

TheClasses

“ Charles Plosser, BE’70, has been appointed president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. ”

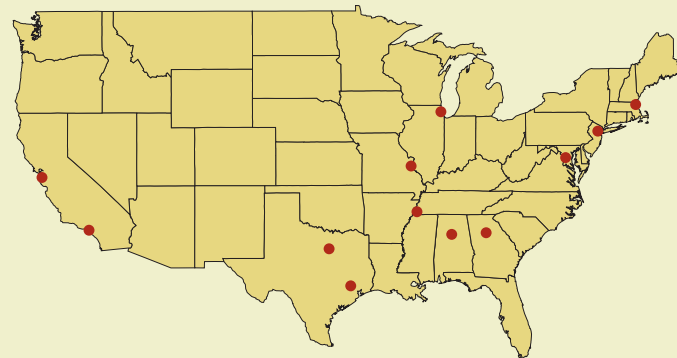
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Alumni Association News

Alumni Interviewing Program Expands

The Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions have expanded the Vanderbilt Alumni Admissions Interviewing Program. All students applying to Vanderbilt have the opportunity to request an interview with an alumnus or alumna.

The two offices jointly launched the program in the fall of 2003 in Atlanta, Chicago and Houston. It was doubled the following year to include Birmingham, Ala.; Dallas; Memphis, Tenn.; and the Metro New York area. Last year the program was expanded again to include Boston, London, Los Angeles, San Francisco, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. In 2005–06 more than 1,000 students requested interviews in the above-mentioned areas.



The program serves as an informal exchange of information between Vanderbilt applicants and alumni. It also allows alumni to serve as a personal link to prospective students and their parents in local communities. Much appreciation is due to everyone who participated in this program during its first three years.

Interviews began in October. Vanderbilt expects a record number of applicants this fall, and alumni interviewers can help personalize the application experience for prospective students.

If you are interested in becoming an alumni interviewer for the 2006–07 application season, please complete the required online training session at www.vanderbilt.edu/admissions/AIP.



Karen Thomas Fesmire, BS'80

NEIL BRAKE

Invested for Life

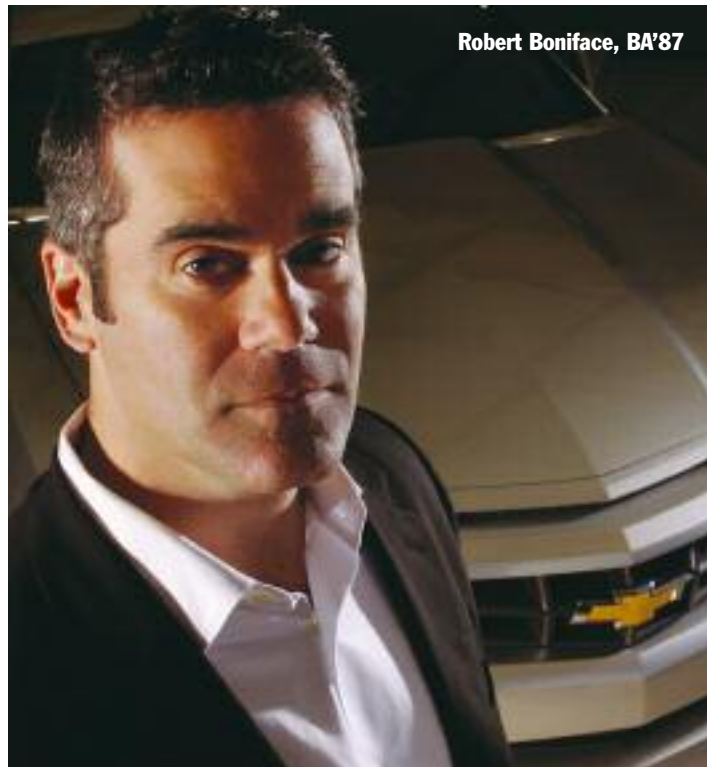
Karen Thomas Fesmire knows something about multi-tasking. When *Vanderbilt Magazine* caught up with her at her Memphis, Tenn., home to ask about her plans as president of the Alumni Association, she was happy to share her thoughts—as soon as she got off her *other* phone line, on which she was in the midst of a planning meeting about Reunion Weekend.

“I’m sort of a professional volunteer—schools, church, charities,” says Fesmire, whose eventual presidency of the Alumni Association was a foregone conclusion. After being named to the Alumni Board, during one meeting Fesmire spoke up and asked, “Are we just here to listen and be made to feel good about ourselves, or are we actually supposed to be *doing* something?”

Fesmire arrived at Vanderbilt in 1976 from the small town of Coshocton, Ohio. She majored in business administration and married Dr. William Fesmire, BA’80, a Memphis pediatrician. They are parents of Maggie, a Vanderbilt sophomore, and 9-year-old Witt. The Fesmires are big fans of Vanderbilt sports.

As president of the Alumni Association, Fesmire has ambitious plans. “I want to give students the tools to help them become engaged as alumni,” she says. “Alumni aren’t just people who come back at Homecoming or give Vanderbilt money—they’re invested in the life of the university.”

“Karen Kobanowicz, BS’82, joined three other NASA astronauts aboard Aquarius, the underwater laboratory of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.”



Robert Boniface, BA'87

TOM PIDGEON

Cool Is Back

Why did all the coolest kids always drive Camaros? Red Camaros. You could see them coming from down the street. And you knew that whoever was on the inside was going to a great party you weren't invited to ... with the hottest date in town.

In 2002 the last Camaro rolled off the assembly line in Canada. But if you've always dreamed of owning this American icon, relax. In 2009 the Camaro will be back on the market and better than ever, thanks to Robert Boniface, director of the General Motors Advanced Design Studio.

Boniface came to Vanderbilt with a career goal of car design in mind. He started out at the School of Engineering but quickly realized he wasn't "particularly gifted at math." But his degree in psychology has definitely come in handy.

"A car is a very emotional purchase," Boniface says. "A car says something about you. And when it comes right down to it, you don't buy a Corvette or a Mini Cooper because of crashworthiness or fuel economy. You buy it because you like it."

Chances are, aficionados will like the new Camaro, which won Best in Show at the most recent Detroit Auto Show. And if you've always had a secret itch to drive what the cool kids drove, chances are, you'll like it too.

—Cindy Thomsen

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“ Tony Bates, BS’91, has launched *MoozikooRadio.com* to promote independent music. ”



John Lunn,
BE'92

NEIL BRAKE

Tradition in a Bottle

When John Lunn was studying chemical engineering at Vanderbilt, he never dreamed he'd be using his education to make moonshine.

As master distiller for George Dickel Whisky, Lunn oversees production of the Tennessee sipping whisky in Cascade Hollow in the hills near Normandy, Tenn. Moonshine is one of the early stages in the distillation process, before the whisky (the traditional Scottish spelling) is mellowed, diluted and aged.

At 36, Lunn is one of the youngest master distillers in a business that honors longevity and tradition. He says his Vanderbilt education prepared him well for his current career: "Distillation is very much a chemical engineering process."

It's also an old-fashioned art. Lunn and his staff eyeball and taste-test their product at each stage of development, without the aid of computers.

"I get the biggest kick from the fact that our 27 employees make all the George Dickel Whisky in the world," he says.

His greatest challenge is keeping the product the same as it was when Dickel, a German immigrant, founded the company in 1870. "In a world where everything changes, that's not easy," Lunn says.

He invites alumni to tour the distillery Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

—Joanne Beckham



Lucy Dalglish,
JD'95

PAMELA LEPOLD

The First Freedom

When she was in school in Grand Forks, N.D., Lucy Dalglish was editor of her sixth-grade newspaper. She came out against the war in Vietnam, against women's liberation, and against her father's tendency to restrict her television viewing. That last column resulted in Lucy's being grounded, despite her telling her father, "I have the First Amendment. I have the right to say what I want." Parental rights prevailed back then, but Dalglish has never stopped promoting the rights of journalists.

After working as a journalist in St. Paul, Minn., and receiving a master of studies in law degree at Yale, she came to Vanderbilt to complete her law education. One attraction was the just-created Freedom Forum First Amendment Center where she worked part time.

"It was very exciting just to be there and hang out with [center founder] John Seigenthaler and to see who was coming through that place," she said, remembering her days in Nashville.

Today Dalglish is executive director of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. Since its inception in 1970, the committee has been involved in virtually every press-freedom case that has come before the Supreme Court. She spends a lot of time explaining just what First Amendment law is all about and why America needs a free and independent press. It's an argument she's been honing since the sixth grade.

—Cindy Thomsen

“Nicole Duciaume, BA'00, has traveled to Kenya, Bolivia, Mozambique and Uganda as a support officer with the Christian Children's Fund.”

Why Your Parents Move to Florida

BY TERRI WITEK, BS'83, MA'84, PHD'88

Other imports thrive: roller coasters, Spanish moss,
 Cooled air and a pair of teenaged armadillos
 Who fled a traveling tent show in the Thirties
 (heirs dot the berm like overturned helmets).
 There are still giddy miles of citrus
 To consider and, although at first they'll buck it,
 The sweet corn of March. That fewer clothes
 Are needed means robins arrive all at once
 Like a shipment of discount, flame-hued mittens.
 It will seem small-minded to be sad here, though they are.
 The graves fill up same as anywhere.
 But as long as they keep a dozy eyelid propped,
 The sky (so low in buttoned-up Illinois or Ohio)
 By some huge blue agreement forgets to drop.

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Terri Witek teaches English and poetry workshops at Stetson University in Deland, Fla., where she holds the Art and Melissa Sullivan Chair in Creative Writing.



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Tom Reardon, BA'06
Austin Bauman, BMus'06

Pedaling for Change

Following their graduation from Vanderbilt last May, Austin Bauman and Tom Reardon embarked on a 5,000-mile bike ride to raise money for the Rally Foundation, an organization that supports childhood cancer research.

In June the two started in Atlanta, riding east toward the Atlantic and turning north when they saw the blue of the ocean. They followed the Atlantic coast from Savannah, Ga., to Scarborough, Maine, and then rode west until they crossed the Mississippi River. In each city, they visited children affected by cancer, often staying with the children's friends and families. Each stop also brought a visit to the local pediatric oncology hospital or department.

"It was great to help take their minds off their sickness, because the kids in the hospitals just want to be treated like kids," Bauman says.

The pair cycled through mountain ranges, across rivers, and once rode 200 miles in a single day. They cycled through 19 states and visited more than 300 children.

They arrived back in Nashville Sept. 5 to a welcoming crowd at Vanderbilt. After three months and 5,000 miles of "pedaling for pennies," they raised more than \$116,000. "The whole idea is that everyone can give something, and we've really experienced that," Bauman says.

For more information about Rally Across America, visit www.rallyacrossamerica.org.

Vanderbilt University Alumni Association Board of Directors, 2006–2007

NEW MEMBERS

(For a complete roster of board members and club liaisons, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/aassocbod.)

President: Karen Fesmire, BS'80

President-Elect/Vice President: Billy Ray Caldwell, BA'85

Immediate Past President: Sharon Munger, BA'68

NEW REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Region I: Nashville

Kasey Dread, BS'93, MEd'02

Clare Michels, BA'99, MBA'95

Theodore Morrison Jr., BS'92

Region II: Tennessee (excludes Nashville)

Lisa Uiberall-Noble, BA'93

Region III: Southeast (MS, AL, FL, GA, SC, NC)

Laurie Ann Burton, BS'93

John Douglas, BA'93

Jay Harris, BA'80, JD'84

Mark Riley, BA'77, JD'80

Region IV: Northeast (KY and VA northward)

Charles Myer III, BA'75

Cheryl Nichols, BA'81

Region V: West (all states west of the Mississippi River)

Doug Atnipp, BA'82

Tricia Morris, BS'86

Region VI: International

Landis Hicks, BE'66

NEW ALUMNI CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Dallas—Larry Green, BA'91

Houston—Jeffrey Horner, BA'80

Los Angeles/Orange County—Laura Hardy, BA'86

San Francisco—Trish Cook, BA'83, MA'90

Washington, D.C.—Kimberly Nelson Hill, BA'97

NEW SCHOOL LIAISONS

Divinity School—Martha Ford, BA'84, MDiv'95

Peabody College—Olympia Ammon, BS'96

Law School—James Crumlin, BA'94, JD'97

School of Nursing—Kacy Smith Jones, MSN'05

NEW EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Divinity President—MarLu Scott, MDiv'03

General Chair of Reunion—Tom Steele, BS'76

Nursing President—Elizabeth Farrar, BA'90

Owen Graduate School of Management—

Nancy Abbott, EMBA'91

Alumni Association News

Vanderbilt Chapters Bring VU to You

Vanderbilt Chapters offer exciting ways for Vanderbilt alumni, parents and friends to connect across the country and world-wide. With more than 30 chapters offering 300 volunteer-run events yearly, they are a great resource for networking and getting plugged into your local VU community.

Alumni and friends enjoy happy hours, viewing parties, events with Vanderbilt professors, wine tastings, family activities and more. For a list of chapters and their events, check out www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni.

Chapter highlights from 2006 included:

Chicago: The Tutankhamun exhibit and a lecture with Barbara Tsakirgis, associate professor of classics and art history, at The Field Museum

London: A summer garden tea for alumni, faculty and students

Louisville, Ky.: A tour, brunch and tasting on the Woodford Reserve Distillery veranda, followed by the Commonwealth Breeders' Cup at Keeneland thoroughbred racetrack

New York City: A discussion of "9/11: Five Years Later," from a historical perspective, with Thomas Schwartz, professor of history, including brunch and a walk to "Ground Zero"



Philadelphia:

A family event at Linvilla Orchards, including hayrides, a petting zoo, and a campfire dinner with hot apple cider on a 300-acre working farm

Washington, D.C.: An evening with John Geer, professor of political science, for a lively discussion of his new book, *In Defense of Negativity: Attack Ads in Presidential Campaigns*, and the election season

Don't Miss Out

Many Vanderbilt Chapter activities are publicized through e-mail. To ensure that you receive invitations, be sure to update your e-mail address online at www.Dore2Dore.net, or e-mail us at alumni@vanderbilt.edu.

The Alumni
Association