

The Bell

A Gift that Will Keep on Giving
Inaugural Thiel Relay for Life
Commencement 2013
...and much more



the end of an era

A NEW BEGINNING



A Message from the President



Dear Alumni and Friends,

There is something about Thiel College that inspires. I felt it the first time I stepped onto campus. Since becoming president four years ago, I have seen it every day. Recently, the fruits of that inspiration have been especially visible.

In March, Thiel announced a \$3.7 million estate gift from lifelong Greenville resident David Baughman, who passed away recently. Dave was not a Thiel graduate, but he was dedicated to his community and he saw the difference Thiel College makes for its students and in Greenville. He was inspired to make that transformative education available and affordable for local students with several full-tuition scholarships each year. You can read more about this incredible gift on page 3.

On May 4, ground was broken for the James Pedas Communication Center. James Pedas '50, H'89 valued his experience at Thiel so much that he was inspired to fund this facility. The Pedas Center will be a place where our students learn, collaborate and practice the communication skills that will earn them successful careers and prepare them for the challenges they will face, now and in the future. It was especially inspiring to host Jim and his family and friends on campus for the event. You can see images from the groundbreaking on page 2 and online at www.thiel.edu/pedas.

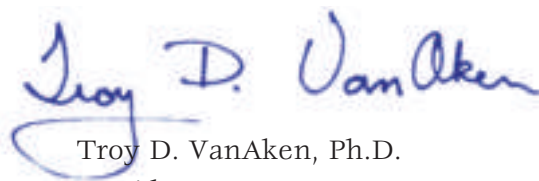
Recently, Thiel College bid adieu to Dr. Bill Robinson, professor of performing arts, who retired in May. Bill was inspired to spend his entire career in higher education here. He found something at Thiel that spoke to him as an artist and an educator, and in turn he inspired students to find their voice, to embrace creativity and to make all the world their stage. You can read a profile of Bill's years at Thiel on page 12.

And finally, on May 5, we welcomed a new class of Thiel graduates into the ranks of the alumni. The Class of 2013 are the students who entered Thiel the same year I did, and we have grown together. That year, Annette and I invited them to our home for an ice cream social, welcoming them to Thiel and introducing ourselves, and this year, we said goodbye at another 40 Eagle Street gathering the evening before Commencement. These students inspire all of us and I know that the change they will be in the world was inspired by the lessons they learned here at Thiel.



As we celebrate these recent successes and look forward to the sesquicentennial in 2016, we are not immune to the challenges facing American higher education as a whole. One that is at the forefront for me and my fellow presidents is the gap between what it costs to educate a student and what a student pays for that education. (Check out our infographic about this topic on page 19.) While colleges and universities work toward a better way to finance higher education, support from alumni and friends is absolutely vital and invaluable. As we wrap up the fiscal year at the end of June, please consider making a first or additional gift to The Thiel Fund—100 percent of which goes to support the day-to-day teaching and learning that occurs on campus.

And one last note that hopefully inspires you—save the date for Homecoming 2013 on Oct. 11-13! Please come back to campus to celebrate Thiel's past and future successes with us.


Troy D. VanAken, Ph.D.
President

Spring 2013

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ON THE COVER:
Dr. Bill Robinson and the groundbreaking of the Pedas Communication Center: (pictured from left to right) Dr. Barry Stamm '70, chair of the Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Troy VanAken, president; Wanda and Jim Pedas '50, H'89; and Ted and Lea Pedas.

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1

BREAKING NEW GROUND



2



3



4



5



6

“With the resources of the Pedas Center at their disposal, Thiel graduates will be among the most prepared for an increasingly complex world.”
 –Dr. Troy VanAken,
 president

On May 4, 2013, Thiel College took its first step in construction of the \$6.5-million James Pedas Communication Center. While this technologically advanced facility will benefit communication majors, it will serve as an academic hub for all Thiel students to develop communication proficiencies for successful careers and lives. Features of the new building include a new Admissions Office, media-rich environment with sophisticated labs and studios, and dynamic, flexible classrooms and learning spaces. The grand opening is scheduled for fall 2014. Many thanks to those who donated to the project and attended the groundbreaking. For more photos from the groundbreaking or to read more about the Pedas Communication Center, visit www.thiel.edu/pedas.

(1) Ground was broken for the Pedas Communication Center on May 4, 2013. (2) Ceremonial shovel (3) Brothers Ted and Jim Pedas '50, H'89 and cousin Ted. (4) Dr. Lynn Franken, dean of the college, speaks of the impact of the Pedas Center on academics at Thiel. (5) Dr. Bob Batchelor, the new James Pedas Chair of Communication, with Jim Pedas. (6) Dr. VanAken is interviewed about the new center.

A Gift That Will Keep on Giving

Lifelong Greenville resident David E. Baughman often spent time on Thiel College's campus with his father, Emerson, who introduced Baughman to legendary Thiel figures, such as Charles "Tod" Rissell 1900 (the "Father of Thiel Athletics") and Jack B. Stoeber (football coach, athletic director and dean of men). He could be found playing tennis on the College's clay tennis courts with Bill Snyder '38. He watched the College grow and believed strongly in the importance of education for local students. When he passed away in November 2012 at 91 years old, Baughman left a gift to the College that will transform the lives of many Thiel students.

The unassuming Baughman bequeathed \$3.7 million to Thiel, a third of his entire estate and the second largest estate gift in College history. This endowment will fund the Emerson A. Baughman, Agnes F. Baughman and David E. Baughman Endowed Scholarship, which is named for his parents and will bestow a full-tuition scholarship to several students each year from the Greenville, Reynolds, Commodore Perry or Jamestown school districts to attend Thiel.

"Dave Baughman had a passion for his community and higher education that is clearly reflected in his years of community service and his generous gift to Thiel and others in his beloved community," said President Troy VanAken. "Students will have their lives changed by Dave's generosity. His faith and support of the transformative power of a Thiel College education is truly inspiring."

Baughman was born in Greenville in 1920 and was a graduate of Penn High School and Grove City College. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the Air Force in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater. He was a long-time employee of Greenville Steel Car Co. (1946-1983), retiring as director of personnel.

In his retirement, he was active in community affairs, serving on government and other committees for more than 55 years, including the Greenville Borough Council and the original Greenville Recreation Committee. He was instrumental in building the first Little League ball field (on Alan Avenue) and the Memorial Swimming Pool. He was involved in the Greenville Library Board, Mercer County Boroughs Association and many others. A member of First Presbyterian Church, Baughman served his town and its people with love and care, giving of himself through organizations like the Salvation Army, the Lions Club, the Elks Lodge, the Friends of the Greenville Library and others.

David Baughman with Samuel Lackey, the first recipient of his family scholarship.



Mario Marini '91, director of special and planned giving; Larry Haines, executive director of the Community Foundation of Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio; and President Troy VanAken at the community foundation's annual meeting in April.

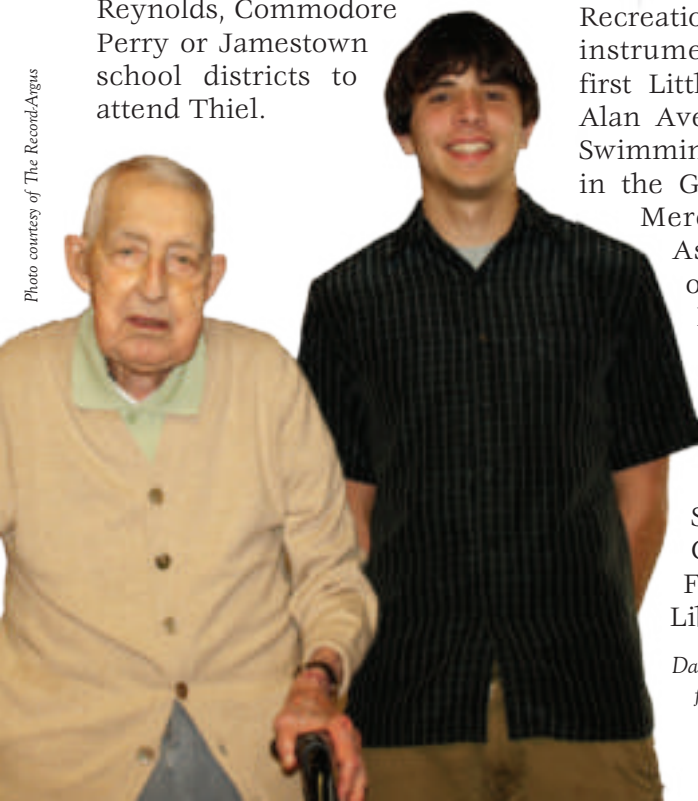
"Dave wanted to help local students to achieve and fulfill their dreams of an education," said Mario Marini '91, director of special and planned giving, who helped Baughman set up the fund. "He was very grateful for the College's presence in Greenville."

Baughman bestowed his first scholarship last August. Baughman wanted to give the first scholarship himself, which he did to Samuel T. Lackey '14, a Greenville native and Commodore Perry High School graduate who is studying psychology and sociology.

The \$12-million estate left by Baughman is administrated by the Northern Mercer County Community Foundation, which is part of the Community Foundation of Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. The foundation honored Baughman posthumously in April with the James Winner Humanitarian Award.

Students interested in Thiel College and the Baughman scholarship should contact the Admissions Office at 724-589-2345 or admissions@thiel.edu. Friends interested in establishing a scholarship at Thiel may contact Mario Marini at 724-589-2022 or mmarini@thiel.edu.

Photo courtesy of The Record-Argus



WXTC is on the Air



The Thiel College radio station is back on the airwaves at 88.1 FM. Formerly Webcat Radio, an online-only station, the Thiel radio station came back in January with new call letters and a new attitude.

Three years ago, the College filed an application with the Federal Communication Commission to renew the station's broadcast license. Over the past year, members of the Student Life and Student Activities Office have worked with an engineer, who helped to purchase new equipment and get the station ready to broadcast.

Ryan Prescott '12, student activities coordinator, is the adviser to the radio station and has a staff of three student workers.

Currently, WXTC has five radio shows—15 to 20 student DJs—equaling about two shows a day—some feature music, some talk and some both. The remaining time is filled with automated music. Most the students involved this semester are freshmen and sophomores, which gives the WXTC an advantage in the fall.

"I hope that in the future the radio station not only grows in size, but helps people get

the most out of their time at Thiel," said Cyrill Parham '15, a media communication major and station manager for WXTC. "With the new James Pedas Communication Center, we hope to get state-of-the-art equipment that will expose students to what a professional radio station uses. We want to promote not only what is going on at Thiel, but also Greenville and the surrounding area."

The station is back in WTGP's original studio, adjacent to the Maintenance Office. When the Pedas Center is completed, the station will move to its new home there.

Prescott cites Dean of Students Mike McKinney '02, who worked at WTGP while a student, as a great help in getting the station back on its feet.

"I think we get the best ideas from alumni," says Prescott.

If any alumni and friends are interested in getting involved through donations of time, funds or expertise with the radio program at Thiel, please contact Prescott at 724-589-2192 or rprezscott@thiel.edu.



Student managers Ronnell Hunt '14 and Cyrill Parham '15 do a live broadcast from the Bistro in April.

Schneider Honored by Sig Ep



Thiel College senior Matt Schneider, a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, was awarded the J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award at the Sigma Phi Epsilon Carlson Leadership Academy in February.

As one of the most active leaders in his chapter, Schneider has been a catalyst for change over the past four years. A former vice president of finance, vice president of communications and president, he led the charge for the chapter to use a financial management company and install a standards board. This year, he stepped into the role of new member coordinator and re-vamped the new member program. A former Interfraternity Council president, he has volunteered with the local YMCA, food bank and senior care center. A Butler, Pa., native, Schneider just graduated with a degrees in neuroscience and psychology (and a minor in philosophy).

The J. Edward Zollinger Outstanding Senior Award is presented each year to one outstanding senior in each district of the fraternity. The district governor makes the selection, based on nominations from the chapters, chapter counselors, and alumni and volunteer corporations. The award is based on outstanding scholastic achievement, campus leadership and community involvement. District 7 includes Carnegie Mellon University, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University, Thiel College, Westminster College, West Virginia University and Davis & Elkins College.



Celebrating 150 Years of Thiel

Editor's Note: We will be including stories or items of interest from Thiel's 150-year history in each of The Bell magazines leading up to and during Thiel's sesquicentennial year in 2016. Our first installment is an excerpt from "The History of Thiel College 1866-1974" by Dr. Roy Johnson about Thiel's namesakes, A. Louis and Barbara Thiel.

A. Louis Thiel was born on the 13th of June, 1811, in Carlsruhe, Prussia, and his future wife, Barbara, on February 25, 1818, in the town of Nassau. They arrived in the United States in the 1840s and lived for over a decade at Petroleum, a small village on the Allegheny Canal near Johnstown, Pennsylvania. There Thiel, apprenticed in his youth to a baker, became a butcher. After moving to Pittsburgh in 1856, the Thiels, although reared as Roman Catholics, began attending the Second German Lutheran Church.

Thiel entered into a partnership with Conrad Wegeforth in the dry goods business. The enterprise failed, and Thiel lost nearly \$6,000, reducing him to near penury. At this critical juncture he bought a few shares in the Columbia Oil Company vowing, according to [The Rev. W.] Berkemier, [pastor at Second German Lutheran Church], to dedicate a tenth of all earning "to the interests of His Holy Kingdom."

Then came the great news—oil had been struck in the Titusville area. Soon a broker offered \$10,000 for the stock. A. Louis Thiel readily signed, but in Mrs. Thiel the same informant reported "they met with unconquerable opposition. Mrs. Thiel was a sagacious woman, and from the broker's anxiety, concluded he was trying to get the better of them." In a few months the stock was worth more than \$40,000.

through college and seminary for a "pious student from Germany who would like to make America his home." Later Thiel contributed \$500 to help Pastor Berkemier establish an immigrant mission in New York.



Although he was reared in Catholic parochial schools and later became a Mason, Thiel renounced these affiliations and became a full-fledged member of the Second German Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh, when A. L. Wenzel succeeded Berkemier as pastor. The new member was zealous in contributing time, money, and talents. His name frequently appeared in Synod records as a lay delegate to conventions and as a member of important policy committees. He was a delegate to the Reading Convention in 1867, which resulted in the formation of the General Council, and served on the committee that presented the General Council constitution to the Pittsburgh Synod.

Berkemier, then serving a New York mission, received an urgent call, with \$50 for expenses enclosed, to visit the Thiels at their Pittsburgh home. When they revealed their desire to make a substantial gift, Berkemier went to [The Rev. W. A.] Passavant, greeting him with these words, "My dear brother, I have found a nest of gold eggs, which, in the providence of God, you are allowed to take." Both men then called at the Troy Hill home

of the Thiels where, on January 1, 1865, Passavant was given \$4,000 and told to "use it where he felt it might best glorify God."

Ever alert to immediate needs, Passavant decided to use the Thiel fund, which with supplemental gifts from the donor and interest earnings ultimately came to \$5,375, to found "an educational institution of high order in connection with the Lutheran Church" where "the children of our church and the young men studying for the ministry could obtain a thorough classical education."

His former pastor gives many examples of the generous spirit of A. Louis Thiel. Pastor Berkemier was unable to accept an invitation for a six week tour of Germany, but the Thiels invited his wife and child and paid the costs. They offered to pay all expenses for transportation and education



Harvey and Uta Childs Honored at Founders' Day



Congratulations Founders' Day honorees! (Top) Amy Schafer, Rhonda Laird, Jonathan Shrearer, Warren Keck, Robert Schaller, Joe Webb and Dr. Chris Stanisky; (Bottom) Dr. Dan Eppley, Dr. Mary Theresa Hall, Harvey Childs and sister-in-law Bridgette, Dr. Bill Robinson and Kay Gray.

Each February, Thiel College honors faculty and staff members for their dedicated service as well as community members who are known for their character, leadership and service at the Founders' Day Convocation. This year's recipients of the A. Louis and Barbara Thiel Award were familiar to many in the Thiel and Greenville communities—Harvey Childs, chairman of board and a co-founder of Bail USA, Inc., and his wife, Uta.

Childs entered the surety bail profession in 1956. In 1969, Childs expanded his operation to include 16 additional western Pennsylvania counties, Maryland, the District of Columbia and Ohio. In 1970, he founded the Pennsylvania Association of Bail Bond Underwriters and successfully challenged Pennsylvania to recognize bail agents as "officers of the court." During the next 10 years, Childs expanded his growing network of professional bail agents into 25 additional states. He is recognized as one of the founders of the Professional Bail Agents of the United States. By 1982, Childs and Cheryl Burns partnered to form Bail USA, Inc. Two years later, the company became the managing general agent for a

billion-dollar, blue-chip insurance company, making Bail USA the largest underwriter of surety bail in the country with 2,700 agents in 43 states. In 1999, Childs turned the presidency of Bail USA over to Burns to spend more of time visiting bail agents.

Childs is married to Uta, who along with her twin sister, Bridgette, were European fashion models. Together, they support many local initiatives and charities.

Dr. William Robinson, professor of performing arts, received the distinguished Professor of the Year award. Robinson joined Thiel College in 1974. During nearly his years at Thiel, he transformed the performing arts program and taught thousands of students to have confidence in their individual abilities and appreciate the transformative power of theater. (See page 12 for a profile of Robinson.) Robinson retired after the spring 2013 semester.

Other faculty members to earn recognition were:

- Dr. Christopher Stanisky, assistant professor of chemistry, Distinguished Service.
- Dr. Mary Theresa Hall, professor of English, Distinguished Teacher.

- Dr. Dan Eppley, associate professor of religion, Distinguished Scholar.

- Kathryn Gray, adjunct professor of music, Distinguished Adjunct.

Five staff awards were presented. Receiving honors were:

- Rhonda Laird, housing coordinator and assistant to the dean of students, Distinguished Innovator.

- Jonathan Shearer, web specialist, Distinguished Newcomer.

- Amy Schafer, assistant athletic director, chair of Health and Physical Education Department, head softball coach, senior women's administrator, and NCAA compliance and eligibility director, Distinguished Extra Effort.

- Joseph Webb, director of multicultural affairs, Distinguished Outreach.

- Robert Schaller, maintenance technician, Distinguished Service.

Warren Keck, adjunct professor of economics and business administration, received a special commendation for years of service to the College.

Editor's Note: Uta Childs passed away following an illness in April 2013. Thiel College extends its condolences to the Childs family.

2013 Vira Heinz Scholars to Explore the Globe

Three Thiel College women are packing their bags for a summer abroad after earning Vira I. Heinz Scholarships for Women in Global Leadership, which were awarded in December 2012.

The three scholarship winners—Victoria Challingsworth of Central, Pa., Keeley Criswell of Bedford, Pa., and Grace Hildebrand of Greenville, Pa.—each received \$5,000 from the Heinz Endowments to fund their study abroad experiences this summer.

Challingsworth, a junior environmental science major with minors in chemistry and Spanish, will participate in the International Studies Abroad (ISA) program at the University of Belgrano in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A self-described Spanish culture fanatic, Challingsworth will study Argentinian culture and language as well as environmental issues.

“You can only learn so much from books, and in order to truly understand, one must travel,” says Challingsworth. “The VIH program interested me because it is a program that promotes the strength of women, gives them confidence and offers them the chance to open a door to a distant land that was previously closed.”

Challingsworth is the president of the Environmental Club, a member of the History Club and a student worker at the Mouganis Instructional Media Center at Thiel.

Criswell, a sophomore physics and computer science major, will attend the American Institute for Foreign Study’s program at the University of Salamanca in Spain where she will study Spanish language and culture, including cooking and folk dancing.

“Because I desire a position in physics research, it is important to have a global perspective,” says Criswell. “In the sciences, researchers from various countries must be able to interact with each other. The fact that I have been abroad and studied a foreign language will make me more marketable in my field.”

Criswell is editor-in-chief of *The Thielensian* student newspaper and a physics supplemental instruction leader as well as a member of the Outdoors Club and Shooting Club at Thiel.

Hildebrand, a sophomore international business and business administration double major, will use her scholarship to study at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, through International Studies Abroad. Hildebrand will take classes at the university while exploring the culture and history of the Czech Republic.

“[This program] will give me a chance to interact with people from another culture and see how things operate in another part of the world,” says Hildebrand. “Having an understanding of that is vital



Victoria Challingsworth, Keeley Criswell and Grace Hildebrand hold the flags of the countries they’ll be visiting with their Heinz Scholarships.

to my being successful in my major. It will give me the tools to expand my global perspective and to grow as a person.”

Hildebrand is involved in volunteer activities and tutoring at Thiel.

Funded by the Heinz Endowments, the Vira I. Heinz Program for Women in Global Leadership prepares women for tomorrow’s global challenges by offering a unique opportunity for international experiences, leadership development and community service. Each year, three women of sophomore and/or junior status are selected from each of 14 regional colleges and universities and admitted to the two-year leadership program. In addition, they participate in a series of retreats designed to cultivate leadership and intercultural skills and perform a community engagement experience.

The Heinz Endowment supports efforts to make southwestern Pennsylvania a premier place to live and work, a center of learning and educational excellence and a home to diversity and inclusion. Committed to helping its region thrive as a whole community—economically, ecologically, educationally and culturally—the Foundation works within Pennsylvania and elsewhere in the nation to develop solutions to challenges that are national and international in scope.

Student Achievements



Research Awards Presented

The Fourth Annual Langenheim Memorial Library Awards were presented in February. These awards honor excellence in student research papers. Pictured are students who received awards/honorable mentions and their nominating professors: (from left to right) **Matthew Turk** (“U.S. and British Northern Border Diplomacy: 1812-1846”) with Dr. Jim Koshan; **Julie Mitchell** (“War in Vietnam”), nominated by Dr. David Buck (not pictured); **Kourtney Polvinale** (“The Effects of Anti-Psychotic Medications on Schizophrenia”) with Dr. Mary Theresa Hall; **Chelsea Meister** (“The Presidencies of Clinton & Reagan and their Approval Ratings”) with Dr. Bart Biroschak. Not pictured: **Keeton Ritter** who received an honorable mention for “The 7th United States Infantry Regiment at the Battle of New Orleans.” This year, awards for writing were given—**Emily Whipple** received an honorable mention for “A Pragmatic Linguistic Study of an Effective Classroom Teacher” and **Caitlin Ferry** won for “Signing for the Hearing Child.”

Students of the Month—Spring '13

Students of the Month at Thiel are selected by faculty from among seniors with superior grade point averages. The honorees for spring 2013 were **Kayla Ohlin** (accounting and business administration) and **Katelyn Young** (biology) for February; **Shea Maier** (religion and philosophy) and **Roger Irby** (mathematics) for March; **Caitlin Ferry** (communications science and disorders) and **Sheena Johns** (psychology and criminal justice studies) for April.



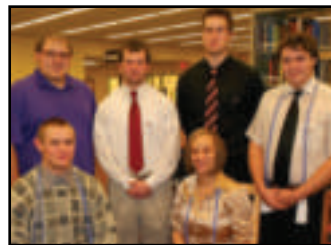
Community Art Exhibit

Several international students organized a community art exhibition in the Langenheim Library in fall 2012 called “We Gather Open Together.” Community members shared personal items from their lives and why those items are important. Pictured are **Da young Go** (left), exhibit director, and **Sung eun Kwak**, transportation manager, with some of the exhibit items.

Honor Society Inductions



Alpha Chi (above), the national honorary fraternity for junior and senior students who have achieved high academic standing. Brittany Anderson, Kimberly Ault, Alyssa Bartlett, Kelly Barzak, Nicholas Cox, Molly Everett, Sheena Johns, Leah Kook, Alison Lange, Steven Morgan, Emily Petrak, Ashley Rable, Matthew Schneider, William Stone and Sara Toombs were inducted into the Theta chapter on April 12.

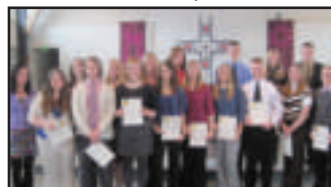


Chi Alpha Epsilon (left), a national honor society that acknowledges the continuing successes and achievements of students in academic success programs. In February, three students—Taylor Fink, Alexandra Hines, and Steven Stewart—were inducted into Thiel’s chapter. Pictured is the current membership of Chi Alpha Epsilon.

Kappa Delta Pi (below), an international honorary society in education. In March, Brittany Barto, Katelyn Downey, Kristen Fedder, Katie Fife, Daniel Gainey, Anna Hart, Kayla Hibbard, Alisha Henry, Nic Jones, Leah Kook, Cassidy Kravec, Tanner Liptrap, Daniel Nolte, Kristin Patrick, Emily Skebo, Morgan White and Duncan Wingard were inducted into the Alpha Gamma Iota chapter.



Sigma Tau Delta (above), the international English honorary society. In February, Jessica Bartko, Allison Gardner, Sean Johnston, Lisa Leonhard, Elizabeth Onegow, Sean Oros and Sara Toombs were inducted into the Alpha Iota Kappa chapter.



Lambda Sigma (right), the national sophomore honor society. In April, Katherine Allgeier, Vanessa Burlingame, Amanda Cavender, Alixandria Clark, Molly Gamble, Allison Gloor, Cassie Graham, Sarah Jones, Lora Kay, Dan Koller, Catherine McCormick, Olivia Sipos, Ryan Thomas and Kiara Weltner were inducted. (Not pictured: June Longbine and Nick Seyko.)



Student Achievements

Students Visit Community Court

Students in the Restorative Justice course visited the Greenville Community Court at the District Judge's Office in Greenville in February to witness Pennsylvania's balanced and restorative justice legislative mandates. Restorative justice emphasizes an equal concern for crime victims, offenders and the community. It also seeks to focus on the harm done to persons and relationships rather than only the violation of a law.

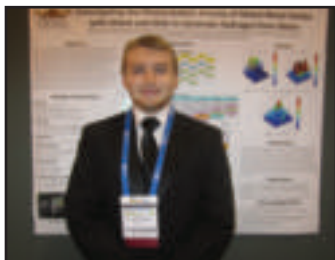


Equestrians Finish Season

The Equestrian Club wrapped up the show season in February in Oberlin, Ohio, against 13 intercollegiate equestrian teams. Of the 17 Thiel equestrian students, three showed at the competition, **Kimberly Ault '14**, **Jessica Dailey '14** and **Megan O'Dell '14**. The team earned one third place, one fourth place, two fifth places and one sixth place.

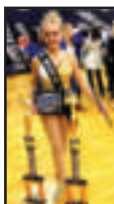
Chem Major Presents Poster

In April, sophomore **Benjamin Hellner-Burris** attended the 245th American Chemical Society National Meeting in New Orleans, La., where he gave a poster presentation on his research on the utilization of mixed metal oxides as semiconductors in solar cells for producing hydrogen as a clean, renewable fuel from water.



Yozwiak Takes Top Honors

In January, sophomore **Jessica Yozwiak**, from Boardman, Ohio, competed in the Auxiliaries Ohio Classic Baton Competition, earning first place as part of a trio as well as a first-place trophy for her college solo routine and "Best in Class" honors.



Students in the Classroom

Eight seniors spent the semester student teaching in local elementary and high schools: **Kelly Barzak** (sixth grade, Hermitage Delahunty Middle School), **Dan Gainey** (first grade, Reynolds Elementary), **AJ Corso** (physics, Reynolds High School), **Kaila Hawley** (kindergarten, Hermitage Artman Elementary), **Julie Mitchell** (second grade, Hermitage Artman Elementary), **Diana Slomainy** (sixth grade, Commodore Perry), **Emily Whipple** (English, Reynolds High School) and **Jessica Mueller** (physics and sixth grade, Commodore Perry).

Faculty & Staff News

The Thiel Forums

The Faculty Executive Committee expanded the Thiel Forums to once a month during the spring semester. This opportunity for faculty, students, staff and administrators to present their academic research, projects and publications has been a big success! Many thanks to the semester's presenters— January: **Dr. Cindy Sutton**, sociology, who discussed her sabbatical research into the presentation of women in Disney films, and students **Leah Kook**, **Joslyn Cook** and **Emily Friedrich**, who presented their study abroad experiences as Vira I. Heinz Scholars; February: **Dr. Ellen Lippert**, art, discussed her recent book and spoke about publishing, **Dr. Chris Stanisky**, chemistry, discussed a grant proposal (top), and students **Kourtney Polvinale**, **Amos Moon** and **Kara Brussard** demonstrated their talents in ballet, guitar and violin; March: **Dr. David Buck**, history, and two students, **Brooklyn Ishman** and **Rebecca Crawford**, who accompanied him, discussed their summer trip to Nicaragua; and April: **Dr. Fatimata Pale**, biology, presented her experiences as a Fulbright Scholar in Africa, **Dr. Robert Wells**, political science, discussed his sabbatical research; and student **Ryan Pepper** presented an honors project.



Jesse Publishes, Presents Articles

Dr. Gayle Jesse, mathematics and computer science, published two papers this academic year. The first, published through IACIS (International Association Computer Information Systems), which she co-authored with a professor from Robert Morris University and California University of Pennsylvania, was entitled "A model for engaging students, communities and colleges through the integration of service-learning projects into information systems courses." The second article was entitled "A Pedagogical Approach Towards Teaching An Information Systems Student How To Conduct A Usability Study For An Honors Project: A Case Study." She presented it at the annual Information Systems Educators Conference held in New Orleans, La., in November 2012.



Moroco Article Published



Dr. Laurie Moroco, communication, was published in the Journal of the Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri (STAM). The article, "Connecting Dialogic Theories in Rhetoric," was in the fall 2012 issue.

East Meets West Musically



If you attended the spring Thiel Choir and Handbell Ringers concert on April 19, you saw a very unique performance. This semester, 10 of Thiel's international students—all of whom were Korean women—were interested in trying their hand at ringing handbells. Dr. Michael Bray, director of the Thiel Choir, offered the women the opportunity to form a group and perform. Two of the 10 played

handbells in the fall as well while the other eight had never touched handbells before the spring semester! Bray reports that the women's "musical level is very high." Pictured are (front row, left to right) Ahra Lee, Hyeon Jeung Jung, So Jeong Kim and Jae Yeon Park, and (back row, left to right) Youa Park, Min Ah Lee, Nae Young Kim, So Yeon Kim, Jee Hyun Yoon and Sunna Park.

Upcoming Admissions Events

If you know any prospective Thiel students, please encourage them to participate in one of our upcoming campus recruitment and enrollment events. For more information or to register, visit www.thiel.edu/visitday or call 800-24-THIEL.

- Tuesdays at Thiel: June 11 and July 16
Alumni are invited to attend this event with a prospective student—catch up with your alma mater while sharing the Thiel experience with the next generation of Tomcats! (www.thiel.edu/alumnituesdays)
- Chart Your Course (rising juniors): Aug. 7
- Registration Days (enrolled students): June 19 or July 24.
(To register, visit www.thiel.edu/registration)
- Saturday Group Visit: Sept. 28
- Fine & Performing Arts Visit Day: Oct. 14
- Marching Band Visit Day: Nov. 9
- Accepted Student Visit Day: Dec. 6



The Tradition Continues!

This February, Thiel College once again hosted Winter Weekend for students, alumni and friends of the College.

This year's event included a very successful networking reception that brought members of Thiel's boards—Board of Trustees, Alumni Association Board, Family Council and Board of Associates—together with junior and senior students. Many connections were made that evening—and even an interview or two!

Attendees also enjoyed inflatables, hot tubs and other events in the Rissell-Schreyer Dome, athletic competitions and the Black & White Ball, where many a Tomcat dressed to the nines and showed off their best dance moves.

The Greek Summit was a part of Winter Weekend this year. Many thanks to the current and former Greek organization members who gathered together to celebrate successes from the past year and discuss how to continue to strengthen the future of the Greek system.

Check out more photos at <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjDXwEV1>. Mark your calendars for Winter Weekend in February 2014.





**It's the final curtain
call for Thiel's
favorite thespian**

By Dana Black-McGrath

This spring's commencement ceremony was the last act for Thiel's long-time theater director Dr. William A. Robinson, professor of performing arts, as the curtain falls on a career that has spanned four decades.

As a young man, Robinson could not have imagined that his career would have taken the path it did, he admits.

His many accomplishments at Thiel include being named Professor of the Year in 2007 and 2013 and receiving the Distinguished Teacher Award in 2004. The William A. Robinson Endowment for Theater Arts was established in 1999, and in 2007 the William A. Robinson Theater was dedicated. Robinson also has served as Chairman of the Communication and Performing Arts Department, as well as a member of the Faculty Council, Promotion and Tenure, and Artists and Lectures committees.

Robinson started out as a French major at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, where he was active in the university's theater program.

After earning his bachelor's degree, he was hired to teach French at a Catholic high school, but came to find out that the school really was more interested his theater background. By day he taught French, and in the evening he directed plays at the school.

"I realized rather quickly that I wasn't enjoying French, but I was enjoying theater."

That experience, which lasted about four years, led him to pursue a master's degree in theater at the University of Pittsburgh. Eventually, Robinson went on to earn his Ph.D. at Bowling Green University.

The day after he earned his master's degree, his adviser called him to say he heard about a position that might interest him at Thiel College.

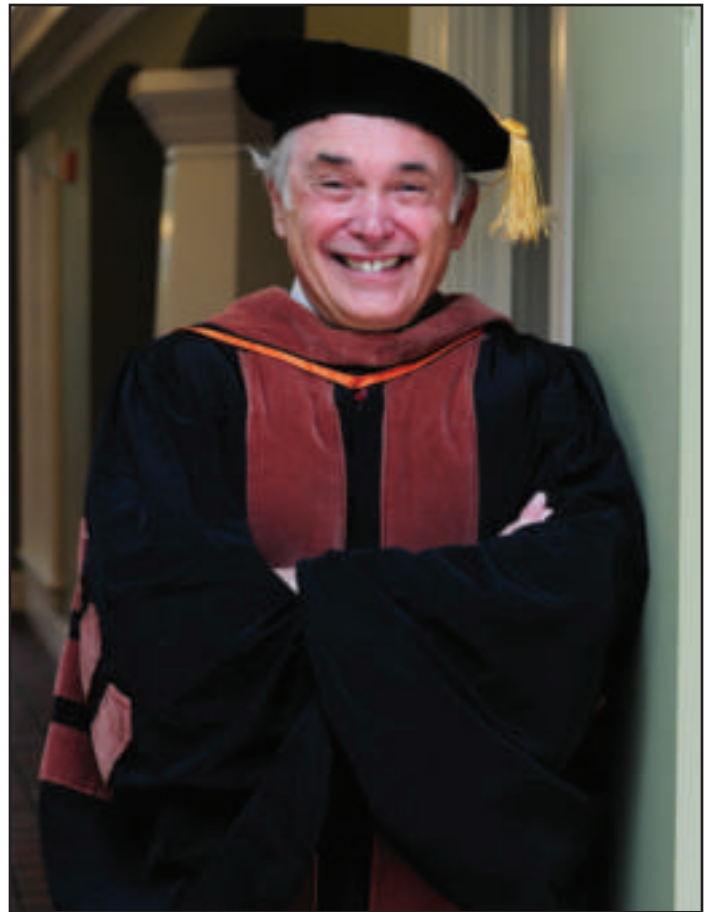
"I had never heard of Thiel," Robinson laughs. "I had never heard of Greenville!" A self-identified "city kid," Robinson grew up on Pittsburgh's North Side.

But, it was his philosophy that if you have a job you love, it doesn't matter where you live because you spend so much time at work anyway, so he decided to pursue the opportunity. He joined the Thiel faculty in 1974 as adjunct instructor of theatre arts.

"It's the only job I ever had, and really it turned out so well. I could never have known then that this would turn into such a career."

Surprisingly, "None of this was a planned decision," he admits. "It's just been luck or fate."

At the time of his retirement in May, he marked 39 years of service to the College, its students and the community. During that time, he has seen many changes and many faces.



Dr. Bill Robinson at Commencement 2013 on May 4 where he received emeritus professor status.

When he first arrived on campus in 1974, he realized that Thiel was not doing so well. The College was experiencing financial difficulties. In the wake of the Vietnam War and the aging of the Baby Boomer generation, the school's enrollment numbers had declined.

"As a result," he explains, "There weren't a lot of frills." But, he credits the strong leadership and vision of Thiel's presidents with turning the tide. "Over the years, I have really enjoyed watching Thiel prosper."

Since that turn-around, there is a greater feeling of optimism throughout the institution, Robinson says, which makes for a much more lively work environment.

"The campus is so much more attractive today than it was then. The facilities are better, as well as the living conditions for students and the dining facilities."

His start at Thiel was a bit bumpy, he admits. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Robinson also took over as director of the Thiel Players, the College's student theater troupe, and was responsible for staging fall and spring productions each year.

"With my first production, I had a bit of a rocky start. I had trouble clicking with the students who didn't want to follow my direction," he explains. "Then I met students I clicked with and it has been clear sailing since then."

If you'd like to share your memories of Dr. Bill Robinson or the Thiel Players, visit www.thiel.edu/celebratingbill and let us know what Bill meant to you and your life!



When he arrived on campus, theater was not a major at the college—it was not even a minor as it is today. It was simply an extracurricular activity. At that time, theater was not a popular organization on campus and the productions were not well attended.

But, under his direction, the program began to grow and thrive and now is one of the most active and largest groups on campus. Along the way, Thiel's administration has been incredibly supportive of the program, Robinson says.

"I really have to compliment the administration. I never felt intimidated about what I could or couldn't choose to do," says Robinson. "It has been very liberating. I never had to worry about what would or would not be supported."

He remembers a time early on in his career when he was considering

staging a production of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" He ran the idea past then-president The Rev. Louis Almen, Ph.D., who admitted that the play was not his favorite, but said the College would not censor.

"Since then, I always felt free to do what I wanted without the fear of criticism or objection," Robinson says. As he grew "older and braver," he even chose to stage the rather risqué "Rocky Horror Picture Show" in 2011 and received nothing but support from the administration.

Throughout his tenure, he has found that there are many advantages to not offering a major in performing arts or theater, he explains. Many theater professors are not accustomed to working with non-majors, but for Robinson the scenario was very similar to the experience he had as an undergraduate at Duquesne.

"People participate simply because they enjoy it," he says. "It's great to have a program where every student can get involved. Every student here is welcome to participate."

That participation may come in a variety of ways.

It isn't just direction that Robinson has been responsible for with the Thiel Players. His position also requires that he supervise sets, costumes, lighting and all other aspects of production.

"I have had so much luck that people with talent turned up when I needed them. The people are what is really great about Thiel."

And it is the people he has met over his many years at Thiel who have been driving force behind his long tenure and continuing exuberance and enthusiasm—the students, the audience and the community.

Check out our gallery of photos from past Thiel Players productions directed by Bill Robinson at flic.kr/s/aHsjEErK18.

“I have always had really interesting, smart, talented students to work with every year. They are so much fun and interesting to direct and teach. I never feel bogged down because new people are always coming into the program.”

Teaching never gets old for Robinson, he explains, because even if you teach the same class year after year, it is never truly the same because there is always a new audience.

Throughout his time here, the enthusiasm of the audience also has buoyed his spirits, because they have gone out of their way to support the performing arts program and productions. And, the people in the community have not only turned out to support the program, they also have become his friends.

While on break from Thiel, Robinson has spent his summers directing the Greenville Area Community Theatre, something he says has been a great year-round job for the past 20 years.

Over the years, the city kid has grown to love his much more rural home, “It has been the people who have made his experience here so rewarding. I’m really surprised at how much I have come to love Greenville. It took some getting used to, but now I am a convert.”

But, in his heart, he knows the city is where he belongs. So, after retirement, Robinson plans to return to city life. This time, however, it will not be his native City of Steel but the City of Brotherly Love.

Robinson says he is looking forward to new adventures and a new start in



Above: Robinson at his retirement reception in April. Below: Robinson teaching in the 1990s. Left: Robinson directs some of his Thiel Players.

Philadelphia’s Center City—and to giving up his car. His sister, brother-in-law and nephew live in the city, and he is looking forward to being closer to family and spending more time with them.

He already has connected with some Thiel friends in the Philadelphia area, and is looking forward to starting a new life there. But, he hopes to stay connected with his friends in Greenville as well.

Of his soon-to-be new home, he says, “There is lots of theater there, lots of good music and I hope everyone will come to visit!”





Old Battles...

Ryan Hart '14 is just like any other student on Thiel's campus—but with a distinguishing quality. What sets him apart is his drive to give back to others in response to what he himself has faced.

Hart, a philosophy major with religion and coaching minors from Franklin, Pa., fought bone cancer between his freshman and sophomore years. His battle cost him a year at Thiel, but he emerged victorious with copious support from friends and family—a fact that influenced his decision to start a Relay for Life event on campus soon after he returned to college.

Relay for Life started in Washington State by Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon, 28 years ago. Since then, it has grown in strength and spread across the country, raising millions for cancer research. After his own bout with cancer, Hart became extremely interested in bringing Relay to campus; there already was a Greenville Relay, but its summer schedule precluded most Thiel students from attending.

One of Hart's first steps was to begin working with both Professor Connie Reinhart and Professor Mary Reames of Thiel's Education Department, both of whom have helped with Relays before. Unfortunately, Reinhart had her own second bout with breast cancer in 2012, leaving Hart and Reames as the two primary players in organizing the logistics of bringing Relay to Thiel.

"Relay is community. Everyone knows someone, a relative or a friend, who's been touched by cancer," said Reinhart. "And so, for a community to come together to raise money, it brings people together in a positive way. It's really



New Traditions

By Sean Oros '15

(Left) Ryan Hart '14 kicks off the Thiel College Relay for Life with Professor Connie Reinhart. (Above) The Rissell-Schreyer Dome was filled with college and community members during the Relay event.

good energy for those of us who have battled the disease and for others to remember those people so we don't give up."

Hart proved dedicated towards his dream. He attended the Greenville Relay for Life event in summer 2012. He continued to keep in touch with Reames and continued gathering support from others.

"We've met every week, every other day," said Reames. "And we've had meetings, once a week, since February, with people who are interested. He solicited those people. From that small group, we solicited more people—and now we have 16 teams."

Each team used a different kind of fundraising, all the way up to the Relay event itself.

"Ryan is a remarkable young man," said Reames. "He's shown such fortitude and grace. It's absolutely been fun."

The summer following his freshman year, a painful bump became prominent on the right side of Hart's jaw, a bulge that turned out to be a cancerous tumor. In August 2010, he received the diagnosis of osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer. The following month, the tumor and jaw bone was removed, and his jaw was reconstructed using bone from his right fibula. Afterwards, he began eight months of chemotherapy.

"Obviously, such an intensive surgery was painful, but the chemo was definitely the worst part of my battle. I've heard chemo referred to as 'liquid death' and I can't say I can deny that nickname considering some of the effects those chemicals had on my body," explains Hart. "One of the challenges I found surprisingly difficult was the way people reacted to the way I looked—skinny, pale and bald. It's one of those things that people just don't

know how to handle. I finished my treatments in May 2011 and have been cancer-free since. My survivorship has definitely been a blessing, as my life perspective is far more healthy and positive."

For Hart, the focus has continued to be on other people.

"I am passionate about this because with how much of a blessing my survivorship has been for me," said Hart. "It brings me joy to see others succeed in this battle as I did; this is my way of contributing to the fight. I want to do what I can to help make this disease less of a death-sentence and more of a treatable sickness, and the funds we raise help the experts do their thing and accomplish just that kind of progression."

Any of those who worked with him attested to his dedication to the project and how much time he invested, but his goal has not been

to focus the event on himself—it is to give back to others as he has received, to support others in their own struggles. Sometimes it can be easy to overlook the message of an event because of the heroic people, like Hart, who are involved in organizing.

“I just hear from him about how busy he’s been with baseball, classes and this on top of it,” said Harry Hart, Ryan’s dad. “It’s all him. He’s a good kid. I hope there’s going to be people to pick it up and carry on because he’s a junior and this is something that needs to continue.”

At the Relay, more than 16 teams were represented, including Thiel students and administrators, and local Greenville Relay volunteers, including children from the Kid’s Krew. The “Hartbreakers” were a team built of student supporters of Hart and his efforts.

“I am surrounded by survivors [who want] to say thank you to everyone tonight for your support,” said Reinhart, who opened the Thiel event. “We are the faces of cancer that personally affects everyone. With your help tonight, the American Cancer Society is making progress towards a future without cancer. We will be celebrating tonight what participants and survivors have endured, and also we will remember people we have lost to cancer.”

When asked what he hoped to achieve with the relay, Hart responded, “Obviously, our goal is to raise funds to promote cancer research, prevention and awareness; but yes, I really want this event to be a very fun experience, hopefully even life changing for some, so that students will develop a passion toward Relay and participate for years to come, even after those who’ve helped in organizing [this year] are gone.”



Reames is equally hopeful of Thiel’s future with Relay programs.

“We’re going to ask all of our team captains to come together and ask them to do a short report on what they did as a team,” said Reames. “We’ll add what we did as the logistics part of it and compile a manual. Next year, we’ll solicit a sophomore, someone who’s interested in taking over, and have him shadow Ryan.”

With these strategies in place, Hart and his cohorts hope that the Relay for Life at Thiel will continue to be a blessing for people and a legacy for perseverance in the face of pain and loss.

By the end of the Relay, more than \$13,500 was raised thanks to fundraising and donations. Although it took much effort and dedication, the result was a heartwarming experience that seems set to stay a Thiel tradition. Hart’s own words, after the Relay ended, were perhaps the best to summarize the experience:

“Those 12 hours were an experience I’ll never forget, and I hope I can say the same for a lot of my fellow Relayers. There was so much love and good vibes



(Top) Hart with his parents at the Relay for Life event on April 6. (Above) Ryan coordinates planning the event.

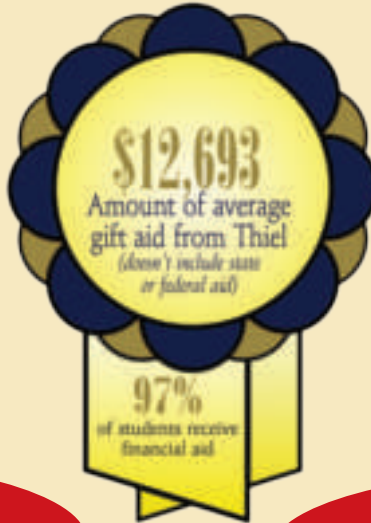
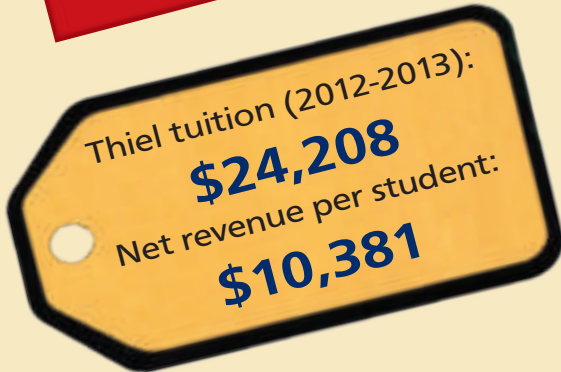
in that dome; it was incredible. I’m really overwhelmed with pride in my college right now. To be surrounded by so many awesome people coming together to do something so special toward a cause so near to my heart was such a blessing. I have high hopes for this event’s success in years ahead.”

Editor’s Note: To see more photos from the Relay for Life event, visit flic.kr/s/aHsjEFnMwa.

If you’d like to donate to the cause, contact Ryan Hart at rhart@thiel.edu.

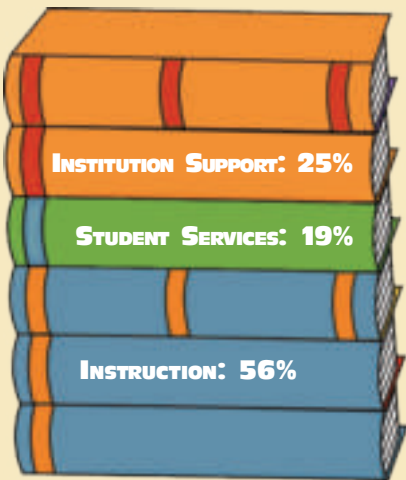
Understanding the Cost of a Thiel College Education

What's important to remember about the "sticker price" of a Thiel education is that most don't pay it. That is because price differs from cost in this situation. The actual cost to educate each of our students is much higher than the price Thiel charges, which is also different from what each student actually pays to attend. College education cost and financing can be confusing, so let's break it down:



How do education costs break down?

Yearly budget to educate Thiel's students: **\$20,204,641**



What does all this mean for our students and their families? There's a significant problem looming for all American colleges and universities: the tuition gap. Wealthier schools can cover the gap with endowment income while less wealthy schools like Thiel fund it through financial aid or discounts (the aid is in the form of a reduced price). Having a larger endowment would give

Thiel more options to deal with the tuition gap in the short term and we of course continue to watch our bottom line and steward our resources in the most cost-efficient manner possible. Thiel's goal remains what it has always been: to provide affordable access to the high-quality liberal arts education for which we have been known for almost 150 years.

Where does the money come from?



100%

of The Thiel Fund funds operating costs

\$23,766,667

Size of endowment—College draws 6% each year = \$1,544,833. Endowment draw helps close the gap between tuition and costs.



(Top from left) Diplomas are distributed to graduates; the bell is rung for each graduate before the ceremony; Linda Boyce Haller with Professor David Miller; valedictorian Emily Whipple celebrates.



(Middle from left) Drew Lengauer outside Passavant Center; the Class of 2013 present their tree for Brother Martin's Walk; Graduates march under the Thiel Arch. (Bottom of page) Jim Cunningham '77 delivers keynote address; and Joey Hertzog '13 reads during the baccalaureate ceremony.



Good Luck Graduates!

On May 5 under blue skies, 151 Thiel College graduates became the newest Tomcat alumni. The day began with the traditional baccalaureate ceremony led by the Rev. Dr. Curt Thompson and the Rev. Kurt Kusserow '85. Later, the seniors marched up Brother Martin's Walk to the Passavant Center for the second time as a class (the first is during matriculation) to the cheers and high fives of Thiel faculty and staff and their families and friends. Jim Cunningham '77, artistic director for WQED FM in Pittsburgh, delivered the the keynote address; Linda Boyce Haller received an honorary doctorate; and Dr. William Robinson, theatre, was bestowed with emeritus faculty status upon his retirement. Emily Whipple and Caitlin Ferry were recognized for valedictorian and salutatorian honors respectively and the senior class gave their class gift—a basketball court for lower campus. Following the conferring of degrees, the new alumni gathered on Thiel's lawn for a celebratory picnic before heading off into their futures. Good luck all!

To see more from the day, visit www.thiel.edu/commencement to read the keynote address, watch a video of the ceremony or view more photos from the day.



THIEL LEGACIES



Tracy Ann Phillips with her aunt, Celia Phillips Garland '77. (Tracy's late grandmother, Nancy Taylor Phillips '49, also was a Thiel grad.)

Kimberly Williams with her mother, Katherine Stanley '00



Abigail Kusserow with her grandparents, Ralph '58 and Carol '59 Kusserow, and parents, Bishop Kurt '85 and Pam '85 Kusserow.

(Below) President Troy VanAken congratulates the seniors as they process to the Passavant Center.



Jordan Toth with his brother, Steve Toth '12.



Kelly Sanzari with her brother, Evan Sanzari '11



Jordan Fortuna with his father, Joseph Fortuna '75

Thiel College “runs in the family” for these 2013 graduates!

Normal Day Turns Perfect

Ace right-hander Rossmiller dominated senior season

As Nick Rossmiller recalls it, Friday, March 15 felt like a normal game day. But by 5:06 p.m., the day was anything but ordinary for the senior.

"It really felt like a normal day," said Rossmiller, who was Thiel's starting pitcher in a non-conference game against Hiram. "It was cold that day, mid-30s, and [my arm] was stiff. I really didn't feel like I had any life on my fastball, but I was really spotting up, and I think that's pretty much what got me through the game. It was a normal day. I just showed up at the park."

Rossmiller did much more than show up and get through the game at Tomcat Park on March 15. He threw the first perfect game in Thiel College baseball history. Twenty-seven Hiram batters up, 27 Hiram batters down. No runs, no hits, no walks. Perfection.

The perfect game is the baseball pitcher's Holy Grail. So rare is the feat, in fact, that in NCAA Division III baseball history, Rossmiller became just the 16th pitcher to toss a perfect game.

Rossmiller's teammates gave him plenty of run support in the game with the Tomcats leading 4-0 after one inning and 7-0 after four innings before cruising to a 14-0 win.

Designated hitter Jarod Nanna went 4-for-4 in the game with five RBIs and a run scored while center fielder Doug Farley went 3-for-4 with a run scored. Eric Steininger, Cody Trinch, Trent Mosley and Bryan Mitchell also each notched two hits.

Rossmiller, who said he did not realize he had a perfect game going until the sixth inning, threw 106 pitches, 80 of which were for strikes. He stuck primarily with his fastball, which he threw 103 times, mixing in three changeups.



(Above/Right) Rossmiller on the mound.
(Bottom) The Tomcats rush Rossmiller.

"Cody Northcott, another pitcher, was warming up in the bullpen. He was like 'I don't know why they have me warming up, you have a no-hitter going' and I was like, 'oh, gee, thanks for ruining that,'" Rossmiller said.

"We were planning on using several pitchers that game, especially when we got that big lead," said Thiel head baseball coach Joe Schaly. "[Rossmiller] was coming out after the fifth inning. I was sitting in the dugout next to Lynn [Jones] and he asked, 'how long are you gonna let him go?' I looked at my card and I said 'well, it's kind of hard to take a guy out that's throwing a perfect game.'



Photo courtesy of Lucy Schaly

"We had Northcott warmed up in the bullpen from the fifth inning on, and we told Ross that he was out as soon as he gave up a hit."

Northcott breaking the golden rule of not talking to the pitcher while he has a no-hitter or perfect game going had no impact on the end result, and Rossmiller was mobbed by his teammates after Brian Genco recorded the final out on a popup to second base.

"Actually, at first, I just thought 'wow, I did it', it just shocked me," said Rossmiller, who celebrated mildly with a fist pump and a smile. "Then I saw everyone running and I thought 'wow, this is real.'"

While Rossmiller is the first Thiel baseball player to throw a perfect game, he also joined a short list of four other players to record a no-hitter. Prior to Rossmiller, Keith Jackson was the last Tomcat to accomplish the feat during the 2005 season.

"That game, Ross threw the ball where he wanted to throw it," Schaly said. "Our scouting report [against Hiram showed] that if he could throw the ball in on their hands, they weren't going to do a whole lot; and that's what he did. He was busting them hard inside, just pounded the knees and pounded it in on the hands."

While the perfect game will certainly be the acme of his career, Rossmiller's entire senior season was one to remember. He kicked off the season with a 3-hitter in a 6-0 win over Finlandia in Fort Myers, Fla., threw the perfect game against Hiram and tossed a 1-hitter in a 3-0 Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) win over Bethany College on April 2.

Rossmiller tied for the third most wins in the PAC (7) and was fourth in the conference with 53 strikeouts. His 2.90 earned-runs average was the fifth best in the conference and his opponent batting average (.249) was sixth best in the league.

As good as Rossmiller was on the hill, he was just as good at the plate and afforded position flexibility in the field during games he did not pitch. He led the PAC with a .436 batting average and was second in the conference in slugging percentage (.636) and on-base percentage (.475).

Rossmiller won six games as a junior last season and finished the season with a 4.38 earned-runs average. He struck out 47 batters and issued 36 walks.

It was Rossmiller's commitment to offseason conditioning and mechanics work that made the

difference between his junior and senior seasons.

"What I really credit it to is the workout program," Rossmiller said. "We work out four, five, six days a week; and we throw a lot. We've been throwing all-out since January. So, I credit it to that. I'm just in shape."

Fine-tuning his mechanics was also vital.

"He was a good pitcher last year," Schaly said, "but the thing that has really allowed him to take that big step forward is his command, getting the ball down at the knees, in on the hands and not going deep in the count.

"His big thing that he worked on was his balance and where his weight was. He had a tendency last year to rush to the plate, get out ahead of himself, and he has done a much better job of keeping his weight back and having more fluid mechanics [this season]."

Behind Rossmiller, the Tomcats had one of their most successful seasons in recent history. They went 24-18 overall and 16-7 in the PAC and qualified for the PAC Championship Tournament for the first time since 2009.

—Ed Topoleski '02



Powell Earns All-American Status

With his seventh-place finish at the 2013 NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships in March, sophomore Jordan Powell earned the wrestling program's 25th All-American honor, marking the fifth consecutive season in which the Tomcats have had an All-American.

The 165-pound bracket was one of the most competitive, as it featured five previous All-Americans, two of whom won national championships in 2012.

On day one, Powell lost his first bout of the day, 6-0, to the College of New Jersey's John Darling. He stayed alive in the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships with a pair of

wins in the consolation bracket. Powell won by major decision (10-2) over Messiah's Ricardo Plummer in the first consolation round before defeating Roger Williams' Collin Crowell (2-1) in the second consolation round.

On day two, he lost his first match, suffering a 13-2 setback to Centenary's Owen Vernon in the third round of the consolation bracket, but he won his last match of the tournament, 4-3, over Wisconsin-Stevens Point's Jordan Schulte to finish seventh in the 165-pound bracket.

Three Inducted into Athletic Hall of Fame

Three former student-athletes who made extraordinary contributions to the College through athletics—**Dr. Chris Shinkman '62** (tennis), **Rick Freeburg '75** (track & basketball) and **Betsy (Brougher) Monaco '83** (women's basketball, tennis and softball)—were inducted as members of the 33rd Athletic Hall of Fame class.

Shinkman, a four-year letter winner with men's tennis, competed on the College's first intercollegiate tennis team in 1959. He captained the squad, played first singles and was paired with Ron Tripson '61 on the number one doubles team throughout the 1961 and 1962 seasons. While the program did not experience significant success early on, individuals such as Shinkman were critical in laying the foundation for the future.

Freeburg competed as a member of both the track and field and basketball squads (1971-75), lettering all four seasons with each program. During his time with the track and field team he was the top point-getter and team MVP in each of his four seasons, while also being elected team captain during his junior and senior seasons. Freeburg won the PAC championship in the javelin in each of his first three seasons at Thiel and finished second in the javelin and long jump his senior year. In basketball, he was a four-year letterman, scoring more than 750 points and collecting 500-plus rebounds while earning honorable mention All-PAC honors his senior season.

Monaco was a four-year letter winner (1980-83) for both the women's basketball and softball teams at Thiel, while also lettering in tennis her freshman year. In her only year of collegiate tennis, Brougher Monaco teamed up with Laurie Sabolek to finish

5-3. They were the only doubles pair to finish with a record above .500. She earned first-team All Women's Keystone Conference (WKC) honors as a shortstop in her first three seasons as a member of the Tomcat softball team and garnered second-team All-WKC honors her senior season. For the women's basketball team, Monaco earned second-team All-WKC honors her sophomore season and was a two-time recipient of the Thiel College Female Athlete of the Year award, winning it in 1980 and 1983.

The Meritorious Service and Commitment Award was presented to Roseanne Gill-Jacobson, who served for 10 years as vice president of student life. She also led the Athletic Department as interim athletic director, overseeing the College's 19 NCAA Division III programs and competitive cheer and dance teams.

Ken Achenbach '78, who has been coaching football for more than 30 years at the high school and collegiate level, received the Athletic Alumni Commendation Award. Achenbach guided the Meadville Bulldogs to the PIAA District 10 championship game on three occasions (1986, 1991, 1998) and was named Northwest Conference Coach of the Year in 1986 and 1990. Achenbach was a high school head coach for 22 years, spending his final two seasons as the head coach at Meadville High School and amassing a career record of



Pictured (above, left to right) are Chris Shinkman '62, Rick Freeburg '75, Betsy (Brougher) Monaco '83, and (left) Megan Kay '12.



129-94-6, with his teams making the playoffs in 15 of his 22 seasons as a head coach. A 1974 graduate of Sharon High School, he was a four-year letter winner and two-time all-conference defensive end during his time at Thiel. He also served as Thiel's defensive line coach for four seasons (2001-2004). He is currently the tackles/tight ends coach at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa.

Also honored were this year's Charles Evanoff and J. Lynn Trimble Award winners, Corey Brown '12 (wrestling) and Megan Kay '12 (women's volleyball). These two awards are presented to a male and female from the previous year's senior class who, in the judgment of the members of the Department of Athletics, best demonstrated qualities of scholarship, leadership, character and sportsmanship, in addition to participation in athletics. The Evanoff Award is named for Charles Evanoff '64, a standout for the Tomcats on the wrestling mat and football field and 2004 inductee into the Thiel College Athletic Hall of Fame. The Trimble Award is named after J. Lynn Trimble, former Tomcat volleyball and softball coach.

Jones Joins Baseball Staff



After more than 20 years in the major leagues as both a manager and player, Lynn Jones '74 has returned to Thiel College to serve as a volunteer assistant with the baseball team.

The second Tomcat to be drafted and the first to play Major League Baseball, Jones was selected in the 10th round of the 1974 draft by the Cincinnati Reds. He reached the bigs with the Detroit Tigers on April 13, 1979, going 2-for-3 with a walk and a stolen base in his debut in center field, a 5-4 loss to the Rangers.

Jones played eight MLB seasons, making just eight errors in the outfield while compiling six double plays. He collected 239 hits for the Tigers and Kansas City Royals and went 2-for-3 with a double and a triple in six games in the 1985 World Series against St. Louis, helping the Royals win their first World Series.

Jones began managing in 1990, becoming the first base coach for the Kansas City Royals. He spent the next nine seasons as the manager of several minor league clubs, compiling an overall record of 555-630 (.468). His Kane County Cougars, a Florida Marlins affiliate, reached the

postseason twice during his tutelage. Jones was particularly successful in his stint with the Cougars as he is second all-time for managerial wins with 275.

Jones was called up to the big leagues again in 2001, joining the then-Florida Marlins as first base coach. A year later, he returned to the minor leagues as the manager of the Macon Braves for the 2002 season before joining the Boston Red Sox in 2003. During his three seasons with Boston, Jones coached the outfielders, was base running coach and was first base coach in 2004 when the Red Sox won the World Series for the first time in 86 years.

Jones rejoined the Reds in 2006 and spent two seasons serving as the team's outfield, base running and roving instructor. He then spent three seasons with the Atlanta Braves in the same capacity.

"This is a huge addition for us," head baseball coach Joe Schaly said. "Bringing back an alumnus like Lynn, who has a wealth of professional experience and baseball knowledge, is not only valuable to our team but to our coaching staff as well."



Thiel Welcomes New Soccer Coach

The Athletics Department welcomed a new men's head soccer coach, Chris Limle, in February.

Limle came from Division II Concord University in West Virginia, where he was a graduate

assistant coach for the men's soccer program. Limle was involved in all facets of the men's soccer program, including training the men's and women's goalkeepers and serving as the recruiting coordinator for the men's team.

In his first season at Concord, Limle helped coach four Concord players to All-WVIAC recognition. In Limle's second year, Concord brought in 16 new faces that helped lead the men's team to five wins, which tied a single-season school record.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Limle moved into coaching after a successful collegiate playing career at Urbana University and Muskingum University. In 2006, Limle helped Muskingum achieve its most successful season in program history, finishing with a 10-7-1 record. In 2008, Muskingum earned its first appearance in the Ohio Athletic Conference Tournament.

Before going to Concord, Limle was an assistant men's coach and goalkeeper coach at Division III Muskingum University, helping to guide them to a 7-12 record. Limle also was employed with the Columbus Crew of Major League Soccer, working in their youth system as a head coach and staff coach for summer camp and director of goalkeeping for the Crew Juniors Phoenix. Limle has more than four years of experience with the Region I and Region II Olympic Development Programs. He was also an assistant goalkeeper coach for the Ohio South State Olympic Development Program (ODP) as well as the Ohio South ODP state coach. Presently, Limle is the state goalkeeping coach for the West Virginia Olympic Development Program.

Limle has a USSF National "D" License and NSCAA National License in addition to his NSCAA state goalkeeping diploma. Limle received his bachelor's degree from Muskingum University in 2009 and is currently pursuing a master's in health promotion at Concord University.

Be Part of the Inner Circle

Thiel College is launching a brand new recognition association for alumni and friends of the College—The President's Circle.

Thiel College's success depends on the loyal generosity of our alumni, parents and friends, and the example set by leaders like you inspires others to also contribute their time, talent and treasure each year to secure a strong future for Thiel College. The President's Circle recognizes, acknowledges and celebrates this special group of Thiel supporters with unique opportunities to become involved with the College, including personal correspondence from Dr. Troy VanAken, Thiel College's president, and invitations to special donor recognition events.

You can show your faith in the values, mission and potential of Thiel College and its students and alumni by making a first-time gift to the College or increasing your current commitment to the College at the highest possible level. Annual membership in the President's Circle is based on gifts and pledges fulfilled from July 1 through June 30.

President's Circle membership levels include:

- Pewter Level: \$1,000-2,499
- Bronze Level: \$2,500-4,999
- Silver Level: \$5,000-9,999
- Gold Level: \$10,000-24,999
- Platinum Level: \$25,000 and above

Please contact the College Advancement Office at 724-589-2160 or advancement@thiel.edu—or log onto www.thiel.edu/presidentcircle—today to request your invitation to become a member of the President's Circle.



Making Connections

Never underestimate the power of networking! The Thiel College Business Department provides students in the Senior Business Seminar class the opportunity to meet and interact with alumni with distinguished careers in the corporate and foundation worlds.



The course's seminar format helps students form their own management style with input from successful alumni business professionals in personal, informal situations. Many thanks to the alumni who donate their time and expertise to Thiel's students!

- Sandra Parker '81, retired vice president, PNC Bank
- Bill King and Rich Simpkins '68, networking, resume preparation and interviewing consultants
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
- Jackie Belsito '11, tax accountant, Sisterson & Co.
- Chris Wright '99, chief financial officer, St. Paul's (pictured)
- John F. Logan '65, chief fiscal officer, Mercer County
- John Thigpen '86, general manager, ILSCO Extrusions, Inc.
- Lynn M. Jones '74, major league baseball player and coach
- John Barr '70, chief marketing officer, Hillside Family Agencies
- Rich '74 and Jeff '78 Coup, The Coup Insurance Agency
- Pat Findle '79, Pittsburgh director, Gas Technology Institute
- Jane Bittcher '80, Bridgeway Capital Team

“I was impressed by the enthusiasm Chris Wright had for his current position. He was very positive and continuously reminded students that he is thankful for the education he received from Thiel College.”

—Emily Friedrich '14

Get Ready for a Brand New “.edu”

For the first time in more than seven years, www.thiel.edu is getting a complete overhaul—and the redesigned website is scheduled to launch later this year!

Since August 2012, we have been working on a complete content review of all of the information currently on the site. A Design Advisory Committee was formed last fall to discuss design and usability for the new site. Along with these two initiatives, surveys have been sent out to students, faculty, staff and alumni to learn more about what's most important to them in a new website.

Some features to look forward to include:

- More visible news & events
- Integrated calendars
- Updated faculty & staff directory

Most importantly, we want to make it easier for all visitors to find what they're looking for—faster.

This summer, we will be launching a beta site for testing before we officially launch in the fall. If you have any questions or feedback about the new website, visit www.thiel.edu/brandnew. You may also sign up to receive advance notice of the beta website launch!

Sorry We Missed You!

The spring phonathon for the 2012-2013 Thiel Fund wrapped up in mid-April and our 27 student callers worked diligently to try to connect with every Thiel alumnus by telephone. The students enjoyed the many nostalgic and enriching discussions with the alumni they were able to reach—the generosity and compassion expressed to the students left a profound impression on them.



Bree Sweet '13, student phonathon caller

“My experience working for phonathon and the Annual Giving Office has been rewarding and enjoyable,” said Bree Sweet '13, one of the student callers. “Having the opportunity to speak with Thiel College alumni about their time here has been my

favorite aspect. Hearing their memories from their college days, as well as their lives beyond Thiel, is so encouraging and interesting! Some things about Thiel have changed since they've graduated, but their love for Thiel is still the same, and that makes me so happy. It also is amazing how willing they

are to give back to the place that has given them so much. Thiel has made such a difference in my life and to see that it still has a place in the heart of our alumni throughout the years is truly inspiring.”

Those alumni who chose to donate to this year's spring phonathon made an investment in Thiel's future and the enrichment of the educational experiences for generations to come.

As a newcomer to the Thiel community and on behalf of the student phonathon team, I would like to extend our gratitude and many thanks for the generosity and inspiration we have received from you and our other alumni. We encourage you to update contact and personal information, including email, by visiting www.thiel.edu/emailupdate. If we missed you in the phonathon this time, you should have received a letter from Bree recently. If you have already responded to the letter, thank you! If you have not yet responded with a gift to the Thiel Fund, it's not too late. Just return your pledge card or give online at www.thiel.edu by June 30 to make your difference in the lives of our students.

Take care and we look forward to speaking with you again soon! (Phonathon will begin again in the fall semester for the 2013-2014 fiscal year.)

—Leta Jeffers, Coordinator of Annual Giving

New Faces in Roth Hall

Thiel alumni will see a familiar face in a different position at the College, starting in July. The College Advancement Office is happy to welcome Stephanie (Hills) Wilson '04 as the new director of alumni relations for Thiel.

Wilson has been an admissions counselor at Thiel for the last four years, acting as a representative between Thiel and prospective students, families and school counselors. She also served as the admissions liaison to Lutheran congregations and church-related recruiting activities. Previously, she worked as a teacher, marketing and sales professional, and a television producer. She graduated from Thiel College with a bachelor's degree in communication. Wilson is involved in community, church and performing arts activities in the local community. She and her husband live in Greenville with their newborn son.

As alumni relations director she will be responsible for serving as primary point of contact between alumni and the College, planning and implementation of projects and events for alumni, and serving as liaison to the Alumni Association.



(Top) Stephanie (Hills) Wilson '04,
director of alumni relations
(Bottom) Leta Jeffers, coordinator of
annual giving

Another new face in Roth Hall is Leta Jeffers joined the staff in April as coordinator of annual giving (you can read a message from Jeffers on page 27). Jeffers is responsible for leading the College's efforts to reach its yearly goal for The Thiel Fund, including coordinating the fall and spring phonathon campaigns.

Jeffers came from Edinboro University where she served as assistant director of the annual fund and phonathon coordinator. Previously, she worked in human resources for GE Transportation. She holds a bachelor's degree in communication studies from Edinboro. She lives in Meadville, Pa., with her husband and daughter.

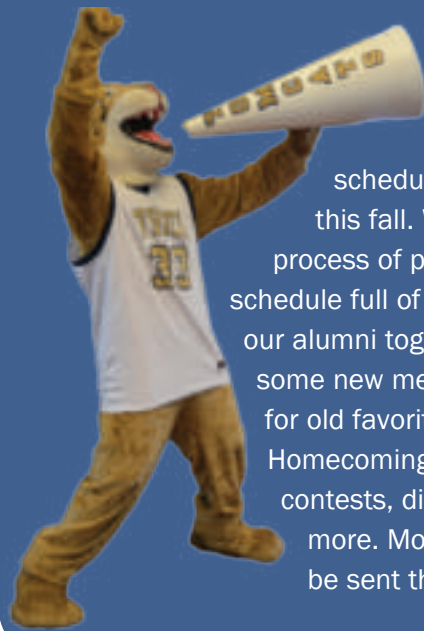
"Strengthening our alumni and fundraising programs with these new members of the Advancement team allows for even greater interactions with Thiel graduates and supporters," said Sam Siple, vice president for college advancement. "The more opportunities for alumni and friends to have meaningful engagement and investment, the better Thiel can fulfill our mission of educating students."



Stay Connected!

Thiel maintains Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and Tumblr pages where you can keep up to date about campus life, celebrate student achievement, keep up with your favorite athletic teams, find out about campus events and much more. Just look for "Thiel College" on these sites or type "/thielcollege" ("thielhappenings" on Tumblr) and become a fan or follower. Other groups on campus maintain pages as well (even Tommy Tomcat has a Facebook page), so look around!

Save the Date!



Homecoming weekend 2013 is scheduled for Oct. 11-13 this fall. We're in the process of planning a schedule full of events to bring our alumni together and make some new memories. Look for old favorites such as the Homecoming Parade, athletic contests, dinners and much more. More information will be sent this summer!

paw prints

an e-newsletter for alumni & friends of **THIEL** COLLEGE

Sign Up for Pawprints!

Would you like to receive monthly news of interest from Thiel College and learn about what's happening on campus? Wonder what events are coming up or what the students are up to? Staying "in the know" is as easy as sending us your email address. All alumni with a valid email address on record receive *Pawprints*, the College's alumni e-newsletter, each month. It's a great way to stay connected. Just visit www.thiel.edu/emailupdate to send us your current contact information—it's that easy! And if you send us your email address before June 30, you'll be registered to win an iPad mini! (See inside back cover for more information!)

Get Your Thiel College License Plate Today!

Pennsylvania drivers can show their Tomcat pride by displaying the official Thiel College license plate you see below. This Thiel College license plate is available for a one-time fee of \$20. Anyone interested in obtaining a specialty plate can request an application by contracting 724-589-2188 or pr@thiel.edu. Applications are available online at www.thiel.edu/alumni as well.

Riding with Tommy is easy!

- Complete the application and be sure to sign it; write a check for \$20 (payable to "Thiel College").
- Mail check and application to Thiel College Alumni Relations, 75 College Ave., Greenville, Pa. 16125.

Please do not send your application directly to PennDOT; doing so will delay delivery of your license plate. Plates will arrive four to six weeks after PennDot receives an order from Thiel.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

DR. BARRY STAMM '70

**WHY IS BEING PART OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IMPORTANT TO YOU?**

Being on the Board at Thiel is an opportunity to make a real difference—to make a difference at a place that I love and have always had a soft spot for in my heart. My time here was a great period in my life. I felt I got a great education that prepared me well for the professional world that followed. I made many friends and still interact with many of them. Most importantly, it was where I met my wife, Carol, and we have had a lifetime of great memories since our days together at Thiel. Working on the Board presents an opportunity to make a difference for the students at Thiel, current and future. Keeping in mind the mission of Thiel and working toward making the experience ever more positive and enjoyable for the students is really what it is all about—whether that is through building improved housing facilities, improved academic facilities, athletic programs or enhanced academic programs along with professors that will take our students to the next level—it is all about the students.

WHY SHOULD OTHER ALUMNI CONSIDER GIVING OF THEIR TIME AND TREASURE TO THIEL COLLEGE?

As we progress through life, many people start to look for ways to give back to those places and organizations that were instrumental in their own lives. People begin to realize how important those prior experiences were in shaping their lives and it becomes important for them to find ways to give back. I see this on our Board of Trustees where we have a spectrum of alumni and even non-alums who have had a positive relationship with the college in various ways. They are looking for ways to help further the mission, both with their time and treasure. Jim Pedas '50 is the ultimate example of that commitment and a perfect example of an alumnus giving back to Thiel after a lifetime of success. We recently broke ground for the new James Pedas Communication Center as a result of Jim's generosity and his desire to give back.

Most of us who attended Thiel had a positive experience that left us with many favorable memories. That could have been through a Greek affiliation, on-campus organization, sport(s), a special relationship with a professor, the choir, arts, music—most everyone has some special memory they cherish. I think many of our fellow graduates want to see Thiel grow, flourish and be a strong institution for new students in the future.

WHAT ARE YOUR "WORDS TO LIVE BY"?

"Success depends on attention to detail," by Joseph Lister. That was the message I followed during my 30+ years in the operating room and it can be applied to almost everything you do. It's all in the details and the difference between getting an "A" or a "B" is the details. (I'm still applying that one to golf. We talk about "practicing" medicine, but I'll be "practicing" golf forever.)

WHAT ARE THE SIMILARITIES/DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THIEL STUDENTS NOW AND WHEN YOU WERE A STUDENT?

I've met some great students on campus who have shown a tremendous thirst for learning and have a real drive to pursue some very interesting careers. There are some who have done summer internships away from campus and have come back with a real focus on their goals. This is a very vibrant student body and whether it is an athletic event, art, drama or musical presentation there is a lot of talent present. Just attend one Honors Convocation and you see how many of our students are serious about their work and the varied interests they exhibit. It is very impressive. I don't know how to compare that with my days at Thiel, but it certainly speaks well for the current student body.

WHAT DO YOU THINK LIES AHEAD FOR THIEL COLLEGE AS WE HEAD TO THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2016?

Later this year, the Board will announce the commencement of the Sesquicentennial Capital Campaign. I sense that Thiel is on the verge of an exciting future with all of the enthusiasm we see for this campaign. More and more alumni and friends of the College are talking about wanting to get on board and support our efforts and do something to help secure Thiel's future. With the groundbreaking for the Pedas Center over Commencement weekend, we are only going to see that enthusiasm grow. And the new campus master plan has many features that are going to appeal to a broad spectrum of interests and give our supporters the opportunity to get behind a variety of efforts—academic, athletic, scholarship and endowment. President Troy VanAken and the Board chair, Ed Bartko, have moved the ball down the field and I am convinced we are going to win this game with this upcoming campaign.

A native of Erie, Pa., Stamm has had a long career in ophthalmology, focusing on lens implant surgery and laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy. He practiced in his hometown for 30 years under Stamm Cataract and Laser Surgery, before selling the business in 2008. He also serves on the Boards of Trustees at UPMC Hamot Medical Center and Sight Center of Northwest PA. He was a biology major and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He enjoys sailing, golf, skiing and flying. He and his wife of 41 years, Carol Yeager '71, have two children, Brian and Ashley.

Meet the Boards



Officers for the Board of Trustees are, from left, Edward A. Bartko '72, Chair; Mark A. Benninghoff '82, Vice Chair; Chip Dufala '92, Treasurer; Susan R. Snowden, Esq., Secretary

Board of Trustees

Officers:

Edward A. Bartko '72, Chair
Mark A. Benninghoff '82, Vice Chair
George "Chip" Dufala '92 Treasurer
Susan R. Snowden, Secretary
Dr. Troy D. VanAken, Ex-Officio

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John M. Barr '70
Dr. Robert O. Blomquist H'99*
Dr. Robert D. Burns '74
Lewis (Lou) P. Carbone '71
Jason Chappell '96
Connie L. Danko '69
Ronald Doerr
Rev. Brian Evans '03
Dr. Alan F. Fager '69
John R. Frangakis
Rev. Dr. David P. Gleason
Fred Haer '65
Dr. Carl A. Hoffman Jr. '69, H'10
Dr. Robert Holderer
John Hudson
Rick Huether '74
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Dr. James McHugh '62, H'02*
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Donald R. Owrey '89
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Dr. Barry Stamm '70

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John L. Vitale '47, H'90*
Miles Wallace
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Rod Wilt '86
Elaine M. Woloshyn '74
*Emeriti

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Dr. Peter C. Sotus
John E. Thigpen '86
Nicholas Travaglianti '11
Jeffrey A. Wallace
The Hon. Roy W. Wilt '59, H'85
Elaine M. Woloshyn '74

Alumni Association Board

Officers:

Chuck Goodrick '74, President
Raymond Hanlon '74, Immediate Past President

Michael Allen '90
Dr. Karen Ely '84
Norman Hasbrouck '74
David Hummel '83
Rachel Keene '08
Alison Kuder '05
William Matthews '74
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James McRoberts '58
Joseph T. Nairn '79
Antonio Quarterman '08
Dawn Salter '95
Marion Shoemaker '63
Dr. Christopher Shinkman '62
Kraig Smith '12
Paul Stibich '05
Brianna Sweet '13
Damen Taylor '95
John A. Wotus '74

Thiel Family Council

Tracie Crane
Ted Fiore
Dale & Leisel Lengyel
Sharon Schneider, chair
Terri Barger
Rose Marker-Faour
Ray and Bonnie Panasko

Class Notes

1960s

BARBARA (WILSON) HAHN '64 is working on her 25th novel. She has been honored twice by the Arizona Authors Association—a third place honor for a short story (“The Last Time I Saw Wickenburg aka Voyage with the Beagle”) in 2011 and a second place honor for her unpublished novel “Under Construction” in 2012.

WILLIAM “BILL” MITCHELL '69 is a retired drug and alcohol counselor for the Veteran’s Administration in Murfreesboro, Tenn. He remarried in July 2012, following the death of his wife of 40 years, Janice, in 2011, and together he and his wife, Sylvia, spent the summer and fall traveling around the United States. He volunteers at the First Things First Recovery Homes helping recovering addicts become re-employed. He also is working on a “coming of age” novel and has completed a book of poetry and several short stories. He writes, “The older I get the more I appreciate my time at Thiel in the turbulent sixties and I am proud to be an alumnus.”

1970s

PATRICIA McELLIGOTT '71 wrote a book, “Irish Pittsburgh,” that was published in January. The book is a collection of vintage photographs commemorating the history of people of Irish descent who lived and worked in the Pittsburgh region in the late 19th and 20th centuries. It is part of Arcadia Publishing’s Images of America series.

KURT WARNKE '71 recently retired from the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte, N.C., after 29 years as head of design and installation.

LYNN JONES '74 has returned to Thiel College as a member of the baseball coaching staff for the 2013 season. Jones was the second Tomcat to be drafted and the first to reach the major leagues. After playing, he was a manager and coach for several minor and major league teams.

DONALD RAMSEY '75 retired in 2004 and moved to Montpelier, Ohio, in 2005. For the past six years, he has served as pastor at Southern Comfort, a retirement community in Weslaco, Texas, where he preaches from November to March.

JAMES P. AVERILL '76 completed a master’s degree in public administration in 2012 from Ashford University. He is the senior executive manager for the Days Inn-West of Busch Gardens in Tampa, Fla.

JOSEPH T. NAIRN '79 was appointed executive director of advancement at Finger Lakes Community College. In his new position, Nairn oversees resource development, public relations, community affairs, workforce development, and institutional research and planning for the college.

1980s

KAREN E. STILES '82 was honored as Kaplan University Educator of the Year for 2012 for the Hagerstown campus. Stiles is a professor of psychology at Kaplan in Hagerstown, Md.

AMY NOBLE '83 is retired from teaching and now serving as children’s and young adult librarian at the Greenville Public Library (Pa.). She has four grandchildren who she enjoys spending time with as well as gardening, reading, camping and traveling.

LISA J. (LIPSCOMB) PERRY '89 was promoted to director of community affairs, marketing and public relations for Homewood Children’s Village, a nonprofit organization designed to improve the lives of Homewood’s children while reviving the community in which they live. Perry lives in Pittsburgh.

1990s

MARK P. HARCOURT '90 owns a commercial radio station (KHWL 98.7 FM) in Lone Wolf, Okla. He is a senior systems engineer with Alexander Open Systems and lives in Oklahoma City, Okla.

AUDRA A. (SCHELL) GANIEAR '93 graduated cum laude with a B.S.N. degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 2012. She received her R.N. license and is working as a clinical nurse with West Penn Allegheny Health System in Monroeville, Pa., within the Neuro-Trauma Stepdown Unit. She lives in North Versailles, Pa., with her husband, John.

CRYSTAL (LYONS) MCKINLEY '93 moved from Charlotte, N.C., to Riverside, Calif., where she is responsible for training management teams at Family Dollar stores in the California market.

2000s

LYDIA M. (SMITH) SPEICE '01 earned a master’s degree in leadership and business ethics from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh in 2012. She is operations manager at USIS. She lives in Grove City, Pa., with her husband, Christopher.

CHRISTINA TOTH '01 completed her master’s degree in education, teacher leadership, in 2011. She ran her first half-marathon this year. Toth is a math teacher at Ravenna High School in Ravenna, Ohio.

NANCY COX '02 was promoted from manager to principal by the Bonadio Group, an accounting, consulting and financial services firm in upstate New York. She lives in Hamburg, N.Y.

REV. EMILIE E. THEOBALD-ROWLANDS '04 began her new call at Christ Lutheran Church in Vienna, W.Va., in Sept. 2012. Her husband, MATTHEW J. ROWLANDS '05, accepted a job as inventory accountant for Constellation in Ravenswood, W.Va., in Dec. 2012.

SGT. LOGAN R. MALIE '08 competed in the U.S. Army Combatives Championship in July 2012. He is a cannon crewmember with 11th Field Artillery Regiment, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and competed in the light-heavyweight division.



▲ ALLISON NICOLE WYNN '09 met Leon Panetta, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency (2009-2011) and secretary of defense (2011-2013) at the Pentagon. Wynn is an auditor with the Department of Defense. She lives in Alexandria, Va.

Class Notes

2010s

BEN BECK '10 came in second in American Eagle Outfitters' contest to become the "face of their next campaign." Beck's picture was displayed in Times Square in Aug. 2012.

Marriages

CARL SACHERICH '65 to Alice Lucille Otto on Sept. 8, 2012. The couple lives in New Castle, Pa., where they are building a new home. Sacherich is an elder and teacher in a Presbyterian church.

▼ KATHRYN RYDER '05 to Paul Breen on Sept. 1, 2012. Thiel alumni (and sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha) in attendance were BECKY (STEPHENS) HILE '03, TARA (HUNNEL) PULIG '04, JAIME (PEROTTI) WOLFGANG '04, HEATHER (JOHNSON) VESTER '05 and HOPE (YOUNG) EGGLETON '06.



ANDREW THIERMAN '09 to Kellie Dobos on Sept. 8, 2012, in Cambridge Springs, Pa. The couple lives in Wallback, W.Va.

Births

To KIMBERLY ELLING-LEE '98 and her husband, Brian: a son, Zach Thomas, on Jan. 3. Elling-Lee is a patient care representative for CCN America, LP in Pittsburgh. She and her family live in Irwin, Pa.

To ANDREW APISA '99 and AMBER (COCHRAN) APISA '01: a daughter, Elizabeth, on Jan. 7. Andrew is a math teacher and track and football coach at Mineral Ridge High School and Amber is an accounts receivable associate at V&M Star.

To JOHN LATKOWSKI '99 and his wife, Sara: a daughter, Mae Antoinette, on Sept. 22, 2012. She joined big brother, Jack, who was born on Feb. 3, 2011. The family resides in Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

To MELISSA G. (LEWIS) KEEBLER '00 and her husband, Josh: a daughter, Nathalie Isabelle, on Sept. 19, 2012. Keebler is assistant chief of staff at Dickinson College. The family lives in Camp Hill, Pa.



▲ To JUSTIN MISTRETTA '01 and his wife, Elizabeth: a daughter, Adalyn Grace, on June 21, 2012. Mistretta is a graphic and web designer at Wisecarver Communications in Winchester, Va. He and his family live in Inwood, W.Va.

To JOSHUA R. HORNE '03 and his wife, Erin: a daughter, Ashlyn, on Nov. 20, 2012. The family lives in Hogansville, Ga.

To JENNA (MORGAN) POWELL '03 and her husband, Ryan: a son, Garrett, on Dec. 18, 2012. The family lives in Bethel Park, Pa.

To DANIEL HORVATH '05 and MELANIE (CRAGG) HORVATH '06: a son, Joseph Peter, on Sept. 21, 2012. Daniel recently became a licensed real estate agent with Northwood Realty. The family lives in Gibsonia, Pa.

To SARAH L. (MEADER) McCRACKEN '09 and her husband, Travis: a son, Patrick John, on Sept. 27, 2012. They live in El Paso, Texas.

In Memoriam

ANN (TREZONA) HOWELL '43 of southern California on Dec. 30, 2012.

MILDRED (WHITNEY) RUNYAN DENSMORE '44 of St. Petersburg, Fla., on May 11, 2012, at the age of 89.

NICHOLAS L. TRIANA '45 of Watertown, N.Y., on Sept. 3, 2012, at the age of 89.

BETTY J. (DUMARS) COLLINS '47 of Billings, Mont., on Dec. 29, 2012, at the age of 87.

DR. FRANK E. McELREE JR. '47 of West Salem Township, Pa., on March 8 at the age of 87.

JEANNE E. ALTSMAN '48 of Plano, Texas, on Nov. 22, 2012.

REV. NORMAN C. McLEAN '48 of Meadville, Pa., on Jan. 29 at the age of 86.

JOHN J. BOLIVER '50 of San Remo, Texas, on Oct. 5, 2012 at the age of 86.

BETTY "BETTS" (HEIMBERGER) MORTON '50 of Murrysville, Pa., on Nov. 19, 2012, at the age of 84.

PAUL J. STEWART '50 of Greenville, Pa., on March 7 at the age of 83.

WAYNE CRAIG CLEPPER '51 of Sharon, Pa., on Oct. 2, 2012, at the age of 86.

MICHAEL LADO, M.D. '51 of Schuylkill Haven, Pa., on Aug. 11, 2011, at the age of 81.

HARTLEY C. ODEN '51 of Greenville, Pa., on Jan. 17.

MARTHA A. RICHMOND '51 of Stoneboro, Pa., on Nov. 4, 2012, at the age of 80.

VIRGINIA (DONALDSON) HOWE '52 of Roddin, Calif., on Aug. 4, 2012.

JOSEPH ANTHONY MARASCO SR. '52 of Farrell, Pa., on Dec. 17, 2012, at the age of 84.

GEORGINA DRUSCHEL McCORMICK '52 of Zelienople, Pa., on Oct. 26, 2012, at the age of 82.

GEORGE D. WOLFE JR. '55 of Ligonier, Pa., on Dec. 27, 2011.

JEANNE KYLANDER '56 of Warren, Ohio, on June 7, 2012, at the age of 79.

WILLIAM "WHITEY" E. SCHNEE JR. '56 on April 13, 2012.

PAULA C. (BOEHME) SCHNEE '56 on Aug. 17, 2012.

PHYLLIS E. ZIMMERMAN '56 on Oct. 10, 2012.

MARIUS G. SANTICOLA JR. '57 of Saxonburg, Pa., on March 2 at the age of 78.

DR. W. SETH GAUGH '60 of Webster, N.Y., on Dec. 15, 2012, at the age of 74.

JANE ANN (SEIBERLING) SCHRIMPER '60 on Dec. 9, 2012.

NANCY (EBISCH) SPEER '60 of Lakewood, Ohio, on July 25, 2012. She is survived by her husband, ROBERT SPEER '58.

Class Notes

GAYLE ANN (GOETTMAN) HAMILTON '61 of Pulaski Township, Pa., on April 23, 2011, at the age of 71.

HON. JOHN M. STUARD SR. '61 of Burghill, Ohio, on Feb. 7 at the age of 73.

WILLIAM P. COFFMAN '63 of Oakmont, Pa., on Jan. 25. He is survived by PAULETTE (BEHNER) COFFMAN '64.

DENNIS C. DAVIS '63 of Anniston, Ala., on Jan. 26, 2012, at the age of 70.

SUSAN (MAGENAU) EVANS '63 of Erie, Pa., on July 5, 2012.

EDWARD DONNELL '64 of McCandless Township, Pa., on Jan. 21 at the age of 70.

MARTHA A. MASSIER '64 on Nov. 10, 2012.

GERALDINE E. (MANGLE) KLEFFEL CANDELORO '65 of Enola, Pa., on Aug. 25, 2012, at the age of 81.

ANN D. LORD '68 of Burlington, Vt., on Sept. 25, 2012, at the age of 66.

REV. DR. DONALD D. ANDERSON H'70 of Pittsburgh on Jan. 28 at the age of 87.

DAN PENSIERO '70 of Somerset, Pa., on Nov. 23, 2012.

CHARLES P. IVES III '71 of Stoneleigh, Md., on Oct. 20, 2012, at the age of 1963.

KAREN BLACK '73 of Greenville, Pa., on Dec. 7, 2012, at the age of 61.

BETH (CARTER) DODGE '73 of Laceyville, Pa., on Oct. 22, 2012, at the age of 59.

MARILYN HAUSER '73 of Cochranton, Pa., on May 17, 2011, at the age of 62. She is

survived by her sister, REBECCA HAUSER LEONARD '69, and her niece, SHELLEY BRIGHT CALABRESE '96.

REV. E. JEROME ALEXIS H'74 of Beaver Falls, Pa., on May 19, 2012, at the age of 88.

KEVIN MICHAEL O'BRIEN SR. '75 of Shark River Hills, N.J., on Feb. 12 at the age of 60.

FRANCES TERESA REED '75 of West Salem Township, Pa., on Dec. 16, 2012, at the age of 90.

RUTHLYN NEWELL '76 of Atlanta, Ga., on Feb. 26 at the age of 58.

JEFFREY V. PALMER '79 of Mercer, Pa., on Nov. 22, 2012, at the age of 55.

JOHN DANIEL WIERCINSKI '80 of Mercer, Pa., on Oct. 15, 2012, at the age of 66.

WILLIAM H. EICHHORN '82 on Aug. 3, 2012.

FAITH (BRANZOVIK) PERSCHKA '83 of North Las Vegas, Nev., on Sept. 18, 2012, at the age of 68.

KELLY JO SIZER '89 of New Castle, Pa., on Oct. 16, 2012 at the age of 46.

JERRI (HERZBERGER) JEANNERETT '97 of Cochranton, Pa., on June 5, 2012, at the age of 68.

Friends

REV. BOYD GIBSON, former Thiel College chaplain (1959-1969), of Selinsgrove, Pa., on March 9 at the age of 84.

Kay Weyers '59



E. KATHLEEN "KAY" WEYERS '59 passed away on March 15 at the age of 76. A native of New Kensington, Pa., Weyers attended Thiel College before receiving her degree from the University of Pittsburgh and later earned a master's degree from Miami University of Ohio. She was a middle school teacher for the Okemos Public Schools in Michigan for many years. She is survived by her husband, HOWARD WEYERS '56, H'11. Together with her husband, she led the charge for the first-ever, multi-use athletic facility, Alumni Stadium, on campus. Her leadership and dedication along with the support of her fellow alumni and friends helped make that important project a reality.



Rev. Harry Wood '47

REV. HARRY WOOD JR. '47 passed away on April 16 at age 88. Wood was well known as a "man of God and man of the community" and was very supportive of the Thiel College and Greenville communities. He was a member of the Society of 1866, and was a familiar face at Alumni Association meetings and other events on Thiel's campus. He knew everyone and was liked by everyone. Woods graduated with a degree in economics and eventually followed the call to the ministry. He served for many years in Texas before he and his wife returned to the Greenville area in 1990. Wood was honored with the "Unsung Hero Award" by the Kiwanis Club in September 2012.

GOT NEWS? WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

Help keep us and other alumni up to date on what's going on in your life.

Please fill out this form and mail to:

ALUMNI OFFICE, THIEL COLLEGE, 75 COLLEGE AVE.,

GREENVILLE, PA 16125.

E-mail: alumni@thiel.edu Fax: 724-589-2860

I wish to serve on an alumni committee. I wish to serve as a class agent.

Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Year of Graduation _____

Spouse's Name _____ Is spouse a graduate of Thiel College? Yes No Year _____

Reason for writing (please check all that apply & specify on lines below):

New address/e-mail Marriage New job Birth Recent honor or achievement Other

Home address _____

Seasonal address and dates (if applicable) _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Children's names _____ Birth dates _____

Your occupation (title) _____ Employer (full name) _____

Business address (city, state) _____

Spouse's occupation (title) _____ Spouse's employer (full name) _____

Business address (city, state) _____

Note: News that appears in this issue arrived at the Alumni Office by April 1, 2013. If your news was submitted after that date, it will appear in the next issue of *The Bell*. News for Class Notes, Marriages and Births must be reported either by or with the explicit approval of the subject(s) and are subject to editing for space, style and content. Photos become the property of the Alumni Office and may not be returned.

Class Notes & Photo Policy

- Please send us news after it has happened. No future events will be listed.
- News for Class Notes must be reported either by or with the approval of the subject(s). All notes are subject to editing for content, space and style. Photos become Thiel property and may not be returned.
- Photo Guidelines—Prints should be at least 2x3 inches for headshots and 4x6 for photos featuring groups. Both color and black & white are acceptable. Photos can be mailed to Alumni Services, Thiel College, 75 College Ave., Greenville, PA 16125. To submit a digital photo, email the file to alumni@thiel.edu. Digital photos should be a 300 dpi TIFF or JPG. Photos that are small and low resolution may not be usable. *Please include a description of the photo and the names and class years of alumni who appear.*

The Show Must Go On

By Joseph Hertzog '13

For the last four years, I have had the amazing experience of working with Dr. William A. Robinson—or as everyone knows him, Bill. The most interesting part of working with Bill has been the fact that every day I walked into work never knowing what I was going to do that day. One day I would be hunting for props on *Amazon.com* and the next day I would be figuring out how to make giant paper-mache eggs. You never know what you will run into in the theater; it can be complete and utter chaos at times. I have found, however, that no one can handle all the facets of theater better than Bill.

He can have his hand in all the pots and still remain sane. In fact, that is one of the best lessons I learned from Bill—that with a little bit of balancing and a lot of planning, one can get through anything. Yet, even when Bill is controlling the chaos that is theater, he can and does take time to make connections with each and every student. Even when we have a tidal wave of reservations, props to order and platforms to raise, Bill still takes time to ask how I am doing. What a great reminder: when you have good relationships with people, those people will do more productive work. Whether Bill is teaching, directing or organizing, he gets to know his students, which in turn makes them love the subject even more. Bill truly has pulled many people into theater because of his genuine love of his students.

While working with Bill, I also have learned the value of diversity. Bill has brought diversity through the wide variety of shows he has chosen for the Thiel Players. Personally, I have appreciated the many different parts I've played. Bill also has a diversity of personal knowledge and skills. He can do costumes, sets, paint and prop, but he also knows about many different academic subjects. All this knowledge benefits him when he is directing the different shows he does. I have



Joey and Bill in the Green Room during dress rehearsal for "Cabaret"

learned so much about the value of a wide breadth of education through working with Bill. He truly is a living example of why the liberal arts are important. He also taught me many facts that he states will help me when I'm at a "chic cocktail party."

Bill has created a family with the Thiel Players. He has helped nurture them into a group of which I am honored and humbled to be a part. Bill has truly become more than a professor to me. He is a mentor and friend. Now the Thiel Players have to move on without Bill. I have had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Pete Rydberg, who will be taking over after Bill leaves. Dr. Rydberg is an intelligent, talented and driven director and professor, who will help lead the Thiel Players into the future. Although Bill is leaving us, it is now our responsibility as alumni to support this new director and give him as much support as we have given to Bill. The Thiel Players function because of their director, but they survive because of support from alumni.

Although Bill is retiring, the Thiel Players are here to stay, and I can't wait to see where they go in the future!

Joey Hertzog '13 is a native of Butler, Pa., and graduated in May with a major in history and minors in pre-ministry and theatre. He has been accepted to the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, where he will begin attending classes this fall. His favorite roles as a Thiel Player include Algy from "The Importance of Being Earnest," Puck from "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Snoopy from "Charlie Brown Goes to College" and the Emcee in "Cabaret."

This iPad
mini could
be yours!

Go Blue and Gold (and Green)!

Thanks to technology, it's easier than ever to stay in contact with your alma mater in a sustainable, fast way. The first step is to update your contact information! Share your email address with Thiel College by June 30 and you'll be entered to win an iPad mini.

Update your info at www.thiel.edu/emailupdate to:

- Receive Thiel news/updates instantly
- Check in with Thiel wherever you are via your favorite device
- Help reduce the amount of mail you receive while helping Thiel reduce postage costs

Winner will be notified by email in July! Contact the Office of Alumni Services at 724-589-2140 or alumni@thiel.edu with any questions.

**Please note that Thiel College does not and will not provide any of your personal information to anyone outside of the College.*



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COLLEGE

75 College Avenue
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From the Archives



Shovels in the Ground

On March 23, 1969, ground was broken for the Academic Center at Thiel College. Pictured (from left to right) are Dr. Harry Pedicord, English; Dr. Bela Kolossvary, physics; Dr. Georgianne Stary, psychology; Dr. Roy Johnson, history; and Dr. Hans Zenner, library. Eleven of the 17 academic departments at Thiel at the time were slated to occupy the new building. Until the groundbreaking for the James Pedas Communication Center this May, the Academic Center was the last academic building to be built on campus. Ground was broken the same day for the Student Activities Center (now the Howard Miller Student Center).