More than 200 GC alumni, faculty, and staff families attended the 1995 GC Alumni Family Picnic on Sunday, June 4, which included field day types of events that were fun for adults and children alike. Alumnus and magician Jeff McClure was on hand to sculpture animal balloons and to perform a magic show for the children.

The GC Alumni Association provided a complimentary lunch catered by the Golden Pig. The picnic coordinators, Jeff and Patty Robinson, and Marie Braswell, did an excellent job of organizing the volunteers and the events of the day. In addition to the magical entertainment by Jeff McClure, participants and spectators enjoyed an executive relay race, a sack race, a balloon toss, and a volleyball game, as well as a watermelon-eating contest and a seed spittin' contest. Prizes were awarded to winners in each of these activities.

Alumni and Magician Jeff McClure (center) sculptures a balloon as Faculty Member Barbara Hermann and others look on.

Before the events got underway, a meeting of the Alumni Council was held. Members rotating off the Council were recognized and presented gifts by outgoing Alumni Association President Wes Winkler. The (Continued on page 4)

Alumni Family Picnic Coordinators enjoy the barbeque. Left to right: Patty and Jeff Robinson and Marie Braswell, whose husband Chris also helped during the day.

Alumni Association
10th Anniversary Celebration

Plans are underway for the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Alumni Association. Reunion activities are being planned for alumni of all ages. Watch your mail for information about this fall event. If you would like to assist in the planning, please contact the Alumni Office at 404-535-6248.
Sophomore Night School Picnics

The annual Sophomore and Night School Picnics, sponsored by the Alumni Association, were held on May 23, 1995. Sophomores attending the daytime Picnic, held adjacent to the lower lake, enjoyed the music of some of the members of the GC Band and Jazz Combo as they presented Jazz on the Green. The Night School Picnic was held in the courtyard of Academic II.

Stadium cups were presented to each attendee, and general drawings were held for prizes.

Dave Simpson (left) chaired the Night School Picnic. He is a member of the Alumni Council. Also assisting were Angela Pirkle and Jason Gazaway, both Ambassadors, and Steve Musselwhite, an Alumni Council volunteer. Other Alumni Council members who helped were Carolyn Gibson and Melanie Hutchins.

Student Carla Lipscomb, Gainesville, and GC President J. Foster Watkins talk at the Sophomore Picnic.

Caroline and David Williamson were co-chairmen of the Sophomore Picnic. Members of the Alumni Council, they pose with Director of Alumni Affairs Michelle Brown.

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ANCHORS AWAY is published four times a year and is designed as a two-way vehicle of communication between Gainesville College and its alumni and friends. This publication is produced by the Alumni Office and funded through support from the Gainesville College Advancement Office and the Foundation.

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Gainesville College is a Two-Year Unit of the University System of Georgia and an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment and Educational Opportunity Institution.

Alumni Association Officers
Joe Booth . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . President
Lillian Welch . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Vice President
Dave Simpson . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Secretary/Treasurer

Columbia College
Improved Opportunities Available Through QuEST, P-16
by President J. Foster Watkins, Gainesville College

Dean Kathy Fuller and I have attended two organizational meetings of the Development Council of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce QuEST program. The QuEST, an acronym which stands for Quality Education Strategy Team, will be working toward improved classroom connections, corporate commitment, and community collaboration in order to help more people in Hall County benefit from educational opportunities open to them. W. A. (Dub) Bagwell, Gainesville attorney, long-term community supporter, and generous friend of Gainesville College, is serving as chairman of the QuEST program.

The mission of QuEST is: “To improve the employability of individuals in the Greater Hall community by providing leadership and support for the development of community-wide, school-to-career initiatives.” Our local Chamber’s leadership in this area is the result of the attention to education in the recent HallTogether fund-raising campaign, the importance placed upon this area in a continuing long-range planning process, and the initial leadership from the Georgia/Hall 2000 Committee.

The QuEST Development Council, which will be the umbrella advisory group for the program, will hopefully streamline the Chamber and the community involvement in such efforts and make more effective use of our volunteers. The QuEST will emphasize continuing the prospering Business/Education Partnership Program, supporting the developing School-to-Careers/Youth Apprenticeship initiatives, enhancing the Education Highway (Hall County’s version of the Certified Literate Community Program) of the Alliance for Literacy, and cooperating with the adult/alternative high school program initiated by the local school systems.

Obviously other such activities will emerge under the coordinating oversight of the QuEST Development Council as it operates with Mr. Bagwell in his leadership position. Special efforts will be made to articulate these activities with the available postsecondary opportunities in the county through Brenau University, Gainesville College, and Lanier Technical Institute.

The emergence of the QuEST program is timely and compatible with the P-16 (preschool to college) policy directive approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in June at the encouragement of new Chancellor Stephen Portch. The P-16 initiative envisions viable partnerships among University System institutions, elementary and secondary schools, and their supporting communities. These partnerships will ensure that Georgians will receive strong preparation and advisement which will allow them to make appropriate educational and career decisions in order to move successfully into careers and into roles as productive participants in a society which will be driven by lifelong learning challenges for all of us.

A strategy of the P-16 policy initiative is the creation of high-profile School Councils across Georgia to provide policy direction, planning assistance, and active participation in efforts to improve the educational system at all levels in the state. The expectation of the P-16 initiatives for the establishment of a School Council for Gainesville College in its home county of Hall is being met by our participation in the developing QuEST program.

We recognize that we serve Northeast Georgia and are aware that similar collaborative school improvement initiatives are underway in a number of counties in our service area. We encourage our alumni throughout the region to be aware of such activities, to encourage participation of the business community, and to solicit a greater degree of involvement by parents, guardians, and other significant adults in the educational process at all levels. The success of programs such as QuEST will be dependent largely on the extent to which the importance of education is embraced by all of us, and we make a renewed commitment to ensure that not only our June graduates but all Georgians who need access to improved educational and career-related opportunities are supported and encouraged to pursue them.

A number of activities of an outreach, collaborative nature are underway or are in the planning stages at Gainesville College this summer. Articles in the fall edition of Anchors Away will describe in some detail our Fresh Start Program, the Summer Scholars Program, the Summer Workshops for Teachers, and Gainesville College’s developing distance learning initiatives. Activities of this type move us a step closer to our fundamental mission as an access/opportunity/transitional institution in dedicated service to emerging Northeast Georgia.

It is our fervent hope and desire that the experiences you, our alumni, had while you attended Gainesville College registered with you in an indelible way relative to the importance of educational opportunities. We further encourage each one of you to be supportive parents for your own children and also involved community members as we rally to support the schools in meeting the challenging demands of the approaching 21st Century.
Alumni Family Picnic
(Continued from front cover)

new officers officially elected were: Joe Booth, President; Lillian Welch, Vice President; and Dave Simpson, Secretary-Treasurer. Also, new members of the Alumni Council were recognized.

In the Seed Spittin' Contest, Isiah Hester, son of Alumni Council Member Gala Hester, steps to the paper to try his luck.

These Ambassadors assisted at the Alumni Family Picnic. Left to right, seated: Patti Cantrell and Crystal Elrod; standing: Jason Gazaway, Angela Pirkle, Ben Armour, and Craig West.

Alumni Association Immediate Past President Wes Winkler begins his victory run during the Executive Relay Race at the Alumni Family Picnic.

WE WANT YOUR OPINION

We had a very good attendance at the 1995 Alumni Family Picnic—but we are always working to improve and increase our attendance at alumni events. Please take a moment and complete the form below, so that we may plan the 1996 picnic when YOU can attend. Traditionally, this picnic is held on the first Sunday in June, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

(circle answers)

(1) Which month would you prefer the picnic?
   (a) May    (b) June
   (c) Other: _______________________

(2) Which day of the week would you prefer?
   (a) Saturday (b) Sunday
   (c) Other: _______________________

(3) What time of the day?
   (a) Morning  (b) Afternoon
   (c) Other: _______________________

Name: ____________________________

Please Mail Response To:
Alumni Office, P.O. Box 1358,
Gainesville, GA 30503
or Call: Michelle B. Brown—535-6248

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!
Alumna Jill Jackson—A Teacher Among Teachers

Jill Baggett Jackson, Oakwood, is an enthusiastic member of a family of teachers. Her mother, husband, and four of her six brothers and sisters either are or have been teachers. Reared in Lawrenceville, Jill and five of her siblings attended Gainesville College prior to continuing their higher education elsewhere.

After teaching 8th grade Math and 11th and 12th grade Marketing in the public schools, Jill started home schooling her children five years ago. Now she teaches three of her four children. (The youngest is two years old, but is learning from her older brothers and sister.)

Several years ago Jill went to a park one day where she encountered a home schooling group on a field trip. The children were polite and well-mannered, she said, and, after asking some questions of their mothers, she became interested in home schooling for her own children. Her children are: Eric, 10, who has just finished 4th grade; Jack, 7, who has completed 2nd grade; Sarah, 4, who is learning not only from her mother but from her brothers; and Mary, 2, who probably knows much more than most two-year-olds.

Jill uses creative methods for teaching different subjects. For example, a map adorns the kitchen table and the children learn geography while eating their meals. Also, they learn Bible verses by singing them to a favorite tune or by sign language, which the children have also learned.

Jill brings her “students” on field trips to Gainesville College for various musical and cultural events as the children appreciate music. She said she tries to expose them to different kinds of music. They liked the Christmas Festival which featured the GC Chorale and the Jazz and Symphonic Bands. They have viewed several art exhibits on display in the GC gallery. Recently, they thoroughly enjoyed Jazz on the Green in conjunction with the Sophomore Picnic, on campus.

Jill attended Gainesville College in 1974-76. Subsequently, she received the bachelor’s degree in marketing education and the master’s degree in math education from the University of Georgia. She said she was thankful that the classes were small at GC and that the teachers here were very caring. She still keeps in touch with GC President Emeritus Hugh Mills, as they are members of the same church. Her sister, Becky Torbett, attended Lanier Tech and taught Home Economics. The other siblings either graduated from or attended GC. Peggy McCleskey (’72) was a middle school teacher, but now owns a window treatment shop in Lawrenceville; Jack (’72) is a real estate broker in Lawrenceville; Judy (’73) has been an elementary school teacher in Loganville; Jenny (’77) is currently teaching 4th grade at Loganville Elementary School; and Roy (’82) subsequently transferred to DeKalb College.

Jill’s husband, Rick, is a State Farm Insurance Company agent in Oakwood. Formerly, he taught math in high school. Jill’s mother has also been a teacher. She has participated in some continuing education courses on the GC campus.

Jill feels it is “amazing how the experiences I have had have led me to where I am now.” Originally, she thought she would teach math, but somehow missed one of the sequence courses, so then she continued in marketing education. She mentioned former GC faculty member Gene Reed as being of tremendous assistance to her during the change of majors.

“I can’t imagine doing anything else besides teaching,” she concluded.

Three Faculty Recognized

Ed Mayhew, Mary Mayhew, and Sheryl Williams, three faculty members in the Natural Sciences and Technology Division, have been recognized by the Hall County Clean Council as Environmental Educators of the Year. They were cited for their extra support for the “Adopt a Stream Program,” which is underway in Hall County.
370 GC Graduates Join Alumni Association

More than 370 associate degrees were awarded to Gainesville College graduates at the College's 29th Commencement held on Friday, June 9, 1995, at the Georgia Mountains Center in Gainesville. The graduates were inducted into the Alumni Association and presented with key chain mementos.


Two GC Faculty Retire

Dr. Frankie J. Abercrombie and Dr. Dorothy L. Brock, both of Lumpkin County, were honored at a Retirement Reception on May 11, 1995, at the college, hosted by the GC Foundation.

Dr. Abercrombie, Professor of English, has been a member of the faculty since 1969, except for a brief self-employment period in 1972-74.

Dr. Brock, Professor of Biology and Coordinator for Biology, has been a member of the faculty for 6 years. Previously, she was employed at North Georgia College.

GC Foundation Chairman Keith Morris presented each retiree with a watercolor print, and GC Women's Organization President Sarah Booker presented each with a silver tray.

The top honor students in each of the three degree categories were recognized. They are:

↓ Laurie Diane Harper, Oakwood, who received the Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree in Business Administration. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, she has a GPA at the College of 4.0.

↓ Lynn Boatwright Poole, Flowery Branch, who received the A.A. degree in Business Administration. She has a GPA at the College of 4.0.

↓ Bernard Lynn Webb, Jr., Buford, who received the A.A. degree in Business Administration. He has a GPA at the College of 4.0.

↓ Tammy Chandler Barnett, Nicholson, who received the Associate of Science (A.S.) degree in Secondary Education. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, she has a GPA of 3.95 at the College.

↓ Elizabeth Ann Brooks, Cornelia, who received the A.S. degree in Secondary Education. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, she has a GPA of 3.95 at the College.

↓ Carissa Page Ewing, Hoschton, who received the A.S. degree in Computer Science. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, she has a GPA of 3.95 at the College.

↓ Gary Alan Arthur, Athens, who received the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Legal Assistant Management. He has a GPA of 3.36 at the College.

Dr. Frankie J. Abercrombie and Dr. Dorothy L. Brock
We Heard That...

'73 Susan B. Bagwell is the new principal of Lanier Elementary School in Hall County. She has been an instructional coordinator for Lanier and Mount Vernon schools. She has a certificate in administration and supervision with 20 years experience.

Beth Davenport Turk was married to Lamar Turk in December, 1994. She is a kindergarten teacher at Jones Elementary School.

'77 Imogene Maley Turner Roncadori and her husband Mark announce the birth of their second daughter, Savannah Maria, born November 10, 1994. The family lives in Jefferson, and she is a third grade teacher at North Jackson Elementary School.

'79 Pamela Kay Rooks Head is currently living in Auburn, Georgia. She works as a secretary and her husband is owner of Don's Collision Center in Lawrenceville.

'83 Lisa Kay Mayfield Southers works as an Administrative Assistant for CWT Farms, Inc. in Gainesville.

'85 Susan Renee Hand Morris and her husband Brad have welcomed a new son, William Franklin Morris, IV, born March 28, 1995. They live in Maysville, Georgia.

'88 Scotty and Angie Ball proudly announce the birth of twin daughters on June 6, 1995. The twins have been named Jordan Elizabeth and Nicole Caitlin. Scotty is an attorney with Smith Gilliam & Williams in Gainesville. The family lives in Braselton.

'91 Charlene Lee Hudson, Gainesville, has received the B.S. degree in Political Science from North Georgia College, and is pursuing her master's degree. She is employed as Office Manager in Physical Therapy at North Georgia College.

Terry Baker received the Jaycees' "Presidential Award of Honor" at the Annual Awards and Installation Banquet in April. Also elected to the Jaycees Board of Directors for the second year, he serves as Co-chair of the Mule Camp Market. He and his wife Tammy serve on the GC Alumni Council.

'92 Kan-Yung (Eddy) So has continued his education at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He expects to receive a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree in March.

Stacie Ann Brown Ward graduated from Brenau University in May, 1995, with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education degree. She will be teaching second grade at Jack P. Nix Primary School in Cleveland, Georgia.

Tammy Renea Watson Pysell received the B.S. degree in Pharmacy from the University of Georgia in March, 1995. She and her husband are now living in Duluth where she is working with Kroger as a pharmacist.

Rose L. Miller received her B.B.A. degree in Actuarial Science from Georgia State University in June, 1995. She and her husband Steve are moving to Ohio to accept a job with Ohio Casualty Insurance Company.

William Lance Compton graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia with an A.B.J. degree in Public Relations. He is living in Alexandria, Virginia, and is a legislative correspondent in the office of U.S. Senator Paul Coverdell.

'93 April Denae Rogers Reed received a bachelor's degree in Communications from Brenau University in May, 1995. She is employed as an Account Coordinator by Morton Vardeman and Associates, a Gainesville advertising firm, and by WCON-Radio in Cornelia. She recently won a broadcasting award from the AP/Georgia Association of Broadcasters. She and her husband Scott reside in Cleveland.

'94 Bryan and Michele McCreery James were married in June, 1994, in Cumming. Bryan is continuing his education in Nursing at MCG SONAT, and Michele is attending UGA majoring in Middle School Science Education. They are living in Athens.

Laura Leigh Attaway, Braselton, is continuing her education pursuing a degree in Music Education from Toccoa Falls Bible College.

'95 Kimberly Leanne Wellman is attending UGA and is employed at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens.
### Alumni Council

Please call a member of the Alumni Council if you have suggestions, questions, or would like to volunteer to help, etc.

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### Membership Information

**Tell us about it!**

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Information for the next issue of **ANCHORS AWAY** should be sent to the Alumni Office by October 1, 1995. Photos may be submitted.

GC Alumni Office  
P.O. Box 1358  
Gainesville, Georgia 30503  
or Fax to 404-535-6399  
Attn. Alumni Office

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