

The Classes

“ Charles H. “Chuck” Baumberger, BA’63, of Pinecrest, Fla., was named

Please Note: Class Notes only appear in the print version of this publication.

{ Alumni Association News }

The Next Chapter in Vanderbilt Clubs

Alumni and friends around the world are about to see major changes in Vanderbilt Alumni Association Clubs in their cities.

For one thing, they’re not called clubs anymore—they’re chapters, as in a Vanderbilt Chapter of the Alumni Association. More important, there’s a new emphasis on giving alumni, parents and friends the power to reach out to more people and create the kind of Vanderbilt communities that work best for their area.

What’s behind the change? Sharon Munger, BA’68, president of the Vanderbilt Alumni Association, explains: “When they asked me to serve as president, I said yes on one condition—that we can reinvent, jack up and improve the role that alumni can play for the school. We want to increase participation of alumni, parents and friends in the life of the University and to make it stronger.”

At the local level, that means volunteer-driven chapters will provide:

- More leadership opportunities
- More ways to connect with alumni and friends, and with VU
- A broader array of events to appeal to more people
- Strengthening of great existing programs
- More independent chapters

The Alumni Association is also streamlining communications efforts and increasing the use of e-mail for the latest Association news and event invitations. Be sure we have your e-mail address: Please update your information on **www.Dore2Dore.net**.

“Clearly, Vanderbilt is on a march to elevate the caliber of its student body and faculty,” says Munger. “Now we’re going to do the same thing with alumni and friends under the assumption that we’ll create a circle of energy that will put the University in a position to make an even bigger contribution to the world.”

For more information on regional Vanderbilt chapters and upcoming events, visit **www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni** or e-mail **alumni@vanderbilt.edu**.

2005 Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Florida chapters of the American Board of Trial Advocates. ”



André Churchwell, BS'75, flanked by brothers Keith (left) and Kevin.

DANA JOHNSON

All in the Family

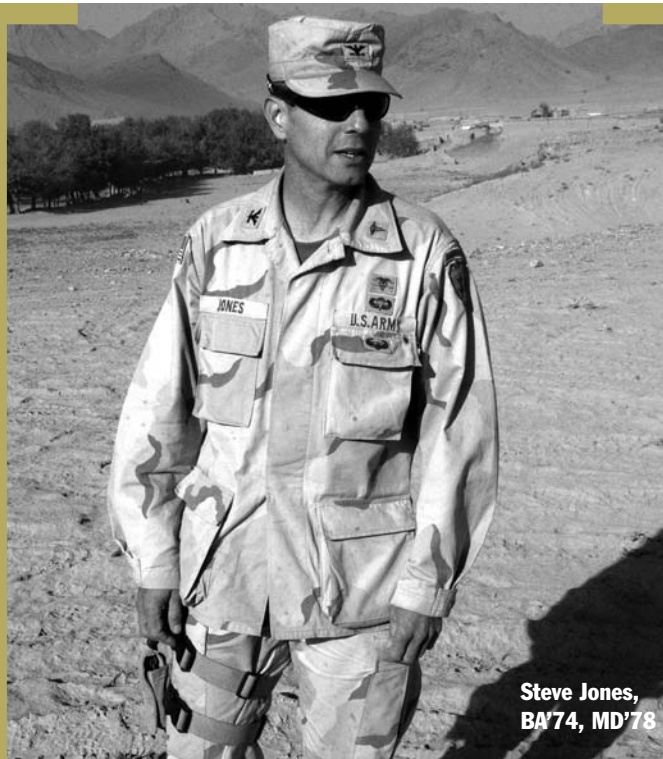
“Growing up in a family of educators and professional people as I did, education was greatly emphasized,” says André Churchwell, BS’75. “I did not want a purely scientific career, but one that involved interaction with people, so medicine seemed to be a natural fit.”

Churchwell is assistant clinical professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Meharry Medical College. But if you page Dr. Churchwell, you could find yourself seeing triple. André’s brother Keith is director of the Page-Campbell Heart Institute at Vanderbilt and assistant clinical professor of medicine. Keith’s twin, Kevin, is chief of staff/associate medical director for the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital and associate professor of pediatrics and anesthesiology.

The Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni this fall presented André Churchwell its Walter R. Murray Jr. Distinguished Alumnus Award. For the past nine years, he has been named one of the nation’s top cardiologists. He was the first African-American chief medical resident at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta.

“When I’m long gone,” he says, “I hope people remember that I tried to take care of my patients like they were members of my own family.”

“Bridgett Luther Thompson, BA’77, has been appointed by California



Steve Jones,
BA’74, MD’78

Physician Soldier

Since May 2004, home for Dr. Steve Jones has been a tent in the mile-high deserts of Afghanistan. Every day landmines explode around him along with weekly rocket fire and mortar attacks.

“They’re not very good shots,” Col. Jones says assuringly. “Last week, out of six rockets fired only three hit the base.”

The career physician soldier has racked up plenty of hair-raising experiences. At Fort Bragg, N.C., he was the military equivalent of chief of staff when a fighter jet collided with a transport plane. The resulting fireball engulfed more than 150 paratroopers. For six months starting in October 2001, Jones oversaw care to Al Qaeda and Taliban detainees transferred from Kandahar, Afghanistan, to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In 2002 he became commander of Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell, Ky. It was, he says, “my most demanding and most rewarding assignment. These soldiers defeated the Taliban in Afghanistan, then turned around and deployed to Iraq a few months later.”

Jones’ next assignment is to oversee medical activities in Iraq, including humanitarian assistance, reconstruction, development of a medical system for the new Iraqi Army, and provision of care for U.S. forces and detainees.

—Abridged from *Vanderbilt Medicine*

Nominate to Build a Great Alumni Association Board

The Vanderbilt Alumni Association will soon select new members to its board of directors. Do you know the perfect candidate? Someone actively involved in your local Vanderbilt activities? We need your help identifying Mr. and Ms. Right to serve your interests on the board.

The board includes a minimum of 18 regional representatives, 10 representatives of the largest Vanderbilt chapters, and representatives from Vanderbilt schools and colleges. Rotation of board members, who serve four-year terms, is staggered.

The Alumni Association is now calling for nominations for representatives from:

- Region I: Nashville
- Region II: Tennessee, exclusive of Nashville
- Region III: Southeast (North Carolina to Mississippi inclusive)
- Region IV: Northeast (Virginia and Kentucky northward)
- Region V: West of the Mississippi River
- Region VI: Areas outside the United States (Asia)

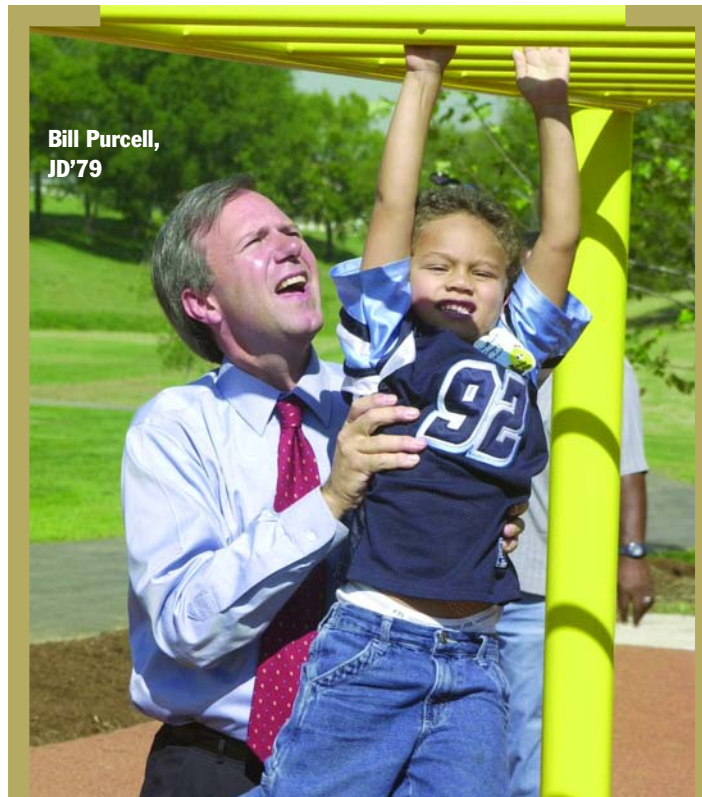
Representatives from these Vanderbilt chapters will be selected: Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Representatives from Peabody, Law, Nursing and Divinity also will be selected.

To find out more, visit www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/aaboardinfo.htm. To nominate an alumnus/a, please use the online form at www.vanderbilt.edu/alumni/aabodnom.htm, or print out the form and submit it to:

Alumni Association Board Nominating Committee
VU Station B 357735
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, TN 37235-7735

Fax nominations to 615/343-1412, or e-mail alumni@vanderbilt.edu. Hurry! The nominations deadline is Jan. 31, 2006.

“Debbie Gordon, BS’94, of Nashville has started one of the first eBay



Bill Purcell,
JD'79

STEVE GREEN

For the Children

“Vanderbilt Law School brought me to Nashville and gave me the start in my legal career and interests in protecting our children,” says Pennsylvania native Bill Purcell, Nashville’s mayor since 1999.

Purcell entered public service in 1986 when he was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives. As house majority leader and chair of the Select Committee on Children and Youth, he led reforms in education, criminal sentencing, health care and workers compensation. In 1996 he became director of the Child and Family Policy Center at the Vanderbilt Institute of Public Policy Studies.

Children also have been at the center of his initiatives as mayor. Early in his first term, he made education the city’s top priority by visiting all the city’s public schools.

Although he won 84 percent of the vote when he was reelected mayor two years ago, Purcell says he will not seek a third term and is proposing a charter amendment to limit the office to two terms.

He has an ambitious agenda involving improvements in the city’s schools, public safety, parks and neighborhoods for the 21 months remaining in his mayoral term. “I can finish the job I set out to do,” he says.

retail online auction stores, based on a software program she wrote. ”



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“ Joanna Roufa Welch, BS’99, has been named

{ Alumni Association News }

Campfires, Cork Dorks and Carnegie Hall

If you’re not participating in the life of your local alumni chapter, you’re missing out on one of the best parts of a Vanderbilt education. Here’s a taste of what alumni, parents and friends in cities across the country have been enjoying this year, culled from hundreds of events in dozens of cities.

In Metro New York, “An Evening at Carnegie Hall” featured a cocktail reception at Shelly’s New York with Blair School of Music Professor Michael Rose speaking on “Three Great B’s at Carnegie Hall: Bartok, Boulez and Barenboim,” followed by a Chicago Symphony Orchestra performance.

In Austin, Texas, alumni and friends gathered at the LBJ Library and Museum to hear about one of the greatest politicians in U.S. history from Professor of History Thomas Schwartz, who spoke on “Reconsidering LBJ and Foreign Policy: Lyndon Johnson and the Atlantic Alliance.”



New Orleans alumni, parents and friends celebrated their traditional Summer Send-Off Party to welcome new students to Vanderbilt, hosted by the Berger family. Chancellor Gordon Gee spoke to a crowd of more than 200.

A large group of Dallas-area cork dorks got together at a brand new winemaking facility in Dallas, Times Ten Cellars, for wine-tasting and a tour.

The Philadelphia Chapter welcomed 62 alumni and family members to the Linvilla Orchard for a family day of pony rides, face painting and a campfire dinner.

The Breakers Mansion



Boston-area alumni enjoyed lunch with John Poindexter, BA'46, MA'48, who shared his knowledge of Vanderbilt family history and their ties to the University. The group toured the Breakers Mansion in Newport, R.I., a symbol of the Vanderbilt family's preeminence a hundred years ago.

In Huntsville, Ala., more than 100 Vanderbilt alumni and supporters gathered at the Ledges of Huntsville to hear Coach Kevin Stallings talk about the 2005–06 men's basketball team.

San Francisco alumni and friends enjoyed "An Evening of Learning, Lights and Laughter." Kass Kovalcheck, chair of the Department of Communication Studies and Theatre, spoke about the history of theatre, and the group attended a performance of "Beach Blanket Babylon," a San Francisco tradition.

To wrap up the year, the Nashville and Houston chapters are hosting "Gee Whiz: Vanderbilt Geniuses at Work." Larry Marnett, professor of cancer research, biochemistry and chemistry, explores chemical methods of detecting disease; Ann Richmond, professor of cancer biology and medicine, discusses research on inflammation-reducing drugs' potential in the fight against skin cancer and malignant melanoma; and John Wikswo, professor of physics, biomedical engineering, molecular physiology and biophysics, explores the human genetic code and protein makeup of the cell as the "new" biology.

