

DC ALUMNI class notes

The 50's

Dr. Jim LeMaster '59, former Defiance College professor and professor emeritus of English at Baylor University, has published a book of poetry, *A Necessary Tribute*, dedicated to his wife, **Wanda LeMaster '75**, who died in March 2010. In addition to being an accomplished poet, Jim has also been recognized for his scholarly work, including numerous publications on Walt Whitman and Mark Twain. Jim resides in Waco, Texas.

The 60's

David Gynn '65 of Kent, Ohio, was recently elected the 2012 president of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association which represents 33,000 retired teachers.

Robert Herbst '68 was recently appointed by La Salle University in Philadelphia to the position of director of professional and corporate education in the University's College of Professional and Continuing Studies (CPCS). His responsibilities include the development of educational and training resources and programs that satisfy learning needs of corporate executives, professionals, and the regional workforce. Bob and his wife, Christine, reside in Chester Springs, Pa.

The 70's

Pelzer J. Warren '70 announces his second retirement. Pelzer retired from the Air Force in January 1991. He also retired from teaching in January 2012. Pelzer resides in Valrico, Fla., with his wife of 37 years.

John Scheu '72 has been named the 2012 campaign chairman for Shelby County United Way. John has spent his entire career in the education field and is currently the superintendent for Sidney City Schools.

John Trautman '72 has retired as executive director of the Isaac Knapp District Dental Society after 10 years. John and his wife, Julie, reside in Bryan, Ohio.

Barbara Silvis '72 has been elected board chair for the United Way of Rhode Island. Barb, who also serves on the Defiance College Board of Trustees, is vice president at FM Global and resides in Warwick, R.I.

Frank Barron '73 was inducted into the Connecticut Lacrosse Hall of Fame on Nov. 13, 2011, recognized for being an outstanding lacrosse coach and contributor to the game. Frank and his wife, **Becky (Sharp) '73**, are long-time residents of Branford, Conn.

Lynn (Metcalf) Alexander '73 reports that Presbyterian Villages of Michigan (PVM) has acquired her business, Your Aging Well Advisor, which provides senior citizens and communities with educational programs and consulting. Lynn will remain as president of Your Aging Well Advisor, and will also serve as vice president of public affairs for PVM. Lynn lives in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., with her husband, Jim, who is an Oakland County circuit judge. They have one son, Scott, who is married and lives in Chicago.

Gary I. Mogan '77 recently published his second novel. He still works full time for the state of Florida as an administrative review specialist, along with umpiring high school, college, travel league, and showcase baseball. Gary and his wife, Kathleen, reside in Hollywood, Fla.

Keith Bell '78 was named superintendent of Euclid City Schools near Cleveland, effective Aug. 1. Keith previously served as director of secondary curriculum in Westerville schools in Columbus. He also had the opportunity to serve in administrative roles in Groveport Madison and Gahanna-Jefferson schools. Keith is a member of the Defiance College Board of Trustees.

Cynthia (McCann) Bentancur '79 and husband, Daniel, welcomed a granddaughter, Kathryn Grace Bidlack, on Jan. 12, 2012. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. The Bentancur family resides in Defiance.

Sharon Mortensen '79 has been named president and chief executive officer of the Midland Area Community Foundation. She previously served as executive director of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for eight years. Sharon resides in Midland, Mich., and has been an active volunteer throughout her community.

Bill Parker '79 of Defiance and his wife, Jane, attended the Feb. 24 women's basketball game in Columbus, where Ohio State

faced the University of Minnesota Gophers, coached by DC alumna **Pam Borton '87**. While Pam's team lost that contest, the Gophers qualified for the Big Ten Tournament.

The 80's

Robert Arend, Jr. '80 and his wife, Sue, celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on Nov. 14, 2011. The couple has two children and resides in Mark Center, Ohio.

Terry Futrell '80 has been awarded Coach of the Year in the American Midwest Conference. He is a first-year Wilberforce University men's basketball coach and resides in Wilberforce, Ohio, with his wife, Anita.

Frankie Jones Harris '83 is now communications director for The Ohio State University College of Social Work. Frankie and her husband, Lance, reside in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Jeff Aumend '83 has been inducted into the Montana State University Hall of Fame. He has coached many softball teams, including one All-American team. Jeff is currently residing in St. George, S.C.

Dave Evans '84 recently completed his second year as athletic administrator at Elida High School. Dave spent the previous 19 years at his alma mater, Lincolnview High School. His wife, **Beth '95**, teaches at Vantage Career Center. Dave and Beth reside in Van Wert, Ohio.

David R. Cottrell '84 recently completed his degree work to become a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Freemason. He completed the York Rite, was knighted a Knight Templar and has completed his certification at the master level for the International

<http://alumni.defiance.edu/>

Conference of Police Chaplains. David and his wife, Donna, live in Lucasville, Ohio.

Joyce Stanton '86 earned a light sport pilot's license in September 2010. She flies out of Van Wert, Ohio, where she lives.

David Knipp '86 and his wife, Rebecca, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on March 6, 2012. David and Rebecca have four children and reside in Davidson, N.C.

Chris Menchaca '88 of Swartz Creek, Mich., was inducted into the Wauseon Athletic Hall of Fame on Dec. 3, 2011.

Don Martindale '88 is now the Denver Broncos linebackers coach. Don is a former Baltimore Ravens defensive coordinator and has coached many teams, including the Oakland Raiders and the Defiance College Yellow Jackets.

Tim Meister '89 has been appointed as superintendent of Four County Career Center, effective Aug. 1. Tim and his wife, Karen, reside in Bryan.

The 90's

Mark Lee '92 was recently transferred to Fort Knox, Ky., as the deputy director for the US Army's Human Resources Command, Business Management Office for Budgeting and Contracts. Additionally, Mark was recently Lean Six Sigma (LSS) trained and is the only Army comptroller that is both CDFM (Certified Defense Financial Manager) and LSS qualified. Mark has more than 20 years of active duty service and is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army.

Bill Bishop '93 was recently named 2012 Business Person of the Year by the Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce. Bill is president and CEO of Associated Insurance Agencies and resides in Galena, Ohio, with his wife, Jennifer.

Melanie Caustrita '93 has recently graduated from Wright State University in Dayton with a Master of Science degree in nursing with a concentration as an acute care nurse practitioner. She will be employed at Community Hospitals and Wellness Centers in Bryan, Ohio.

Lara (Homan) Limbert '95 and her husband, Eric, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Zachary, on Jan. 11, 2011. Lara is employed at Milton-Union Elementary as an intervention specialist. The Limberts reside in Tipp City, Ohio.

Trish Sanford-Speiser '96 has opened a downtown Defiance office for her insurance agency, Riverview Family Insurance. She is also the branch and state finance officer for the American Association of University Women.

Dr. Melissa Davies '98, clinical psychologist, has opened up an office in Defiance. Melissa earned her doctor of psychology degree in 2003 from Wright State University and did her internship at what is now the University of Toledo Medical Center. She resides in Napoleon, Ohio, with her husband and daughter.

The 00's

Matthew J. Joost '02 was named one of the 2011 Top 10 under 40 recognized by the Defiance Area Chamber of Commerce, which recognizes leaders under the age of 40 who have demonstrated outstanding leadership. He was also recipient of an award of distinction from the Ohio Association of Realtors and was interviewed by the Re/Max International News Report. Matt resides in Defiance with his wife, Kierstin, daughter Rylee, 6, and son, Kasen, 4.

Sandra (Holder) Strickler '02 and husband, Mark, welcomed new daughter, Isabel Anmarie, on July 18, 2011. Sandra and Mark have four other children: Kendyl, 16, Kobe, 13, Kaden, 5, and Bryce, 2. The Strickler family resides in Defiance.

Jennifer (McCoy) Ziegler '02 and husband, Donovan, welcomed their daughter, Melody Lynne, into the world on Dec. 13, 2011. Melody was also welcomed by her big sister, Kadence, 19 months.

Corey Deming '02 has recently been named the new manager at Keybank, Defiance.

Regina (Keller) Babcock '05 and husband, Jeremy, welcomed their second child, John Michael Babcock, on Sept. 25, 2011. He was also welcomed by his big sister, Janie Babcock.

Joni (Haver) Mavis '05 and husband, Brian, announce the birth of their son, Will Allen Mavis, on Jan. 4, 2012. Will was welcomed home by his sister, 3-year-old Isabel, and brother, 2-year-old Morgan. Will's proud grandparents are **Sharon Crites '89**, James Haver, and Gary and Pat Mavis. The Mavis family resides in Edgerton, Ohio.

The Valparaiso, Ind. Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that **Phil Blasko '06** joined the parks staff as the youth program director. Phil graduated from Defiance College with a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in sport management and came to Valparaiso after four years with the YMCA in Sandusky, Ohio. He is married to **Lauren (Aldridge) '09**.

Curt Croy '07 married Kayla Doepker in October 2010. Curt and Kayla live in Ottawa, Ohio.

Brett Hammons '07 was recently named head varsity basketball coach for the Lancers at Lincolnview High School, Van Wert, Ohio. Brett resides in Van Wert.

Toni (Pocratsky) Egly '08 is now a certified surgical technologist at Parkview North Orthopaedics in Fort Wayne, Ind. She married James Egly on Nov. 1, 2008. They currently reside in Hicksville, Ohio.

Ali Mendhall '08 graduated from Physician Assistant School at NOVA Southwestern University in Florida. She recently passed her certification tests and began her first job in family medicine in Fort Myers, Fla.

Deaths

Melva (Pickering) Gorham '36
July 20, 2011 – Dayton, OH

Violet (Richardson) Siefkin '38
January 9, 2012 - Modesto, CA

Martha Bleeks '41
November 17, 2011 – Defiance, OH

Dr. Francis Lenhart '41
April 2, 2012 – Bowling Green, OH

John F. Kaduk '43
May 31, 2012 – Hicksville, OH

Marion Van Horne '44
July 16, 2011 – Peabody, MA

Irma Wirick '45
April 1, 2011 – West Liberty, OH

R. Jack Behringer '49
October 5, 2011 – Grove City, PA

Joyce Wyatt '49
February 6, 2012 – Paulding, OH

C. Katherine (Scheef) Virgin '50
January 24, 2011 – Houston, TX

H. Andrew "Buzz" Bain '50
November 19, 2011 – The Hills, TX

Walter P. Wood '50
July 1, 2012 – Cincinnati, OH

Richard Lovett '51
March 19, 2012 – Stanwood, MI



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ON PAGE 24

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Philip Oldham '52

June 20, 2011- Troy, OH

Joseph Distl '54

April 27, 2008 – Brevard, NC

Delbert E. Martin '55

December 28, 2011 – Auburn, IN

Carl Knollman '56

December 10, 2011- Toledo, OH

Edgar Stork '57

October 22, 2009 - Defiance, OH

E. Keith Hubbard '57

February 24, 2012 – Defiance, OH

David Goodwin '59

January 20, 2012- Columbus, OH

David L. Culler '60

October 11, 2011 – Redford Township, MI

Willis Meyer '61

January 10, 2012 - Ocala, FL

Joy P. Link '62

October 21, 2011 – Archbold, OH

Fredrick Warncke Jr. '62

September, 17, 2011 – Defiance, OH

Paul Edward Flathman '63

November 14, 2011 – Bascom, OH

Samuel Everett '63

February, 15, 2012 – Traverse City, MI

Mildred (Boyd) Cotter '64

October 17, 2011 – Oxford, OH

Shirley Seaberg '64

January 20, 2012 – Carolina Beach, NC

Norman “Woody” Woodruff '64

December 8, 2011 – Fort Wayne, IN

Elizabeth (Shumaker) Wingate '65

January 2, 2012- Ney, OH

Paul Wiechart '67

November 25, 2011 – Defiance, OH

Gary Barnett '69

March 20, 2012 – Vero Beach, FL

Lois B. Young '69

March 4, 2012 – Holgate, OH

Robert Spitnale '72

October 8, 2011 – Continental, OH

Terri (Maik) Gelzer '74

May 30, 2012 – Cleveland, OH

Steven J. Schmidt '81

December 25, 2011 – Payne, OH

Sharon West Krutsch '89

November 19, 2011 – Defiance, OH

Candy Budd-Crowley '92

February 25, 2012 – Toledo, OH

Barbara Rohrs '97

November 11, 2011 – Hicksville, OH

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A simple bequest written into your will can help ensure that a Defiance College education is accessible to future generations of young people. By working together, we can see that the opportunity to learn and grow, both in and out of the classroom, continues well beyond our lives.

You may leave a gift to the Defiance Fund, which is for immediate general support or create an endowment with a specific purpose, such as scholarship, faculty development or to sustain a favorite educational or co-curricular program. Some gifts can even return an income stream to you.

For more information, please contact Cindy Shaffer, Director of Planned Giving at 419-783-2306 or cshaffer@defiance.edu. Or visit our webpage: dclegacy.org.

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: _____

Maiden Name: _____ **Class Year:** _____

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