

# The CONNECTION

**H** **HIGHLAND**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER 2014-2015

## WHAT'S INSIDE

*HCC establishes* SHARED PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

*Golden Grads* CLASS OF 1964

*Notable* RETIREMENTS



# The \_\_\_\_\_ CONNECTION

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I started my career in education 41 years ago in the fall of 1974 and the one thing I've always enjoyed about education is there is a beginning and an end every year. Unlike other career paths people choose, Education is always gearing up for a big fall start and wrapping up with commencement in May. Even though many employees work all 12 months of the year, we have all kind of events and classes going on in the summer, we now hold a third commencement in August, and, a student may literally enroll in and start a class any month of the year, there is still the excitement of beginning a new year every August and winding down, just a little, every May.

For every course and program we teach, there is a desired set of outcomes we want our students to master. In addition to those course and program outcomes, our Board, administration, faculty, and staff have established a list of Shared Performance Expectations (outcomes) we want our students AND employees to master.

### Highland Community College Shared Performance Expectations

**Be Competent at Your Work:** Know your area of work or study and consistently perform to expectations and use constructive feedback to improve.

**Communicate Effectively:** Create a Message – in written, oral, or visual form – that is clearly understood by the intended audience.

**Respect Others:** Show respect for other people and be open to perspectives different than your own; treat people with empathy and kindness.

**Think Critically:** Apply critical thinking methods to relevant issues and problems – examine assumptions, gather relevant and reliable data and information, make decisions based on evidence.

**Act Responsibly:** Within your role at HCC, meet your commitments; be accountable for your own professional behavior and performance.

**Work Effectively on Teams:** Contribute productively – as a leader or a member – as part of a team that may have members who are different than you in some significant way.

Our task now that these Shared Performance Expectations have been developed is to evaluate and measure how well we master these expectations. Currently, we have an Action Project with our accreditation agency, The Higher Learning Commission, to determine how these expectations can be incorporated into our course, program, and employee performance evaluations. This will be a valuable experience for our institution.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To switch gears, here are some bullet points about Highland Community College you may or may not know.

- *Highland Community College is the 7th largest public community college in Kansas in terms of enrollment. There are 19 public community colleges in Kansas.*
- *HCC ranked fourth, out of 26 Kansas Community and Technical Colleges, in the number of technical education credit hours delivered to high school students in the fall 2014 semester. In 2012, the Legislature and Governor passed legislation allowing high school students to enroll in technical courses and programs tuition free while in high school. HCC has been one of the state leaders in providing technical training to high school students.*
- *Salaries and benefits for HCC's employees who reside in Doniphan County is \$3,744,101 this contract year. Our total payroll is \$10.5 M.*
- *Highland Community College spent \$810,528 with Doniphan County vendors in calendar year 2014.*
- *HCC's county mil levy is the second lowest (14.2) among the state's nineteen community colleges.*
- *HCC's revenue received from our Doniphan County mil levy accounts for less than 10% of our operating budget this year.*
- *Kansas Community College's mil levies range from a low of 9.551 mils at Johnson County Community College to 45.649 mils at Colby Community College. Two Kansas community colleges have county mil levies about 40 mils, seven have county mil levies above 30 mils, and five others have mil levies above 20 mils (2014 Data).*
- *Highland Community College's state appropriation is \$5.8M and we recently received a \$117,000 cut/pay back in our State Appropriation for this current year.*
- *Our Western Center, located in Baileyville, was opened last year to help meet the needs of the northwest part of our service area. In addition to our general education courses, the Western Center offers technical training in Diesel Technology, Industrial Welding, Building Trades, Medical Office Assistant, and Allied Health courses.*
- *Online courses taught through HCC eLearning accounted for 26% of the College's enrollment this year.*

If the Connection is the only time you receive information about Highland Community College, please update your email address through the Alumni tab on the College's web site, [highlandcc.edu](http://highlandcc.edu) because we do various email blasts to Alumni about upcoming campus events. Or, follow us on Facebook and twitter. It's an exciting time to be a Highland Scottie. Every year we have alumni drop by campus for a visit or just a quick stop on their way to somewhere else. Please stop by when you can. We'd love to hear from you or see you and one of our events this year.



# 50 YEAR GOLDEN GRADS CLASS OF 1964

## CLASS OF 1964

The Homecoming and Alumni Day honoring the Golden Grads Class of 1964 was held on October 11th. The schedule for the event included registration and a breakfast reception at 9:00 a.m. in the Library. Classmates of 1964 and guests were offered a campus tour to see both the familiar and new buildings. The class had a special luncheon and a program which included a brief message from President David Reist. The day continued with the Class of 1964 being recognized at the Scotties football game that day at 1:00 p.m. A social gathering continued during the game in the Barber Room located in the Scottie Stadium Center overlooking the football field.



### Class of 1964 BIOGRAPHIES *Submitted*

**Wayne Roger Albertson** currently resides in Robinson, Kansas. He remembers his classmates were very friendly.

Since leaving Highland, Wayne started to farm in 1965, and was married in 1969. He has three kids who all graduated from KSU. Wayne has traveled to 23 foreign countries and as a hobby enjoys applying soil conservation to his land.

**Jerry Blevins** remembers the many different personalities; Resa from Iran to many local kids. Overall, he had a great experience with classes and football.

About his teachers, Jerry remembers that they were also a variety: From Flossie Johnson in Speech, Mrs. French in English and Larry White. Also Coach Kess (Kessinger). He remembers traveling on the bus to high schools in a music group and the crazy songs they sang while traveling.

After leaving Highland Community College, Jerry attended one semester at Pittsburg State. An opportunity to rent two farms came open and he took it, starting farming full time in 1965. During the summers, he traveled for harvest to Texas, Oklahoma, Montana, and Colorado. He continued this for thirty plus years. Jerry has been in seed sales for thirty plus years with numerous awards for top sales in the region and many trips to other countries as rewards for sales.

**Charles Wayne Bradbury** currently resides Emporia, Kansas. Charles remembers that he knew everyone and that most were from area communities.

Charles remembers the teachers were all friendly and accessible, living upstairs in Mrs. P's house, Mom's chicken salad sandwiches, table tennis, fun intramurals, and learning to study.

Since leaving Highland, Charles went on to receive his B.S.E., M.S.E., and Ed.S. from Emporia State University. He was a career teacher and school administrator, named Outstanding Young Educator in Topeka and Emporia. He married a teacher and raised two children. Also a member of Emporia Board of Education. Sits on the Professional Standards Board and the Kansas State Board of Education. Charles is also a certified Lay Servant for United Methodist Church.

**Bob Clinton** currently resides in Lawrence, Kansas. He remembers playing ping-pong in the student union, and cards, playing basketball with John (Big "O") Lucas.

Bob remembers his teachers were all interested in the good and well-being of the students. "I enjoyed Larry White's classes and Daryl Johnson's biology class."

Since leaving Highland, Bob went on to Emporia State and received his BSE from there; he received his MBA at KU. He married Jane E. Swartz June 13, 1964. Together they have three

daughters, Bonnie, Tracy, and Karla. They travel to California, watch their grandsons play ball, play golf, and enjoyed a trip to Cancun, Mexico to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary with their daughters and family.

**Jane Clinton (Swartz)** currently resides in Lawrence, Kansas. She remembers dorm life with her cousin Helen Turpin. She enjoyed knowing the Sadler twins and really enjoyed Mr. Yost's art class. All of the teachers were very helpful.

Since leaving Highland, Jane went on to Emporia State and received her BSE in 1967 and her master's in Business Education in 1992. She and Bob Clinton have been married 50 years. They raised three children who have given them eight grandchildren. Jane taught school at Eudora High for 26 years and substituted for 12 years.

**Barbara Derrick** is a veteran who retired after 41 years of teaching, Barbara Derrick is serving her second term on Riverside USD 114 Board of Education and is serving her first term on the D.C.E.C. Board. She keeps actively involved with students through Youth Friends (a volunteer/mentoring organization) with a third grade class listening to them read. She participated on with the first community theatre production as Widow Douglas in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer this past summer. Barb gives support to various organizations and students in Doniphan County and is an avid supporter of HCC providing five education scholarships annually and contributing to theatre and music.

**Adrian Hernandez** currently resides in Omaha, Nebraska with his wife Margaret. He remembers that all the students came from different backgrounds, but soon developed friendships that they still enjoy and cherish.

When asked about what he remembers about his teachers, Adrian had this to say. "The teachers were as diverse as the students. Some were wanting to fail as many students as they could, while others would go out of their way to help any student who was struggling." Adrian remembers meeting a wide variety of people from all walks of life. Some were students from rival schools, some were from other parts of the country, and some foreign exchange students, but all were classmates who became acquaintances and later friends.

Since leaving Highland, Adrian received his B.S. from the University of Omaha and his M.S. in Vocational Education from the University of NE at Omaha. Adrian is active in Omaha Jaycees, Nebraska Jaycees, US Jaycees, Hugh O' Brian Youth Leadership Foundation, Salvation Army Advisory Council, and a member of the Highland Community College Alumni Association.

He worked at Sears for 20 years in Omaha, NE; Bellevue, NE, Appleton, WI; and also Diamond Vogel for 20 years in Omaha. He married Margaret Lou Reid after meeting her at Sears. They have been married 40 years. Together they have two children, Adrian Charles who works for Southwest Airlines as a supervisor in Atlanta and Sarah Marie Greer who has her M.S. in Music Therapy, UMKC in Kansas City, MO. She is currently working on her M.S. in Speech Therapy, UNO. They enjoy traveling. He has visited 46 of the 50 states, Europe, Canada, Mexico, and Central America.

**John Knudson** currently resides in Robinson, Kansas. Since leaving Highland, John received his BS degree from Northwest Missouri State University. He also met his wife there and they were married after graduation. They spent the next 45 years farming in the Everest- Robinson area. John is now semi-retired, helping his son with the farming.

**Thomas Smith** currently resides in Highland, Kansas Tom was very active in football and track, was Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, was a member of the H club.

Since leaving Highland Community College, Tom received his BS from Emporia State and his MS from Northwest. He worked for Troy High School and farmed. He then found his way back to Highland Community College as the Assistant Football Coach and later became the Athletic Director and taught Physical Science. Tom then retired and he and Elizabeth moved to Denton, Texas, where they continued to work for nine more years. They really enjoyed being close to their sons, Phillip and Paul, and their families. They are blessed with five grandchildren and granddaughter in law. They recently moved back to Highland and are now officially retired. Currently Tom is serving on the HCC Board of Trustees. They are happy to be back home!

**Barbara Smith (Sinclair)** currently resides in Atchison, Kansas. She remembers that her classmates were studious, some were cheerleaders. They liked life in Rubeti House. She remembers her teachers as willing to help.

Since leaving Highland, Barbara ran Eagle Federal Credit Union for 17 years and Ball Brothers Drug Store as a clerk in Pharmacy for 13 years. She raised two children, Jeannette and Timothy. She has nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**Charlie Woldt** remembers that his classmates had really nice cars at the time, and now, after all these years are even nicer. Charlie also remembers meeting some mighty fine ladies!!

About his teachers while at Highland, Charlie says "Mr. White was strict and gave out a lot of homework. His tests were hard! Mrs. Johnson was a sweet lady and Mr. Percy, well, what can I say!?"

Remembering his days here at Highland Community College, Charlie said "that he got to meet a lot of interesting people and becoming friends with them. Highland is a nice little town."

Since leaving Highland Community College, Charlie graduated from ESU with his BS in Business and, spent two years in the Army. Charlie is married with three children and three super grandkids. He is now retired from the State of Kansas (Dept. of Transportation) and is enjoying retirement life.

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

### TRACY STREETER '82

Tracy Streeter ('82) has served as the Director of the Kansas Water Office, the state's water planning, policy and coordination agency since 2004. Tracy was re-appointed by Governor Sam Brownback on December 31, 2010 and served previously for Governors Kathleen Sebelius and Mark Parkinson. Before joining KWO, he served as Executive Director of the State Conservation Commission. Tracy has 29 years of experience in Kansas water resources management.



Tracy serves as Chair of the Governor's Drought Response Team and represents the State of Kansas on the Missouri River Association of States and Tribes (MORAST) and Western States Water Council. In 2013, he was appointed by the Governor to co-lead the development of a 50 Year Water Vision for Kansas along with the Kansas Secretary of Agriculture. Tracy is dedicated to the management, conservation, and development of water resources of the state. He believes it is essential to protect, extend, and conserve the vital resource for future generations while also supporting the Kansas economy.

A native Kansan, Tracy grew up on a diversified family farm in Brown County and graduated from Horton High School. After getting his associates degree from Highland, he transferred to Missouri Western State University and obtained Bachelor of Science degrees in Agriculture and Agriculture Economics. Tracy later earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Kansas. While at Highland, Tracy played defensive back on the Scottie football team.

Tracy and his wife Denise live in Valley Falls where she serves as City Administrator. They have been married for 25 years and have two children, Mitchell and Morgan, who are 2015 graduates of Pittsburg State and Kansas State University. Tracy served eight years on the Valley Falls Board of Education and is a private pilot.

### MIRANDA WILGERS '11

After graduating from Highland, Miranda completed her bachelor's degree at Kansas State University where she majored in Marketing and got a minor in Hotel and Restaurant Management. While at K-State, she took one semester off to do the Disney College Program at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL. At Disney World, she worked in the gift shop at the Caribbean Beach Resort. After graduating from Kansas State, she accepted a position with Drury Hotels to be a part of their Manager in Training Program.



After moving to Nashville, TN, she began working at the Drury Inn airport location. She spent a week in each department learning everything from how to properly clean a guest room to how to make eggs at breakfast to putting together daily paperwork. Once she completed training, she became the Assistant General Manager at the Drury Inn in Bowling Green. She is happy to report that during her time there, she and her staff have been very successful in improving their scores (based on guest surveys) and performance. Miranda has also assisted the Drury Inn's recruiting department by attending the career fair at Kansas State University and offering advice on ways to improve the Manager in Training program (she was one of the first five people to complete the program).

### Alumni Support

To learn more about how you can become an Alumni Association member and donate to the Alumni Scholarship contact Kelly Twombly, Director of Alumni Services at [ktwombly@highlandcc.edu](mailto:ktwombly@highlandcc.edu) or 785.442.6018 ■

## CLASS NOTES

### 1960

**Bob Roller** joined the Navy after graduating. He got married and was stationed at Pearl Harbor for three years. After the Navy, Bob went to work in the wholesale fabric business for 14 years. Looking for a change, Bob then went into transportation, ended up Transportation Manager for Fleming Foods of Kansas City, which is at that time was the largest food wholesaler in the world. He then retired, moved to Warsaw, MO, and is enjoying life. He and his wife have three daughters, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-granddaughters.

### 1962

**James Koelliker** attended HCC for one year before transferring to Kansas State University College of Engineering. James graduated from KSU with a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering in 1967, then received his master's degree in Water Resources in 1969, and his PhD in Engineering in 1972, both from Iowa State University. James served his country in the USAF as a Civil Engineering Officer from 1971-73. Subsequently, he served 37 years as a faculty member in Engineering. James retired from Kansas State in 2010.

**Richard Szura** taught at Fair Lawn High School in New Jersey and is now retired.

### 1965

**Mary (McQueen) Howard** is a retired nurse and is married to Don, who is a self-employed farmer.

**Dhea Margo Tilton-Looper** married her high school sweetheart, **Larry R. Tilton ('64)**. Larry was a teacher and a coach for USD 377 (Effingham) until he retired in 1998. Larry passed away in July 1999. Margo worked as a para-professional, and then a high school secretary/bookkeeper for ACCHS until she retired in 2005. Margo does a lot of volunteer work and has traveled extensively since retiring. Margo married Frederick W. Looper from Holt, MO on September 13, 2013.

**Dale Williams** is a self-employed, retired farmer and is married to **Karla (Strube) ('65)**.

### 1966

**Betty (Hartman) Davis** graduated from Emporia State University with a bachelor's degree in Education in 1968. She worked for Kansas City, KS school district, West Sacramento, CA school district, Campbell Soup Company, Sacramento, CA and Honeywell Inc. in Kansas City, MO for 30 years before retiring. Betty has one son, Todd and 3 grandchildren. She now resides on Cape Cod in Barnstable, MA. Betty is also a Breast Cancer Survivor since 2001.

### 1968

**Richard Honeyman** owns a car dealership in Seneca, KS.

### 1970

**Susan (Jeschke) Calloway** was inducted as one of the 76 Fellows of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners at the AANP annual conference in Nashville, TN, June 19, 2014. She is on the faculty of Frontier Nursing University and has a private psychiatry practice. MSN-UT Austin, post-MSN-UTHSC San Antonio, PHD-University of Missouri, post doc-UTHSC San Antonio.

### 1973

**Joan (Fitzgerald) Smith** was involved in art and music while at HCC. She worked for Walter Yost, Bill Buffington, and Mom Johnson. Joan has three daughters and six grandchildren. She retired from AT&T and is enjoying time for hobbies.

### 1975

**Susan (Albers) Chambers** is a retired Registered Nurse.

### 1977

**Susan (Fuhrman) Willey** is currently Director for Via Vhristi Health. Her husband, Marshall, is a custom cabinetmaker and is self-employed.

### 1982

**Jan Dittmore** was involved in Lads & Lassies, Drill Team, and Phi Beta Lambda. She currently is in Human Resources.

### 1983

**Colin Mattox** works for Protect Control, Inc. and is the Vice President of Production. He is the owner and coach of Cy-Select Wrestling Club, a national travel team for youth wrestling.

### 1985

**Stephen Barbee** was married May 24, 2014 and became the Pastor of Grace United Communities Ministries. Steve has served in many different ministries: Chicago, Topeka, Lawrence, and Kansas City. Steve is father to 1 son, 2 daughters, and a grandfather to twin girls.

**Jerry Clary** works for the Brown County Sheriff's Office and is married to wife, **Mary (Middleton) ('85)**.

**Mary (Middleton) Clary** is married to husband, Jerry, and works as District Director of Support Services at USD 415 Hiawatha.

**Derek Petty** works for Hanford Joint Union as a teacher and boys basketball coach. He has been teaching for 15 years and coaching for 20 years.

**Kevin Williams** resides in Everton, Missouri.

### 1986

**Christopher Ebert** graduated from Kansas State University with a B.S. in Agronomy. He married Julie Martin in 1994. He has three children, Austin 19, Emily 17, and Adam 15.

Christopher currently works for AG Chemical Company, Valent USA, for the past 15 years, covering the state of Kansas.

**Dennis Hower** was a para educator in the Topeka Public schools for several years and really enjoyed working with the kids. One of his first jobs out of college was working at the Capper Foundation in Topeka. Dennis became involved with a sport called Boccia as a volunteer coach. Becoming a coach allowed him to travel all over the country as well as England, Canada, and Australia. While overseas, Dennis was an international referee, as well as being chosen to be part of the coaching and support staff for Team USA Boccia on a few occasions.

### 1987

**Jerome Stone** is an attorney and partner in the law firm of Stone & Capobianco, in Stuart, FL, where they practice Sports & Entertainment, Personal Injury, Criminal Defense, and Family. Jerome is a certified NFL and NBA sports agent.

### 1990

**John Cluck** is a pilot for Southwest Airlines and an entrepreneur in Doniphan County.

### 1992

**Robert Olmsted** is the owner of Olmsted Real Estate in Beattie, KS. He and his wife Veronica have two children.

### 1993

**Kevin Hayward** works for the University of Missouri as their Director of Business Operations.

### 1995

**Bethany Buckingham-Folett** moved to Alaska in 2008 where she met her husband, Lynn. They were married in 2012. They have 23 sled dogs and are training to compete in sled dog racing. They have a sled dog, Tikanni, that works at the Dorthy G. Page Museum giving demonstrations on sled dogs and the mushing culture of Alaska. She is also training as a search and rescue K9. Bethany and her husband enjoy hunting, fishing, and hiking in Alaska.

**Curtis Windmeyer** is Manager of Wilbur-Ellis Company. He is married to Sarah (Gilfillan) ('01). They reside in Hiawatha, KS.

### 1996

**Troy Campbell** went on to continue his education at Eastern Michigan University where he earned his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Troy played Division I football from 1996-1998 and was honored as Most Valuable Defensive Player in 1998; also led the MAC conference in total sacks with 8 in 1998. Currently, Troy is employed with the city of Greensboro, NC, as a Police Officer. Troy is married with two boys. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

# CLASS NOTES

**Debbie (Grove) Field** works for Golden Eagle Casino as a cashier.

**Julie (Birkinsha) Irwin** is married to husband, Tracey. She works at Wal-Mart in the accounting office.

**Jeremy Williams** competes in BBQ contests.

## 1997

**Amanda (Baxter) Moore** is married to husband Brian and resides in Topeka, KS.

## 1999

**Kristi (Kelley) Blevins** is married to husband Rick ('86). Kristi works at Highland Community College as the Financial Aid /Registrar Clerk.

## 2000

**Michelle (Lockhart) Sunderstrom** is married to husband, Craig, and welcomed son, Henry Craig, on January 20, 2015. Michelle is currently a Higher Education Enrollment and Marketing Consultant for RuffaloCODY.

## 2001

**Curtis Albers** is married to wife, Jaime, who is HCC's graphic artist, and welcomed baby girl, Claire Annmarie, on June 17, 2014. She was welcomed by big brother Cooper. Curtis is employed by Frontier Chemical, Performance Ag in Troy, KS.

**Jennifer (Chase) Wilson** received a Physical Education degree in 2004 from Washburn University. She is married, with 2 children, and happily living in Topeka, KS.

**Sarah (Giffilan) Windmeyer** works for James Scherer, CPA, as a Certified Public Accountant. She is married to **Curtis ('95)** who is employed by Wilbur-Ellis Company.

## 2002

**Rilie (Kafer) Tilley** is glad to be back home in Highland, Kansas, working at Highland Community College.

## 2004

**Megan (Wohlgemuth) Bodenhausen** is married to husband, Chris, and has a 3 year old son.

**Shannon (Davis) Wiedmer** is married to husband, Bryson, and resides in Troy, KS.

## 2005

**Hillary (Bauman) Rowenhorst** is owner of Hill Top Chiropractic in Boulder, CO, and has a son, Denton James, born on March 24, 2014.

**Eronne Schrader** has two daughters, Brinlee born in 2013 and Keira born in 2014.

## 2008

**Bridget Glynn** graduated from Kansas State University with a B.S. in General Human Ecology in 2011, the University of Kansas Medical Center with a B.S. in Occupational Studies in 2012, and the University of Kansas Medical Center with a Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) degree in 2014. Currently, she is working as a pediatric occupational therapist at a pediatric outpatient therapy clinic in Fayetteville, AR.

## 2009

**Brandon Jennings** is married with children.

## 2010

**Spencer Gene Barrett** was involved in band, vocal, and music theory while attending HCC. He continues to write music for the piano, pipe organ, and vocals.

**Megan (Brobst) Massey** was married February 13, 2010 and has two sons, Landyn and Ryker. Megan works at Highland Community College.

## 2011

**Colton Bauman** attended Washburn University after HCC.

**Sara (Mathewson) Ostmeyer** is in her second year of teaching English and coaching volleyball.

## 2012

**Olivia (Garrett) Beatty** is married to husband, Jacob and lives in Wamego, KS, where Jacob works as a commercial pipefitter. They have twin two year olds, Jack and Eloise.

**Hannah Mason** transferred to Midwestern Baptist College after HCC. She traveled to Africa to teach ESL, came back fall of 2013 to Saint Joseph, MO, to finish her bachelor's in Business Management at MWSU Craig School of Business. There she participated in the Dean's Student Advisory Board. Hannah is currently employed with a Niche of Time Jewelry Inc. as a Sales Associate and Event Planner. In May, 2014 Hannah traveled to Las Vegas for the JCK Jewelry show.

## 2013

**Justine Culver** will be graduating from the University of Kansas in 2015. She is finishing a double major in Applied Behavioral Science and Creative Writing.

# ANNIVERSARIES

**John Batchelder ('41)** and wife Dorothy celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on September 12, 2014

**Sidney and Wilma Jeanne (Peabody) Hargis ('44)** celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary June 23, 2014

**Roger Caudle ('60)** and wife Donna celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 21, 2014

**Jerry Bryan ('63)** and wife Wanda celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 12, 2014

**David Hundley ('74)** and wife Stephanie celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary September 23, 2014

Vernon J. and **Kathryn A. (Cummings) Carter ('75)** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary February 3, 2014

**Don ('86) and Jill (Jerrett) Huss ('86)** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary July 21, 2014

**Jerry ('89) and Amy Masters ('99)** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary July 22, 2014

**Harold ('98) and Carol Bauer ('98)** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 19, 2014

# WEDDINGS

**Marjorie Neibling Hinton ('74)** married Waldo Clifford Martin III, March 8, 2014

**Brandon Geiger ('05)** and Blair Cummings were married November 1, 2014. Brandon is employed with Wilbur Ellis as a Sales Agronomist. He is also engaged in farming.

**Kole McCauley ('08)** and Whitney Stock were married June 14, 2014. Kole is engaged in farming and they reside in Leona, KS.

**Kendra Kay Myers ('09)** and Matthew Clark were married September 27, 2014. They reside in the Effingham area.

**Jesse Marriott ('09) and Taylor Twombly ('09)** were married December 20, 2014. Jesse is employed with Johnson Controls and Taylor is employed at Stoney Creek Conference Center. They reside in Highland, KS.

**Felicia Bottom ('10)** and Nathan Cortez were married August 2, 2014. Felicia works full time as the administrative assistant at the Hiawatha Community Hospital and currently attends Fort Hays State University online working towards her bachelor's in marketing.

**Kaley Witham ('10)** and Jesse Clark were married February 28, 2015 and they reside in Robinson, KS.

**Stephanie Myers ('11)** and Jake Burge were married June 7, 2014. They reside in the Overland Park area.

**Valerie Neibling ('11)** and Roman Palmer were married December 14, 2014. They reside in rural Doniphan County, Kansas.



# CLASS NOTES

**Jill Sarver ('11)** married John Morrison on December 13, 2014. They reside in Wathena, KS.

**Jaymi Kinzer ('12)** and Coby Cummings were married, March 16, 2014. They reside in Lancaster, KS.

**Tyler David Myer ('13) and Stefanie Brooke Weatherford ('13)** were married October 25, 2014. Tyler is employed as an electrician and Stephanie is employed as an LPN at Fort Leavenworth.

## BIRTHS

**John Cluck ('90)** and wife Heather welcomed TWINS, John "Archer" and Piper on August 19, 2014.

**Matt Aller ('99)** and wife Ingrid welcomed a baby girl, Alexis Mirage Aller, on May 7, 2014.

**Curtis Albers ('01)** and wife Jaime welcomed their second child, Claire Annmarie, June 17, 2014.

Chad and **Heather (Foley) Clark ('01)** welcomed a baby girl, Halle Elise, May 6, 2014.

**Dallas ('01) and Andrea (Collins) Keller ('01)** welcomed their third child, Tayla Louise, November 22, 2014.

Paul and **Rebecca (Twombly) Glaser ('02)** welcomed a son, Jeffrey William, born September 5, 2014.

**Eric Fuhrman ('03)** and Heather Turco welcomed a baby girl, Henley Reece, on April 21, 2014.

**Jenise Laipple ('03)** welcomed a baby girl, Hannah Renee, on April 4, 2014.

Derek and **Shelly (Becker) Jones ('05)** welcomed a baby boy, Cain Alexander, on June 22, 2014

Topher and **Hillary (Bauman) Rowenhorst ('05)** welcomed a baby boy, Denton James, on March 24, 2014.

**Michael Cluck ('05)** and wife Bethany welcomed their second daughter Emma Grace, February 18, 2015.

**Jordan Hord ('10)** welcomed a baby girl with Patrick Bishop, Mckayla Bishop, on December 11, 2014.

Justin and **Chelsa (Jacobson) Harmon ('11)** welcomed a baby boy on June 10, 2014.

Devon Low and **Ashley Eagle ('11)** welcomed a baby boy on May 12, 2014.

Jack and **Ariel (Meisenheimer) Blanton ('11)** welcomed a baby boy, June 18, 2014.

**Corbin ('11) and Whitney Schultz ('11)** welcomed their son, Asher Michael, December 31, 2014

## DEATHS

**Bernice Veach ('39)** passed away February 1, 2015.

**Ward Henry ('40)** passed away December 31, 2014. He was 94.

**William Eugene "Bill" French ('48)** passed away December 16, 2014. He was 87.

**Betty Kathleen (Windmeyer) Hartley ('51)** passed away October 26, 2014. She was 88.

**Gilbert Eugene "Gene" Long ('54)** passed away February 12, 2015. He was 88.

**Harold E. Stirton ('55)** passed away May 6, 2014. He was 84.

**Carolyn Kay (Miller) Dolton ('57)** passed away October 10, 2014. She was 76.

**Lawrence Lee (Smiley) Blanton Jr ('63)** passed away November 15, 2014. He was 70

**Linda (Engeman) Prater ('66)** passed away February 26, 2015. She was 51.

**Clyde Robert Strine ('67)** passed away July 1, 2014. He was 67.

**Archie Doyle Crossland ('81)** passed away June 10, 2014. He was 82.

**Leigh Ann (Blevins) Twombly ('84)** passed away July 24, 2014. She was 49.

**Toby T. Stone ('97)** passed away June 8, 2014. He was 37.

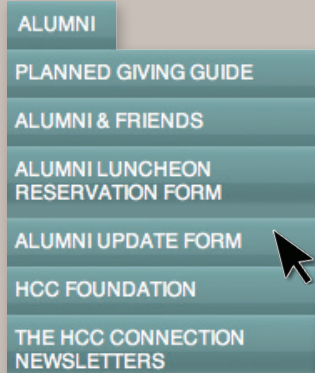
**Eugene Lee Moppin ('08)** passed away December 15, 2014. He was 58.

**Andrew Clary ('08)** passed away January 24, 2015. He was 36.

## KEEP US INFORMED & STAY CONNECTED

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# HIGHLAND ATHLETICS

## FOOTBALL

In his first year as head coach of the Scotties, Aaron Arnold had a memorable opening game. The Scotties fell to his alma mater, Garden City, by three points. They experienced a season marked by excitement and disappointment, and ended successfully with a dominant win over Dodge City. Arnold finished his opening year with a six-win season that enhanced many of his sophomores' abilities to play at the next level and a solid base of experienced freshmen returning for the 2015 season.

## CROSS COUNTRY

The men's cross country team completed its record-setting season with the highest NJCAA Division I National Meet finish in the College's history by placing 14th in the 48 team field. Sophomore Brian Martinez (Pasadena, TX) finished in 31st place and earned his second Cross Country All-American honor. Martinez was followed by teammates Ronnie Carroll (Smyrna, DE), Rey Quinones-Velez (Clermont, FL), Fernando Lucero (Rio Rancho, NM), Christian Salazar (San Antonio, TX), Derrick Zaldivar (Topeka), and Coner Reed (Dadeville, AL).

The 2014 edition under head coach Chad Clevenger saw several HCC institutional records fall. Martinez broke the individual school record time (25:21) and has established himself as one of the most successful distance runners to ever wear a Highland uniform. The entire team ran the fastest combined team time ever (26:10). This year's team also had the highest Conference and Regional finish. The men finished the season by breaking the latest record of highest national finish. This team also held the distinction of being nationally ranked in every weekly National poll.

On the women's side, Courtney Armon, a freshman from Farmington, MO, ran a season and career best time at the NJCAA Division I Cross Country Meet held in Lubbock, TX. Her time of 19:57 surpassed the goal time she had set for the season of 20:00, and she placed 83 in a field of 267 runners. With that success, Armon moves to 8th place on the College's all-time list for the 5K event. Womens' cross country coach Tom Bond is looking forward to having Armon return in 2015 and move up even higher on that list.

## VOLLEYBALL

Jon Bingesser has assumed the duties of head volleyball coach at Highland Community College. Bingesser comes to the College from Salina where he was the head volleyball coach at Salina South. He has also served as the head volleyball coach at USD 431 in Hoisington and USD 246 in Arma. In addition, he coached the Southwind Rising Volleyball Club in Lenexa and the Central Kansas Volleyball Club in Hoisington. In his coaching career, he has over 100 varsity coaching wins, two league titles, two sub-state championships, a fourth place finish at state, and two regional club runner-up titles.

A native of Beloit, Bingesser has a bachelor's degree and teaching certificate in psychology from Pittsburg State University. He comes from an athletic family as both his parents and his sister were college athletes and coaches. Bingesser began his new duties at the College on January 5.

## BASKETBALL

Both the men's and women's basketball programs qualified for post-season play, with the Highland women opening post-season play as the #3 seed and the men seeded #6. Coach BJ Smith's women won their opening round, but dropped the second round to KCK who then lost to Johnson County in the Region. Johnson went on to win the national title. It was generally agreed that the three top teams in the country came from this region: Highland, KCK, and Johnson. Coach Jerre Cole's men missed advancing beyond the first round.

## SOFTBALL

Heidi Jordan reached the 350 wins mark at Highland Community College with the Scotties win over Allen County. Jordan is in her tenth season as the head softball coach at Highland; she is assisted by her husband, Scott. Jordan, who is a Highland alumnae, graduating in 2000, started the new millennium off right as she was named All Conference and All Region as a pitcher and designated hitter. After completing her degree at Highland, Jordan received her bachelor's degree from Missouri Western State University in 2002, and then quickly returned to the Scotties as the assistant softball coach in 2003 before assuming the head coach position in 2004.

Jordan has been highly successful with the Scotties, coming into the current season needing only five wins to reach 350. She has taken the Scotties to five consecutive NJCAA National Tournaments. Her colleagues in the Eastern Division of the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference recognized her as the Coach of the Year in 2006 when her Scotties achieved a 33-23 record after going 13-30 the year before.

Scottie softball entered post-season play yet again under Jordan, earning the #1 seed and progressing to the Region VI playoffs in Topeka with a two-game sweep of Brown Mackie in the first round.



Photo credited to Deb Weaver

# ALUMNI GAMES 2015



## HIGHLAND ALUMNI GAMES

Held August 23, 2014

Highland Community College welcomed back record numbers of graduates and friends for its annual Alumni Games event on August 23. Over 100 alumni registered to participate in the games, which pit alumni who played the sport against the current Scottie squads, and many more played, but just didn't register. In addition, the HCC Alumni Association had 26 volunteers who assisted Kelly Twombly, Director of Alumni Services, and Administrative Assistant Dawn Fleishans in the administration of the Games.

Alumni Games began at 9:00 with registration in the Barber Room of the Scottie Stadium Center. Registering alums were able to spin the KNZA wheel to collect Highland memorabilia. The Games then started at 10:00 am with a 5K run of cross country runners at the Klinefelter Farm. Baseball followed at 11:00 am and volleyball alumni vs alumni at noon. Softball filled the rest of the afternoon and all these contests proved to be highly competitive. The day's activities concluded with a controlled scrimmage of the current football team. Unofficially, the day's activities actually concluded with informal gatherings downtown at Ernie's as alums shared memories of the good ol' days.

## ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Held September 13, 2014

The Highland Community College Athletic Hall of Fame Committee announced its 2014 candidate for induction in the Hall of Fame: Paul Stanley Simmons.

Simmons came to Highland after graduating from Midway High School in 1965. He went on from Highland to receive his Bachelor's degree from Fort Hays State University in 1969. While at Highland, he participated in football, basketball, and track in 1965 and '66 and helped win the Conference in football both years.

Paul married Mary Miller Simmons in 1966. They have four children, Dave, Paula, Barry, and Tammy, and have six grandchildren. In addition to farming, Paul owned and operated P&S Muffler & Radiator Shop in Hiawatha. He retired in 2010, and loves spending time with his grandchildren, who are the light of his life. Paul noted, "If I had it all to do over again, I wouldn't change a thing!"

Along with Simmons' induction, a reception and recognition was conducted of the 1984 Scottie football team which had the most wins in a season.



## Highland Community College Western Center

In its first year of operation, the College's new Western Center in Baileyville hit the ground running under its director, Cara Baker, and her competent staff. The Industrial Welding Technology program earned a federal grant for the purchase of instructional equipment and the Diesel Technology program gained donations and local support as the programs were an immediate hit with area high schools and companies. Those programs will continue to grow as the area school districts get comfortable with scheduling the Western Center classes during the regular school day for their students. Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA) and Certified Medication Aide (CMA), as well as coursework in Early Childhood Development, also are underway. Opportunities in Manufacturing Technology, Engineering Graphics, and Precision Agriculture are waiting in the wings.

Part of the College Title III federal grant, Precision Agriculture is a much-anticipated addition to the College's curriculum. It will be coming in the Fall of 2016, and College officials are aligning with area corporations and farmers to develop the curriculum and support to make this program an immediate success in the College's entire service area.



## Highland Student Receives Coca-Cola Scholarship

Thaina Dos Santos Jensen, a Topeka sophomore, recently traveled to the American Association of Community College's (AACC) Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX, to be recognized as a 2015 Coca-Cola New Century Scholar and formally receive her award. She was joined by Highland president David Reist and her Phi Theta Kappa sponsors, instructors Margy Heddens and Harry Moeller.

Dos Santos Jensen won the award by being the top scoring student in Kansas for the 2015 Coca-Cola New Century Scholar program. This program is sponsored by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, with additional support provided by the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa. Selection was based on the score earned in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition, for which more than 1,700 applications were received this year. A panel of judges made the selections based on their evaluation of the students' academic achievement, leadership, service, and how students extended their intellectual talents beyond the classroom, specifically the student's response to a significant endeavor.

As a Coca-Cola New Century Scholar, Dos Santos Jensen was presented with a \$2,000 scholarship from the Coca-Cola Foundation and Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. Dos Santos Jensen and the other New Century Scholars were recognized at the Annual Phi Theta Kappa Presidents Breakfast held during the AACC Convention. Additionally, Dos Santos Jensen was recognized at Phi Theta Kappa's (PTK) Annual Convention, also in San Antonio.



## NOTABLE RETIREMENTS

**Brenda Hines** After teaching English at the College for 46 years, Brenda Hines announced her retirement at the end of the Spring semester. Brenda also taught Philosophy and Ethics, sponsored PTK at one time, compiled and edited a couple of employee, in-house newsletters, and served as an instructional mentor to numerous new faculty at the College.



In her years of service at the College, she served under eight presidents: Tony Woodrum, Jack Nutt, Bill Spencer, Larry Devane, Walt Browe (interim), Eric Priest, Betty Stevens, and David Reist. Current President David Reist, who was previously a Dean and Vice President, noted that he often sought information from Brenda on how he was doing and knew he was going to get an honest answer.

**Joyce C. Rush** A retired school teacher, Joyce C. Rush knew she wanted to continue being involved in education in a manner where she could make a difference. A position on the College's Board of Trustees was just the ticket. There are six Trustees on the College Board, elected by the citizens of Doniphan County. Joyce was first elected in 1991 and will conclude her service as a Trustee on July 1, 2015. In her 24 years of service, she served the last 18 as Board Chair. During her tenure on the Board, there were three presidents at the College: Eric Priest, Betty Stevens, and David Reist.



## COLLEGE FACULTY/STAFF IN THE NEWS

During the quarterly Kansas State Board of Nursing Education Board Meeting held on March 24, the College's **nursing program** was recognized for the distinction of having its RN class of 2014 have a 100 percent first time pass rate on the licensure exam. The Highland program was the only program to achieve this accomplishment out of all of the RN programs in the state of Kansas, which includes Associate Degree in Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs. This was truly a distinctive recognition.

HCC Nursing Program is above the national average for both RN & PN programs and in the top 35% of all Kansas practical nursing programs.

An adjunct instructor for the College was named one of five theatre instructors in the nation to receive the Hawkins Award from the Educational Theatre Association.

**Jennifer Morgan-Beuchat**, the director of theatre at Jefferson County North, submitted an essay on the importance of theatre and advocacy for the arts that won her the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. in March to be part of the Association's training on advocating for the arts. While in Washington, Morgan-Beuchat was part of the Association's delegation that visited with members of Congress about the importance of the arts in our schools and communities. This is an especially crucial topic as the nation and states are looking for ways to cut educational funding.

Morgan-Beuchat worked with Sam Smith, Highland's director of theatre, on the current elements of program review for the College's theatre program. These conversations promote the professional relationship between the College and its adjunct instructors that the College would like to replicate with all its instructors. Adjunct instructors – professionals employed by the College to teach on a part-time basis – are a growing and important segment of college operations. Through her role as a high school instructor, and even more so as a Hawkins Award winner --with the experiences that Award will provide -- Morgan-Beuchat is able to give Smith and the College a more specific perspective on the educational needs of future Highland students and a unique perspective on the value of arts in the school and the community.

**Dr. Erin Shaw**, Highland Community College Perry Center Director, received the 2015 Barbara K. Townsend Dissertation Award last week at the 13th Annual Conference of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) in Atlanta, Georgia.



Shaw's dissertation was a transcendental phenomenology titled Sense Making for Community College Transfers Entering a Public, Liberal Arts University. Her study focused on the experiences of mid-year community college transfer students as they entered and made sense of a public, liberal arts university.

Transcendental phenomenology refers primarily to re-research into a topic and the special method of finding the basic components to describe that topic. Dr. Shaw explored how her participants came to be community college transfer students, their transition experience, and their reflections on what being a transfer student meant to them. The essences of the experience of being a mid-year community college transfer student included: facing academic challenges, finding balance, becoming independent, feeling lost, and feeling pressed for time.

Two members of the Highland faculty have been honored by their selection as recipients of Scholarship Awards from the Kansas Council of Instructional Administrators (KCIA). Mathematics instructor **Lauren Jacobs** at the College's Perry Center and **Melissa Cook**, a nursing instructor at the HCC Technical Center in Atchison are two of the four recipients of this year's \$1000 awards to community and technical college faculty in Kansas based on the quality of their applications.

Melissa Cook is a faculty member in the LPN program at the College. She used the scholarship to attend the ATI National Nurse Educator Summit in San Diego. Cook noted she was seeking to improve her leadership skills, help her teach nursing students the importance of ATI testing, and how to better utilize it so that more students pass their state board exams (Ed: must have worked, see story on nursing faculty) and are able to obtain licensure. "Kansas higher education already produces great nurses; I would like my institution to become the best technical education program for nurses in the state."



Lauren Jacobs is a mathematics faculty member at Highland's Perry Center. A recent winner of the Bruning Award from the HCC Foundation that she used to learn about the concept of a "flipped classroom" where she recorded her lectures for students to view out of class and then used class time to help them with homework, she used the KCIA scholarship to attend the FlipCon15 at Michigan State University. FlipCon is an annual conference dedicated to applications of a flipped classroom and networking among educators using different styles of



flipped classrooms. She noted that last year's conference (funded by the Bruning Award) taught her enough to get started, and attending another conference will enhance her techniques. "As a leader for my fellow educators, I shared my education from the three-day conference, as well as my own experience flipping my classes. By next summer, I will have two semesters of flipped classes, and I have already learned from my first semester's experience with the new model."

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

### 2015 ALUMNI GAMES

August 22nd, 2015

For more information:

[www.highlandcc.edu/pages/alumnifriends](http://www.highlandcc.edu/pages/alumnifriends)

Join us for a fun Alumni event. The 5K Run/Walk kicks off at 10:30am at the Klinefelter Farm Trails. Sporting events take place after. A social gathering will take place at Ernies Bar & Grill in the evening.

### ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

September 19th, 2015

A ceremony will be held at Walters Wellness Center on the Highland Community College campus. This year's nominee is Thelma Schmitz Strathman. The volleyball team of 1982 will also be honored at the event. Recognition will take place during half time of the football game on Kessinger field.

### HOMECOMING/GOLDEN GRAD LUNCHEON

October 3rd, 2015

To make reservation:

[highlandcc.edu/pages/alumni-luncheon-reservation-form](http://highlandcc.edu/pages/alumni-luncheon-reservation-form)

Make your reservations now for the October 3 Alumni Day/Homecoming Luncheon. Class of 1965 tickets are free - Guests will need a paid ticket. Register online and get more information on our website about the event.



Left Front to Back: Jim Hosier, Ted Collins, Shawn Loyd, Right Front to Back: Mike Hundley, Louise Regenstein, Gene Bauer, Ed Webb, Steve Reichle



Back Left to Right: Tom Smith, Jason Taylor, Vernie Coy, Carl Tharman, Front Left to Right: Joyce C. Rush, Joyce Simpson

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**FOLLOW US** on Facebook and Twitter for up-to-date news and events about HCC.

 **Highland Scotties Alumni Association**

 **@HighlandAlumni**

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*If check is included please return in an envelope to Highland Community College.*