



# MORTAR BOARD FORUM

Spring/Summer 2011

Vol. 41

Issue No. 2

## Living Generously

*Martha Lewis Starling honors the memory and legacy of her mother, Frances Aicher Lewis, with a gift to Mortar Board*



**Also featuring**  
**Mortar Board welcomes the Four Pillars chapter**  
**Annual Report**  
**Siblings support alma mater**

**Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society**

## Mortar Board's national leaders

### NATIONAL COUNCIL

Daniel J. Turner, President  
Northern Illinois University, 1994

Susan Herndon Caples, President-elect  
The University of Alabama, 2006

Abigail Diehl, Vice President  
The Pennsylvania State University, 1995

Angie Schrader, Secretary-Treasurer  
University of Wyoming, 1998

Jane Beyer, Alumni Representative  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, 1980

Bridget Williams Golden, Alumni Representative  
Purdue University, 1997

Jessica Heath Geist, Student Representative  
Kansas State University, 2008

Vicente Gonzalez, Student Representative  
Cornell University, 2010

Jane Hamblin, *ex officio*  
Purdue University, 1973

Sally Steadman, *ex officio*  
University of Wyoming, 1968

### NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Sally Steadman, Chair  
University of Wyoming, 1968

Marty Starling, Vice Chair for Development  
Kansas State University, 1962

Jane K. Smith, Secretary  
West Virginia University, 1959

Denise L. Rode, Trustee  
Northern Illinois University, 1971

Mabel G. Freeman, Trustee  
The Ohio State University, 1965

Sally Watlington, Trustee  
Purdue University, 1959

Michael Golden, Trustee  
University of Wyoming, 1987

Dan Turner, *ex officio*  
Northern Illinois University, 1994

Angie Schrader, *ex officio*  
University of Wyoming, 1998

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"Relative" pride for Mortar Board

On the cover: Fund founder Marty Starling is pictured with her brother Robert and their mother Frances at Kansas State University in 1998 when Frances received the Alumni Medallion for humanitarian service.

# President's message

Mortar Board members and friends,

In short time, my tenure as Mortar Board's National President will come to a close. This gives me pause to think back over the past 17 years and consider my membership in Mortar Board and what it means to me.

I have gotten to know so many wonderfully talented people through my involvement with Mortar Board. I have met members from all walks of life and all ages. I have met people from all sorts of different types of higher education institutions and from all over the country. What we all have in common is a passion for Mortar Board's ideals of scholarship, leadership and service.

We have all been recognized for our dedication to those ideals throughout college. Then we take it a step further to live them in our daily lives. We are committed to civic engagement and leadership in our work and communities far beyond our undergraduate experience.

I challenge each of you to continue to uphold the ideals that set us apart. Become involved in civic activities, run for an elected office, become a member of the board of your professional organization, donate your time and resources to help victims of natural disasters, and find ways to support those less fortunate than you.

Most of all, continue to give back to your alma mater and community. Continue to give back to Mortar Board. Get involved in an alumni chapter and do what you can to support Mortar Board locally or nationally.

It has been an honor serving Mortar Board in many different capacities, especially as national president. I hope your experience has meant as much to you as my experience has meant to me. Stay in touch with Mortar Board and continue to live the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service daily.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Turner  
National President  
president@mortarboard.org  
danturner13@gmail.com



## MORTAR BOARD FORUM

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### EDITOR

Becky Fullmer (The Ohio State University, 1999)  
bfullmer@mortarboard.org

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jane A. Hamblin (Purdue University, 1973)  
jhamblin@mortarboard.org

### ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Megan Stevens (The Ohio State University, 2003)  
mstevens@mortarboard.org

### DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

Jenny Bergman  
jbergman@mortarboard.org

### EDITORIAL OFFICE

Mortar Board National Office  
1200 Chambers Road, Suite 201  
Columbus, Ohio 43212  
Phone: 800-989-6266 ext. 106  
Email: mbforum@mortarboard.org  
Website: www.mortarboard.org

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### MORTAR BOARD, INC. MISSION (Adopted 1994)

Mortar Board, Inc., an honor society that recognizes college seniors for their achievements in scholarship, leadership and service, provides opportunities for continued leadership development, promotes service to colleges and universities and encourages lifelong contributions to the global community.

### NATIONAL FOUNDATION MISSION

The mission of the Mortar Board National Foundation is to support Mortar Board, Inc. in furthering the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service.



# Words of my mentors

## Silence and leading absolutely

By Jane A. Hamblin

National President Dan Turner (Northern Illinois University, 1994) has held a leadership position in Mortar Board for the last 17 years. During his run from collegiate chapter president to national president, Dan has faithfully served Mortar Board as conference assistant, section coordinator, vice president and president-elect. He won an advising award along the way; and after a career move, recently reinvigorated our chapter at the University of Colorado. He was the installing officer for three of our chapters.

Dan, along with Angela Schrader (University of Wyoming, 1998), Bridget Williams Golden (Purdue University, 1997) and Jessica Heath Geist (Kansas State University, 2008), exits the National Council after this year's national conference. Readers of the *Forum* should know of their generosity of spirit and dedication to Mortar Board. Drop them a note or email to say thanks.

Know that all of the National Council members have been graciously helpful. Dan, especially, as the leader of the National Council that hired me, has gently guided in expected and

unexpected ways, offering direction that can come only with thorough knowledge of the Society.

There is one word of this mentor that is a signature. It is the word "absolutely." Dan uses the word as affirmation without restriction. He is totally "in." What a great value for a Mortar Board leader.

It is not so much what Dan says, however, that has been instructive. It's what he doesn't say. Dan is artful in running complicated National Council meetings by conference call (only two Council meetings are face-to-face—the rest are over the phone). During debate, he is silent—laying his own opinion aside to listen to what the group is saying and then facilitating synthesis that leads to a good outcome. This is an aspiration for us all who strive to lead. Absolutely.



Jane A. Hamblin

## Our collective story

As we were preparing the list of members we lost last year for the In Memoriam section, below, I was struck by how much we owe to the ones who have walked before us.

One alumna who passed this past year was Ruth Hawkins Boas, who was initiated in 1924—a mere six years after Mortar Board was founded! I know that many of my own experiences in our Society have been shaped by the traditions and purpose set by women like Ruth.

Mortar Board has such a deep story. In nearly a century of history, we have had several chapters in our development. Like any good book, our story has continued to build since our "opening lines," and today we have a vast and fluid collective narrative.

It is energizing to think that every year, we pass this story on to new Mortar Boards—and every year, new chapters are added to this volume of our history. I leave you with this food for thought: how will you add to Mortar Board's story?

## In Memoriam

We honor the memories of those Mortar Boards we lost or learned we lost in 2010:

Helen Oldfather Abbott (University of Illinois, 1926)  
Lena Lovato Archuleta (University of Denver, 1941)  
Bernice Young Baier (The University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1947)  
Shirley Bishop Beal (Wichita State University, 1967)  
Ruth Hawkins Boas (University of Idaho, 1924)  
Marjorie Magee Cahill (Ohio Wesleyan University, 1941)  
Betty Holman Corker (University of Washington, 1934)  
Marjorie Cutler (University of Denver, 1937)  
J. Michael Dunn (The Ohio State University, 2006)  
Gladys Shellabarger Eddy (University of Denver, 1937)  
Elizabeth Bish Emigh (The Ohio State University, 1944)  
Patricia Farrell (The Pennsylvania State University, 1955)  
Audrey Finkelstein (The University of Miami, 1965)

Martha Bolt Graham (Purdue University, 1934)  
Mary Jane Vines Greigor (The Ohio State University, 1938)  
Kay Chittenden Haines (University of Washington, 1942)  
Henrietta Bebbler Loy (The University of New Mexico, 1938)  
Elizabeth McNair MacMillan (University of Denver, 1937)  
Mary Browder McCartney (The Ohio State University, 1949)  
Eddi-rue McClanahan (The University of Tulsa, 1955)  
Mary Molineux Merrill (Ohio Wesleyan University, 1944)  
Joan Nelson (University of California, Los Angeles, 1993)  
Barbara Pierson Quilling (Hanover College, 1976)  
Donna Walls (The Ohio State University, 1968)  
June Kallosser Whitesides (University of California, Berkeley, 1941)  
Emily Wiggins Younger (The University of Alabama, 1941)



*Mortar Board welcomes its 229th chapter, the Four Pillars chapter at California State University Channel Islands.*

On March 28, 2011, the Four Pillars chapter was installed at California State University Channel Islands in Camarillo, Calif. Above, Mortar Board National President Daniel J. Turner presents the chapter charter to CSUCI President Richard R. Rush. The chapter selected Four Pillars as its name to reflect the the main elements of the CSUCI mission, interdisciplinarity, internationalism, multiculturalism and civic engagement. The university is arranging for the chapter to be heavily involved in its campuswide event, the children's reading celebration and young authors' fair.

## Chapter Anniversaries

Congratulations to these chapters celebrating landmark anniversaries in 2011:

### 75th Anniversary

Cap & Gown chapter at Denison University  
Maia chapter at The University of New Mexico

### 50th Anniversary

Alcor chapter at Hope College  
Tau Iota Omega chapter at Colorado State University

### 25th Anniversary

Centennial chapter at Mississippi State University  
Athena chapter at Stephens College  
Tassels chapter at California Polytechnic State University

### 10th Anniversary

Gamma Tau Sigma chapter at Rowan University  
Order of the Tartan chapter at Lyon College

### 5th Anniversary

Ichabod chapter at Washburn University



## Living generously: reflections on giving back

“The Mortar Board light bulb first lit up in the spring of 2003” says Martha (Marty) Lewis Starling, Ph.D. (Kansas State University, 1962). “I was completely surprised to get a call from then Executive Director Diane Selby (The Ohio State University, 1961) inviting me to come to the Mortar Board National Conference to accept the Alumni Achievement Award.

“Diane said that Mortar Board would pay my expenses to travel to the conference in Columbus, Ohio. Before we even got off the phone, the light bulb was signaling me that I had to give back.”

**The expectation of giving back.** Giving back is an expectation Marty’s mother, the late Frances Aicher Lewis (Kansas State University, 1936) set early in her life. So, after attending the conference to receive her Mortar Board honor, the first thing that Marty did was return the travel expense money in the form of a donation to the Mortar Board National Foundation. “I knew that would put me on the list,” Marty says with a chuckle.

She was right. “That’s how I wound up on the Mortar Board National Foundation,” she says. “I was outside gardening one day when Cathy Randall (The University of Alabama, 1971), who was chair of the Foundation at the time, phoned to invite me to become a trustee.”

Marty has served on the Board of Trustees of the Foundation since 2005. She is vice chair for development. As a steward of Mortar Board’s endowed funds, Marty joins the six other trustees in helping to grow the funds that donors have given the Foundation and reach out to Mortar Board members to help satisfy their charitable wishes for our Society.

**Mortar Board and other similarities.** “Of all of the many honors mother received throughout her life,” Marty continues, “being president of Mortar Board at K-State was always one of the highlights.” Marty says, “Mother was the best educated person in a family of Ph.D.s. She was an avid reader of newspapers and kept up with current events. She took a computer class at age 85. The well-rounded person was important to her. And that is why the honor of Mortar Board was so significant.”

Marty shared that appreciation of Mortar Board with her mother. “I know mother hoped I would make Mortar Board.” laughs Marty. “My brother had made Blue Key [Blue Key and Mortar Board were single-gender societies until the mid 1970s], so the pressure was on. I made it, and I was initiated into the K-State chapter with mother’s Mortar Board pin.”



Marty Starling, second from left, is pictured with her mother, Frances Aicher Lewis, daughter Elizabeth and husband Jim at Elizabeth’s college graduation.

The similarities with her mother didn’t stop at K-State. Marty often found her life in parallel with her mother’s. A civic leader like her mom, Marty served as chair of the Centre County (Pa.) Community Foundation and the Centre County United Way. Since 2001 she has spearheaded the conceptualization and building of the Discovery Space of Central Pennsylvania, a children’s museum.

Loyal to The Pennsylvania State University, where she earned her master’s and doctorate in chemistry, Marty has been president of the College of Health and Human Development Alumni Society and a member of the Penn State Alumni Council and its executive board.

### Mortar Board National Foundation Endowed Funds

**Washington State University Classes of 1945-1950 Fellowship**  
**Zelma Patchin Fellowship**  
**Ruth Weimer Mount Fellowship**  
**Mary Elizabeth Ramier Fellowship**  
**Kathryn Wills Coleman Fellowship**  
**Mortar Board Fellowship in honor of Diane Selby**  
**Ellen North Dunlap Fellowship**  
**Gail Harrison Corvette Fund**  
**Frances Aicher Lewis Fund**

*Also presented in 2011 will be:*

**Jane K. Smith Fellowship**, made possible by a generous gift from Jane Kirby Smith, Ph.D. (West Virginia University, 1959)

**Barbara I. Cook Fellowship**, presented in honor of Barbara I. Cook, Ph.D. (University of Arkansas, 1950) and made possible by a generous gift from the Barbara Cook chapter at Purdue University and an alumna of the chapter.



Like her mother, she has been recognized by the university she has served: In 2001 Penn State named her Renaissance Woman of the Year.

Though her field is different than her mother's, Marty has her mother's longevity in work. She served 14 deans as director of development for Penn State's College of Health and Human Development. For her excellence in this position, she earned the Mortar Board Alumni Achievement Award that illuminated the first light bulb.

**Living generously.** Marty reflects on her own attitude toward philanthropy, saying, "Mother was very generous. That's where I learned about philanthropy. . . and the fact that you could enjoy doing it while you are alive to watch it make a difference. Philanthropists want to live generously," she says.

It was pretty natural for Marty, who had watched her mother establish three endowed funds, to think about establishing a Mortar Board endowment in her mother's memory. As Mortar Board's trustees considered embarking on a comprehensive fundraising campaign, Marty recognized another light bulb moment. "I decided I had better set a good example," she says.

In November 2010, just after what would have been her mom's 95th birthday, Marty presented the Mortar Board National Foundation with a gift of \$50,000 to establish the Frances Aicher Lewis Endowment, with the specific purpose of promoting the education and training of advisors of Mortar Board chapters. "I can't think of a better way to recognize the value my mother placed on Mortar Board," says Marty.

In return, the Mortar Board National Foundation couldn't be more pleased with Marty's gift. Chair of the Foundation's Board of Trustees Sally Steadman, Ph.D. (University of Wyoming, 1968), announced the donation saying, "Marty Starling has done what all of us should do—give back. Her gift will help us strengthen our chapters, and ensure Mortar Board's success. Marty, we thank you for living generously in service of Mortar Board."

**New challenges for giving back.** Marty and her husband, James Starling, Ph.D., have recently uprooted themselves from their home in State College, Pa. to move closer to their daughter and her family who live near the Twin Cities in Minnesota. Even as her new endowed fund grows in the Mortar Board National Foundation, Marty will assume new responsibilities with Mortar Board. She recently was nominated to serve as president-elect of Mortar Board, Inc. Marty says with a smile, "I expect mother would be pleased."

## *Frances Aicher Lewis* *1915-2001*

It's hard to capture the life of a stockwoman and internationally-regarded expert on Polled Herefords, loyal university alumna, vocalist, civic leader, philanthropist, wife, parent of two accomplished children, advocate for women and children, and Mortar Board member. We offer just a few highlights of the life of Frances Aicher Lewis.

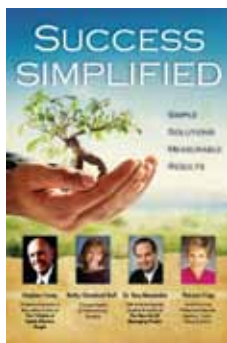


- Born October 15, 1915, Aberdeen, Idaho, to Kansas State University graduates Louis Aicher and Edith Davies Aicher
- College activities: Glee Club and Chorus, Delta Delta Delta, Royal Purple staff, Women's Athletic Association Council, YWCA Cabinet, Home Economics Club President, Society of Dynamis Council, Home Economics Meats Judging Team.
- President of Kansas State University chapter of Mortar Board, 1936-37
- Received the highest individual score ever attained as a meats judge at the American Royal, 1936
- Kansas State University, B.S. in home economics and journalism, 1937
- Married Walter Lewis, 1937 and helped manage their internationally-recognized purebred Polled Hereford enterprise, Alfalfa Lawn Farms, for 50 years. Children: Robert Walter, 1939 and Martha Elizabeth, 1941
- 4-H volunteer, leader and meats judging team coach, 1940-1972, and judge of more than 80 county fairs in western Kansas and seven Kansas State Fairs, 1953-1986
- Charter member of American Association of University Women, Larned branch, 1946
- Kansas Master Farm Homemaker, 1951
- Board of Directors, Kansas State University Alumni Association, 1953-1956
- American Polled Hereford Association Award of Merit for Youth Activities, 1975; Kansas Poll-ette of the Year, 1981
- Established endowment in honor of her late husband with the Kansas State University Foundation, 1987
- Kansas State University Foundation Trustee, 1990-1998
- Volunteer, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, The Pennsylvania State University, 1989-2001, honored as outstanding volunteer (1,000 + hours of service), 1997; established the Frances A. Lewis Endowment for Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, 1999

# Member News

## Mortar Board member updates

**Kathy Cleveland Bull** (Bowling Green State University, 1982) keynote speaker and author, is being featured in a book series from Insight Publishing. *Success Simplified* will highlight several well known authors and speakers, including Kathy and best-selling authors Stephen Covey and Dr. Tony Alessandra, and will share strategies for success. Kathy was selected from a nationwide search to be featured in the series. ISBN: 978-1600135750



**Alison Betty** (Indiana University, 1991) was recently named a partner with GMMB, one of America's leading strategic communications firms. Since joining GMMB in 2002, Alison has led communications campaigns for a variety of companies, including the American Medical Association, AARP, and the states of Maryland, Oregon and Vermont. In her work with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's coverage team, she significantly supported efforts to pass the recent health care reform legislation.



Alison Betty

**Drew Brees** (Purdue University, 2000) was named *Sports Illustrated* Sportsman of the Year for 2010 not only for leading the New Orleans Saints to the first Super Bowl title in the franchise's history as quarterback, but also for volunteering in the recovery of New Orleans' after the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina.

**David Coleman** (Bowling Green State University, 1982), *The Dating Doctor* and "America's Real-Life Hitch," has been named the 2011 Entertainer of the Year and 2011 Male Performer of the Year by *Campus*

*Activities Magazine*. He is the first speaker ever to win Entertainer of the Year. He has been recognized 12 times as a national speaker of the year, nine times by *Campus Activities Magazine* and three times by the National Association of Campus Activities.

**Darlene Davies** (San Diego State University, 1961) has received several honors and awards for her support and involvement with Mortar Board and her community. Among her awards are: San Diego County Outstanding Alumna in 2002; the Millennium Award in 2006 for exceptional contributions to Balboa Park; a Resolution of Commendation for "a long and valued record of community service" from the California State Senate on November 14, 2006—that date was recognized as Darlene Davies Day in the city of San Diego and in San Diego County; a Monty Award, San Diego State University's highest award for alumni achievement, in 2008; the commencement speaker at SDSU's College of Health and Human Services commencement in Cox Arena; and honored at the Junior League of San Diego Charter Day Luncheon on March 13, 2011. Additionally, she has published three historical research articles in the *Journal of San Diego History* in the past two years.

**Jennifer Dixon** (Western Illinois University, 2001) has been accepted into Harvard Graduate School of Education's School Leadership Program. She is currently working as a literacy coach in the Chicago Public School system and will return to the district as a principal intern after completing her studies. In March 2010 she was awarded a Fund for Teachers Fellowship that allowed her to travel to Auckland, New Zealand, to attend the International Reading Association's World Congress on Reading and to visit some of Auckland's public schools. She also recently completed the Disney Princess Half Marathon in Orlando, Florida with five friends from Western Illinois University.

## Join us in Chicago

Mortar Board alumni are invited to join us for our signature event, an exquisite candlelight banquet held during the Mortar Board National Conference. Come and mingle with collegiate members, Mortar Board national leaders and distinguished alumni.

Saturday, July 30, 2011, 7 - 9 p.m.

Grand Ballroom, Chicago Marriott O'Hare

8535 West Higgins Road, Chicago

Please RSVP by July 15 at 614-488-4094 or [www.mortarboard.org/rsvp/index.html](http://www.mortarboard.org/rsvp/index.html)



Foundation Trustee and former national president Dr. Mabel Freeman and Section Coordinator and 2010 fellow Ritshi Kumar are all smiles at the 2010 Candlelight Banquet



**Meryl Diamond Gindin** (The University of Pennsylvania, 1978) has been elected for a three year term to the national board of directors of The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). NCJW is the nation's oldest grass-roots, progressive Jewish women's organization fighting for the rights of women, children and families through philanthropy and government lobbying in Washington and Israel, and throughout the United States. NCJW was founded in 1893 by Hannah G. Solomon and currently has 90,000 members.

**Benjamin J. Keele** (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2005) is a reference librarian in the Wolf Law Library at the College of William and Mary Law School in Williamsburg, Va. He earned a Bachelor of Arts (2006) from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a Doctor of Jurisprudence (2009), and Master of Library Science (2010) from Indiana University-Bloomington.

**James Lamberg, M.D.** (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, 2005) was named the 2010-2011 Student Doctor of the Year at the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. Actively involved in teaching classes with the American Heart Association, he also developed three medical iPhone apps that are available for free. James graduated from medical school at the end of May and will become an anesthesiology resident. He served as a Mortar Board section coordinator from 2006 to 2008.



James Lamberg, displaying one of the iPhone apps he developed

**Denise Rode, Ed.D.** (Northern Illinois University, 1971) director of orientation and first-year connections at Northern Illinois University, was named one of the ten Outstanding First-Year Student Advocates for 2011 by the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition and Cengage Learning. She was one of ten recipients selected from a field of 128 candidates and was honored at the Annual Conference on The First-Year Experience in Atlanta in February 2011. Denise has been an advisor of the Pleiades chapter of Mortar Board at Northern Illinois University and recently was certified by Mortar Board as a LEAD Certified Organization Advisor. Denise was the president of Pleiades when it was installed as a Mortar Board chapter in 1971, and after serving in many capacities in Mortar Board as an alumna, she became national president in 2003. She is currently a trustee of the Mortar Board National Foundation.



Denise Rode

**Pepper Schwartz, Ph.D.** (Washington University in St. Louis, 1966), the author or co-author of numerous books, magazines, website columns,

and a television personality on the subject of sexuality, has recently become the love and relationship expert and ambassador for AARP and writes the column *The Naked Truth*. She is also a tenured professor at the University of Washington in Seattle.

**Teresa A. Sullivan, Ph.D.** (Michigan State University, 1969) was inaugurated as the eighth president of the University of Virginia on April 15, 2011. Teresa graduated in 1970 from the James Madison College at Michigan State University and earned her doctorate in sociology from The University of Chicago in 1975. After spending nearly 27 years with the University of Texas, she was named the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Michigan in 2006. She has authored or co-authored six books and more than 80 scholarly articles and chapters. Teresa is also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Kappa Delta, Alpha Lambda Delta, Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha, Society for Values in Higher Education, Omicron Delta Kappa and Scribes.



Teresa A. Sullivan

**Kenya Taylor, Ed.D.** (University of Nebraska at Kearney, 2003) has been appointed to the position of associate vice chancellor for academic and student affairs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She joined UNK as a faculty member in the Department of Communication Disorders in 1996, serving as chair for six years. She was appointed as dean for graduate studies and research in 2006. Dr. Taylor holds B.A. and M.S. degrees from Baylor University and her doctorate from the University of Tennessee. She was selected as an honorary member of UNK's Xi Phi chapter in 2003.

**Janice Wiley** (James Madison University, 1977) received the Region 5 Virginia Teacher of the Year Award in 2010 and was one of eight finalists for the Virginia Teacher of the Year. She is an early childhood special education teacher with the Lynchburg City Schools in Lynchburg, Va. Janice was also honored to attend the 2011 initiation ceremony for the newest members of the Mortar Board chapter at James Madison University, an exciting and special honor as she was a charter member of the chapter in 1977. She is pleased that Mortar Board is continuing its tradition of excellence in scholarship, leadership and service.

**Lewis Winkler** (Lawrence University, 1987) announces the recent publication of his first book, *Contemporary Muslim and Christian Responses to Religious Plurality*. Rev. Dr. Winkler is currently the dean of admissions at the East Asia School of Theology in Singapore.

ISBN: 978-1608997428



## Mortar Board's selfless sixties

## *Celebrating our history*

By Alicia Notestone

During an era packed with landmark events such as the birth of “the pill,” John F. Kennedy’s election and assassination, the Vietnam War, Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech, the Watergate scandal and the Apollo 11 mission that put a man on the moon, Mortar Board members gradually began to focus less on campus issues and more on finding ways to get Mortar Board and the entire student body to become involved in the world around them.

A February 1963 edition of the *Mortar Board Quarterly* featured a special section entitled “The Role of Mortar Board on today’s campus (as chapter advisors see it).” Within the dozens of submissions from chapters across the country, one common theme jumps from the pages—Mortar Board primes its members for greatness on campus during the senior year and beyond, and its members make a quantifiable impact during their membership year.

To accentuate this point, Nicholas Cripe, Ph.D., a well-loved professor of speech and debate coach at Butler University stated, “Butler University without Mortar Board would just not be the same Butler University. On this campus, Mortar Board is one of the most integral wheels within the wheels that keep things rolling...the influence this group yields is tremendous. They can get things done and they do.”

And Mortar Board members did just that throughout the decade. Across the nation, members concentrated on making Mortar Board the hub for positive, productive student action by writing informative articles for school newspapers, organizing discussion forums, and sponsoring guest speakers and experts to visit and address the student body. Teas, once held by Mortar Board chapters for every imaginable occasion, were replaced with thought-provoking coffee hours with limitless serious topics.

The women involved in the chapters made grassroots efforts to foster intellectual growth and promote activism to other students. Westhampton College (a college for undergraduate women at the University of Richmond) instituted the “Raft Debates,” which pitted faculty members of three disciplines, imagined to be deserted on an island, against each other. The debates were intended to show the value of each field of study and the audience chose a winner to receive a “raft” for survival. The University of Kansas invited a guest speaker



Mortar Board chapters across the nation held forums on their role in campus issues, such as this one at The Ohio State University. In the photo above, Dean John T. Bonner leads a discussion session called, “How may Mortar Board take an effective stand on campus issues.”

to campus to speak of his experience testing the atomic bomb in New Mexico.

All the while that the women of Mortar Board were preparing their classmates to become involved globally, they continued to fight campus injustices such as the battle to abolish curfews implemented only for women at many universities. Many chapters viewed Mortar Board as a clearinghouse where they could discuss campus problems and determine how they could make an impact.

Nationally, Mortar Board recognized that local honor societies petitioning to become a part of Mortar Board held similar roles on campus. In 1961, the Society’s national

officers realigned the expansion policies and chose to now emphasize more prominently the strength of the individual chapter rather than the prestige of the institution when evaluating a prospective group. This resulted in great growth for the Society with 10 new chapters joining before 1970 for a total of 52 chartered chapters.

**“On this campus, Mortar Board is one of the most integral wheels within the wheels that keep things rolling...the influence this group yields is tremendous. They can get things done and they do.”**

*-Nicholas Cripe, Butler University*

### **We’d love to hear your history!**

Mortar Board is gathering the stories of its chapters for a historical volume. Please send your Mortar Board history, from personal memoirs to photos, to the National Office or to [history@mortarboard.org](mailto:history@mortarboard.org). Learn more about this project on our website at [www.mortarboard.org/history](http://www.mortarboard.org/history)



# 2010 Annual Report

**“You’re sitting in Mortar Board, and the person on one side of you is curing cancer and the person on the other side is going to space.”**

This is a paraphrase of a statement I recently heard from a student in the Agathai chapter at UCLA. The chapter compiled a terrific video recap of its year (you can see it on our Facebook page) and in it, one of the members described how networking was his favorite part of the past year.

For me, this captures one of the special benefits of Mortar Board: We have an multi-disciplinary, diverse, bright and talented network of members. Of course, selection by Mortar Board is a very special recognition of one’s achievement. Can you remember your tapping and initiation? What an honor to be a part of that special tradition! But Mortar Board is more than just a tribute to excellence.

Collegiate chapters work to be an integral part of campus life. They support other students; they recognize the faculty and staff who have served as their teachers, mentors and friends; and they look for ways to serve others and fill needs on their campus and in their community. They lead by **doing**, together. And in this, they share experiences and build bonds with classmates they otherwise may never have met.

As Mortar Boards, we are all part of this network, this community of talent. And it is for life. Our network extends nationally and includes nearly a quarter of a million people of all ages and from all backgrounds. The history and tradition of Mortar Board is rich, and the contributions that our members have made locally, nationally and globally are immense.

This year, we celebrated our 93rd anniversary. And this year, we have engaged in planning and preparation to ensure Mortar Board’s legacy into its next century. The tremendous contributions of our donors and volunteers have made all of that possible, and we thank them.

I hope as you read through the following pages that you are reminded what a unique group we are—and I hope you share my pride in being a Mortar Board!

Yours in leadership

Jane A. Hamblin, J.D., CAE  
Executive Director

## Collegiate chapters

The new members of the Society numbered 5,285 in 193 active chapters. All of Mortar Board’s national leaders continue to monitor chapter strength and member numbers.

There were 59 honorary members selected who have distinguished themselves as scholars, public servants and leaders in the higher education community at 30 campuses.

The Society’s 228th charter was issued on November 8, 2009, to the Egas chapter at Illinois Wesleyan University.

The Mortar Board National Foundation awards project grants to chapters each year for activities and events that promote Mortar Board and our ideals. The applications for 2010 were creative and diverse. We are proud of the inspiring ways in which our collegiate chapters support their institutions, their classmates and their communities.

## Chapter Project Grants

Chapters may apply for project grants three times each year. The grants help fund campus activities, service initiatives and chapter visibility projects. Congratulations to the chapters that were awarded project grants in fiscal year 2010:

**Berea College**, Dress for Success Career Development Workshop

**Cornell College**, Just Dance! Marathon

**Cornell University**, Mortar Board Leadership Award

**Iowa State University**, **Grinnell College** and the **University of Iowa**, Senior Prom

**Lyon College**, Book carnival

**Otterbein College**, Mortar Board Week 2010

**Rhodes College**, Reading is Leading Project 2: Women’s Book Club

**The University of Texas at El Paso**, Meet and Greet Bar B Que

**Tulane University**, Ninth Ward Literacy Project

**University at Buffalo**, Journey’s End Refugee Service (JERS) ESL Program

**University of Arkansas**, Mortar Board Visibility Grant

**University of California, Los Angeles**, “Scholars...Chosen for Leadership...United to Serve”

**University of Miami**, Ronald McDonald House Reading Circle and Book Drive

**University of Southern California**, Meal Packaging for the Homeless

**University of Vermont**, After-school “reading buddy” program at the Sara Holbrook Center

**West Virginia Wesleyan College**, Stuff a Bus and Turkey Costume Day

**Western New England College**, What I Wish I Knew Booklet



## Alumni

There are currently 16 active alumni chapters across the nation. Reconnecting and engaging with alumni is an area of opportunity for Mortar Board on a national level. We want to know our alumni, hear about their lives, celebrate and share their accomplishments and tell their stories.

To do this, we must know where our alumni are. In late 2010, Mortar Board began a national directory project. We are grateful for the positive response to this project and are excited to be able to reconnect with so many of our members. If you missed out on the directory project but would still like to update your information with the National Office, please visit [www.mortarboard.org/forms/alumni\\_update.php](http://www.mortarboard.org/forms/alumni_update.php)

## National Conference

There were 302 delegates, national leaders, honorees, speakers and staff who attended the Mortar Board National Conference, held July 23-25, 2010, in Chicago.

The annual conference provides leadership development and on-boarding for chapter leaders—it is an opportunity for them to learn the history and traditions of our Society. Mortar Board's national leaders play a vital role in developing and conducting sessions and serving as resources for new members.

**Mortar Board national awards.** At the National Conference, Alumni Achievement Awards were presented to Bethany Rubin Henderson, J.D., M.A. (The University of Pennsylvania, 1997), Teresa C. Long, M.D., MPH (University of California, Berkeley, 1978) and Kunle Oguneze, MBA (Valparaiso University, 1996). Distinguished Lifetime Membership Awards were presented to Shirley Brooks-Jones (The Ohio State University, 1991), Mary Miller Hoy, Ph.D. (Iowa State University, 1963) and Helen Dickerson Wise, Ed.D. (The Pennsylvania State University, 1948).

Excellence in Advising Awards went to Susan Caples (University of Alabama, 2006), advisor at the University of Alabama; Sharon Carver, Ph.D., advisor at Carnegie Mellon University; Pam Cysner, advisor at UCLA; Colorado State University advisor David Gilkey, Ph.D.; and Betsy Marti (Purdue University, 2002), advisor at Purdue University.

The Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award was presented to the Alcor chapter at Hope College in Holland, Mich. The Most Improved Chapter Award was bestowed upon the University of Utah's Acorn chapter in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Certification for advisors.** Also at the 2010 National Conference, Mortar Board introduced Leadership Excellence and Advisor Development (LEAD), a certification program for advisors. A recent study conducted



Alumni of the Alcalá Senior Honor chapter at the University of San Diego gathered for a reunion in 2010.

by the Association of College Honor Societies indicated that one of the biggest challenges facing student organizations was the recruitment and retention of quality advisors. The LEAD program was developed by our Advisor Task Force as a response to that challenge. In 2010, 14 advisors achieved LEAD certification.

**National Council elections.** A new student representative, Vicente Gonzalez (Cornell University, 2010) was elected to the National Council. He joined midterm incumbent Jessica Heath (Kansas State University, 2008).

## Mortar Board National Council

Mortar Board is fortunate to have a strong national leadership team to guide its future. We thank these volunteer leaders for sharing their time and talent for Mortar Board's benefit.

Over the past year the National Council and the Mortar Board National Foundation have been developing a five-year strategic plan to strengthen Mortar Board's position and mission. The goals of this plan are to:

1. Create a unified Mortar Board culture of lifetime membership.
2. Develop a long-term strategy for financial stability at the national and local levels.
3. Enhance governance, administration and operations.
4. Build strong relationships and enhance connections by observing/adapting to generational and demographic trends.
5. Establish recognition, enthusiasm and loyalty to the Mortar Board brand.

Teams have been established to develop specific plans to meet each of these goals. If you would like to share your thoughts and insights on the plan for Mortar Board's future, we welcome your comments at [strategicplan@mortarboard.org](mailto:strategicplan@mortarboard.org).

## Mortar Board National Foundation

The Mortar Board National Foundation supports the ideals scholarship, leadership and service. Seven trustees, along with two *ex officio* members of the National Council, volunteer their time to lead the Foundation in its work to raise funds for Mortar Board fellowships, chapter project grants and other strategic initiatives.

In 2010, \$39,500 in fellowships was awarded to 11 outstanding Mortar Boards. Each year, the field is even more exceptional than the last. We applaud all applicants for their hard work and dedication to excellence.

Mortar Board fellowships are made possible through named endowments, generously supported by our donors. For encouraging these Mortar Board scholars to pursue their dreams and sharing the means to do so, we thank them.

### 2010 Mortar Board National Foundation Fellows

**The Mortar Board Diane Selby Fellowship**  
Sonja Ardoin (Louisiana State University, 2003)

**The Mary Elizabeth Ramier Fellowship**  
Mike Finn (University of Michigan, 2008)

**The Barbara Cook Fellowship**  
Shay Galto (Northern Illinois University, 2009)

**The Zelma Patchin Fellowship**  
Emily N. Garbinsky (Carnegie Mellon University, 2009)

**The Ellen North Dunlap Fellowship**  
Star Hughes (University of San Diego, 2009)

**The Ruth Weimer Mount Fellowship**  
Hibah Hussain (Carleton College, 2007)

**The GEICO Fellowship**  
Micah Kordsmeier (The University of Tulsa, 2005)

**The Mortar Board Fellowship**  
Rishi Kumar (University of Maryland, 2004)

**The Washington State University Classes of 1945-1950 Fellowship**  
Chelsey Newcomb (Northern Illinois University, 2009)

**The Mortar Board Fellowship**  
W. Steven Spiehler, Jr. (The University of Alabama, 2007)

**The Catherine Wills Coleman Fellowship**  
Charlynn L. Weissenbach (San Diego State University, 2009)

## FINANCIAL POSITION

November 1, 2009, through October 31, 2010

### Mortar Board, Inc.

#### Revenue

Membership fees and dues	\$422,745
Conference fees	\$51,636
Corporate contributions	\$14,000
Individual contributions	\$1,100
Merchandise sales	\$54,222
Investment income	\$43,881
Miscellaneous	\$1,626
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$589,210</b>

#### Expenses

Program services	\$459,376
Management and general	\$145,770
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$605,146</b>

#### Net assets

Unrestricted	\$387,284
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### Mortar Board National Foundation

#### Revenue

Fees (royalty income)	\$12,490
Contributions and grants	\$88,079
Other	\$120
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$100,689</b>

#### Expenses

Program services	\$69,097
Management and general	\$20,208
Fundraising	\$6,667
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$95,972</b>

**Net income from operations** **\$7,766**

#### Net assets

Unrestricted	\$16,792
Temporarily restricted	\$195,059
Restricted	\$667,359
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$879,210</b>

# Thank you, donors!

*These members and friends have generously supported the Mortar Board National Foundation and Mortar Board, Inc. from January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010. \*\**

**Agnes Scott College**

Ellen Brumfield

Elizabeth Witt

**Albion College**

Tonya Zimmerman

**Ball State University**

Betty Jo Hudson

**Beloit College**

Gary Cox

**Birmingham-Southern College**

Marilyn Brown

*In memory of Mary Garrett Brown*

Ann Johnson

Charles Salvagio

**Boston University**

Joyce Allen

**Bowling Green State University**

Lee Meserve\*

**Bradley University**

Kristin Smith

Michael Wilczynski<sup>o</sup>

**Butler University**

Susan Selby Allen

*In honor of Diane Selby*

**Carson-Newman College**

Doris Walters

*In honor of Calvin and Harriet Parker*

**Case Western Reserve University**

Robert Honious

**Chatham University**

Judy Evans

**College of William and Mary**

Elaine Diehm Guilfoyle

Cynthia Frye Howes

Marilyn Ott

**Colorado State University**

Ann Yates

*In memory of Gladys Eddy*

**Cornell University**

Elisabeth Boas

Mary Jo Coe\*

Isabelle Richmond

Maria Sperando

**Denison University**

Angela Seaworth

**DePauw University**

Joyce Vietzke Allen

**Eastern Kentucky University**

Mary Jane Reilly

**Florida State University**

Florence Ashby

*In honor of Dr. Betty Lou Joanos*

**Grove City College**

Donna Atwood

Jennifer Zeigler

**Hood College**

Kathryn Chick

**Hope College**

Norma Greenfield

Dianne Portfleet

**Indiana State University**

William Niederer

*In memory of Gladys Eddy*

**Kansas State University**

Janet Ayres

Victoria Luhrs

**Kent State University**

Sara Burky

**Knox College**

Mary Yund

**Lawrence University**

Betty Messenger

**Lyon College**

Mary-Margaret Nester

**Miami University**

Nancy Evans

Jo Ann Rohyans

**Michigan State University**

Carrie Meckler

Nelda Stuck

**Midwestern State University**

Larry Wiese

**Mississippi University for Women**

Anita Treas

**Montana State University**

Jackie Mathews

*In memory of our Mortar Board members*

**Northern Illinois University**

Faith Clark

Patricia MacWhorter

Karen Patty-Graham

Denise Rode\*

Peggy Simonds

Daniel Turner

*In honor of Sally Steadman*

**Northwestern University**

Barbara Marsh

*In memory of Elizabeth Marsh*

**Occidental College**

Phyllis Lawrence

Edith Marshall

**Ohio Northern University**

Walter Schilling

**Ohio University**

Marilyn Paulsen<sup>o</sup>

**Ohio Wesleyan University**

Sarah Timmons

Charlot Wade

**Oregon State University**

June Bashkin

**Purdue University**

Barbara Brenner

Jill Carnaghi

Marilyn Giolas

Bridget Golden

*In honor of Nancy Wolfe's retirement from*

*Purdue University*

Jane Hamblin<sup>o</sup>

*In honor of Sally Watlington and Betty Nelson*

Aldred Hellmich

*In honor of Barbara Cook and in memory of*

*M. Beverley Stone*

**KEY**

\* \$500 - \$999

<sup>o</sup> \$1,000 - \$4,999

~ \$5,000 or more



# Annual Report

Patricia Mintz

*In honor of Barbara Cook*

Linda and Bob Sorensen\*

Sally Watlington\*

Barbara Watts

*In honor of Barbara Cook*

## San Diego State University

Judith Lewis Logue

## Texas Tech University

Joan Duke

Catherine Evans

Brenda Peters

*In honor of Dr Herschel Mann*

Dottie Phillips

*In honor of Diane Selby and Dan Turner and  
in memory of Gladys Eddy*

## The American University

Patricia Cerny

## The Ohio State University

Elaine Barnum

Shirley Bowser\*

Melissa Canowitz

Sheila Castellarin

Gail Corvette<sup>o</sup>

Mary Lou Fairall

Anne Foltz

Mabel Freeman\*

Virginia Gordon

*In memory of Donna Walls*

Catherine Graf

Rose Hackett

Judy Hobbs

*In memory of Ruth Weimer Mount*

Mary Hopkins

David Keene<sup>o</sup>

Marjorie Lasko

Evelyn Lee

Mary Melick Meyers

*In memory of Betty (Margaret) Patty Lowman*

John Mount<sup>o</sup>

Marilu Moye\*

Barbara Payson

Diane Selby\*

Megan Stevens

Marianne Torbert

*In memory of Ruth Weimer Mount*

Anthony Vidmar

*In honor of Dr. Mabel Freeman*

Gretchen Waltman

*In memory of Ruth Weimer Mount*

## The Pennsylvania State University

Janet Blew

Kathryn Cochrane

Marian Coppersmith

Carol Kalos

Jane McCormick Lewis

*In memory of Ruth Weimer Mount*

## The University of Alabama

Susan Herndon Caples

Lane Nestman

*In honor of Dan Turner*

## The University of Denver

Doris Finnie-Shade

Pamela Huggins

Andrea Richardson

## The University of Iowa

Sue Donelson Davidson

Mary Ladd Loots

Marjorie Pohl

*In memory of Dr. Donald Pohl*

Marilyn Wirtz

## The University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Janet Beckmann

## The University of New Mexico

Deborah Gaunt

## The University of Oklahoma

Bonnie Kennedy<sup>o</sup>

Mildred Metzger

Patricia Rudder

Catherine Wootten

## The University of South Dakota

Margaret Cash Wegner

Cheryl Hawker

*In honor of Mortar Board at Eastern Illinois  
University*

## The University of Toledo

Phyllis Davis

Dennis Klaustermeyer

## The University of Tulsa

Clinton Rataczak

## The University of Vermont

Carolyn Silsby

Lola Smith

*In memory of Norman W. Smith, Ph.D.*

## University at Buffalo

Analine Hicks

## University of Arizona

Gregory Ziebell

*In honor of Diane Selby*

## University of California, Los Angeles

Michelle Benham

*In honor of the UCLA chapter*

Bonnie Nidever

*In memory of UCLA alumni*

Margaret Rosato

## University of Cincinnati

Carolyn Quint

Laura Weldishofer

## University of Connecticut

David Crouse

## University of Illinois

Carole Boersma

Rochelle Elliott

## University of Kentucky

Helen McBride

*In honor of Diane Selby*

Donalene Sapp Poduska

## University of Maryland

Jane De Grafft

*In honor of the Adele H. Stamp chapter at the  
University of Maryland*

## University of Missouri—Columbia

Linda Headrick Setzer

Linda Lucas

## University of Missouri—Kansas City

Beth Smith

## University of North Dakota

Patricia Mackowiak

Alison Myhra

## University of North Texas

Charldean Newell

## University of Oregon

Laura Simic, CFRE

## University of Redlands

Adrianna Vermilion

# Annual Report

## University of Richmond

Betty Ann Dillon

## University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Cheryl Gunter

## University of Washington

June Anderson

Merrill Biesada

Amy Haugerud

## University of Wisconsin—Madison

Nancy Bernstein Schultz

## University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee

Jane Beyer

## University of Wyoming

Charlotte Davis

*In honor of Peg Tobin, Diane Selby and  
Sally Steadman and in memory of E. Luella  
Galliver*

Michael Golden

Angela Schrader

David Whitman

## Washington State University

Elaine Burgess

Margit Jackson

Betty Jo Sorensen

## Washington University in St. Louis

Joan Sessel

## Wayne State University

Judy Mongelluzzo

## West Virginia University

Jane K. Smith °

*In honor of Sally Steadman*

## Westminster College

Kathryn Venema\*

## Whitman College

Ann Willard

## Wichita State University

Marjorie Blodgett

## Willamette University

Nathan Jackson

## Friends

Achofoa chapter at Oklahoma State University

Barbara Cook chapter at Purdue University

Blossom Express Inc. °

Columbus, Ohio, Alumni chapter

Mary Kay Cuder

James Evans

*In honor of Catherine Evans*

Forum chapter at Texas Tech University

GEICO~

Kellogg Foundation\*

Schweitzer chapter at Chapman University

## Corporate Partners

Bank of America

Church Hill Classics

GEICO

Job Target

KODA

Next Generation Insurance

T-Mobile

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



**Brian Bock, Section 15 coordinator**

Volunteering is more than just helping and serving others; it has more to do with the opportunity to learn from those you help. The exchange of time, effort, and ideas improves and broadens not only my perspective, but also those I interact with.

I have met so many wonderful and ambitious people. Being a part of Mortar Board has allowed me to guide others—and myself—toward professional growth. The friendships with national leadership and the new members that I have worked with are what I have enjoyed the most. People make Mortar Board. To me, they make Mortar Board one of my greatest experiences.

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We thank our knowledgeable and dedicated section coordinators for their hard work!

## SECTION COORDINATORS

**Diana Smithens** (University at Buffalo, 2006)

**Katie Chick** (Hood College, 2006)

**Molly-Armine Manwaring** (James Madison University, 2008)

**Sonja Ardoin** (Louisiana State University, 2003)

**Michelle Dahnke** (Florida State University, 2005)

**Glenda Guyton** (Carson-Newman College, 1974)

**Rishi Kumar** (University of Maryland, 2006)

**Gilbert Fernandez** (Texas Tech University, 1993)

**Laura Bockbrader** (The Ohio State University, 2008)

**Sarra Nazem** (University of Michigan, 2004)

**Beth Geryak** (Purdue University, 2001)

**Julie Edmunds** (Northern Illinois University, 2006)

**Brian Bock** (Valparaiso University, 2004)

**Kristi Okerlund** (University of North Dakota, 2003)

**Victoria Luhrs** (Kansas State University 2003)

**Joseph Rodriguez** (University of Arizona, 2008)

**Whitney Tarbutton** (Eastern Illinois University, 2005)

**Dave Whitman** (University of Wyoming, 1998)

**Katie Verschelden** (Kansas State University, 2002)

**Mohammed Hill** (University of California, Berkeley, 1992)

*\*\*Next year and from thence forth the listing of donors will be based on Mortar Board's fiscal year, which is November 1 through October 31.*

## The University of Alabama



Pictured above is Anna Foley, Hypatia chapter president, with local high school students during their visit to the university. The chapter sponsored the class of a Mortar Board alumnus who is working with Teach for America. Through the sponsorship, the chapter promoted literacy and higher education to the students. The students' visit to the university included participation in a 5K race alongside chapter members, as well as a tour of the campus.

Chapter members also visited a local elementary school throughout the year to read with students. Additionally, in partnership with three senior honoraries on campus, the chapter hosted "The Spelling Bee at Innis Free" at a restaurant in downtown Tuscaloosa. Proceeds were donated to a literacy group, run by graduate students, that raises awareness for the West Alabama Literacy Council. On February 15, to honor the founding of Mortar Board as well as their favorite professors, each member invited two faculty members to a wine tasting.

The new members of the class of 2012 were announced during the traditional ceremony hosted by the university each spring. Mortar Board plays a unique role in this event, as the outgoing class, wearing their robes, marches onto a Civil War era historic site. The new class represents all facets of campus and has truly excelled in scholarship and leadership at The University of Alabama.

## Carson-Newman College

Sometimes all it takes is a little boost to get off to the right start. Members of the Panathenees chapter worked hard to jump-start their involvement in their local community through several special programs and events.

The main event was the the BOOST Your Speed 5K, held on the Carson-Newman campus, which benefitted the Bonner Out-of-School Time (BOOST) programs. Carson-Newman's Bonner Center for Service

Learning and Civic Engagement operates this after school program for local elementary students. "BOOST shapes the lives and minds of young students, preparing them for the future," said chapter Vice President Jen Davis.

Other events on the Panathenees' calendar have included activities to help raise student awareness of Mortar Board on campus, including a revival of a special "Mock Tap" tradition, participating in an organizational fair and holding a successful Senior Tea for prospective Mortar Board members at President J. Randall O'Brien's home.

Of course, perhaps the most exciting venture of all has been selecting new members who will continue the service and traditions. "This year the Panathenees chapter is excited to announce the induction of 25 new members and the election of the first male Mortar Board president at Carson-Newman College," President Kristin Bouldin said. They believe this upcoming group of students will carry on the Panathenees tradition and standard of excellence in scholarship, leadership and service.

*Kristen Buckles, chapter communications chair*

## The University of Findlay

The University of Findlay chapter was pleased to welcome The Dating Doctor, David Coleman, to campus on February 14 to kick off Mortar Board Week. What better day than Valentine's Day for students to listen to "America's Real-Life Hitch" speak about love, relationships and dating!

Students and community members filled the Alumni Memorial Union's large multi-purpose room on campus to hear David's advice and message. His program, called "Making Relationships Matter," focused on creating and maintaining healthy relationships. He emphasized that relationships need to matter every moment of every day. Refreshments were provided after the show and David stayed to answer relationship questions from the audience. They look forward to another visit from David during freshman orientation in the fall.

*Suzanne Lifer, director of communications*

## Kansas State University

The K-State chapter has enjoyed another great year. They donated over 2,500 books to underprivileged children through donations raised for First Book. In a wonderful opportunity to extend their efforts and help another Mortar Board member make a positive impact, they sent some of those books to the kindergarten class of our former chapter president Bobby Gomez in Harlem, N.Y. A few members also made a trip to Wichita, Kan. to personally give books to children. The children surprised them with thank you cards and countless questions about college.

At the beginning of the spring semester, the chapter helped the university orchestrate the Kansas Academic Decathlon, an academic



competition for Kansas high school students. They were honored to organize a leadership lecture on campus with legendary football coach Bill Snyder, where he presented the 16 attributes he practices to achieve success in life.

The chapter is excited to share these experiences with new members and continue the exceptional tradition of Mortar Board.

*Danielle Quigley, public relations chair*

## The University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The Black Masque chapter was presented with The Spirit of Service Award at The University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Student Impact Awards Banquet on April 21, 2011. The chapter was nominated for the award by past president Sammi Mosier.

In her nomination, Mosier said, "This group serves humbly and for the greater good of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community." The chapter's list of service to the university and community is impressive. Among the most notable projects are the Book Buddies program, a ten-week project that pairs members with students who need extra help in reading at a local elementary school, and the Professor of the Month Award, through which the chapter recognizes outstanding faculty and staff. Additionally, the chapter raised the most funds of any student group for the university's Dance Marathon benefit.

Chapter president Corey Drvol was pleased to accept the award and credited chapter philanthropy chairs Daniel Chilcote and Kelsey



## MacMurray College

Even though temperatures in Jacksonville, Ill., were in the single digits on February 11, MacMurray College's Cap and Gown chapter kicked off Mortar Board week by providing the campus with free homemade ice cream. It was an opportunity for students to ask questions and find out how they could become eligible for membership in Mortar Board. The event was a success and may become an annual chapter event.

Horner for their outstanding organization of the projects.

Mosier emphasized that, although the university and its surrounding community benefit from the chapter's service, it is actually the members who will carry the lifelong lesson from the experience; they will graduate "with a new perspective on how a group of 24 members can make such a large impact," she said.

## Northern Michigan University

The Telion chapter has had a very memorable year. They tripled their chapter's budget last May by collecting over 1,500 textbooks for a Better World Books Drive. In October they received local newspaper recognition for raking an elderly couple's yard and

donated over 15 boxes of books to the public library through a trick-or-treat for books drive. They supported NMU's Catholic Campus Ministry by adopting a local family in need during the holiday season.

Their chapter is also participating in a longer term "living history" project at Brookridge Heights Assisted Living Home by interviewing individual residents so that the administration can organize and publish memory books for their families. Additionally, Mortar Board Executive Director Jane Hamblin made a first-time visit to the university in April to join them in hosting a campuswide leadership workshop.

The Telion chapter proudly initiated a chapter record 32 new members, including two new initiates who are studying abroad and were tapped digitally via YouTube.

*Daniel Stam, chapter president*



Members of the Black Masque chapter during a service project at People's City Mission

## Ohio Northern University

Members of the Aurora chapter held several events to honor those who inspire them academically and professionally. Members nominated their favorite teachers for the annual Favorite Professors Dessert, held January 20. Each member gave a short speech recognizing his or her chosen professor and presented the honoree with a jar of candy that displayed a favorite leadership quotation. The chapter also planned to show its appreciation for university support staff on Administrative Professionals Day.

President Abby Ricket led efforts to start a Last Lecture Series, which featured two highly respected professors. Donations were accepted and given to Mortar Board's Virtual Book Drive. The chapter was overwhelmed by the support and hopes to continue the event. In other service initiatives, members promoted the joy of reading and raised literacy awareness through trips to the local library and continued its clean-up efforts along a highway near campus.

The Aurora chapter proudly invited 50 of Ohio Northern's most promising scholar-leaders to join Mortar Board. The new members were initiated February 17 with a ceremony and celebratory banquet at the University ballroom. The presence of the new members' parents helped round out the special day. Additionally, the chapter initiated three honorary members, Kelly Reilly Kroustos, Pharm.D., Sarah Waters, Ph.D., and Jennifer Lambdin.

*Ryan Lowry, chapter communications chair*

## University of Redlands

The W.E.B.S chapter kicked off the semester by volunteering at a local food pantry and clothing bank and by celebrating Mortar Board Week. A display in the campus commons, which showcased the development of the chapter over each decade starting with its founding in 1954, highlighted the celebration.

In February, the chapter hosted two human resources professionals from Target Corporation for an event titled "Impressing the Recruiter." The presenters provided advice and information about career preparation.

One of the highlights of the year was a wine and cheese reception to honor the chapter's Professor of the Year. After a round of voting facilitated by a committee of their members, five nominees were recognized at the reception. Beth Doolittle, senior lecturer in mathematics, was selected as the Professor of the Year for 2010-2011.

The chapter was also excited to attend a talk on campus given by poet and honorary Mortar Board member Maya Angelou (University of South Carolina, 1993).

*Emily Hudson, chapter director of communications*

## Rhodes College



Pictured above are members of the Torch chapter with Rhodes College president Dr. William Troutt. The chapter recently held an event to honor first-year students who were named to the dean's list or honor roll during the first semester. In addition to President Troutt, the formal reception was attended by 60 first-year students and the dean of students.

President Troutt addressed the students and stressed the importance of academic excellence and striving to reach new success in future years at Rhodes. Current chapter members shared their undergraduate accomplishments and their plans for the following year. Among them were acceptances to Teach For America, finalists for the Watson Fellowship, international internships and scholarships to study abroad, and acceptances to prestigious graduate programs. The current members of Mortar Board then met with the first-year students to share advice on how to achieve success while at Rhodes.

The Torch chapter has demonstrated commitment to inspiring success in students. Members believe that younger students should be nurtured by being recognized for their success and encouraged to meet larger goals. It is the chapter's hope that this commitment will help build a student body committed to scholarship, leadership and service.

*Tyler Turner, chapter president*

**"We believe that future students should be nurtured...by being recognized for their success and through encouragement to meet larger goals. It is our hope that this commitment...will help to build a student body committed to scholarship, leadership and service."** - *The Torch Chapter at Rhodes College*

## Rowan University



Pictured above are Membership Chair Caitlin Moskwa, President Jessica McDaniel, Fundraising Chair Emma Corcoran and Treasurer Elizabeth Ryan promoting the Gamma Tau Sigma chapter during Cram Jam, Rowan University's finals event. One of the chapter goals was to build visibility on campus. The members were successful at doing so and received nearly double the amount of applications from the previous year. They were also able to organize tapping for the second time in the chapter's ten year history. They are very proud of this accomplishment!

*Stephanie Lutz, chapter historian*

## San Diego State University

The Jane K. Smith Cap and Gown Chapter kicked off the spring semester with the Last Lecture Series, Student Research Symposium and by honoring San Diego State University Mortar Board alumni.

Mortar Board and the Honors Council hosted the 5th Annual Henry L. Janssen Last Lecture Series. University president Stephen L. Weber, Ph.D. presented "The Pursuit of Excellence" to an audience of more than 500 students, faculty and community members as one of his last lectures before his retirement at the end of the semester.

Mortar Board and the Honors Council also co-sponsored the Student Research Symposium. Student participants, working with faculty, gave oral and poster presentations of their research. A handful of the chapter's members were among those awarded for the quality of their research, professionalism and expertise. Mortar Board also co-sponsored a luncheon for the 350 students, parents, faculty and staff who attended the awards ceremony.

President Weber and Marian Turner, president of the San Diego Mortar Board Alumni chapter, welcomed Mortar Boards from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s during the chapter's alumni appreciation event. Alumni were honored with a Mortar Board medallion. During the program, eight collegiate members were awarded \$1,000 scholarships for graduate study.

*Kelsey Novi, chapter director of communications*



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## University of South Carolina



The Alpha Order of Mortar Board at the University of South Carolina is proud to congratulate its new members, pictured above. After a successful recruitment led by Frank Moran, vice president of membership, the chapter inducted 38 bright and talented new members. These men and women are already major leaders who hold numerous positions on campus. This is the largest new member class in several years. The chapter is extremely proud and honored to have such an outstanding group of leaders!

*Lyndsay Yarrison, chapter secretary*

## University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The Cap and Gown chapter spent many hours volunteering within the Knoxville community in a unique way. A branch office of the nonprofit organization Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, which provides audio recordings of books to people who cannot read printed text, is located on the campus. Chapter members logged more than 40 hours of recorded reading, and were able to connect Mortar Board's national Reading is Leading initiative with a local service. Additional activities to support the national project include a campus-wide book drive.



The chapter welcomed a new class of 50 rising seniors this semester. The chapter is excited for these new members to continue their newest tradition of helping read for the blind and dyslexic in their area and the mission of encouraging lifelong contributions to the global community.

*Taylor Griffin, director of communication*

## Texas Wesleyan University

The Quadrangle chapter kicked off Mortar Board Week by passing out candy on campus to celebrate Valentine's Day and gain visibility. As a special Valentine's treat, each professor on campus received a goody bag.

The members promoted Mortar Board's Reading is Leading initiative by reading at a local elementary's after school program and by donating books to the school and to the local Boys and Girls club.

Twenty-two new members were initiated this spring. Outgoing members look forward to working with them for the chapter's alumni weekend.

*Jennifer Hellstern, chapter secretary and director of communications*

## William Jewell College

The Panaegis chapter at William Jewell College hosted a book drive competition to raise money for Mortar Board's national Reading is Leading initiative. The chapter spent two weeks during the month of February to raise money and awareness for the program. Members held a fundraising competition between residence halls, and the hall that collected the most donations won food for the entire hall. The chapter raised a grand total of \$760 from students and faculty and was able to buy around 375 books for children.

*Caitlin Wall, chapter historian*

## Wichita State University

The Fairmount chapter wrapped up the fall semester by collaborating with the Golden Key honor society to help with "Lights on the Lake," a fundraising event for a local charity. The chapter also held flower sales during the fall commencement.



## University of Toledo

This year the Peppers chapter expanded its philanthropic efforts with a new event called "Wrap Up Toledo," which involved collecting blankets to be donated locally to those less fortunate. To enhance the university's participation in this project, the chapter hosted a fort building competition to showcase all of the blankets that were to be donated. More than 20 student organizations worked together to build forts out of blankets in the recreation center. After an hour of design and structure, the forts were judged by faculty on spirit, creativity and number of blankets used. A trophy was presented to the organization with the most blankets and to the overall winner. Over 800 blankets were collected and donated to local homeless shelters by Mortar Board members. The University of Toledo is only the seventh university in the nation to put on a Wrap Up event to benefit the surrounding community, and the Peppers chapter hopes to make "Wrap Up Toledo" an annual event.

*Bonnie Koss, chapter vice president*

During Mortar Board week the chapter had a display at the student union promoting scholarship, leadership and service. Members were also busy during the winter months selecting the new class and planning tapping and initiation.

Spring events included volunteering for a Ronald McDonald House event as well as planning the major event, a readership carnival. As part of the Reading is Leading project, the carnival theme was drawn from Dr. Seuss' *Green Eggs and Ham*, and the members planned several activities for the participants.

Graduating chapter members are very excited to continue Mortar Board's mission of scholarship, leadership and service as they swiftly move to-

ward the end of their senior year.

The chapter would like to share this quote: "I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known." - Author Unknown

*Natasha Ward and Tyler Thornton, chapter historians*



# MORTAR BOARD:

## *A family tradition*

### Siblings give back to alma mater

Mortar Board has made a lasting impression on brother and sister Ryan Hoxworth (Rowan University, 2010) and Jennifer Hoxworth (Rowan University, 2007). “With Mortar Board you’re always learning new skills and being exposed to new opportunities. It’s a great way to get involved with helping your college and community,” says Ryan.

Jennifer was excited for Ryan when she learned that he had been selected by Mortar Board. She recalls telling him it was awesome that he had gotten accepted into a girls’ honor society. He, of course, got the joke.

In describing what sets Mortar Board apart as a student organization, Jennifer says, “Once you are a Mortar Board, you are a member for life.” Based on his sister’s experience, Ryan knew that Mortar Board was different: “Mortar Board was more than just an honor society,” he said. While all student organizations at Rowan included service projects in their activities, the Gamma Tau Sigma chapter goes way above and beyond the norm.

Ryan and Jennifer credit their mother with first teaching them the importance of making a contribution to their community. “Ryan and I have both been very fortunate to be at Rowan and have such a supportive family that values education,” said Jennifer. Their Mortar Board experience reinforced that ideology and reflected the values they grew up with.

For Jennifer, Mortar Board inspired her to find ways to get involved with her community after graduation. After all, Mortar Boards lead by example. She has even consulted her former advisor at Rowan for ideas on how she can give back.



Ryan Hoxworth and his sister Jennifer Hoxworth have established the Hoxworth and Hoxworth scholarship fund at their alma mater. More fun facts about them:

- They have a Lego collection that takes up most of their basement
- Jennifer loves math and competes in math competitions; Ryan was an active member of the Rowan Math Club
- Both Ryan and Jennifer are artists and are currently getting some of their work ready for a show
- They also donated artwork to *Imagine What's Possible*, a book that is being published nationally for distribution to children with cancer

The creation of the Hoxworth and Hoxworth scholarship fund is one significant way in which the siblings will continue to serve their alma mater and encourage scholarship in other students. “Ryan and I have had such an awesome time at this university and it was just appropriate to give a scholarship to a Rowan student,” said Jennifer. They hope their gift inspires other young adults to give back and make lasting contributions to their community.

**Did you know? You can establish a fund to support your Mortar Board chapter through the Mortar Board National Foundation. Help provide new Mortar Boards with an experience they will carry forward with them throughout their lives! Contact us at [mortarboard@mortarboard.org](mailto:mortarboard@mortarboard.org) or 800-989-6266 for more information.**



Top left: **Cathy Randall** (The University of Alabama, 1971) is pictured with her daughter **Kate Randall** (Vanderbilt University, 2000) as they celebrate Kate's New Year's Eve engagement. Cathy has served as Mortar Board's national president and chair of the Mortar Board National Foundation. Kate has been a member of the Foundation's Investment Advisory Committee.

Top right: **Catherine Gordon-Seifert** (Bowling Green State University, 1975), left, is a professor and chair of the Music Department at Providence College. Mother **Virginia (Ginger) Niswonger Gordon** (The Ohio State University, 1948) is a retired professor at The Ohio State University. Catherine was a Mortar Board section coordinator, and Virginia was on the Mortar Board National Council and served as a Mortar Board Foundation trustee and president of the Columbus Alumni chapter.

Middle right: **Kelsey Shields** (Oregon State University, 2011) is pictured with her mother, **Wendy Woodworth Shields** (Oregon State University, 1979). Kelsey is majoring in history with a minor in Spanish. Wendy is a pharmacist. "It has been exciting for my daughter to experience an equivalent level of positive influence and exceptional peer role models as I discovered at Oregon State many years ago," said Wendy.

Bottom: **Bob and Linda Sorensen** are pictured with their children **Scott Sorensen** and **Anne Sorensen Inman**. All four Sorensens were initiated at Purdue University, Linda in 1962, Scott in 1987, Anne in 1989 and Bob, as an honorary, in 2000. Suellen Jacko Sorensen, Scott's wife, is also a Mortar Board (Butler University, 1989).

## Heritage



## Honor



## Tradition



*Mortar Board: A family tradition is a special feature in the Mortar Board Forum. If you are part of a Mortar Board family--parent, child, sibling, cousin, aunt or any other connection--we would love to hear your story. Send your pictures and information to us by e-mail at [mbforum@mortarboard.org](mailto:mbforum@mortarboard.org).*



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