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The Fort Wayne Falcon Alumni E-Newsletter: February 2015

Taylor University Fort Wayne

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February 2015



Shirley and Jay,

Sharing lunch on Mondays with **Bill Gerig g61** is one of my great blessings. Bill just celebrated his 78th birthday Friday. I value his wisdom, example, and stories. He loves the Alumni Center, our mission, and our alumni. Here are just a few things we've been working on with our volunteers to *care, connect, and celebrate*:

Homecoming 2015 Taking Shape



Sonja Strahm g66 recently confirmed she will help us pull together a **His Company** reunion during **Homecoming on September 18 & 19, 2015**. To make this weekend more fun, we'll also have an **80s decade**

reunion and a **Summit years reunion**. So, if you attended the Fort Wayne campus in the 80s and early 90s, this is the perfect Homecoming for you! The Alumni Center is looking for volunteers to help us pull together the details.

Other events for all alumni and more class reunions are being planned. For more information, [click here](#).

Pierson g92 & Hall g03 Join Council

Pam (Witmer) Pierson g92 and **Brandon Hall g03** are the newest members of the Alumni Council. Both started their three-year term in January. After serving faithfully four years, **Kelsey (Crok) Scheider g09** stepped down, but **Tui (Walcott) Bedwell g97** agreed to complete Kelsey's term. [Click here](#) to read more about Pam and Brandon's first impressions.

Moving Forward: Looking Ahead

The Alumni Council is moving forward with a new three-year strategic plan. **Char Binkley g65** has volunteered to facilitate the process. The Council has already met twice and the Strategic Planning team, made up of volunteers and Council members, has been working between Council meetings in order to keep the process moving forward. [Click here](#) to see what is being done and who is participating.



Alumni Center on The Road in Florida



For Fort Wayne alumni living in Florida, **Phil Mortensen g74**, my dad, and I will be hosting informal non-fundraising alumni gatherings in **St. Petersburg** and **Bradenton** next Tuesday and Wednesday, **February 17 and 18**. The St. Petersburg gathering will start at 4:30 p.m. and the Bradenton event will start at 11 a.m. Both will be held at Perkins Restaurant (Dutch-Treat). I also hope to visit with alumni

along I-4 and in the Orlando and Daytona Beach areas. [Click here](#) to sign-up for the gathering or to schedule a visit.

Alumni Invited to Taylor Gatherings

Fort Wayne alumni in various cities around the country are being invited to Taylor alumni gatherings. These are informal non-fundraising events for alumni from Fort Wayne and Upland to come together to network and meet new friends. Programming is limited. My colleagues will welcome you and want to get to know you. **Dara Berkhalter g02**, executive director of alumni relations, and **Amy Wilson g11**, director of alumni programs, generally attend these events. You may be interested that Dara is married to **Jason g97**, a Fort Wayne grad, and they live and worship in Fort Wayne. [Click here](#) for a list of gatherings.

We Care, Connect, and Celebrate,

Michael D. Mortensen g91
Director of Fort Wayne Alumni & Friends Relations



Along Rudisill...

- The Statements of Giving letter went the week of January 26. Did you get yours? If not, and you need one to complete your taxes, e-mail us or call **260.744.8790**. Thank you for your giving!
- Many of you have LIKED our **Alumni & Friends Resource Center Facebook page**, but now we need you to take the next step of clicking on **"Following"** or **"Get Notifications"** on our page. Otherwise, the updates may not appear in your newsfeed. Stay connected!
- Have you adopted a child? Let us know, as we are putting together an article and possibly a group for like-minded alumni parents to connect. 
- The Gerig Activities Center now has field turf covering the gym floor. AWP (**Activities With Purpose**) Sports is using the facilities to train athletes. [Click here](#) to see the picture we posted on Facebook.
- **Vicky Clifton g00** has just written, *The Second Door*, with WestBow Press. This 254-page mystery is her first novel.
- **Justin g01** and **Sarah (Vestal) g02 Spurlock** officially adopted Cayson Scott Spurlock a.k.a. "Case" on February 2, 2015. This also means **Jen Spurlock g06** is a proud Aunt. [Click here](#) to see the picture we posted on Facebook.
- For more *News Notes* or to submit a *News Note*, please [click here](#) or go to *Current News*. We especially want to see your baby announcements. We have a small gift for those of you who send us the announcement and a picture.

Events...

- **Networking Lunch @ NCC** in Fort Wayne – **February 13**
- **Revelation for Michele (Maurice) Jelle** – **March 15**
- **Homecoming 2015** – **September 18 & 19**
- **Alumni Gatherings with Taylor** – **Click here!**
- **More to Come...**

Support & Fundraising Opportunities
Give Online

Volunteer to Help

Resource Center Hours:
Monday – 9 to 5 p.m.
Tuesday – Generally Closed
Wednesday – 9 to 5 p.m.
Thursday – 9 to 5 p.m.
Friday – 9 to 5 p.m.

Or by appointment (parking in back).

if we can help you in any way, please contact the Alumni & Friends Resource Center at (260) 744-8790 during regular business hours or call me anytime!