

Message from the Alumni Director

Greetings!

It is a good thing that we record much of our lives on film, capturing special moments to share an important event, a proud accomplishment, rekindle a memory or even to recall how we change over the years.

Recently, I spoke with a group of Thiel College alumni who graduated from high school together 63 years ago. They stay in close touch and gather regularly to share memories and keep track of each other. When reminiscing over a high school reunion photo taken nearly four decades ago, one member of the group was disappointed to find his picture was not included among his classmates. They all had a good laugh over the fact that he was indeed in the photo and did not recognize himself!

We invite you to come back to campus for Homecoming, which will be held October 2–4 this year. Our students have chosen “Classic Hollywood” as the theme to celebrate the great moments that have been recorded on film and enjoyed by so many over the years. Homecoming events will include wine tasting at St Paul’s, a Class of 1959 reception and dinner, an alumni awards ceremony, bonfire and pig roast, parade, tailgate, football game, alumni dinner party and dancing. What better time to enjoy a weekend on campus reminiscing with classmates, posing for photos and capturing special moments to share in the future? Will you recognize your classmates and yourself in an old photo?

We love to hear from you and hope you will share your photos and memories with us. You can reach us in the Alumni Services Office at 724-589-2140 or e-mail us at alumni@thiel.edu.

With regards,



Lynn Miller McClimans '79
Director of Alumni Services

Did You Know?

That 2009 is a multi-anniversary year for many prominent landmarks on campus?

Rhodehouse Memorial Science Hall, named in honor of William H. and Mary J. Rhodehouse, the parents of Harry D. Rhodehouse, opened in summer 1959 and was dedicated at the September 21, 1959, Honors Convocation. (Vice President Richard M. Nixon received an honorary degree at this convocation.)

Edwin Hodge Hall was built in two sections—the first section, the “north wing,” was opened to students in 1957 and was named East Hall. The “south wing” was completed in September 1959, and that year the entire building was named in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Hodge Jr., past president of the Board of Trustees.

Elizabeth Stewart Hall, completed in January 1969, provides housing for up to 196 students. Originally named Northwest Hall, this residence hall was dedicated in 1973 to honor the memory of Elizabeth Stewart, a friend of Thiel College who was the niece of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Warren Roth, Thiel’s first president.

Brother Martin’s Walk was the result of a tree-planting ceremony on November 10, 1874, the 391st anniversary of Martin Luther’s birthday. More than 100 hard and soft maple trees were planted in two rows 13 feet apart with 30 feet between trees. These trees were planted leading from College Avenue past Greenville Hall. Since that time, the Walk has been extended to Hodge Hall at the east end of campus and crosses College Avenue past the David Johnson Memorial Chapel. While the majority of the trees are original, recent graduating classes have provided trees as a gift to the College to maintain this important campus landmark.



Vice President Richard Nixon receives an honorary degree from Thiel College at the 1959 Honors Convocation, during which Rhodehouse Memorial Science Hall was dedicated.

Business Seminar Series Still Going Strong

Each spring, Thiel hosts the Senior Business Honors Seminar series, providing the opportunity for some of the College's top business students to meet and interact with alumni of the College who have enjoyed distinguished careers in many walks of life.

Those who presented this semester included:

- Sandra Parker '81, retired vice president, PNC Bank
- Richard Parker '82, pharmaceutical sales representative, Lunestra
- Gary Witosky '79, senior vice president, Thiel College
- John Rogers '87, vice president for sales, U.S. Nutrition
- Michael Miller '92, enterprise architect, Microsoft Corp.
- Ted Baumhauer '79, president, Baumhauer Seminars
- Ed Derrick '90, entrepreneur, Medicine Shoppe
- Ron Owen '71, senior relationship executive, First American Corporation
- John Barr '70, chief marketing officer, Hillside Service
- Mike Zawoysky '79, executive vice president and CFO, A.C. Moore



- Kevin Hart '86, vice president and controller, Pittsburgh Penguins (pictured above)

If you are interested in participating in the Senior Business Seminar, or are interested in other opportunities to interact with current students, please contact Mario Marini '91, director of special gifts & planned giving, at 724-589-2022 or mmarini@thiel.edu.

Mark Your Calendars

As another academic year passes and the end of the fiscal year approaches, Thiel can reflect positively on our 142nd year of educating and preparing students for successful futures. However, it is important to remember that our continued success is made possible by the generous support of our alumni and friends through donations to the Annual Fund. These gifts enhance the academic and co-curricular experience of our students, provide support for faculty and staff, and enrich the campus environment.

The Annual Fund is an unrestricted fund that supports critical needs on campus. Thanks in part to the Annual Fund, Thiel was able to put a new roof on the Rissell-Beighly Gymnasium and install fire suppression waterlines in the Academic Center last year. Renovations to Bane Hall, Harter Hall and new carpeting throughout the townhouses, theme houses and apartments also were possible because of Annual Fund contributions. This year, our Annual Fund goal has increased, and we need your help.

We are grateful that despite the current economic challenges, our alumni and friends continue to provide support to Thiel College and its students

through gifts to the Annual Fund. In fact, one generous donor has pledged a total of \$30,000 to match all new and increased gifts made by June 30. Please consider making or increasing your Annual Fund gift by the end of the fiscal year on June 30. There are no "small" gifts and every donation makes a big impact as we strive to reach our \$850,000 goal.



To donate to the Annual Fund, see page 40 of this issue, visit www.thiel.edu or call Kelly Bailey, director of the Annual Fund, at 724-589-2027.

Attention Members of the Class of 1981!



Rose Ann Dellonna '81 reports that a “few of the gals from the class of '81” got together at the home of Kory Stoeckle in Florida in late October 2008. Pictured from left to right are **Kory (Mazzeo)Stoeckle** of Valrico, Fla., **Joy (Breslin) Benusa** of Oakmont, Pa., Dellonna of Sewickley Heights, Pa., and **Stephanie (Smith) Shanahan** of Tierra Verde, Fla. They had so much fun that the group got in touch with a number of other classmates and will be meeting in Nashville, Tenn., in July of this year. Anyone interested in joining in the fun, should contact one of these four alumnae for more information.

You can reach Stoeckle at stokfl@msn.com, Benusa at joybenusa@comcast.net, Dellonna at rebel626@comcast.net and Shanahan at gulfbeach8@tampabay.rr.com.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars and get “red carpet ready” for **Homecoming 2009** at Thiel College on **October 2-4!** This year’s celebration will be marked with the glitz and glamour of “Classic Hollywood”—and you won’t want to miss the first Homecoming celebration with Thiel’s new president, Dr. Troy VanAken, and his family.

The weekend’s festivities include a golf scramble, wine tasting, jazz concert, parade, Homecoming football game versus Westminster College, reunion breakfasts and much more! 2009 yearbooks will be available at registration and older yearbooks can be purchased by contacting Jennie Kather, yearbook adviser, at 724-589-2188 or jkather@thiel.edu.

Visit www.thiel.edu/alumni/homecoming.htm for more information as it becomes available. A schedule of events will be mailed to all alumni this summer. See you on campus!

Adventure in Spain with Thiel College

Looking for an adventure? Why not travel in a safe environment with Thiel friends, alumni, faculty, staff and students to Madrid, Granada, Seville, Costa del Sol, Morocco and Gibraltar next summer? This special travel opportunity from EF Tours is scheduled for 10 days in mid-May 2010.

Travelers will explore the exciting cities of Madrid, Toledo and Seville, as well as Tetouan, Morocco, and Gibraltar. Highlights of the trip include the Prado art museum, the Alhambra, flamenco dance performances, the Costa del Sol's sunny beaches and St. Michael's Cave in Gibraltar, just to name a few.

Tour fees include all airfare, hotel, guided tour and breakfast and dinner costs.

This year, EF tours will automatically provide EF's Job-Loss Money-Back Guarantee to participants who sign up by May 31, 2009. If a traveler or parent loses a job and chooses to cancel their tour reservations (even up to the day before departure), he or she will receive nearly all of the tour costs and fees back.

For more information, please contact Barbara Long-Cooper at 724-589-2155 or longcoop@thiel.edu or Susan Cowan at 724-589-2063 or scowan@thiel.edu.

Corrections to the 2007-08 Honor Roll of Donors

- Dr. & Mrs. Jonathan P. Caulkins should have been listed in the President's Club giving society.
- Mr. & Mrs. John E. (Rich '71) Zawacki '71 should have been listed in the President's Club giving society.
- Arlene (Rupert) Summerhill '59 was inadvertently marked as deceased in the class giving section.

We apologize for these errors and thank all our alumni and friends for their continued support.

Career Services in Search of Alumni Expertise

Looking for a way to give back to your alma mater? Then the Office of Career Services has just what you've been looking for.

The office is looking to create a database of Thiel graduates who are willing to volunteer to be mentors and share their career experiences with students. This would include activities such as taking student phone calls for informational interviews, working with students through job shadowing experience, etc. They are looking for individuals who have diverse academic backgrounds and represent many different career fields.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Heather Balas, director, at 724-589-2014 or hbalas@thiel.edu.