Academic Travel Abroad: Spain
First-time Spanish excursion a blissful foreign experience
By Dr. Patricia Brennan, ATA Coordinator & General Education Instructor

From April 29–May 11, 32 Clarkson College students, alumni and The Nebraska Medical Center staff joined President Dr. Louis Burgher and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Stephen Smith on an intrepid exploration of Spain, a previously unknown territory for Academic Travel Abroad. Centering the 13-day trip on Madrid and Barcelona, the College community and their travel companions also toured Toledo, cultural city of Islam, Judaism and Christianity and home of Damascene art; and medieval Segovia, where they enjoyed a ceremoniously served suckling pig luncheon. As they dined, travelers enjoyed a unique and up-close view of the 1st century Roman aqueduct that functioned until 1964.

Madrid highlights included a day at the Prado Museum, tapas and sangria with the locals on Plaza Mayor, and a stop at Valley of the Fallen, an eerie tribute to those who fell in the Spanish Civil War of the 1930s. During their free day in the capital city, a few brave students even ventured to a bull-ring to witness the dangerous art of the matador.

The last half of the trip was spent in Spain’s cultural capital, Barcelona, home to architect Antoni Gaudi’s avant garde Casa Milá, Casa Batllo, Sagrada Familia, and Güell Park. Highlights included a tour of Spain’s oldest hospital, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, founded in 1401; and a day trip to Montserrat, a Benedictine monastery set in the mountains. The group arrived in time to enjoy the famous boys’ choir, which performs only 10 minutes a day.

continued on page 2
Looking Ahead with the Alumni Association

I hope everyone is having a safe and wonderful summer. The new Alumni Association Board officers and members took office in June, and you will see some familiar faces again this year. The 2012-13 Board members are prepared and energized to start the new year. Once again, the Board is establishing some great events and moving forward with the Alumni Association iPad Academy. The Alumni Association will continue to give back to the College community, publish quarterly newsletters and organize special programs and events to bring alumni together.

I have been privileged and honored to serve as the Alumni Association President for the past two years. I have met and worked with some amazing individuals throughout my term. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Rita VanFleet and the 2011-12 Alumni Association Board officers and members for their commitment and dedication to the Alumni Association. I have no doubt in my mind the new Board will continue to move the Alumni Association forward and achieve new goals.

All the best,

Jena Dickinson, B.S. ('08)
Alumni Association President
dickinsonjena@clarksoncollege.edu
402 552 3632

Employer Survey Conducted

Each March, the Alumni Association office sends out a survey to those institutions that have employed a new Clarkson College graduate over the past year. This year, 38 percent of the surveys were returned. The results of those surveys were extremely positive. The survey includes three sections of questions covering knowledge base, practice proficiency and behavioral skills.

A Likert scale was utilized with score responses ranging from 1 to 5, with one being the lowest and 5 being the highest. All of the employer responses rated within the 4 and 5 range, with two responses rating neutral at a 3. The College program directors are given their program’s results, utilizing the survey responses to evaluate and make changes if needed.

September Alumni Weekend Events

Fill out the registration form on page 8 to reserve your spot.

Thursday, Sept. 20:
Brunch, Annual Meeting & Convocation
The annual Alumni Brunch will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 20 on campus in Howard Hall. All alumni are invited to attend with the classes of 1952, 1972, 1982, 1988, 1992 and 2002 being the honorary anniversary classes. The annual meeting of the Alumni Association will follow the brunch at noon.

In the afternoon, Ollie the Trolley will transport attendees from the College to Trinity Cathedral where Convocation will take place at 2:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 21:
Continuing education event & cruise
A continuing education event, “Recognizing and Responding to Abuse,” is planned for Friday morning from 7:30 a.m. until noon on campus in Howard Hall.

A fun-filled evening is planned for Friday night aboard the River City Star riverboat, reserved exclusively for alumni and friends. The theme of the cruise will be “Pirates of the Muddy Miss” with dinner and a pirate troupe entertaining the guests. The cruise will set sail at 7 p.m. and return at 10 p.m.

Academic Travel Abroad:

From page 1

Spain

The last two days were free for travelers to plan their own adventures. Diverse activities included exploring the Mediterranean, local museums and plazas, and Montjuic, a hill that overlooks the city’s harbor. The trip was capped by a farewell dinner at El Rey Gamba near the beach, where the group enjoyed a mixed-grill feast of fresh seafood. The Alumni Association generously sponsored this event for the Nursing and Health Care Business students whose participation on the trip was the keystone of a core course.

You and your favorite travel companion are invited to immerse yourselves in the wonderful sights and sounds of Italy during a 12-day excursion April 28-May 9, 2013. You and your favorite travel companion are invited to immerse yourselves in the wonderful sights and sounds of Italy during a 12-day excursion April 28-May 9, 2013.

Meet Your 2012-13 Alumni Association Officers & Board

Again this year, the nominations for the Alumni Association Board members and officers were uncontested, and it was not necessary to send out a ballot. The by-laws permit the Board to accept uncontested nominations as the slate of officers for the coming year. The officers and members began their year of service on June 1.

SECRETARY
Carla Dirkschneider, M.S., RHIA
Carla is a 2007 Clarkson College graduate with her Master of Science degree in Health Care Business Leadership. She is the Director of the Health Care Business program at Clarkson College.

TREASURER
Kassie McKenny, M.S.N., R.N., CNE
Kassie received her Master of Science degree in Nursing from Clarkson College in 2007. She teaches basic skills and fast-track Nursing students at the College.

DIRECTORS
Ann Hagenau, M.S., R.T.(R)(M)
Ann received both her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging from Clarkson College in 1999. She then obtained her Master of Science degree in Health Services Management from the College in 1997. Ann is a Radiologic Technology and Medical Imaging faculty member at the College.

INTERESTED IN A GETAWAY?

For more information, contact Dr. Brennan at brennan@clarksoncollege.edu or 402.552.6125.

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

From page 1

Alumni Association Board, seated from left to right, Jena Dickinson, Jeanette Kassmeyer & Rachel Thompson.
Standing from left to right, Sue Leutzinger, Ann Hagenau, Chera Trembley, Nickki Hardin & Trish Weber.
Not pictured: Carla Dirkschneider & Kassie McKenny.

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

From page 1

PRESIDENT
Trish Weber, M.S., R.T.(R)(CT)
Trish received her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology in 1995, her Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging in 2008, and her Master of Science degree in Health Care Administration in 2011, all from Clarkson College. Trish is an instructor in the Radiologic Technology and Medical Imaging programs at Clarkson College.

VICE PRESIDENT
Nickki Hardin, M.S., R.T.(R)(M) (CIIP)
Nickki received her Associate of Science degree in Radiologic Technology and Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Imaging from Clarkson College in 1995 and her Master of Science degree in Health Services Management in 1997. Nickki works for Children’s Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, Neb. as the Manager of Radiology.

SECRETARY
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continued on page 5
Alumni Scholarship Winner

The Alumni Association awarded a $2,500 scholarship this spring to Amanda Hartin, a third-year Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing student from Pierce, Neb. Amanda is very active on campus, participating in Student Government Association, Campus Crusade for Christ, Student Nurse’s Association and Student Activities Council.

She has been an Anatomy Lab assistant for one semester, a Student Ambassador for two years and has been on the Dean’s List for four semesters. Upon graduation, Amanda plans to work for a few years and then obtain either her Master’s degree in Nurse Midwifery or her Doctorate degree in Family Practice.

Coffee Brewer Donation for Women’s Center

First-year Nursing student Tracey Voorhees completed 20 hours of volunteer work last semester at the Women’s Center for Advancement in Omaha, Neb. The Women’s Center for Advancement is a non-profit organization that helps women and men who are domestic abuse victims.

The volunteer experience was extremely rewarding for Tracey. One of her goals was to help the Center become a more welcoming place for visitors. She thought offering guests a warm drink while in class, at their support groups or while they were waiting in the lobby would help visitors feel more welcome. Tracey contacted the Alumni Association Board of Directors and asked if they would consider providing a single-serve coffee machine or a hot water kettle for the Center. The Board supported Tracey’s request and provided the funds to purchase a single-serve coffee machine. Tracey and the Women’s Center for Advancement were very appreciative of the Alumni Association assisting the community in this manner.

Graduate Capstone Review by Alumni Association Board

The Alumni Association Board sub-committee recently reviewed the Capstone project abstracts. Using the established rubric, all submitted project abstracts were reviewed. First, second and third place certificates were given based on the rubric evaluation’s cumulative score.

The Capstone experience allows each Master’s program student to investigate a question of practical importance by utilizing the critical thinking skills, knowledge, strategies, theories and principles learned throughout the course of study. The final outcome of the Capstone experience includes completion of a scholarly, evidence-based document that can be further revised for potential publication or an actual document that can be used by practitioners, educators, administrators or clients.

The sub-committee determined the top three projects of the April 2012 graduates were as follows: First place, Leah Bruceoort for her abstract Development of Postpartum Supplemental Discharge Teaching Materials Enhancing Teaching & Retention. Second place, Hilda Newell for her abstract Doses Resource Allocation Affect Follow-up Care Acceptance for Rape Patients? Third place, Naif Shihur for her abstract Development of a Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia Prevention Algorithm for the Clinician.

The full list of April 2012 graduate Capstone abstracts is listed on page 9. If you are interested in reading the unpublished abstracts or would like to learn more, contact the author via e-mail.
Continuing Education Event
Recognizing & Responding to Abuse

Friday, Sept. 21 from 7:30 a.m. to noon in Howard Hall on the Clarkson College campus in Omaha, Neb.

Purpose
To promote discussion and stimulate thought in regards to the health care provider recognizing and responding to abuse.

Target Audience
Health care professionals.

Objectives
The health care professional will be able to:
- Identify who needs to report abuse.
- Review the mandatory reporting process.
- Define specific types of abuse (child, intimate partner, adult).
- Describe signs of abuse.
- Review available victim assistance resources.

EVENT AGENDA
7:30 a.m. Sign in and welcome
8 a.m. Mandatory Reporting
Judi Dunn, R.N., M.S., CFP, Director of Professional Development at Clarkson College
8:30 a.m. Child Abuse
Suzanne Haney, M.D., FAAP, Medical Director, Children’s Advocacy Team & Project Harmony
9:30 a.m. Intimate Partner Abuse
Sue Michalski, M.S.N., R.N., President at Practical Applications, Inc.
10:45 a.m. Elder Abuse
Diane Hendrickx, CNM, UNMH, University of Nebraska Medical Center Division of Geriatrics
11:45 a.m. Evaluations and wrap up

OBJECTIVES
- Review available victim assistance resources.
- Define specific types of abuse (child, intimate partner, adult).
- Discuss signs of abuse.
- Review available victim assistance resources.

Attendance at the entire educational event is required for continuing education. Partial credit is not provided. CEU600.01CC.

Health Care Business & All Others
3.75 education hours awarded.

Nursing
Clarkson College is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Nebraska Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.
3.75 ANCC/NINA Nursing contact hours awarded NE09-12CF-10.
Clarkson College is approved IOWA provider #345. 4.5 IOWA nursing contact hours.

Physical Therapy
0.35 continuing education units corresponding to 3.50 contact hours approved by the NPTA.

Radiologic Technology
4.0 Category A credits approved by ASRT.

REGISTRATION
Contact Information
Name
Address
City/State/Zip
E-mail
Phone

Nursing license number required for nursing contact hours

Payment Options
- Clarkson College paid Alumni Association member: $30
- Clarkson College student: $10
- Other health care provider: $40

Checks or money orders should be made payable to “Alumni Association, Clarkson College.”

Phone Registration
To make a credit card payment, call 402.552.6148, 402.552.2311 or 800.647.5500.

Mail Registration
Send your completed registration form, along with payment, to Alumni Association, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS
Questions
Contact the Clarkson College Professional Development office at professionaldevelopment@clarksoncollege.edu or 402.552.6148, 402.552.2311 or 800.647.5500.

Registration Deadline
Event registration deadline is Friday, Sept. 7.

Parking & Event Location
Howard Hall is located in the Student Center on the Clarkson College campus. Parking is available in any designated commuter student lot.

EVENT DETAILS

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Clarkson College is approved IOWA provider #345. 4.5 IOWA nursing contact hours.

Physical Therapy
0.35 continuing education units corresponding to 3.50 contact hours approved by the NPTA.

Radiologic Technology
4.0 Category A credits approved by ASRT.

REGISTRATION
Contact Information
Name
Address
City/State/Zip
E-mail
Phone

Nursing license number required for nursing contact hours

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Radiologic Technology
4.0 Category A credits approved by ASRT.

REGISTRATION
Contact Information
Name
Address
City/State/Zip
E-mail
Phone

Nursing license number required for nursing contact hours

Payment Options
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Alumni Weekend: Event Registration Form

This year, the Alumni Weekend events will be held on Thursday, Sept. 20 and Friday, Sept. 21. The Alumni Association cordially invites you to attend this year’s activities.

EVENT DETAILS

Thursday, Sept. 20
10 a.m. Alumni Brunch
The anniversary classes of 1952, 1972, 1982, 1992 and 2002 will be honored at the brunch held in Howard Hall. All alumni are invited to attend. Graduates from the honored classes are to submit information to be included in the memory books distributed at the event. See page 2 for details.

Noon Annual Alumni Meeting

2:30 p.m. Convocation
Held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, transportation will be provided from Clarkson College beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 21
7:30 a.m. Continuing education event, “Recognizing & Responding to Abuse”
Look for full event details on page 7.

7 p.m. “Pirates of the Muddy Mo” Riverboat Cruise
Ahh! Set sail with a band 'o pirates and yer best mate aboard the River City Star Riverboat Cruise from 7 to 10 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City/State/Zip ____________________________
Email ____________________________
Program(s) completed ____________________________
Class of ____________________________

Payment Options
☐ Continuing Education Event $20 for paid Alumni Association members and students, $40 for non-members. ☐ “Pirates of the Muddy Mo” Riverboat Cruise _______ individual(s) will attend at a cost of $45 per person. Checks or money orders should be made payable to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College.”

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Parking
Event parking, maps and detailed information will be sent to you approximately one month prior to the event.

RSVP by Monday, Aug. 6
Clarkson College Alumni Association, attn: Alumni Coordinator 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131

Questions
Contact Rita Van Fleet at vanfreatl@clarksoncollege.edu, 402.552.3516 or 800.647.5500.

Contact Information

Reservation Details
☐ Yes, I will attend the Alumni Brunch on Sept. 20.
☐ Yes, I will attend the annual alumni meeting on Sept. 20.
☐ Yes, I will attend Convocation on Sept. 20.
☐ Yes, I will attend the continuing education event “Recognizing & Responding to Abuse” on Sept. 21. Event details on page 8.
☐ Yes, I will attend the “Pirates of the Muddy Mo” Riverboat Cruise on Sept. 21. _______ individual(s) will attend at a cost of $45 per person.

Event Details
Additional event descriptions can be viewed on page 2.

GRADUATE CAPSTONE PROJECTS

APRIL 2012 GRADUATES

Natalie Andreassen andreasen.natalie@clarksoncollege.edu Surviving Menopause: Three Population-Specific Educational Tools to Address the Physical, Psychological & Quality of Life Issues, advisor Dr. Patricia Coyle-Rogers

Janiece Bohlke jbohlke@cox.net A CAM Relaxation Adult Wellness Group Manual for Mental Health Nursing Students, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

Annika Carlson Descrptive Study Regarding Risk Assessment: Scenes of Patients Admitted with Suspected TIA, advisor Dr. Max Timmons

Kent Garman Strategic Planning in a Large Midwestern Health System: Effectiveness, Barriers & Overcoming Those Barriers, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Kirstin Gladson lgladson@bellevuemed.com Formal Physician Retention Program at The Nebraska Medical Center, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Nicole Hartz nico1eNP3682@yahoo.com Decreasing Media Use in Preschool Children: Preventing Childhood Obesity, advisor Dr. Linda Jensen

Lacey Henderson henderlace@clarksoncollege.edu Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Hospice Patients, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

Lindsay Inrmeiser lindsay.einrmeiser@yahoo.com Increasing Awareness of Vitamin D During Pregnancy: Teaching Guides for Health Care Providers & Patients, advisor Dr. Patricia Coyle-Rogers

Tracy Jasinski tracyjasinski@cox.net Radical Neck Dissection Patient Postoperative Teaching & Discharge Care Instructions, advisor Dr. Jane Langemeier

Christi Mastry mtrindl@hotmail.com Hyperlipidemia & Statins: An Evidence-Based Algorithm to Guide Practice, advisor Dr. Jane Langemeier

Celeste Montoya cmontoya@cox.net Assessing Nurses’ Perceptions of Skills in End of Life Care, advisor Dr. Jane Langemeier

Colleen Mouw cmouw@cox.net Human Papillomavirus Education: A New Era of Sexual Health, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

Lindsay O’Neil lonlindsay@clarksoncollege.edu Decreasing the Risk of Depression in the Caregivers of Cancer Patients, advisor Dr. Nina Wardell

Mindy Peitz mindyrose81@hotmail.com Long Term Care Management for People Living with Parkinson’s Disease, advisor Dr. Linda Jensen

Anna Pike apike@nebraskamed.com Conflict Management Program: A Business Proposal, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Jennifer Puicden aaiomom@gmail.com Depression Among Perimenopausal Women: A Descriptive Study Regarding Risk Assessment, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Theresa Rihanek Master of Science in Health Information Management Business Plan, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Ninu Ruzhitsky ruzhitsky.ninu@clarksoncollege.edu Adjunct Therapies in Breast Cancer Patients with an Emphasis on Ginger & Ginseng, advisor Dr. Jane Langemeier

Scott Thompson cthompson@cox.net Health Care in India: From Two U.S. Patients’ Perspectives, advisor Dr. Pam Schwalb

Rachel Zeiger rzieger@cox.net Encouraging Mentorship Among LPN to RN Projects, please contact the author via e-mail.

From page 6
Graduate Capstone Review by Alumni Association Board

Natalie Andreassen
Surviving Menopause: Three Population-Specific Educational Tools to Address the Physical, Psychological & Quality of Life Issues.

Recommendations for Use Research has identified modifiable risk factors for the development of VAP. The goal of the algorithm was to provide the bedside clinician’s with evidence-based strategies to reduce the incidence of VAP in the mechanically ventilated patient. These recommendations will be implemented within an intensive care unit at a mid-western hospital, with reevaluation of patient outcomes in six months.

GRADUATE CAPSTONE PROJECTS

APRIL 2012 GRADUATES

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Surviving Menopause: Three Population-Specific Educational Tools to Address the Physical, Psychological & Quality of Life Issues, advisor Dr. Patricia Coyle-Rogers

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Celeste Montoya
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Scott Thompson
Health Care in India: From Two U.S. Patients’ Perspectives.

Rachel Zeiger
Encouraging Mentorship Among LPN to RN Projects, please contact the author via e-mail.

Further research on the evidence-based algorithm for the prevention of VAP may add to the body of knowledge on its efficacy for the prevention of VAP.

Learn more
For further information on any of the capstone projects, please contact the author via e-mail.
Alumni Class Notes

Alumni Class Notes are published in the January/February and July/August editions of the Alumni Times. If you have a story or information that you would like to share in this section, please let us know. Information can lead to achievements, awards, marriages, births, deaths, travel and other significant news.

When sending information, please include maiden name, if applicable, program and year of graduation. E-mail your information to vanfret@clarkson.edu, call 402 552 3356 or write to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101-42nd Street, Omaha, NE 68131.

19040

Opal Havens Cooper ('44)
I have been retired since 2000 when my husband became ill. Since December 2000, I have been a widow. I have a daughter and two grandchildren who live here. We celebrate birthdays and holidays together. I go to “Body Recall,” an exercise group, three times a week. I am a quilter, working on 18 square quilts for my great-grandchildren. I will keep them until they graduate, if I live long enough. If not, my daughters know who will. My boys and families live in Iowa. My girls are twins—one lives in Rochester, and I’m able to spend time with them. Norma Vanfleet is my big sister. We had a wonderful life together.

Barbara Lynch Young ('55)
Enjoying retirement—married 37 years—two children, two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren. Life is good.

Irene Gustafson Studenberg ('55)
I enjoyed my years at Clarkson as a student, which was a good start for my working career until I retired in 2000. Jobs were always available in various areas of nursing. My nursing education was beneficial to my family and friends.

1950s

Jacqueline Boldra Richards ('52)
Our five children planned a family celebration for our 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 25, 2011. We were married secretly in 1951 before I graduated in 1952. My husband was drafted into the military service, so it was easy to keep it a secret, as he was away at military camp.

Carla Hughes Sowards ('53)
I remain a Texas resident and I enjoy family and church activities—plus two rescued boxer dogs we adopted last summer. My health remains good, and I hope to attend one more reunion of the class of 1953. I’m not sure how long we can find my way around Omaha anymore—it’s been so long since I have been there. I have many good memories of my time there with classmates and never regretted that I chose a nursing career.

Roberta Jean Aultine Scott ('53)
I would love to hear from my 1953 classmates. I am always proud to have graduated from Clarkson just the best! I do love to hear from old friends.

Darlene Hannahford Sjogren ('53)
To keep busy after completely retiring, I volunteer at church and senior groups in the area. My two grandchildren are not too far, and I’m able to spend time with them. Norma Thompson, another 1953 graduate, lives in Grand Prairie, Texas, and I get together for lunch when we can.

Dorothy Myers Zeplin ('55)
Enjoying bicycling with my husband, Lowell, in Acadia Park, Maine on the beautiful Carrigarie Trails last fall.

Karen Sargent Dolf ('54)
Just the year before our classmates of 1949 to know that on Dec. 27, 2011, I was rushed to the hospital in the middle of the night and diagnosed with kidney failure and liver involvement. I now do dialysis three days a week (about a four-hour time) in Lincoln, Neb. When a chair opens in Beatrice, I’m #1 on the list. Traveling is possible with made-ahead arrangements, but it takes a big chunk out of each day. It seems dialysis is pretty prominent these days. I’m not considering transplant at this time because I live too far. Best wishes and good health to all.

Marcia Fitzwilliams Weeks ('55)
Just changed my status to part-time—I am overwhelmed with all the extra time. My husband calls me Roger Rabbit trying to catch up on all those projects.

Ronda Lindstrom Simpson ('57)
April 2011 I retired! Some days I miss the excitement and satisfaction of acute care. Retirement, however, is so much pleasure and freedom. We spend five to six months of the year at our Rush Lake, Minn. home. I garden there and enjoy entertaining family and friends. Hospice volunteering is fulfilling my itch to be useful. Grandchildren and many other hobbies fill the days with lots of fun.

Tish Bunker Napstrek ('60)
Two children—both married and two grandsons so far.

Lynnea Lee Wheeler ('68)
I retired in 2009, and my husband and I proceeded to sell our home, buy an RV and travel the country for two years. While we truly enjoyed our travels and invaluable experiences, we found we needed a “home base.” We purchased a home in Tucson, Ariz., which is part of a very active resort community. To escape the summer heat in Tucson, we also purchased a park model on Lake Chataqua in western New York for the summer months. We are overwhelmed with all the hobbies/interests that we have both acquired! Any classmates that would like a place to vacation are welcome to come see us!

1960s

Susan Stephens Burgher ('70)
Looking forward to being the next generation’s “Golden Oldest” trip. We are meeting in Chicago, Ill. for a long-awaited weekend. You know who you are?

Nikie Herrero ('71)
Enjoyed classes at Clarkson College and going to 40-year class reunion. Nursing is a very rewarding profession. Have four grandchildren, two in Denver, Colo. and two in Omaha, Neb.

Jeanette Jackson Kasmeyer ('72, '86)
I cannot believe it has been 40 years since we graduated with our diploma/RN. So much has changed in the medical field and nursing. The constant is our Clarkson compassion, caring and advocacy instilled in us through our nursing education. I have been at Clarkson/The Nebraska Medical Center the whole 40 years as a staff nurse. I have changed my Master’s course to obtain another nurse from my past called me and asked if I would write a grant for her. I had never written a grant, but she was confident I could do it (I don’t know why these people showed such faith in my abilities!). So, I wrote the grant and turned it in to her in December! I love being back with the babies. I received an extensive orientation, and my friend was right—it came back to me. The technology is better than in the 1980’s, and the gentler care is an improvement as well. It is interesting to compare past and present practices. It is amazing to me that there are fewer babies on ventilators, and those who are don’t stay intubated very long. Babies we couldn’t save in 1980’s would do fine in 2012. Nursing has been very good to me. I have always worked as a staff nurse because, to me, being a nurse is a “calling.” I have worked in NICU, flight nurse, maternal-child, GYN, internal medicine office, telephone triage, pediatric office and family practice. I have worked all shifts. Nursing has provided wonderful flexibility throughout the years. I was able to adjust my work when I had children and at various other stages of life. The camaraderie of my fellow nurses has been there through thick and thin. I am so grateful for all the opportunities I’ve had.

Kathleen Shiley Bell ('92)
After being widowed, I recently remarried. My new last name is now Bell. Dan and his late wife had been friends of mine—still are—and had a son. My son has a son and a daughter, and we are enjoying retirement and the new hobbies/interests that we have both acquired! Any classmates that would like a place to vacation are welcome to come see us!

2000s

Mathew E. Beeman ('07)
We will be expecting our third boy in July. I was selected for a flight nurse assignment and had to make a decision between accepting the assignment or accepting a slot in Creighton’s Medical School. With the third baby on the way, I chose to continue to serve as a RN. I’m looking forward to my first flying assignment!

Honorary Alumni

continued on page 14
Second Celebration of Writing & the Creative Arts Event a Success
By Katie Kirkpatrick, English Instructor & Writing Coordinator

The second annual Celebration of Writing and the Creative Arts at Clarkson College was a wonderful success. The event is a true showcase of the many diverse creative talents at the College. This year, the Celebration included both student and employee categories. The turnout for both categories was excellent with 24 student entries and 12 employee entries, including poetry, prose, painting, photography, sketches, and charcoal and mixed media pieces.

All submissions were anonymously displayed in the Center for Teaching Excellence, where employee and student judges scored the items according to originality, artistry, beauty, power, message and interest, evocation of emotion, and polish. After judging, all items were on display in the Success Center, so the entire College could enjoy them.

The Clarkson College Alumni Association graciously donated educational grants for students’ first, second and third prizes. Students can use these grants toward educational expenses, such as tuition and books. The Clarkson College Human Resources Department generously donated gift cards for employees’ first, second and third prizes.

Student Winners
Emily Greener won first place ($200 educational grant) for her photograph, “Once Upon a Fairytale.” Sarah Hansen won second place ($100 educational grant) for her mixed media piece, “Summer Love.” In addition, Dylan Gaughan won third place ($50 educational grant) for his poem, “Day of Birth.”

Employee Winners
Margie Harris won first place ($50 VISA gift card) for her photograph, “Dusk Sunset.” Sharon Mantz won second place ($25 Kohl’s gift card) for her photograph, “Reflections in Brass.” Finally, Nancy McMahon won third place ($15 iTunes gift card) for her quilt, “Scrappy Stars.”

Thank You
This event would not be possible without the support and generosity of the Alumni Association, Human Resources, the Center for Teaching Excellence, the Success Center and everyone who lent their time and assistance.

PTA Students Give Back
Over the past several months, Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students and faculty put their talents to good use by participating in several volunteer activities throughout Omaha. Their involvement allowed them to support and educate the community in ways both fun and influential.

Community Safety and Wellness Festival
Forty-five first-semester PTA students assisted in activities that educated children on fire safety in their homes, teaching them to “stop, drop and roll.” They also discussed seatbelt safety and helped the children color and design T-shirts that advocated the importance of buckling up.

Nathan Hale Middle School
Ten senior PTA students provided four sessions of health and wellness lectures as part of the Nathan Hale Middle School “Fuel Up and Play 60” program. The program was designed to teach kids the importance of being active and maintaining good general nutrition. They were given whole grain and dairy snacks, information on the do’s and don’ts of vending machine eating, the importance of eating a healthy breakfast, and examples of cardiovascular, yoga and strength-training exercises.

Lakeside Village
Ten PTA students provided service to 30 residents at Lakeside Village on fall prevention. The essential job functions were performed through a balance assessment, gave one on one education on how to decrease their risk of falling and provided a handout on fall prevention.

Explorer Post
Eight Clarkson College senior PTA students educated high school students in the area about the field of physical therapy and the essential job functions of a physical therapist assistant. They explained, demonstrated and gave the high school students the opportunity to perform goniometry measurements, strength exercises, balance and postural assessments and electrical stimulation.

Faculty of the Year & Distinguished Service Award Recipients Honored
By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

One hundred and forty full- and part-time employees currently occupy the Clarkson College campus, but only two of that 140 were recognized at the annual May awards luncheon for their exceptional work ethic and unwavering loyalty to the College Mission.

Terry Hack, Educational Resources Coordinator, and Dr. Jane Langemeier, BSN faculty member, were selected as the 2011-12 recipients of the Distinguished Service Award and Dr. Patricia Bock Perry Faculty of the Year Award.

Distinguished Service Award
The success of College in fulfilling its Mission depends upon the unique and outstanding contributions of all employees. For this reason, the Distinguished Service award was established to recognize a staff member who exhibits leadership and demonstrates exceptional service to the College.

The following was written about Terry in his nomination forms:
Never misses a deadline and is committed to the success of the College.
Accountable and operates with the highest integrity.
Goes above and beyond duties to make sure the community and department needs are met.
Easy to work with, always professional and has a quiet friendliness that is always appreciated.

Congratulations
Terry has provided more than 12 years of service, and Jane will celebrate her four year anniversary in July. The Clarkson College community extends a sincere thank you and congratulations to the award recipients for their continual service and dedication to the College Mission and Values.

CONTINUES...
Update: iPad Academy at the College
By Rachel Thompson, Undergraduate Nursing Instructor

On May 17, the Alumni Association iPad Academy kicked off its first session. The iPad Academy has been a work in progress since January and has finally come to fruition. Twenty College employees mat to complete the first of four required training sessions.

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) at Clarkson College has been working alongside the iPad Academy planning committee and is facilitating the four sessions. Each session, Academy attendees receive an iBook created by the CTE to facilitate learning the iPad's functionality. Each participant will begin working on a plan to fully integrate the device into their work process over the next year.

The iPad Academy planning committee members—Mark White, Rachel Thompson, Jenica Dickinson, Katie McKenny, Ann Hagenus and Carla Driskind—have been working very hard and are excited to see the Academy coming together. Watch for more updates in the Alumni Times as the iPad Academy progresses.

April 2012 Clarkson College Graduates

Academic Excellence Awards
Presented to the graduate in each program with the highest grade point average
Shannon Rochelle Holt
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Amber Marie Pleven
Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging
Janel Elizabeth Dougherty
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Briania Marie Morris
Master in Health Care Administration
Celeste M. Montoya
Master of Science in Nursing
Certificate in Imaging Informatics
Cherie Yvonne Saurini
Abigail V. Williams
Class of 1949
Class of 1951
Norine Rippey Scott died unexpectedly on April 1, 2012.
Class of 1954
Phyllis Gunn Petersen died on Feb. 2, 2012 in Syracuse, N.Y. after battling a lengthy illness.

CLASS OF 72 & ’87: READY FOR FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND?
From Jeannette Jackson Kassmeier (’72, ’86)
Yes! It has been 40 years! Can you believe it? Let’s celebrate with a class reunion! Please join the Alumni Association and the class of 1972 in the festivities this Sept. 20–21, and share all of those wonderful memories that shaped us into that “Clarkson Nurse” we have been living. We can enjoy the fun activities planned, make new memories, renew old friendships, catch up with what accomplishments we have made and discuss how our families have grown. Bring pictures, memorabilia, and share your stories. Hope to see you on Sept. 20 and 21.

From Susan DeVries Stinson (’77)
Hi, class of 1987 WOW! Twenty-five years have passed rather quickly. Let’s all meet in Omaha in September and have some fun. It will bring photos, yearbooks and some great stories. Hope to see everyone!
If anyone is interested in lunch on Saturday, Sept. 22, please let me know, and I will work with the College to arrange something. Just e-mail me at skstinson420@msn.com.

Meet up with your classmates this September! Just fill out the event form on page 8, and we will see you soon!

Sara Marie Sweet
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Jeanna Daisy Alvarez Hall
Amanda Marie Beerbohm
Emily Kay Bergman
Michael Patrick Bragg
Katy Brewer
Keely Ann Buck
Cortney Ann Christiansen
Hillary Anne Cotton
Nicholas Jon Delaney 3.0
Benjamin Tucker Denich
Brittany Brenna Dick
Jane Elizabeth Dougherty
Jyclan Eicabert
Jennifer J. Edgell-Purdy
Suan Michael Ellis
Timothy James Faulkenberg
Brianne Elizabeth Forsberg
Jessica Lynn Franklin
Dylan Martin Gauhgan
Karin Irene Godin
Tanya Laras Hagerbaumer
Lon Michelle Haney
Sara Christina Harrison
Hillary Ann Hendricks
Jennifer Rebecca Imes
Brittany Ann Jones
Fallon Nicholle Kinkaid
Shawn Ann Kirby
DeAnna Lynne Koch
Jessica Ann Kooak
Brittany Leann Kramer
Lyndsie Ann Laffler
Melanie Rose Lasee
Lyndse Kay Leffette
Laura Kathleen Livingston
Brianie Lindsey McMeen
Taelyn Jordan Miller
Lydia Joyce Mooreman
Eunice Wambui Njue
Randasw E. Otto
Alicia Lynn Parker
Jena Dickinson, Kassie McKenny, Ann Hagenus, Carla Driskind—have

Certificate in Imaging Informatics
Cherie Yvonne Saurini
Abigail V. Williams
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Class of 1954
Phyllis Gunn Petersen died on Feb. 2, 2012 in Syracuse, N.Y. after battling a lengthy illness.

In Memorium
By Rachel Thompson, Undergraduate Nursing Instructor

Class of 1941
Valma Hestz Sommerville died in November 2010.
Class of 1946
Norine Jones Alexander of Hawaii died on May 11, 2012 after a fall.
Class of 1949
Class of 1951
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Class of 1954
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Class of 1954
Phyllis Gunn Petersen died on Feb. 2, 2012 in Syracuse, N.Y. after battling a lengthy illness.

Academic Honor
Phyllis Gunn Petersen died on Feb. 2, 2012 in Omaha in September and have some fun. I hope to see everyone!

Therapy Dogs Join the Alumni-Hosted Student Study Halls
On April 23 and 24, the Alumni Association hosted study halls during final week for Clarkson College students. Snacks and a quiet place to study were provided in Howard Hall on Monday and in classroom 203 on Tuesday.

Monday’s study hall agenda included special guest visitors from Domesti-Pups, a local volunteer-based organization that uses therapy animals to improve the quality of life for others. Two therapy dogs—Brody, a poodle/lab mix, and Bondo, an Australian cattle dog and border collie mix—and their handlers, Kathy and Kelly, visited the College. Brody and Bondo were very eager to interact with the students and help them relax before their finals.

Heidi, Class of ’72 & ’87: Ready for Alumni Weekend?
From Jeannette Jackson Kassmeier (’72, ’86)
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Meet up with your classmates this September! Just fill out the event form on page 8, and we will see you soon!
GET COOKING:
LOOKING FOR NEW RECIPES?

Tired of bringing the same recipes to summertime functions? Save yourself some time by investing in an alumni cookbook, and have more than 250 recipes at your fingertips. For $18, you’ll have peace of mind while you support the Alumni Association, current students and Clarkson College.

To purchase your cookbook, send check or money order made out to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College” to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

Spring Garden Walk Event Recap
By Mikaela Knipe, Marketing Specialist

Each year during the Spring Garden Walk, fingers are crossed that the forecast calls for clear blue skies and mild temperatures—Mother Nature did not disappoint this year. Beneath the sunlight and amongst the blooming flowers, College employees lined the brick pathway to celebrate the now six-year-long preservation of the Clarkson Service League Heritage Garden and its growing number of dedicated bricks and boulders.

Dr. Marlin Stahl, Clarkson College Board of Directors President, welcomed those in attendance and introduced the Very Reverend Dean Thomas Hurley of Trinity Episcopal Church to the podium for an opening invocation.

Dr. Burgher thanked the members of the Board who were able to attend before welcoming former Clarkson Service League President Erin Murnan to the podium. She shared with the audience the amount of energy and dedication the Clarkson Service League has contributed to the Omaha area since its establishment in 1946. Aside from the organization’s contribution of the Garden in 2006, just last year the Clarkson Service League helped fund the renovation of the Clarkson College library. “We know the library will impact many students for years to come,” said Murnan. “We are honored with the alliance and were so thrilled to be able to help with this project.”

Clarkson College Alumni Association President Jena Dickinson thanked Murnan and the Clarkson Service League members for providing a space on campus that students, faculty and staff have truly come to value. “This Garden has truly become a vital part of our campus and community,” commented Dickinson. “Each brick or boulder purchased and placed in the Garden contributes to the Alumni scholarship given each year to help students further their education.”

After some closing remarks made by Dr. Burgher, those in attendance walked around the Garden to observe the newly dedicated bricks and then were welcomed to tea and cookies in the Student Center.