

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE | SUMMER 2011

# beacon

## Transformed by God's Grace

**GRACE BATEMAN GREENE  
IS CHANGING LIVES AND  
SHARING THE GOSPEL  
THROUGH PERU PAPER**





FROM THE PRESIDENT  
LEE GARDNER ROYCE

This issue of the *Beacon* focuses on entrepreneurs, those people who are willing to take risks to pursue the careers, ideas, or passions in which they believe.

When asked to name an entrepreneur I admire, I think of Thomas Edison. What impresses me most about Edison is not the success of his many inventions, from the light bulb to the stock ticker, or the many businesses he launched, but his remarkable ability to persevere. Edison patented more than a thousand inventions, but he failed more times than he succeeded. After more than 150 failed attempts, you can imagine his friends and family saying, "Come on, Tom. A glass bulb that lights up? Get serious." Edison had the tenacity to continue not only through failure, but also through doubt and ridicule.

Every university encourages entrepreneurship in some way – after all, what university doesn't want to be considered the training ground of the next Fred Smith, Bill Gates, or Steve Jobs? But I believe that as a Christian university, it is even more important for Mississippi College to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit, as that same attitude of innovation is required to project the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When the world is indifferent or hostile to Christianity, it takes an entrepreneurial spirit to find new ways to get the message across. Whether that's achieved through plastic worms, pimento cheese, a greeting card, or a concept still to be imagined, the Mississippi College family has proven its ability to find a way, often in the face of the same doubt and ridicule experienced by innovative entrepreneurs and daring disciples throughout history.

I hope the following pages will inspire your own entrepreneurial spirit and that whatever career, idea, or passion you are moved to pursue, your greatest goal is to someday hear the words from the Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

*Lee Royce*

# beacon

## BY THE BEACON'S LIGHT

*His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness." — Matthew 25: 23*

In His parable of the talents, Jesus tells the story of a wealthy master who entrusts "talents" – a Biblical term for a sum of money – to each of three servants. The first two servants put the talents given to them to work and double their value. The third servant, however, hides his talent in the ground. The master praises the first two servants for a job well done, but punishes the third servant.

The servants in the parable are not working to build wealth for themselves. Instead, they are working for their master's gain, and their reward is to share in his happiness. Their master praises them not for being savvy business people or for the total dollar amount they amass, but for their faithfulness.

This parable also resonates when "talents" are defined not as money, but as God-given gifts. We are all entrusted with specific talents. It is up to each of us whether we use those talents for our Master's gain or bury them in the ground.

In the following pages, you'll meet people who have used their talents to find success as entrepreneurs. But more inspiring than the rewards their talents have brought them on earth are the strides they have made for the Kingdom of God. Each of these people is using his or her business to bring glory to the Master. Each is focused on the same reward, which is to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant."



*On the Cover:* Grace Bateman Greene was photographed in Chan Chan, an archeological site near Trujillo, Peru, that provided the inspiration for one of Peru Paper's handmade greeting card designs. To learn more about Greene and the life-changing ministry behind her company, see page 32.



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The *Beacon* is available online with videos, on-camera interviews, in-depth details, and more web-exclusive content. Look for the **b** symbol, which indicates an article with online content, then visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon) for the rest of the story.



## Credits

*Beacon*  
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EDITOR  
Tracey M. Harrison '91, '94

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR  
Marlo Kirkpatrick

ALONG COLLEGE STREET EDITOR  
Andy Kanengiser

CLASS NOTES  
Tracy May  
Amy Rowan '85  
Lisa Williams

DESIGNER  
Alecia Porch

PHOTOGRAPHER  
Robby Followell '07

WEB DEVELOPER  
Justin Garcia

VIDEOGRAPHER  
Ethan Milner

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DID THAT STUDENT PROFILE LEAVE YOU WISHING YOU COULD hear more from the person in her own words?

Are you curious whether that alumnus was as funny in person as he sounded on paper?

Were you left wondering what happened after the interview ended?

If the printed version of the *Beacon* leaves you longing for more, you can find it online at [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon).

The online *Beacon* is produced by the same team that creates the printed version, with the addition of camera work and editing provided by MC graphic design major and aspiring filmmaker Ethan Milner. This online version of your favorite alumni magazine includes on-camera interviews, background videos, in-depth details, and more web-

exclusive content than the pages of the *Beacon* alone could possibly hold.

For example, in the summer 2011 issue of the online *Beacon*, you'll travel to Trujillo, Peru, to meet the women of Peru Paper Company, and experience the life-changing benefits of their work first-hand. From there, you'll journey to Grenada, Mississippi, to find out how plastic fishing worms are introducing people worldwide to Jesus Christ, then take a trip to Memphis, Tennessee, that's sure to inspire a craving for pimento cheese.

▶▶ Look for the **b** in the printed version of the *Beacon*, which indicates an article with online content, then visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon) for the rest of the story.

### AND THE WINNER IS...

THE SUMMER 2011 POSTING IS ONLY THE THIRD EDITION OF THE ONLINE *Beacon*, BUT THE E-VERSION OF THE AWARD-winning magazine has already racked up several awards of its own. At the CASE Awards, which recognize excellence in marketing and communication by educational institutions, the online *Beacon* captured the Grand Award in the Electronic Newsletter category. At the Baptist Communicator Awards, the online *Beacon* captured the Diane Reasoner Award for Exceptional Achievement in Interactive Communications. The online *Beacon* also won first place in the Interactive Communications and Electronic Media Design categories. The online *Beacon* has also taken honors in the Addy Awards presented by the Jackson Advertising Federation, the Prism Awards presented by the Public Relations Association of Mississippi, and the CPRAM Awards presented by the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi.

# MIKE HUCKABEE STRIKES *the* RIGHT CHORD

THE FORMER GOVERNOR AND TALK SHOW HOST ATTRACTS A RECORD SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET CROWD. ★

WEIGHING IN ON EVERYTHING FROM President Barack Obama's handling of the crisis in Libya to rising federal debt to his own Christian faith then wrapping it all up with a performance on the bass guitar, Gov. Mike Huckabee wowed a record crowd at MC's spring scholarship banquet.

Close to 700 guests were on hand when Gov. Huckabee took the stage as the guest speaker at the annual banquet on March 28. The former Arkansas governor and 2008 presidential candidate recently announced that he will not make a second run at the White House.

"I don't need the presidential race to have a platform," the former Baptist preacher said. "Whether voters like me or not, I'm more interested in the evaluation I receive from Almighty God. I want to hear six words – well done, good and faithful servant."

Gov. Huckabee mixed humor with his political message at MC's annual scholarship event, which attracted a record crowd, including 1st District U.S. Representative and MC trustee Alan Nunnelee, 3rd District U.S. Representative Gregg Harper, Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, and Hinds Community College President Clyde Muse.

While he worries about what America's rising debt will mean for future generations and remains troubled by how President Obama is managing the economy and global issues, Huckabee is upbeat about the nation's future, saying, "I'm not a gloom and doomer." During a question and answer session, Huckabee also offered insights on issues ranging from energy to the need to revamp the nation's tax system. Gov. Huckabee delighted the MC crowd by showing off his guitar-playing talents, performing with the Chris Derrick Group.

This year's banquet raised more than \$286,000 for scholarships at MC. Since 2008, the annual event has generated more than \$1 million.

The event is a key part of Mississippi College's \$80 million "Growing the Vision" campaign, which will wrap up with a celebration during the Mississippi College Homecoming weekend in October 2011.

With another renowned speaker and a record crowd on hand, MC Trustee Bill Sones was delighted to see the series he helped launch become such a success, saying, "This banquet has become a meaningful part of life at Mississippi College."



GROWING THE VISION CELEBRATION  
Join the celebration at Homecoming 2011 as Mississippi College wraps up "Growing the Vision," the five-year campaign to raise \$80 million for capital improvements, scholarships, academic programs, and the MC endowment. You'll want to be there when the grand total raised is announced!

# “LET *the* LITTLE CHILDREN COME *to* ME.”



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE IS HONORED TO FEATURE ANOTHER work by internationally celebrated artist and MC art professor Dr. Sam Gore on the Clinton campus. Titled “Jesus and the Children,” the 1,200-pound bronze masterpiece was recently installed near Lowrey Hall, home of the School of Education.

The sculpture is a recast of the same Gore piece that graces a courtyard at First Baptist Church in downtown Jackson. Mississippi College President Lee Royce requested the replica of “Jesus and the Children” for MC, feeling the work would be a fitting reminder of the purpose of the MC School of Education. Additional works by Dr. Gore at MC include a bronze depicting Jesus as the “Servant Savior” on the main campus and sculptures depicting Jesus and His

Disciples and Moses and the Ten Commandments on the MC Law campus in downtown Jackson.

At 83, Dr. Gore remains both inspired and prolific in his work. His most recent project, “Fallen Comrades,” pays tribute to America’s military veterans. The bronze sculpture, which depicts a soldier carrying his comrade across enemy lines, will be displayed at the Clinton Visitors Center. In addition to his own creative work, Dr. Gore continues to teach art at Mississippi College, inspiring his students not only with his expertise, but also by his example.

“Art is always a challenge,” Dr. Gore says. “I still feel like I’m learning. You don’t keep doing sculpture without continuing to learn as you go.”

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” — MATTHEW 19:14



FACULTY *Spotlight*



“VIOLA DACUS has a wonderful voice and is such a consummate musician. She is wonderful to work with.”

*Retired MC music professor  
Dr. James Sclater*

BRINGING THE WORLD TO CAMPUS

Bombs pound Libya. Japan struggles to recover from the triple hit of an earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster. United States soldiers battle in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Professor Glenn Antizzo’s mission is to help MC students understand these events as more than just news clips. After 14 years of teaching at Nicholls State University in Louisiana, Antizzo joined the Mississippi College history and political science department faculty in August 2010. A specialist in international relations and the author of three books, Antizzo helps his students explore and understand how events a world away impact citizens around the globe. The professor is also in demand among members of the news media interested in his take on history-making developments.

A native New Yorker and 1985 graduate of Cornell University, Antizzo received his master’s degree at the University of Georgia and his doctorate in political science from Louisiana State University. The professor’s latest book, *U.S. Military Intervention in the Post-Cold War Era*, focuses on U.S. military actions in Panama, Iraq, Somalia, and Kosovo, and looks ahead to provide insights on future American international policy.

HITTING A PERSONAL NOTE

Mezzo-soprano and Mississippi College music professor Viola Dacus has wowed concert goers from Mississippi to the Holy Land. Dacus gave one of her most heartfelt performances last March at a Mississippi Symphony Orchestra chamber concert in Jackson, where she sang pieces composed



ABOVE: Glenn Antizzo, Viola Dacus, James “J. B.” Potts, Alina Ng and Ron Howard

by retired MC music professor James Sclater. The award-winning Sclater spotlighted Dacus’s youth in Yazoo City, Mississippi, with his songs, collectively titled “Reflections in the Mirror of Childhood.” The songs touched on Dacus’s experiences growing up in the Mississippi Delta, including exploring a cemetery, visiting a country store, discovering a china doll, and spending time with her younger sister.

“The audience response was tremendous,” Dacus said of the highly personal concert. “They all seemed to be as touched as I was.”

Dacus’s career highlights include a December 2007 Christmas performance at Bethlehem’s Manger Square, as well as performances with the Baton Rouge Opera, Mississippi Opera, Ohio Light Opera, and the Manhattan Philharmonic. While her fan base extends beyond Mississippi’s borders, Dacus is not neglecting her hometown of Clinton. Upcoming events include a recital at Mississippi College this fall.

THE CRUEL, CRUEL WORLDS OF FAULKNER AND DICKEY

Professor James “J. B.” Potts’s passion for the works of renowned Southern authors William Faulkner and James Dickey has led to recognition for Potts’s own writing.

The MC English professor’s essay on these two literary giants appeared in the spring 2011 edition of the prestigious literary journal *The South Carolina Review*. Titled “Faulkner’s Influence on Dickey and the Sadistic Thesis,” Potts’s essay explores the connections between the works of Mississippi’s Faulkner, a Nobel Prize-winning novelist, and South Carolina’s Dickey, a poet and novelist best known for his chilling novel *Deliverance*. Potts’s essay focuses on both authors’ use of cruelty as an issue or theme in their works.

Currently in its 40th year of publication, the Clemson University-based *South Carolina Review* publishes fiction, poetry, essays, and reviews about and by well-known and aspiring authors.

“Dr. Potts is writing in one of America’s premier literary journals. That puts him in very good company,” Jonathan Randle, chairman of the MC English Department, said. “J. B. is a prolific writer and one of Mississippi College’s flagship scholars.”

© ALINA NG

Once an area limited primarily to literary works, copyright law now extends to software, movies, the Internet, and virtually any other venue in which ideas are expressed.

MC Law Professor Alina Ng first became intrigued with laws protecting ideas as a doctoral candidate at Stanford Law School. This fall, Ng’s book on the subject, *Copyright Law and the Progress of Science and the Useful Arts*, will be published in the United Kingdom and in the United States. According to Ng, the book evaluates the copyright system “from a moral and ethical vantage point.”

A member of the MC Law faculty since 2007, Ng’s areas of expertise include cyberspace law, intellectual property law, and economics property law. A native of Malaysia and a graduate of the University of London with a master of law degree from the University of Cambridge, Ng received a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship, which helped pay for her law school studies in the United States. She also holds a master’s degree and doctoral degree from Stanford Law School.

THE PRICE OF TEA IN CHINA

MC Vice President for Academic Affairs Ron Howard is polishing the final draft of his book *East Wing Rising – China, the United States and the New World Order*. Howard expects the book, a culmination of his years-long fascination with China and that country’s impact on the rest of the world, to be published in 2011. The book examines China’s relationship with the United States, primarily from the 19th century forward to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing and the economic headlines of the present day.

Howard’s interest in China has further increased as a result of MC’s growing Chinese student population. The majority of MC’s 220 international students are from China.

“The book is written with the American reader in mind, but also offers insights to Chinese students and laymen,” Howard said. “The relationship between China and the United States is fundamental not only to the U.S. and China, but to the peace and prosperity of the entire world. The better Americans understand the Chinese, and vice versa, the better chance we have for peaceful resolution of disputes and international cooperation on worldwide problems.”



*Choctaw*  
SPORTS  
ROUND UP

**GEARING UP FOR THE GRIDIRON**

Familiar rivals Millsaps and Belhaven are back on the schedule for the first two games of the Choctaws' 2011 football season.

The Choctaws kick off on September 3rd at Robinson-Hale Stadium in the always-anticipated Backyard Brawl against the Millsaps Majors. Claiming victories in 2009 and 2010, MC hopes to make it a three-peat against the Choctaws' closest Division III neighbor. Just one week later, the Choctaws will make the short drive along I-20 to face the Belhaven Blazers. Other exciting pigskin match-ups include MC vs. Hardin-Simmons, Louisiana College, Mary Hardin-Baylor, Howard Payne, and Texas Lutheran.

Let's go, Choctaws!

**TAKING THE REINS**

The Lady Choctaws equestrian team wrapped their fourth regular season by winning first-place honors in March competition at Murray State University in the heart of Kentucky horse country. MC topped Sewanee and Vanderbilt, who finished tied for second place, and MC freshman Heather Hays finished as the high point rider. The final performance of the competition by the Lady Choctaws represented quite an improvement over their fifth place among the eight schools competing just the day before.

"This competition was a great way to end our season," assistant coach Lauren Moore said. "Going into next season, we're looking forward to working with a team that has a whole season under its belt, as well as a lot of interest from new riders."



MC's clay shooting club pulls the trigger on its second season this fall with fund-raising events and fun-filled activities.

ABOVE: Daniel Virdin, Cameron May and Robert Parkin

**A GOAL MADE FOR MC SOCCER**

This summer, the doors will open on a new MC soccer field house already recognized as one of the premier facilities in the American Southwest Conference. The 5,000-square-foot building will include spacious locker rooms for men and women, a media room in which to watch game film, a training room, a 40-person meeting room, coaches' offices, and other amenities sure to enhance the MC soccer program.

The new field house was made possible by a generous gift from Texas businessman and MC alumnus Robert Girling III. Girling's daughter, Kathy Girling Odom, is also an MC alumnus and a close friend of women's soccer coach Darryl Longabaugh.

"The Robert G.W. Girling III Soccer Building and the new facilities it offers will be a blessing to our program and a tremendous asset in recruiting," Longabaugh said. "I've been waiting on this for three years. It's awesome, and I am pumped."

**TABLE TENNIS TEAM TRAVELS TO NATIONALS**

Mississippi College's table tennis team earned their fourth straight trip to the national championships in Rochester, Minnesota, in mid-April. The Choctaws finished in fifth place at nationals for the second year in a row, besting teams from larger schools including Ohio State, Maryland, Princeton, Columbia, and Brown. Table tennis powerhouse Texas Wesleyan emerged as the national championship team.

The perennial winners in the Dixie Division, the Choctaws were led by Captain Ken Qiu and a cast of veteran players including Bill Cai, Yang Yu, Zhicheng "Johnson" Liang, all natives of China, and MC junior Ben VanHorn of Clinton. Also making the trip to the finals was newcomer Zijun Yang, a recent transfer to Mississippi College from China and the only female on the team.

This fall, MC will again host the Dixie Division regional during Homecoming weekend in October at the Baptist Healthplex.

**MC STUDENTS SHOOT IT OUT AND MAKE A SPLASH**

MC's bass fishing and clay shooting clubs enter their second season with a calendar filled with fund-raising events and fun-filled activities.

The two student organizations raised \$15,000 last fall at an event at Providence Hill Farm. This year, MC alumni and friends will have even more opportunities to support the organizations and have a good time in the great outdoors. Providence Hill Farm will host a fund-raiser for the clay shooting team on October 28, 2011 and a fishing tournament to benefit the bass fishing team in the spring of 2012.

Jim Turcotte '83, vice president for enrollment management and student affairs and a longtime outdoor enthusiast, serves as the bass club's faculty advisor.

"MC alumni and friends can support these organizations in many ways, from attending a fund-raising event to making a contribution of cash, shotguns, or bass boats," said Turcotte.

"If companies who make their livelihood off of outdoorsmen won't support these kinds of teams, then who will?" says Rick Looser, owner and chief executive officer of Longleaf Camo, the teams' leading sponsor. "Longleaf is proud to play a small part in bringing these new and exciting sports to MC."

To make a donation or learn more about the organizations, contact Jim Turcotte at 601.925.3809 or turcotte@mc.edu.



“MC is home to outstanding medical sciences faculty who excel both in the classroom and in research. Our faculty is committed to providing the very best guidance for students who are pursuing careers in healthcare or science. They are more than just teachers, they are mentors in every respect of the word.”

DR. STAN BALDWIN, *dean of the School of Science and Mathematics and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences*



## IS THERE *a* (POTENTIAL) DOCTOR *in* *the* HOUSE?

MC’S MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM INCREASES THE ODDS THAT THE ANSWER WILL BE “YES.”

Fewer than 45 percent of applicants to medical schools nationwide are accepted, but for MC students, there’s a program designed to improve those odds.

In 2005, MC launched the master of medical science program. This rigorous, one-year, graduate-level program is designed for students who plan to apply to medical or dental school and want to improve their chances of admission, students who applied to medical or dental school immediately after undergraduate school but were rejected, and students who wish to prepare for careers in medical research.

The master of medical science curriculum includes many courses taught at the medical school level. As a result, program graduates apply to and enter medical school having already covered much of the first-year medical school coursework. But more than just the classes themselves, the fast pace and heavy volume of the work mimics the first year of medical school. In the competitive world of medical school admissions, that preparation makes a real difference.

“Admission committees at medical schools want to know whether or not candidates are capable of performing at the medical school level,” says Dr. Stan Baldwin, dean of the School of Science and Mathematics and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, who created and spearheads the

master of medical science program. “They can trust this program as proof that a student who completes it is of medical school timbre.

“Another thing that I like about the master of medical sciences is that it’s a program of second chances,” Dr. Baldwin continues. “The program allows good candidates who didn’t get into medical school the first time they applied for some reason – maybe they had to work, or maybe life just happened – the chance to make another statement. Medical schools are aware of situations like those. If a student shows the dedication and drive to follow a rejection with hard work and perseverance, that person might be a strong candidate the second time around.”

The first master of medical science class in 2005 enrolled less than 20 students. Today, the program enrolls approximately 200 students from some 130 colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada, as well as a number of physicians from India who study at MC before taking the medical boards that allow them to practice in the United States. Students currently enrolled in the program completed undergraduate studies at prestigious universities including Harvard, Duke, UCLA, Notre Dame, Johns Hopkins, and many others.

WHAT’S UP, DOC?  
THE FIRST GROUP  
OF STUDENTS WHO  
COMPLETED THE MASTER  
OF MEDICAL SCIENCE  
PROGRAM AND WENT ON  
TO ENROLL IN MEDICAL  
SCHOOL GRADUATED  
AS DOCTORS IN MAY  
OF 2011.

BACK ROW: Dr. Stephanie Carmicle, Dr. Joe Graves, Dr. Liz Brandon, and Dr. Ted Snazelle  
FRONT ROW: Dr. Stan Baldwin, Dr. Beth Dunigan, Dr. Bob Sample, Dr. Kate Estess, and Dr. Angela Reiken





“The master of medical science program was by far the hardest and most rewarding experience that I have had thus far,” says Oduche Igboechi, a 2009 Harvard graduate who completed the MC program and has since been accepted into the Tulane University School of Medicine. “From day one, I was expected to perform at the level of a medical student, which is no small task. Being thrown into a sink-or-swim situation like that really allowed me to progress in my academic development. After this rigorous curriculum, I know without a doubt that I am indeed ready for medical school.”

Since the program is structured to offer a genuine test of whether or not a student is a good candidate for medical school, it’s not surprising that sometimes, the answer is no. But according to Dr. Baldwin, that’s not necessarily a negative outcome.

“The acceptance rate into medical school for students who complete this program is very good. On the other hand, some students who enroll in this program quickly realize they are *not* strong candidates for medical school, and that they’re actually better suited for other careers,” Dr. Baldwin says. “Many of the students who choose another option are very thankful that they didn’t spend many years and many thousands of dollars pursuing a path that was ultimately not right for them.”

“WOULD I RECOMMEND MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE’S MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM TO A STUDENT I WAS TRYING TO HELP? ABSOLUTELY. I WOULD EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO SAY IT IS THE ONLY SUCH PROGRAM I WOULD RECOMMEND.”  
DR. F. SCOTT KENNEDY

“Students who are able to navigate the MC masters program graduate with a well-earned, rightfully placed confidence that makes a tremendous difference when they get to medical school,” says Dr. F. Scott Kennedy, assistant dean of student admissions at Louisiana State University School of Medicine, Shreveport. “Would I recommend Mississippi College’s master of medical science program to a student I was trying to help? Absolutely. I would even go so far as to say it is the *only* such program I would recommend.”

“More and more students from other states are ‘discovering’ our program, largely through referrals from other universities and medical schools,” Dr. Baldwin says. “Our current enrollment of about 200 students is optimum, but we do want to continue recruiting efforts to ensure those 200 students represent the best candidates for the program. Our goal is to recruit the best possible students, who will go on to become the best possible doctors.”

The MC program’s reputation for producing those best possible students is growing among medical schools nationwide.

“Dr. Baldwin and his team at Mississippi College are outstanding in their instruction,” Dr. Kennedy says. “If a student is recommended by Stan Baldwin and Mississippi College, we know that student is truly prepared for medical school.”

### MC’s MEDICAL SCIENCES HIGHLIGHTS

*Mississippi College is a national leader in preparing undergraduate and graduate students for careers in the medical and dental fields.*

MANY COURSES IN THE MC pre-med curriculum are taught at the medical school level. These advanced level courses are excellent preparation for medical school, typically resulting in better grades in medical school and higher board scores. Courses taught at the first-year medical school level include human gross anatomy, medical physiology, human neuroanatomy, histology, pharmacology, and human embryology. BECAUSE COURSES ARE TAUGHT at the medical school level, MC is able to offer the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) subject board exams to undergraduate and graduate students. These exams are commonly given to medical school students at the end of each course taken in medical school. Mississippi College is the only university in the country where undergraduates can take these exams. MANY MC MEDICAL SCIENCES STUDENTS score at or better than the national average compared to medical school students taking the same subject board exams. MC’s top scores fall above the 90th percentile, which means these MC students scored higher than 90 percent of all medical school students taking the same exam nationwide.

### STUDENTS WITH UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES FROM THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS HAVE ENROLLED IN THE MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM:

Alabama State University  
Alcorn State University  
Allegheny College,  
Meadville, Pennsylvania  
Arizona State University  
Auburn University  
Austin Peay State University  
Baylor University  
Belhaven University  
Birmingham Southern  
College  
Boston University  
California Polytechnic State  
University  
California State University  
San Marcos  
Centenary College of  
Louisiana  
Chicago State University  
College of Saint Benedict,  
St. Joseph, Minnesota  
Colorado State University  
Delta State University  
Duke University  
Elon University  
Emory University  
Fisk University  
Florida Southern College  
Florida State University  
George Washington  
University  
Georgia Institute of  
Technology  
Georgia State University  
Harvard University  
Howard University,  
Washington, D.C.  
Illinois State University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Kansas University  
Kentucky State University  
Loma Linda University,  
California  
Louisiana State University  
McNeese State University  
Mercer University  
Millsaps College  
Minnesota State University  
Mississippi College  
Mississippi State University

Mississippi Valley State  
University  
Morgan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina State  
University  
Northern Illinois University  
Northwestern State  
University of Louisiana  
Northwestern University  
Oakwood University  
Oberlin College  
Oklahoma Christian  
University  
Oklahoma University  
Pacific Union College  
Pepperdine University  
Queen’s University  
Rhodes College  
Rice University, Houston,  
Texas  
Rollins College  
Rutgers University, Newark,  
New Jersey  
Saint Vincent College,  
Latrobe, Pennsylvania  
Salve Regina, New Port,  
Rhode Island  
Samford University  
Santa Clara University  
Southern Methodist  
University  
Spelman College  
Spring Hill College,  
Mobile, Alabama  
St. John Fisher College,  
Rochester, New York  
Saint John’s University,  
Collegeville, Minnesota  
St. Vincent College  
State University of  
New York  
Stillman College  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Christian University  
Texas Tech University  
Tougaloo College  
Trinity University,  
San Antonio, Texas  
Tufts University  
Tuskegee University  
University of Alabama  
University of Alberta  
University of Arkansas  
University of British  
Columbia  
University of Buffalo  
University of California  
Berkeley

University of California  
Davis  
University of California  
Irvine  
University of California  
Los Angeles  
University of California  
Riverside  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Louisiana  
University of Maryland  
University of Memphis  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Mississippi  
University of Montevallo  
University of Nevada Reno  
University of New Orleans  
University of North Carolina  
University of North Florida  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Richmond  
University of San Francisco  
University of South Alabama  
University of South Florida  
University of Southern  
Mississippi  
University of Tennessee  
University of Texas  
University of the  
Cumberlands  
University of Toronto  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Western  
Ontario  
University of Wisconsin  
Vanderbilt University  
Virginia Commonwealth  
University  
Virginia Tech University  
Wayne State College  
William and Mary College  
William Carey University  
Williams College  
Xavier University  
of Louisiana  
York University,  
Toronto, Canada

### MORE ROOM TO OPERATE

In the fall of 2012, a new, 20,000-square-foot building will open adjacent to the Hederman Science Building that will create more classroom and laboratory space for both the master of medical science program and MC’s undergraduate pre-medical programs. The as-yet-unnamed building will include a 5,000- square-foot human gross anatomy lab comparable to that available in a medical school. Plans for the new building include several opportunities for recognizing major donors through the naming of laboratories, classrooms, and the building itself. If you are interested in this form of lasting recognition, please contact Dr. Bill Townsend at 601.925.3257 or bill.townsend@mc.edu.





ON MARCH 1, 2008, THE PROUD U.S. NAVY WARSHIP *USS New York* was christened under sunny skies at Northrop Grumman shipyard in Avondale, Louisiana. Crafted of seven tons of steel salvaged from the wreckage of the Twin Towers after 9/11, the ship's gleaming bow bears the engraving "Never Forget."

Performing at the christening were country stars Charlie Daniels and Rebecca Lynn Howard. When Daniels belted out the rousing lyrics to "The *USS New York*," and Howard delivered a moving performance of "Never Forget," there wasn't a dry eye on the dock.

Among those blinking back tears were Sherry Johnson '03 and Liem Walker '03, owners of Seasong Recording, which produced the album *Never Forget*, a tribute to the *USS New York*, the victims and heroes of 9/11, and the brave men and women of the U.S. armed forces. The songs performed by Daniels and Howard were two of 13 songs featured on the album.

Johnson and Walker's role in producing *Never Forget* is especially appropriate. Like the *USS New York*, Seasong Recording was born out of tragedy, but has become a symbol of hope and service to others.

**S**herry Johnson and Liem Walker met on the first day of new student orientation at MC Law in 2000. The two women became fast friends, sharing a strong work ethic and an unrestrained sense of humor that saw them through the challenges of law school.

"We took our work seriously, but we laughed a lot too," Walker recalls. "In fact, some of our friends in law school stopped sitting next to us because they were afraid they'd get in trouble in class."

Shortly after their 2003 graduations, the women decided to open a practice together. In January of 2004, they opened their doors as Walker & Johnson PLLC, operating offices in Jackson, Mississippi, and in Johnson's hometown of Chatom, Alabama. The partners' practice grew quickly, with both women earning reputations as tough, talented attorneys with promising futures and what appeared to be lucrative careers ahead.

Then tragedy struck.

The women were turning off of a rural road in Chatom when an overloaded logging truck traveling at more than 90 miles per hour slammed into the back of Walker's Dodge Durango. The Durango was thrown 15 yards, slammed into a utility pole and snapped the pole in half, then spun wildly before crashing to a stop on its passenger side in a ditch.

"The last thing I remember clearly is Liem looking in the rearview mirror and screaming, 'He can't stop!'" Johnson says. "Right before he slammed into us, she threw out her arm and tried to soccer mom save me."

Johnson and Walker managed to crawl out of the shattered rear window of the truck and collapsed on an embankment, where they lapsed in and out of consciousness waiting for help to arrive. Along with mangled pieces of the Durango, the women's paperwork and personal possessions littered the roadway.

LEFT: Sherry Johnson and Liem Walker, photographed at Terminal Recording Studios in Ridgeland

“I remember the driver of the logging truck picking up a business card off the ground,” Johnson says with a wry smile. “He was already scared to death. I’ll never forget the look on his face when he said, ‘Y’all are attorneys? Both of you?’”

The accident left both women with grievous injuries. Walker suffered a fractured skull, a severe concussion, and shoulder and back injuries that would require multiple surgeries. Johnson sustained injuries to her knee, shoulder, and eye that would also require surgeries, and began suffering from anxiety attacks that left her unable to drive. Walker’s head injuries led to short-term trouble communicating articulately, and both women were prescribed pain medications that made concentrating almost impossible. They were forced to shutter their promising legal practice while they focused on recovery.

“I spent most of 2005 reading Nancy Drew books,” Johnson says. “The part of my brain responsible for recall had been hurt in the accident, and for about three months, I couldn’t retain complicated materials or focus on new information and retain it with any clarity. Part of my occupational therapy was to read simple materials and try to recall the facts I’d just read, which led me to Nancy Drew.

“I recalled some lessons re-reading those books I’d loved as a child,” Johnson continues. “Nancy took on cases that were interesting to her or that allowed her to help someone else. Nancy also helped me remember that nothing is happenstance. Everything happened for a reason.”

In 2006, six months after the accident, Walker and Johnson felt they were ready to return to work, but both agreed their re-born law practice would have a new focus.

“Before, it had been all about making money,” Johnson says. “Coming back in, we realized life is too short. It had to mean something more than that, and it had to be fun.”

The partners began discussing a possible side project to their legal practice – something they could do that would be meaningful both to them and to others, and that would also bring them joy. Johnson had some previous experience with songwriting; she had penned a few songs that she describes as “album fillers you’d never hear on the radio,” and still had connections in Nashville. Johnson and Walker decided their new venture would be a record label that would produce projects with a specific message, and that they would donate any proceeds they made after expenses to charity.



**NAMES WORTH DROPPING**

Artists who have worked with Seasong Recording include Charlie Daniels, Little Jimmy Dickens, Crystal Gayle, George Jones, B. B. King, Tracy Lawrence, Little Richard, Darryl Singletary, Marty Stuart, Pam Tillis, Aaron Tippin, Randy Travis, Tanya Tucker, Gene Watson, the late Porter Wagoner, and Darrel Worley.

“We chose the name ‘Seasong,’ which loosely translated from Vietnamese means, ‘you’re playing and having a good time,’” Walker explains. “It seemed like the perfect description of what we wanted to do with this label.”

By the summer of 2006, Johnson and Walker had chosen the theme for Seasong’s first album.

“During the 2005 Christmas season, there had been a big backlash against people saying, ‘Merry Christmas,’” Johnson recalls. “Liem and I had strong feelings regarding the fact that Christmas seemed to be losing its true meaning.”

The women’s response was Seasong’s debut album, *Still Believing in Christmas*. Johnson called upon Mark Moseley, a music engineer and studio owner in Nashville, for help recruiting country music stars to sing on the tribute to the real meaning of Christmas. The result was an album featuring renowned country artists including Little Jimmy Dickens, Crystal Gayle, Lorie Morgan, T. G. Sheppard, Tanya Tucker, and the legendary Porter Wagoner. The album included a few Christmas classics, but more than half of the songs were originals written for *Still Believing in Christmas*.

Johnson and Walker spent weeks in Nashville organizing the project, working with the artists, and even singing back-up on a few of the songs. From concept to distribution, the part time project required 10 months, juggling their law practice and their personal lives the entire time. The

proceeds from *Still Believing in Christmas* were donated to charities, including Little Sisters of the Poor, Catholic Charities, and Toys for Tots.

“We began receiving e-mails, letters, and cards from people who benefitted from the project or had been touched by the music,” Johnson says. “A mother met me in a parking lot to pick up presents, and cried when she thanked me for helping her provide Christmas for her children. Experiences like that helped me realize that I’d actually been fortunate. The injuries I received not only led me back to music, but also helped me find a real purpose through music.”

“We got into it to have a creative outlet and because it was fun,” Walker agrees, “but seeing it make a lasting, positive difference was just magic.”

Two years later, a fellow songwriter asked Johnson and Walker for help on the *Never Forget* project, a planned tribute to the *USS New York*. The project had lost its financial backing and was in danger of being shelved. Johnson



“WE CHOSE THE NAME ‘SEASONG,’ which loosely translated from Vietnamese means, ‘you’re playing and having a good time.’ It seemed like the perfect description of what we wanted to do with this label.”

and Walker not only agreed to take over production, they expanded the one-song project into a 13-song album including 11 original works. Based on the reputation they had already built in Nashville, Johnson and Walker were able to assemble an impressive roster of country stars to work on *Never Forget*, including Charlie Daniels, Rebecca Lynn Howard, George Jones, Tracy Lawrence, Pam Tillis, Aaron Tippin, Randy Travis, and Darryl Worley. Sherry Johnson co-wrote the song “An American Woman,” performed on *Never Forget* by country icon Tanya Tucker.

Proceeds from *Never Forget* benefit Hope for the Warriors, an organization that provides assistance to injured soldiers and their families, and the Fisher House Foundation, which provides free or low cost lodging to veterans and military families receiving treatment at military medical centers.

Seasong Recording’s current endeavors include a blues project tentatively scheduled for release in late 2011 or early 2012. Johnson and Walker are also excited about an international project that’s still under wraps.

While they find producing record albums creatively fulfilling and personally rewarding, neither woman plans to give up her day job. Today, Walker and Johnson PLLC has offices in Vicksburg and Brandon, Mississippi, and Walker also serves as the public defender for Sharkey County.

“The work we’ve done through Seasong has been so

rewarding, but I love practicing law and a lot of that work is also personally rewarding,” Walker says. “I can’t see myself leaving the law. Or maybe that’s just because I had a good day in court today,” she adds with a laugh.

It still amazes Johnson and Walker that an endeavor born of tragedy and intended primarily to be “fun” has grown to touch so many lives.

“This music will never make me rich, it may never win a Grammy, and most people will never hear it, but this music provides people comfort and joy, which in turn brings meaning and value to my own life,” Johnson says. “Winning a lawsuit can’t compare to seeing the smile of a child who receives Christmas gifts as a result of our work, or knowing that proceeds from our album helped send a military wife with three children to Germany to be at the bedside of her injured husband.”

“The music industry part of it is so much fun, but the charitable part of it, helping others – just feels good,” Walker says. “And I don’t know that it gets any better than that.”

**SEASONG IS JUST A CLICK AWAY**

*Still Believing in Christmas* and *Never Forget* are available for download on iTunes and amazon.com.

**CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST**

Country legend Tanya Tucker agreed to record “Let It Snow” on Seasong Recording’s debut album, *Still Believing in Christmas*, but she had one special request of producers Sherry Johnson and Liem Walker.

“She wanted the studio to be very cold, like Christmas weather,” Walker says. “The only problem was that we recorded her in Nashville in August.”

Johnson and Walker not only accommodated Tucker’s request by turning the air conditioning as low as possible, they also decked the halls of the studio with Christmas decorations.

# KEEPING HIS FOCUS

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO'S BIG-PICTURE VISION HAS TRANSFORMED THE MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, BUT HE'S NEVER LOST SIGHT OF THE SCHOOL'S UNCHANGING MISSION.

A native of Bolivia, Marcelo Eduardo describes his middle-class childhood in South America as very similar to a middle-class childhood in the United States. Eduardo's childhood dream was also similar to that of many all-American boys. When asked what he wanted to be when he grew up, his answer was, "a professional athlete." A star tennis player in high school, Eduardo discovered Mississippi in 1980 courtesy of a tennis scholarship to Delta State University (DSU).

"I saw an athletic scholarship in the United States as a step toward my goal of becoming a professional athlete," Eduardo says. "I had graduated from high school in November, which is the normal graduation date in Bolivia. I was baffled that no one would give me a scholarship for the following January – such was my naiveté about college athletics and when scholarships are granted. The one exception was DSU, which had lost a player mid-season. I accepted the scholarship and relocated to Mississippi sight unseen."

After a couple of years spent playing college-level tennis, Eduardo realized his dream of becoming a professional tennis player was not destined to come to fruition.

"Looking back, I was fortunate that my parents had the insight to foster those dreams, while at the same time insisting that I have a strong education on which to fall back in case those dreams didn't work out," Eduardo says. "Now, as a parent myself, I am at least somewhat comforted by the fact that I obviously *did* listen to them."

Eduardo shifted his focus from hitting balls to hitting the books. He earned his bachelor's degree in economics from DSU, and began working on his M.B.A. while coaching the Delta State women's tennis team.

"I taught some classes while working as a graduate assistant, and realized that I really enjoyed explaining and illustrating business concepts and theories," Eduardo recalls. "I think all true teachers can relate to this. There is a great degree of satisfaction in helping people understand something complex. I knew then that I wanted to teach."

After earning his M.B.A. from DSU and a Ph.D. in finance from the University of Mississippi, Eduardo accepted a teaching position at Mississippi College in 1997. In just four short years, Eduardo rose from instructor of finance to chair of the business administration department to associ-

ate dean to dean of the School of Business. In the decade since, Marcelo Eduardo has taken his vision for the School of Business from mind's eye to an impressive reality.

"It is honestly hard to put into words what Marcelo Eduardo has done for the School of Business," says Dr. Lloyd "Bo" Roberts. "The tempo starts at the top at any organization, and Dr. Eduardo established a new tempo here. He has literally transformed the MC School of Business."

Roberts should know. A former dean of the School of Business himself, it was Roberts who originally hired Eduardo as a professor of finance. When Roberts elected to step down as dean in favor of returning to the classroom, he recommended Eduardo for the position.

Dr. Roberts points to three areas in which Eduardo's intense efforts have most noticeably paid off – cultivating strong relationships between the School of Business and MC alumni and between the school and the Mississippi business community; the transformation of Self Hall, the home of the School of Business, into a signature business facility; and recruiting the highest caliber of instructors to join the MC faculty.

"Dr. Eduardo has created and furthered so many relationships that have led not only to increased financial support for the School of Business, but to support and recognition for the school and its programs in the Mississippi business community," Dr. Roberts says. "That is perhaps the least seen yet most important part of his work."

Also under Eduardo's tenure, Self Hall has undergone a multimillion-dollar overhaul that included a renovated auditorium, modernized classrooms, and state-of-the-art technical equipment. Eduardo identified the enhancements that should be made, then helped recruit equally visionary donors who made the physical transformation possible.

"If we wanted to remain a premier business school, we had to have facilities consistent with the educational experience we were giving our students," Eduardo says. "The 'new' Self Hall is an asset in recruiting new students and faculty members. There is an inherent pride in being part of a place that's leading edge."

While the new facilities are impressive, Eduardo considers the instructors who teach there his greatest accomplishment. As dean, Eduardo has recruited an outstanding faculty and provided them with the motivation and tools they need to take the School of Business to a higher level.

"People walk into Self Hall and see very nice facilities, but our faculty is what makes us who we are," Eduardo says. "Today, we have the strongest faculty we have ever had in

**"I WOULD REMIND STUDENTS that success is not about material things. Searching for the next material achievement is a sure route to unhappiness. I would instead argue that passionately following a calling and making sure that calling is consistent with Christian beliefs is the road map to success, fulfillment, and satisfaction."**

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO



**DID YOU GET HIS TAG NUMBER?** "What I remember most about Dr. Eduardo was his kindness – although not necessarily on tests – and that his license plate read 'CAPM,' which stands for Capital Asset Pricing Model. That's something only a finance professor would put on his license plate."

ELLIOTT VINES '06, CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, KMPG LLP

the School of Business. That is something that we've built over time. I would place our faculty against that of any other school in our region. They are second to none in terms of their credentials and their professional experience, and they share a common thread that will always attract students – their love of teaching."

The MC community and School of Business alumni are celebrating his many accomplishments to date, but Eduardo is not one to rest on his laurels.

"Dr. Eduardo is always pushing to another level," Dr. Roberts says. "He is always working. He sets high goals for the faculty and students, but he is always encouraging and accessible," says Dr. Roberts. "Most importantly, he is a good man. If I could use only three words to describe him,

I'd choose 'character,' 'integrity,' and 'perseverance.' Then again, I could also say, 'Give me a superlative,' and I know that Marcelo Eduardo would fit it."

While his big-picture vision for the School of Business has enhanced the institution itself, Eduardo has never lost sight of the school's ultimate purpose – serving its students.

"The job of a leader is to make sure the true mission of an organization doesn't change," Eduardo says. "The mission of the School of Business is to provide personalized, caring instruction for our students. Our faculty is among the best and our facilities have been upgraded, but that personalized, caring instruction is still the mission that sets the MC School of Business apart. There are a lot of good business schools out there, but this is what makes us different."

“Dr. Eduardo is as concerned about his students’ personal lives as he is the big picture of the School of Business,” Dr. Roberts says. “He can be tough, but he has a big, soft heart.”

His former students share that opinion, describing Eduardo as one of the toughest, kindest, best instructors they have known. Following his 2000 graduation from the MC School of Business, Jonathan Ishee attended Vanderbilt Business School. Today, Ishee is president and CEO of Broad River Furniture, a chain of 12 furniture stores in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, ranked among the top 100 furniture companies in the United States.

“When I arrived at Vanderbilt, I was intimidated by the pedigree of my classmates,” Ishee recalls. “It wasn’t uncommon to sit between a graduate of Harvard on one side and Duke on the other. But I quickly discovered that Dr. Eduardo’s finance classes had prepared me every bit as well as any of my classmates. I never saw a concept that he hadn’t covered in detail and in a way that ensured we understood the concept. It was such an advantage to have had a professor that cared enough to challenge us.”

“The thing I remember the most – and dreaded at the time – was that Dr. Eduardo made us learn how to calculate an internal rate of return and a net present value by hand, without using a calculator. The concept has stuck with me ever since – don’t just memorize the formula, understand what it means,” says Thomas Blalock ’04, ’06, vice president of investor relations at Parkway Properties, Inc. “Dr. Eduardo is a great professor, mentor, and friend. I would encourage current business students to take his class and

“IT’S THE SMALL THINGS, incidents that occur periodically and when put together have made my time at MC so memorable.

Hearing one of our graduates tell me he or she just got a first job is a wonderful experience.

Having lunch in the cafeteria and seeing our students saying a silent prayer at the table never ceases to touch me.

The sense of family that I feel when difficult things happen to our students or our employees is most meaningful.”

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO

learn from him. He is guaranteed to have a lasting impression on their lives and their careers, just as he’s had on mine.”

“Dr. Eduardo still keeps up with me 10 years after graduation,” Ishee adds. “You don’t get that at other schools or with other professors. I have had a lot of great teachers, professors, mentors, and leaders, but Dr. Eduardo is among the very best.”

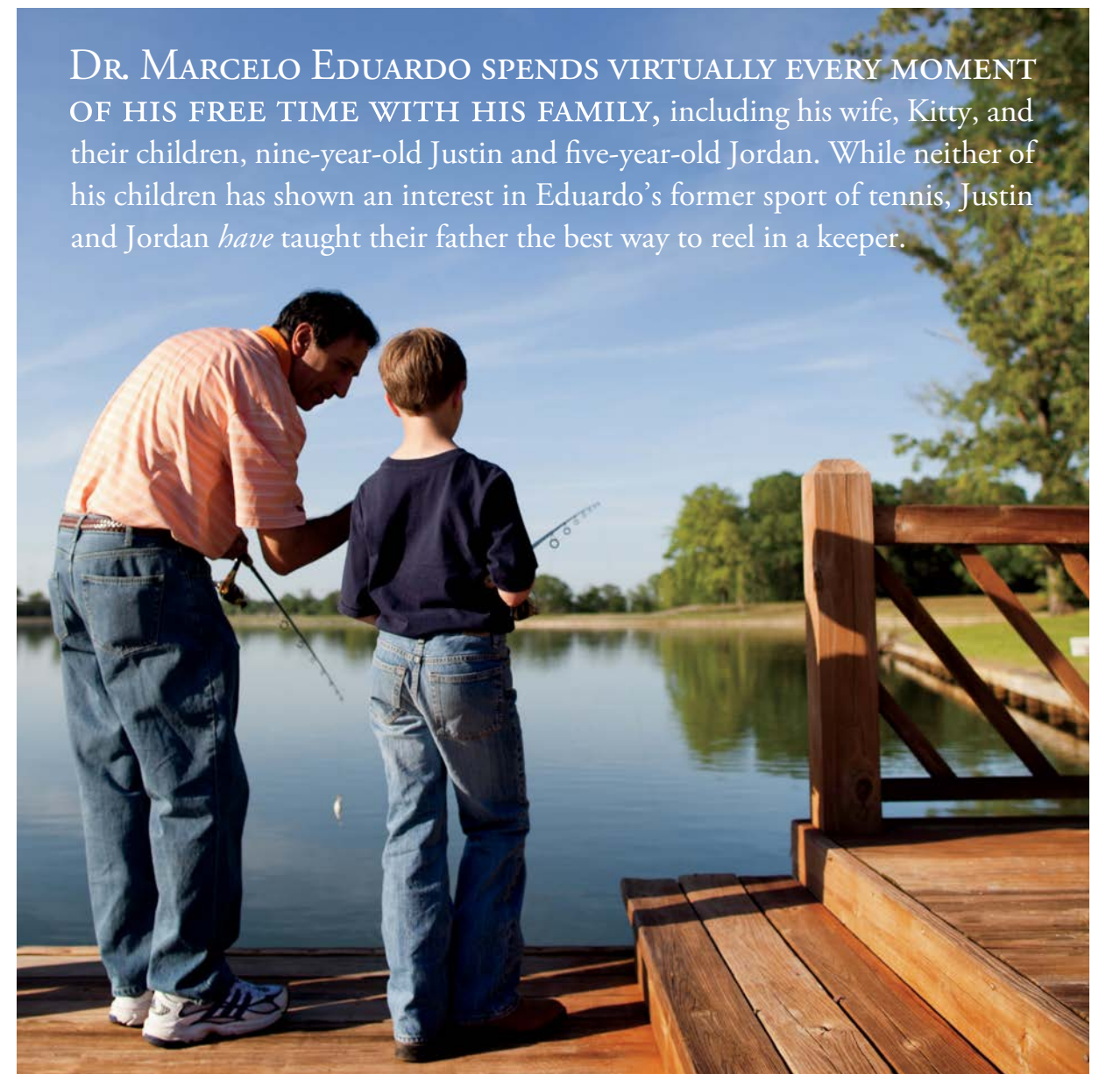
Now an instructor in the MC School of Business himself, Chris Smith ’01 has benefitted from Eduardo’s guidance as both a student and as a colleague.

“One of the things about Dr. Eduardo that impressed me as a student was how encouraging he is,” Smith says. “In teaching a difficult subject, it’s easy to ‘talk above’ your students, but Dr. Eduardo always made me feel like grasping financial concepts was within my reach. Even with all the responsibility he carries now, I know his chief concern is still the success of our students.”

With his vision, leadership skills, and business acumen, it’s no exaggeration to say that Dr. Marcelo Eduardo could have successfully pursued any number of careers. Fortunately for Mississippi College, he followed his passion. And while he’s assumed a leadership position in the years since he arrived on campus, that passion is still what he treasures most about his role at MC.

“I never get tired of sharing my excitement for all the things that you can learn when you step into a classroom,” Eduardo says. “The satisfaction that I derive from both explaining a concept and from seeing students truly understand it is something that I feel blessed to have. I have no question in my mind that teaching is the best job in the world.”

**A GOOD SPORT** When his dream of becoming a professional tennis player ended, Eduardo retired his racket, but he has tried his hand at golf. • “Like all frustrated athletes, I keep thinking that I am eventually going to find something that I can really do well,” Eduardo says. “And like so many people, I have been fooled into thinking that golf could be such an activity. So I play and I get frustrated. Nevertheless, I keep trying. • Playing sports allows you to develop a deep desire for excellence. And in developing this desire for excellence, you understand that deliberate practice is critical for great performance. This also applies to business. Great results in any area of life take hours and hours of preparation, and a passion for excellence is the way we learn this first-hand.”



DR. MARCELO EDUARDO SPENDS VIRTUALLY EVERY MOMENT OF HIS FREE TIME WITH HIS FAMILY, including his wife, Kitty, and their children, nine-year-old Justin and five-year-old Jordan. While neither of his children has shown an interest in Eduardo’s former sport of tennis, Justin and Jordan *have* taught their father the best way to reel in a keeper.





# FEEDING *the* SPIRIT

HOW DON "PAPA" JORDAN BUILT A CAREER AND A MINISTRY ON RELATIONSHIPS,  
A THREE-LEGGED STOOL, AND A HEAPING HELPING OF PIMENTO CHEESE

*W*ith a metropolitan area population of 1.2 million, there's no doubt that Memphis, Tennessee, is a big city. But drop by one of Memphis's four Holiday Deli & Ham restaurants, and the ambiance is much more Mayberry than Memphis.

"We like to think of ourselves as the non-alcoholic Cheers," says Don "Papa" Jordan '51, who co-founded the restaurant with his son, Trey. "We're not just selling food here. We're selling the feeling of family and creating a welcoming atmosphere for our customers and our employees."

A typical day finds Papa Jordan greeting customers by name at Holiday Deli's busy Poplar Avenue location. Jordan inquires about his customers' work and their families, and when the lunch rush dies down, asks the same solicitous questions of each of the restaurant's employees, taking time to personally speak with everyone from the manager to the busboys. Seeing Jordan's genuine concern for every person who crosses his path, it's clear that Holiday Deli & Ham owes its success to more than just its signature dish,

Papa Jordan's pimento cheese.

"The people who work here are as amazing as the food," says longtime customer Jean Saxon. "Holiday Deli is a place to meet and greet. You always feel welcome."

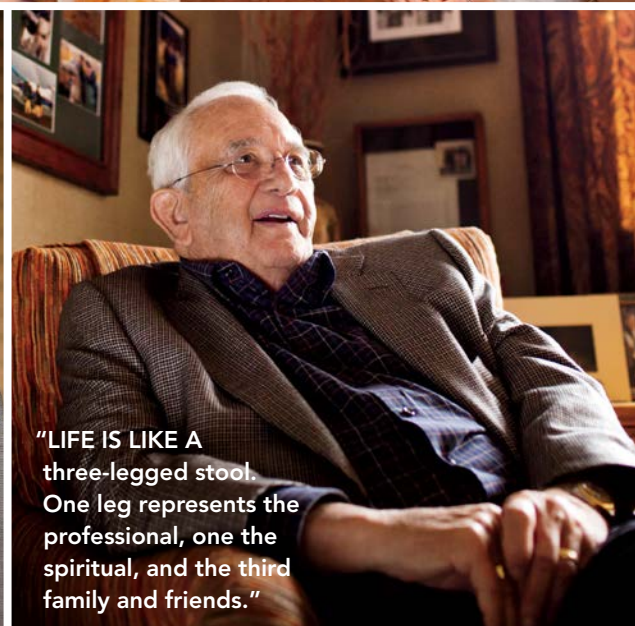
"The Jordans make sure your family is taken care of as well as their family," says Heather Nadicksbernd, who worked her way from cashier to general manager of Holiday Deli's Poplar Avenue location. "In the 10 years I've worked here, Mr. Jordan has become like a grandfather to me. He even came to my wedding."

"They treat me like family here," agrees Debbie Elder, who has worked the front counter for 12 years. "Why would I ever want to leave?"

Long before he founded Holiday Deli & Ham, Don Jordan knew the importance of building meaningful relationships with people. His gift for cultivating those relationships made Jordan a respected businessman, but it's his intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and his commitment to ministering to others that's truly made him a success.



TREY JORDAN AND DON JORDAN '51



"LIFE IS LIKE A three-legged stool. One leg represents the professional, one the spiritual, and the third family and friends."

**D**on Jordan has had a head for business and a knack for sales ever since he was a child. As a boy growing up in Kosciusko, Mississippi, Jordan operated a fruit stand, delivered newspapers and groceries on his bicycle, and sold leftover Easter candy to his classmates.

By the time he enrolled at Mississippi College in the late 1940s, Jordan had fine-tuned his ability to recognize untapped business opportunities. Jordan and his roommate, Robert McRae '51, began a used textbook exchange program at MC that eventually became a university-run operation and a model for other colleges. When an ice storm shut down the MC cafeteria, Jordan and McRae bought all of the meat, cheese, and bread in the local convenience store and operated a temporary sandwich shop in their dorm room. When that same ice storm froze the university's water system, the two rented a room at a nearby hotel and charged their classmates "a small fee" to take a shower, although Jordan confesses, "I felt bad about that. I eventually just let them shower for free."

Despite his business acumen, it came as a complete surprise to Jordan when Harvard Business School offered him a scholarship for graduate studies.

"I didn't understand it," Jordan says. "I had never applied to Harvard Business School." When Jordan shared the letter from Harvard with his accounting teacher, Mrs. Frances Skulley, the mystery was solved.

"She told me that she had applied *for* me," Jordan says, still tearing up at the memory some 60 years later. "I could never thank her enough."

Jordan accepted the scholarship, becoming the first MC graduate to study at Harvard. Following his Harvard Business School graduation and service in the U.S. Army, Jordan launched what would become a stellar business career. Over the next several decades, he held high-profile positions nationwide with Procter & Gamble, First Mississippi Corporation, and leading pharmaceutical companies including Bristol Myers and Plough. Jordan and his wife, Marlene, and their three children, Cyndi, Jen, and Trey, eventually settled

in Memphis, Tennessee, where Jordan became a leader in his church and in the community.

With so many demands on his time and energies, Jordan developed a "metaphor for life" to remind himself to maintain a healthy balance between his work, his young family, and his faith.

"Life is like a three-legged stool. One leg represents the professional, one the spiritual, and the third family and friends. If all three legs are not in balance, the stool will topple, but if all three are given equal attention, the stool – your life – will be stable," Jordan explains. "Most business people grow that business leg too long, but I've never known a truly happy person in my life who didn't have three equal legs."

"In the years when we were growing up, Dad might be out of town on business all week long, but when he was home, he was devoted to his family, church, and ministry," Trey Jordan recalls. "He started Bible studies in Memphis, and our house was always open to people in need."

In 1974, Jordan saw yet another opportunity in a new and as-yet-unheard-of fast food operation called Wendy's. He bought a Wendy's franchise in Waco, Texas, and put his relationship skills to work to make the eatery a success. Jordan became an integral part of the Waco community, handing out coupons for free burgers, supporting local merchants, speaking at Baylor University business classes, purchasing Baylor football game tickets to give to local boys' clubs, and forming friendships with Waco residents, all while commuting back and forth from Tennessee to Texas.

Jordan's hard work paid off. The Waco franchise became one of the top Wendy's franchises in America, out-performing franchises in much larger markets. Jordan not only won virtually every marketing award presented by Wendy's Inter-



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

One of Don Jordan's favorite verses is Proverbs 22:1, which reads, "A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold." As a symbol of their relationship with him and of their shared work for the Kingdom of God, Jordan had silver medallions crafted for the men in his Barnabas Group, each engraved with Proverbs 22:1. "The only thing you can take with you to the grave *and* leave behind for your children is a good name," Jordan says.

national and the Wendy Award recognizing the top franchisee of the year, but was also named an honorary alumnus of Baylor University.

In the early 1990s, Trey Jordan, who had already built a successful career of his own in commercial real estate, approached his father about going into business together. The two decided to found their own restaurant, and in 1993, Holiday Deli & Ham was born. The family friendly deli serves up scrumptious sandwiches, soups, salads, and desserts. Many of Holiday Deli & Ham's signature dishes, including their famous pimento cheese, are made from Don Jordan's own recipes. The restaurant takes its name from the late Marlene Jordan's philosophy that every day should be lived like a holiday.

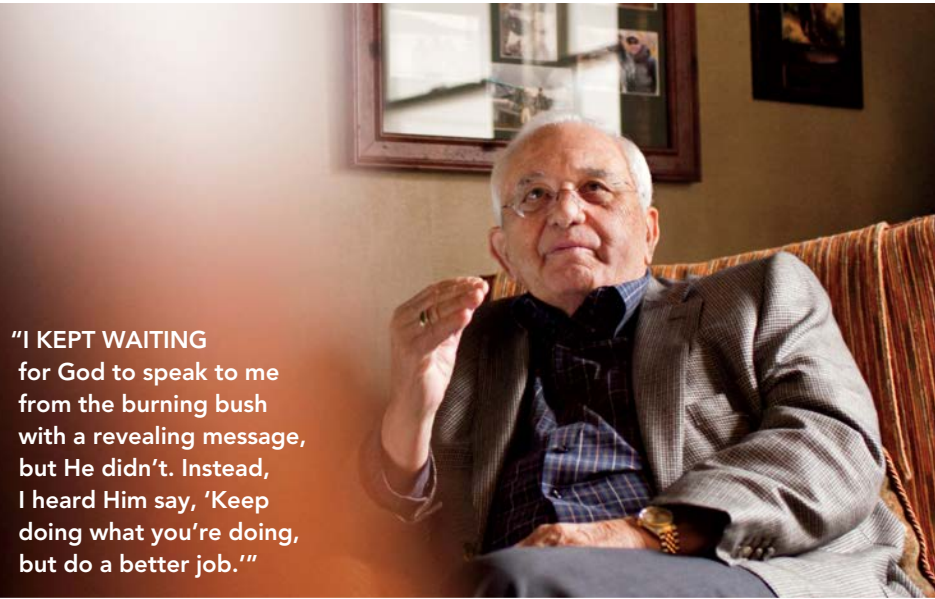
"My mother saw everything as a reason to celebrate," Trey Jordan says. "If I made an A in school, we'd have a party to celebrate. If I made an F in school, we'd have a party to cheer me up. She used any excuse to have a celebration."

The Jordans focused on creating an atmosphere and culture of family at Holiday Deli, down to the family photos that grace the walls and the company's slogan, "We'll feed you like family." Once again, the idea of a business based on relationships proved successful for Don Jordan. He and his son now operate six locations employing 100 people in Memphis and Knoxville, where the restaurants serve up the same delicious menu under the name Pimento's Café & Market. Last year, the Jordans sold more than 80,000 pounds of pimento cheese alone.

In 1996, after 22 years of commuting from Tennessee to Texas, Don Jordan sold his Wendy's franchise. In 2004, he retired, remaining with Holiday Deli & Ham as an advisor but turning ownership of the company over to his son.

**Making Every Day a Celebration** Trey Jordan credits his mother, the late Marlene Jordan, with finding something to celebrate in every occasion, even when times were tough. • "When I was in the second grade, there was a time when things weren't going so well financially," Trey recalls. "My dad was working to get the Wendy's started in Texas, and my mom and my sisters and I had to live in a Holiday Inn in Memphis for a month. My mother made that the greatest adventure ever. She said, 'Look, you have a big pool to swim in and there's a drive-in theatre right across the street. How many other kids can walk out their front door and watch a movie or go for a swim anytime they want to?'" • A few years after their Holiday Inn stay, Trey recalls his mother announcing a special family treat – a picnic in their unfurnished dining room by candlelight. • "She got out cheese and crackers for us to eat on the floor surrounded by all these candles," Trey says. "At the time, I thought that was so much fun, but now I realize she was trying to save money on the electric bill."





**"I KEPT WAITING**  
for God to speak to me  
from the burning bush  
with a revealing message,  
but He didn't. Instead,  
I heard Him say, 'Keep  
doing what you're doing,  
but do a better job.'"

**SAY CHEESE**

Last year, Holiday Deli & Ham sold 80,000 pounds of Papa Jordan's pimento cheese.

If all of the one-pound tubs of Papa Jordan's pimento cheese sold in one year were stacked atop one another, the stack would be **21 times taller** than the Empire State Building.

If the tubs were lined up side by side, they would form a line of pimento cheese **five miles long**.

Holiday Deli & Ham's Memphis locations alone serve **7,000 customers per week**, the approximate equivalent of the entire population of Don Jordan's hometown of Kosciusko, Mississippi.

Trey Jordan has eaten approximately **4,680 meals** at Holiday Deli & Ham. While he's tried everything on the menu, he has yet to choose a favorite dish.

HAPPY CUSTOMERS AT HOLIDAY DELI & HAM



Jordan focused the next phase of his life on Christian ministry. Over his long career, he had met dozens of business leaders, entrepreneurs, and pastors nationwide. For years Jordan had served as a mentor and prayer partner for some 40 men he came to call his "Barnabas Group." Jordan named the group after a Biblical follower of Christ known for his care and concern for others. The apostles called him Barnabas – the "son of encouragement." According to Acts 11:24, "[Barnabas] was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord."

Following his retirement, Jordan devoted his time to his family – which now included his second wife, Cynthia, and two grandchildren – service to his church and the Memphis community, and encouraging the members

of his Barnabas Group. At 80 years old, Jordan was still finding happiness through the relationships he cherished and his three-legged stool approach to life.

Then in 2010, Jordan was diagnosed with cancer. Treatment would involve a painful, exhausting combination of surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. Even then, his prognosis for survival was poor. Accustomed to playing the role of the encourager, Jordan found himself bedridden, ill, and depressed.

"I felt sorry for myself," Jordan says. "I felt old, sick, and in pain. All I could do was study and pray. I kept waiting for God to speak to me from the burning bush with a revealing message, but He didn't. Instead, I heard Him say, 'Keep doing what you're doing, but do a better job.'"

Jordan took that instruction to heart. At a time when poor health and increasing age might have led other men to slow their ministry efforts, Jordan redoubled his

He began by making a generous gift to the Mississippi College School of Business, specifying that the money be used to establish an endowment for developing programs and attracting speakers focused on integrating faith in the work place. It's Jordan's hope that the gift will inspire future business leaders to live every day for Christ and integrate their faith into every aspect of their lives.

Then, on the eve of a critical surgery, Jordan gathered with some of the local Barnabas Group members and wrote to others. Each man received an envelope containing \$1,000 and a charge from Don Jordan to use the money to provide a blessing for others.

"I told them that I knew many of them served on boards or had already written checks to their churches or to Christian universities, and that I understood that was very important," Jordan says. "But with this money, I asked them to touch individuals, to help a widow or an orphan, to use the money to help someone in a direct way."

Within a few weeks, Don Jordan began receiving letters and e-mails detailing what the men had done with the money and who had benefitted as a result. Jordan's gift encouraged a young minister who lost his father, his unborn baby, and his job, all within a matter of weeks. It provided Christmas dinner for a destitute family, and hope for a woman who lost everything she owned in a house fire. It helped clothe low-income teenagers in North Carolina, establish a college ministry in Massachusetts, and give hope to a godly woman who was investing all of her limited time and resources in caring for her dying brother in Kentucky. Jordan's simple gift crossed international borders, helping to share the Word of God and the love of Jesus with Christian "untouchables" in Cairo, Egypt, and funding a church in Kazakhstan.

Many of the men matched the dollar amount Jordan had given them, doubling its impact. Others not only put Jordan's gift to work, but also put his idea into practice, giving their own friends, family members, and colleagues a sum of money and asking that it be invested in blessing someone else.

"After praying about what to do with the money, it occurred to me that I needed to emulate not only Don's generosity, but his leadership," says Rev. Sandy Willson, senior pastor at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis,

who shared the giving project with his own adult children. "Don's gift had an effect not only in the lives of a variety of people, but also on my own family.

"Don's philanthropic brainstorm is typical of the way he operates," Rev. Willson continues. "He loves to encourage other people, and he's also willing to probe his friends with tough questions and profound challenges that make them better."

"God works in mysterious ways," Jordan says. "If I had not been so sick, I would not have started these things."

While Don Jordan had been praying for guidance in serving others, people nationwide had been praying for Don Jordan, offering loving entreaties that Jordan believes are "the reason I am still alive today." His health has slowly improved; at 81 years old, he is still looking for new ways to minister to others. And much to the joy of his customers, Papa Jordan has resumed his role as a beloved fixture at Holiday Deli & Ham.

"It's so good to have him back," Heather Nadicksbernd says. "When he was in the hospital, customers would come in with tears in their eyes to ask about him. Papa Jordan is just such a big part of this community. Everyone loves him."

"My father wasn't supposed to make it and he probably shouldn't be out of bed," Trey Jordan says. "But Dad is not

only up, he is serving other people. He is so excited about this phase of his life, which he's devoted to witnessing and telling people about Jesus Christ. Seeing that has been a blessing and an inspiration to our entire family."

Trey Jordan is working to impart the lessons learned from his father to his own children, 17-year-old Jules and 15-year-old Luke. When Luke turned 13, Trey invited seven godly men to his father's farm in rural Mississippi to participate in "Luke's Walk." Each man took a one-mile walk in the woods with Luke, using their time together to talk about a single word. One man spoke about faith, while another talked about the importance of integrity. The final leg of the walk was shared by Luke Jordan, his father, Trey Jordan, and his grandfather, Don Jordan.

The word the Jordan men discussed together was "legacy."

**b** For more on this story, visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon).

**WHERE'S THE BEEF?**  
In its first five weeks  
of operation in Waco,  
Texas, Don Jordan's  
Wendy's franchise  
sold more than  
100,000 burgers.

**Oh! Christmas Tree!** "I will laughingly say that my dad started training me in business when I was 10 years old," Trey Jordan says. "He talked to me and my sisters about entrepreneurship and recognizing opportunity, and he always used examples that looked ahead. When I was 10, he would be helping me think of little businesses I could run when I turned 12. When I was 12, he'd say, 'So, what do you think you'll be doing when you're 14?'" • Trey Jordan took those lessons to heart, running a successful lawn care business by the time he graduated from high school. But Trey truly proved he had the entrepreneurial spirit as a student at Baylor University, when he launched a seasonal career as a door-to-door Christmas tree salesman. • "I went to the lot and bought a load of Christmas trees, then sold them to college girls living in apartments," Trey recalls with a smile. "It was an easy sell. No college girl was going to drive to the lot and drag the tree home in her car alone, but when I showed up at the door with a tree, there was no way she was going to say, 'Bah, humbug.'"

TRANSFORMED BY

*God's*

GRACE



GRACE BATEMAN GREENE IS CHANGING LIVES AND SHARING THE GOSPEL THROUGH SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS A SHEET OF PAPER.

Greene is the founder and owner of Peru Paper, a company that employs Peruvian women to hand-make greeting cards sold in the United States and other countries. As a result of Greene's vision, women in impoverished neighborhoods in Trujillo, Peru, have found new lives as respected artisans, and their work is winning hearts for Christ worldwide.

"Five years ago, I could not have imagined I would be here," Greene says. "It just shows you that God's plan for us is so much cooler and bigger than we could ever imagine."

*n*

*C*ome to some 800,000 people, the city of Trujillo, Peru, includes neighborhoods marked by extreme poverty. Unemployment and underemployment are high here, particularly for women.

Grace Bateman Greene made her first trip to Peru as a 17-year-old high school student on a mission trip offered through First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi.

"I was heartbroken by the poverty I saw, but I also saw the Lord working and building His church, and the difference that was making," Greene recalls.

That short trip changed the course of Greene's life. She enrolled in Mississippi College, where she pursued a double major in social work and Spanish with dreams of someday returning to Peru as a missionary. Greene made short-term trips there during her college years, finding herself drawn to the people of Peru and becoming even more convinced she was being called to serve there. Following her 2004 graduation from MC, Greene accepted a one-year position teaching English through Peru Mission, an organization working to plant churches and build Christian communities in the Trujillo area.

Greene quickly formed friendships with the Peruvian women who attended the local church. Impressed with the women's artistic gifts, Greene bought paper, scissors, and glue for the group and suggested they make a few greeting cards. It was intended as a simple crafts project, a way for the women to spend time together and an outlet for their creativity. But when a visiting group from the United States immediately snapped up the cards and asked for more,

Greene realized she and the women had stumbled upon something bigger than a hobby.

Greene believed the cards could be a way to help these women, whom she had come to love, out of the cycle of poverty and enable them to provide better lives for their families. Greene also realized that in order to make that dream a reality, she would need additional training. When her year of service in Peru ended, Greene returned to the United States and completed online economic development courses through the Chalmers Center for Economic Development, then enrolled at Southern New Hampshire University, where she earned a master's degree in international community economic development, all the while continuing to promote the cards part-time.

In 2007, Greene returned to Trujillo, and with the enthusiastic support of a small group of Peruvian church ladies, officially launched Peru Paper. What had begun as a crafts project was now a full-fledged business with Grace Bateman Greene as its CEO, manager, and lead prayer warrior.

#### FROM CRAFTS TO COMPANY

By 2008, Greene had formed an LLC and hired a Peruvian manager, but there was still plenty to be learned about how to run an international business. Greene's first tough lesson in importing came when U.S. Customs officers in Miami confiscated her suitcase full of Peru Paper cards.

"I had declared all of the cards, but I wasn't aware of all of the procedures and channels you have to go through to import merchandise for sale in the United States," Greene recalls with a wry smile. "Fortunately, I *did* get all of those cards back."



#### LOOKS GOOD ON PAPER

Peru Paper products are found in some 50 retail locations in 14 states, as well as in retail locations throughout the United States and in Canada and Australia. The cards are also available through the company's website, [www.perupaper.com](http://www.perupaper.com).



WHAT GOOD IS IT, MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. — *James 2:14-17*

Peru Paper hires women who might otherwise be unable to earn a livable wage. The company began operations with four employees. Today, Peru Paper employs 16 Peruvian women who have discovered new talents ranging from paper-making to card design to business management. The women handle every phase of production, from making the paper to creating the designs to packaging the finished cards. The final products are shipped to Greene in Jackson, Mississippi. Greene then sells the cards to retail shops and directly to consumers through the company's website.

The business is run from the women's homes, allowing them to care for their children and work around their families' schedules. Work is assigned and coordinated through Danny Hernandez, Greene's manager in Trujillo. Hernandez's husband is a local pastor; many of the women are recruited through the church.

"Our idea is to give the women jobs and help them financially, but also to get them involved in the church and evangelize them," Greene translates as Hernandez explains. "We have ups and downs like any business, but I can see the Lord working in their lives. The greatest reward for me is being involved in these women's spiritual lives."

#### FROM IMPOVERISHED MOTHERS TO RESPECTED ARTISANS

"Peruvian women are creative and industrious, thriving in even the most difficult situations," Greene says. "Peru Paper has grown to where it is today because the women who are part of the company saw its potential early on and have worked hard to make it a success."

The process begins with women like Marleny Fernandez, who greets visitors to her simple brick home with a warm kiss and a warmer smile, then ushers them through the house, across carefully swept concrete floors, past shelves overflowing with sheets of colorful paper, and into the small, sun-drenched area behind her home where she makes paper by hand. Fernandez takes visitors through each step of the complex process she uses to transform scrap paper into vibrant, richly textured sheets of red, blue, yellow, and green. Though she speaks through a translator, Fernandez's pride in her work is obvious.

"You have to do this with care and calmly, or it will not work. When I first started to do this, it was so difficult I wanted to cry," Fernandez says with a laugh. "But now, I am good at it. My husband is a carpenter. Sometimes he has work, sometimes he has no work. The money I make from the paper fills that gap."

Another of the women, Deisy Pretell, sets specific goals for the money she earns designing cards. She has renovated the kitchen in her modest home, putting ceramic tile down where there was once a dirt floor, purchasing modern appliances, and installing kitchen cabinets. Her next goal is to save money for her sons' education. Thanks to Peru Paper, Pretell's children will have the opportunity to attend college.



### *The Peru Paper Trail*

#### THE ART AND SCIENCE BEHIND PERU PAPER GREETING CARDS

The women sort through discarded scrap paper and salvage recyclable pieces. The women have become experts in locating "raw material." Many Peru Paper greeting cards began life as church bulletins.

The paper is torn by hand into tiny pieces, then soaked in water for several days to create a pulp. The pulp is processed in a blender to ensure it is completely liquefied.

The women add dye made from food coloring, flower petals, and even coffee beans to give the pulp unique textures, colors, and scents.

The pulp is drained through a screen and spread on fabric to dry. Some pieces are dried in the sun, others in the shade, which leads to variations in the final color of the paper.

Once dry, the paper is peeled from the fabric and is ready for use. It takes approximately two hours, not including soaking or drying time, to make five pounds – 36 sheets – of paper.

The women cut the paper into various shapes and sizes, then meticulously glue individual pieces together to create a one-of-a-kind greeting card. While the women use patterns to ensure some uniformity in the finished pieces, each card is unique. A single woman can create between 20 and 50 cards per day depending upon the complexity of the design and how many hours per day she devotes to her work.

The women fold the cards and package them, along with matching envelopes, in a plastic sleeve.

The cards are shipped to Grace Bateman Greene, who sells the cards online and to retailers throughout the United States and in Canada and Australia.



“I KNOW THESE WOMEN ARE MY EMPLOYEES, but I don’t think of them that way. I spent time with them and with their children in their homes, and long before we started this business, we were friends. They are still my friends and my sisters in Christ and they give me so much motivation. When things get hard for me, all I have to do is think about them.” — *Grace Bateman Greene*

“My husband and my sons are proud of my work and that I am spending this money wisely in our home and for our family,” Pretell says.

Perhaps none of the women has seen her life transformed to as great a degree as Azucena Aguirre. Five years ago, the petite woman was living in poverty. Because she had no money for childcare, her small children stood with her in the busy, dangerous streets where she peddled candy for handfuls of change. Then Aguirre learned about an opportunity with Peru Paper through the church, and left the streets behind her. She now holds a supervisory position with the company, developing card designs and making patterns for the other women to follow. The money she earns from Peru Paper in one week surpasses what she could earn in months of selling on the street.

“The biggest difference is it’s calmer. Before I had to take my children into the streets with me, and this is safe,” Aguirre says through a translator. “I give thanks to God for bringing Grace into my path and for bringing me this work. It seems now that whenever there is a need in the home and I wonder how we will meet it, Danny brings more work. God makes it happen. I can see how God is in control.”

Born with developmental disabilities that made it difficult for her to find work, Azucena’s sister, Louisa Aguirre, also fills an important role with Peru Paper. It is Louisa Aguirre’s job to slip every handcrafted card and its matching envelope into a plastic sleeve. As the last of the women to touch the product before it is shipped to the United States, she takes great pride in her work.

“I hope the customers see that the art on the card is pretty,” Louisa Aguirre says. “And I hope they think that the presentation is nice, too.”

The women are paid varying amounts depending upon the jobs they perform. The women who make the paper are paid by the sheet, the women who design the cards are compensated based on the number of cards made and the complexity of the design, and the women who fold and package the cards are paid by the number of cards handled. The average pay comes to approximately \$5.40 - \$6.50 in U.S. dollars per hour – as much as five times the amount the women could make cleaning homes or performing other jobs in Trujillo that do not require a high school or college education. Those other jobs would also require expenditures for transportation and childcare, while the women of Peru Paper are able to work out of their homes.

In addition to gaining greater financial security, the women have been uplifted by the dignity that comes from

having their creativity acknowledged and seeing that their work has value. Fernandez was invited to her children’s school to deliver a presentation on how to make paper.

“When my children’s friends come over, they say, ‘Wow, your mom knows a lot. She should teach us to do that,’” Fernandez says.

Monica Alegre began working with Peru Paper in February of 2008. A gifted artist, she is responsible for the majority of Peru Paper’s latest card designs. One of Alegre’s three sons has told her he believes this to be her calling in life, for he never knew that she was so gifted until she began designing cards.

“As a child, I liked to draw,” Alegre explains through a translator. “But this is my first time to do this to earn money. This work also helps me to relax. If I have problems going on in my head, I can work on the cards and concentrate. Then I feel calm and satisfied.”



#### THE GOSPEL IN A GREETING CARD

Grace Bateman Greene works fulltime operating and developing the business, attending industry trade shows and wholesale markets, building relationships with retailers in the United States and

other countries, and working with the women to develop new products. Ideas in the developmental stages include monogrammed stationery, bookmarks, scrapbook items, gift bags, and gift tags.

Peru Paper also accepts custom orders. The company has produced one-of-a-kind cards for companies and organizations including the Chalmers Center for Economic Development and Coca-Cola. Peru Paper cards were even included in swag bags presented to celebrities at the Academy Awards, Screen Actors Guild Awards, and Emmy Awards. But perhaps the most important order came in the fall of 2010, when Grace Bateman and her fiancé, Mason Greene, commissioned Peru Paper to create a special paper for their wedding invitations.

“So many invitations,” Marleny Fernandez says with a mischievous smile and a dramatic roll of her eyes, “I was ready to quit!”

As the business grows, Greene is committed to ensuring that Peru Paper remains true to its original mission – operating as a company that is economically and environmentally stable, provides rewarding, meaningful work for Peruvian women, and most importantly, serves as a ministry. As they have moved from unemployed women to working artists, the women of Peru Paper have become role models for other women in their communities.



**AS SEEN ON  
THE RED CARPET**

Cards from Peru Paper were included in swag bags given to celebrities at the Academy Awards, Screen Actors Guild Awards, and Emmy Awards.



**SAYING GRACE**

"My wife's name suits her perfectly. 'Grace' means 'unmerited favor,' and that's exactly what God has shown me by bringing her into my life. I am so attracted to her heart and to the way she's used her gifts for the Kingdom. And no, I definitely do not miss being a bachelor."  
— Mason Greene



"The women's attitudes are changing. Their confidence is growing," Greene says. "They want to make a difference in their community, to give back and to serve other women."

When a woman inquires about work with the company, the women of Peru Paper see the inquiry as an opportunity to share with that woman, to invite her to church, to reach out to her in the same way that Grace Bateman Greene once reached out to them.

"I've found what God has called me to do. It's to bless other people through my artwork," Alegre says. "We are so thankful to Grace and so glad she brought this work to us. Because of Grace and the cards, more women are involved in the church."

"The money is not everything," Pretell adds. "The thing I like best about working for Peru Paper is when Danny talks to us about the Bible. There is a spiritual part about Peru Paper."

Retailers who carry Peru Paper cards are drawn to the idea of offering a product that's not only unique, but was inspired by a ministry.

"My customers love the story behind the cards," says Betsy Liles, owner of B. Liles Fine Art Jewelry and Studio in Ridgeland, Mississippi. "When they buy one of Grace's products, they know they're contributing to something that makes a difference. And as an artisan myself, I appreciate the work that goes into these handmade cards as well as the difference I can make for the Peruvian women by carrying them in my shop. Whenever I touch the cards, I get a good feeling."

For Grace Bateman Greene, the young woman who arrived in Peru on a mission and has now found a new mission of her own, the excitement, frustrations, and rewards of running a business in a land far from home all come down to a calling.

"The ministry aspect of this business is what drives me," Greene says. "Poverty is dehumanizing and degrading. We could tell these women they were children of God and that they had value, but everything else in their lives was telling them something else. Their gifts and potential were always there, but poverty had taken away their hope. This work has given them confidence. Now they can believe these things about themselves."

"I think of James 2:14-17, which asks if we see a brother or sister in need and say, 'Go and be fed,' but we don't help them, where is our love for them?" Greene continues. "When I look at Azucena or Monica or Deisy and I see these very tangible changes that I've helped make in their families' lives, I realize I don't have a choice. There is *not* an option to *not* do this."

That Greene has made sacrifices, has dedicated her own career, and has poured her heart into the business that supports them is not lost on the women of Peru Paper. For these 16 women and their families, Grace Bateman Greene is much more than their boss.

"Grace is a beautiful person," Deisy Pretell says, her brown eyes filling with tears of joy. "She is a sister and a friend. She always thinks of me. I will carry Grace in my heart until God takes me."

LEFT: *The women of Peru Paper Company Marleny Fernandez displays freshly-made paper. Card Designer Deisy Pretell*

**b** For more on this story, visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon).



*A Match Made in Heaven*

(WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THE ROTARY CLUB AND THE WOMEN OF PERU PAPER)

Mason Greene saw his future wife for the first time when she served as the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Jackson Rotary Club.

"I remember hearing Grace speak and being so moved by what she was doing for these women in Peru," Mason recalls. "Just from hearing her talk that day, I felt like I knew Grace's heart."

A few weeks later, a friend called to set Mason up on a blind date – with Grace Bateman. Mason and Grace met for coffee and an instant bond was formed. By the time Mason accompanied Grace on a trip to Trujillo, Peru, three months later, he knew that he wanted her to be his wife. But Mason wanted the proposal to be special.

"I knew he was up to something when we were in Trujillo," Grace says with a smile. "Mason doesn't speak Spanish, and he and my Peruvian manager kept holing up together over a laptop, talking about something using Google Translator."

The mystery was solved a few days after the two arrived back in Jackson. Grace walked into Mason's home to find a display of flowers and candles and a table spread with letters. They were letters Mason had written to Grace over the course of their relationship but saved until that moment, a chronological account of how he had fallen in love with her. The last love letter was an oversized card featuring a photo of Mason and Grace, lovingly crafted by the women of Peru Paper.

"I realized then that all the women had known he was going to propose," Grace says. "They had been praying for a husband for me and they loved Mason, so it was probably the most fun order they ever made."

Grace and Mason were married on March 5, 2011. In May, they made their first journey to Peru as man and wife. They were welcomed by the women of Peru Paper, who greeted Mason as a member of their extended family. The newlyweds joined the women and some of their children for dinner in a local restaurant, their table ringing with happy laughter. As one of the women made a comment in rapid Spanish, pointing to Grace, then to Mason, all of the women broke into smiles and nodded.

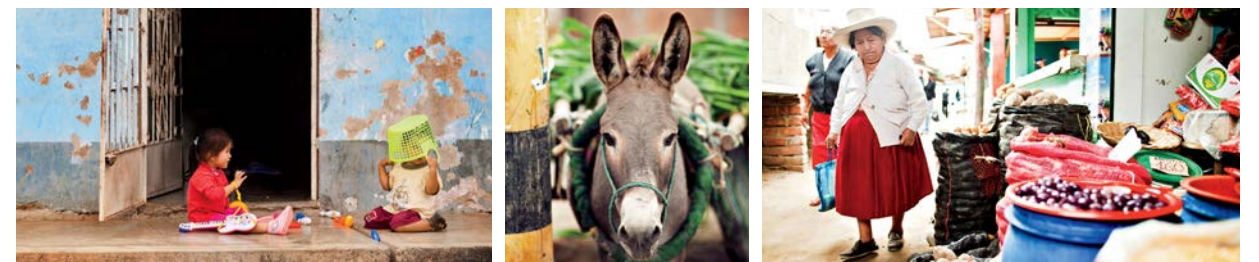
"She wants to know when we're going to have a baby," Grace translated for Mason. "And she promises that when we do, we will have 16 godmothers waiting."



A CHILD WAITS OUTSIDE THE MOBILE CLINIC IN CLEMENTINA, PERU.

# Doctor WITHOUT Borders

DR. MARCUS UELTSCHY BRINGS HEALING AND HOPE FROM TUPELO TO TRUJILLO



AS A DOCTOR IN FAMILY PRACTICE IN TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, Dr. Marcus Ueltschey '95 participated in several short-term medical missions coordinated through Peru Mission, an organization working to plant churches and build Christian communities in Trujillo, Peru.

Some eight years ago, Peru Mission established a clinic in the Wichanzao neighborhood of Trujillo. In 2010, the organization asked for Dr. Ueltschey's assistance in locating an American doctor who could spend at least one year in Peru providing medical care for residents of the neighborhood and managing the clinic as it grew. Dr. Ueltschey searched for the ideal doctor with no luck. Then, after much prayer and discussion with his wife, Whitney, he decided to accept the position himself.

In October of 2010, following three months of intensive Spanish language school, Dr. and Mrs. Ueltschey and their four children relocated to Trujillo, where Dr. Ueltschey serves as head doctor and administrator of the *Consultorio Medico Pastoral*.

"We are a full service, outpatient clinic," Dr. Ueltschey explains. "We see about 30 patients per day, ranging in age from newborn babies to folks over 100 years old, all with a range of illnesses and health concerns."

The *Consultorio Medico Pastoral* staff includes 13 full-time medical personnel and technicians and a number of rotating volunteers, including doctors, nurses, and dentists who visit from the United States and other countries on short-term and long-term missions. The clinic includes a dental office and a laboratory where basic lab work is performed onsite.

In addition to treating patients and supervising the clinic staff, Dr. Ueltschey is responsible for assessing the clinic's ongoing operation, determining priority needs, then finding a way to generate the funds needed to meet them. In May 2011, Dr. Ueltschey was eagerly anticipating the arrival of the clinic's first sonogram machine, and was pondering the possibility of acquiring an X-ray machine – an easy purchase in a United States hospital, but a significant investment for the Wichanzao clinic.



DR. MARCUS UELTSCHHEY



## From Trujillo Back to Tupyelo

DR. UELTSCHHEY AND HIS FAMILY ARE SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES IN 2012. “My experience in Peru has definitely made me a better doctor, and will change the way I look at things when I return to practice in the United States,” Dr. Ueltschhey says. “I am so much more thankful for the easy access we have to so many ways of treating people and helping patients get healthy. It’s made me acutely aware of everything we take for granted.”

“The biggest frustration about working here is seeing patients with illnesses and conditions that are easily diagnosed and could be easily treated, then not being able to treat them due to lack of funding,” Dr. Ueltschhey says. “Our greatest challenge is not a lack of knowledge, but a lack of resources for the proper medicine or equipment.”

The clinic charges its patients modest fees for healthcare services. A general clinic visit would run a patient about \$2.50 in U.S. dollars. An EKG comes in at \$5.00, a dental exam about \$1.00. Those fees allow the clinic to pay salaries and other day-to-day expenses, but most capital improvements – including that new sonogram machine – are covered through donations from the United States.

“The goal is to have the clinic become an entirely self-supporting ministry,” Dr. Ueltschhey says. “It’s also our hope that when my time here ends in 2012, Christian, Peruvian physicians will continue to move the clinic forward. It would be great if another American doctor could come, but even better if that’s not necessary.”

*Consultorio Medico Pastoral* has earned the confidence of the people of Wichanza and has become a vital part of the community. In the first three months of 2010, the clinic logged approximately 1,000 patient visits; in the first three months of 2011, that number jumped to 1,400.

In addition to seeing patients at the clinic, Dr. Ueltschhey and his staff conduct regular medical campaigns in out-

lying areas. Staff members travel to impoverished neighborhoods and squatter’s camps on the outskirts of Trujillo, set up makeshift treatment areas, then go door to door to announce they are seeing patients. A recent campaign in the community of Clementina attracted patients of all ages, including many families with small children.

“The people are a little nervous at first,” Dr. Ueltschhey says.

“It’s a new experience for them and it can be frightening. Sometimes there’s a little skepticism that we’re here to try to get something from them rather than just to share and to give. But once the church is established in the area, it becomes a lot easier because they realize there is no other motive. We are simply brothers in Christ who want to help them with their health conditions.”

“That’s the ultimate reason we’re here – to show them the love of Christ,” Dr. Ueltschhey continues. “There are so many challenges in a medical mission like this one, but the biggest reward is seeing the integration of taking care

of people’s physical health and taking care of their spiritual health. Medicine is limited. People will get sick again. But the spiritual change is eternal.”

For more information about supporting or volunteering with Peru Mission’s medical mission program, visit [www.perumission.org](http://www.perumission.org).

 For more on this story, visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon).

### WILL MY HMO APPROVE THAT?

The *Consultorio Medico Pastoral* charges modest fees and basic treatments at medical campaigns in outlying areas are free, but patients sometimes need advanced medical care they simply can’t afford. “People here are not looking for something free or for a hand out,” Dr. Ueltschhey says. “They *want* to pay you, and if they don’t have the money, they’ll try to give you something else for helping them.” Dr. Ueltschhey has been paid for his services in everything from baskets of avocados to a platter of grilled guinea pigs – a Peruvian delicacy.




# FISHERS *of* MEN

IN THE BIBLE, GOD USED MANY UNUSUAL VESSELS TO SPEAK TO MAN, from the handwriting on the wall to the burning bush to a donkey empowered with human speech. Given that remarkable history, it should come as no surprise that God has inspired one family in Grenada, Mississippi, to spread the Gospel worldwide using plastic fishing worms.

**L**arry '68 and Rosemary '68 Franklin are the owners of Bain Manufacturing Company, a business that specializes in the manufacture of artificial fishing lures. Their daughter, Jennifer Franklin '93, serves as the company's chief financial officer. Bain Manufacturing produces more than 400 different styles of plastic worms and frogs in a variety of sizes, shapes, colors, and even scents, all designed to attract not only hungry fish, but also discriminating fishermen.

"The fisherman has to bite first," Larry Franklin, Bain's chief executive officer, says, "or the fish never see it."

Bain Manufacturing makes red worms, blue worms, green worms, multi-colored worms, and worms sprinkled with glitter. The plastic worms come with or without eyes, legs, and tails, and are available in unscented, shrimp, and garlic "fragrances."

"The UPS man saves us for last in the heat of the summer," Jennifer Franklin says with a laugh. "Otherwise, by the end of the day, his entire truck smells like garlic."

Bain Manufacturing was founded by Dewey Bain, Rosemary Franklin's father. Bain owned a grocery business in Grenada, but in his spare time he enjoyed fishing and making his own lures, crafting them from dyed squirrel hair and other unique materials. Bain's lures proved the demise of many a bass; in fact, they were so effective that Bain was often swamped with requests for custom lures from local fishermen. The lures remained a hobby for Bain until his teenage son, Dewey Junior, was killed in an automobile accident. The grieving Bain found comfort and a form of therapy in crafting the lures, and began selling them out of his house. Bain eventually left the grocery business to design and manufacture the lures fulltime, and asked his son-in-law, Larry Franklin, to leave his job in furniture sales in Tupelo to join him in the business. Franklin agreed, and Bain Manufacturing began operation in its current location on Grenada's Main Street in 1976.

"Mr. Bain was the designer and the fisherman," Larry Franklin says. "I didn't even know which end of the pole to put the worms on."

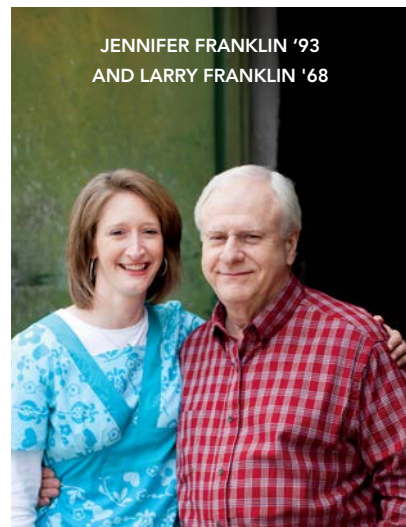
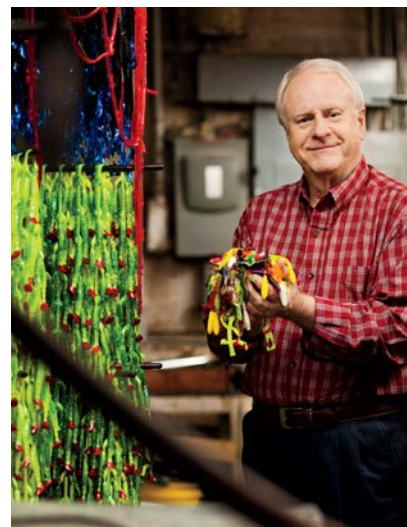
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As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." — Matthew 4:18-19

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**BLEEDING BLUE & GOLD** Larry Franklin manufactures worms in every color of the rainbow, but his own favorite colors are blue and gold. Franklin can still remember exactly where he parked when he drove onto the MC campus on September 13, 1964, to begin his college career. • “When I entered MC, I joined a family,” Franklin says. “I fell in love with MC from the moment I stepped on campus and I love it still.” • Franklin has supported the university as a member of the board of trustees, a loyal Choctaw fan – he has attended every Homecoming since 1963 with only three exceptions – and as a faithful, generous donor. Larry and Rosemary Franklin recently made a significant donation to MC’s “Growing the Vision” campaign, trusting the university to use their donation where it is most beneficial. • “When I write a check to MC, it’s like giving a tithe to the church. I release it. I give to MC knowing that money will be spent for Christian education,” Franklin says. “MC has done great things for me, my business, and my family. I don’t think there could ever be enough I could do for Mississippi College in light of all Mississippi College has done for me.” • Franklin pauses, and then adds with a smile, “I might even hope to be buried in a blue and gold coffin.”



JENNIFER FRANKLIN '93  
AND LARRY FRANKLIN '68

Between Bain’s gift for design and Franklin’s business acumen, the business quickly made a splash. The lures were not marketed under the Bain Manufacturing name, but were instead sold to fishing

specialty companies who put their own brand name on the lures and sold them through major retailers, including Walmart. Some of the lures were produced using Dewey Bain’s original designs; others were designed by the wholesalers but manufactured in the Grenada plant.

“I would stay up at night writing letters that I sent to people with a worm in the envelope, trying to solicit new business,” Larry Franklin says. “We knew it was important that we produce products for a number of companies. We couldn’t put all our worms in one basket.”

Bain Manufacturing was soon regarded as a company that delivered an excellent product, and more importantly, operated with the highest level of integrity. The business grew quickly, largely due to word of mouth.

Then in 1985, Dewey Bain died after suffering a massive heart attack. “I lost my father-in-law, my business partner, and my best friend all at the same time,” Larry Franklin says. “Without Mr. Bain, I just wasn’t sure I could go on.”

While Franklin was still struggling to come to terms with Dewey Bain’s death, one of Bain Manufacturing’s largest customers approached him with an offer to buy the company.

“It was such an uncertain time. I didn’t know what to do,” Franklin says. “One afternoon, I was sitting at my desk praying about it, and I saw a businessman I knew, Hayes Branscome, walk out of the building across the street. God told me that I needed to ask him for help, so I walked outside and stopped him in the street. I told him about my situation, finishing with, ‘I don’t know what to do. I need your help.’ Hayes asked me some questions, then he called me two hours later and told me he’d set up a meeting for us with the president of a large bank in town. That gentleman asked me, ‘If

you turn down the offer and you lose this customer, could you survive?’ I told him yes, it would be difficult, but I could make it. He said, ‘Then don’t sell.’”

**AND ON THE SEVENTH DAY**  
A woman once warned Larry Franklin that his business would never be successful because the lures he manufactured would be used for fishing on Sunday, when people should be in church. “I told her that I wasn’t worried about it,” Franklin says, “because those lures might be used on Sunday, but I wasn’t making them on Sunday.”

Twenty-six years later, Franklin is confident he made the right decision.

“I still tell my wife I need a t-shirt that says, ‘I survived ’85,’” Franklin says with a laugh. “But I know that God came to me at a vulnerable time in my life. He realized my inadequacies and He gave me the help I needed to keep the business going. The greatest joy I’ve had in this business is to realize that I was able to fulfill my father-in-law’s vision. By the grace of God, I have been able to make the business a success and to be considered a person of integrity.”

“The day we bought his building, I wrote in my journal, ‘I bought the building at #2 Main Street today because I thought it was God’s will for my life,’” Franklin continues. “Along the way, I’ve made some decisions that might be considered bad business decisions but good ethical decisions. I’ve learned that in the short term you may have to eat peas and cornbread, but in the long run, doing right never returns void.”

Today, the company manufactures between 50 and 70 million artificial worms and frogs every year. Lures produced by Bain Manufacturing are sold by fishing equipment companies like Mister Twister, Lucky Strike Manufacturing, Norton Lures, Texas Tackle Factory, and V&G Lures, and are available from major retailers including Walmart, Cabela’s, and Bass Pro Shops. Bain Manufacturing lures hit the water in more than 50 countries, including the United States, Canada, Poland, France, and Russia.

It was Jennifer Franklin’s idea to turn Bain Manufacturing’s worldwide sales into a worldwide ministry. Jennifer Franklin attended a guest lecture by J. Frank Harrison III, CEO of Coca-Cola Bottling Company Consolidated, hosted by the Mississippi College School of Business. Inspired by

Harrison’s focus on running a business that was pleasing to God and his description of Coke’s efforts to provide aid in Sudan, she began pondering ways in which Bain Manufacturing could bring glory to God. The answer came to her as she envisioned thousands of people around the world opening bulk shipments of Bain products. Jennifer Franklin realized that along with glittery worms and garlic-scented frogs, every Bain Manufacturing carton shipped out from Grenada could also hold a brief scripture letting the recipient know about the eternal life available through Jesus Christ.

“Today, we’re sharing the Gospel with people across the United States and in more than 50 countries, from right here in Grenada, Mississippi,” Jennifer Franklin says. “It’s just a simple verse that helps them know Him. And even if the person who opens that box already knows the Lord, maybe he or she is having a tough day, and that message will be uplifting to them.”

“It doesn’t matter what profession we’re in,” Larry Franklin adds. “We are all to be fishers of men for Christ.”

That philosophy and the true heart of Bain Manufacturing Company are reflected in a plaque on Larry Franklin’s desk that reads:

*The difference between fishing for fish and fishing for men  
You take fish out of a beautiful life unto death.  
You take men out of death unto a beautiful life.*

For more on this story, visit [www.mc.edu/beacon](http://www.mc.edu/beacon).



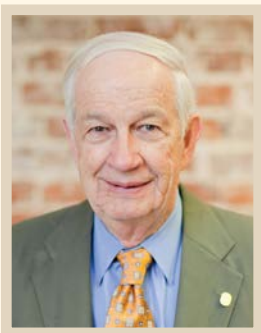
**A GOOD CASE OF RINGWORM**  
Dewey Bain designed and patented the Ringworm, an innovative artificial lure that remains a worldwide favorite among fishermen today.

**WHERE DO WORMS COME FROM?**  
Bain Manufacturing worms are made from melted plastic mixed with dye, glitter, and scent, then injected into a mold and “cooked.” During her elementary and high school years, Jennifer Franklin used the worm-making process as the basis for her science class projects, earning an A every time.

**OPENING A CAN OF WORMS** Bain Manufacturing produces between 50 and 70 million artificial worms and frogs per year – a process that requires more than half a million pounds of liquid plastic. The company produces lures in more than 400 different shapes, three scents, and virtually every color imaginable. If all of the worms produced by Bain Manufacturing in one year were lined up head to tail, they would form a line some 450 miles long – give or take a wiggle.



## DEAR ALUMNI *and* FRIENDS,



IT HAS BEEN MY PRIVILEGE TO SERVE FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS AS THE chair of the steering committee for “Growing the Vision,” a campaign to raise \$80 million for capital improvements, scholarships, academic programs, and the MC endowment.

The campaign will conclude this October, with the grand total raised announced during Homecoming weekend. As the “Growing the Vision” campaign draws to an end, I’d like to encourage you once more to participate in this historic effort for Mississippi College.

While all MC alumni and friends will share in celebrating the enhancements the campaign will bring to the university, those of you who step out in faith and support the campaign as donors can take even greater pleasure in knowing that you helped Mississippi College reach its goal. Additionally, gifts from alumni increase MC’s overall alumni giving rate, which helps when Mississippi College competes against other universities for larger gifts awarded by foundations. The national average is around 12%; MC’s current rate is about 6%.

Donations may be made as cash gifts designated for specific needs or for the university’s general use; gifts to the endowment for long-term needs; or as planned gifts made as a part of your estate planning. Gifts of any size are welcomed and deeply appreciated.

I thank you for your support of Mississippi College and hope to see you at Homecoming, October 20-22, 2011, when the grand total raised is announced.

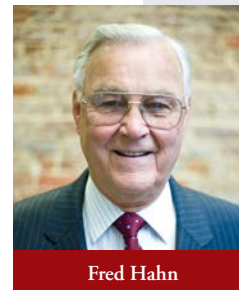
Sincerely,

DON PHILLIPS, *Steering Committee Chair*

# Class Notes

## 50s

Rev. Joel Hilbun (B.A. ’51) serves as senior pastor of Vietnamese Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Fred Hahn

Philip Frederick “Fred” Hahn, Sr. (B.S. ’52), Tuscaloosa businessman and MC board of trustees member, was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2010.

Dr. Jerry W. Robinson, Jr. (B.A. ’54) is an adjunct professor of sociology at MC and teaches from his own book titled *Introduction to*

*Community Development*. Robinson is distinguished professor emeritus of rural sociology at Delta State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Robinson has written or edited more than 15 books and 120 learning modules. His educational and behavior modification program, “Stress and Wellness,” has been used around the world.

Dr. John David (B.A. ’56) and Mavis Broome (B.A. ’56) have three daughters, Kimberly White, Erica Harris, and Shelleigh Moses, who are staff members at the University of the Cumberlands.

Rev. James Smith (B.A. ’57) retired as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Collins, Mississippi, after 56 years of ministry in Baptist churches in Mississippi and Kentucky. He and his wife, Helen, have moved back to D’Lo, Mississippi. Smith is from a long line of MC graduates that includes his grandfather, father, a brother, a sister, four children, one son-in-law, one daughter-in-law and a grandson who will graduate from MC this year. Additionally, Rev. Smith’s father served as one of the first fulltime alumni directors (1955-57).

## 60s

Bernard J. “Dutch” Nichols (B.S.Ed. ’61) was inducted into the 2010 Manasquan High School Athletic Hall of Fame in New Jersey.

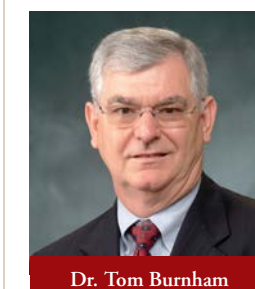
A high school basketball coach for almost 30 seasons, Nichols is also a member of the Southwest Mississippi Community College Hall of Fame (1974), the Mississippi Community and Junior College Hall of Fame (2009), and the Mississippi College Sports Hall of Fame (2006). His 699 wins as a coach rank him 27th nationally for all-time wins in girls’ high school basketball. Congratulating Nichols on his recent honor, high school classmate and Academy Award-winning actor Jack Nicholson wrote, “Sixty consecutive years on my all time, all sports, most exciting, entertaining all star team. I could write a book. You make the Hall of Fame famous.”

James H. “Jim” Forsyth (B.S. ’62) has been installed as a canon residentiary at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, California. Forsyth is director of finance at the Episcopal Diocese of California.

Dr. Rose Strahan (B.S. ’63) received the 2010 Gladys Castle “Friend of Delta State” Service Award. Strahan served as chair of the mathematics department from 1978 to 2009. Strahan taught mathematics at Gulfport High School and Murrah High School before earning her master’s degree from the University of Mississippi and doctorate from the University of Florida in 1980. She served as Delta State’s Faculty Athletic Representative to the NCAA from 2003 until 2009.

Dr. Hugh Montgomery, Jr. (B.S. ’66) published the book *Bureaucratic Nirvana - Life in the Center of the Box* in October 2010. The book, the preface of which was written by former CIA Director James Woolsey, discusses the federal research and development system from the inside and is available on amazon.com. Publication led to a one-hour live interview on Federal News Radio in December and a number of outside book reviews.

Gary Anglin (B.M.Ed. ’67) is the founder and director of Singing River Chorale. Anglin has been a tenor soloist with the Mississippi Symphony and Pensacola Symphony, has sung several lead roles in operas, and is currently minister of music at First Baptist Church in Pascagoula.



Dr. Tom Burnham

Dr. Tom Burnham (B.S. ’69, M.S.S. ’75), Mississippi State Superintendent of Education, has been named the 2010-2011 Outstanding Alumnus of the College of Education at Delta State University.

Marsha Sharpe (Loper, B.A. ’69) has been named the new director of the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Department of Social Services.

## 70s

Paula Wimbish (M.Ed. ’72, Ed.S. ’81) served as keynote speaker for Hinds Community College’s 2010 fall commencement.

Paul Dobbs (M.Ed. ’73) was honored for a lifetime of service at the annual Calhoun County MLK Banquet benefitting the Loggins’ Scholarship Fund. Established to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to further the mission of the late Curtis Loggins, longtime coach in Calhoun City, the fund provides opportunities for Calhoun County students to attend college.

Patricia Johnson (B.S.N. '74) was recognized as one of the 100 Great Nurses of Louisiana. The award recognizes outstanding nurses for their success in a demanding profession. Johnson serves as senior vice president of nursing and chief nursing executive at Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge. She joined Woman's Hospital in 1997.

Mary Miller (B.S. '75) is the author of numerous books on historical homes, landmarks, and sites throughout Mississippi. Her latest book, *Lost Mansions of Mississippi, Volume II*, features lost Mississippi antebellum and historical homes. She won the Non-Fiction Book of the Year award from the National Library Association in 1997 for *Lost Mansions of Mississippi*.

Dr. Bill Nettles (B.S. '75) has been named associate dean for arts and sciences at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. He serves as the physics department chair and has been teaching at Union since 2006.



Dr. J. Randall O'Brien

Dr. J. Randall O'Brien (B.S. '75) received the George W. Truett Distinguished Church Service Award of Baylor University. The award recognizes people connected with Baylor who exemplify the life and career of the late church leader George W. Truett and reflect the meaning of the university's official motto, "Pro Ecclesia Pro Texana." O'Brien was a longtime Baylor administrator and teacher before becoming president of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee in 2009. He has also served as a pastor, missionary, and author.

Stephen Puryear (B.S. '76, M.B.A. '78) was elected as vice moderator of the Mississippi Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church USA and will become moderator in 2012 for the statewide group responsible for coordination of PCUSA churches south of Kosciusko.

Douglas Sills (B.S. '76) has been appointed chief executive officer of River Region Health Systems. He has nearly 30 years of healthcare management experience and previously served at Northern Louisiana Medical Center in Ruston.

Daniel McKittrick (B.S. '77) is the chief probation officer of the United District Court, Northern District of Mississippi.

Frederick G. Slabach (B.S. '79) had been named president of Texas Wesleyan University. Slabach began his duties as the 19th president of the private 3,376-student Fort Worth university on January 1. Slabach was previously executive secretary and CEO of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Christopher Smith (B.S. '79) has been promoted to professor of pediatrics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

**80s** David Fuller (B.S.B.A. '80, M.B.A. '85) has been hired as chief executive officer of the North Okaloosa Medical Center.



## CALLED TO THE CANVAS

SANDY LYNAM CLOUGH '70, '83 WAS AN UNDERGRADUATE art major at MC when she sold her first paintings at a local art fair.

Today, products featuring Clough's distinctive art are available throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia. Sandy is the driving creative force and her husband, Rick, is the business manager behind Sandy Clough Studio, the couple's Marietta, Georgia-based art and design business. Sandy Clough's original paintings and designs have been licensed for gift and home décor items including tapestries, ceramic and glass pieces, kitchen textiles, stationery, framed art, calendars, and more. Products featuring her art are sold in gift stores, Christian bookstores, and other retailers throughout North America and Australia and are also available online.

Clough has written and/or illustrated 28 gift books, including *The Art of Tea and Friendship*, *Heirlooms from Loving Hands*, *Prayers in the Storm*, and her latest book, *You Can Do Tea*. Her books have sold more than one million copies. Clough is also the founder of Sandy's Tea Society, an online group that connects women worldwide who wish to share ideas, recipes, and friendship. Over 4,000 women have joined at [www.sandysteasociety.com](http://www.sandysteasociety.com).

Sandy Clough's advice to aspiring artists is to be open to the many paths an artist might pursue – even paths that don't seem obvious today.

"Don't be discouraged if you don't see a lifelong art path from your perspective today. When I was an art student, you either painted or you taught art. I have enjoyed a whole world of business in art that I didn't even know existed when I was a student," Clough says. "It never occurred to me that I could – or would – write a book or design beautiful gift items. The most fulfilling way for you to use your art may not even exist right now as a business. Be faithful to develop your creativity and skills so that you will be ready to morph into new opportunities.

"The biggest milestone in my art career was when I realized that the Lord had called me to be an artist, just as He calls missionaries and pastors," Clough continues. "My calling is to take my place in the marketplace as a Christian artist with His worldview. I can only occupy that place by competing in the marketplace with my very best work and making integrity and excellence the hallmarks of our business."

Charles A. Rhoads (B.S.Ed. '80, M.Ed. '92) is the recipient of the 2011 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts presented by the Mississippi Arts Commission. Rhoads has inspired and motivated his art students for the past 17 years in the Rankin County public schools.

Dr. Randolph Miley (M.Ed. '82), chairman of the art department at Mississippi College, was named the 2010-11 higher education art educator of the year by the Mississippi Art Education Association. Miley has served as an MC art professor since 1999.

Gwendolyn Ball (B.S.N. '83) has been appointed by the Adams County Board of Supervisors to serve on the board of trustees at Natchez Regional Medical Center. Ball is currently a board member of the Mississippi Heritage Trust. She has years of nursing experience in a hospital setting, as well as volunteering as a nurse with the Red Cross in Natchez and Kansas City, Missouri.

Cathleen Cotten (Levy, B.S.Ed. '84) has joined FingerPaint Marketing, Inc., a marketing and advertising agency. Cotten previously served as senior managing editor at International Meetings and Science Inc. in Stamford, Connecticut, where she edited medical and scientific materials for global medical presentations, journal articles, and speakers bureaus.

Cheryl Sproles (B.S.Ed. '84) was awarded the Eudora Welty New Playwright Award by New Stage Theatre in Jackson for her play entitled, "More Than Life."

Dr. Gregory E. Potts (B.S. '85) has written *Inspiration From The Stained Glass*, a book of messages preached on the scenes of 20 stained glass windows of First Baptist Church in Dallas, Georgia. The book sells for \$19.95 and can be purchased by contacting [gepotts1@gmail.com](mailto:gepotts1@gmail.com). Potts and his wife, Holli, are planting a church, The Retreat at Dallas. For more information, visit [www.theretreatdallas.org](http://www.theretreatdallas.org).

Dr. Charline McCord (B.A. '86, M.A. '88) co-edited a new book, *Growing Up in Mississippi, Christmas Stories from Mississippi*. The book is a collection of essays by 38 noted Mississippians sharing their traditions and the spirit of the

Christmas season in the South, and features illustrations by premier watercolorist Wyatt Waters (B.A. '77, M.A. '82).

Kimberly White (M.B.A. '87) serves on the board of education in Williamsburg, Kentucky. She is married to The Honorable Fred F. White (J.D. '84), District Judge for the 34th Kentucky Circuit.

Dale Tadlock (B.S. '89) served on the writing team of *Becoming Like Christ: Grounding Youth in Jesus*, a discipleship curriculum that will be published by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) this year. This is the first discipleship curriculum to be published for youth by CBF. Tadlock contributes to *Youthworker Journal* and was a contributor for Passport Camps' curriculum design. He is a frequent conference and workshop leader.

Ronnie C. Irwin (B.M. '89) is battalion chaplain for 2-69 Armor, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team based at Ft. Benning, Georgia. 2-69 AR recently returned from a 12-month combat tour in southern Iraq where Chaplain Irwin provided religious support to Contingency Operating Site Kalsu, as well as four patrol bases across Babil and Karbala Provinces. At the completion of the tour, Irwin was awarded the Bronze Star for courageously providing religious support to more than 900 soldiers despite encountering numerous enemy attacks. 2-69 AR received the Meritorious Unit award. Irwin lives in Columbus, Georgia, with his wife, Kelly, and their children, Emily and Michael.



Ronnie C. Irwin

**90s** Richard "Rick" Moore (B.S.B.A. '92) has been named one of the "Top 40 Under 40" by the *Mississippi Business Journal*. Moore is CEO and owner of Mad Genius, a Ridgeland-based advertising agency.

Dr. Beth Ann Dunigan (M.C.S. '94, M.S. '06), biology professor at Mississippi College, is the new president of the Mississippi Science Teachers Association. The mission of the nonprofit

## COURAGEOUS HITS THE SILVER SCREEN

*Courageous*, THE LATEST FILM PRODUCED BY DR. MICHAEL CATT '75, WILL PREMIER IN theatres on September 30, 2011.

Dr. Catt is senior pastor at Sherwood Baptist Church, the Albany, Georgia-based center of worship best known for forming its own production company, Sherwood Pictures, and producing the inspirational films *Flywheel*, *Facing the Giants*, and *Fireproof*.

The company's 2011 release, *Courageous*, tells the story of four law enforcement officers who give their best on the job, but who find "good enough" to be all they can muster as fathers. When a tragedy strikes close to home, the men find themselves asking what God really expects of them as fathers. The inspiration behind *Courageous* was Malachi 4:6; the film's title echoes God's call for men to "rise with courage" in their homes and as leaders. Like *Fireproof* and



*Facing the Giants*, the *Courageous* project includes Bible studies and a curriculum for pastors based on the movie.

"We've prayed to be sure that we're pursuing God's idea [for this film] and not our own," Dr. Catt says. "With action, drama, and humor, this film embraces God's promise in the Bible to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers."

association is to improve science education in Mississippi and recognize teachers who excel in the field.

Dr. Christopher Turner (B.S.B.A. '98) is assistant professor of voice at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Turner completed a doctor of musical arts degree with emphasis in vocal performance at Louisiana State University in 2010.

Toby Collums (B.S.Ed. '99) has been named Itawamba AHS's head football coach. Collums arrived at Itawamba AHS from Wayne County High School, where he served as that school's offensive coordinator.

**00s** Michael Brown (B.S.B.A. '00) is the newest member of Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens and Cannada PLLC's Product Liability Group. His practice will focus in the areas of product liability defense, general litigation, personal injury litigation, and drug and medical device.

Senator Doug Davis (B.S. '00) has been named chairman of the Mississippi Senate Appropriations Committee after serving seven years in the legislature.

Brian Blackwell (B.S. '01) is the marketing director of Chick-fil-A at Jackson and Macarthur in Alexandria, Louisiana.



Jason McGee

Jason McGee (B.S.B.A. '05) has been promoted to corporate treasury services officer at Trustmark National Bank in Jackson, where he is the operations coordinator. He has been a member of the Mississippi chapter of the Financial Planners Association and the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors Mississippi.

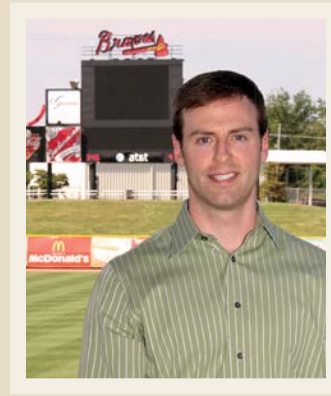
He volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and TOPSoccer. Jason, his wife, Andrea, and two children reside in Madison.

Dr. Claire Nettles (B.S. '05) received the 2010 Frohn Award for Outstanding Pediatric Intern at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson. Nettles earned her M.D. at UMMC in 2009 and is currently a second year pediatric resident.

Jonathan Campbell (B.A. '06) has been promoted to Midwest regional controller for Amcor Packaging Distribution's Landsberg division. Amcor, Ltd. has more than \$9 billion in annual worldwide sales and its U.S. division, Amcor Packaging Distribution, has more than \$800 million in annual sales. As regional controller, Campbell oversees all financial aspects of the Midwest region.

Michael "Ryan" Kelly (M.S. '07) has been named director of external relations for the University of Southern Mississippi College of Health, where he will oversee alumni activities, communication, donor relations, and the Dean's Council. Kelly was previously with the Southern Miss Alumni Association.

Dylan McLemore (B.S. '08) is an instructor of mass media at Southern Arkansas University. McLemore teaches courses in reporting, public relations, and media law, as well as a seminar



## A CAREER HOMERUN FOR BEN INGRAM

FOLLOWING A THREE-YEAR STINT AS THE VOICE OF THE Mississippi Braves, Ben Ingram '03 has been called up to the Major Leagues as the Atlanta Braves' new post-game show host. Ingram also handles pre-game duties on 680 The Fan on Dickey Broadcasting and the Atlanta Braves Radio Network.

"My initial reaction was one of pure joy – the way you'd feel if your friends threw you a surprise party," Ingram says. "I'd been working hard, but I wasn't expecting this kind of opportunity yet, so to get the call from Atlanta when I did was pretty special."

"Ben is an example of the kind of talent we're able to help develop off the field as well as on the field," said M-Braves General Manager Steve DeSalvo. "He's one of the best sports radio talents I've seen in a long time, and we wish him nothing but success in Atlanta."

Obtaining the job was a matter of talent, perseverance, meeting the right people, and ironically, a rain delay. At the end of the 2009 Mississippi Braves season, Ingram drove to Atlanta, wrangled a press pass to the Atlanta Braves game, and showed up with hopes of meeting as many people in the front office and broadcast booth as possible.

"Fortunately for me, there was a two-and-a-half hour rain delay that night, which gave me an opportunity to not only meet the broadcasters, but a chance to have a good conversation with them," Ingram says. "I stayed in touch with everybody in Atlanta throughout the 2010 season and off-season, and in January 2011, I got a call requesting I come over and interview. Two days later, I was told I had the job."

Ingram's next dream come true would be seeing the Atlanta Braves win the 2011 World Series. In the meantime, he has some tips for young people aspiring to a career in sports broadcasting.

"Be an original. Ninety percent of the people I hear these days lack creativity and originality and become what I call "cookie-cutter" broadcasters," Ingram says. "Getting to the top takes a long time and you can't get there without networking and being patient. There's always more to learn, and you'll never reach a point where you can't learn how to be better." — Photo by Ed Gardner

on media and politics. In addition to his teaching duties, he is overseeing the department's transition from print journalism to modern electronic media and serves as advisor to the student newspaper, *The Bray*, which will launch online this fall at [www.thebrayonline.com](http://www.thebrayonline.com).

Andrew Reuther (B.S.B.A. '09) has been hired as legislative correspondent for Congressman Steve Scalise in his Washington, D.C., office.

Vincent Gatlin (B.S. '09) has been promoted to the New Mexico region's human resource manager for Enterprise Holdings, Inc. The company notes his proven record of success with employee development, leadership and the ability to build relationships within the community. In 2010, Vincent contributed toward his group's winning multiple Founding Values Awards and a group HR EAA.

## Marriages

Daniel Smith (B.S. '02) and Jennifer Lynn Fuentes, May 29, 2010

Kati Hargrove (M.A. '08) and L. Rees Hodges (J.D. '09), November 7, 2009

Jamie McCaughn (B.S. '09) and Marcus B. Lambert, October 30, 2010

C. Hilton (B.S. '49) and Marion L. Wallace, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, August 12, 2010

Rolland (B.S.Ed. '60) and Beverly Ponder Shaw (B.S.Ed. '60), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, 2010

## Births & Adoptions

Laura Jane (Newell, B.S. '92) and Ken DiFatta, Trent Owen,

May 24, 2010. He is welcomed by big brothers Jake (11) and Ethan (8).

Victoria (Cullinane, B.S.B.A. '94) and Frank Stebbins, Katharine McCarty, January 25, 2011. "Kate" is welcomed by big brother Zachary Warner (6).

Sharon Garner (B.S. '98, J.D. '01) and Wallace Adrian Beauchamp IV, Wallace Adrian "Beau" V, November 29, 2010

Christopher (B.S. '99) and Darla Byrd (B.S.N. '04), Rachel Meredith, November 12, 2010. She is welcomed by big brother Gavin (4).

Carrie Stevens (B.M.Ed. '99, B.M. '03) and Steve Owens, Luke Jackson, February 10, 2010. Luke is welcomed by big sister Alexandra.

Elisabeth (Wall, B.S. '00, J.D. '03) and Robert Byrd, Avery Elisabeth, January 16, 2010

Christopher (B.A. '01) and Leigh Ann Nestor Glaser (B.S.Ed. '01), David Roger, May 7, 2010. He is welcomed by big brother Joshua.

Ray (M.F.A. '02) and Jessica Gregory, Ray III, September 17, 2010

Austin (B.A. '04) and Amy Pearson Whittington (B.A. '03), Tyler Henry, December 14, 2010

Kati (Hargrove, M.A. '08) and L. Rees Hodges (J.D. '09), Warner Rees, November 30, 2010

Paul Babba (MC assistant women's soccer coach) and Laura Babba, Micah Sven, February 15, 2011. He is welcomed by big brother Noah.

## HOMECOMING 2011

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS GEAR UP TO CELEBRATE HOMECOMING OCTOBER 20-22, 2011.



### CLASS REUNIONS

Classes celebrating reunions include 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001, and 2006.

### 50-YEAR CLUB REUNION

Honoring the Class of 1961

The Class of 1961 will celebrate its Golden Anniversary during Homecoming 2011, and the 50-Year Club will welcome new members into the club at that time.

### GROWING THE VISION CELEBRATION

Join the celebration as Mississippi College wraps up "Growing the Vision," the five-year campaign to raise \$80 million for capital improvements, scholarships, academic programs, and the MC endowment. You'll want to be there when the grand total raised is announced!

### ADDITIONAL HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

A golf tournament, awards brunch, tailgating on the Quad, parade, departmental receptions, and of course, football will round out this fun-filled, nostalgic weekend. If you'd like to help plan a reunion, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 601.925.3252.

## In Memoriam

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE EXTENDS SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND FORMER FACULTY/STAFF MEMBERS.

### Alumni

Helen Eubanks (Hillman '33), January 4, 2011  
 Nancy Allen (Hillman '36, B.A. '46), January 29, 2011  
 Charlie Ainsworth (B.A. '39), husband of Ruth Ainsworth, retired staff, December 19, 2010  
 Clydel Burford (Hillman '41), September 21, 2010  
 Laney Berry (B.A. '42), November 12, 2010  
 Paul Nunnery (B.A. '42), January 19, 2011  
 Cana Wiggins (B.A. '44), December 13, 2010  
 Martha Ratliff ('47), September 18, 2010  
 Dr. Robert Canzoneri (B.A. '48), December 4, 2010  
 Eugene Culpepper (B.A. '48), December 5, 2010  
 Frank Hurst, Jr. (B.A. '48), December 13, 2010  
 William "Bill" Kenna, Sr. (B.S. '48), January 11, 2011  
 Rev. William Mendum, Jr. (B.A. '48), October 20, 2010  
 Marion Boykin (B.S. '49), June 22, 2009  
 Ralph Germany (B.S. '49), January 3, 2011  
 Laurina Tucker (B.S. '49), August 28, 2010  
 Rev. Ira Bright, Jr. (B.A. '51), October 29, 2010  
 Joe Long (B.S. '52), November 29, 2010  
 Jean Baugh (B.A. '53), November 8, 2010  
 Rev. Ferrell Cork, Jr. (B.A. '53), September 13, 2010  
 Ira Kirkpatrick, Jr. (M.A. '53), February 15, 2011  
 Jeff Horton (B.S. '54), February 10, 2011  
 Rev. Jerry Adkins (B.A. '55), November 30, 2010  
 James Herring (B.A. '55), January 20, 2011  
 Eugenia Rogers (B.S.Ed. '55), April 8, 2010  
 Emily Thomas (B.S. '55), October 6, 2010  
 Rev. Wilson Winstead (B.A. '55), January 19, 2011  
 Ruby Booth (M.Ed. '56), February 25, 2010  
 Donald Cross (B.S. '57), December 10, 2010  
 Martha Cotten (B.S.Ed. '58, M.Ed. '76), September 15, 2010  
 Captain Walter Jacobson (B.A. '58), August 31, 2010  
 Annie Abel (L.L.B. '59), February 5, 2011  
 Jimmy Rees (B.S. '59), November 24, 2010  
 Harold Holliday (M.Ed. '60), February 11, 2011  
 Rev. Barney Lynwood Porter (B.A. '60), October 1, 2009  
 Karen Baxter (B.S.Ed. '61), August 24, 2010  
 Eddie Beck (B.S. '62), June 5, 2010  
 Ann King (B.S. '62), February 14, 2011  
 James Harpole, Jr. (B.A. '63), February 2, 2011  
 Molly Johnson (B.S.Ed. '63), January 23, 2011  
 Martha Jones (B.S.Ed. '63), August 24, 2010  
 Edgar Bates (B.A. '64), November 1, 2010  
 Helen McCall (M.Ed. '64), October 27, 2010  
 Nancy Brown (B.A. '65), April 10, 2010  
 Dr. Jerry M. Kirby (B.A. '65), October 14, 2010  
 Charles Sudduth (L.L.B. '65), February 19, 2011  
 Gloria Farrar (B.S.Ed. '66), May 26, 2009  
 Catherine Gilruth (B.S.Ed. '66), October 30, 2010  
 Suzanne B. Glenn (B.S.Ed. '67, M.Ed. '77), December 6, 2010  
 Sharon Broomall Bobik (B.A. '68), January 7, 2010  
 Dr. Richard Copeland (M.A. '68), January 11, 2010  
 Kim Cooley (B.S. '69), February 24, 2010  
 Doyle Jones (B.S. '69), February 16, 2011



## AN OPRYLAND COUNTRY CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

The Alumni Association invites Mississippi College alumni, parents, and friends to experience a festive, holiday season getaway to Nashville, Tennessee, the world's country music capital.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE  
 NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 2, 2011

### TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Four nights accommodations at the five-star Gaylord Opryland Hotel, where the Christmas decorations include hundreds of evergreens and poinsettias and millions of lights
- Plus:
- An evening at the Grand Ole Opry
- Tour of the Country Music Hall of Fame
- Tour of the historic Ryman Auditorium
- Tickets to the Louise Mandrell Christmas Dinner Party
- Tickets to the Radio City Christmas Spectacular with the New York Rockettes
- Guided tour of Nashville, including downtown, Music Row, and the Parthenon
- Shopping at Opry Mills, Tennessee's premier retail destination
- Line dancing lessons
- Most meals, round trip luxury motorcoach transportation with restroom on board, and all luggage handling, taxes, and gratuities

Cost is approximately \$845 per person (based on double occupancy). A \$100 per person deposit is due by August 15, 2011. Final payment is due by October 3, 2011. For more information, visit [www.mc.edu/alumni/programs/travel/](http://www.mc.edu/alumni/programs/travel/) or contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 601.925.3228.

The Honorable J. Edmand Pace (B.A. '70, J.D. '74), September 9, 2010  
 Kaye Lewis (M.Ed. '71), September 26, 2010  
 John Vollar (B.A. '71), January 10, 2010  
 Annie Gunter (M.Ed. '72), January 3, 2011  
 Merle Rutland (M.Ed. '73), January 23, 2011  
 Alma Laster (M.Ed. '75, Ed.S. '76), October 30, 2010  
 Dr. Hal Fletcher, Jr. (B.A. '77), December 16, 2010  
 Jeffrey Anderson Huff (B.S.B.A. '77), February 6, 2010  
 Thomas Bush (M.Ed. '79), February 3, 2011  
 Michael T. Guthrie (J.D. '81), December 8, 2010  
 Jane Comfort (B.S.Ed. '84), December 15, 2010  
 William Jenkins (M.C.P. '94), July 20, 2010  
 Julie Johnson Sparks (B.S.Ed. '96), October 23, 2010  
 Phyllis Sabbatini (B.S.W. '00), May 1, 2010

### Friends

Josie Benton, mother of Leland Benton, assistant professor, chemistry, January 24, 2011  
 Dr. G. Wendell Deer, former department chair (1969-1980), mathematics, February 19, 2011  
 Walter Fields, Jr., MC public safety officer, December 7, 2010  
 Otis Heard, father of Dr. Katherine Jones, associate professor, psychology and counseling, February 8, 2011  
 Martha Hederman, wife of the late Henry Hederman, Sr., (B.A. '42) former MC trustee, January 23, 2011  
 Opal Thompson Martindale, mother of Janet Taylor (B.M. '67), part-time instructor, Department of Music, March 3, 2011  
 Joya Parke, mother of Dr. Ivan Parke, associate professor, Christian studies, October 17, 2010  
 Bob K. Parks, husband of Dr. Sandra Parks, assistant professor of accounting, School of Business, March 8, 2011  
 Wayne James Trouard, father of Stephen Trouard, instructor, School of Business, November 8, 2010  
 Bill Turner, father of Amy Rowan (B.S.B.A. '85), executive assistant, Office of Advancement, and husband of Pat Turner, retired staff, February 20, 2011  
 Arleatha Wilson, daughter of Erma Wilson, retired housekeeper, November 7, 2010

IF YOU HAVE NEWS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE, please send it to Class Notes, *Beacon* magazine, Box 4027, Clinton, MS 39058, e-mail MC at [pr@mc.edu](mailto:pr@mc.edu), or submit your news online at <http://alumni.mc.edu/classnotes>. Photos submitted should be of professional quality.



Dr. Charles Davis

## In Memory of Dr. Charles "Puddin" Davis '58 1936 – 2011

The MC community was saddened by the April 7, 2011 passing of beloved alumnus and professor Dr. Charles "Puddin" Davis.

A star athlete who earned 13 letters at Mississippi College in the 1950s, Dr. Davis proved he was

equally extraordinary off the field, serving his *alma mater* as a devoted Bible professor for nearly three decades. Members of the MC family described him as one of the greatest athletes in MC sports history, and as a teacher who never ignored an opportunity to help his students.

"There is no telling how many hours he put into helping athletes do well in class and play sports," said Davis's childhood friend and former MC classmate Paul H. Oliver.

Davis's athletic letters at MC included four in football, four in tennis, four in track, and one in basketball. A stand-out high school athlete, Davis received 21 college sports scholarship offers, but according to his friend Oliver, the Lord led Davis to Mississippi College. His desire to serve the Lord also drew him to a career in the academic world.

"Charles was a beloved professor and good friend and colleague to all who knew and worked with him," said Ron Howard, vice president for academic affairs. "His good spirit and remarkable intellect enriched the lives of all his students and colleagues. He was a man of great faith, deep understanding, and warm generosity. Charles was truly one of a kind. Mississippi College is heartbroken at his passing."

A dedicated family man, the former Mr. MC was married to his college sweetheart, Nancy Nielsen Davis, who later served as president of the Mississippi College Alumni Association. Nancy and Charles Davis regularly attended MC events and were often found greeting guests at 50-Year Club reunions at the Latimer House.

"The passing of 'Puddin' Davis is a sad day for Mississippi College and MC athletics," says university athletic director Mike Jones. "The MC family lost an excellent teacher, a great supporter, and a loyal friend."

Dr. Davis is survived by his wife, daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. A previously established Charles "Puddin" Davis Scholarship Fund awards scholarships to MC students who excel in academics and serve as Christian leaders. Donations to the fund may be sent to the Mississippi College Office of Advancement, Box 4005, Clinton, Mississippi 39058.



## 2011 SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

From left: Willis Steenhuis, '59, Baseball; Johnny Poole, '93, Football; Aaron Baker '89, Basketball; Kyle Fulcher, '98, Football; Becky Schnell Tuecke, '86, Multi-Sport; Bryant Shaw, '99, Football; J.W. Barnes, '66, Basketball; Coach Billy Lamb, '62, Coaching (Cross Country/Track)



## PORTRAITS FROM THE HALL OF FAME

The Mississippi College Hall of Fame was established in 1960 to annually honor four senior students for their outstanding leadership ability, scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities participation, contribution to student life, and dedication to serving God and their fellowman.

THE *Beacon* CATCHES UP WITH JILL HASTY McNEW '90

Jill Hasty McNew combines her passion for children, teaching, and dance as the owner of Jill's Studio of Dance in Huntsville, Alabama.

McNew opened the studio's doors in 1995 to 75 students eager to learn tap, jazz, and ballet. Today, Jill's Studio of Dance teaches more than 500 aspiring dancers. While many of the studio's alumni have achieved national success on stage and on screen, McNew feels called to do more than just teach little dancers how to execute a perfect plié.

"I consider the studio my mission field," McNew says. "My number one goal is to help each child I teach to know Him better. Today's culture steers children and teenagers so far off the right path. They are used to settling. I want them to seek after God's best for their life. I promise them that His best will be far greater than anything this world has to offer.

"God has given us the great joy of seeing lives change at our studio," McNew continues. "In the 16 years we've been in business, I've seen many students and parents come to know Christ. To see students develop a relationship with Christ and then find their security in Him is so rewarding."

The studio bears Jill's name, but it's a family affair. Jill is the lead instructor and choreographer; her husband, Brian, manages the business end of the operation; and the couple's daughters, Sara Laine and Lakin, are student dancers.

"My husband played basketball and knew nothing

about the dance world," McNew says. "When I approached him with the idea of opening a dance studio, Brian asked me if I was willing to make sacrifices in order to make it happen. I told him yes, and he said, 'Then I'll help you.' As our business manager, Brian is a big reason for our success. I am incredibly grateful for all he sacrifices so that I can do what I love."

"IN THE 16 YEARS WE'VE BEEN IN BUSINESS, I'VE SEEN MANY STUDENTS AND PARENTS COME TO KNOW CHRIST. TO SEE STUDENTS DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST AND THEN FIND THEIR SECURITY IN HIM IS SO REWARDING."

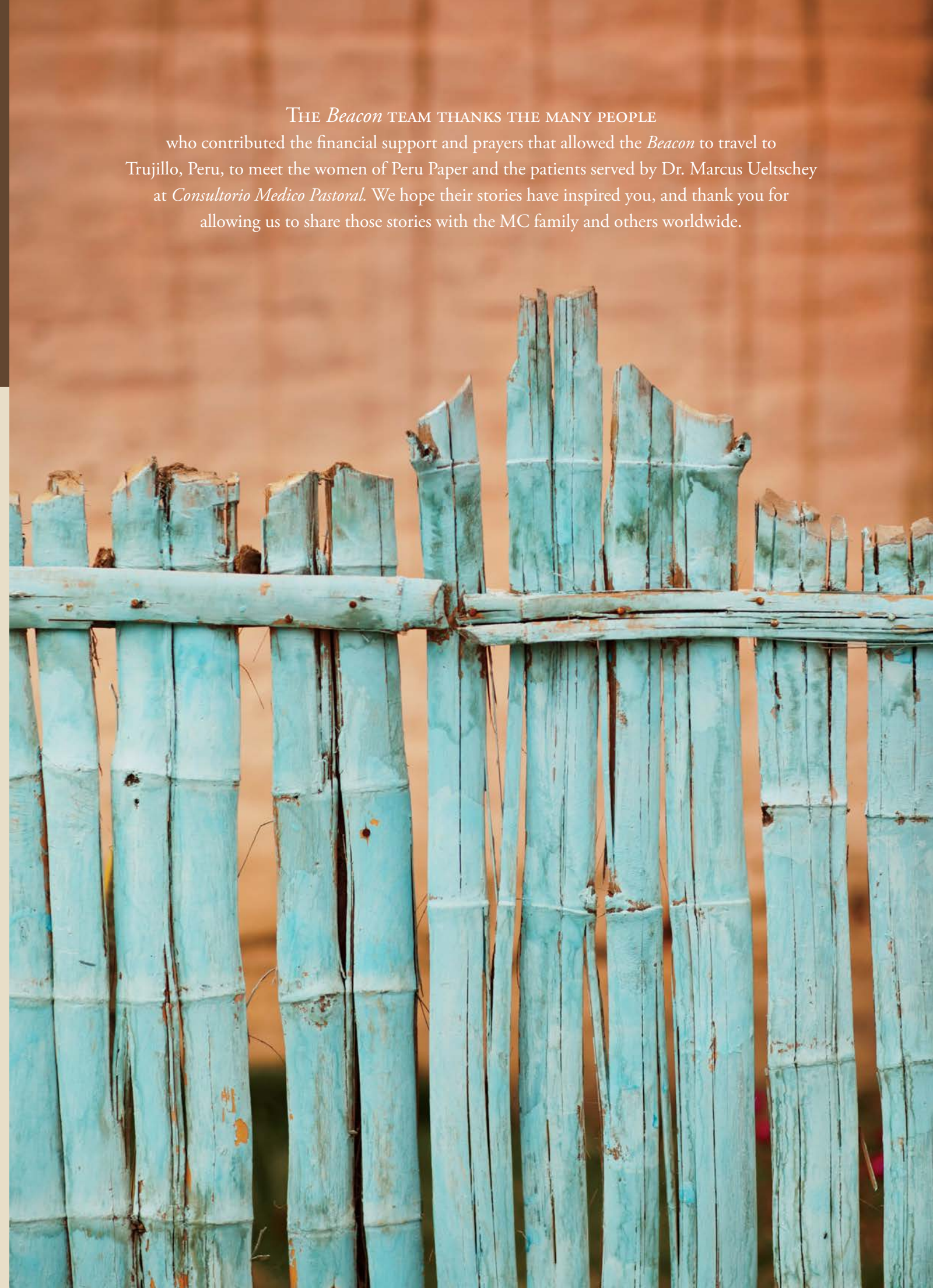
In 2008, Jill McNew was honored as National Teacher of the Year by the prestigious Company Dance faculty. Another career highlight was appearing alongside Billy Ray Cyrus, Miley Cyrus, and Taylor Swift in a dance scene and music video from *Hannah Montana: The Movie*, a role McNew says made her "quite popular with my daughters' friends."

McNew has fond memories of performing in musicals at Mississippi College, and is still proud of the three national cheerleading championships she and her fellow varsity cheerleaders brought home to Clinton. But when she thinks of her time at MC, it's the life lessons she learned that stand out to McNew the most.

"I had a mentor during my college years who told me over and over again, 'Go for the gold. Do not settle,'" McNew says. "To anyone wanting to pursue their passion, I would tell them to take that leap of faith. I would also say it requires a great amount of prayer. You cannot please everyone. You have to do what you know is right in your heart and trust that God will handle the rest. We give Him all glory and honor for any and all success."

JILL HASTY • *Hall of Fame '90*

Civitan Sweetheart • Nenamoosha Social Tribe • Student Body Attorney • BSU Freshman Council, Sophomore, Junior Homecoming Maid • Dean's List • Class Favorite • Roles in "Hello Dolly," "The Music Man," and "Oklahoma" • Varsity Cheerleader • Homecoming Queen • Miss Mississippi College



THE *Beacon* TEAM THANKS THE MANY PEOPLE who contributed the financial support and prayers that allowed the *Beacon* to travel to Trujillo, Peru, to meet the women of Peru Paper and the patients served by Dr. Marcus Ueltschey at *Consultorio Medico Pastoral*. We hope their stories have inspired you, and thank you for allowing us to share those stories with the MC family and others worldwide.



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TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST.