

Summer 2009

The Ouachita Circle Summer 2009

Ouachita Baptist University

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The ouachita Circle

SUMMER 2009

s e r v i c e



Mom Chu's legacy

Remembering Flight 1420

Service: a compelling priority

Christ's familiar words in Matthew 25 provide the classic motivation for a life of Christian service: *"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me." Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.'"*

Coupled with the parable of the Good Samaritan and Jesus' instruction to "go the second mile," the call to dedicated Christian service remains a compelling priority among Christ-followers today.

Here at Ouachita, "service" is one of the three watchwords inscribed on the university seal. As this issue of *The Ouachita Circle* caps a yearlong emphasis on vision, integrity and service, the focus on service is a natural extension of Ouachita's foundational goals of fostering a love of God and a love of learning. Together, those principles help prepare each of our students academically, spiritually and personally for lives of meaningful service.

Among aspects of service highlighted in the following pages, Ian Cosh affirms that "deep in the human spirit, God has placed an innate desire to serve others." Cosh, OBU's assistant to the president for community development, details how Ouachita "has made a commitment to promote service and servant leadership on campus."

Countless Ouachita alumni are living selfless lives of service to God and man. A few notable examples featured in this issue are Hapi Wanje ('85), country facilitator for Mission of Mercy Kenya; Tim Moseley ('78), president of Wayside Christian Mission in Louisville, Ky.; and Dr. Miranda Childs Bebee ('90) of Arkadelphia, project coordinator for Arkansas Mission of Mercy dental clinics. They are representative of Ouachita grads near and far who are joyfully serving "the least of these."

One additional note: Thanks to our readers who have affirmed the updated design and content of *The Ouachita Circle* unveiled last fall. We are pleased to report that the redesigned magazine received national recognition from Baptist Communicators Association earlier this year. Providing a quality publication for the benefit of Ouachita's alumni and friends is simply one more way that we can serve.



Trennis Henderson
Vice President for Communications

**"Love has to be put into action,
and that action is service."**

Mother Teresa

**"The highest form of worship
is the worship of unselfish
Christian service. The greatest
form of praise is the sound of
consecrated feet seeking out
the lost and helpless."**

Billy Graham

**"Perhaps the greatest social
service that can be rendered by
anybody to the country and to
mankind is to bring up a family."**

George Bernard Shaw

**"It is not fitting, when one is
in God's service, to have a
gloomy face or a chilling look."**

Francis of Assisi

**"With good will render service,
as to the Lord, and not to men."**

Ephesians 6:7



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Fanning the flames of service at Ouachita and beyond

by Ian Cosh

A Rotarian friend in Zimbabwe who exemplifies genuine servant leadership ends her e-mails with Helen Keller's famous quote: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something I can do."

This quote is a call to grasp the staggering truth that each of us can make a difference in our world. It also tacitly suggests there is no

greater tragedy in life than for us to undermine our talents and convince ourselves that our service is not needed. Life is replete with examples of men and women who were able to change the course of events in ways beyond their wildest dreams by passionately serving the common good. Deep in the human spirit, God has placed an innate desire to serve others. We all know by experience that to freely do something without compulsion or coercion

releases a certain liberty of the spirit. That is the benchmark of true service.

Matthew chapter 20 provides a clear picture of the choice facing us to serve or be served.

“IT IS IN THE SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS AND SACRIFICE THAT CHRIST’S MERCY AND GRACE ARE MADE ALIVE IN FRESH WAYS.”

The mother of the sons of Zebedee asked Jesus to promote them to places of prominence in kingdom leadership. Jesus’ response was to contrast the attitude of the day regarding leadership and privilege with the spirit of His kingdom. In the public domain, the Gentiles clung to every scintilla of privilege that power and position offered. But in the kingdom, Jesus demonstrated that greatness is measured by service to others. This understanding of leadership was radically different from that portrayed by all the leaders who had dominated the world stage before Christ. Jesus Himself sums up the depth of His commitment to this style of servant leadership by declaring in Matthew 20:28, “The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Someone recently shared the experience of hearing the story of Anne Frank, as told in the first person by an actor. His observation was that, at some level, we are able to understand the horror of the Holocaust. However, he discovered profound power in hearing the pain of the nightmarish events in Anne’s own words. They brought him a heightened sense of the tragedy of the Holocaust that numbers alone could not offer. In the detail expressed in one young voice, he realized afresh the true pain and loss suffered by millions affected by that horrific genocide.

And so it is with volunteerism; it is in the small acts of kindness and sacrifice that Christ’s mercy and grace are made alive in fresh ways. For Christians, Jesus provides the model for a life of service. Followers of Christ have a clear mandate to serve others. Each one of us is under an obligation to make known the love of Christ by using our unique talents and the opportunities that each day affords.

As a Christian university, Ouachita has made a commitment to promote service and servant leadership on campus. Institutionally, the task of coordinating university service falls to the staff of the Ben M. Elrod Center for Family

& Community. Under the Lordship of Christ, we at Ouachita believe that we can be difference makers in individual lives, in our community and around the world.

boards, are involved in their local churches and serve in civic organizations. Students serve with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board and International Mission Board



More than a decade ago, the original task force behind the establishment of the Elrod Center for Family & Community set forth a strategic plan to make service count. One of the questions they addressed was whether to mandate community service or encourage it. The consensus of the group, which represented faculty, staff and students’ opinions, provided a unique insight into how best to encourage service within an organization. These still hold true today:

1. We believe that mandatory service would create a negative environment and a burden which would dampen rather than ignite our imagination for service as a university community.
2. We believe that service opportunities should be encouraged and provided at the institutional level but that participation should be an individual choice.
3. We believe that the creation of the Elrod Center would signal a powerful institutional commitment to promote a service culture at Ouachita.
4. We believe that those who serve best would be those who did so out of an inner commitment.
5. We believe that the Elrod Center should spotlight service and give recognition to those who serve well.

More than a decade later, under the leadership of Ouachita President Rex Horne, we continue to affirm in new ways our commitment to service, and encourage students, faculty and staff to answer the call to serve in ways large and small. Faculty members serve on community

nationally and internationally and serve on disaster relief projects with the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. This past semester, Ouachita had more than 600 students participate in Tiger Serve Day projects throughout the area, underscoring the fact that service is a value widely supported by our campus community.

By encouraging service, Ouachita has influenced thousands of students to serve their communities as a lifelong commitment. Ouachita volunteers have become ambassadors of goodwill to others and to the community at large. Students have become mentors and role models for generations to come. A decision made years ago to make community service voluntary has shown that a firm but gentle word of encouragement and the opportunity to participate in specific acts of service have a leavening effect of service on all who embrace it. To serve is to promote service and to testify to its value.

I leave you with a challenge to make service a lifestyle: Make it part of your daily routine. If you have not discovered the joy of service, or if it has been some time since you have done so, please consider adjusting your priorities. Start small and pick something you love to do. Choose a project close to home and begin to serve one person at a time.

If you are the parents of young children, then volunteer with your children. Research has shown that children who serve with their parents continue to serve throughout their lives. Small acts of service in our homes often provide the spark that fans the flames of service to others well beyond the family circle.



Ian Cosh, Ouachita’s Assistant to the President for Community Development, also is director of the Ben M. Elrod Center for Family & Community and the Daniel and Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education.



Serving Christ by serving others: Ouachita alums minister at home and around the world

by Trennis Henderson, OBU Vice President for Communications

“Service” is more than a noble goal proudly displayed on Ouachita’s university seal. For thousands of Ouachita alumni in Arkansas, throughout the nation and around the world, service is a daily way of life. From graduates who serve in full-time missions and ministry roles to those who serve as teachers, business leaders, medical personnel and in countless other professions, serving others in the name of Christ is a primary motivation in life.

A few stellar examples of Ouachita alums who are faithfully serving on the state, national and international levels include:

Hapi Wanje (’85), country facilitator for Mission of Mercy Kenya

Wanje came to the U.S. in the early 1980s to pursue educational opportunities that were unavailable in his home nation of Kenya. After earning an associate’s degree from Williams Baptist College, he came to Ouachita where he majored in sociology with a minor in mass communications. He then earned a master of arts in communications from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary before returning to Kenya.

During the past two decades, Wanje has served with Kenya Baptist Media, Compassion International and Mission of Mercy in Kenya.

Embracing the theme, “Rescuing Forgotten Children, with Jesus’ Love,” Mission of Mercy is a Christian child development organization that works with local evangelical churches to meet the physical and spiritual needs of children in poverty-stricken areas around the world.

“My passion has been children, children, children,” Wanje explained. “I ask them, ‘What do you want to dream to become?’” As youngsters gain a vision of what they want to achieve and how they can reach those goals, “we will change our community in the future.”

During his years at Ouachita, Wanje said, “I think I found my passion in communications.” He noted that his Ouachita education has been “applicable in the various areas of life that I’ve been involved in.”

Whether producing radio programs, recording Christian music and helping train local pastors at Kenya Baptist Media or writing stories to help educate sponsors at Compassion International and Mission of Mercy, he added, “It gives me such fulfillment; my commitment is to serve.”

Reflecting on his time at Ouachita, Wanje said, “Definitely my experience was very wonderful. I felt at home because the community of international students was well received and well taken care of. Being able to participate in the holistic life of the institution helped me now be able to see this wider community where I can apply those experiences.”

Citing the ongoing opportunity to help impact the lives of children in need, Wanje said his greatest satisfaction is “seeing the transformation in the lives of children.”

“Even as we have received, let’s also give in the form of service to others,” Wanje urged fellow alumni. “I may be planting a seed for someone else in my family or my community.

I desire to plant a good seed, cultivate it and nurture it because I know it will bear fruit.”

Tim Moseley, (’78) president of Wayside Christian Mission in Louisville, Ky.

Declaring that “caring for the poor is central to serving God,” Moseley has been doing just that for the past 24 years. As president and CEO of Wayside Christian Mission, he leads a team of 60 employees and hundreds of volunteers to serve the homeless throughout the Louisville metro area.

“Wayside is a unique ministry in several ways,” he explained. “The primary purpose is to share God’s love by providing food, shelter and support services.”

Noting that the mission houses as many as 650 men, women and children each night and serves up to 2,500 meals a day, Moseley added, “My task is to try to make ministry happen for each person that enters through our doors.”

Moseley’s heartfelt compassion for those in need was shaped in part during his years at OBU. “Ouachita helped prepare me for my ministry by providing a Christian-valued education,” he pointed out. He said a hospital chaplaincy summer class offered at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock “helped me begin understanding better God’s plan for my life.”

After earning an MDiv degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and an MSSW degree from the University of Louisville’s Kent School of Social Work, Moseley began volunteering at Wayside. He was



Hapi Wanje asks youngsters aided by Mission of Mercy Kenya, "What do you want to dream to become?"

named Wayside's director in 1985 and has been serving there ever since with his wife, Nina, who holds businesses administration and law degrees.

"In reality, all of our education and skills are great helps, but we all must be able to mop the floors when needed," he said. "Ministry takes many forms in our setting."

In addition to food, clothing and shelter, Wayside provides such diverse services as a substance abuse recovery program, job readiness training, life skills classes, chapel services, a 10-bed "Safe Haven" program for mentally ill homeless women, permanent supportive housing and a state-licensed child development center for homeless preschoolers.

"The most rewarding part of our ministry is in constantly running into our former clients all over town," Mrs. Moseley remarked. "Our former clients are working all over town, raising families, giving back to the community and becoming self-sufficient folks. Many of them are grounded now in churches across the community after renewing their commitment to Christ while at the mission."

Affirming that their life ministry through Wayside is "extremely rewarding," Moseley said, "The Christian message of hope is central for our clients as they struggle with many of life's challenges. We cannot give up on people in poverty. To see God's love come alive in the hearts and actions of others keeps me energized in the ministry."

Dr. Miranda Childs Bebee ('90), Arkansas Mission of Mercy project coordinator

As a dentist in her hometown of Arkadelphia, Dr. Childs Bebee emphasizes that "dentistry fits me perfectly." She said it provides her the flexibility to "enjoy life and still have a challenging and rewarding career."

Amid those challenges and rewards, she also has sought additional opportunities to serve others. "I saw the multiple examples of giving back at OBU," she reflected. "The faculty and staff were always going on mission trips. That lesson of freely giving oneself stuck."

"I have been on many mission trips abroad," she added, including her first trip while she was a student at Ouachita.

A few years ago, "I had the opportunity to help start a Mission of Mercy here in Arkansas," she said. "ArMOM is a free dental clinic to help the citizens of Arkansas." In addition to serving overseas, she said she realized that "giving right here at home is equally important."

When Dr. Childs Bebee suggested that the Arkansas State Dental Association start a Mission of Mercy in Arkansas, she said the group agreed to do so "if I would be in charge."

As a result, she has headed up efforts to provide a two-day dental clinic each year for those in need. "It is totally free," she explained. "We have gotten donors to fund it and the

volunteers to staff the clinic. We have had 160 dentists and 600 other staff and volunteers each year for the past three years.

"Our goal is to travel each year to different areas of the state to help those who can't afford dental work. We ask no questions about how much you could pay. Anyone is eligible to receive care. Next May we will be in Monticello. We have done the first two clinics in Little Rock, and this past year in Springdale. Each year we have seen 1,600 patients and done over \$2 million of care to date."

Crediting her parents and "the example of all the OBU family" for sparking her "lifelong passion for helping out those less fortunate," she added, "God has blessed me so much, I have to give back some of what I have received."

Citing diverse ministry opportunities available as part of Mission of Mercy, she pointed out, "Sometimes it is not what you say, but the actions that show Christ's love. I was amazed how many patients at the Mission of Mercy point blank asked me if I was a Christian."

"I didn't think that the Mission of Mercy would have been a place I got to share Christ with the patients like the other mission trips I went on. I should have never underestimated what God can do," she concluded. "It was amazing to see how God can use you when you just are open to being used. Wonderful things are possible; we just have to be open to His plans, not ours."



Hapi Wanje



Tim Moseley



Dr. Miranda Childs Bebee

Mom Chu leaves lasting legacy

by Brooke Showalter, OBU Assistant Director of Communications



photo by Steven Miles, Ronin Studios

When **Jessica (Eiland) Cates ('04)** arrived at Ouachita her freshman year, she was a couple of weeks early in order to begin volleyball practice. Moving into her room on the west side of Frances Crawford Hall, there were no other girls in that wing of the dorm.

"My mom was a little concerned about her first kid being dropped off at college with no one there to keep me company," Cates recalled.

"Mom Chu took me and my mother into her home to give me my room keys. It was then that my mom started to cry. Mom Chu proceeded to give my 6'1" mother the biggest hug she could muster and told her, 'Don't you worry. I love her. I will take care of her. Don't you worry.'

"My mom has said that it was in that moment that she knew I was going to be in a great place."

After more than 42 years of service to Ouachita, Rosemary "Mom" Chu retired in May as residence hall director, or "dorm mom," of Frances Crawford Hall. Chu moved, days after her 80th birthday, to Kansas City, Mo., to be near her daughter, **Jane Chu ('79)**.

After emigrating from communist China at age 18, Chu attended Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, where she earned a degree in Biblical studies and met her husband, Finley Chu.

In 1963 the Chus arrived at Ouachita where Finley was chairman of OBU's economics and business department. When he died of cancer four years later, Mom Chu took the job as dorm mother in the newly opened Frances Crawford Hall, where she remained until her retirement this year.

"I was at Ouachita the year that she and Finley – a brilliant teacher and great Christian – came to Ouachita," said Ouachita Chancellor and former President Dr. Ben M. Elrod. "She has been a delight to know, love and respect all these year. It saddens me to think of Ouachita without her."

Chu has been a temporary mother to many generations of Ouachitonians, many of whom count their time with Mom Chu among their favorite memories of Ouachita.

Marlene Fleming ('81) said, "The young men at OBU were always trying to figure out a way to get into the dorm (at this time they were not allowed to enter). This particular night a group of football players somehow got into our dorm around 11:30 p.m.

"I remember Mom Chu yelling, 'You boys, you better get out of here!' She made her way to the end of the hall by the exit door. When the boys came running past her, out she jumped with broom in hand and gave it a swing. She managed to get in a few hits as they left the dorm. I can still see a little short dorm mom, dressed for bed, taking on the football team."

Carol Roper ('77) remembers Mom Chu's efforts to share her heritage with the girls in her dorm, saying, "Mom Chu always made our Christmas dorm party significant as she was willing to come and read the Christmas story in Luke 2 to us in Chinese. What a special moment each year to share with her."

"Mom Chu was our counselor, friend, mom and advisor all rolled into one," said **Debbie (Riggs) Puett ('76)**. "No matter our problem, she was there with a listening ear and godly advice, but never a judgmental spirit."

When asked about her many years of service to Ouachita and its students, Mom Chu responded, "I feel honored, and you know a momma gives her heart to her children."

In addition to giving her heart and years of service to Ouachita's students, Chu has donated 1,000 books from her personal collection to OBU's library as well as money to fund four scholarships. The scholarship funds come from the proceeds of her book, *Rosemary: A Journey From East to West*, which chronicles her trip from China to the United States.

As a measure of thanks for all Mom Chu has given OBU, President Rex Horne announced at spring commencement that one of the houses in Ouachita's new Student Village will be named in her honor to "guarantee that future generations of Ouachita students will know of the dedication and service of this remarkable woman."

Arnold gifts affirm commitment to technology & students

Combining a love of education, technology and communications with concern for students in Arkansas' Delta region, the Arnold family has provided a pair of significant gifts to aid Ouachita Baptist University as well as students from DeValls Bluff and Hazen.

Curtis Arnold, the trustee of the Arnold Family Foundation, and his brother, Maj. John Paul "J.P." Arnold, have established the Bill and Sharon Arnold Family Education Foundation Scholarships in honor of their parents who retired after more than 40 years of public school teaching. The Arnold Family Foundation also has provided a generous gift to fund a new computer lab and learning center on the third floor of Lile Hall as part of the planned renovation of that facility. The media convergence suite also will be named in honor of Bill and Sharon Arnold.

The first five recipients of the Arnold Family Education Foundation Scholarships were announced earlier this year. The five students from DeValls Bluff and Hazen are 2009 graduates of Hazen High School who will enter OBU this fall. The scholarships will provide funding up to the full cost of tuition, fees, room and board for each of the scholarship recipients.

According to Curtis Arnold, a 1992 OBU graduate, "The Bill and Sharon Arnold Family Foundation is excited about supporting

graduates of Hazen High School who are interested in pursuing their college education at Ouachita. We firmly believe that Ouachita is one of the best liberal arts schools in the country.

"At the same time," he added, "we strongly believe that students from the Hazen and DeValls Bluff area who are interested in OBU shouldn't let financial concerns stop them from pursuing their dreams."

Terry Peeples, vice president for development at Ouachita, expressed gratitude to the Arnold family for their generous support. "The gift the Arnolds are giving these students is overwhelming," she said. "Each of these students has been given a wonderful opportunity to focus on their educational journey at Ouachita.

"We are proud of the strong relationship the university has with alums like members of the Arnold family who are willing to give young people the chance to fulfill their educational goals at Ouachita," Peeples emphasized. "We look forward to welcoming these students to the university in August."

Concerning the Lile Hall gift, Curtis Arnold said, "Our family foundation saw the Lile Hall renovation as a unique opportunity to match our hearts and interests. My brother got a mass communications degree from OBU. I work primarily in public affairs and media so it's related to that."



Curtis Arnold (right) with recipients of the Bill and Sharon Arnold Family Educational Foundation Scholarships.

He said their parents, both of whom also are Ouachita alumni, instilled "a strong interest in academics" in Curtis and John Paul.

As the founder of cardratings.com, an online consumer source for credit card information, Arnold said his interest in computer technology is a good fit with the resources and education that will be provided in Lile Hall. He said his brother's role as an Army public affairs officer at Fort Knox also relates to OBU's mass communications emphasis.

"The Arnolds have been a devoted Ouachita family for multiple generations," said Jeff Root, dean of OBU's School of Humanities. "The Arnold Family Foundation has honored their family and Ouachita with this generous gift. We greatly appreciate their interest in media studies, especially in new communications technology."

Generous gift from Heflin family funds plaza and bridge

As construction of Ouachita's highly anticipated Student Village is completed this summer, President Rex Horne has announced that the project's next phase will include a new pedestrian bridge and plaza leading to the residential facilities. The 22-foot wide bridge will span the ravine to connect Ouachita's main campus and North campus.

The bridge and plaza will be named in honor of the Heflin family, who have been generous Ouachita supporters for many years. Johnny and Sharon Heflin are both 1967 OBU graduates. Their sons and daughters-in-law, Jay and Andrea, and Marc and Billie, are also Ouachita alumni. Since Johnny Heflin's death in 2006, the entire family has continued to actively support their alma mater.

In addition to funding for Heflin Plaza, other major projects underwritten by the family include the Heflin Tennis Center, the Jay and Lynn Heflin Chair of Business and the Heflin Family Scholarship as well as numerous other gifts. Johnny Heflin and his brother, J.N. "Boo" Heflin, were named distinguished alumni in 2000. Johnny also was a former chairman of Ouachita's Board of Trustees, Jay currently chairs the board's finance committee and he and his brother, Marc, are co-chairing this fall's FORE Ouachita golf tournament.

During Ouachita's Board of Trustees meeting in June, Dr. Horne

told board members, "It's a great privilege for me to announce the Heflin family has decided to make a great gift toward constructing the bridge and the plaza area for our new Student Village.

"We could not be more pleased," he added. "For many, many years, if there has been anything good that has happened at Ouachita, the Heflins have been part of it. They're just that kind of people. They're generous; they love Ouachita; they're great friends; they're great supporters of this university."

Recalling that "Johnny always had this thought and vision of building something across the ravine to bring the two sides of campus together and to do something outstanding," Dr. Horne said, "For the family to decide to build a beautiful pedestrian bridge and plaza that will go over to the new Student Village could not be more fitting for this family. Their generosity continues to inspire us and encourage us and comes at just the right time for us here at Ouachita."

Brett Powell, OBU's vice president for administrative services, said plans call for beginning construction of the pedestrian bridge in September with an anticipated completion early next year. Plaza construction is scheduled to begin next summer following the demolition of Ernest Bailey Hall.

The final days of Daniel Hall



As this issue of *The Ouachita Circle* highlights service, the recent demolition of Daniel Hall offers a reminder that significant service isn't limited to individuals. Daniel, which opened as the "new" men's dorm in the fall of 1967 and was named Daniel Memorial Dormitory in 1969, was home to thousands of Ouachita students over a span of more than four decades.

In order to make way for the new residential housing that will be dedicated Aug. 20, Daniel's service concluded at the end of last semester. A spray-painted "R.I.P." on an exterior brick wall stood as a silent memorial until demolition crews brought Daniel's walls crashing down in June.

Lee McGlone, pastor of First Baptist Church of Arkadelphia, recalled moving into a "state-of-the-art" Daniel Hall in 1968. While reflecting on "wonderful memories" of his dorm mom and roommates, he added, "There's not really a sense of sadness in losing Daniel, but a sense of joy and anticipation about the new living situation that will be absolutely marvelous for current students."

Dean of Students Keldon Henley noted that "Daniel Hall was an important part of life at Ouachita for thousands of young men over the decades. Many of us share common memories of Daniel, such as checking in at the lobby on freshman move-in day, pranks pulled on suitemates or being awakened by the phone ringing in the middle of the hallway and wondering who would pick it up.



"Daniel Hall accomplished its purpose, which was to provide us shelter while we went about our lives on campus," Henley said. "But it was a lot more than just a place to sleep or to study. Because it was filled with our friends, it became like home, at least for a while. And it will be missed."



Ouachita confers degrees on more than 230 grads

An outdoor celebration marked with a number of special recognitions highlighted Ouachita Baptist University's 122nd annual spring commencement held May 9 on the lawn in front of Cone-Bottoms Hall.

University officials conferred a total of 233 degrees on 231 graduates. The 2009 graduating class featured more than 100 honor graduates, including 32 who graduated summa cum laude.

Six graduates of Ouachita's Pruet School of Christian Studies who earned 4.0 GPAs read Scripture during the commencement ceremony. The six included Casey Bushman of Burleson, Texas; Labin Duke of Arkadelphia; Cameron Magby of Benton; Abby Martin of Brentwood, Tenn.; Hayden Tucker of Arkadelphia; and Becca Woodall of Bryant.

Also participating in the ceremony was Jon Neal, senior class vice president from Laveen, Ariz., who led the invocation. OBU President Rex M. Horne Jr., also recognized Army Lt. Franklin Vaughn, who returned to complete his degree after serving in Iraq. Vaughn was greeted with a standing ovation from the commencement crowd.

Two retiring faculty members were named honorary marshals for the commencement processional. Dr. Alex R. Nesbit, who retired after 46 years on the OBU faculty, was named professor emeritus of chemistry by the Board of Trustees. Also recognized was Troy D. Garlin, who retired as assistant professor of education after teaching at OBU since 1996.

Dr. Horne also recognized Rosemary "Mom" Chu, who retired after more than 42 years as a residence hall director at Ouachita. He announced that one of the houses in OBU's new Student Village will be named in honor of Chu.

Ouachita trustees also voted to present Judge John Ward, a member of OBU's class of 1960, with the prestigious Distinguished Alumnus Award. The award is presented to individuals who "have rendered outstanding service to the university, who have attained significant achievement in their field of endeavor, and whose lives have reflected credit on Ouachita."

Judge Ward, who also is a graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Law, is serving his fifth term as a member of the Ouachita Board of Trustees. After a 24-year career as a trial lawyer, he was appointed Chancery Judge in 1988 and became a Circuit Judge in 1989. He also served three terms in the Arkansas House of Representatives. A member of Park Hill Baptist Church in North Little Rock, he has served as state president and

international chaplain of Gideons International. Ward and his wife, Mary Louise, reside in North Little Rock.

Introducing Judge Ward, Dr. Horne declared, "Whether in his profession in law or following his passion as a Gideon, John has been a faithful witness for the Lord Jesus Christ.

"In John Ward, an institution can have no better trustee," Horne added. "In John Ward, an individual can have no better friend."

Briefly addressing the graduating class, Judge Ward said lessons he has learned in life include, "Get on your knees every morning and beg God for wisdom." He also challenged the graduates to pray each day, "Lord, today I want to volunteer for whatever You have for me to do in Your Kingdom."

Additionally, Ward said, "There are only three things valuable in this world and you can't buy any of them. They're all relationships – the first with your God and then with your family and then with others."

The May 9 ceremony also featured the debut of Ouachita's university hymn. The hymn, "See God's Light," interprets the three watchwords on the Ouachita seal: vision, service and integrity. The text was written by Dr. Terry W. York, a professor at Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas. The tune OUACHITA was composed by C. David Bolin, music minister at First Baptist Church of Waco.



"Ouachita has a devoted but small alumni giving base. We think that might be a case of 'out of sight, out of mind.' So we are hoping that an annual event that is more than a letter or phone call will help build that base."

-Marc Helfin, Tournament Chair

"Like many others, our time at Ouachita had a big impact on our lives. FORE Ouachita is a way that those of us impacted by Ouachita can give back to the university and introduce new people to our alma mater."

-Jay Helfin, Tournament Co-Chair

"We really love the name FORE Ouachita because it plays on a golf term while highlighting our philanthropic aim. It's simple and it clicks. Junior Abby Turner came up with the name one day and it stuck."

-Chris Babb, FORE Ouachita staff coordinator

Pleasant Valley Country Club
OCTOBER 19



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Ouachita honors top athletes in 14 sports

Julius Pruitt and Sarah Watson were named Ouachita's outstanding athletes of the year during OBU's 2009 athletic banquet.

Pruitt received the Bob Lambert Memorial Outstanding Male Athlete Award. A record-setting wide receiver, Pruitt was named to the 2008 All-Gulf South Conference First Team.

Watson received the Outstanding Female Athlete Award. She competed on OBU's women's 400 medley relay team which set a national record during this year's NCAA Division II Swimming & Diving Championships.

The Frank Reed Male Scholar-Athlete Awards were presented to Vincente Condorelli, men's swimming; Blake Lockwood, baseball; and Zach Wright, football. Brittany Norton, who competed in both swimming and cross country, received the Outstanding Female Scholar-Athlete Award.

Several other top awards included:

Baseball: Most Valuable Player – Will Gowdy.

Men's Basketball: Bill Vining Outstanding Player of the Year – Rowan Ledbetter.

Women's Basketball: Legacy Award – Haley Griffin, who had 1,016 career points and 667 career rebounds.

Women's Cross Country: Bob Gravett Outstanding Cross Country Athlete of the Year – Hannah Howard.

Football: Antwoyne Edwards Leadership Award – Zach Wright. Buddy Benson MVP Award – Julius Pruitt.

Golf: Outstanding Golfer Award – Rob Greer.

Men's Soccer: MVP – Alex Tonrey.

Women's Soccer: MVP – Lauren (Pierce) Denning.

Softball: Pitcher of the Year and MVP – Kristin Rigsbee.

Men's Swimming & Diving: Swimmer of the Year – Radu Badalac. Outstanding Performance Award (National Record, 200 Medley Relay) – Radu Badalac, Hal Eubanks, Max Heinze and Nelson Silva.

Women's Swimming & Diving: Swimmer of the Year – Sarah Watson.

Men's Tennis: Johnny Heflin MVP Award – Jan Plewinski.

Women's Tennis: Outstanding Player of the Year – Tavu Fa.

Volleyball: MVP – Meredith Henry.

Men's tennis team ranked No. 8 nationally

by Alan Greenwood, OBU Sports Information Director

After compiling a 20-2 record, the Ouachita Baptist University men's tennis team finished the 2009 season ranked No. 8 in the nation by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). Three players also were ranked among the top 50 players in Division II singles play.

"Any time you finish in the top 10, it is a very successful season," noted Craig Ward, head men's tennis coach. "We have the core of the team returning for next year. If we stay motivated, work hard and have fun then we will again be one of the best in the country."

Throughout their 20-win season, the team developed a balanced core that led to victories from six singles spots and three doubles teams, Coach Ward said.

"The key to our team is that everybody is willing to play any position to help us be successful," he explained. "We have eight guys that completely trust their teammates to give 100 percent day in and day out. That's been the difference in this season and in seasons past."

For the fourth consecutive season, Ouachita swept the individual awards for the GSC West Division. Sophomore Jan Plewinski earned Player of the Year honors a season after being named Freshman of the Year. Plewinski was ranked No. 14 in the nation in singles play



Jan Plewinski, GSC West Player of the Year, also earned All-America honors on the Division II men's tennis team.

with a 13-4 record, and No. 14 in doubles play with sophomore Till Heilshorn with a 17-3 record. Heilshorn finished the season ranked No. 31 in the nation in singles play and was named to the All-GSC West Division Team.

Freshman Jean Charles Diame was named GSC West Freshman of the Year. Diame was ranked No. 49 in singles play, compiling an undefeated 20-0 record. He recorded a 16-6 doubles record with freshman Pierre Tafelski who also was named to the All-GSC West Division Team.

Coach Ward earned GSC Coach of the Year honors. He previously received the 1995 Intercollegiate Tennis Association NAIA Collegiate Coach of the Year award.

Mark Price named men's basketball head coach

Mark Price is the new head coach of Ouachita Baptist University's men's basketball team. He succeeds Charlie Schaefer who resigned after eight years at Ouachita to become head coach of the men's basketball program at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Price served the past three years as assistant men's basketball coach at Furman University, an NCAA Division I school in Greenville, S.C.

"I am very excited to have Mark as a member of our athletic staff at Ouachita," declared OBU Athletic Director David Sharp. "I am confident Mark will be a great influence for our student-athletes both on and off the court."

"This is a tremendous privilege to be able to represent a great institution like Ouachita Baptist University," Coach Price said. "One of the great things in coaching is when you have a chance to represent a school that has beliefs and standards that are congruent with those of your own, and that is certainly the case for me at OBU."

Prior to coaching at Furman, Price spent five years as an assistant coach at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He helped guide the Chargers to the 2002-03 Gulf South Conference championship and NCAA Tournament appearances in 2003 and 2006. He joined the UAH staff after helping Faulkner University earn a 34-5 record and the NAIA Division I national title during the 2000-2001 season.

Price, a native of Kentucky, earned his bachelor's degree in 1998 from Samford University where he served as a student assistant coach. He is married to the former Kara Pearson.





photo by Graham Yelton

OBU presents “Thoroughly Modern Millie”

Ouachita Baptist University’s School of Fine Arts presented its spring musical, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, April 23-26 in Jones Performing Arts Center. *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is the story of a young woman, Millie Dillmount, who moves to New York City in 1922 in search of a new life. The musical features a humorous plot, energetic dance numbers and an entertaining score.

Millie Dillmount was played by Lindsey Wright-Forga, a senior from Glenwood, Ark. Michael Krikorian, a junior from Rockwall, Texas, played Jimmy Smith, and Amy York, a senior from Dallas, Texas, played Mrs. Meers. Cori Kidder, a senior from Wynne, Ark., played Muzzy Van Hossmere and served as the dance choreographer. Rosemary “Mom” Chu, who retired this year as hall director of OBU’s Frances Crawford Hall West, appeared in the cameo role of Mama. The show was directed by Mary Handiboe, assistant professor of theatre arts, with Jon Secrest, professor of music, serving as music director.

Ouachita students present research in D.C.

Three OBU senior biology students were chosen by the Council for Undergraduate Research to travel to Washington, D.C., on May 5 to present their research to members of the U.S. Congress as part of the 13th annual Posters on the Hill event.

Heather Ferguson from Hot Springs, Ark.; Adam Hurst from Jonesboro, Ark.; and John Sims from Conway, Ark., had the opportunity to speak with Arkansas’ congressional delegates about the importance of undergraduate research. They also presented a poster of their research, “New Hope for the Treatment of Ewing’s Sarcoma and Related Cancers,” in a session on Capitol Hill.

“This student project was one of only 60 undergraduate research projects accepted from the entire country, and that 60 includes all disciplines,” said Dr. Lori Hensley, OBU assistant professor of biology. The students’ research focused on the abilities of two plant-derived compounds to reduce and eliminate Ewing’s sarcoma and related cancer cells in the lab.

“It’s a huge honor to be chosen to go to D.C.,” Ferguson noted. All three students graduated from Ouachita in May and plan to continue their studies at medical school at UAMS.

Ouachitonian editor named Editor of the Year

OBU’s *Ouachitonian* yearbook was awarded numerous honors at the 2009 Arkansas College Media Association (ACMA) Awards, with editor-in-chief Audra Hinson taking home the prestigious title of Yearbook Editor of the Year.

“It really is an honor,” Hinson said, “and I am very thankful for the faculty in the mass communications department because the judges had a lot of great things to say in their notes about the recommendations I was given. I wouldn’t have been able to do it without the faculty’s support.”

Hinson, a senior mass communications and Spanish major from Little Rock, is serving her second year as *Ouachitonian* editor. Dr. Deborah Root, chair of OBU’s department of mass communications and yearbook advisor, said, “Audra winning the award is a reflection not only of the quality of work she produces, but the type of leader she is.”

The yearbook received 18 awards from ACMA, including tying for third place in general excellence. The staff of *The Signal*, Ouachita’s weekly student newspaper, also received two ACMA awards.





photo by Jessica Bowling

Tiger Serve Day involves 600 OBU volunteers

A total of 50 volunteer teams assembled April 4 to conduct 78 service projects throughout Arkadelphia as part of Ouachita's semi-annual Tiger Serve Day. The service event, coordinated by OBU's Ben M. Elrod Center for Family & Community, involved approximately 600 students, staff and faculty members.

Service projects ranged from yard work and washing windows and cars to repairing roof tiles and painting.

"The thing that made it the most worthwhile was the people," said Eli Cranor, a junior political science major from Russellville, Ark. "They were super nice and sometimes I felt like they were serving us. All in all, it was a great experience, and anyone who does it once will never want to miss it again."

OBU's SIFE team wins regional competition

Ouachita's Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team earned first place in the SIFE USA Regional Competition in Dallas. As regional champions, the team was awarded a \$1,500 prize and an invitation to compete at the SIFE National Exposition in Philadelphia. This was the first year OBU's team has been crowned regional champions.

At the competition, SIFE teams give 24-minute presentations to a panel of judges comprised of business professionals of SIFE sponsor companies from various states. These presentations are overviews of the projects that SIFE teams completed over the course of the year.

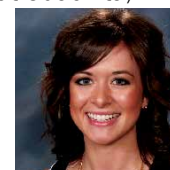
"Our students did some great projects," said Dr. Bryan McKinney, dean of OBU's Hickingbotham School of Business, "including work with kids in the Delta, ethics education in the elementary schools, environmental stewardship on OBU's campus, etc."

Dr. Jay Robbins, Sam Walton Fellow and lecturer in business administration, serves as OBU's SIFE faculty advisor. Dr. Jim Files, assistant professor of accounting, is the assistant faculty advisor.

Lindsey named 2009 Ouachitonian Beauty

Megan Lindsey, a junior mass communications major from Camden, Ark., was named OBU's 2009 Ouachitonian Beauty.

The competition, which is a longstanding tradition at Ouachita, involves individual contestant interviews with a panel of alumni judges. The seven contestants were judged largely by their interviews, but also on their beauty and poise. The winner received a trophy and will have a profile in the 2009 *Ouachitonian* yearbook.



"I was both extremely honored and very excited to be given such a wonderful title that represented a university that I love so much," Lindsey said. "The title of Ouachitonian Beauty means being an example of Ouachita that represents what a hard-working and respectful Christian woman is, inside and out."

Lindsey, the daughter of Dr. Mickey and Beth Lindsey of Camden, has served as assistant editor of the *Ouachitonian*, social chair and keeper of the beaus for EEE Women's Social Club and little sis of Kappa Chi Men's Social Club. The men of Kappa Chi sponsored Lindsey in the competition. She is also a member of OBU's student chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

Megan Fida, a junior mass communications major from Allen, Texas, was first runner-up and Julie Hagar, a sophomore mass communications and political science double-major from Mansfield, Texas, was second runner-up.

class notes

connecting the circle

—1940s—

Jean (Justice) Pilcher ('48) was the female recipient of the newly established Ruth Nininger/Ervin Keathley Award by the Arkansas Baptist Master Singers. Pilcher founded the Master Singers women's chorus and served as the group's director for 35 years.

—1950s—

Dr. Bill Simmons ('53) recently retired after 47 years in optometry practice in Benton, Ark., and was awarded the first "Lifetime of Excellence Award" by the Arkansas Optometric Association. Son **Dr. Rusty Simmons ('77)** and **Dr. Amanda (Moore) Elcyszyn ('00)** will help continue his practice with support from **Karol (Bradley) Simmons ('77*)**. Dr. Simmons is married to **Alice (Newman) Simmons ('54)**.



GIFT FROM THE CLASS OF 1953: Two marble benches were recently placed on campus by Ouachita's Class of 1953 in honor of Dr. Fred Becker, former choir director at Ouachita from 1949-1953. One bench was placed in front of Mabee Fine Arts Center and the second bench is located in a garden area near Elrod Boulevard, Ouachita's new campus entrance.

Dr. John Allen Johnson ('57) recently published *American Valor*, an inspirational book about Arkansan Charles Leon Gilliland, the youngest soldier ever awarded the Medal of Honor for Heroism in American history.

Dr. Phillip Nix ('59) and his wife, **Martha (Carter) Nix ('59)**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in May with a family vacation to Destin, Fla.

Cecil Yates ('59) was presented the 2008 Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award by Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, during the university's Homecoming celebrations. He attended SAU before transferring to Ouachita in 1954. He and his wife, **Jerry (Grounds) Yates ('62)**, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in September of 2008 and live in North Carolina.

John David Whitlow ('59) and his wife, **Polly (Jones) Whitlow ('60)**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family trip.

—1960s—

Rev. Jack Auten ('64) posts his sermons and self-recorded pipe organ music on his web site sermons2liveby.com as a ministry for churches around the world. To date, individuals from 88 countries and 38 states have downloaded these resources. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Pangburn, Ark.

Dr. Kenneth Andrews ('66) was recently elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio, Texas. He is the director of distributed learning at the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio.

Sherry (Shults) McCord ('69) is the counselor at Howard Perrin Elementary School in Benton, Ark.

Amanda Orsburn ('69) married Charles Kendrick on Dec. 27, 2008.

—1970s—

Cliff Harris ('70) hosted the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' annual Cliff Harris Golf Tournament on April 25 in Hot Springs. A supporter of FCA for more than 20 years, Harris spent 10 seasons in the 1970s with the Dallas Cowboys and played in a record five Super Bowls and six Pro Bowls.

Randy Maxwell ('71) has moved to Fayetteville, Tenn., where he is serving as the director of missions for William Carey Baptist Association. He and his wife, Nan, previously lived in



Several members of the Tiger football team during the '70s reunited over the Memorial Day weekend: Back (L-R) **Ken Stuckey ('77)**, **Gary Reese ('76)**, **Russell Daniel ('76)**, **Clyde Gray ('78)**, **Howard Honnell ('77)**, **Ronnie Bruton ('78)**, **Ted Cook ('78)**, **George Hern ('80)**, **Gary Benson ('78)**, **Frank Orr ('78)**, **Jimmy Hankins ('75)**, **Tom Fendley ('75)**, **Bill Walker ('75)**, **Ed Willman ('75)**, **Robin Hooks ('77)** and **Bill Dunklin ('78)**. Front (L-R) **Stan Walker ('78)**, **Tim Leatherwood ('76)**, **Charlie Holt ('80)**, **Jimmy Dean ('78)**, **Jim Cox ('77)**, **Ricky Remley ('79)**, **Bobby Gilliam ('75)**, **Don Elliot ('76)**, **Steve Halpin ('79)** and **Steve Halter ('76)**.

Rockwood, Tenn., where he was the pastor of South Harriman Baptist Church and interim pastor of Caney Ford Baptist Church.

Bubba Cope ('72), Buddy Adcock ('73) and Jim Hamilton ('73) were recently inducted into the Arkansas Softball Hall of Fame.

Cindy (Floyd) Petty ('74) graduated in May from Henderson State University with her MLA degree. She will teach two art appreciation classes at Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas.

Dr. James Hankins ('75) of Arkadelphia recently received the John "Jack" Logan Humanitarian Award at the 2009 Arkansas Dental Association meeting in Hot Springs. Hankins has provided volunteer dental services in Brazil, Guatemala, Haiti and Honduras.

Former Arkansas Governor and Arkansas Baptist pastor **Mike Huckabee ('76)** headlined the 2009 SBC Pastors' Conference in Louisville, Ky. A former U.S. presidential candidate, he now hosts "Huckabee" on the Fox News Channel.



Ouachita Hits the Big Apple (L-R): **Wes Kent ('68), Judy Philliber Kent ('68), Angela Barfield Brown ('78), Ray D. Brown ('78), Gov. Mike Huckabee ('76), Chris Babb ('99) and Amy Bridges Babb ('00)**. The Ouachita alums gather with Gov. Huckabee outside the Fox Studios in New York City after a May taping of Gov. Huckabee's TV show that airs on the Fox News Channel. The Kents live in New Jersey where they serve with Wes Kent Ministries. The Browns live in Mountain View, Ark., where they serve at First Baptist Church. The Babbs live in Arkadelphia where he works for the OBU admissions and development offices.

Terry Barber ('77) was recently featured on ABC News "Money Matters" and on the *Forbes* online magazine for his new book *The Inspiration Factor*. He is the vice president and senior strategist for Grizzard in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Jim Cox ('77) recently retired as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith.

Steve Lewis ('77) recently published the book *Step into the Fire* through Publish America.

Judge Robert McCallum ('78) was recently elected to a six-year term as the circuit judge for the Clark County Circuit Court in Arkadelphia.

Elrod Awards affirm community service

By Genevieve Horton

Honoring individuals who have made service a way of life, Ouachita's Ben M. Elrod Center for Family & Community hosts the annual University Community Service Awards banquet. The 2009 banquet, held in OBU's Walker Conference Center, was an opportunity to recognize and thank those who serve and strengthen the community.

Dr. Mark Jansen, senior partner of Arkadelphia Medical Clinic, and Dr. Wesley Kluck, OBU's vice president for institutional advancement, were honored with the Elrod Center's Community Service Excellence Awards.

OBU Chancellor Ben Elrod presented the two awards. He described Dr. Jansen, who was recognized for his outstanding public service as a physician, as "one of Arkadelphia's most respected physicians" and "one of the outstanding leaders in the Arkadelphia community."

Dr. Kluck was recognized for his outstanding public service and for supporting the work of the Elrod Center. Citing Dr. Kluck's involvement in Clark County's strategic development plan, Dr. Elrod added, "Here's a guy who has done tremendous service to the community, to the Lord and to Ouachita."

Billy "Mr. Bill" Loudermilk received the Foster Grandparent of the Year Award for his 11 years of service to special needs children, compiling more than 7,750 volunteer hours.

Also during the banquet, Ouachita students were recognized for their leadership in America Reads, America Counts, Campus Ministries, ElderServe, International Club, Tiger Serve Day and TranServe volunteer hours. Several campus organizations also received Kluck Student Enrichment Grants.

Among major awards presented, seniors

Tracey Beckett, Ren Lewis and Allison Vire received America Reads awards and seniors Casey Bushman and Sarah Monroe received America Counts awards. Daniel Graham was recognized for service as campus ministries president and Willy Rasilim received the International Club service award.

Tiger Serve Day leaders recognized included Sam Bushey, logistics chair; Adam Hurst, team chair; Cami Jones, project chair; and Matt Morrison, publicity chair. ElderServe awards were presented to Molly Throgmorton, Hayden Tucker, Emilee Wade and Hannah Wagley. Students who received TranServe awards for volunteer hours during the 2008-09 school year included two students with more than 300 service hours each: Daniel Graham (366 hours) and Cami Jones (306 hours).

"One of the things that sets Ouachita apart is its commitment to serving others under the Lordship of Christ," said Judy Duvall, assistant director of the Elrod Center. "Service is a huge part of who we are as Ouachitonians and you see it promoted by professors in the classrooms, through programs at the Elrod Center and Campus Ministries and through students, faculty and staff who desire to make a difference in the community and in the lives of others."

The annual awards "are a powerful way to affirm students in their efforts to build their character and leadership skills through service," said Elrod Center director Ian Cosh. "We believe that our graduates are being equipped to serve others above themselves and will be a transforming influence in their communities."



Genevieve Horton is a 2009 mass communications and business admin./management OBU grad from Ovilla, Texas.

Joy (Jackson) Pennington ('78) of Little Rock was selected as one of Arkansas' "Most Powerful Women" by *AY Magazine*. She serves as the executive director of the Arkansas Arts Council.

Pam (Pollard) Morris ('79) retired in May 2008 from 30 years of teaching English. She lives in Piggott, Ark., with her husband, Alan, and has two daughters and two grandsons.

-1980s-

Steve Patterson ('81) was named 4-4A Conference Coach of the Year for the state of Arkansas. Patterson has served as the men's soccer coach at Arkadelphia High School for the past 14 years. He also teaches English and coaches the school's golf team.

Rex Nelson ('82) is the new senior vice president of government relations and public outreach for The Communications Group in Little Rock.

Maureen (Leonard) Thomas ('82) retired from the Los Angeles County Office of Education and plans to build a retirement home in Beebe, Ark. She and her husband, Dean, recently lost their son, Jared, as a result of injuries sustained in a car accident.

Ann (Pryor) Clements ('83) is the communications and education director for the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office in Little Rock.

Steve Quinn ('86) is the new head football coach at Benton (Ark.) High School.

Craig Campbell ('87) was recently selected to serve as the chairman of the Board of Trustees for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, **Connie (Bedford '88)**, live in Russellville, Ark. He is a State Farm insurance agent and she enjoys being a stay-at-home mom with their five children: Amy (17), Cody (15), Andy (13), Gracie (5) and Caleb (2).

Raymond Allen ('86) has owned and operated RDA Sound since 1993. He and his wife, Julie, have lived in the Dallas area since the early 1990s and have two sons, David and Jonathan.

Kevin Groustra ('89) married Haley Strobel on May 2 at Pleasant Valley Country Club. The couple lives in Little Rock.

-1990s-

Deb Packwood ('95), a consultant for Global Sports Partners, helped bring a group of 10 Iraqi girls to the Camp Summit basketball camp at the University of Tennessee. She spent the past five years developing a physical education program in Pakistan before moving to Iraq to help oversee the National Olympic Committee Iraq, which is working to form a national team for Iraq to prepare to compete in the Olympics in women's basketball.

William "Stony" Evans ('96) is the media specialist at Hot Springs High School. He previously was the band director for Bismarck Middle School and he now combines his knowledge of music with educational opportunities for high school students.



Juliana Faith King, age 2, proudly models her OBU Future Tigers T-shirt. She is the daughter of **Jana Barnard King ('96)**.

Andrew Bagley ('97) was recently elected to a three-year term with the Executive Board of the Arkansas Political Science Association.

Guy Barr ('97) is an assistant principal for the Marshall Independent School District. He is coordinating "An Evening with Kirk Cameron" on Oct. 23 at the Marshall Civic Center in Marshall, Texas. Additional information is available online at www.aneveningwithkirkcameron.com.

Chris Meseke ('97) was recognized as the 2009 *Sentinel-Record* Coach of the Year. He is the head basketball coach for Fountain Lake High School in Hot Springs, Ark.

Todd Baker ('98) and **Laura (Burns) Baker ('98)** have relocated to Branson, Mo., where he is a doctor in the emergency department at Skaggs Hospital. Baker recently returned from serving a 15-month deployment in Iraq as chief of Baghdad ER. He and his wife have one daughter, Avery Grace (2).



Dr. Aaron Ward ('97) married Rachel Nickens on June 13 in Murfreesboro, Tenn. The couple lives in Arkadelphia.

Brandon Warner ('99) and his family recently completed training at the International Learning Center in preparation for serving on the mission field in Botswana. Warner and his wife, Torie, have three sons: Rhett (10), Ridge (6) and Reid (5).

-2000s-

Christy Grobar ('00) married Daniel Carlo on April 18. She currently works as a corporate analyst for Glazer's Wholesale and lives in Garland, Texas.

Ryan Roberts ('00) married Ashley Roberts on May 2.

Dr. Stephen Humbard ('01) joined the team at the St. Vincent Family Clinic/Chenal in Little Rock.

Matt Bell ('02) is an internal medicine-pediatric resident at UAMS and Arkansas Children's Hospital. His wife, **Sarah (Hollingsworth) Bell ('03)**, is a pharmacist for Target in Conway.

Gary Keene ('03) is the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Luling, La. He and his wife, **Marie (Bryant) Keene ('04)**, have two children, Jamie (2 ½) and Noah (1).

Dustin Slaton ('03) recently completed his M.Div. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is serving as the minister of youth & recreation at First Baptist Church of Terrell, Texas. He and his wife, Melody, have one son, Preston.

Leah Stroope ('03) married Stephen Alexander on May 30 at First United Methodist Church in Hot Springs. The couple lives in Shreveport, La.

Flight 1420 anniversary events prompt tears of sadness, joy

Ten years after the crash of American Airlines Flight 1420 in Little Rock, Ouachita hosted a campus prayer service and members of the 1999 Ouachita Singers tour group gathered for a reunion.

The prayer service, held June 1 in Berry Chapel, was patterned after the season of prayer conducted by Ouachita faculty and staff following the crash in June of 1999. It included prayer, music and reflections by Charlie and Cindy Fuller, Dave Ozmun and Amy Gaden Taylor, all members of the Ouachita Singers travel group that was involved in the crash. Also participating in the service were Ouachita faculty and staff members Jeff Root and Phil Hardin.

On Tuesday, June 1, 1999, at 11:51 p.m., Flight 1420 crashed when the pilot attempted to land at Little Rock National Airport during a thunderstorm. Twenty-five members of the Ouachita Singers travel group were on board returning from a trip to Europe. Ouachita senior James Harrison died from injuries sustained at the crash site. Rachel Fuller, 14-year-old daughter of Ouachita faculty members Charlie and Cindy Fuller, and Ouachita senior Kristin Maddox Cheng were admitted to Arkansas Children's Hospital with severe burns. The others in the Ouachita group were treated for smoke inhalation or minor injuries and released. Rachel Fuller died two weeks later as a result of her injuries.

Charlie Fuller, Ouachita's former dean of the School of Fine Arts, led the Ouachita Singers on their European tour. Noting during the recent prayer service that "there are more stories of the crash of Flight 1420 than we can count," Fuller said, "There are stories of corporate greed and incompetence, stories of terrible suffering and loss" as well as "heroic stories of those who selflessly aided each other and placed themselves at risk in order to bring total strangers to safety."

Recounting the "thunder, lightning, hail, torrential rain and fire," Fuller declared, "Evil screamed at humanity through needless suffering – physical, emotional and spiritual.



Members of the 1999 Ouachita Singers tour group who gathered July 18 are (front row, L to R): Beth Stubblefield Davis, Jim Simmons, Caroline Golden Simmons, Mark Simmons, Susanna Biegert Berrones, Kevin Mergel. Second row: Amy Gaden Taylor, David Stanley, Aaron Hawley, Etta Waller Linton, Kristen Clark Hutchins, Luke Hollingsworth. Third row: Natalie Putnam Jagers, Melinda Dill Morgan, Misha Perkins Parker, Anna Lloyd, Barrett Baber, Jon Merryman. Back row: Dustin Taylor, Tad Hardin, Kristin Maddox Cheng, Cindy Fuller, Charlie Fuller, Sarah Fuller, Dave Ozmun. *photo by Lori Motl*

"In response to the screams of evil and the cries of humanity, God spoke; He whispered," Fuller added. "And as usual, He didn't give us the answer we wanted but He enveloped us in the answer that we needed. The answer was and is His presence."

Emphasizing that "God is all about relationship," Fuller said both his daughter Rachel and James Harrison were also "all about relationship."

"We can learn from their example even today," he noted. "Do we invest in people or in ourselves? ... Here were two young people who got it right, who truly understood what Christ meant when He said put others first.

"How does God give us hope?" he asked. "Through His presence embodied in those who stand with us when we need it."

Dave Ozmun, professor of mass communications, also was among those aboard Flight 1420. Even amid the confusion, disorientation and "suffocating black smoke" in the wake of the crash, Ozmun said, "I do remember very vividly knowing that God was there. I was very conscious of His presence."

Reflecting on that experience a decade later, he said his hope today is that "wherever I go and whatever the circumstances, I will never forget that God is here."

Several weeks after the prayer service, members of the 1999 Ouachita Singers gathered on campus July 18 for a time of reflection and fellowship. A group of about 60 participants, including choir members, spouses, children and faculty members, spent the day reminiscing, hugging and singing.

Jon Merryman, who now lives in Nashville, Tenn., was among those who helped coordinate the event. "The goal of the reunion was not to dwell on the crash and those we lost," he explained, "but to share stories of what God has done in the lives of those who survived.

"We laughed and cried and remembered things that we thought had been replaced by smoke and fire and death and loss," he added. "The most meaningful part of the weekend for me was when we gathered around the piano and sang, as Dr. Fuller directed and Cindy accompanied, the music we sang on that trip, along with pieces commissioned in memory of Rachel and James."

"It was just an incredible day," Fuller reflected. "It was very healing. We got to tell our stories and reconnect and rebuild community. We made music. We cried tears of sadness and tears of joy at the same time."

Faculty Update

DeWitt deploys to Iraq

Lt. Col. Terry DeWitt, associate professor of biological sciences and director of OBU's Athletic Training Education Program, is on military leave to serve in Iraq as part of the 90th Sustainment Brigade of the U.S. Army Reserve. This is DeWitt's second deployment to Iraq.

Shepherd named Henderson VP

Dr. Lewis Shepherd, Jr., has accepted a vice president position at Henderson State University effective Aug. 1. Shepherd, OBU's assistant to the president for special programs, served 29 years at Ouachita. His new responsibilities at HSU will include the Southwest Arkansas Technology Learning Center, academic programs with regional two-year colleges and community affairs.

Hamilton presents jazz recital

Dr. Craig Hamilton, OBU's Lena Goodwin Trimble Professor of Music, director of bands and music education chair, recently presented a jazz trumpet recital and lecture. Among the musicians he highlighted were Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis and Wynton Marsalis.

Hewell attends worship seminar

Dr. Rob Hewell, chair of OBU's department of church music, was one of 15 applicants accepted to participate in one of the Calvin Seminars in Christian Scholarship July 13-24 at Calvin College. The seminar, "Taste and See: How to Teach for Depth in Worship," is designed to explore the nature of full, conscious and active participation in Christian worship and probe what role Christian teaching ministries can play in nurturing it.

Viser addresses stress, counseling

Dr. William Viser, associate professor of Christian ministries, made a presentation on "Stress Management for the Professional" to mental health professionals at the Mental Health Update 2009 in Texarkana, Texas. He also was invited to speak to missionaries and provide counseling in Greece June 22-27.



Leslie Fodge ('03) and **John Gore ('06)** were married on May 22 at Kessler Park United Methodist Church in Dallas.

Jana Greenwich ('04) married David Showalter on Jan. 3. They plan to serve as missionaries in Italy through Crossroads at the end of 2010. She is currently working for the Gladney Center for Adoption.

Dr. Lydia (Farmer) Steelman ('04) graduated from UAMS in May and began her family medicine residency program in July. She and her husband, Clay Steelman ('04), live in Little Rock.

Chris Davis ('05) is the first winner of the W.L. Barbour Family Award for Innovative Instruction at Mid-South Community College. Davis coordinates the Certified Internet Web Professional program for the West Memphis, Ark., two-year community college.

Dr. Rachel (Sidwell) Durham ('05) graduated from Southern Illinois University's School of Medicine in May.

Bethany Murray ('05) is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in nutrition at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Scott and Katie (Holmes) Haynes ('06) live in Littleton, Colo. He is pursuing an MA degree in Marriage and Family Therapy at Denver Seminary and she is a speech therapist for Denver Public Schools.

Stephanie Murrah ('06) married Charles Zeznanski on July 16 at Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Rhonda Nelms ('06) recently spent a year serving as an au pair in Siegen, Germany.

Lauren Farabough ('07) recently began working in the web center at UAMS in Little Rock. She previously was the sports editor for the *Daily Siftings Herald* in Arkadelphia.

Myra Houser ('07) married **Jason Smith ('08)** on July 11 in Ouachita's Berry Chapel.



Rachel Fruchey ('08) married **Evan Bell ('08)** on May 22 at Fellowship Bible Church. The couple lives in Little Rock.

Dale Garlin ('08) married Kimberly Hardin on March 23 in Ouachita's Berry Chapel.

Lindsay Nyberg ('08) married Scott LaRoe on May 31 at No Mistake Plantation in Sartartia, Miss.

Carly Hayes ('09) married **Evan Secrest ('09)** on May 30 at the Captain Henderson House in Arkadelphia. The couple lives in Little Rock.

Sarah Hillyer ('09) married **Casey Bushman ('09)** on June 27 in Fayetteville, Ark. The couple are attending Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago.

Blake Lockwood ('09) served as the head coach for the Stuttgart American Legion's AA program during the summer. He will begin medical school at UAMS in the fall.

Catherine Raines ('09) married **John Sims ('09)** on July 25 at the Albert Pike Memorial Temple in Little Rock. The couple will live in Little Rock.

future *tigers*

—1990s—

Rob Taylor ('95) and his wife, Mari, welcomed daughter Aspen Sakura on Feb 5.



Caroline (Curry) Lewis ('96) and her husband, Stephen, welcomed daughter Catherine Elizabeth on April 10. Catherine joins big brother Lee.

Marc Verlander ('97) and his wife, **Charity (Feemster) Verlander ('99)**, welcomed daughter Addison Marie on Feb. 22. She joins big sisters Cerys (4) and Bailey (3).



Aaron and Karen (Wood) Black ('98) welcomed adopted daughter Ella Ruth in June. She was born on Feb. 6, the couple's 10th wedding anniversary.

Jamie (Hopper) Garner ('99) and her husband, Lane, welcomed son Crosby Grant on March 26. He joins big brother Rhett (5) and big sister Alexee (2).



Lauren Pierce ('09) married **Alex Denning ('08)** on March 21 at Matthew Road Baptist Church in Grand Prairie, Texas. The couple lives in Arkadelphia where he is OBU's soccer coach and she is a staff accountant at Ouachita.

Hayden Tucker ('09) married **Aaron Walker ('09)** on June 6 in Anthony Chapel at Garvan Woodland Gardens in Hot Springs.



Allison Elise Vire ('09) married Galan Montie Hughes on June 20 at Bethesda Baptist Church in their hometown of Burleson, Texas. The couple will be living on the campus of Baylor University in Waco, Texas, where he will serve as a resident chaplain while attending Truett Seminary. She will be teaching kindergarten at La Vega Primary School.

—2000s—

Kyara (Lewis) St. Amant ('00) and her husband, Tyler, welcomed son Joseph Tyler on Jan. 5.

Robyn (Kuntz) Campbell ('01) and her husband, Ian, welcomed son Grayson Christopher Steele Campbell on March 9, 2008. He was welcomed by big sister Gracey James (6). The family recently returned to the Dallas area after a stint in California.



Kyle and Toni (Cook) Falkner ('01) welcomed daughter Audrey Lynn on May 17.

Stacie (Smith) Bowling ('02) and her husband, Jon, welcomed daughter Lila Nicole on Jan. 3. She joins big sister Abigail.

Abby (Ware) Chou ('02) and her husband, Eric, welcomed son Hudson Mack on Dec. 9, 2008. He joins sister Calla Lynn (3).



Sarah (Hollingsworth) Bell ('03) and her husband, **Matt ('02)**, welcomed son Zane Thomas on Dec. 27, 2008.



Jenny (Logan) Crow ('02) and her husband, Kevin, welcomed daughter Reagan Michaela on April 29.

Shannon (Sangster) Glass ('03) and her husband, **Ronald ('01)**, welcomed daughter Reese Kaylin on Oct. 2, 2008. She joins big sister Peyton (3) and brother Luke (2).

Alison (Daniel) Buscher ('04) and her husband, **Darin ('92)**, welcomed son Ethan Glenn on May 2. He joins big sister Zoe (2).



Chris Wright ('02) and his wife, Erin, welcomed son Cade Christopher on Sept. 4, 2008. Wright is the lead pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Bastrop, La.

Jamie (Wieser) Cook (04*) and her husband, **Kyle ('03)**, welcomed son Sloan Thomas on April 10.

in memoriam

-1930s

Cecile (Bell*) Lampkin ('34) of Camden, Ark., passed away on June 1. She is survived by one granddaughter and one great-grandson.

Virginia (Tomkins) Tull ('36) of Richmond, Va., passed away on March 15. She is survived by daughter Virginia Spector, son James Tull and four grandchildren.

Judge Tom Digby, Jr. ('38) of Sherwood passed away on May 4. He is survived by his wife Jane, children **Linda (Digby '61*) McFarland**, Tom Digby III and **Bob Digby ('69)**, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Jack W. Hearnberger ('39) of Fordyce, Ark., passed away on May 24. He is survived by sons Dr. John Hearnberger and William Hearnberger, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

-1940s

Harry B. "Hunk" Anderson ('42) of Aberdeen, Md., passed away in March. He is survived by his wife LaRue Anderson, children Terri Ward, Jonell Hook and Holly Thompson, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Frances (Bumpus) Hatton ('45) of El Dorado, Ark., passed away on June 20. She is survived by children **Linda K. Qualls ('68)**, **Larry Bumpus ('78*)**, Allen Bumpus and 11 grandchildren.

Verna Sue Elliot ('47*) of San Antonio, Texas, passed away on June 28, 2008.

Edward G. Berry ('48) of Jonesboro, Ark., passed away on April 22. He is survived by his wife Lois Berry, children **Laura (Berry) Spiegel ('76)**, **Edward Berry ('79)** and **Dan Berry ('81)**, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A.L. Burns ('48) of Texarkana, Texas, passed away on May 16. He is survived by his wife Emma Jean Burns, children Andi Kirby, Pam Worley, Tom Burns and Sara Langford, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Purifoy named Support Staff Member of the Year

Linda Purifoy, administrative assistant in Ouachita's Academic Enrichment Center, has been named University Support Staff Member of the Year.

"The recipient of this award must be someone who exhibits outstanding performance in support of the university's mission through service and encouragement to students, their families and the public," explained Brett Powell, OBU vice president for administrative services.

"According to the person who nominated her, Linda has met those requirements through the nurturing way she serves our students; the encouragement she gives by attending

plays, concerts, exhibits and athletic events to support our students; by showing the love of God in everything she does; and by making people feel special," Powell noted.

Purifoy said she finds inspiration from Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." She added that she enjoys her work at Ouachita, especially interacting with students, faculty and staff.

Purifoy, an Arkadelphia native, is a graduate of Henderson State University and has been on staff at Ouachita for 15 years. She has one daughter, Raygan; a son-in-law, Antonio Metcalf; and two grandchildren, Antonio Jr. and Ryan.

Dr. Henry H. Good ('48) of Little Rock passed away on June 19. He is survived by children Jennifer Loffredo, Henry Good III, Dr. David Good and Stephen Good, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Dr. Ernest Mosley ('48) of Gastonia, N.C., passed away on July 8. He is survived by his wife **Vivian (Bachman '50)**, daughters **Rev. Jan Hill ('76)**, **Melody Morris ('82)**, Lenora Mosley and 10 grandchildren.

Bonnie Marie (Boatman) Peeples ('48) of North Little Rock passed away on April 11. She is survived by her husband **Raymond Peeples ('43*)**, sons Earl, Caroll and **Alan ('74*)**, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

James Cravens ('49) of Dallas, Texas, passed away on Feb. 24. He is survived by children James Cravens, Karen Campbell, Gina Felts and seven grandchildren.

N.P. "Bud" Hudson ('49) of El Dorado, Ark., passed away on April 21. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, **Wanda (Echols) Hudson ('49)**, children Patrick Hudson and Elizabeth Hack and three grandchildren.

—1950s—

Calvin Craig ('50) of Texarkana, Texas, passed away on Jan. 2. He is survived by his wife Clara, daughter **Karen Vance ('83)**, three step-grandchildren and eight step-great-grandchildren.

James David Brown, Sr. ('56) of Little Rock passed away on April 29. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, **Joyce (Weatherly) Brown ('56 and '82)**, children **Sherrie Sharp ('80*)**, **Debbie Woosley ('82)** and David Brown and six grandchildren.

Ernest D. Justice ('56) of Keo, Ark., passed away on May 26. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Icie Justice, children Nora Justice, David Justice and Lisa Justice and two grandchildren.

Rev. Forrest Bynum ('58) of Salesville, Ark., passed away on May 1.

Lois (Moeller) Lamborn ('58) of Winterset, Iowa, passed away on June 21. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, **Richard Lamborn ('58)**, children Rick Lamborn, Esther Huhn and Miriam McNutt and six grandchildren.

—1960s—

Rev. Peter Abbott ('60) of Dyersburg, Tenn., passed away on May 10. He is survived by sons Andrew and Cayce Abbott.

Marjorie (Huey) Sanders ('60) of St. Louis, Mo., passed away on Jan. 22.

Veta (Crosswhite) Anderson ('61) of Harrison, Ark., passed away on April 29. She is survived by daughters Debra Crow, Cindy Daniell and Barbara Anderson, 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Lynda (Dunsworth) Washburn ('61) passed away on Oct. 25, 2008. She is survived by her husband of 47 years, **Franklin Washburn ('63)**, daughter Deborah Cockerham and three grandchildren.

Rev. Anton "Buddy" Uth, Sr. ('62), of Bryant, Ark., passed away on April 15. He is survived by his wife **Joan (Beard) Uth ('62*)**, children **David Uth ('79)**, Tony Uth and Lynda Jack, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Royce Lawrence Jones ('64) of Arkadelphia passed away on May 31.

—1970s—

Vivian Wilson ('70*) of Little Rock passed away on June 9.

Vernon Sammons III ('72) passed away on April 14, 2009. He is survived by his wife Donna Sammons and son Paul Sammons.

Bobby Ray Cook ('79) of Arkadelphia passed away on March 26. He is survived by his wife Helen Cook, daughter **Connie Stringfellow ('89*)**, son Bobby Cook and six grandchildren.

Paul Holt ('79) of Hope, Ark., passed away on May 15. He is survived by his wife **Belinda (Browning) Holt ('92)** and children **John Paul Holt ('93)** and **Rebecca Holt ('98)**.

—1980s—

Stacey Ann (Melton) Roberson ('83) of Conway, Ark., passed away on March 29. She is survived by her husband, Rev. Rodney Roberson, and children Hudson Taylor and Audrey Nell of Conway.

Rev. Gary Akers ('84) of White Hall, Ark., passed away on June 18. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Lynn Akers, and children Joshua, Caleb and Seth.

—1990s—

Shingo (Kisling) Eyman ('97*) of Sherwood, Ark., passed away on June 17.

Share your latest news!

Send your recent news and career updates to Lauren Land at landl@obu.edu, submit online by logging on to the Ouachita Online Community at www.obualumni.org, or call (870) 245-5506. We also seek to publish as many **wedding, baby** and **alumni reunion photos** as space allows, so send on!

—Faculty & Staff—

Jimmy Lemmons, longtime physical plant employee, passed away on June 18. He is survived by his wife **Susan (McClain) Lemons ('67)**, son **Jeremy Lemons ('97)** and two grandchildren.

Cathryn (Rogers) Melton, former Flippin-Perrin dorm mom, passed away on April 12. She is survived by her husband Eugene "Jeep" Melton, children Roger Rogers and **Stan Rogers ('71)**, step-children **Danny Melton ('72)**, **Brenda Manning ('74)**, **Jean Andrews ('78)** and **Donna Harris ('82)**, eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

For more ways to connect with your Ouachita Circle, visit
Ouachita's Alumni Online Community at www.obualumni.org



Dr. Kevin “Casey” Motl, Assistant Professor of History



photo by Danny Brown

When stepping up to the lectern in any history class, Dr. Kevin “Casey” Motl asks himself and his class a challenging question: “What does this event say about us as a people?” His inquisitiveness, animation and pure passion for bringing the past to light and to life have quickly made him a popular professor throughout campus. So popular, in fact, that he was recently chosen by the student body as the “Most Inspirational Professor” for the 2008-2009 school year.

When asked about Dr. Motl, senior Austin Hall said, “His passion for history, learning and life are transferred to every class that he teaches.

The enthusiasm and commitment to Christian excellence with which Dr. Motl lives his life makes him an excellent role model.”

While completing his Ph.D. in women’s history at Texas A&M University, Dr. Motl dreamed of his ideal job, knowing his ultimate position would likely come toward the end of a long teaching career. His goal was to teach in a setting that offered positive relationships with students, allowing him to shepherd them through their career. He also hoped to find a place where faculty members are both friends and colleagues. Upon interviewing at Ouachita, Dr. Motl said he knew he had found his ideal job. “I’m here for the long haul!” he emphasized.

Dr. Motl’s expertise in the field of women’s history enabled him to introduce “History of American Women,” the university’s first women’s history course. He hopes to partner with other disciplines to one day offer a minor in women’s studies. His courses are popular for their openness to ideas and focus on group discussion. “Our class discussions delve into the painful and provocative,” he explained, “all within an open and intellectual environment.”

Dr. Motl and his wife, Lori, Ouachita’s director of admissions counseling, are the parents of three children: Ryan (9), Sydney (7) and Josh (5).

Save the Date Fall 2009

Ouachita Student Village Dedication & Open House **August 20**

First Day of Fall Classes **August 26**

Children’s Theatre Production **September 24-29** (Tiger Friday Sept. 25)

“Totally Tigers” Homecoming **October 5-10** (GROW Oct. 8-9)

FORE Ouachita Golf Tournament **October 19**

Battle of the Ravine/Preview Day **November 7**

Festival of Christmas **December 4-5** (Tiger Friday Dec. 4)

Chris Babb, Development Officer and External Director of Ouachita Alumni

staff profile

Ouachita will host its inaugural FORE Ouachita golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 19, at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Little Rock. Chris Babb ('99) serves as the staff coordinator for the event which aims to put Ouachita on the golfing map while raising funds for university athletics.

Babb explained that the original idea of hosting a large golfing event came from Dr. Rex Horne, who wants to develop a signature fundraising event to benefit the university and spread Ouachita's message. Little Rock was a natural choice for its central location and large hub of alumni. Active alumni and former Ouachita tennis players Marc Heflin ('95) and Jay Heflin ('93) stepped into leadership positions as tournament chairman and co-chairman, respectively, and assembled a committee of alumni. The tournament also secured VCC Contractors as FORE Ouachita's presenting sponsor.

While the concept of a golf tournament is not new to Ouachita, hosting a premier golfing event is a way to introduce Ouachita to new supporters while bringing alumni and friends together on the greens. Once the central Arkansas event is well established, university leaders would like to host satellite events in the Dallas-Fort Worth and northwest Arkansas areas to pull in even more Ouachita fans.

"We really love the name FORE Ouachita because it plays on a golf term while highlighting our philanthropic aim," Babb noted. "It's simple and it clicks. Junior Abby Turner came up with the name one day and it stuck."

Tournament information is available at www.obu.edu/fore. The planning team is also recruiting additional partners, ranging from hole sponsors to major sponsors. Volunteer opportunities are also available. For more details, contact Babb at (870) 245-4274 or email babbc@obu.edu.

Babb has served at Ouachita for eight years, beginning as sports information director. In 2006, he joined the university development team. Today, he works as a development officer while also supporting the Ouachita Alumni team as the external director of alumni. For the past four years, he also has coordinated the Homecoming U.S. Bank Alumni Golf Scramble.

Babb is married to Amy (Bridges '00), a pharmacist. The Babbs have two children: Carter (4) and Millie (2). Babb is a member of the inaugural class of Leadership Clark County and writes a regular sports column for Arkadelphia's *Daily Siftings Herald*. He is also chairman of deacons at Park Hill Baptist Church and teaches junior high boys Sunday School.



photo by Lori Motl



Where there's a will, there's a way ...to benefit Ouachita

Ouachita President Rex Horne and his wife, Becky, review details of their will and estate plan with Terry Peeples, OBU's vice president for development. Dr. and Mrs. Horne have included Ouachita in their estate plan as a way to help perpetuate Ouachita's mission as an outstanding Christian university during their lifetimes and beyond.

For information about effective ways to include Ouachita Baptist University in your estate plan, contact the OBU Office of Development at (870) 245-5169.

Selfless service makes eternal impact

My first recollections of the word “service” are related to the vocations of military or Christian service. During my lifetime I have observed that the word carries much greater significance as a verb rather than a noun. Acts of service are certainly commendable, but the life of usefulness and selflessness touches lives and even eternity.

The word “service,” along with “vision” and “integrity,” graces our university seal. As Cami Jones says in our university’s promotional video, “This place is all about service.” Cami is a great example of the men and women of

decades to come. You would want to know that they were the only undergraduate students invited from Arkansas to participate in this prestigious event.

I wrote that the life of service can touch eternity. I have witnessed that here at Ouachita through our professors and staff. Their work impacts generations whose thoughts, deeds, writings, research, sermons and service will have a continuing effect as long as time exists. This timeless work is not done in a vacuum, but in buildings and classes taught by men and women who have paid a great price for their

“The beauty of service is seen in the giftedness and passion of those who serve.”

Ouachita when it comes to service. Cami has accumulated almost 700 hours of community service during her years at Ouachita. Whether it is through Tiger Serve Day, delivering Thanksgiving baskets, mowing, raking, painting, working in her church, welcoming new students, serving our international students, planting trees here or working through Habitat for Humanity or Ouachita’s disaster relief team, Cami is “all about service.”

The beauty of service is seen in the giftedness and passion of those who serve. Becky and I traveled to Washington, D.C. in May with Dr. Lori Hensley, associate professor of biology, and three seniors, Heather Ferguson, Adam Hurst and John Sims. They presented a poster on Capitol Hill for the congressional leadership and others about their undergraduate research. The title of their work was “New Hope for the Treatment of Ewing’s Sarcoma and Related Cancers.” I listened with great pride as they spoke of their findings to Senators Lincoln and Pryor. The four congressional offices were very receptive to our students’ appeal for undergraduate research. Congressman Ross sent me a text and stated how he had great faith in the future because of those students. These three have been accepted to medical school and will be people of service for

expertise. They continue to sacrifice as they have chosen to answer the call to serve in a private, Christian university.

Recently Becky and I updated our will to include Ouachita in a very significant way. We want Ouachita to always be able to provide the highest quality of education in this Christian environment. If each one who reads this would commit to sending what you can annually to our general budget and include Ouachita in your will, we could do so much more to multiply our work and service. I ask you to serve Ouachita in this way.

To one of the churches in Revelation, the Lord said, “I know your works, love, service, faith and patience.” He knows that about the churches and believers. He also knows that about our beloved university. May we always be known for service to God and humankind.



Rex Horne

Come home to Ouachita!

OCTOBER 5-10



Monday

Deck the Halls, *Residence Halls*
Lunch on the Lawn (12 noon)
Clark County Alumni Dinner, *Kluck Home* (5:30-7:30 p.m.)

Tuesday

Homecoming Chapel, *JPAC* (10 a.m.)

Wednesday

Chamber of Commerce Community Coffee, *Arkadelphia Town Hall* (9:30 a.m.)

Thursday

GROW
Tiger Tunes, *JPAC* (7:30 p.m.)

Friday

Alumni Golf Scramble, *Glenwood Country Club* (9 a.m.)
Tiger Tunes, *JPAC* (5 & 8:30 p.m.)
35th Reunion Dinner ('73, '74 & '75), *Horne Home* (5:30 p.m.)
25th Reunion Dinner ('83, '84 & '85), *Walker Conference Center* (7:30 p.m.)

Saturday

OcTiger Fest, *Campus Lawn* (10 a.m.-1 p.m.)
Reunion Luncheons ('79, '89 & '99) (11:30 a.m.)
Homecoming Court Presentation, *A.U. Williams Field* (1 p.m.)
Football Game, *A.U. Williams Field* (1:30 p.m.)
Tiger Tunes and Live Simulcast, *JPAC* (7:30 p.m.)



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OWN A PIECE OF OUACHITA HISTORY



A limited number of commemorative bricks from Daniel Hall are available for a donation of \$50 per brick plus \$10 shipping.

Each brick is a distinctive Ouachita memento as well as a unique conversation piece for your home or office.

Best of all, your gift will be a great investment in your alma mater's future. Proceeds from the bricks will be used to help fund Tiger Network Leadership Awards and the Student Village construction fund.

Order your commemorative brick today at www.obu.edu/danielbrick