97 from Starkville.

New directors elected for a first term are Mark Box '96 from Columbus, Mary Ann Sadka Petro '68 from Jackson, Barbara

Whitaker Smith '55 from Madison and Dawn Powell Woo '87 from Cleveland.

The MUW Alumni Association is officially affiliated with the university and exists to support and promote the mission of MUW by establishing quality relationships between the university and its alumni. The association serves the university and its alumni by providing opportunities for alumni engagement with each other and in its efforts to advance MUW.

For additional information about the MUW Alumni Association and to become a member, visit www.muwaa.org. For more information, please contact the MUW Office of Alumni Relations at 662-329-7295 or alumni@muw.edu. 

Marianne Lipsey Graves '53 of Tuscaloosa, Ala., Oct. 6, 2009.

Catherine Swayze Wallace '53 of Jackson, April 19, 2010.

Marianne Bell Pawlik '54 of Mission, Texas., Oct. 3, 2009.

Sara Jane White '54 of Manderville, La., Sept. 9, 2009.

Mary Ardath Cade Williams '54 of Brooksville, Jan. 18, 2010.

JoAnn Gibson Davis '55 of Cleveland, Feb. 12, 2010.

Betty King '55 of Okolona, Dec. 8, 2009.

Sylvia Christine "Teena" White Wallace '56 of Columbus, March 18, 2010.

1960s

Linda Lacey Kellerhouse '60 of Longview, Texas, Feb. 2010.

Kay Tanksley '60 of Jackson Gap, Ala., Oct. 31, 2008.

Anita Williams Guthrie '62 of Raleigh, N.C.

Dorothy "Gay" Fortner Hanna '64 of Gulfport, Feb. 10, 2010.

Carolyn Shook '65 of Amory, Dec. 6, 2009.

Michelle Devereaux Hardy '65 of Pascagoula, Oct. 3, 2009.

Nita Saucier Smith '66 of Prentiss, Nov. 25, 2009.

Barbara Robbins Timmons '66 of Tupelo.

Betty Carol Vinson Betz '69 of Metairie, La., Sept. 2009.

1970s

Barbara Hill Irvin '70 of Sulligent, Ala., April 6, 2010.

Beverly Beatrice Clemmons '72 of Columbus, Nov. 5, 2009.

Cheryl Zepponi Biggers '73 of Marietta, Ga., July 6, 2009.

Norma Lynn Hardage Sanders '75 of Baton Rouge, La., Jan. 10, 2010.

Martha Wheeler '77 of Cleveland, Feb. 15, 2010.

1980s

Patricia Dawn Good Yoder '80 of Atmore, Ala., July 8, 2009.

Maurica D. Walker Alexander '81 of Houston, Texas, Jan. 1, 2010.

Georgia Leigh Millender '83 of Aberdeen, Dec. 17, 2009

Catherine Vogt Spitler '86 of Columbus, Nov. 30, 2009.

1990s

Sharon Denise Lollar Newell '93 of Caledonia, Oct. 23, 2009.

Marianne Maschak Dreon '97 of Dearborn Heights, Mich., June 18, 2009.

2000s

Mary Frances Wilhite Herod '02 of Blue Springs, Sept. 29, 2009.

Brad Douglas Johnson '09 of Rienzi, Jan. 10, 2010. 

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