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A Message From President Evans

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Greetings, once again, from the most beautiful higher learning environment on Earth! The flora on our picturesque campus is exceptionally colorful and lush this summer, due in part to an unusually rainy vernal season and in larger part to our artistic Creator. The notoriously irreverent Lindenwood squirrels are exhibiting their seasonal busy-ness, and the graceful reconnaissance by our resident raptors competes daily with the noisy robins for everyone’s attention.

In mid spring we spotted what appeared to be an incarnation of the iron owl that is mounted atop Butler Library. A live owl – about 18 inches tall and very plump but either unexpectedly trusting or impressively intrepid – was perched on a low ledge on the east side of the Library, just about four or five feet above ground level. We thought the stately bird was perhaps ill or injured. As it turned out, however, the handsome creature was a fledgling (!) that had just ventured away from its mother and was simply pausing to study, decipher, and construe the new world it had just discovered.

The young bird’s symbolic connection with Lindenwood’s iconic metal owl, coupled with its juxtaposition to that icon, held an unusual, timely significance for me: Especially in the season of rebirth, it seemed to represent a reawakening of hallowed tradition with new energy and promise.

In that vein, Lindenwood continues to experience a wonderful era of new achievement and advancement. Among many other areas of growth and maturation as a regional university, this vibrant campus is developing quite a voice – as a dynamic institution of our type should. Here are just a few examples:

• Our student newspaper, the Legacy, debuted just over a year ago. Already it is an acclaimed publication, recently having received 15 awards from the Missouri College Media Association.
• We have reestablished a first-class Lectures and Concerts series that annually brings in a number of eminent scholars and professionals from various fields to address the campus community.
• Lindenwood is becoming a generator of scholarly journals, including our quarterly Literary Journal and our bi-annual History Journal. These stimulating and erudite periodicals publish works by both Lindenwood scholars and outside pundits – most of them from the field of higher education.

It is my hope and dream that this University will continue to mature as a true republic of ideas that fosters an ongoing conversation among our students, faculty, and all other stakeholders of the University. That way, when a student graduates from Lindenwood, he or she will be not only degreeed but, more importantly, a genuinely enlightened and principled professional who will make a real difference in the world. Are you with me on that ideal? I’d be interested in hearing from you.

Very sincerely yours,

James D. Evans, Ph.D.
President

Mark Calendars For Homecoming/Reunion

Plans are well under way for the Lindenwood Homecoming and Reunion October 17-18, 2008. We hope you’ll return and join us for a time of reflection, renewal, reconnecting, and remembering. The memories that you cherish of your days at Lindenwood are important to us and we invite you to join your fellow classmates to relish in the old days.


Join us Saturday morning for our traditional alumni and parents breakfast with the president, followed by our Alumni Association meeting. Meet current Lindenwood students as you tour your old dorms and campus and visit our new Center for Fine and Performing Arts.

Or, you could join President Evans as he unveils the contents of a time capsule placed inside the wall of the Butler library back in 1929. There’s the Homecoming football game against Graceland University, and you might be able to sneak in along with the 50th reunion class at a special showing of the old recruitment film Linden Leaves. And, don’t forget to join us for a special performance by Guy & Ralna in the new Center for Fine and Performing Arts.

If it’s been a while since you’ve returned to campus, you will be excited to see many changes, yet pleased that so much remains the same. This is a special time to reconnect and walk down memory lane with your friends, family, professors, and former classmates. We welcome you back home and hope to see you there. Look for your Homecoming invitation and schedule in the mail in August or check our website www.lindenwood.edu for more details. We look forward to seeing you!
Professor Sue Tretter Will Take American Studies To Germany

Sue Tretter came to teach at Lindenwood in the fall of 1994. In January, more than 14 years later, she will represent Lindenwood in Germany as a lecturer in the prestigious Fulbright program.

Prior to coming to Lindenwood, she had been teaching as an adjunct professor at Parks College in Cahokia, IL, where she said she was on the brink of a full-time position when the school closed.

“That Sunday, I looked in the (St. Louis) Post-Dispatch and saw an ad for the position of English professor at Lindenwood,” Tretter said. “At that time, I was still working on my dissertation.”

Tretter got an interview for the position and met with the deans and with the English department and before long was hired. She became one of two “Americanists” on the English faculty, the other being long-time Lindenwood Professor Jean Fields. Tretter’s doctorate is in American studies; she also has a bachelor’s in English and philosophy and master’s degrees in English and communications.

“Jean taught American Lit I and I taught American Lit II,” Tretter said. “When I started at Lindenwood I taught five classes while I was finishing my dissertation and taking care of two children in high school and junior high.”

Tretter said that Fields took her under her wing in those early days and that her help was invaluable. In fact, Tretter speaks very highly of all her colleagues in the faculty, staff and administration, who she says have helped her immeasurably, both personally and professionally, and have touched her life.

“Jean and I had the same teaching ideals,” Tretter said. “We enjoyed discussing theories on teaching. We were in the Gables at that time. It was great. Jean was housed in the front room. People would come in and thought she was a secretary, and she would help them. It was a good example of how humble and helpful a professor should be.”

When Fields passed away in 1998, Tretter became the only Americanist on the English faculty. The American studies program was later launched and Tretter currently divides her time between English and American studies. Tretter teaches bachelor’s and master’s level courses and is also currently chair for an Ed.D. student’s dissertation.

Tretter said American studies is a good program to help students learn how to be good citizens of their country and their communities.

“What better way than for them to study the culture of America and figure out how they fit in,” Tretter said. “We talk about the American dream and the American promise. Students go from feeling entitled to feeling blessed.”

Tretter was notified in March that she will be talking about the American dream and the American promise to college students in Leipzig, Germany, as the Fulbright Leipzig Chair at the University at Leipzig.

“American studies is actually more popular in Europe right now than it is in the United States,” Tretter said. “I think part of it is that they want to see how we tick.”

Tretter applied for the Fulbright last year, which was a long and involved process. She had been thinking of ways to reach out to foreign students interested in American studies and then found out about the opportunity in Germany. She was notified of approval first by Fulbright in the United States, but she did not receive notification from Fulbright in Europe until three months later. When she opened the letter, she anticipated a rejection and was surprised to see an approval letter instead.

“It was very exciting,” Tretter said. “I started to hyperventilate.”

While Tretter said she had been studying German long before she applied for the Fulbright, her ultimate goal while teaching in Germany is to encourage students there who are interested in American studies to study at Lindenwood.

“With the history associated with the region around St. Charles and St. Louis, this would be the perfect place for German students interested in American studies,” Tretter said. “I’m looking forward to representing my university and my country.”
Few people can say they were born the century before last, but Lindenwood alumna Elizabeth Jenkins Rutherford (’17), better known as Betty, joined the select list of the world’s supercentenarians on Sunday, May 4, 2008, when she celebrated her 110th birthday.

According to the Gerontology Research Group of Inglewood, CA, Rutherford joins 77 others (66 women and 11 men) in the world as “supercentarians” - those who are 110 or older and still living.

Rutherford was born in Joplin, MO, on May 4, 1898. She attended Lindenwood from 1915-1917. While attending Lindenwood, Rutherford was very well known. She was part of the Revellers as a class officer and served as the class secretary-treasurer. Rutherford was a member of the Circle Romanique, Missouri Club, and the Hikers. She was also the president of the Spanish Club and one of the charter members of Beta Sigma Omicron, which was established at Lindenwood in 1916.

Involved in many athletics activities on campus, Rutherford was even mentioned in a poem written in the Linden Leaves 1917 yearbook stating “and Betty Jenks, our baseball fan can catch any fly,” referring to her love of baseball and sports. She also played as the team forward for the basketball team. As a junior, she joined the hockey team at Lindenwood, which was the first junior college in the nation to offer hockey. She was also part of the pyramid team which performed at many on-campus and community occasions. At Lindenwood she also studied dance and participated in track, excelling as a hurdler.

Rutherford has many fond memories of her time at Lindenwood and even remembers meeting and conversing with Dr. Roemer. Some of the things she remembers are living on campus, the good times she shared with friends, playing sports and being near St. Louis. She also remembers being featured in Lindenwood College advertisements in Good Housekeeping magazine.

“My great grandmother is an inspiration,” said Mary Rutherford, a student at University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. “She has not only lived in three centuries, but she remembers the Wright Brothers flying at Kitty Hawk in 1903, the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic, women obtaining the right to vote in 1920, the devastating 1927 flood and surviving the Great Depression, in addition to numerous other historical, technological and noteworthy events. Both of her sons served in World War II. When she was born, William McKinley was President of the United States and the Spanish American War had just begun.”

After Lindenwood, Betty moved to Batesville, AR, in 1920 following her marriage to James L. Rutherford Sr., whom she met at a dance on the rooftop of the Basin Park Hotel in Eureka Springs where both were vacationing.

Betty currently resides in Batesville, and at her request her family held a private family birthday gathering for her on May 4. Rutherford has two sons, James L. Rutherford Jr. of Batesville, and Robert S. Rutherford of Heber Springs, AR; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Lindenwood sends many birthday wishes to Betty and congratulates her on this wonderful achievement.

Significant Events In Rutherford’s Lifetime

1898 – Betty Jenkins Rutherford is born in Joplin, MO, on May 4
1903 – Wright Brothers fly airplane at Kitty Hawk
1908 – First Model T rolls off the Ford assembly line
1911 – Reagan, 40th President is born
1912 – Titanic sinks; 1503 lives lost
1913 – 16th Amendment establishes income taxes
1914 – World War I begins in Europe
1915 – Betty attends Lindenwood College
1917 – Betty leaves Lindenwood College
1917 – Kennedy, 35th President born
1920 – 19th Amendment given women right to vote
1925 – First municipal airport in the world is Hopkins, at Cleveland, OH
1927 – Devastating Mississippi River flood
1929 – Great Depression begins
1931 – National Anthem adopted by Congress
1937 – Amelia Earhart Putnam disappears during attempt to fly around the world
1939 – New York World’s Fair begins
1939 – World War II begins
1941 – Pearl Harbor bombings
1944 – D-Day at Normandy
1945 – World War II ends
1945 – First computer was invented by Charles Babbage
1954 – Brown vs. Board of Education
1957 – Internet development project begins
1962 – John Glenn is first U.S. astronaut to orbit earth
1963 – Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers “I Have a Dream” speech
1963 – John F. Kennedy assassinated
1969 – Neil Armstrong, first astronaut to land on the moon
1969 – Woodstock
1970 – Publication of the Pentagon Papers- Watergate
1973 – First cell phone invented
1980 – Mount St. Helens volcano erupts
1981 – First female Supreme Court Justice is Sandra Day O’Connor
1986 – First true community computer system goes online
1986 – Shuttle “Challenger” explodes on takeoff
1989 – Internet addresses invented
1998 – Betty Jenkins Rutherford celebrates her 100th birthday
1999 – Oklahoma City bombing
2001 – September 11 attacks
2001 – War in Afghanistan
2005 – Hurricane Katrina strikes
2006 – St. Louis Cardinals win their 10th World Series
2008 – Betty Jenkins Rutherford celebrates her 110th birthday
Lissners Support LU To Help Grow Local Talent, Build Community

Chris and Dawn Lissner have a long history of giving to Lindenwood University. Though neither of them has ever attended Lindenwood, their contributions have helped numerous students over the past decade obtain master’s degrees.

“We get letters periodically from people who say, ‘Thank you; you helped me get my master’s degree,’” Chris Lissner said.

The story about how that history of support for Lindenwood started begins in the 1970s. Chris Lissner’s parents, Bart and Addie, built a house in the new community of Lake Saint Louis in 1970, before the lake had water in it, he said. A few years later, Bart Lissner was serving on the Lake Saint Louis Community Association when it contracted with Dennis Spellmann, long before he became president of Lindenwood in 1989, to help it transition from a private community to a city.

Chris Lissner graduated from University of Missouri-Columbia and went to work at Bear Stearns in Chicago, where he met Dawn, who is a native of Chicago, on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. They returned to St. Charles in 1984 after the passing of Bart Lissner, and they bought Chris’ childhood home from his mother in 1988. They still live there.

“We’ve definitely seen the county go from corn and crickets to booming suburb,” he said.

The Lissners began giving to Lindenwood in 1998. Prior to that, they had been supporting education in other ways and came to Lindenwood to speak to Spellmann on the suggestion of Chris Lissner’s mother, Addie. From that meeting, the Lissners established a foundation to help teachers earn their master’s degrees from Lindenwood.

“Our children went to St. Patrick’s parochial school in Wentzville, and we learned that the school was encouraging its teachers to earn master’s degrees,” Dawn Lissner said.

She said the original idea for the foundation was that it would help parochial school teachers earn master’s degrees, but it is open to public school teachers as well.

More recently, Lissner’s company, Acropolis Investment Management in Chesterfield, is currently working to establish a separate foundation with Lindenwood that is designed to help students get their master’s degrees in business.

Lissner said he had called the university last year and inquired about Acropolis setting up a foundation of some sort for the management division. After the call, the idea for the foundation emerged. The teacher education foundation the Lissners established in 1998 will continue to operate as well.

“We’ve always thought that if you give charitably, it’s better to teach people how to fish than to give them fish,” Chris Lissner said.

As for their decision to support Lindenwood, the Lissners say there are many reasons.

“We need a place in St. Charles County for people to get their master’s degrees and encourage them to stay in the county,” Dawn Lissner said. “We’re thrilled to see Lindenwood continue to expand its programs and turn out new community leaders. Also, Lindenwood is a great source of diversity in this county, which is welcome.”

In addition to the connections they have had to Lindenwood since 1998, the Lissners now have a more personal one as well, in that their daughter, Marie, is a junior in the Education Division at Lindenwood.

“We are very happy with the exciting things happening at Lindenwood,” Chris Lissner said. “We want to support it and see it succeed.”
Lindenwood Becomes All-Steinway School

“When Mary Sibley made the trek up the Missouri to Fort Osage in the spring of 1816, she brought her special piano, a rather unique one equipped with fife and drum…. she began teaching the Indian children, and her entertainment on the piano was a delight to all who listened.”

This quote is taken from the nomination form to place Sibley Hall on the National Register of Historic Places. The application also contains the following quote from Westward with Dragoons: the Journal of William Clark on his Expedition to Establish Fort Osage edited by Kate L. Gregg:

“Mary amuses me and herself every day for an hour or two with her piano, on which she performs extremely well;…You may be sure Mary is a very great favorite among the Indians, indeed they literally idolize her since they have seen her play.”

How pleased Mrs. Sibley would be to see Lindenwood become one of the 87 All-Steinway Schools in the world. The program can be traced back to a relationship created between Oberlin College and Steinway and Sons in 1877 and includes such prestigious institutions as The Juilliard School and the Yale School of Music. The designation represents schools that have demonstrated a commitment to excellence by providing their students, faculty and visiting artists the finest instruments available for the study of music. Internationally renowned pianists and composers, such as Vladimir Horowitz and Sergei Rachmaninoff, preferred Steinways to any other instrument and Lindenwood’s young musicians deserve nothing less.

When an institution commits to the All-Steinway School program, representatives of the college or university are hosted by company executives in New York for a tour of the plant where they are able to observe master craftsmen who construct each instrument. After a tour of the plant, faculty members or designees of the university enter the showroom and actually select the grand pianos for their studios and recital and concert halls.

Lindenwood representatives Dr. and Mrs. James Evans and Assistant Professor of Music Pam Grooms traveled to New York in April to tour the factory and choose the pianos. If this wasn’t exciting enough, they met Henry Z. Steinway, great grandson of the company’s founder and the last family member to lead the firm. Steinway was gracious enough to sign the cast iron plate in our 9-foot concert grand and another grand piano slated to be placed in the piano studio on campus. The 93-year-old Steinway’s signature elevates what are already extraordinary instruments to an all-new level of importance.

Actually, Lindenwood has a long tradition with Steinway and Sons. After the turn of the century, Steinway grand pianos graced a number of the parlors in the residence halls on campus. One such piano, built in 1906, is currently being refurbished and will be the focal point of the lobby in the new Center for Fine and Performing Arts. In addition, Lindenwood owns one of the oldest Steinway grand pianos west of the Mississippi.

The instrument which was completed in 1864 is referred to as the “Lindenwood Civil War Steinway” and is presently in storage awaiting a donor to sponsor its restoration.

Guy & Ralna To Present Homecoming Concert

The opening act for the new Lindenwood Center remains a tightly held secret, but university officials have released details of the special Homecoming weekend performance by Guy & Ralna of “The Lawrence Welk Show.” The performance will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 18.

Guy & Ralna have been the most popular singing couple on the longtime television series since 1969. More than 3 million people watch them on TV each week on “The Lawrence Welk Show” that’s broadcast throughout the United States and Canada. The TV series is in its 52nd year on national television.

Tickets are $35 and $45, and Lindenwood alums will receive preferred seating. To purchase tickets, please contact alumni director Whitney Fraier at 636-949-4975.

In their live, 80-minute patriotic concert, Guy & Ralna will pay a special patriotic salute to all five branches of our Armed Forces. They will also perform big band, gospel, pop and country tunes with an 11-piece band. Some of the patriotic tunes that Guy & Ralna will perform include: God Bless America, Ragged Old Flag, Let the Eagle Soar, God Bless the USA, Let There Be Peace on Earth, Strike Up the Band, and the Armed Forces Medley (recognizes all 5 branches of the service). Ralna English will perform A Song of Peace, a very moving and beautiful song. Guy Hovis will perform his fabulous Let the Eagle Soar solo he performed for the Presidential Inauguration in 2004.

Together, Guy & Ralna have appeared in 14 national PBS TV specials, and most recently Ralna starred in her own PBS special, Ralna English: From My Heart where she performed with a 75-piece philharmonic orchestra and a 150-voice choir.

Guy & Ralna will greet Lindenwood alums after the show and sign autographs.
**Group of LU Alumni Gets Together In Big Apple**

Lindenwood alumni from the 1960s and the 1970s gathered at the famous Peacock Alley restaurant at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City on April 22. The conversation at the luncheon was very lively with lots of discussion about Lindenwood University yesterday and today and the lives of these very talented and interesting alumni.

The Peacock Alley luncheon was the first alumni gathering in the City, to our knowledge, although Lindenwood has many connections to New York through its students and the arts.

The careers and interests of the group were quite impressive, covering such fields as book publication, technology development, investments, public transportation planning, legal work and the arts. The alumni were very interested in Lindenwood being in the final construction phase of the new $32 million Center for the Fine and Performing Arts. The Center, which will open this September under the direction of Peter Bezemes ('79) will be an entertainment destination for the entire St. Louis region and the site for undergraduate and graduate education in the arts.

Beth Allen ('62) a cookbook author and producer, presented one of her beautiful publications, *Cheesecake Cook Book*, to take back to the campus for President James Evans, who loves cheesecake.

From left: Ellen Schertz, '73, Lindenwood Vice President Lucy Morros, Jan Kniffen, '78, and Beth Allen, '62.

Peter Bekker ('74) who works in technology research and development, Judy Maxwell ('63) formerly with the City of New York Transportation Planning, Jo Ellen Schertz ('73) of White and Case, and Lucy Morros, vice president of Institutional Advancement at Lindenwood, had a lively conversation about the importance of the liberal arts in the development of the individual.

Jan Kniffen ('78), an investment consultant who served for many years as a member of the Board of Directors of the University, shared very interesting information about the growth and development of the Lindenwood during the last few decades, when the institution moved from a struggling college to a burgeoning university.

Lindenwood is planning alumni gatherings in other cities. If you are interested, please contact Whitney Fraier, director of alumni relations, at 636-949-4975 or wfraier@lindenwood.edu.

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**Commencement A Family Affair For Dixon Clan**

Former U.S. Senator Alan Dixon, D-IL, was Lindenwood’s commencement speaker on May 17. He drew a long and loud ovation for “Alan Dixon’s Seven Rules for the Road to Success.”

Dixon’s visit to Lindenwood last month was something of a family affair—his wife, Joan Fox Dixon, is a Lindenwood alumna and was the school’s Harvest Queen in 1952. And Joan’s sister, Jane Elliott, attended Lindenwood in 1947.

Dixon’s daughter, Stephanie Yearian, is an instructor at Lindenwood’s Belleville campus and is in the LU doctoral program. Granddaughter Fawne is currently a Lindenwood MBA student.

“I hadn’t heard Dad speak in a couple of years,” said Yearian. “It was a lot of fun. People are having a hard time believing he was speaking from a notecard and didn’t have prepared remarks. The whole family had a wonderful time.”

From left: Doug Yearian, Jane Elliott, Joan Fox Dixon, Sen. Alan Dixon, Stephanie Yearian, and Fawne Yearian.
Lindenwood University held commencement ceremonies May 16-17, 2008, at the St. Charles Family Arena. It was a wonderful tribute to a record 2,000-plus graduates. Above, from left to right: President James D. Evans, commencement speaker Alan Dixon, and baccalaureate speaker Steve Ehlmann.

In the middle row of photos at right are student speakers Kelly Kothe, and Megan Shipley, graduates Cassandra Williams, and Abby Weber, and two unidentified graduates.

In the bottom row is a view of commencement with the flags of Lindenwood’s academic divisions, the Lewis and Clark Fife and Drum Corps, and another happy graduate.
Lindenwood’s 2008-09 Commencement exercises were historic because, in addition to being the largest commencement exercises in school history, the university awarded its first doctoral degrees ever.

On hand at the Baccalaureate and Graduate Commencement on May 16 were 26 students, including Kim Carter at left, who either had completed or were on the verge of completing the requirements for their Doctor of Education degrees. The Doctor of Education degree (Ed.D.) was added to Lindenwood’s list of degree offerings in 2007 as the first doctoral program in school history.
No Doubt About It: Lion Wrestling Program Reaches Elite Status

It is hard to pinpoint when exactly it happened.

Perhaps it was when the Lions won their second national title in 2005 solve the final round he shot back on March 16, a round to determine whether he would reach his dream of participating in the Olympic Games. After 20 rounds of shooting at the U.S. Olympic Trials, McLelland was tied with Mark Weeks, a member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, for the second and final spot on the Olympic team. McLelland calmly hit 24 of 25 targets in the final round, two more than Weeks, to earn a trip to China and the 2008 Olympic Games.

McLelland’s journey from shooting in 4-H to making the Olympic team went through Lindenwood University, where he is a student and star athlete on the school’s shooting team.

He helped Lindenwood win national shooting titles in 2005, 2006 and 2007. He finished in the top five individually at all three other events, including runner-up finishes in 2005 and 2007.

The shooter from Texas attributes some of his success to his time at Lindenwood. “My teammates really helped out this past year with my training regimen that included 6 a.m. workouts,” said McLelland.

McLelland, who will graduate in December with a marketing major, is quick to point out all of the help and support he has received from Lindenwood faculty, which has kept him academically on track while working to make the Olympic team.

Since qualifying for the China games, McLelland has been traveling around the country participating in World Cup shooting events. One of those events was held in Beijing, giving McLelland a preview of China and the Olympic shooting venue.

“China is a country rich in culture,” said McLelland, “and the shooting venue is world-class.”

The Olympic International Trap Skeet shooting competition will take place Aug. 15-16 and will consist of five rounds of 25 targets, plus a finals round of 25 targets. McLelland will be going against 44 other competitors, many of whom are repeat Olympians. Several of them are medalists.

“The gold medal is the ultimate goal,” said McLelland. “I will have to be perfect, but it is absolutely possible.”
The Lindenwood baseball and softball teams had successful 2008 seasons with both advancing to NAIA regional action.

The Lions’ baseball team quickly made the adjustment to first-year head coach Doug Bletcher and recorded its fourth straight 40-win season. Lindenwood rolled through the HAAC season with a 23-5 record and then won its second conference championship by defeating Avila in three games in the conference championship series.

Unfortunately, the weather ended the LU baseball season. The baseball regional was cursed by rain throughout the tournament and Lindenwood went 3-1 at the event and reached the championship against Missouri Baptist. Another rainstorm provided the knockout punch to the tournament, and Missouri Baptist advanced to the next round by virtue of being the higher seed.

Lindenwood was led by a pitching staff that had a team ERA of 4.00 for the season and allowed two runs or less in 32 of the team’s 63 games. The Lions were led by first-team all-region Jon Story, who won eight games, and second-team all-conference selection Don Anderson, who won 10 contests.

Offensively, the senior duo of second baseman Ryan Shockley and shortstop Chris Getz led the team. Both players were first-team all-region selections after Shockley hit .353 for the season with 50 runs and Getz hit .337 with 51 runs.

The Lady Lions softball team had one of the biggest improvements in the nation, going from 16 wins in 2007 to 35 victories this past season. The team went 14-6 in conference play, finishing one game away from sharing a conference title. Lindenwood also advanced to the regional tournament for the first time under head coach Don Loberg.

The turnaround was led by a pair of freshman first-team all-conference pitchers, Abby Wesling and Aubrey Moss. Wesling was the HAAC Freshman of the Year, winning 15 games with a 1.42 ERA. She threw two no-hitters and was also one of the team’s top hitters with a .370 batting average. Moss also won 11 games and was one of the nation’s strikeout leaders with 192 in 130 innings pitched.

Three others will also be inducted including former women’s soccer coach Kevin Kilcullin, former faculty athletics representative Glen Cerny and the 2002 national championship wrestling squad.

The 2008 Hall of Fame Induction ceremony will take place Saturday, Oct. 18. Information on how to acquire tickets for that evening’s banquet will be posted at www.lindenwood.edu/athletics/halloffame.
Engagement
Laura Ann Sexauer (’07) was recently engaged to Allen W. Schenk. Laura is currently auditioning for acting and violin jobs and works at Curves and her fiancé, Allen, is a manager at Creve Coeur Camera.

Birth
Jeremiah Dellas (’01) and his wife Marjorie welcomed their second son, Tyler Andreas George, on May 8, 2008. Jeremiah is a member of the alumni board at Lindenwood. Tyler joins his big brother, Spencer. Jeremiah and family reside in Chesterfield, MO.

Careers
Linda Brauch Kenny (’01) Has just been appointed as the first director of the career development center at Logan College of Chiropractic. Linda graduated with a master’s degree in communication arts.

Richard “Rick” Eber (’93) Has just been appointed as the dean of enrollment management at Cotey College. Rick graduated with a master’s degree in corporate communications.

Katy Montgomery (’03 & ’05) Is currently the coordinator of alumni relations at The University of Tulsa in Tulsa, OK. Katy and her fiancé, Joe, reside in Tulsa.

Tim Shannon (’99) Has just been named director of marketing and public relations for RubinBrown. Tim graduated with a bachelor’s degree in English literature and resides in St. Peters.

Miscellaneous
Tim Sawyer (’04) and his wife, Christy, of Plank Road Pottery in St. Charles rank as two of the top traditional artisans in America, according to a panel of experts convened by Early American Life magazine. Tim and Christy have been selected to be in the 2008 Directory of Traditional American Crafts. The Sawyers’ handcrafted primitive redware pottery shows “mastery of the art form, heritage techniques, and workmanship.”

Mike Garman (’98) is running as the Democratic candidate in the 2008 congressional race in Missouri’s 2nd District. Mike has been very active in his community and in the healthcare field.

Stephanie Harms Smith (’01) Recently published a new book, For Everything There is a Season in God’s Time, published by Xulon Press. She resides in San Diego, CA.

Monica Miller Wofford (’06) Recently published a new book, The Fruit Basket, published by PublishAmerica. She resides in Belleville, IL.

Robert Ronkoski (’07) Recently retired from the St. Ann Police Department at the rank of lieutenant after 20 years of service and has just been appointed as the director of public safety for the St. Charles Community College Department of Public Safety.

Laura Sexauer (’07) Was recently awarded the Kevin Kline award in professional theatre for “Outstanding Ensemble in a Play” with New Jewish Theatre for the show “Women’s Minyan.” Laura graduated with a degree in performing arts.

In Memoriam
Erma Schacht Damme (’37)
Talmage, NE
Catherine Schroeder Holmes (’38)
Chicago, IL
Emily Watson Wilkinson (’38)
Macon, GA
Helene Pauline Estes (’39)
Kansas City, MO
Lois Penn (’40)
Des Moines, IA
Christine McDonald Todd (’40)
Washington, MO
Carol Hammerschmidt Alcorn (’43)
Gloria Crosby Hall (’43)
Little Rock, AR
Barbara Buckley Pease (’45)
Shreveport, LA
Gloria Horn Miller (’50)
Jackson, MS
Emily Stotlar (’53)
Marion, IL

Alums Urged To Update Info For Directory
Lindenwood University’s first alumni directory to be released in more than 10 years will be available by year’s end. Harris Connect, Inc., the publisher of the directory, is currently contacting alumni to update their information for the directory.

Alums should each receive an e-mail and a postcard about the directory project, in which they will be asked to contact the company by phone or the Internet to update their information for the directory. The directory will include contact information for the alums, as well as professional and family information per their preference. The deadline to update information is Aug. 18, 2008.

When they provide their updated information, alumni will also have the opportunity to order copies of the book, which range in price (not including shipping and handling) from $69.99 for a softbound copy to $99.99 for a hardbound copy with a CD containing the data.

For more information about the directory project or to update information through the university, call Kate O’Neal in the Lindenwood Development Office at 636-949-4903.

Support the Lindenwood Emergency Text Book Fund
A few of our students need your help to cover the rapidly increasing cost of their textbooks.

Please give generously to our new Emergency Textbook Fund.

Simply mark “Book Fund” on the envelope inserted in this issue and send in your tax deductible gift to help a student.

Textbooks are a student’s “Tools of the Trade.”
Please Help Us Find Our Lost Alums!

We have lost track of some of our alumni over the years and need your help finding them! If you have any knowledge of the people listed here, please send us a letter or an e-mail. We will publish a new list in each issue of the Connection.

Abeling, Barbara ('70)
Babcock, Jean H. ('49)
Cadot, Meade ('69)
Dahlsgaard, Linda ('63)
Easdown, Jill ('55)
Fairman, Judith ('65)
German, Helen ('77)
Hostetter, Ann ('59)
Ingels, Martha ('55)
Jakowski, Juliet ('72)
Kanak, David ('76)
La Riviere, Judy ('69)
Mabuchi, Sachie ('84)
Naumann, Theodore ('90)
Obert, Sunny ('57)
Pulumbo, Chester ('82)
Quelch, Patricia ('55)
Rager, Dorothy ('52)
Sachs, William ('85)
Trigg, Marion ('82)
Uchman, Gail ('75)
Van Duyn, Jane ('63)
Wadlow, Robert ('83)
Yates, James ('91)
Zasada, Emilie ('60)

SEND TO:
Lindenwood University
Alumni Relations Office-Lost Lions
209 South Kingshighway
St. Charles, MO 63301

OR SEND AN EMAIL TO:
alumni@lindenwood.edu
with the subject line “Lost Lions.”

St. Charles Alumni Club Fashion Show, Luncheon, Silent Auction & Raffle

The St. Charles Alumni Club’s 14th annual fashion show, luncheon, silent auction and raffle will be held this year on Saturday, September 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lindenwood University Club.

This Lindenwood tradition raises funds for scholarships for Lindenwood students. What could be more fun than joining your friends for an afternoon of entertainment while enjoying a wonderful lunch? You can watch Lindenwood students and alumni model the latest fashions by Thro’s and Michelle’s. Have fun competing with your friends for auction and raffle items including a hand crafted princess length pink freshwater pearl necklace and earrings.

The event will be a great opportunity to catch up with other Lindenwood alums and meet new ones. And, you’ll be supporting a great cause.

Tickets are only $25 per person and proceeds from the auction and raffle go towards providing scholarships for Lindenwood students. For ticket information please contact Barbara Broadfoot (636) 723-7671 or Barbara Landreth (636) 724-0814. If interested in donating an auction item please contact auction chair Glenda Schaefer at (636) 561-2550, or if interested in modeling in the fashion show, contact Barbara Broadfoot. More information can also be found by visiting the St. Charles Alumni Club page on the alumni website at www.lindenwood.edu/alumni.

Acknowledgement

Wonderful memories of her days at Lindenwood have been stirring for Martha Ackmann ('73).

Early last spring, Ackmann returned to her alma mater to be the inaugural speaker for Lindenwood’s Alumni Speaker Series. And this spring, she received the university’s alumni merit award for a lifetime of professional accomplishments. The award was presented during Lindenwood’s baccalaureate and graduate commencement on May 16.

Ackmann is an accomplished writer who teaches in the gender studies department at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. She has been named a Guggenheim Fellow for 2008 and will be a fellow next year at Harvard’s Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. She is author of The Mercury 13: The True Story of Thirteen Women and the Dream of Space Flight. Currently, Ackmann is working on a new book, Curveball, about the first women to play professional baseball on men’s teams.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Ackmann has worked as a high school journalism teacher, an editorial writer, a radio reporter and an instructor of countless sections of freshman composition. In her early 20s as a media publicist, she wrote plot synopses for TV Guide and may be the only person alive to have summarized every episode of I Love Lucy and Leave it to Beaver.

Ackmann now lives in rural western Massachusetts where she resides among amiable neighbors that include moose, bobcat, wild turkeys and an occasional bear.
GIVING
TIGHTENING YOUR BELT? THE COST OF GIVING

Dear Alumni, Constituents, and Friends,

On a Wednesday evening at about 5:30, Dave Kandel, our chief financial officer, rushed into my office and said that I was desperately needed at a meeting in the president’s conference room. As in-house legal counsel, this sometimes happens, so I stepped across the hallway with my legal pad... ready for anything.

I was met by 14 of my Lindenwood colleagues, an unfamiliar woman, and a digital scale. You see, it takes 15 employees for the Weight Watchers people to form an office group and they were one member short. All eyes were trained on me as “Peggy,” our group leader, stood defiantly with bags packed ready to leave if I did not join. A few moments and $156 later, I was learning the “point system.” What made him think of me, anyway?

As I tighten my belt, I realize that we are all doing the same thing; we are all feeling the economic pinch. Gas prices are driving us crazy and CFO Kandel, in his bid to lose more weight than any of us, is clipping coupons for Weight Watchers frozen dinners. Economizing seems to be our current challenge. In times like these, when institutions need your help the most, you, as one of our generous benefactors, must make the most of your donation dollar.

All gifts start with benevolent intent. You, as alumni, have strong feelings about Lindenwood and show it by giving generously. Many of you plan for our future by remembering Lindenwood in your estate plans. This shows real foresight and is greatly appreciated.

But how does one maximize a current gift? How much does it really cost?

GIVING CASH

A gift of $25,000 to Lindenwood makes you, as the donor, a member of the Butler Society, a special group comprised of our major contributors. If you give cash in this amount, you will receive a $25,000 tax deduction. Assuming you are in the 35 percent tax bracket, you may “reduce” (I like that word) your taxes by $8,750. The actual cost to you is $16,250, and you spent 65 cents to give Lindenwood $1.

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED ASSETS

Making gifts of publicly traded stock or mutual funds that have appreciated in value over time allows you to take the same deduction as if giving cash. In addition, you avoid paying capital gains on the gift. If you paid $2,500 for stock 10 years ago and it is now worth $25,000, you could save an additional $4,500 in capital gains tax (assuming you are in the 20 percent bracket). The actual cost to you is now $11,750, and now you are spending 47 cents for each dollar that you give to Lindenwood.

ANOTHER ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE

If your original intent is to donate cash and keep your appreciated stock investment, you have another option. Instead of donating the cash, you should still make the stock gift to the university, receiving all of the aforementioned tax benefits. You then spend the cash you were going to donate and use it to purchase the same stock again at its current price. This increases the cost basis of your new shares to the new current price and you save on future capital gains taxes! You now have the same stock, in the same amount of shares as you had before, while making a meaningful gift (very smart).

MATCHING FUNDS

Always check with your employer about “matching” your gift. This is a painless way to perhaps double your gift to the university. As with all of these scenarios, note that there are limitations on charitable tax deductions based on your adjusted gross income. But do not let that deter you as any excess deduction may be carried over into future tax years.

Losing weight may be a good thing, but losing out on tax advantages is not. Please feel free to consult with me if you have any questions or need any “low-cal” recipes. My direct line telephone number is (636) 949-4617.

Oh, I almost forgot, and I know you are still wondering. After 4 weeks... 14.4 pounds gone. If this keeps up, my annual stint as Santa for the Christmas Walk may be in real jeopardy. Have a good summer! Ho, Ho, Ho.

Sincerely,

Eric O. Stuhler
Director of Planned Giving
Lindenwood In-House Legal Counsel

P.S. The Emergency Textbook Fund for needy students is now at $2,675.00. Thank you for your support and please continue to give generously.

DISCLAIMER:
Lindenwood University and the author believe this general information to be accurate. Neither the university nor the author is engaged in giving legal or tax advice in particular situations. Please consult your own legal advisor if assistance is needed.

Visit our online-giving website at www.lindenwood.edu and click on “donate.”

Donate $100 or more to Lindenwood University online and receive a souvenir of your alma mater. Contact the alumni office for more information at (636) 949-4975 or alumni@lindenwood.edu.
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E-mail us: shoppe@lindenwood.edu
Hours: Mon. – Thurs., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Welcome New Members of Alumni Association

It was another successful academic year at Lindenwood! On behalf of the Alumni Board, congratulations to the 2,000-plus graduates who are now a part of the Alumni Association.

At commencement, I had the honor of presenting the Alumni Merit Award to Dr. Martha Ackmann, Class of 1973. She is the author of the award winning book, *The Mercury 13: The True Story of Thirteen Women and the Dream of Space Flight*. She has also had articles published in the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Wall Street Journal* and is a commentator on National Public Radio.

What an outstanding representation of Lindenwood University!

We are focusing much of our effort this year on improving communication with our stakeholders and increasing alumni participation. I encourage you to stay connected by updating your information through the Lindenwood alumni website or by contacting the alumni office.

I also encourage you to network and meet new people by attending our alumni events.

I look forward to seeing you at alumni events during the year and hope you have a great summer!

Cortney Lenk
Class of 1999

New Alumni Director Hits the Ground Running

It is an honor to serve you as the new director of alumni relations. In April, I was appointed to this position and am thrilled to have the privilege to work with you. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and I welcome your suggestions and ideas.

This is an exciting time for the alumni office; there are several new initiatives on the horizon. This year we plan to significantly increase the number of alumni events, and we recently held our first alumni gathering in New York City. In September, we plan to host an event in Jefferson City, MO, to bring together potential students and alumni.

We will also establish alumni clubs throughout the region. Current clubs under development are in Belleville, IL, and Jefferson City. Please let me know if you have other sites in mind or if you are interested in joining these clubs. We also strive to establish and maintain strong lines of communication between alumni and the university and to keep you informed and up to date with all of the exciting news about Lindenwood. We are continually growing and expanding and want to share our great news with you.

My goal is to serve the alumni in any way that I can, and I want to encourage you to become more involved and to contribute your skills and talent to your alma mater. I am open to new ideas and suggestions on every topic, whether it is for homecoming, potential alumni clubs, or event ideas.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail. Feel free to drop by the alumni office so I can meet you in person. With your continued support and dedication, we can work towards reaching our goals and maintaining our legacy of academic quality. I look forward to serving you and hope to see you at upcoming alumni events.

Sincerely,

Whitney Fraier
Director of Alumni Relations
636-949-4975
wfraier@lindenwood.edu

Guess Where This Is?

Can you tell us where this object is located on the LU campus? Please email alumni@lindenwood.edu with your answer. Only Lindenwood alumni are eligible to participate. The top five winners will receive a prize from the Lindenwood University Alumni Association.

Last issue’s answer: the telephone booth in the basement of Roemer Hall.

Look for the winners names in the next Connection.