

## CLASS NOTES

**Louis Kline Black '33** turned 100 years young on July 23rd. She resides in Maple Grove, Minn., near family.

**Dean Blinn '64** and **Sandra Haavrig Blinn '65** have published a book for children and adults called "Diatoms: Unnoticed Living Jewels in Water." Diatoms are in a group of plants called algae. They are very tiny and play a critical role in the health of our world. Dean and Sandra reside in Bellingham, Wash.

**Jon Mattison '69** retired after 35 years as a secondary educator and administrator. Jon's accomplishments include founding member, Roscoe Brass Quintet; trumpeter performer with Southeast Ohio Symphony; member, Kent State Stark Wind Ensemble; member, Sound of Sousa Professional Concert Band; former musician with the U.S. Navy European Show Band; founder of the United States Navy Sixth Fleet Singers; asking trumpet instructor, Mount Vernon

University; Faculty Quintet at Muskingum College and Mount Vernon University; pep band director, Walsh University; member, Greater Canton Men's Chorus; past board member, Ohio Middle School Association; past board member, Coshocton Hospice; and former scout master, BSA Troop 402. Jon and his wife, Sharon, reside in Canton, Ohio.

**Richard Clogg '71** was appointed District Court Judge by Governor Branstad in April. Rich and **Christine Sieff Clogg '71** reside in Indianola.

**Barbara Thiesen Ellis '71** retired from teaching after 24 years in Nebraska and 7 years in Iowa. She plans to spend more time with family and friends.

**Dan Parker '73** retired from the U.S. Navy as a commander in 1998 after 22 years as a naval flight officer with nearly 3000 flight hours. Following 9/11, Dan went to work for Homeland Security and retired in 2010 as an assistant federal security director in San Antonio, Texas. Dan lives in Sun City, Ariz.

**Judy Welch Davis '78** is facility administrator for DaVita Dialysis in Victoria, Texas. Judy and her husband, Eugene, reside in Bay City, Texas.

**Jeff Cook '80** has been honored by The Boy Scouts of America with the Honor Medal for Heroism for saving the life of an elderly woman who was involved in a traffic accident on July 27, 2011. Jeff is the first-ever in the Kansas City area and the State of Missouri to be presented the Honor Medal for Heroism since the inception of the award. Jeff and his wife, Jill, reside in Gladstone, Mo.

**Valori Aquino Kipp '87** works at Capital One Auto Finance and resides in Plano, Texas.

**Michelle Christensen Rock '90** was named as director of the Illinois Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health and Justice in April and resides in Rockford, Ill. The Illinois Center of excellence is a newly-created state agency that works to equip communities to appropriately respond to the needs of persons with behavioral health disorders that are involved in the criminal justice system.

**Sarah Minor Koonts '91** is the North Carolina state archivist and director of the division of archives and records. Sarah resides in Apex, N.C.

**Boyd Ellis '93** assumed the duties as the staff judge advocate/legal counsel for Commander, Naval Special Warfare Group One, in Coronado, Calif. He is currently completing an eight-month deployment with Seal Team Three in the Middle East.

**Martin Poock '97** has been promoted to the level of regular chorister with the renowned Grant Park Chorus, which celebrates its 50th anniversary with the Grant Park Music Festival during 10 weeks of free outdoor concerts in Millennium Park in downtown Chicago. This fall, Martin will return for his 10th season in the chorus with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and is continuing as a staff singer and cantor at Holy Name Cathedral.

**Chantell Abshire '99** is divisional controller for Axxis Drilling.

**John Hanley '00** joined the American Academy of Family Physicians as a product manager, where he leads product strategy and digital business development for AAFP publications "American Family Physician" and "Family Practice Management." He resides with his wife, Amy, in Lawrence, Kan.

**Tyler Kamerman '00** is a financial services representative for The Principal Financial Group in West Des Moines.

**Todd Walkup '01** is an area manager for Stonhard. Todd and his wife, Christi, reside in Oak Park, Ill.

**Brooke Jackson '03** is working as the manager of the Pabst/Riverside Theaters in Milwaukee, Wis. Brooke received her MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Arts Administration in 2009.



## PRESIDENTS' PICNIC AND GOLF OUTING

2012

TOP: Brian Coppess '81 shows his skill around the green during last June's Simpson Cup at the Indianola Country Club. Brian was paired with athletic director John Siranni, who looks on.



BOTTOM: Checking in at the Presidents' Picnic are Bob "Mac" Mackenzie '70, Carolyn "Carrie" Miller Hall '58 and husband Dr. Joe Hall '58.

**Jill Carson '04** is employed at The Principal Financial Group as a communication strategist II.

**Elizabeth Keating Cifuni '04** and her husband, Nick, reside in Nashville, Tenn.

**Randy Holt '04** is a consumer loan underwriter II at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in Des Moines.

**Tracy Loynachan '05** is a research analyst II for the Fourth Judicial District, State of Minnesota, in Minneapolis, where she and her husband, Jason Funke, reside.

**Tessa Murphy '05** is a legal secretary for Belin McCormick, P.C. in Des Moines.

**Robyn Rinehart Copeland '06** is circulation manager at the University of Colorado – Law School in Boulder. Robyn resides in Louisville, Colo.

**Kari Koehler '06** received her master's degree in library and information science in August. She accepted a position to work in the Minneapolis Public School District as a school librarian.

**Jen Tyler '06** is pastor at the United Methodist Church in Clark, S.D.

**Beriet Bichel '08** teaches elementary art in the Burlington Community School District.

**Brady Buresh '08** is the director of athletic facilities for the University of North Carolina-Asheville. Brady resides in Weaverville, N.C.

**Martha Davis '08** completed her master's of science degree sports administration at the University of Northern Colorado in 2010 and is the tennis center director at Webster University. Martha resides in St. Louis, Mo.

**Katie Wiggenjost Gratz '08** completed her degree in physician assistant studies at Des Moines University in 2011 and is a physician assistant/clinical director at Eagle View Community Health System in Oquawka, Ill. Katie and her husband, Eric, reside in New London.

**Tracy Robson Kroeger '08** works for The Principal Financial Group as an assistant pension actuarial analyst. Tracy and her husband, Joe, reside in Des Moines.

**Meghan Kloubec Reutzel '08** and **Adam Reutzel '09** reside in Cedar Rapids, where Meghan works as marketing manager at Infinity Contact.

**Zach Rus '08** is a consultant for Pennington & Company in Lawrence, Kan. Zach resides in Chicago, Ill.

**Sara Stoddard McManus '09** completed her Master of Divinity at Vanderbilt University and is now associate pastor at the Sioux Falls First United Methodist Church. She and her husband, **Kyle McManus '08**, reside in Sioux Falls, S.D.

**Erin Hoversten '09** is a physical therapist for Iowa Health after completing a doctorate and master's degree in physical therapy and health administration at Des Moines University.

**Kirsten Towne '09** is a social worker for Iowa Hospice in Fort Dodge, where she resides.

**Laura Anderson '10** is a BHIS provider for Sequel Care of Iowa in Des Moines.

**Jacki Aronow '10** completed her associate's degree in nursing at Mercy College.

**Anna Peterson Nalean '10** is a community investment & marketing assistant for Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines. Anna and **Bobby Nalean '07** reside in Des Moines.

**Raymond Olsen II '10** is a 4th grade teacher in the Postville Community School District.

**Whitney Rasmussen '10** is assistant e-commerce manager at Meredith Corporation in Des Moines.

**Nick White '10** is a math teacher in the Ankeny Consolidated School District and resides in Ankeny.

**Erin Cracker '11** is teaching 4th grade in the Fairfield Community School District.

**Megan Framke '11** works for Ottumwa Economic Development Corporation as an initiative manager.

**Lindsey Heckart '11** is a loan servicing specialist for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in West Des Moines.

**Travis Nelson '11** is an insurance agent at Partners Insurance, Inc., in Atlantic, where he resides.

**Jenny Putz '11** is a peer trainer at Lutheran Services in Iowa.

**Chelsey Abell '12** is a student clerk for the U.S. Attorney's Office.

**Arnaldo Achucarro '12** is attending the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary where he is working on his master of arts degree in theology.

**Constance Bell '12** is a contractor at Meredith Corporation.

**Shellie Benson '12** is employed at Wells Fargo in Des Moines as technology manager.

**Bryan Birks '12** is an operations intern with the Burlington Bees baseball team.

**Jillian Bishop '12** is employed at TD&T Financial Group in Fairfield as a staff accountant.



**Ryan Hutton '08** and **William Hutton 15 months** (future Simpson student) and **Koda (7 year old, white german shepherd)** "sporting" the SC dog leash.

**Justin Bolkema '12** is working on an advanced degree in human performance at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

**Angela Bosworth '12** is employed by Heartland AEA as an administrative assistant.

**Amelia Brown '12** is employed at SkySmith Insurance as a clerical assistant.

**Patrick Poore Christensen '12** is pursuing a master's degree in parks recreation and tourism.

**Maria Collins '12** is an underwriter for Wells Fargo & Company in West Des Moines.

**Jacobb Conner '12** is employed at 2nd Story Software as a tax analyst.

**Jordin DeVoss '12** is a resident advisor for Youth Emergency Services and Shelter.

**May Dreesman '12** works for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

**Jeannie Eide '12** is a sr. business operations consultant at Principal Financial Group.

## THEN & NOW

During their annual summer reunion at the house, Pi Phi sisters descended from Washington DC, Texas, California, Nevada, Minnesota, Illinois and Iowa to reconnect. We hear there was a fine rendition of Dancin' Queen and, yes, even a toga party.

Pictured left to right: Rebecca Bentzinger '77, Cheryl Thomas '79, Kim Johnson '79, Claudia Cole Meek '77, Laura Boham Johnson '79, Mary Hoyman Gillaspie '77, Paige Rice '78, Tricia Dayton Warfield '77. Also attending but not pictured: Carol Morrison DePue '79, Becky Hoskins Poblete '78, Monica McMath Crouch '77, Kayla Kirby Reese '77 and Annette Langlois Faulk '80.

Reunioning with your Simpson friends? Send us a picture at [alumni.office@simpson.edu](mailto:alumni.office@simpson.edu)

**BJ Stokesbary '12** is pursuing his MBA at Drake University while working as an operations assistant at Kum & Go in West Des Moines.

**Jennifer Stumpf '12** is attending Iowa State University Veterinarian School.

**Rex Toney '12** is a support manager at Wal-Mart.

**Jordan Vorrie '12** is a paramedic at Mercy Medical Center & College of Health Sciences.

**Jennifer Townsend '12** is a marketing specialist for Lakeside Hotel Casino in Osceola.

**Robert Trimble '12** is a software developer for Pioneer Hi-Bred.

**Kelsey Tulon '12** is enrolled in the Chinese Language Program at Peking University.

**Trevor Vaughn '12** is employed at Phillips Floors, Inc. as a commercial crew leader. He plans to attend George Fox Evangelical Seminary in the fall.

**Cory Venable '12** is employed by John Deere as manager of global market planning.

**Meghan Vosberg '12** is the children's theatre and education director for Spencer Community Theatre.

**Theresa Vosberg '12** is a case manager for Carmel Community Living Corporation in Englewood, Colo., and resides in Denver, Colo.

**Mickey Wise '12** is working towards a Master of Divinity at Garrett Seminary.

**Alex Wright '12** is a local pastor at the United Methodist Church.

**Carrie Wubben '12** is a certified pharmacy technician for Medicap in Indianola.

**Nolan Zobel '12** is employed at Nelnet as an IT auditor.

**Joshua Gabriel '12** is an assistant manager for Quik Trip.

**Pricilla Gacula '12** is a technical trainer for CDS Global.

**James Gale '12** is a sales rep for Millang Financial Group.

**Eric Green '12** is the owner of EM Green Land Surveying in Afton and plans to attend the American Military University in the fall to work on his master's degree in intelligence operations.

**Grant Grodahl '12** works for Grodahl Farms.

**Jessica Heller '12** is a banker at First National Bank.

**Kennedy Horton '12** is the stage manager for the Winterset Stage.

**Bryan Ingram '12** is an account manager for Marsh and is pursuing his Juris Doctorate at Drake University.

**Melissa Jensen '12** works in the Simpson College Athletic Department as an events planner.

**Meredith Jinks '12** is employed at Meredith Corporation as an account executive.

**Joanna Koettters '12** works for the Child Serve Program with the Veterans Administration.

**Alicia Kollenkark '12** is employed at Shull & Co-PC.

**Hannah Landgraf '12** is a teacher at The Institute of Reading Development and plans to attend Emory University in the fall to pursue her master's of divinity degree.

**Shelly Matuska '12** is a senior area sales manager for Cooper Vision in Fairport, N.Y.

**Jennifer McElree '12** is a lab technician at Red Star Yeast in Cedar Rapids.

**Marlys McKibben '12** is a business systems consultant for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. Marlys and her husband, William, reside in West Des Moines.

**Blaise Mikels '12** is working for the U.S. Government.

**Jeremy Moulam '12** is an application developer at the Iowa Heart Center in West Des Moines.

**Matthew Paladino '12** is an organic test prep analyst for Test America Inc. in Cedar Falls. Matthew and his wife, Cody, reside in Cedar Falls.

**Megan Pope '12** is employed at Mercy Hospital as a rehab tech.

**Lucas Riesselman '12** is a crew leader for Iowa Moving.

**Alex Schelling '12** is a staff accountant at TD&T Financial.

**Jarrod Schott '12** is a high school math teacher for the Kingsley-Pierson School District.

**Robert Shepherd '12** is a 1st master sergeant for the U.S. Air Force in Des Moines.

**Marcus Simpson '12** is employed as a police officer for the Cedar Rapids Police Department.

**Michael Smith '12** will be working on his master's degree in human performance this fall.

## MARRIAGES



**Rollie Madison '88** and **Ronnie Chism**, March 30, 2012, Charlevoix, Mich.

**David Venables '04** and **Johanna Weakley '04**, July 9, 2011, Portland, OR.

**Sandeep Singh '06** and **Rati Kasajoo**, February 18, 2011, Butwal, Nepal.

**Christopher Novak '07** and **Nicki Bachhuber**, June 23, 2012, West Des Moines.

**Jennifer Cornwell '09** and **Matt Connelly**, 2011, Grimes.

## BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS

**Mara Ellen Henn**, January 19, 2012, to **Nathan G. Henn '97** and **Lynne Wessels Henn '99**, West Des Moines, joins Johnathan (3).

**Jeffrey Allen Christensen**, March 31, 2012, to **Nathan B. Christensen '99** and **Julie Christensen**, Urbandale, joins Tanner.

**Kellen Crosby Miller**, October 19, 2011, to **Stacy Ropp Miller '99** and **Nate D. Miller '00**, Kalona, joins Noah (8) and Rowan (4).

**Harrison Glenn Strong**, December 04, 2011, to **Kari Beyer Strong '00** and **Wesley G. Strong '01**, Hugo, Minn., joins Austin (4) and Annika (2).

**Silas Randall Shepherd**, January 26, 2012, to **Aimee Seberg Shepherd '01** and **Greg Shepherd**, Mount Pleasant, joins Caleb (2).

**Grayson William Boss**, July 23, 2011, to **Jocelyn Albertson Boss '02** and **Aaron Boss, Jackson**, Wyo., joins Hunter (4).

**Miles Worthley James**, May 25, 2012, to **Jenny Overgaard James '02** and **Morgan James**, McKinney, Texas, joins Marek (4½).

**Graham Dewey Carson**, May 22, 2012, to **Nolan G. Carson '03** and **Amy LeBlanc Carson '07**, Omaha, Neb.



**Clover Evon Mitchell**, November 22, 2011, to **Dr. Alanah Davis Mitchell '03** and **Jason M. Mitchell '04**, Boone, N.C.



**Autumn Kaye Wendorf**, March 29, 2012, to **Jennifer Merryman Wendorf '03** and **Adam C. Wendorf**, Stoughton, Wis.

**Hudson McIntire** and **Mason Edward Bloome**, March 08, 2012, to **Amber Dickey Blomme '04** and **Nathan Blomme**, Manhattan, Kan.



**Charles (Charlie) Morris Cox**, March 18, 2012, to **Ben P. Cox '04** and **Katie Skinner Cox '05**, Altoona, joins Drake (2).

**Bo Ivar Lane**, January 26, 2012, to **Matthew S. Lane '04** and **Kimberly Lane**, St Petersburg, Fla.

**Colyn Edward Vardaman**, April 13, 2012, to **Amanda Bix Vardaman '04** and **Ben Vardaman**, Clarinda.

**Caitlyn Ranae Allen**, May 13, 2012, to **Laura Sellers Allen '05** and **Bradley J. Allen '05**, Ankeny, joins Caleb (4) and Cameron (2).

**Harper Kay Huston**, December 20, 2011, to **Courtney Shelquist Huston '06** and **Kiel Huston**, Ankeny.



**Rooney Jane Williams**, March 02, 2012, to **Kelsey Christianson Williams '06** and **Eric R. Williams '06**, Waukee.



**Cora Fenimore Terlouw**, November 29, 2011, to **Morgan Kelly Terlouw '07** and **Matthew J. Terlouw '08**, Pella.

**McKayla Connelly**, January 2012, to **Jennifer Cornwell Connelly '09** and **Matt Connelly**, Grimes.

## DEATHS

**Florence Weir Smith '30**, February 2, 2012, Indianola.

**C. Gordon Hoffman '36**, August 10, 2012, Los Alamos, N.M.

**Mary Lou Hillis Witt '37**, December 1, 2011, Winter Park, Fla.

**Kenneth L. Henderson '38**, July 12, 2012, Mission, Texas.

**Charlotte Schrier Klyn '38**, March 30, 2012, Pella.

**John F. Hines '40**, April 12, 2012, Marshalltown.

**Jean Polson Howe '43**, April 15, 2012, Indianola.

**Helen Sandal Reed '44**, March 5, 2012, Rochester, Minn.

**Betty Nyswonger Love '45**, August 23, 2010, Valparaiso, Ind.

**Doris Oskvig '48**, August 24, 2011, Williams.

**Wayne C. Bruce '49**, July 8, 2012, Clinton.

**Dr. Wendall M. Farrow '50**, November 25, 2011, Tarpon Springs, Fla.

**Darlene Hansen '50**, August 13, 2012, Des Moines.

**Thomas A. Teale, Jr. '50**, July 17, 2012, Urbandale.

**Barbara Van Patten Weist '50**, August 12, 2012, Chicago, Ill.

**Robert E. Vokt '52**, April 3, 2012, Atlantic.

**Robert D. Wiley '52**, July 23, 2012, Mason City.

**James R. Ford '53**, April 30, 2012, Indianola.

**Richard E. Ferris '54**, April 16, 2012, Marion.

**William R. Sudbrook '54**, March 11, 2012, Crystal Lake, Ill.

**Lyle E. Case '55**, August 16, 2012, Greenwood Village, Colo.

**Edith Livezey Overholser '56**, August 11, 2012, Olathe, Kan.

**Robert H. Reed '56**, August 2, 2012, Manchester.

**G. Le Roy Woodruff '57**, April 25, 2012, Indianola.

**James I. McGill '58**, December 25, 2011, Phoenix, Ariz.

**Joseph A. Zahn, Jr. '59**, April 6, 2012, Clive.

**Sharon Riley Krefl '60**, March 6, 2012, Clive.

**Norene Hughes '62**, June 6, 2012, Austin, Texas.

**Milo M. Mendenhall '72**, February 28, 2012, Mesa, Ariz.

**Andrew A. Hoskinson '73**, June 23, 2011, Winterset.

**Todd C. Vogel '97**, August 25, 2012, Parker, Colo.



**ANN WALLACE FLEMING**, honorary Simpson College board of trustees member, died peacefully on April 26, 2012 at the age of 89. Ann grew up in Des Moines and graduated from Roosevelt High School. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University, where, in middle age, she did post-graduate work at the College of Design in the field of landscape architecture. She married Robert J. Fleming in 1944 in Des Moines and in 1950 moved with him to their farm in Carlisle, where they would live for the rest of their lives. Public service was a parallel and consuming career. Ann was an energetic volunteer and leader at an extraordinary number of Iowa charities and educational institutions. Elected in 1984 to Simpson's board of trustees, she served on many committees during her tenure. She also chaired the Carlisle School Board. A dedicated environmentalist, she served as a founding director and as president of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, as a director and zone chair of The Garden Club of America, as president of the Des Moines Founders Garden Club, as a director of the Des Moines Botanical Center, and as a director of the Iowa Environmental Council. Ann is survived by her brother, three sons, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Ann's daughter-in-law Allison is currently serving on the Simpson College board of trustees.



Emeritus professor **MELVIN WILK** died in Des Moines on April 21, 2012 of cancer. He was born on April 8, 1939 in Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan. He received a B.A. from University of Montana, M.A.'s from Boston University and Brandeis University, and a Ph.D. from University of Massachusetts. On April 22, 1967 he married Mary Beth Larson Wilk in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

After ten years of teaching at various colleges and universities, Mel joined the Simpson College faculty where he taught from 1981 until his retirement in 2007. At Simpson he served on many committees including the Personnel Committee, and he was the founder of the Multicultural and Minority Affairs Committee. Mel was a generous mentor to his students. He served as the faculty advisor for the school's literary journal. As head of the Poets and Writers program, he brought in numerous nationally recognized poets for seminars and readings. In 1989 he won Simpson's Research Award, and in 2007 he won the Distinguished Teacher Award.

Mel is survived by his wife, one daughter and two sons.