An Induction of GC Alumni

June Commencement

The 32nd Commencement was held on Friday the 12th of June 1998, at the Georgia Mountains Center in Gainesville. There were over 350 associate degrees awarded to GC graduates with a total of 615 alumni added to our alumni number for the 1997–1998 year.

Alumni are put on our newsletter mailing list at no cost after their completion of 45 quarter hours. If alumni with less than 45 quarter hours desire to be on our mailing list they are added by request.

The graduates were inducted into the Alumni Association by President Linda Guest. Linda challenged the graduates to stay involved and give back the College by donating their time and coming back to campus to attend alumni activities. The graduates were presented with key chain mementoes and an alumni card.

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Alumni Corporate Reception Held at Regions Bank

The Gainesville College Alumni Association hosted an Alumni Corporate Reception for the more than 40 GC Alumni that work at Regions Bank on July 29, 1998. The Alumni enjoyed the breakfast, which was coordinated by GC Alumni Director Michelle B. Brown and GC Alumni Council Member and Regions employee Deborah Nelson.

A number of Regions Bank employees have been leaders in the Alumni Association at Gainesville College. Our current Alumni Association President, Linda Guest is employed by Regions as well as current Council Members, Jeff Barkley and Deborah Nelson.

GC Alumnus and Regions President Rich White (far right) is shown here with some of the other alumni that attended.
Alumni Council Orientation Hosted in July

A special orientation session is conducted for new members of the Gainesville College Alumni Council at the beginning of their three-year term of service on the Council. Alumni Council members are nominated through a ballot in the Winter issue of Anchors Away or by current Council Members. Selection of these members are made by the Alumni Association Executive Committee in the spring and new members begin their term in May at the Alumni Family Picnic.

Director of Alumni Affairs, Michelle B. Brown, conducts this orientation to explain in greater detail the calendar year of the Alumni Association and the many opportunities for Alumni involvement. At this dinner meeting each new member is given a notebook that outlines their responsibilities as a member of the GC Alumni Council.

Pictured left to right: Brandon Kirby, Brett Compton, Susan Smith, Marlene Henry, Heather Howington, President Linda Guest, Ambassador Representative Audrey Densmore, Barbara Bostwick, Secretary Susan Barkley, Past President Dave Simpson, Vice-President Terry Baker, and Director of Advancement Marsha Hopkins. Not pictured: Danny Carr.

Representatives for 1998–1999 Include:

Barbara Bostwick
Barbara is a full-time mom of three sons and is a volunteer for many organizations.

Danny Carr
Danny is owner of Carr Consulting, Inc.

Brett Compton
Brett is employed by Sawyer, Riley and Compton Advertising.

Marlene Henry
Marlene is a math teacher at West Hall Middle School.

Heather Howington
Heather is employed by Gainesville College as an Instructional Lab Assistant and tutors in the areas of math and accounting.

Brandon Kirby
Brandon works for the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Susan Smith
Susan is a pharmacist at Baptist North Hospital.

Martha Montgomery
Martha was nominated to serve one additional year. She is a history teacher at Johnson High School.

Betsy Stringer Ross
Betsy was also nominated to serve one additional year. She is a nurse at Northeast Georgia Medical Center.

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A Champion
by Martha T. Nesbitt, President
Gainesville College

Even though this is the summer edition of Anchors Away, because of the change to the semester calendar, the fall term has already begun. Such a change is a challenge, but like the champions we are, the College faculty and staff will assure a successful conversion for our students.

In the spring, the College received confirmation of our championship status when the results of the University System of Georgia Student Opinion Survey were reported. Our students gave us an A+. The reasons for such a high rating were based on students’ responses to over forty questions concerning all aspects of their educational experience.

The individual items on which Gainesville College received especially high ratings included:

- attitude of teaching staff toward students
- availability of instructors
- attitude of the College non-teaching staff toward students
- college catalog/admissions publications
- racial harmony on campus
- computer services
- business-training facilities/equipment
- class size relative to the type of course
- study areas
- college-sponsored tutorial services
- cultural programs and activities
- recreational and intramural programs and services
- purposes for which student activity fees are used
- personal security/safety at this college

As president, I was elated for the College to receive such an excellent report. The credit, however, belongs to the faculty and staff who not only genuinely care for our students, but also provide a top-quality educational experience through excellent teaching, integration of technology into instruction, and academic support which prepares them to excel either upon transfer to a baccalaureate-degree institution or entry/promotion in the workplace.

I hope all of you share our enthusiasm and feel that you would give the College the same rating if you were still a student. Having the strong support from our Alumni energizes us to continue the actions which make the College a champion.
A reunion of past Gainesville College Ambassadors took place on Thursday, July 9, in the GC Student Center. The reunion proved to be a fun and successful event for the Ambassador Alumni that attended.

The GC Ambassadors Club has been in existence since 1991. Since that time there have been over 75 students who have been involved with the club. The purpose of the GC Ambassadors is to promote the College through a wide variety of services and activities. This leadership organization assists with campus tours, making student I.D.'s, assisting the Alumni Office with many events, and representing the College at several on- and off-campus events throughout the year. Past community projects include the American Heart Walk, the MS Walk, and several projects geared to benefit children.

Involvement in the GC Ambassadors makes the college experience even more rewarding through social activities and the building of lifelong friendships.

This group of friends do some catching up while enjoying the food and soft drinks provided by the GC Alumni Association.

This group of Ambassadors enjoy looking for their picture in the scrapbook. Left to right: Jessica Purvis, Megan Manning, Jason Gazaway, Chris Barnes, Craig Barnes, and (seated) Audrey Densmore.

These three past GC Ambassadors take a break from sharing old stories to pose for the camera. (Left to right) Jan David, Class of '95; Michael "Doogie" Langley, Class of '93; and Kimberly McClure, Class of '94.
As some of you already know I am expecting my first baby and will have probably already had him when you read this issue. I just want to say thank you to the many Alumni Council Members and volunteers who have helped make so many events happen a little earlier this summer and fall to help accommodate my maternity leave.

Special thanks to Audrey Densmore, the current GC Ambassador President, who was instrumental in organizing the GC Ambassador Reunion. The success and excitement that was generated by this first-time reunion has already started requests to make this event happen on a regular basis to bring alumni together. Also, thank you to GC Alumni Council Member Deborah Nelson who helped coordinate an Alumni Corporate Reception at Regions Bank.

Our annual Alumni Council Member orientation also took place a month earlier this year and was well attended by new Alumni Council members. All new members were in attendance except for one member who travels during the week. I think this says a lot for the dedication of our new members. Thank you for your participation in this event. I am very excited about our new Alumni Council Members and know they will do an excellent job in serving at the College.

Thank you for all the alumni address updates and "We Heard That" which are continuously being sent in. Please continue to update the Alumni Office of address changes and changes in your career and family.

You can count on a baby picture from me to be in the Fall issue. See you then!

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

A favorite teacher among students is Physical Education Instructor Jimmy Kirkland (center) who shares a moment with students before the commencement begins.

Benny Bagwell was very busy giving out programs to the many family and friends of graduates who attended the graduation. The Georgia Mountains Center was filled to capacity for the 1998 Graduation Ceremony.

Pictured (left to right): GC Ambassador Beckie Broeker, and Alumni Council Members Sandy Harkins and Susan Bagwell serve as greeters at the Mountains Center entrance.

Also assisting with the giving out of programs at graduation were Alumni Council Members Benny Bagwell and Deborah Nelson.
One of the many projects of the 1997-1998 Alumni Association President Dave Simpson was to have a campus beautification day. Even with the end of Dave's term in May and one month into the Presidency of Linda Guest, Dave accomplished this goal with the help of several Alumni Council Members.

Volunteers from the GC Alumni Council helped clean up the courtyard area of the Academic II Building on a very hot day in June. Even with temperatures soaring to 95°+, the volunteers had a good time weeding and spreading pine needles to enhance the beauty of the campus.

Terry Baker gets assigned the job of spreading pine needles for the finishing touch.

Dave Simpson fights it out with a vine that is growing in the courtyard.

The Baker family takes a break with 1998-1999 Alumni Association President to pose for a picture. Pictured left to right: Tammy, Katie, and Terry Baker, and President Linda Guest. Terry is serving on the Alumni Council Executive Board this year as Vice-President.

This group of workers are trying to keep their cool during their photo shot. Left to right: Dave Simpson, Dave Harkins, Sandy Harkins, and Lillian Welch.
Darell W. Davis has recently retired from the Gwinnett County Police Department after 28+ years of service.

Elaine Wofford Foster announces her marriage to Bret Foster on June 21, 1997. They honeymooned in Italy. Elaine has also started a new job with IBM Global Services as a Telecom Analyst/Project Manager.

Susan Norris Dyar and Thomas E. Dyar announce the birth of their daughter, Lindsey Kathryn, on July 7, 1998. Lindsey weighed 7 lbs., 12 ozs. and measured 21 inches long. Lindsey joins big brother Jason and sisters Allie and Anna Beth.


Sheri Renee Hyde Trammell received her M.Ed. from the University of Georgia in December of 1995. For the past two and a half years, she has been a computer applications teacher at Polk County High School in Columbus, N.C., where she also served as Future Business Leaders of America advisor and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools chairperson. Renee has accepted a position with Spartanburg Technical College in South Carolina as a systems technology instructor. She and her husband, Hal. C. Trammell, Jr., welcomed a daughter, Emily Kaitlyn, born on January 31, 1998. Emily weighed 8 lbs., 12.8 ozs., and was 21 inches long.

Sara Thorne McKee announces her marriage to Dave McKee on August 5, 1994. They welcome the newest arrival to their family, Elizabeth Lauren, who was born June 25, 1998. She weighed 8 lbs., 15 ozs., and was 21 inches long. Sara is employed with Shopko as a supervisor.

Jacqueline M. Johns Stone married Chris Stone of South Carolina on July 5, 1997. Jacqueline is currently teaching math at Collins Hill High School in Suwanee and is the head J.V. coach for fast-pitch softball.

Michelle Scoggins Wiley married R. Jason Wiley in December of 1996. They currently reside in Augusta, Ga. Michelle began her career teaching fourth and fifth grades, but is making a change this year to teaching first grade. Jason is working for the Fox Television affiliate as an Advertising Sales Representative. While a student at GC, Michelle was very involved with the GC Ambassadors and Student Government.

Karen Hewell Thrasher married David L. Thrasher, a 1985 GC graduate, on January 10, 1997. Karen graduated from North Georgia College and State University in June 1998. She is currently working toward her Masters and Specialist in Education in School Psychology at Georgia State University.

Terrie Coleman Hudson married Andrew Hudson April, 1998. They currently reside in Winder, Ga. Terrie is employed as a “Network Design and Documentation Specialist” at Scientific Games International based out of Alpharetta, Ga.
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you:
- changed jobs?
- continued college?
- married?  ○ moved?
- added to your family?
- done something else that's noteworthy?

○ Would you like to receive an Alumni Association membership card? — Benefits include:
  - Check Out Books
  - Discount on GTA Performances

Membership is open to all former students, not just graduates. There is no membership fee.

Tell us about it!

Name
First   Middle   Maiden   Last

Social Security Number
I attended GC from 19 --- 19

Address
City ___________________ State _______ Zip _______

Home Phone ___________________

Employer ___________________

Position Held ___________________

Office Phone ___________________

Information for the next issue of ANCHORS AWAY should be sent to the Alumni Office by October 31, 1998. Photos may be submitted.

GC Alumni Office
P.O. Box 1358 • Gainesville, Georgia 30503
Fax 770-715-3618
e-mail: mbrwn@hermes.gcs.peatnet.edu

1998-99 Alumni Council

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

Home No.
Benny and Susan Bagwell—Flowery Branch 770-965-9747
Terry and Tammy Baker—Gainesville 770-983-1114
Jeff and Susan Barkley—Gainesville 770-967-9994
Chris Black—Cleveland 706-865-9059
Barbara Bostwick—Flowery Branch 770-967-2299
Jason Brownlow—Gainesville 770-534-7508
Jeff Cantrell—Cornelia 706-776-6687
Danny Carr—Gillsville 770-711-0356
Kendra Baugh Childers—Gainesville 770-534-9608
Kelly and Jimmy Coker—Gainesville 770-536-7017
Brett Compton—Flowery Branch 770-614-6172
Lance Compton—Buford 770-932-0490
Lesley Day—Gainesville 770-535-1814
Audrey Densmore—Cleveland 706-865-3887
Renee Dougherty—Gainesville 770-536-0749
Linda B. Guest—Gainesville 770-983-7017
Sandy Harkins—Gainesville 770-536-5524
Kathy Hendrix—Oakwood 770-967-3180
Marlene Henry—Gainesville 770-534-1498
Kendra Holbrook—Dawsonville 706-216-8311
Heather Howington—Flowery Branch 770-967-1409
Becky Kesler—Jefferson 770-367-8861
Brandon Kirby—Flowery Branch 770-967-3640
Joe Lancaster—Flowery Branch 770-967-0330
Faith Ledford—Gainesville 770-718-9643
David McLeod—Gainesville 770-532-3884
Tom Millwood—Flowery Branch 770-965-8992
Martha Montgomery—Gainesville 770-536-3339
Deborah Nelson—Gainesville 770-536-0377
April and Scott Reed—Cleveland 706-865-9853
Betsy S. Ross—Oakwood 770-535-0842
Dave Simpson—Gainesville 770-532-7275
Susan Smith—Cumming 770-988-5859
Jan Staton—Flowery Branch 770-967-6017
Deborah Stevenson—Gainesville 770-503-5560
Mark Still—Winder 770-867-1936
Paulette Stripland—Cumming 770-887-1660
Felicia and Darron Turk—Auburn 770-945-6723
Steve and Sonya Wood—Athens 706-546-5735

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PARENTS: Help us keep GC graduates well informed! Forward Anchors Away to your son or daughter, but first send the corrected mailing address label for your GC graduate to the Alumni Office, Gainesville College, P.O. Box 1358, Gainesville, GA 30503.