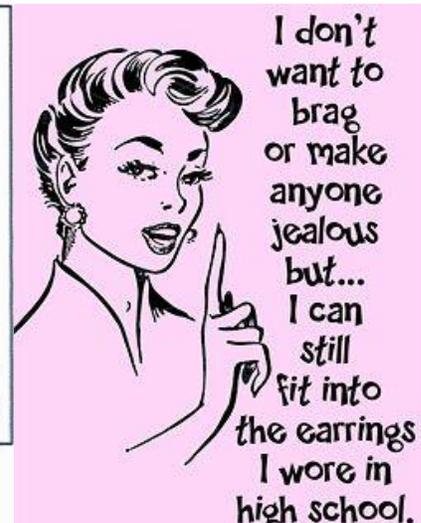
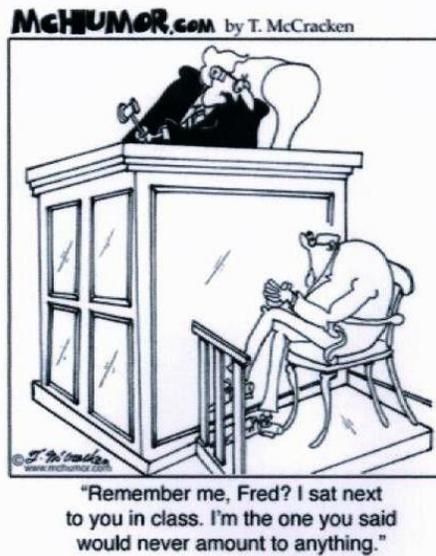
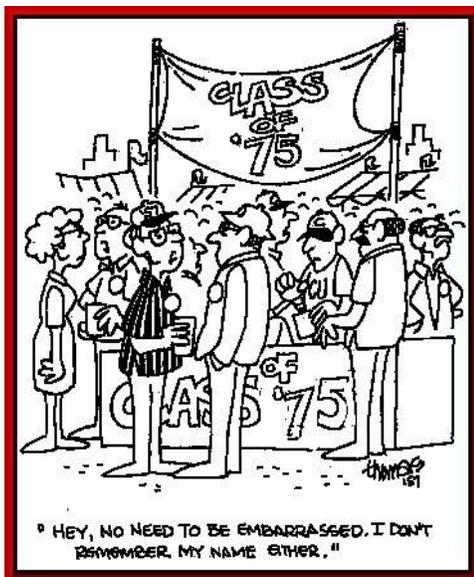


### ***Summer Greetings from the Bozone!***

I hope this letter finds you happy, healthy and enjoying life to the fullest. It seems that, as we get older, life seems to accelerate at a far greater pace – I feel like I just wrote last year’s letter yesterday! Crazy to think I have scribed around 30 class letters over the years....!

Life continues to be good for us here in Bozeman. It’s been over a year since I retired as Chief People Officer and Co-Owner of Murdoch’s Ranch & Home Supply...but I am still alive and kicking! These days I am enjoying public speaking and doing consulting work - along with my continued involvement with Special Olympics Montana. I am grateful to be able to take this opportunity to travel, spend time with Heidi, the kids and our killer dog, Maxwell.

***Another year goes by, so why not a few funnies (as per usual)?***



### **CLASSMATE UPDATE** *(Keep your updates coming!)*



**Ramona (Mona) Lackore:** I continue to work as a public defender in Willmar, Minnesota, championing the rights of the underdog. My husband, Ron Adkins, is retired and eagerly awaiting my retirement (still a few years away) so we can do more traveling. We did take our adult kids to Ireland in 2016, which was a WONDERFUL trip! We were extremely lucky, because we only had one hour of rain during our entire 16 day trip. My son Miles just started a new job as a Simulation Engineer (I haven't yet figured out exactly what he does), in Phoenix, Arizona. My daughter Shannon will be receiving her Masters in Library and Information Science in June,

from the University of Washington – Seattle. I am looking forward to her anticipated return to the Minneapolis area, so she will only be a couple of hours away instead of half the country. I continue to spend my spare time reading, singing (with a fantastic area group called the West Central Singers—classmate Karen Moen Lange is a member, too), doing crossword puzzles and jigsaw puzzles. Find Mona at: [ramona.lackore@pubdef.state.mn.us](mailto:ramona.lackore@pubdef.state.mn.us)



**Karen (Waters) Lee:** I will not be able to join our Class of '83 this fall for our 35th Reunion, as my family will be taking an awesome vacation in Europe during that same time. We were lucky enough to score tickets to attend the Ryder Cup in Paris on September 28, so that will be at the core of our travels! I am thoroughly enjoying the life of a part-time HR Consultant -- or semi-retired individual - title dependent on the day and time you may ask what I'm up to. It's the perfect blend of doing the work I love when it "works", and playing/travelling whenever I want to do that! Combine that with great community volunteer work, frequent interactions with my kids who both live in the Minneapolis area, and still married to my fabulous hubby (Randy, Class of '81), and life is grand!! I will SO miss re-connecting with our class members during the reunion, but please pass along my hugs and greetings. We have a terrific group of individuals in the Class of '83, and I hope to be there for Reunion #40!! Find Karen at: [karenlee.home@gmail.com](mailto:karenlee.home@gmail.com)



**Tia (Opus) Scarce:** I live in Edmonds, Washington, where, as garden club president, I wrangle 117 ladies and three brave men. At home with my recently retired husband who is receiving training on how we do things, I watch the ferries go back and forth on Puget Sound. See you in September! Reach Tia at: [digidig@mac.com](mailto:digidig@mac.com)



**Dawn Struble:** Professionally, Dawn has been with Thomson Reuters for 25 years and is currently the Senior Director of Customer Service. Her teams support the legal division of TR, and are co-located in Eagan, MN and Manila, Philippines. Dawn travels regularly between locations, and enjoys finding and making process improvements to reduce customer effort and improve efficiency. After many years of overseeing a 24/7 call center, she's enjoying the more sane world of a M-F 7-7 operation. Dawn hopes to attend the reunion in September! Reach Dawn at: [dawn.struble@tr.com](mailto:dawn.struble@tr.com)



**Mark and Carolyn (Anderson) Lillehaugen** live in Moorhead and last summer Mark celebrated 25 years working as the Controller at Concordia. Carolyn continues mentoring first and second year teachers in the Moorhead school district and supervising student teachers for several local colleges and universities, as well as growing her health and wellness business. They are now empty-nesters, but prefer the phrase "renewlyweds!" Three of their sons are following early career adventures in New York City, Minneapolis, Washington DC, and the youngest is a junior at Concordia. Last September Mark and Carolyn volunteered at Yellowstone Park for an adult learning experience called Roosevelt Rendezvous and look forward to doing it again this September. Reach them at: [mclille@i29.net](mailto:mclille@i29.net)



**Ryan Solberg:** I am currently a VP of Jobview in MPLS, a company that provides job search resources to offenders. I live on Bald Eagle Lake in a NE suburb of St. Paul. My beanie was stolen from me freshman year, and to remain compliant, I remember stealing a stolen beanie over at Moorhead State at a party in Nelson Hall. Seems like we always went over to Moorhead State to misbehave! I was roommates with Brad Pederson and friends with Mark Davies at Concordia. I still get goosebumps thinking about how difficult Organic Chemistry was. Wow. I am so glad I survived. Reach Ryan at: [solbergryan5357@gmail.com](mailto:solbergryan5357@gmail.com)



**Becky (Rice) Sullivan:** I am a K-4 Art and Keyboarding Specialist for the Laurel Elementary Public Schools. I have 36 classes per week (800 students) at three different schools. I teach the basics and foundations of Art AND 3rd and 4th grade keyboarding for a quarter each. In my spare time, I read, garden, enjoy gaming & golf. Our son is 17 and has hopes to going to MSU or MT Tech. in computer engineering. I spend my summers in MN near Detroit Lakes in my tiny house. Reach Becky at: [blcsullivan@gmail.com](mailto:blcsullivan@gmail.com)



**Josh Nelson:** I am serving as a Sr. Pastor at Family of Christ Lutheran Church in Chanhassen, MN. I have two sons in two different seminaries (Bergen and Leif) and in the attached picture I am there with my wife, Beth (an elementary school teacher) and my daughter, Solveig, who is at St. Cloud State. Reach Josh at: [josh@familyofchristonline.com](mailto:josh@familyofchristonline.com)

## **KERNELS from CONCORDIA**

### **Concordia Language Villages**

The summer of 2017 continued a three-year trend of strong enrollment with over 4,580 villagers and families attending a Concordia Language Villages' program. Registration for the summer of 2018 continues that upward trend in enrollment, demonstrating the value placed on world language and culture education.

Concordia Language Villages received the largest gift in its history from Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park: \$5M to support the first phase of construction of the Korean Language Village on Turtle River Lake. The gift was given in celebration of 30 years of language and culture at Sup sogŭi Hosu, the Korean Language Village. Additionally, the Language Villages will recognize and celebrate 35 years of Sēn Lín Hú, the Chinese Language Village, with a special program prior to International Day on August 10.

### **Music:**

- This May, the Concordia Orchestra spent two weeks on a cultural immersion trip in Greece, visiting eight cities and performing several concerts.
- The 2016 Concordia Christmas Concert "Gather Us In, O Child of Peace" earned a regional Emmy award for special event coverage. This is the second time a Concordia Christmas Concert has received the Upper Midwest Regional Emmy award.
- Dr. Rene Clausen was honored with the Weston H. Noble award for Lifetime Achievement at the 2018 ACDA Central and North Central Conference this year. Clausen is in his 32<sup>nd</sup> year at Concordia College as the conductor of The Concordia Choir.

### **Athletics:**

- Senior Bailey Hovland broke several throwing records this year, winning the MIAC Championship and breaking the conference meet record in the hammer throw. Hovland's hammer mark qualified her for the Women's Track and Field Nationals Meet this spring.

- Brandon Zylstra '15 signed a reserve/futures deal with the Minnesota Vikings for the upcoming season, after two successful seasons with the Edmonton Eskimos. Zylstra caught 100 passes for a league-best 1687 yards in 2017.
- Head tennis coach Joseph Murrey was named 2018 MIAC Coach of the Year after leading the team to the conference postseason for the first time since 2011.
- Becca O'Shurak has been hired as the first female head coach of women's soccer. O'Shurak has previously served as assistant coach at Youngstown State and Tennessee Tech University.
- Chad Johnson was named the Bobby Bell College Impact Player of the Year by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation. He is only the second athlete from the MIAC to receive the honor. This honor is in addition to his MIAC All Conference Awards (3 years) and the 2017 MIAC MVP Award he received earlier this year.
- Rachel Bergeson has accepted the offer to serve as Concordia's athletic director. Rachel has served as the interim athletic director since April. Prior to that role she was deputy athletics director, the senior woman administrator, and compliance officer for Concordia and also served as interim athletic director during the 2016-17 athletic season. Before taking on her role as the top women's administrator in the athletic department, Bergeson was the assistant coach for the Cobber women's basketball team from 2007-11.

### **Other Updates:**

- Concordia has been awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation in honor of former Mellon Foundation president Earl Lewis '78. This grant will be used for faculty development, scholarships for diverse students, program support for the Office of Diversity and support for the National Book Awards. This grant is in addition to the \$800,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation the college received earlier this year to support PEAK and diversity initiatives across campus.
- Rachel Schaefer '18 was named a Fulbright Scholar and will be working at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia next year.
- This past fall, Concordia College launched the RISE Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign with a goal of raising \$150,000,000 by December 2019. These funds will be used to support three pillars of the Concordia experience: integrative learning, inclusive learning, and innovative learning. For more information, head to [www.riseforconcordia.com](http://www.riseforconcordia.com)
- The Department of Chemistry celebrated 100 years in early March (Chemistry has been at Concordia 102 years, but the event was postponed until the completion of the new Integrated Science Center). The day-long celebration included talks from chemistry alumni from across the country, a career networking event for students and a banquet in the evening with Robert Homann, Professor Emeritus and Past Dean of the College, as the keynote speaker.
- Over spring break, 130 students served out the mission of the college all over the country, participating in 8 volunteer opportunities including: Habitat for Humanity Trips to Louisiana, Florida and the Carolinas, a hurricane relief trip to Dallas, Justice Journey Trips to New Orleans and El Paso, and High Impact Leadership Trips to Milwaukee and Pittsburgh.

### **Alumni Awards:**

The National Alumni Board voted on the 2018 Alumni Achievement, Sent Forth and Called to Serve Awards. To learn more about each award, visit [Cord.edu/alumniawards](http://Cord.edu/alumniawards).

**2018 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients**

Charles Beck '48  
Darnell Carter '75

Dr. Richard Sibley '67  
Claudia Swendseid '78

**2018 Sent Forth Recipients**

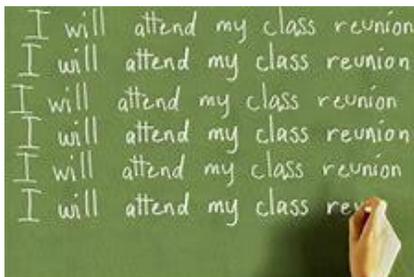
Dr. Tammy Frisby '99

Arday Ardayfio '02

**OUR GIFTS AT WORK**

It's our ***35th Reunion Year*** and we have already started planning great events for the weekend of Sept. 27-30. The committee has been hard at work putting together our breakfast at Fjelstad Hall and our evening gathering at the Centrum. We hope to see you back to help us celebrate this important milestone!

This past year, the Class of 1983 had 89 participate in the campaign drive, for a total of 16.5% participation. Our Class Lifetime in Pledge Giving totals \$1,198,704.00!



So, with our **35<sup>th</sup>** (yikes!) Reunion Year this September, it would be **great** to see a HUGE Class of 1983 showing...**Dates: September 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**. Come one, come all!

Well, I believe that's it for now....Thank you, as always, for all of the wonderful ways you support Concordia – past, present and future.

Feel free to call, click or drop by anytime.



**-John Parkes, Jr.**  
[john@parkesclan.com](mailto:john@parkesclan.com)  
406.570.8315

