

# CLASS NOTES



**Mike Steirer '62** and his wife, Jan, just completed a trip to Provence in Southern France. Mike continues to teach English composition at Lorain County Community College in Elyria, Ohio, and resides in Medina.

**Jerry L. Pierman '63** has joined Las Olas Ecuador Real Estate as a member of the architectural design and construction team for the Ceibo Valley Golf Club, a premier par 72 championship golf course currently under construction on the coast of Ecuador. Jerry has more than 35 years of experience in the golf business, including working for Jack Nicklaus for more than ten years as vice president responsible for construction.

**Judy (J.J.) Prokupek '67, Jerry Prokupek '67, and David Pierce '68** were on a transatlantic cruise from Venice, Italy, to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The three are pictured here outside a restaurant in Barcelona, Spain.



**Joyce (Shepherd) Blankenship '69** retired in May 2014 after working 33 years as an adoption specialist at Children's Home Society of North Carolina. Joyce and her husband reside in Greenville, North Carolina. They have two children and two grandchildren.

**Jean Churchill '70** won first and second prizes for her entries in the hand-quilted wall-hanging category at the Lucas County Fair in Maumee, Ohio, in the summer of 2015. Jean resides in Toledo.

**Ron Sislowksi '70** announces his recent marriage to Paulette Williams. The Sislowskis reside in Lorain, Ohio.



**Lynn Hickman '72** is now living in Martonvásár, Hungary, where he is married to Zoltán Migléc. They have two children, Zoltán Erik and Izabella Melinda. Lynn is studying the Hungarian language in Budapest.

After 35 years of service, **Donald Riker '72** retired in July from his position as a United Methodist pastor in the West Ohio Conference. Donald resides in South Vienna, Ohio.

In June 2013, **Susan (Nye) Peoples '73** retired from the Santa Ana Unified School District after 21 years of elementary school teaching. Susan resides in Lake Forest, California.

**Quincy Ford '74** has retired from teaching after a career with the Michigan City, Ind. area schools that spanned 41 years. Ford headed the music department at Michigan City High School, and directed the marching, concert and jazz bands. In addition to his music work, he also taught driver's education since 2000. Quincy resides in Michigan City with his wife, Diana.

**Yolanda Alvarado '83** has accepted a position as an account executive with Aetna Health Plans and has relocated to the Cincinnati area.

**Amy Stoodt '89**, owner/principal of Lean-To Consulting, LLC, has been recognized as a Distinguished Professional in her field through Women of Distinction magazine in the November 2015 edition. She spent more than 25 years working for major owners and operators, including Marathon Pipeline

Company as well as engineering firms, before making the decision to start her own consulting business in 2014. Amy's expertise is in executing management consultant activities and focusing on project management. She resides in Bush, Louisiana.

As of August 2015, **Carol (Keesbury) Whetstone '90** is trust officer/vice president at First Federal Bank. Carol and her husband, Tim, reside in Defiance.

**Ron Slinger '91** was recently promoted to associate vice president of institutional advancement at Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colorado. This is in addition to his current role as executive director of the Red Rocks Community College Foundation. His new scope of responsibilities will include government relations, community relations, alumni relations, grants, foundation, marketing and communications for the College. Ron lives in Arvada, Colorado, with his wife, Karen. They have two children: Nicholas - 20 and Katelyn - 15.

**Dr. (Lieutenant Colonel) Mark Lee '92** recently retired from the military after more than 30 years of distinguished service. Mark's wife, Cynthia, recently retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after 24 years of service in the Army. The Lees are retiring on the island of Tierra Verde, Florida, and Mark's future plans include becoming an associate professor of management and leadership.

**Chris Hoeffel '96** is now the executive director for the United Way of Paulding County. Chris and his wife, **Annette (Rue) '99 & '10**, reside in Continental with their two children.

**John Kryzanowski '00** was the new football coach this past season for the Kearny (New Jersey) High School Cardinals varsity football team. John is married to **Jenifer (Schaadt) '01**, and they reside in Kearny.

**Joshua Francis, '02 & '06**, interim dean of Indiana Tech's College of General Studies and director of teacher preparation, has been chosen to serve on a state blue ribbon commission on recruitment and retention of teachers in Indiana. Josh resides in Ney, Ohio.



**Melissa (Dick) Cook '05** and her husband, Adam, welcomed a baby boy, Keaton, to their family on July 19, 2014. The Cooks reside in Clyde, Ohio. Melissa is the senior assistant director of admissions at Heidelberg University.

**Christopher Newcomb '05** and his wife, Katie, announce the arrival of their daughter, Julia Christine, on June 10, 2015. Julia was welcomed home by her sister, Amelia, born March 23, 2012. The Newcombs live in Conneaut, Ohio.



**Daniel Detmer '07 and Katie (Pile) Detmer '08** announce the birth of their son, Cameron James, on Sept 19, 2015. The Detmers currently reside in Manassas, Virginia.

**John Lancaster '07 and Kathryn (Fedele) Lancaster '08** reside in Kalamazoo, Mich. with their three-year-old daughter, Juliana. Kathryn recently accepted a job with Access Medical, and John works for State Farm Insurance.



**Richard Palmer '07 and Emily (Anderson) Palmer '07** announce the birth of a baby boy, Grant Palmer, on September 14, 2015. Grant was welcomed home by his big brother, Dean. The Palmers live in Yulee, Florida, where Emily works as a national park ranger.

**Jake Mulinix '10 & '12 and Brittany Heaton '12** were married in Louisville, Ohio, on October 12, 2014. It was a true DC event, with Caci Hyman '11 as photographer, DC Professor Steve Sondergaard as officiant, and Dr. Don Knueve among the guests. Jake and Brittany are both working for the Ohio Attorney General's office, Jake as a special agent in the Health Care Fraud Section, and Brittany as a forensic scientist in the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. They reside in London, Ohio.

**Nathan Schmidt '11** was wed to Allison Streicher on July 11, 2015 at St. John's Catholic Church in Continental. Nathan is an intervention specialist at Continental High School and Allison is a graduate student at Defiance College. The couple resides in Continental.

**Treg Lymanstall '14 and Janelle Doenges '13** were married on July 25, 2015 at North Mount Zion Church in Continental, Ohio. Janelle is employed at Ayersville Schools where she is a kindergarten teacher and Treg is employed at Tinora as assistant athletic director and basketball coach. They reside in Defiance.



*Professor Steve Sondergaard had dinner earlier this fall with three DC alumni. Gathering at Henry's restaurant in Ottawa were Josh '05 and Allison (Stehlik) '04 Bowersock and Chris George '03 and their children.*

## DEATHS

**Florence (Stauffer) Foley '41**  
August 31, 2015 – Mission, Texas

**Roger Sweet '44**  
August 22, 2015 – Springfield, Ohio

**Geraldine (Orthwein) Openlander '51**  
September 5, 2015 – Malinta, Ohio

**Thomas Biggs '57**  
November 20, 2015 – Maumee, Ohio

**Betty Lou (Karch) Stuber '58**  
September 30, 2013 – Fremont, Ohio

**Minnie (Cunningham) Burt '61**  
October 29, 2015 – Clearwater, Florida

**Nancy (Hurley) Smith '62**  
August 21, 2015 – Hicksville, Ohio

**Dorotha "Dotty" (Zimmerman) Aldrich '65**  
September 7, 2015 – Defiance, Ohio

**Dwight Moorhead '65**  
October 16, 2015 – Bryan, Ohio

**David Gore '66**  
April 15, 2015 – King, North Carolina

**Michael Pletcher '67**  
October 28, 2015 – Coolville, Ohio

**Rev. Bennett McNeal '68**  
September 29, 2015 – Sandwich, Illinois

**Larry Clites '70**  
September 5, 2015 – Peyson, Arizona

**Michael Lanker '71**  
July 1, 2015 – Buffalo, Wyoming

**Marilynn Kay Hoeffel '76**  
October 31, 2015 – Rossford, Ohio

**J. Timothy Price '84**  
August 10, 2015 – Bryan, Ohio

**Brian Evans '90**  
May 26, 2015 – Hagerstown, Maryland

**Raffaella Peck '93**  
September 2, 2015 – New Bavaria, Ohio

### Faculty:

**Robert Ryan**, former English professor, Cambridge Mass., April 15, 2015. A Melville scholar, Dr. Ryan taught for several years at DC before going on to teach at Boston University for 30 years.



**Rudolph "Rudy" Oswald '69** of Naperville, Ill. died Nov. 20, 2014. A friend of many, Rudy was a loyal member of Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity. He was particularly active in keeping his TKE brothers in contact with each other and organizing their annual return to Defiance College for Homecoming. In honor of his great love for his alma mater and his DC fraternity chapter, Rudy's family, friends and fellow TKEs chose to remember him by establishing the Rudy Oswald Scholarship at DC. It was announced at Homecoming this year that this memorial scholarship is now fully endowed and will provide student financial assistance each year to a deserving student for generations to come.

## Keep in Touch

We'd like to know about your new job, recent marriage, new member of the family, new address, or other happenings in your life. For photos, please send those of Defiance College people only, identify everyone, and label the back with your name and address. If you are moving, please send this form in with your new address.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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