

SUMMER 2012

# Civitas

Central College

## PARTY POLITICS

alumni act on their ideals

## THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

the price and value of liberal arts



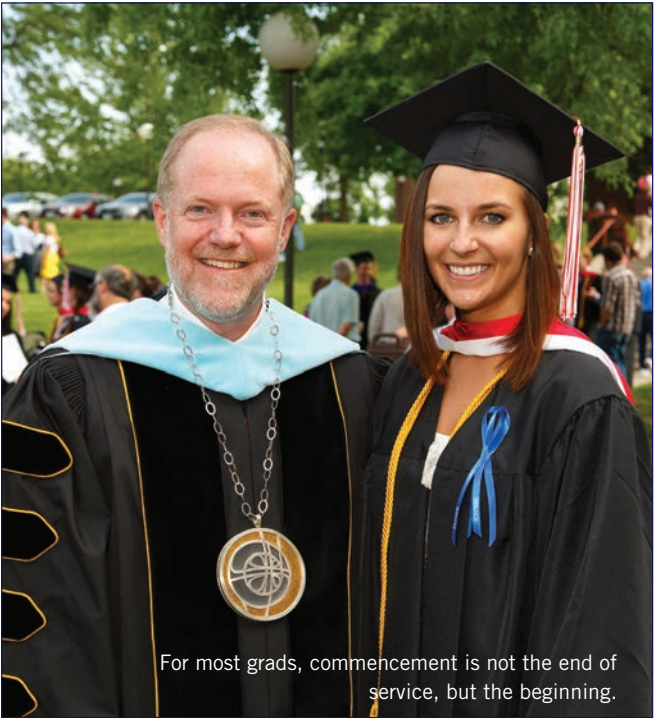


# An Army of Activists

by Mark Putnam, Central College president



Photos by Dan Vander Beek



For most grads, commencement is not the end of service, but the beginning.

Commencement is always a time of renewal for me. As families celebrate many accomplishments, I have an opportunity to hear their stories. They remind me about the vast changes that occur in the lives of students as they journey through four years of college. Through evolving academic interests, study abroad opportunities, athletic competition, music ensembles and service-learning, our graduates blend knowledge, skill and experience. The most common phrase I hear from graduating seniors is: “I got to do so many things.”

As I meet with alumni around the world, I hear the echoes of that shared experience. The graduates from the 1980s greet those from more recent classes and begin to talk about the things they share across time. The memories of a choir tour, the conference tournament and a semester in Europe bring a recognition that they come from the same place. Even more impressive to me is the sense today’s students and generations of alumni share something in common—they are actively engaged citizens. For some, this

is reflected in community and church involvement; for others in settings around the world. They are innovators in developing new approaches and committed to a set of values reflected in a life of service. Here are a few examples:

- A group of Central students, led by Kristin Tremper, assistant director of community-based learning, traveled to Schoharie, N.Y. in the summer to assist with rebuilding efforts and run a day camp to relieve regular community volunteers recovering from home damage caused by Hurricane Irene.
- Liz Anderson ’08 wrapped up 27 months of Peace Corps service in Cameroon in December 2011. She worked closely with an orphanage for children with disabilities in her village and spearheaded a fundraising project to help with relocation and expansion, in addition to overseeing a project to prepare the land for construction of a new dormitory.
- Curtis Brobst ’09 is serving as a secondary science educator

in Kenya through a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps. Read more at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).

- And don’t forget Cheri Trout Doane ’98, who was featured recently in Civitas. She and so many of our faculty members have ignited the passion for service in our students.

We often go to the same places in life, but we have very different journeys. Going to college is a relational experience of learning and self-discovery, not a transactional task of buying a credential to simply get the next job. The common thread is found in the values we have gained and the commitments we share. These translate into an activism each member of the Central College family expresses differently, but it’s rooted in the same experience. Our army of activists can make a profound difference in the communities we encounter. We still have the opportunity to do so many things.

Read more of Mark Putnam’s writings in President’s Corner at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).



# Civitas

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The wildlife of Kenya’s Maasai Mara reserve made for a summer Justin Snyder ’01 will never forget.

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This alum is the right-hand man of the Iowa governor, Terry Branstad.

Photo by Johnathan Quinn

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**HOME**COMING  
**FAMILY WEEKEND**  
SEPT. 28-30



# Michael Harris awarded Fulbright



Photo by Paul Gates

India is difficult to receive. Only 1,200 are awarded to U.S. scholars each year. The grant provides the opportunity for Harris to pursue a career-long interest in Buddhism.

His special focus will be the British scholar Alexander Cunningham, who excavated Buddhist sites in the mid-19th century. At the time, the religion had been gone from India for centuries, and many of the sites had been forgotten or mistaken as Hindu. Cunningham and his colleagues were the first to recognize that these sites belonged to a mainstream religion in East Asia and pinpointed India as the birthplace of Buddhism.

Harris will spend six months in India visiting the sites where Cunningham excavated, now major attractions for pilgrims. When he returns, he hopes to present his research at Asian studies conferences. More importantly, he will use the research to improve the capstone class he teaches at Central about Buddhist traditions in the Himalayas. It's a dream that was sparked 30 years ago among the people of Nepal and India.

"For me, in a strange way, this is a kind of homecoming," he says.

Read more online at  
[news.central.edu](http://news.central.edu).



## ELLEN HEITING RETIRES FROM ADMISSION OFFICE

Hearing Ellen Heiting list all the buildings she's worked in during her 38-year career is like getting a tour of Central geography both old and new. She began in the old student union (on the site of the Maytag Student Center) in 1974, working for the education department in the basement. When Geisler Library was built, the department moved there, and Heiting climbed to the second floor of the union to work for the Counseling Center and Upward Bound.

A few years later, she applied for an opening in the admission office. When she got the job, she moved her typewriter over to Aschenbrenner, a little white house on the corner of Broadway and University that's now a parking lot. Years later, the admission office took over the old biology area in Central Hall, complete with stuffed owls. The office is on the first floor—and recently got an entrance makeover and a new patio with the Phyllis Bornt Plaza.

During her career, Heiting has worked as assistant to five vice presidents of enrollment. She will retire at the end of August, a few days after her 65th birthday. "I've been working since I was 15 years old, and I'm getting tired," she says with a smile.

Heiting does have a favorite decade at Central—and no grad from other years can blame her. She especially loved the 1990s and early 2000s when her three daughters—Heather Heiting Van Wyk '94, Amanda Heiting Christiansen '99 and Jana Heiting-Doane '04—attended Central. Their interests, such as golf, creative writing, the education department and vocal combos, became newly discovered passions for her on campus. Although none of her daughters played softball at Central, Heiting has always been a huge fan. She looks forward to attending many more games in retirement.

But for years, her main passion has been the admission office, which she says is the best place to work on campus. She loves the contact she gets with students, both prospective and current. Every once



Photo by Paul Gates

in a while, she'll recognize the name of a former student worker on an application for their son or daughter.

"The impact Ellen has made on students and fellow employees is immense," says Carol Williamson, vice president for enrollment management and dean of admission. "By my calculations, she has had an influence on well over 1,200 individuals during her time here. 'Thank you' just seems like too little."

During retirement, Heiting plans to make her seven grandchildren, ages 15 years to 18 months, her first priority. Her other goal is ambitious. "I plan to read every book in the library," she says with determination.

That work ethic has made her a valuable staff member for nearly four decades. "One of the nicest compliments you can give someone is that they're a hard worker," says Heiting. "I see that in a lot of people on campus. I like to think that I've been a hard worker and that the college has gotten its money's worth out of me in 38 years."

## CENTRAL ACCEPTS WELSH STUDENTS FOR "AMERICAN YEAR"

This fall, five students will arrive on campus from Bangor University in Wales to attend Central College for the 2012-13 academic year.

Central and Bangor University recently made an agreement to allow selected Welsh students to insert an "American Year" into

their studies. The agreement is expected to last for the foreseeable future, bringing five students to Central each fall.

This is not the first time Central has welcomed students from Wales. The college regularly had groups study on campus in the 1990s.

Though all five selected students are majoring in sports science, they will be allowed to take courses in any field they please.

"I think they'll bring excellent energy to the classroom," said Anne Petrie, the class dean responsible for international students. "The exchange of ideas and perspectives will be an enriching experience for all of us."

Central students can study at Bangor University through Central College Abroad, which hosts academic programs at eight sites around the world. Central students have been studying in Wales since 1976 and at Bangor University since 2006.

## 2012 FACULTY AWARDS

Each spring, Central College recognizes faculty members for their leadership in teaching, professional development and service.

The John Wesselink Outstanding Performance Award is given in four categories.

The faculty members who earned the award in effective teaching were:

- Jennifer Diers, assistant professor of education;
- Kathy Korcheck, assistant professor of Spanish;
- Kristin Siewert, lecturer of biology.

Walter Cannon, professor of English, received the professional growth and development award.

Leslie Duinink, associate professor of exercise science, received the institutional service award.

Mitchell Lutch, assistant professor of music and director of bands, received the community service award.

In addition to these awards, Oscar Reynaga, instructor of Spanish, was honored with the Huffman Award for outstanding support of international education.



# First outright baseball title for Dutch since 1948

Photos by Dan Vander Beek



The Dutch await Seth Carson's arrival following his game-winning 3-run homer against Wartburg, one of four walk-off wins for the Iowa Conference champs.



Senior Joel Pulliam was the Iowa Conference pitcher of the year.

Ending a 64-year drought, Central pulled a surprise by rolling to an outright Iowa Conference baseball crown.

The Dutch posted a 19-5 league mark to win by a comfortable four-game margin and were 29-11 overall. Four Central players—the most ever—received first-team all-league recognition, including senior Joel Pulliam, the league's pitcher of the year. He was 8-1 with a 2.79 earned run average.

Senior shortstop Mike Furlong, junior outfielder Sam Stetzel and junior pitcher Dirk Lindaman were first-team picks, while sophomore pitcher Judson McKown was a second-team choice. Furlong was a four-time all-league honoree and set nine career records, including hits, runs and stolen bases.

Adam Stevens received coach of the year recognition for the second time.



Ethan Miller's decathlon crown was his third NCAA Division III title.

## MILLER REPEATS AS NATIONAL DECATHLON CHAMP

Capping one of the top careers in Central athletics history, senior Ethan Miller secured his second straight decathlon title at the NCAA Division III men's track and field meet in Claremont, Calif., May 26, leading the Dutch to a tie for ninth overall.

Miller, also a five-time Iowa Conference indoor and outdoor MVP, led the Dutch to their fourth straight league men's championship—and their 14th in the past 22 years.

It was anything but a smooth ride for the 11-time all-America honoree, who also captured the NCAA indoor high jump title in 2011 and was named the Division III men's field athlete of the year. Miller was injured in January and missed nearly all of the indoor season. It was a struggle returning to peak

condition, but he scored 7,017 points at the national meet to win by 230 points. Freshman Eric Larson had an impressive debut, placing fifth.

Joe Dunham was again the league coach of the year and senior sprinter Allen Scovel was the league track athlete of the year.

Meanwhile, Dunham guided the Central women to a surprising second-place league finish.

The Dutch teams had eight all-America honorees at the national meet. Senior Morgan Darrow was third in the shot put and fifth in the hammer throw. The 4x100-meter relay unit of sophomore Mitch Wagoner, junior Logan Danko, senior Kyle Wood and Scovel finished fifth—while Wood, senior Trevor Veach, freshman Alex Edwards and Scovel were sixth in the 4x400.

## CENTRAL CRUISES TO 30TH LEAGUE MEN'S GOLF TITLE

Central captured its 30th Iowa Conference men's golf crown, posting a 37-shot win at the 72-hole league tourney.

That also secured the program's 31st NCAA Division III tournament berth. The Dutch were 24th in the tourney staged at Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla.

Junior Justin Livingston finished third in the conference after a runner-up effort in 2011, while senior Matt Vegter was fourth, senior Brent Goodenow was fifth and senior Brent Messmore was 12th. Second-year coach Chad Green picked up his second league coach of the year plaque.

## HARRIS WINS LEAGUE MEN'S TENNIS HONORS

Senior Seth Harris earned all-Iowa Conference men's tennis honors in singles.

Harris compiled a 14-8 mark at the No. 1 spot, with a 6-2 league record. He

finished his Dutch career in third place in school history in singles and doubles victories.

A young Central squad was sixth in the league team tournament. Central was 11-12 overall, including 9-12 in spring season play. But the Dutch return five of their top six players for next season.

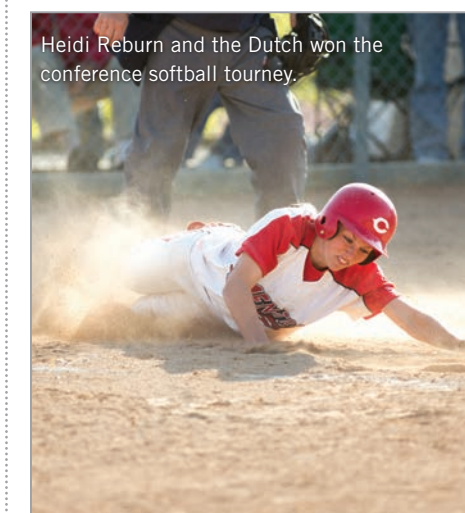
## CENTRAL GAINS 24TH NCAA SOFTBALL BERTH

The Central softball team pulled off two walk-off victories in winning three straight games in one day against nationally ranked opponents to claim its first Iowa Conference tournament title since the tourney was re-established in 2006.

In what some had forecast as a down year, Central was 36-10 and earned its 24th NCAA Division III tournament appearance. The Dutch played host to an NCAA regional, finishing fourth, and were ranked No. 9 in the final Division III national rankings.

Sophomore shortstop Annie Sarcone,

the conference position player of the year, was a second-team all-America honoree, while freshman designated player Abbey Strajack was a third-team pick. Senior second baseman, Angela Davis, became Central's second player ever to become a four-time first-team all-conference pick. Also on the first team were Sarcone and Strajack, while junior pitcher Rhianna Fleetwood and freshman third baseman Whitney Sowers were second-team honorees.



Heidi Reburn and the Dutch won the conference softball tourney.





College is the best time of your life, right? Yet somehow the summers are even better. These current and former students explored the world and their future during days of fun and fantasy.

### The Circle of Life

When Justin Snyder '01 thinks about the best summer of his life, the soundtrack that comes to mind is the Kenyan song Wapi Wei Wei, which Snyder calls “terrible.” But he ended up buying the album, because it brings back the many bus rides (the cassette tape was played by the driver) around Kenya that led him to baboons, giraffes, elephants, lions, zebras, wildebeests, impalas, monkeys and some of the most beautiful scenery he’s ever witnessed.

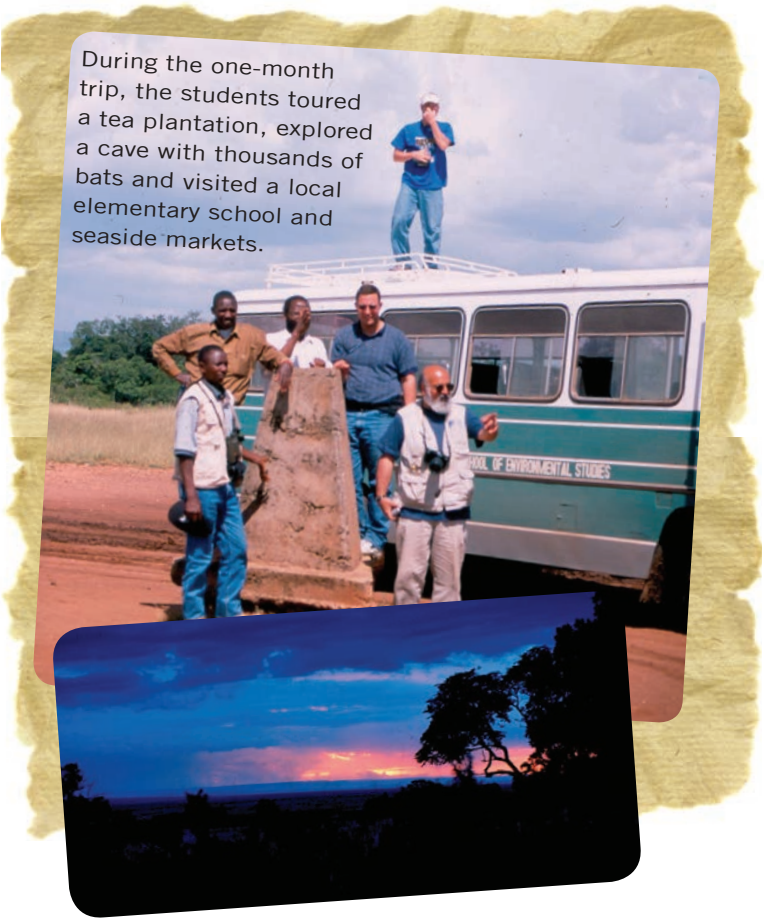
In 2001, fresh from studying in Australia, Snyder made the “no-brainer” decision to join faculty members Paul Weihe, Rex Shahriari and Dan Bruss (the latter two now retired) on the inaugural study abroad program in Kenya. Snyder had been dreaming of visiting the Great Rift Valley his entire life. When the group landed in Kenya, they encountered servants to carry their bags and hustlers to steal their money. “Besides the economic turmoil that was evident, the country was welcoming and beautiful,” says Snyder. “It definitely felt as though I was halfway across the world.”

The students were eager to explore the country. In the rainforest, guides from nearby Moi University gave them ecology lessons as they stared in awe at the creatures of the Great Rift, including a 20-foot-long crocodile. In the Maasai Mara National Reserve, two warriors, wearing khakis under their traditional dress, guarded their overnight camp from lions and hyenas and jump-roped with the students. On the savanna, they saw a migration of hundreds of zebras—all lined up in single file.

“The animals, the scenery, the serenity and the natural setting were everything I imagined Kenya to be,” says Snyder. “As an environmental scientist interested in flora and fauna, it was all a dream come true for me.”

Just after the group returned from Africa, tragedy struck on 9/11, and the Kenya program was cancelled for fear of terrorism in the country, which has a history of attacks by Al Qaeda. Despite the short tenure of the program, for a small group of students, including Snyder, it was the best—and the most educational—summer of their lives.

“I learned that the world as we know it is not the world as others know it,” says Snyder. “I saw children living in mud huts who thought the greatest gift in the world was a hat from Western society. To see them so happy despite having so little was something I will never allow myself to forget.”



### The Hills are Alive

Spending the summer in the rural Northeast with a bunch of middle-school kids might not be everyone’s idea of a good time. But Liz Dickson '99 not only made it through once, she went back for more. During all three of her college summers, Dickson worked at the RCA-affiliated Camp Warwick in New York. She spent the first year as a camp counselor and the next two as the arts and crafts director.

As a freshman, Dickson saw a posting in the Chapel advertising for camp counselors, and she applied on a whim. After finals, she headed out to the green, rolling hills of the camp. “I’m from southwest Iowa—a really small town of 500 people, and I thought it would be neat to go work in New York in the summer,” says Dickson.

The peaceful and pristine atmosphere was not what she expected—so different from New York City—but she came to love it immediately. As a camp counselor, she alternated between the day camp and the longer overnight camp. For each group of elementary or middle school kids, she organized activities, played games and taught Bible lessons. During the overnight camp, she had to stay in the cabin with eight pre-teen girls, working out a showering schedule and trying to sleep over their giggles. But she felt she was helping them grow in their faith.

The next two summers, as arts and crafts director, Dickson had the kids come to her. She created art lessons for each group that coordinated with the Bible passage of the week. It was great practice running her own art classroom, which Dickson would do for seven years before becoming a school counselor in Omaha, Neb. Now, she spends all her working days with middle-school students. The atmosphere might not be as beautiful as the hills of southeast New York, but it’s just as fun.

“Camp Warwick helped me to understand students and to make relationships with young people,” says Dickson. “It helped me connect with kids, which is paramount to any successful teaching job.”

She may not have known it then, but those long nights in the cabin and that goofy fun with the campers made for the best summer of her life—and built a foundation for the rest of it.

### The Ghost Particle

Senior Nate Herring spent his summer in Baton Rouge studying a massive, invisible force in the universe. Sounds pretty Star Trekkian, right? But neutrino particles are a key element in experimental particle physics—the study of the structure of matter, not to mention Leonard’s specialty on *The Big Bang Theory*.

A physics and philosophy major, Herring was a student researcher at Louisiana State University as part of Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), a program of the National Science Foundation. This was Herring’s second summer in the lab; last year, he went through a tough application process, competing with students from well-known physics programs such as Harvard and MIT. His work was held in such high regard there that he was invited back this summer to continue studying the elusive particles.

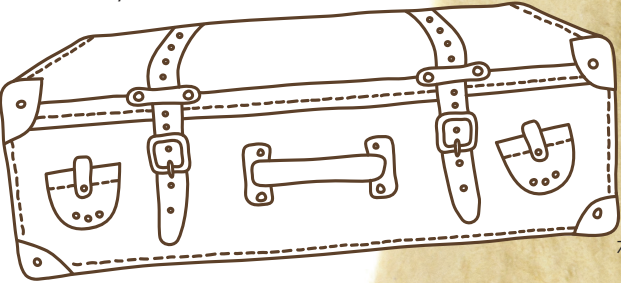
“Neutrinos are sort of like ghost particles,” says Herring. “Trillions of them fly through your body every second, but because of their unique properties, one interacts with a particle in your body only about every 30 years.”

Herring was part of a team studying a newly discovered phenomenon called neutrino oscillation. Building an experiment to research it can cost millions of dollars and take 5-7 years. So Herring helped prepare the team for when the experiment is ready. He designed a computer program that can digitally simulate the experiment and another that can analyze the data gathered.

“Before I write a program, I have to know exactly what I want it to do,” says Herring. “This requires planning out the program on paper or in my head before I sit down to write it.”

After graduation, Herring hopes to return to LSU for one more year of research before going to graduate school, a stepping stone toward his dream of teaching physics at a large research university. The experience he gained this summer will be instrumental in reaching that goal.

“I really enjoy the brain exercise I got just from being there,” he says.





# six degrees OF CENTRAL

It's not just the Internet that connects humanity, it's also the ground we stand on. With more than 18,000 alumni in 15 countries and all 50 states, it's not surprising that some cross paths—for the first time or after many years apart.

Photos by Johnathan Quinn

Celia Novelo Huante '91 and her son Kirill.



Barb Watson '83 and her son Danny play with nesting dolls from his home country.



**“We needed a son, and he needed parents. We met him on a Monday and decided on a Tuesday. It was fate.”**

## The Traveling Mothers

In 2008, two eight-year-old Russian boys slept in beds next to each other in an orphanage in Petrozavodsk, just over 300 miles from the Arctic Circle. Although they weren't brothers, they both had Scandinavian heritage, were part of the same family group in the orphanage and were going to Iowa in June.

Early that same year, Barb Watson '83 was certain she wanted to adopt a child. She signed up for Camp Hope, a nonprofit that pairs older orphans from Russia with American families looking to adopt. One of the two boys, Daniil, came to Barb's house for a week.

In contrast, when Celia Novelo Huante '91 and her husband David first heard of Camp Hope, they weren't sure if adoption was the right choice. Already the parents of two girls, they had flirted with the idea of adopting

internationally. So they came to a Camp Hope event, where they met the other boy, Kirill. Celia was moved immediately. “He was so sweet,” she says of Kirill. “We needed a son, and he needed parents. We met him on a Monday and decided on a Tuesday. It was fate.”

Meanwhile, Barb bonded with Daniil (Danny, for short), who had lost a father to tuberculosis before being taken from his mother because she was unfit to raise him. Despite all the hardships he had gone through in his young life, Barb found him joyful, a boy who loved pranks and always had energy for the next thing.

Both women had made up their minds. They were going to adopt. At a meeting Barb hosted for other families, Celia stuck her head in the kitchen and saw a painting of the Central bridge. “Did you go to Central?” she asked in shock.

It turned out the women had been born a

world apart—Barb grew up in Iowa while Celia came from Merida, Yucatan. She enrolled at Central on the urging of George Ann Huck, the director of Central's study abroad program at the time. Despite their different origins, their paths in life led them separately to a single orphanage nearly 5,000 miles from Pella.

Since then, the two women have become close friends—especially as they struggled through the adoption process, which involved several trips to Russia and difficult legal complications. After the adoptions were final in 2009, Barb and Celia, both based in the Des Moines area, began spending more time together. And Daniil and Kirill—already “family” in the orphanage—became close friends.

“I never could imagine that someone from Merida would end up going to Central, settling in Iowa and adopting at the same time I did,” says Barb. “I truly believe because of these two little boys that we will always stay in touch.”





Rod Camp (front left) has served as a professional role model for Joe Klesner '80 and Shannan Mattiace '90 since they were at Central.

**“He is one of a few people that has literally changed my life.”**

what to do next, he consciously chose teaching over research, just like his mentor. For 27 years, he has taught Latin American politics at Kenyon College in Ohio.

Despite his focus on teaching, Joe hasn't given up research or publication. He's been helped along that route by Rod, who has often involved him in political surveys and publications. Rod now teaches

at Claremont McKenna College in California. Most recently, Joe wrote an article for *The Oxford Handbook of Mexican Politics*, for which Rod was the editor.

Shannan wrote an article for that book, too, at Rod's request. The two have never lost touch since her first year out of college, when Rod helped set up an internship for her in Mexico as a Rotary Scholar. Upon her return, Shannan earned a doctorate in government at the University of Texas at Austin. As a professor at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania, she has invited Rod as a guest speaker, and the two have collaborated on publications and seen each other often at conferences. “He is one of a few people that has literally changed my life,” she says of Rod. “He has in many ways directed and shaped my career. I wouldn't be in this particular line of work without him.”

For a testament to the deep academic relationships forged at Central between professors and students, you need to look no further than the names of the three Ph.D.s on the *The Oxford Handbook of Mexican Politics*.

## The Supportive Scholars

When Rod Camp taught at Central in the 1970s and 80s, he wore jeans to class, which was very unusual for a Central professor at the time. He always graded papers and tests immediately, slipping the results into students' mailboxes within a day. He taught with films and novels, in addition to traditional textbooks, and always seemed to be lecturing from memory, even when he had notes. But for Joe Klesner '80 and Shannan Mattiace '90, Rod did more than teach Latin American politics. He sparked in them a passion, and he has seen them through as they fulfilled it.

Joe has viewed Rod as a mentor ever since he took his second political science class with the professor. “You don't expect everybody to end up like their favorite professor, but I did just that,” says Joe. After graduating from Central, he earned a doctorate in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. When it was time to decide



The “Three Musketeers of Paris,” as they call themselves, spent their reunion reminiscing about their days studying in France.



## The Three Musketeers

When Marty Satripi '74, Lynn Herndon Howard '74 and Jerry Vroegh '74 arrived at their condo in Key West this winter, it brought back a crisp and clear memory: the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles. After becoming enamored with the palace during a class visit, the trio had returned later for a day trip and picnic. But a quick look at the animal prints smothering the condo of mirrors brought them back to reality. It was 2012, nearly 40 years since they had studied abroad in Paris, and they were back together again.

Although they didn't stay close over the intervening years, the friends did keep in contact through letters and Christmas cards—and later through email when that technology hit the scene. It was through this medium that they learned both Lynn and Jerry would be in Florida around the same time. Marty decided to hit the Sunshine State, too, and they organized a reunion in Key West.

The trio first met as French majors at Central. Lynn and Marty were assigned as roommates, and at first Marty thought they couldn't be more different. Marty had traveled—to France in high school and then a summer in North Carolina—and Lynn seemed shy and had stayed close to home. Jerry, on the other hand, was always cracking jokes. He did spot-on imitations of their professors.

Their senior year, they all decided to study in France together. On a tight budget, they often ate at the hot dog and crepe stands in the Latin Quarter and delved into flea markets for deals on jeans. They used discounted train tickets to travel around the country. When Jerry wanted to go for a walk, he would come into the courtyard of the women's dorm—the farthest he was allowed to go—and yell up at the windows until Marty or Lynn heard him.

“We could talk about almost anything,” said

**“We could talk about almost anything.”**

Lynn. “We shared a common goal in our travels—to get to know the people, culture and language of France.”

The three friends—all from small towns in Iowa—spent one last evening together at Marty's wedding in Pella soon after they returned from France. The reunion in Key West—though not as exciting as the Luxembourg Gardens or the Palace of Versailles—was a meeting of three kindred spirits who bonded before they had even begun their careers. It was a perfect trip for retirees reminiscing about how they got their start. And it didn't hurt that the margaritas were good.

Stay connected with other alumni and college news on the Central College Facebook page.





if men were angels

# IF MEN WERE angels...

Photos: Johnathan Quinn

As James Madison famously pointed out, people do not have halos. Thus, government is necessary. These alumni working in politics have different ideas on how to make our states and our country more perfect unions.



"You get to be a part of history, and you get to work in a place where some great things have happened," says Jeff Boeyink '85 about working in the Iowa State Capitol.



## The Capitol's Chief

In 1982, Jeff Boeyink '85 walked into a booth to cast his first vote in an election. It's a momentous few seconds for any young person, but it turned out to be especially important for Boeyink. He voted for Terry Branstad for Iowa governor. Thirty years later, he is working as Branstad's chief of staff.

Branstad is the longest-serving governor in the state of Iowa; his first tenure spanned from 1983 to 1999. During the late '90s, Boeyink worked with the Republican governor as a lobbyist on taxpayer and fiscal issues. In 2009, Branstad asked Boeyink to lead his re-election campaign and then, when they won, to be his chief of staff. "I just couldn't say no," says Boeyink. "Terry Branstad is an icon. For someone growing up in the 80s, he was the only governor I knew for a long time."

During that decade and the next, Boeyink worked as a lobbyist, campaign strategist and fundraiser for political action committees (PACs) in Iowa. Now Boeyink and the governor talk several times a day over the phone or in person. Boeyink calls himself the chief operating officer of the government. He manages the day-to-day workings of the entire executive branch, including a staff of more than 20.

Boeyink's job is really a 24/7 lifestyle. He is the first line of defense when disaster—whether natural or political—strikes, like when the Missouri River flooded last May. On normal days, he arrives at the Capitol in Des Moines at 6:30 a.m. before heading

off to a dozen meetings and answering more than 100 emails. "The beauty of this job is that every day is so different," says Boeyink.

That's because there's always a different problem to tackle. One proud moment for Boeyink was the victory after a fierce budget battle in 2011 that lasted

**"I look at the state government as an oil tanker," explains Boeyink. "It's hard to change course. But once you start changing it, it's hard to slow the momentum."**

until the very last day of the fiscal year. Boeyink estimates that there will soon be \$1 billion in budget surplus.

Although the details of budgets and boards might bore non-politicians, Boeyink loves that state government has a real human impact. Anyone who pays state income tax, receives an Iowa Tuition Grant or holds a job is affected by the government. "This is where you want to be," says Boeyink about state politics. "The size of government at this level is still small enough that you can make a difference."

The urge to improve life for other people is what motivates Boeyink during his long hours in the Capitol or when the phone rings during his early Saturday morning golf sessions. He calls himself—and all politicians—idealistic. "We believe we have the ability to make positive changes. It doesn't matter what party you're from. We just go about it a little differently."

**WE BELIEVE**  
**WE HAVE THE ABILITY**  
**TO MAKE POSITIVE**  
*changes*

## The People's Servant

"I hope Janie Morrison will live 1,000 years and never die," says Miljana Furundzic of Mount Prospect, Ill. "When I met her, I thought she must be an angel."

Miljana is a Serbian immigrant and a home health care worker in the Illinois 33rd district. A few years ago, her husband Batric became severely psychologically disabled. On behalf of the district office for Illinois State Senator Dan Kotowski, Janie Morrison '71 helped Batric apply for Social Security Disability benefits, saved their home by doing a loan modification and helped Miljana get a job and pursue a certified nursing assistant (CNA) license.

"There are no words for my gratitude," says Miljana. "She's my best friend and my family member."

Such stories and praise are commonplace for Morrison, who runs Kotowski's office with one assistant and several interns. Their aim is to help the constituents of the 33rd district in any way they can—working on issues like food stamps, childcare, Medicare and Medicaid, counseling, veteran's benefits and loan refinancing. "We are helping people survive in this economy," says Morrison.

Dan Kotowski, a Democrat, is known for his efforts at reform, says Morrison. "He's inspiring and motivating, and we all pledged our lives to him while in public office." She keeps in daily contact to update him on the goings-on in the district office in Park Ridge, one of several towns in the district in the northwest Chicago suburbs.

Morrison first got involved in politics as executive director to the faculty union at Temple University in Philadelphia, which lobbied in presidential, state and local elections. Then, as assistant to the president for another American Federation of Teachers affiliate, she met Kotowski, who asked her to run his campaign. After their victory, she became district director for seven years and counting. Kotowski is up for re-election this November, but as district director, Morrison is not allowed to be involved or even have knowledge of the campaign.





In the office and throughout the district, Morrison works 10-12 hours a day in service of constituents—representing them in court, in disability hearings, at the Department of Children and Family Services and anywhere else she’s needed. People in the district know her reputation as a woman who can get things done—and always goes the extra mile for her community. Still, she sometimes has to say no because of budget constraints, the hardest part of her job.

“We do different things every hour of the day, which makes the days go really fast. I’m very spoiled; any other job wouldn’t be as exciting, to say the least.”

Morrison, who was a communications major at Central, sees her work as a fulfillment of the college’s mission to prepare graduates for “effective service in local, national and international communities.”

“Even though we try to keep a calendar, if we have someone come in need of drastic help, we will stay to see that through,” says Morrison.



## The Philosopher Candidate

When John Hospers ’39 was an 18-year-old freshman at Central College, he took an astronomy class with Dean Henry Pietenpol, who soon realized there was a problem. “You know more about this than I do,” Pietenpol told Hospers and turned over the class. For the rest of the semester, Hospers taught college juniors and seniors about light years, galaxies and Saturn’s rings.

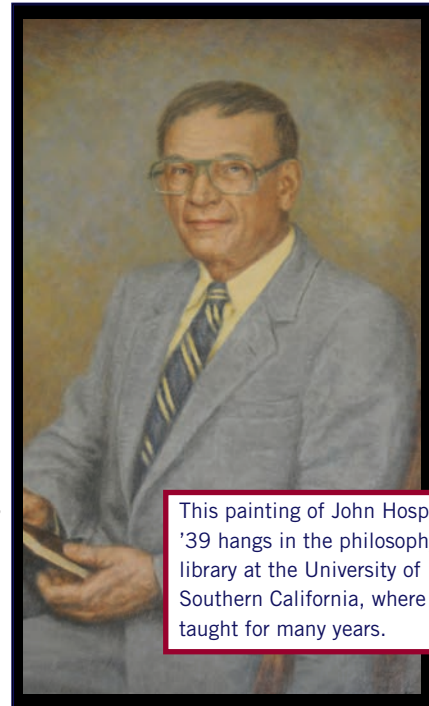
Despite his passion for all things astronomical, Hospers ended up in a field that had little to do with stars—unless you count the academic celebrity kind. He became a college professor, aesthetics philosopher, textbook author and the first Libertarian candidate for president—even earning one electoral vote.

Hospers was born in Pella in 1918, and the small Dutch town was key in forming his political philosophy. His great-grandfather led the second emigration from the Netherlands to Pella in 1849. “Concepts like government assistance were completely alien to these settlers,” Hospers wrote in a memoir. “Life was precarious, but when illness or natural catastrophe struck, relatives and

neighbors were there to give assistance. It would not have occurred to them to ask for money from the government any more than to rob their neighbors’ houses. God had given them rich land, was that not enough?”

After graduation, Hospers earned a master’s in literature from the University of Iowa and a doctorate in philosophy from Columbia University. His dissertation on meaning and truth in the arts remained in print for 35 years, and he taught philosophy at universities around the country.

One day, Hospers went to a lecture at Brooklyn College by Ayn Rand, author of *Atlas Shrugged*, founder of the objectivist philosophy and an icon for



This painting of John Hospers ’39 hangs in the philosophy library at the University of Southern California, where he taught for many years.

libertarians to this day. Afterwards, Hospers invited her to lunch. She promised him an hour; they ended up talking for four. The two philosophers became close friends, often discussing the role of government until 4 or 6 a.m.

Hospers credited Rand as a muse for both his writing and his teaching, and she reminded him that his was the most important profession in the world. In 1971, he published *Libertarianism: A Political Philosophy for Tomorrow*, the first academic book on the subject.

It was that book that secured his nomination as presidential candidate for the Libertarian party, created in 1972. Hospers wasn’t sure it was even a good idea for such a new party to field a candidate, but he accepted with aplomb, cracking jokes about it with colleagues. “I was a little bit thrilled and a little bit terrorized,” he wrote. “I was a college professor, and the next day a candidate for the nation’s highest office.”

Hospers knew he had no chance of winning, but he used the opportunity to spread the burgeoning ideas of libertarianism. Hospers later wrote about the “ignorant and hostile questioning” that came from voters, particularly the question “What will you do for me if elected?” His response was unconventional: “I’ll leave you alone to live your life as you choose.”

When the Electoral College met, an elector from Virginia rejected his promise to vote for Nixon and threw his hat to Hospers instead. The candidate called it the biggest surprise of the election. He was flooded with letters and calls of congratulation.

Despite his brief flirtation with political office, Hospers’s true love was teaching and writing. Kevin Robb, who taught with Hospers at the University of

Southern California (USC) for many years, says that he shined in the classroom. Dozens of students would crowd around him after class until he would finally shout, “I need lunch!”

“It became an important friendship in my life,” says Robb. “John was one of the most genuine, decent human beings you’ll ever meet. He was personally a shy man, but he was marvelous once he was on his feet.”

John Hoedeman, a lawyer in Minneapolis, was first introduced to libertarianism at USC, where he read Hospers’s book in class. He believes that many young people of his generation found the movement through Rand’s books and then deepened their understanding through Hospers.

“When it came to putting the economic science of freedom into the words of politics, I think John Hospers probably did that better than anybody else before him,” says Hoedeman.

He calls Hospers a frontrunner in the libertarian movement, whose ideas have been taken up by the tea party and Congressman Ron Paul. Robb says that Hospers would likely disagree with some of the stances of the modern movement, especially on social issues, but the attention he brought to libertarianism was a factor in its rise to prominence.

Hospers retired from USC in 1988 and passed away in 2011. But his work is still influencing new generations of thinkers looking for a different way.

“And so it is: hope springs eternal,” wrote Hospers. “And perhaps this hope can still be realized, here in America, while we are alive and able to witness for ourselves the unfolding of events, and perhaps even able in some degree to influence them.”

I WAS A  
COLLEGE PROFESSOR ONE DAY,  
AND THE NEXT DAY, A CANDIDATE  
FOR THE NATION’S  
*highest office*

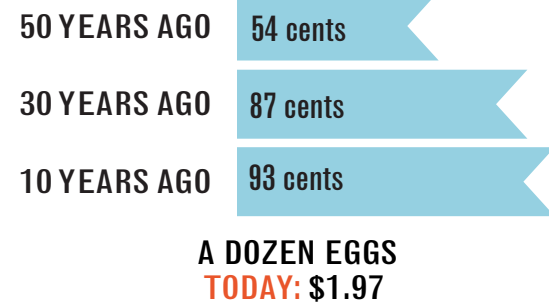


# Up, Up & AWAY

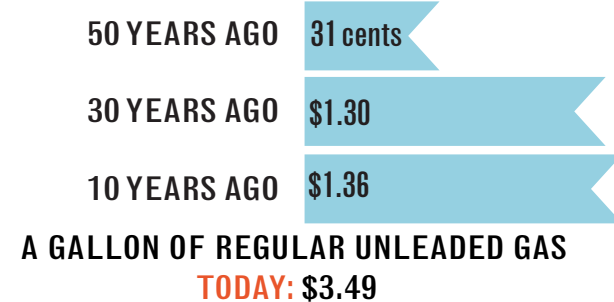
Things seem a little bit more expensive these days. Have you noticed? A better question: Have you lived on earth the past 10, 30 or 50 years? If so, you're bound to recognize the inflation that keeps your days "soaring" from one hour to the next.

[ONE DOLLAR IN 1962 HAD THE SAME BUYING POWER AS \$7.60 TODAY.]

## 7:00 AM TIME FOR AN OMELET



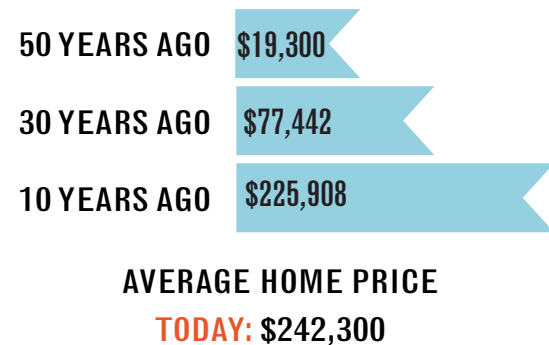
## 8:30 AM FILL UP THE CAR BEFORE HEADING TO WORK



## 1:00 PM YOU GET A CALL FROM SCHOOL.YOUR SON HAS BROKEN HIS LEG AT RECESS.



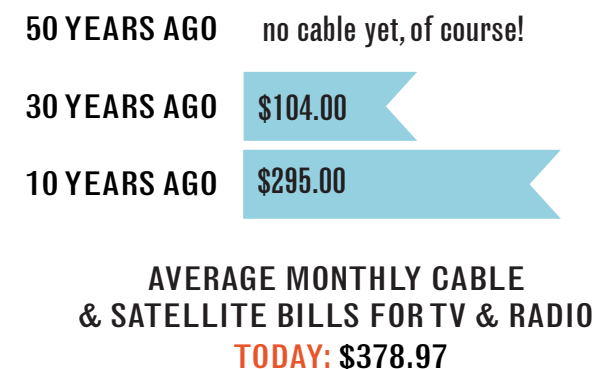
## 6:00 PM BACK HOME AFTER A LONG DAY



## 6:30 PM CHECK THE FRIDGE FOR DINNER INGREDIENTS



## 8:00 PM TIME FOR YOUR FAVORITE TV SHOW



## IS LIBERAL ARTS WORTH THE EXPENSE?

Fifty years ago, a year at a private, nonprofit college cost about \$900. Today, Central's tuition—with room and board—is \$39,134. That may sound exorbitant, especially to people who graduated back in the golden days of cheap education. But the times they are a-changin', as Baby Boomer alums know. Today, the critical thinking skills, global learning and interdisciplinary perspective that are hallmarks of a Central education are more valuable than ever.

### Consider this:

- 98 percent of Central students receive financial aid.
- 96 percent of grads are either employed in the field of their choice or enrolled in graduate school within a year of graduation.

- The attributes of liberal arts grads are increasingly sought-after in the marketplace. According to *Inside Higher Ed*, more CEOs of Fortune 500 companies have earned liberal arts degrees than professional ones.

## IS THE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE DEAD?

So might a modern-day Nietzsche ask. And so might a college president debunk. President Mark Putnam educates readers on the future of the liberal arts in his new blog series "The Road Ahead." Read and join the conversation at [blogs.central.edu/president](http://blogs.central.edu/president).

## WHAT DO YOU SPLURGE ON?

Alums recount their favorite purchases from the year they graduated and what they'd cost today.

JOEL ROHDE '07 \$3,800

"An engagement/wedding ring for my wife Pamela Lang Rohde '05 and our honeymoon."  
NOW: \$4,205

MARY POPSON KLEIN '95 \$300

"A Brother WP-3410 word processor. Goodbye, Liquid Paper and correction tape! Used it for Keith Ratzlaff's writing course."  
NOW: \$452

JODI GRABER BULLOCK '02 \$125,000

"My townhouse. Still have it as a rental property!"  
NOW: \$159,448

JANET DIETRICH THOMPSON '91 \$40

"I bought an expensive jacket from Lands' End, which I still have many years later, by the way!"  
NOW: \$67.39

MARY McDONALD RICHARD '72 \$25

"An 'extravagantly expensive' History of Art book that is still on my shelves."  
NOW: \$137

KIM HUITINK BUTLER '86 \$500

"A kitchen table. My son Jay Sikkink '10 now uses it in his apartment."  
NOW: \$1,047

KORI WILLS MARSHALL '98 \$208

"A Eurail pass"  
NOW: \$294

DEANNA VER STEEG '94 \$129

"A 13" TV and VCR"  
NOW: \$199

HARRIET WOLBRINK '71 \$200

"A round-trip ticket from Paris to New York at Christmas."  
NOW: \$1,133

ROBIN BUICK '04 \$100

"Adopted a dog"  
NOW: \$121



# HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

Sept. 28-30, 2012

## schedule preview

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

- 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Classes open for visitors
- 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Glassblowing demonstrations
- 10 a.m. Heritage Day reception
- 10:30 a.m. Schipper Memorial golf tournament
- 11 a.m. Heritage Day worship
- 12 p.m. Heritage Day luncheon {invitation only}
- 6 p.m. Lemming race – A tradition since 1977!
- 6-7:45 p.m. Alumni and family barbecue, pep rally, coronation and street party
- 8-9:30 p.m. Student showcase

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

- 8-10 a.m. Pancake breakfast
- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Alumni art show open
- 9:30-10:20 a.m. Lifelong learning classes
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Central College Abroad information session
- 10-11:30 a.m. Kids' carnival – Inflatable fun!
- 10:30-11:20 a.m. Lifelong learning classes
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Friends of Central Arts reception
- 11 a.m. Tailgate Under the Big Tent
- 1 p.m. Football – Central vs. Dubuque
- 1 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Dubuque
- 3 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Dubuque
- 5 p.m. Party on the plaza – Alumni award presentations
- 6:45 p.m. Class reunion pictures
- 7:30 p.m. Class reunion gatherings

### SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

- 9 a.m. Worship at Second Reformed Church with Central's A Cappella Choir
- 11 a.m. Sunday brunch

## ALUMNI NEWSNOTES

### THE '40S

**Carl Vogelaar '48** was chosen to go on the Honor Flight for WWII veterans to Washington D.C. in May. While in the nation's capital, the group visited many historic sites, including the WWII memorial and the changing of the guard at Arlington Cemetery. Carl and wife **Joan Ver Meer Vogelaar '48** live in Santa Rosa, Calif.

### THE '50S

**Leonard Kalkwarf '50** was recognized for his volunteer work in 2011 by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation with a Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Leonard and wife Beverly live in Springfield, Va.

Alumni are invited to submit Newsnotes to the alumni office. We want to hear about recent promotions, honors, relocations, marriages and births to keep classmates and friends informed about important changes in your life. Email [alumni@central.edu](mailto:alumni@central.edu) or update information online at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu). News items also are welcome by phone, 800-447-0287 or 641-628-5154. Or send a note to Central College Alumni Office, 812 University, Campus Box 5200, Pella, IA 50219.



Photos by Dan Vander Beek



**Bette Brunsting '56** (front row, center) of Pella is a professor emeritus of Central College. In April she was honored at a reception hosted by the theatre department for her generous support of the arts through her foundation, which enables students of all disciplines to travel with Culture Club.



**Gordon DeJong '57** was honored with the Graduate Program Chair Leadership Award at Penn State University, where he is a professor of sociology and demography in the College of Liberal Arts. He founded the dual title demography program in 1987 and has been its director ever since. Gordon and wife Caroline live in State College.

THE '60S

**Rosemary Fry Miller '61** and husband **Richard Miller '62** of Morgan, Vt., celebrated 50 years of marriage June 5.

**Bob Pentico '64** and wife **Nancy Oliver Pentico '65** are enjoying retirement in Sun City Hilton Head, S.C., where Nancy is an active volunteer and continues to golf. Bob was elected president of the Athletic Club of the Lowcountry, where he works with sportscasters and athletes at the college and professional level. Bob plays shortstop on the softball team for 65-69-year-olds, which qualified as the number one team from his state for the 2013 Senior Olympics.

**Doug Schakel '64** completed his third season as the assistant women's basketball coach at Johnson County Community College. The Cavaliers appeared in their third consecutive NJCAA Elite Eight national tournament and posted the only 30-win season in the history of the school's program. Doug and wife **Sharon Kreun Schakel '67** live in Olathe, Kan., where Karen is a volunteer teaching assistant in the Johnson County Community College ESL program, teaching English to immigrants from the Kansas City area.

THE '70S

**Barbara Hopkins Kadlec '71** retired in March 2011 and returned to her hometown of Guthrie Center. Barbara enjoys being in Iowa again after living away for several years. During her career, Barbara worked mainly in Germany for the military in the drug and alcohol program and in the Army's continuing education system.

**Susan Leverage Grossman '74** of Arcadia is a case manager at the DeSoto County Homeless Coalition, a diabetic educator and a SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) counselor for the State of Florida.

**Carolyn Ruhm '75** and Robert Forston of Apple Valley, Calif., were married Oct. 22. Carolyn resigned her position as athletic director to begin teaching full-time in the physical education department at Granite Hills High School.

**Terry Weiss '76** is retired and living in Omaha, Neb. Recently, Terry has enjoyed connecting with Central and fellow alums.

**Earl Cater '77** is a doctoral advisor for the school of advanced studies at the University of Phoenix, where he is a doctoral candidate writing a dissertation on the efficacy of storytelling. Earl and wife Erma live in Glendale, Ariz.

**Jo Hansen Rohach '77** retired after 35 years teaching in the Ottumwa Community School District. Jo and husband **Steven Rohach '77** live in Ottumwa, Iowa. Steve teaches math and coaches track and



**Sheila Smith Stepko '74** of Kilmarnock, Va., gathered in Des Moines this spring with six of her ASE sisters to celebrate their 60th birthdays. The origins of ASE began with this group of freshmen girls and flourished during their four years as Central students. Their friendships remain strong with the help of the annual Christmas letter, occasional gatherings and Facebook. They are pictured (left to right): **Kellye Jones Nading '74** of Owensboro, Ky., **Jan Westerveld Renaud '74** of Pella, **Kris Easter Gaulke '74** of Indianola, Iowa, **Sheila Smith Stepko '74**, **Nancy Greer Paris '74** of Boone, Iowa, **Beth Holcomb '74** of Pella and **Jo Fall Dorenkamp '74** of Pella.

basketball at Pekin High School in Packwood.

**Shirley Shelangoski '77** of Pleasant Hill, Calif., is a retired parole agent.

**Jan Beile Kolk '78** is a special education campus coordinator in the Alief Independent School District, where she is one of three finalists for the Secondary Teacher of the Year Award. Jan and

**James Boeke '77** was gifted with license plates from daughters **Rachel Boeke '09** and **Renae Boeke '06**. James and wife **Ina Van Haaften Boeke '77** live in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where James is a systems analyst at Cedar Rapids Community School District and Ina is a database administrator at United Fire Group Foundation. Front row (left to right): **Ina Van Haaften Boeke '77** and **James Boeke '77**. Second row: **Renae Boeke '06** and **Rachel Boeke '09**.

husband **Kevin Kolk '78** live in Houston, Texas. Kevin is the school psychologist at Fort Bend Independent School in Sugar Land.

**Tia Huggins '79** of Yuma, Ariz., gave up her position as a Spanish lecturer at Iowa State University in 2006 to serve in the Peace Corps, where she was stationed in Guatemala as a healthy schools facilitator. At the end of her two-year commitment, Tia earned a degree in nursing, which led to her position as a nurse at Hospice of Yuma. Tia is eagerly



awaiting the arrival of her grandchild.

**Stephanie Harvey Sarcone '79** is an associate attorney at Duncan, Green, Brown & Langeness, P.C. in Des Moines, where she lives with husband Stephen. Their daughter Anna Sarcone is a junior at Central College.

THE '80S

For information about **Michelle Heishman Thomas '89**, see the '90s.

**Jonathan Erickson '81** has been a missionary with Hope Medical Center Guinea since 1990. He is involved in community development, church planting and evangelism. Jonathan and wife Anja live in Guinea, Africa.

**Pam Ruegsegger Heilskov '82** of Ankeny retired June 8 after 24 years with EMC Insurance Companies in Des Moines. In July she embarked on a yearlong visit to Malawi, Africa, to volunteer for various projects with the Methodist Church. In the past, her volunteer efforts with the church have taken her to reservations in South Dakota, Katrina-ravaged Mississippi and Cedar Rapids after the flood.

**Susan Walljasper Johnson '82** is the director of process improvement at WesleyLife in Johnston, Iowa. Susan and husband Duane live in Carlisle; they are the parents of three daughters.

**Joseph Stuchel '83** of Bentonville, Ariz., is a senior manager at Walmart.

**Luanne Tilstra '83** was appointed inaugural director of the Center for Diversity at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind., where she lives with husband Phillip Smith and their two children.

**Jay Saunders '86** is a gunsmith and proprietor of Prairie Breeze Gunsmithing in Pella, where he lives with wife **Laura Meyers Saunders '87** and their two sons.

**Kim Dykstra-Dilallo '83** of Breckenridge, Colo., is the director of communications for the Town of Breckenridge. During one week in March, she received visits on three separate occasions from friends and family with a Central connection. They included **Tom Hinga '82** from League City, Texas; her brother **Dave Dykstra '80**, along with his son **Kyle Dykstra '06** from Des Moines and their aunt **Carol Boerefyn Brickley '64** from Greeley, Colo.; and **Kevin Malloy '82** from Cedar Rapids, who joined her on the slopes after a 30-year hiatus from the Gator Ski Club.

**Elizabeth Downs Allsup '87** is vice president of human resources at Electrical Engineering and Equipment in Windsor

Heights, Iowa. Elizabeth and husband Steve live in St. Charles.

**Deborah Cross '87** leads internal and external communications for Nestle USA's pizza division. Deborah lives in Chicago with husband David Gilleran and their son.

**Gretchen DeSmidt Leitner '88** and husband Paul founded a children's theatre on the campus of Shippensburg University called The Little Princess Playhouse. Gretchen and Paul live in Shippensburg, Pa., with their daughter.

**Lynn Wilson Margotta '88** is the directress at Sea Pines Montessori Academy. Lynn and husband Matt, who just returned from his deployment to Iraq, live in Fort Pierce, Fla.

**Kelly Shaw '88** is a lecturer in the department of political science at Iowa State University in Ames. Kelly and wife Shari live in Indianola with their two daughters.

THE '90S

**Lori Schaefer Rempe '90** is head of treasury operations at FBL Financial in West Des Moines. Lori and husband Mark live in Pella; they are the parents of two sets of twins.

**Tom Robbins '91** has accepted a position as the executive director of the University of Dubuque's Performing Arts and Campus Center, currently under construction and slated to open in May 2013. Tom began his employment in his hometown of Dubuque, Iowa, in August. Tom and wife Barbara are



**Craig Dirks '90** and former classmates **Kevin Lake '90** and **Gregory Thomas '90** cheered on their sons as they participated in a three-on-three basketball tournament in Hubbard, Iowa. It was the first time their boys had played basketball together, and they claimed third place. Craig and wife **Kimberly Hansen Dirks '91** live in Wyoming, Iowa, with their two children. Craig is a firefighter captain for the City of Cedar Rapids, and Kimberly is self-employed as a medical transcriptionist. Kevin and wife **Lorelei Bateman Lake '91** live in Hubbard with their four children. Kevin is a microbiologist at USDA Veterinary Services in Ames, and Lorelei teaches third and fourth grade at Hubbard-Radcliffe. Greg and wife **Michelle Heishman Thomas '89** live in Humboldt with their two children. Greg is the assistant principal and head football coach at Humboldt High School, and Michelle is an administrative assistant with Humboldt Community Schools. Pictured (left to right): **Kevin Lake '90**, Quinton Lake, **Craig Dirks '90**, Grant Dirks, **Greg Thomas '90** and Drew Thomas.

the parents of one son.

**Geoff Wilson '91** is a project manager at GENESYS and a junior high school athletic coach. Geoff and wife Erin of Kansas City, Mo., are the parents of three children.

**Erin Frazier '92** is the assistant director of campus communication at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Erin and husband **David Rowan '92** live in Lafayette with their daughter. David is a teacher and department chair at Westgate Community Charter School in Northglenn.

**Dori Miller Parmenter '92** is an assistant professor of religious studies at Spalding University in Louisville, Ky., where she lives with husband **Tom Parmenter '92** and their daughter.

**Julie Anderson Schuett '92** is a minister at First Presbyterian Church in Ely, Iowa, where she lives with husband Steve and their son.

**Jason Reynolds '93** is the director of curriculum and instruction at Paradise Valley Unified School District in Phoenix, Ariz., where he lives with wife Mara and their two children.

**Tim Hoekstra '95** is the media services specialist at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames, Iowa.

**Craig Showalter '95** is the director of retirement and investor services at the Principal Financial Group in Des Moines, where wife **Amy Lester Showalter '97** works as a project manager III. Craig and Amy live in Waukee with their two children.



# Where are they now?



**Jim Graham** served Central College for 48 years, and was dean of the college for 13 of them in the '60s and early '70s. During his tenure at the college, Graham also served as associate professor of English and coached men's and women's tennis and women's volleyball at different times. He is now retired in Sierra Viesta, Ariz.

Graham started at Central in 1950 at the age of 25. He was fresh from grad school. "When I began teaching, I had given up my childhood wish to follow my parents and be a missionary in Brazil," he recalls. "But I still revered their commitment and admired their lifelong effort to build up a boarding school in the backwoods. That made it easy and also fulfilling to work at Central all my life, to invest and grow in one place."

Graham says he is most proud of his work during the 1960s elevating the college's reputation and helping to establish the first study abroad programs. "I think I lived through, and contributed to, important changes at Central. I'm amazed and deeply pleased with what the college is today."

Read the full Q&A with Jim Graham online at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).



**Andrew Zastrow '95** of New York, N.Y., is vice president and manager at General Reinsurance Corp.

**Josh Bailey '96** was named assistant vice president for development at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, where he lives with wife Barbara and their three sons.

**Heather Hartwell Moore '96** was promoted to reporting and disclosure consultant at Diversified Retirement Corp. in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she lives with husband Lee and their two children.

**Amy Smith Rogers '96** is a stay-at-home mother to her son in Peoria, Ill., where she lives with husband Danny.

**Joel Buseman '97** farms in Belmond, Iowa, where he lives with wife Anna and their son.

**Tamara Brown Daniels '97** is a learning and performance consultant at Nationwide Insurance in Des Moines, where she lives with husband **Preston Daniels '91** and their three children. Preston is an equipment finance portfolio representative at Wells Fargo Financial.

**Patrick Roland '97** is a content editor for Choice Hotels International in Phoenix, Ariz., where he lives with his partner Norm and their dog.

**Angela Vander Velden Veenstra '97** teaches fifth through eighth grade math at Sully Christian School in Sully, and husband **Darrell Veenstra '95** is an insurance agent at Cook and Son Agency in Pella. They live in Lynnvile with their two sons.

**Katie Erickson '98** and Alex Hernandez of San Bernardino, Calif., were married Nov. 11. Katie teaches first grade for the San Bernardino City Unified School District. Katie and Alex live in San Bernardino with their son.

**Nicci Leibold '98** of Huntington Beach, Calif., is the senior recruiter at Endologix Inc. in Irvine.

**Heather Nevitt Van Lin '98** is a marketing product manager consultant at

GlobalVetLink in Ames, Iowa. Heather and husband Adam live in Ankeny with their daughter.

**Sunny Gonzales Eighmy '99** has returned to Central's campus as the director of college relations. Sunny and husband **Nathan Eighmy '99** live in Pella with their four children. Nathan is a senior corporate continuous improvement manager at Pella Corp.

**Heather Spurlock Ouverson '99** is a senior audit leader at Wells Fargo in Des Moines. Heather and husband Paul live in Grimes with their son.

**Joseph Vande Kieft '99** is CEO at Catchwind in Johnston, Iowa. Joe and wife **Kerry Maynard Vande Kieft '99** live in Urbandale, where Kerry is a strategic account executive at UMR.

**Karrie Vander Sluis '99** is a chiropractor at her clinic, Vander Sluis Chiropractic, in Urbandale, Iowa.

## THE 'OOS

For information about **Kyle Dykstra '06**, see the '90s.

**Max Eckstein '00** is the director of business development at Donelson Ciancio & Grant, P.C. in Broomfield, Colo.

**Nick Furlong '00** is a medical resident at the Mayo Clinic Health System in La Crosse, Wis., where he lives with wife **Alena Racheter Furlong '02**.

**Mandy Harris '00** of Des Moines is a clinical therapy supervisor at Orchard Place Child Guidance Center.

**Ryan Blahauvietz '01** and Lindsey Kerr of Fort Collins, Colo., were married June 30. Ryan is a team salesman at Garrelson's Sports Center in Greeley.

**Aaron Rothrock '01** is a service tech at Northwest Respiratory Services in Ankeny, Iowa, where he lives with wife Andrea and their son.

**Jodi Graber Bullock '02** is the owner of

Purely Pilates and The Active Eater, where she is a registered dietitian. Jodi worked with the Iowa department of education as the project director for the Healthy Kids Act, which was funded by a grant from Wellmark. Jodi and husband Heath live in West Des Moines.

**Amanda Lemon Nuzum '02** is the planned giving coordinator at Easter Seals Iowa in Des Moines, where she lives with husband Aaron and their three sons.

**Desmond Breadon '03** is the head football coach at New Glarus-Monticello High School in New Glarus, Wis., where he lives with wife Tara.

**Gary Christensen '03** is a pharmacist manager at Hy-Vee Pharmacy in Iowa Falls, Iowa, where he lives with wife Lisa and their daughter.

**Aaron DeKock '03** passed the Iowa Bar exam this spring and accepted an offer with Sheldrup Blades in West Des Moines, where he practices workers' compensation insurance defense and civil litigation. Aaron and wife **Sarah Wagner DeKock '04** live in Grimes with their daughter. Sarah is a senior account supervisor at Flynn Wright Advertising Agency in Des Moines.

**William Fossey '03** is an IT project manager at John Deere in East Moline, Ill. William and wife **Sara Koehler Fossey '03** live in Bettendorf, Iowa, with their two children. Sara is a new product cost supervisor at John Deere in Silvis, Ill.

**Joey Liekweg '03** is an admission advisor at Kaplan University in Urbandale. Joey and wife Katie live in Des Moines with their daughter.

**Tom Morrison '03** was named global account manager in the non-sports lighting group of Musco Sports Lighting in Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he lives with wife **Jessica Riches Morrison '04** and their son. Jessica is a sign language interpreter in the Lynnvile-Sully Community School District in Lynnvile.



**Kathy Pilling '04** and **Marty Hagewood '05** of Clive were married April 2, 2011. Kathy is a loan administration manager at Wells Fargo in Des Moines, and Marty is a programmer analyst at EMC Insurance Company. Pictured in the front row (left to right): **Tamra Swailes Roberts '03**, **Cara Scott Oldham '03**, **Jennifer Woodley '04** and **Kathy Pilling Hagewood '04**. Second row: **Dan Roberts '02**, **Darin Van Wyk '05**, **Kiley Phelps Schultz '04**, **Marty Hagewood '05**, **Matt Hagewood '06**, **Brian Respeliers '07**. Third row: **Ethan Vaas '05**, **Pat McElyea '04**, **Loren Sherman '05**, **Nick Grossman '05**, **John Hall '05**, **Jake Pearson '05**, **Micah Vermeer '05**, **Toran Billups '05**, **Shelene Williams Billups '06**.

**Christopher Wilson '03** is the associate director of development at the University of Iowa Foundation in Iowa City. Christopher and wife **Megan Scheetz Wilson '03** live in North Liberty with their daughter.

**Robin Buick '04** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is a compliance relationship manager at StoneRiver, Inc.

**Jess Chase '04** and Nathan Pierce of Phoenix, Ariz., were married June 9. Jess is a high school athletic trainer at Peak Physical Therapy.

**Andrew Heiting-Doane '04** is an attorney at LaMarca and Landry in Des Moines. His firm announced that Andy was named one of the Top 40 Under 40 trial lawyers in the State of Iowa by The National Trial Lawyers. Andy and wife **Jana Heiting-Doane '04** live in Clive with their son.

**Katy Lein '04** and Jerrod Long of Peoria, Ariz., were married July 16, 2011. Katy teaches sixth grade at Cordova Middle School in the Alhambra School District in Phoenix.

**Emilie Newbury Reha '04** teaches fifth grade and is the head volleyball coach for the West Central Valley School District in Stuart, Iowa. She also directs the Wildcat AAU volleyball club. Emilie and husband Mark live in Grimes.

**Amanda Salmond '04** and Steve

at Power/mation, and wife **Trichelle Velky Jackson '08** is a primary care and ocular disease extern at Lexington VA Medical Center. Adam and Trichelle live in Chicago, Ill.

**Jordan Kologe '05** and Jennie Bower of Dallas, Texas, were married June 11. Jordan is on the Urbana recruitment team at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in Richardson.

**Claire Ballantine Leppert '04** and husband Dave have committed their lives to work as missionaries over the next five years with a church plant in Granada, Spain. Claire credits the study abroad experience her junior year for the direction her life as taken.

**Krista Bradt '06** of Arlington Heights, Ill., is a supervisor of pregnancy support services at Evangelical Child and Family Agency in Wheaton.

**Justin Brueck '06** is the director of lab administration at NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, Ill. Justin and wife Julie live in Glenview with their daughter.

**Marie Menninga '06** of Belleville, Ill., is a freelance musician and grad student.

**Keith Petersen '06** of West Des Moines is a web developer at Two Rivers Marketing in Des Moines.

**Courtney Green '07** of Iowa City is a registered nurse at St. Luke's Hospital.



**Maria Hickie '08** and **Matt Rohach '06** of Pella were married Nov. 26, 2011. Maria is a coordinator of institutional relations with Central College Abroad, and Matt is a computer programmer at SourceHOV in Urbandale. Pictured in the front row (left to right): **Jo Hansen Rohach '77**, **Maria Hickie Rohach '08**, **Matt Rohach '06**, **Trent Powers '06**, **Brett Delaney '06** and **Greg Lister '06**. Second row: **Michael DeJong '08**, **Brittany Whitsell Harris '09**, **Eric Harris '08**, **Kristen Rohach Harris '03**, **Whitney Longnecker '09**, **Jennifer Stewart Larson '04**, **Jon Doudna '06**, **Kevin Fridley '06**, **Lauren Weitzell Fridley '08**, **Lindsay Ahlgren-Blythe '08** and **Kate Pope Belland '08**. Third row: **Dan Applegate '08**, **John Bowzer '08**, **Tom Sheehan '07**, **Dana Wilkerson Sheehan '06**, **Dave Rohach '79**, **Steve Rohach '77**, **Dave Mick '77**, **Clint Larson '04**, **Jacob Owens '08**, **Jacob Hickie**, **Mark Prusha '83** and **Eric Blythe '08**.



# Outside the Classroom

## Jay Wackerly, assistant professor of chemistry

What goes in the middle of a molecular donut? The correct answer: A molecular donut hole, of course.

Jay Wackerly, assistant professor of chemistry, is working to design that donut. He was recently awarded \$50,000 in funding from the American Chemical Society. The award will assist his research into the synthesis of oxacalixarenes—large, circular molecules that may be able to bind other small molecules inside them. Wackerly will use the money to fund five student research assistants, which means Central students will get paid while gaining valuable research experience.

Most of the students' time will be spent synthesizing and analyzing these new oxacalixarenes. Wackerly has ideas for a few applications for his research, but he is keeping an open mind about exploring new possibilities.

Read more about Wackerly's hard-to-pronounce molecules at [news.central.edu](http://news.central.edu).



Photo by Paul Gates



**Ashley Veigelt '07** of Plainfield, Ill., is the head girls' soccer coach at Joliet West High School in Joliet.

**Leah Appelgate '08** of Marshalltown is a loan document specialist at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in West Des Moines.

**Zach Bailey '08** is a lance corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Twentynine Palms, Calif.

**Nathan Craft '08** of Des Moines is an underwriter at the Principal Financial Group.

**Laura Elting '08** of Burlington, Iowa, is a human resources representative at Case/New Holland America, LLC.

**Scott Paja '08** and Brittany Hackfort of Ankeny were married June 11, 2011. Scott is working toward a doctorate in higher education administration from Iowa State University.

**Alysa Tanis '08** and **BJ Pilling '09** of Alpharetta were married June 9. Alysa is the lead exercise physiologist at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta.

**Katee Van Arkel '08** and Jonathan Shinkle of Jefferson City, Mo., were married July 9, 2011. Katee teaches third grade at Thorpe Gordon Elementary School.

**Derek Groenendyk '09** is a research assistant at the University of Arizona in Tucson, where he lives with wife **Anna Lavelly Groenendyk '10**.

**Chase Hennessey '09** of Coon Rapids, Minn., is a manager at Menards.

**Ramy Mosbah '09** of Rocky River, Ohio, completed his assistantship in strength and conditioning at the University of Missouri in May and accepted an internship position with the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics in Cleveland.

**Matthew Sigmund '09** of Washington, D.C. is a trade and industry analyst at the Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**Stephanie Uthe '09** has taken a senior assurance position with RSM International,

**Karine Grindberg '09** and **Jared Feddersen '08** of Fort Dodge, Iowa, were married Dec. 18, 2010. Karine teaches third grade for Glidden-Ralston Schools in Glidden, and Jared teaches social studies for Humboldt Community Schools in Humboldt.

a subsidiary of McGladrey – USA; RSM Bird Cameron – Australia, for a two-year program in Perth, Western Australia.

**Amber Vonnahme '09** and Mitch Hoffman of Arcadia, Iowa, were married March 19.

## THE '10S

For information about **Anna Lavelly Groenendyk '10**, see the '00s.

**Emily Anderson '10** and Keith Walker of Forest City, Iowa, were married March 24. Emily teaches elementary music in the Forest City Community School District.

**Kristin Davis '10** of Omaha, Neb., is a community outreach worker at One World Community Health Center.

**Tiffany Decker '10** and **Mikki Hamdorf '07** of Ankeny were married in February. Tiffany is pursuing a degree in radiologic technology from Iowa Health Des Moines,



**Cara Brammer '10** and **Chris Heffling '10** of Apple Valley, Minn., were married July 2, 2011. Cara and Chris are consultants at Christopher Gross Consulting in St. Paul. Pictured front row (left to right): **Chris Heffling '10**, **Cara Brammer Heffling '10**, **Stephanie Brammer '12** and **Mariah Brammer '15**. Back row: **Walter Lee Pickup '10**, **John Richardson '10**, **Ashley Holcombe '11**, **Jon Merkle '09**, **Lisa Patty Merkle '09**, **Summer West '10**, **Jennifer Brammer '08**, **Kyle Hill '10**, and **Robert Ringoen '08**.

and Mikki is employed by Bethany Christian Services.

**Joa Hayes '10** and **Trent Rolffs '10** of Lynnville were married May 28, 2011. Trent is the PGA apprentice at Des Moines Golf and Country Club.

**Amanda Johnson '10** of Pella is an accountant at Midwest Sanitation.

**Megan Pfadenhauer '10** and **Nick Butz '11** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were married June 9.

**Kyle Wnenk '10** of Oak Forest, Ill., is a supervisor at Optimum Nutrition in Aurora.

**David Zachary '10** is the area sales manager at Chrysler Group LLC in Bloomington, Ill. David and wife **Molly Falk Zachary '10** live in Normal with their son.

**Kelilah Brown '11** of Newton is a music associate at Pella Middle School in Pella.

**Meghann Burt '11** and **Blake Smith '10** of Ankeny were married July 16, 2011. Meghann is a direct support associate at Mosaic in Des Moines, and Blake is an account manager at CH Robinson Worldwide

**Amanda Whittle '10** and Jackson Drost of New Sharon were married Nov. 26. Amanda is a clinic scheduler at Pella Regional Health Center.

in Ankeny.

**Justine Celoni '11** of Tulsa, Okla., is in student ministries at Asbury United Methodist Church.

**Melissa Dunlap '11** of Pella is the Perkins and institutional loan officer in the controller's office at Central College.

**Matthew Graber '11** of Des Moines is a loan servicing specialist at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage in Des Moines.

**Austin Hill '11** is a technical recruiter at TEKsystems in West Des Moines.

**Jenae Jenison '11** of West Des Moines is the deputy communications director in the Office of Governor Terry E. Branstad.

**Molly Von Holten '11** has joined

**Danielle DeHaan '11** and Brad Schippers of Otley were married Nov. 11, 2011. Danielle is a customer service representative at Precision Pulley and Idler in Pella. Front row (left to right): **Matt Duey '11**, **Brad Schippers**, **Danielle DeHaan Schippers '11**, **Janelle Stevens '11**, **Liz Arentsen '10**, and **Kurtis Brondyke '11**. Second row: **Kari Shadley '11**, **Angela Schroeder '11**, **Natalie Gougler '12**, **Sadie Siefken '11**, **Michelle Rosenberg '11**, **Bryan Moore '10**, **Ashley Ranniger '11**, **Dana Peterson Black '10**, **Caitie Dau '11**, **LuAnn Johnson DeHaan '85**. Back row: **Rob Fattig '10**, **Kristin Scherff '10**, **LaDonna Haning Van Walbeek '10**, **Heather Borgman Reineke '11**, **Bryce Steenhoek '08**.

AmeriCorps NCCC and been assigned to the southern region campus in Vicksburg, Miss.

## ADVANCED DEGREES

**Earl Cater '77**, master's degree in education, University of Phoenix, 2010.

**Julie Anderson Schuett '92**, doctorate of ministry, McCormick Theological Seminary, May.

**Jason Reynolds '93**, doctorate in educational leadership, Northern Arizona University, May.

**Andrew Zastrow '95**, master's degree in business management, Boston University, June 1, 2011.

**Karrie Vander Sluis '99**, doctor of chiropractic medicine, Palmer Chiropractic, Oct. 2011.

**Nick Furlong '00**, doctor of medicine, Creighton University, May.

**Aaron DeKock '03**, juris doctorate with honors, Drake Law School, Dec. 2011.

**Joey Liekweg '03**, master's degree in business administration, Kaplan University, Sept. 2011.

**Amanda Salmond Chenoweth '04**, master's degree, education and innovation, Webster University, Dec. 2011.

**Krista Bradt '06**, master's degree, University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, 2010.

**Courtney Green '07**, master's degree in nursing, University of Iowa, July 2010.

**Eric Miller '07**, doctor of osteopathic medicine, Des Moines University, May 26.

**Derek Groenendyk '09**, master's degree in agricultural engineering, Iowa State University, May 2011.

**Matthew Sigmund '09**, master's degree in international affairs, The George Washington University, 2011.

**Joel Maidens '10**, master's degree in Chinese studies, Valparaiso University, May.

## ARRIVALS

Mark and **Carol Garlow Bolton '88**, daughter Lucy Grace, Nov. 2.

Steve Stankavage and **Kimberly Willis '93**, son Alexander Ryan, Jan. 21.

Brian and **Jenny Mutch Buehler '94**, daughter Keced Marie, Feb. 4.

Erica and **Brandon Holton '95**, son Parker Garrick, Dec. 16.

Barbara and **Josh Bailey '96**, son Harrison Paul, July 17, 2011.

Jason and **Lisa Schuler Rheinberg '97**, daughter Alexandra Margot, March 8.

Deborah and **Bob Bosch '98**, son Kendrick Alan, Jan. 4.

Adam and **Heather Nevitt Van Lin '98**, daughter Irish Apple, June 12, 2011.

Andrew and **Rebekah Jordan Gienapp '99**, son Daniel Timothy, April 16.

Paul and **Heather Spurlock Ouverson '99**, son Owen Davis, Oct. 24.

**Brian Smith '99** and **Erica Swanson '99**, daughter Evelyn Marie, Sept. 3.

Liz and **Jed Eichhorn '00**, daughter Charlotte Ann, May 14.

Michael and **Susan Hasley Lyons '00**, son Keegan Jacob, June 21.

**Jud '00** and **Jodi Jacobson Marvel '01**, son Josiah Jeffrey, April 15.

**Troy '00** and **Katie Streeter Pearce '00**, daughter Marah Eileen, Dec. 15.

**Jason '01** and **Melissa White Anderson '04**,





sons Ryker Lee and Brecken Vincent and daughter Brooklynn Faith, Feb. 18.

Brian and **Krista Determan Deur '01**, son Charles Robert, March 15.

Rochelle and **Matt Dunsbergen '01**, daughter Leah Rochelle, Aug. 23.

Christian and **Betsy Loomans Ezell '01**, son Finnegan William, Aug. 7.

**Cory '01** and **Jen Randeris Faust '04**, son Cade Russell, April 3.

Andrea and **Aaron Rothrock '01**, son Chase Jerrold, May 3.

**Bryan '01** and **Ellen Thompson Sandholm '00**, daughter Eva Caroline, July 22, 2011.

**Justin '01** and **Lindsa Bair Snyder '02**, daughter Finley Ann, March 3, 2011.

David Mortimer and **Molly Vriezelaar '01**, daughter Piper Bethene, March 27.

**Ryan '02** and **Amber Van Wyk Fick '02**, son Brecken William Grant, May 12.

**William '02** and **Sara Koehler Fossey '03**, son Griffin Carter, Feb. 28.

**Nathan '02** and **Terri Paustian Hansen '02**, son Isaac Dean, Nov. 18.

Aaron and **Amanda Lemon Nuzum '02**, twin sons Calvin Lewis and Camden Davis, Feb. 26, 2011.

**Joe '02** and **Amanda Larsen Ritzert '02**, son Teegan Benet, Sept. 16.

**Russell '02** and **Aubrey Derby Schneider '03**, son Easton Dean, April 26.

**Jake '02** and **Colette Yutzky Stotts '02**, son Benjamin Aric, Feb. 28.

Jeremy and **Glenda Henle Van Wyk '02**, daughter Gracyn Lee, April 25.

Tara and **Desmond Breadon '03**, daughter Mia Vivian, Sept. 21.

Luke and **Diane Gaskill Brunkhorst '03**, son Calin Stanton, March 26.

Eric and **Heather Milburn Pilcher '03**, son Andrew Chris, Oct. 12.

Adam and **Krystle Bosch-Allison '04**, son Eli James, Jan. 1.

Brian and **Kari Nelson Hoodjer '04**, daughter Nellie Mariann, June 27, 2011.

James and **Jodi Huff Light '04**, son Reuben James, Dec. 15, 2010.

**Derrick '04** and **Karie Rethmeier Livingston '04**, son Sage Allen, March 28.

Angie and **Matthew McCombs '04**, daughter Gianna Rose, March 28.

Mike and **Kelsey Gayman Gillespie '05**, son William Matthew, May 10.

**Kent '05** and **Laura Peter Patterson '05**, son Kase Alan, April 27.

Julie and **Justin Brueck '06**, daughter Eliza Marguerite, June 21, 2011.

Nicholas and **Caitlin Johnson Larson '06**, son Nolan John, Nov. 8.

Kody and **Sarah Heaberlin Jurgens '07**, daughter Jocelyn Irene, March 8.

Nathaniel and **Stephanie Bahr Super '07**, son Noah Lee, April 18.

**Robert '07** and **Jill Rozendaal Tanzer '05**, daughter Annabelle Rose, Oct. 24.

Ashley and **Keith Wrich '07**, son Bayden Keith, July 5, 2010 and daughter Charlotte Ann, April 5.

**Jeff '07** and **Natalie Ryedy Faust '08**, son Kingston Leon, April 12.

**Jered '08** and **Aimee Crippen Wells '08**, son Durham Lee, May 29.

Dan and **Lori Ruby Steffensmeier '09**, daughter Ruby Ann, May 3.

Nicole and **McKinley Steig '09**, son Gavin Russell, Sept. 2.

**Kevin '10** and **Amanda Williams Yeoman '10**, daughter Eliana Caralyn, Jan. 5.

IN MEMORIAM

**Gertrude Hancamp Fitzwater '34** of Washington, D.C., Aug. 8, 2011.

**Willis Vander Kooi '34** of Broomfield, Colo., June 28.

**Geraldine Redeker Furda '39** of Colorado Springs, Colo., Feb. 12.

**Arie Breed '43** of Ottumwa, Iowa, April 9.

**Angeline Damhof Hardin '43** of Knoxville, Iowa, July 1.

**Joyce De Bruin Dunham '50** of Pella, May 29.

**Jackson Murphy '50** of Oak Ridge, Tenn., April 21.

**Norman Roorda '50** of Madrid, Iowa, May 27.

**Warren Martens '51** of Burton, W. Va., June 14.

**Howard Tagliabue '51** of Rutherford, N.J., April 8.

**Adrian Van Wyk '60** of Apple Valley, Calif., April 17.

**Patrick Rooney '73** of Franklin, Tenn., Feb. 9.

**Susan Carpenter Miller '75** of Papillion, Neb., April 19.

BILL PAUL

William Wright Paul, professor emeritus of philosophy, passed away June 18 in Carol Stream, Ill., at the age of 93.

Paul was born in Philadelphia on November 27, 1918. He earned degrees from Temple University, Faith Theological Seminary and the University of Pennsylvania before receiving a Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University. He met his wife Martha Sinclair through their Christian radio quartet, and they were married for 65 years before Martha passed away in 2010.

In 1946, Paul was ordained into the Presbyterian Church, and he became a member of the Reformed Church of America in 1960, later serving as Stated Clerk of the Classis of Central Iowa. As a member

JAY VERMEER

**Jeanette Lankelma Vermeer '46** of Pella passed away June 26 at the age of 88. Jay, as she was known, served as alumni director at Central for 19 years, from 1963 to 1982, and helped organize many alumni activities and tours.

Jay met her husband Elmer H. (Dutch) Vermeer in 1946 after he returned from serving in WWII, and they settled on a farm west of Pella. They were great supporters of the art, music, international studies and athletic programs at Central. The couple attended Second Reformed Church and always participated in the annual Tulip Time Festival.

Jay is survived by five children and their spouses: **Tom '70** and **Sharman Lange Vermeer '71** of Asheville, N.C., **Richard '72** and Susan Vermeer of Bettendorf, Iowa, Bill and Alice Vermeer of Longmont, Colo., **Jim '77** and **Kim Miller Vermeer '78** of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, **Ann Vermeer '80** of Coralville, Iowa; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; a sister, Ione Piche of Elmhurst, Ill.; and a brother, **William Lankelma '49** of Plano, Texas.



of Second Reformed Church in Pella, he served as elder and was Minister of Calling from 1989-99.

Paul taught philosophy at Central College from 1960-88 and served as chair of the philosophy and religion department and the humanities division. He also served as president of the Iowa Philosophical Association. During his long career, Paul taught at Shelton College (N.Y.), Wheaton College (Ill.), Trinity College (Wales) and Princeton University.

Paul is survived by four daughters, including **Jean Paul Holland-Orenstein '68** of Greenwich, Conn. He re-married in October 2011 to Barbara Melin Walker of Carol Stream, Ill.

SERVICE DAY

More than 700 Central College students, faculty and staff volunteered for 80 service projects in 13 zip codes around central Iowa.



Thank you



Beginning late in 2010 through June 30, 2012, 18 new alumni and friends informed us of Central's inclusion in their estate plans. Their generosity qualifies them to be members of the Heritage Roll of Honor and continues Central's proud tradition of private support, helping secure its future and making possible personalized education for generations to come. We are grateful to these forward-thinking individuals.

You can do the same thing. It's easy. It doesn't require a large estate. It won't affect your plans to care for family. It may make possible a larger gift to Central than perhaps you ever dreamed of—and only after your needs are met.

To find out how to include Central in your plans, visit our website at [www.central.edu/plannedgiving](http://www.central.edu/plannedgiving) or contact **Don Morrison** at 1-800-447-0287 or [morrisond@central.edu](mailto:morrisond@central.edu).





PUT  
YOUR  
GIFT  
HERE

Support from our alumni and friends is essential to providing access to quality education for students who, without financial assistance, could not afford to attend college. **The Journey Scholarship Fund** provides an opportunity to do just that... help a future Central alumnus. Every gift received between **July 1, 2012** and **June 30, 2013** will go to a current or new Central College student in the form of a scholarship. **No gift is too small.**

## Life and Death in Sierra Leone

Jen Diers, assistant professor of education, took students to West Africa to teach and learn in an orphanage.

When she arrived in the children's hospital in Sierra Leone this May, junior Hanna Wilson immediately felt that she needed to go to the back of the room. She walked past children that were literally skin and bones, wept over by fathers or watched over by mothers who didn't know they were dying. "When I thought it couldn't get any harder, I turned around and saw her, lying on the bed, alone," says Wilson.

Baby Zainab had been born premature, was five months old and had tuberculosis. She was the tiniest infant Wilson had ever seen. When she picked up the baby, Zainab didn't seem to be breathing, but the nurse found a faint pulse. Wilson looked up at her professor, Jen Diers, for strength. The two held Zainab and prayed until it was time to leave. Her mother had still not shown up. "This was quite possibly the single hardest thing I have done," says Wilson, "leaving her there knowing she was inches from death."

This was Wilson's second time in Sierra Leone with Diers, who organized the trip for students and recent alumni. She is involved with the nonprofit The Raining Season, which runs an orphanage in the West African country. The trip was filled with momentous, sometimes heartbreaking, and sometimes hopeful moments. Joel Winters '10 remembers meeting the husband of an orphanage employee who had recently died. Unable to access a vehicle when his wife started having severe stomach pains, he carried her on his own back all the way to the hospital before she passed. But Winters also remembers meeting the 18-year-



"I believe that these trips are part of God's plan for us and the people of Sierra Leone," says Hanna Wilson, here with Baby Zainab.



old Joseph, a Muslim, and talking with him on the beach about God, Jesus and Christianity.

The first moment the students arrived in Sierra Leone, they felt the shock of extreme wealth disparity. Winters says it felt like a movie scene, with people living in tiny sheds of branches and tin. Diers recalls the children she saw picking through trash for food. Wilson had a similar experience: "I feel like my main statement in regard to Sierra Leone is: 'You have got to be kidding me!' This is what I thought when I first saw the poverty."

The task of the small group of students and alumni, most of them education majors, was to play with the orphans and develop educational activities for them. Diers says this provided practice creating lessons and problem-solving on the spot. As a specialist in education and child development, Diers trained the orphanage's teachers on proper

educational techniques in a country whose literacy rate is only 36 percent. The Raining Season's next project is an orphan village with a school, medical facility, church, community center and sustainable agriculture.

Despite all the powerful moments Diers has experienced during her four trips with The Raining Season, her mind keeps going back to that scene in the children's hospital. "To think, in that moment, that a Central student was there to hold that baby," Diers says with both pride and sadness. "Hanna was there in the last moments of that baby's life to give her warmth and love. It was a special moment for us as professor and student to be part of together."

*In Sierra Leone, Jen Diers acquired a medical visa for an orphaned child with disabilities. Lucy is now being treated at Pella Regional Health Center and lives with the Diers family. Read more about Lucy at [civitas.central.edu](http://civitas.central.edu).*



2012 Commencement





# Alumni Spotlight



Sara Crippen '11  
works with refugee  
children in Georgia.

## Where in the World is Sara?

At Central, graduation often means entry into the work-a-day world or the classrooms and libraries of a graduate institution. But for Sara Crippen '11, the first year out of college was a doorway to the ocean sunsets of Alaska; the pine-carpeted mountains of New Mexico; the gigantic Eucalyptus forests of Africa; the giraffes, lions and elephants of the Serengeti; and the dark, wind-swept summit of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Growing up with a “restless and adventurous heart,” Crippen always knew she had a deep connection with the earth. After graduation, the political science and Spanish major was off to Alaska to work on her uncle’s seining boat (“the Siren”) to fish for salmon. Since she had spent the previous four seasons aboard, she was designated “deck boss,” on top of mending nets, hauling gear and directing fish (up to 65,000 pounds) into the hold.

In January, Crippen traveled to Tanzania with a friend to work at an orphanage for teenage girls and explore the heart-rending landscape of eastern Africa. Next, she trained for and ran an ultra-marathon of 45 miles in New Mexico (what a thing to gloss over!) and then moved to the intentional Christian community of Jubilee Farms in Comer, Georgia. The group of 30 people live and work on the sustainable farm and serve a refugee population in need. Crippen will stay at Jubilee until December and then decide on the next phase of her life. Who knows what or where that could be?

Crippen says the past year has given her time to prioritize her life and reflect on the way “dirtiness” can purify the soul. “There were so many instances when I was dirty, hungry, tired, lost or sore from hiking—but I loved every part of it because it was an adventure and a challenge,” she says. “And isn’t that what life is really supposed to be about? Putting yourself through the crucible to see who you really are in the thick of it?”

