When Making Your Mark, Remember Your Roots

My fellow alumni,

The Spark was an event worthy of the 150-year history Augustana has created, as well as a kickoff to the next 150 years.

In the early years, the school called five different places home before settling on the current location in Sioux Falls. Augustana’s history is much like the paths many of us take as we first arrive on campus from communities around the upper Midwest, across the country and sometimes different parts of the globe. From there, we continue to branch out, until we find a place to settle and further our careers. Some of us keep moving, some stay put, as Augustana has, for many years to come.

It’s been 15 years since my days as a student ended, and this spring I was fortunate enough to participate in the graduation ceremony for Augustana’s Sesquicentennial class. The celebration of Augustana’s 150th this year has brought back a lot of memories to those of us who have graduated over the years. We leave campus to make our own mark, rooted in the experiences and relationships we’ve built during our time on campus. Yet, wherever we go, we continue to be a part of the community that shaped us and that we helped mold. As the years pass we look back, and can appreciate the foundation our time on campus gave us.

Be proud of the education you earned at Augustana – it sets you apart. Be proud that you are an Augustana Viking. Keep in touch with your fellow classmates; seek out those who graduated before you – we all share that common Augustana bond. We all know that every day is a “Great Day to be an Augustana Viking.” Most importantly, remember those students who follow after you, continuing the legacy we’ve left behind. As alumni, we must ensure that those who follow us will also walk away from this special place with more than a diploma in hand.

Corey Halstenson
Class of 1996

Celebrate Augustana at 150

Augustana at 150 tells the history of the College’s 15 decades through never-before-seen images and interviews with iconic faculty members, administrators and students. This limited-edition hardcover memento of Augustana’s Sesquicentennial is available for purchase at www.augie.edu/150book. Published by Lifetouch, copies are $45, including shipping and handling. The 30-minute documentary video, SKOL! Augustana at 150, is also available. Copies are $20, including shipping and handling.

Order online at www.augie.edu/150book

Class Notes

Visit www.augielink.com for daily updates and photos.

CLASS OF 1931
Irene (Rortvedt) Rozich, 99, died Jan. 6, 2011, in Hills, Minn.

CLASS OF 1933

CLASS OF 1934
Rev. Dr. George Evenson celebrated his 100th birthday on March 30, 2011. Pastor Evenson served the Lutheran Church in Canada with distinction as a Pastor, Seminary President and Professor.

CLASS OF 1939
Herbert Shapiro, died in Pittsburgh, Pa.

CLASS OF 1940
Kirsten (Svanoe) Hilberg, 92, died March 19, 2011, in Bradenton, Fla.

CLASS OF 1942
Dorothy (Reeve) Larson, 93, died Feb. 22, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

CLASS OF 1943
Lillian (Juul) Honkamp, 89, died March 20, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

CLASS OF 1944
Charlotte (Isemen) Reaves, 85, died April 17, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

CLASS OF 1945
Fern Ersland, 88, died March 22, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

CLASS OF 1946

CLASS OF 1947
Orville Evenson, 91, died March 10, 2011, in Brooklyn Park, Minn.

CLASS OF 1948
Norman Haugan, 84, died March 23, 2011.

CLASS OF 1949
Marvin Berkeland died Jan. 26, 2011, in Hastings, Minn.

Arnold Boyum, 88, died on Dec. 12, 2010, in Des Moines, Iowa.
Five to Receive Alumni Achievement Awards During Viking Days

Augustana will recognize the following alumni with Alumni Achievement Awards during Viking Days in October:

**Dr. Jim Reynolds**, class of 1965, is recognized for his contribution to and impact on the development of Sioux Falls as a significant regional medical center. A chemistry major at Augustana, Reynolds went on to study medicine at the University of South Dakota and Johns Hopkins University. In 1981, he became a founding member of the North Central Heart Institute in Sioux Falls. In 2000, Reynolds was the driving force to start The Heart Hospital. Now known as the Avera Heart Hospital of South Dakota, this world class heart program was recognized as one of the Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospitals in the United States in 2011. Now retired, Reynolds performed more than 4,500 open heart procedures in his career.

**Paul Harmel**, class of 1972, is recognized for his leadership and vision as the chairman and CEO of Lifetouch Inc. Harmel was an accounting and business administration major at Augustana. A student-athlete, Harmel played both basketball and baseball for the Vikings in the late 1970s, he joined National School Studios, now known as Lifetouch. Throughout his career at Lifetouch he held a series of executive management positions until being named CEO in 1997 and Chairman of the Board in 2002. Under his leadership, employee-owned Lifetouch has grown to over a billion dollars in yearly sales and has become the market leader in professional photography.

**Jayne Meyer**, a nursing major from the class of 1974, has described herself as an “impressioned nurse”, dedicating herself to the health profession, starting as a critical care nurse in Dallas, Texas, moving to solid organ transplant as a transplant coordinator, then exploring the field of biotechnology. Currently, Meyer serves as a senior clinical trial associate for clinical affairs at Dendreon Corporation where she works in the biotechnology research field and has been a part of a team involved with the investigation of a vaccine for the treatment of prostate cancer.

**Rev. Myron C. Maltz** retired from the Holy Ministry of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod after 44 years of service.

**CLASS OF 1950**

Robert “Bob” Burke, 84, died Jan. 11, 2011, in Mason City, Iowa.

Roe Gifford, 83, died March 13, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Shirley (Davis) Westerlund, 82, died April 16, 2011, in Burnsville, Minn.

**CLASS OF 1951**

Marion (Bringle) Degelau, 81, died April 3, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Wanda (Severson) Holt, 81, died April 17, 2011, in Gary, S.D.


**CLASS OF 1952**

Evelyn Iverson, 84, died Dec. 30, 2010, in Hendricks, Minn.


**CLASS OF 1953**

Fredrick Alfred Carl Eiesland, 80, died April 28, 2011, in Lawerence, Kan.

Winifred Johanna Kildahl, 87, died Nov. 20, 2010.

**CLASS OF 1954**


**CLASS OF 1957**


Roger Rygh, 76, died April 1, 2011, in Milford, Iowa.

Donalyn (Spilde) Sour, 74, died April 8, 2011, at her daughter’s home in Poplar, Wis.

**CLASS OF 1958**

Jim Eitreihm, 78, died April 16, 2011, in Pequot Lakes, Minn.


**CLASS OF 1959**

Richard Hopewell, 73, died April 8, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

**CLASS OF 1960**

Winifred (Webster) Cheever, died Jan. 15, 2011.


Richard Robinson, 73, died April 13, 2011, in Tulsa, Okla.

**CLASS OF 1961**

Kathleen Gehan, 83, died Jan. 25, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Jackie (Sandal) Iseman, 71, died March 13, 2011, in Bellevue, Wash.


Elton Wing, 71, died March 10, 2011, in Slayton, Minn.

**CLASS OF 1962**

Bernis (Jacobson) Andrew, 70, died April 25, 2011, in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Jean (Sunde) Peterson was promoted to full professor at Purdue University and published her seventh book in 2009.

**CLASS OF 1963**

Jane (Berry) Houck, 69, died April 8, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

**CLASS OF 1964**

Fredrick Carl Eiesland, 80, died April 28, 2011, in Overland Park, Kan.


**CLASS OF 1967**


Lee Schneider, 73, died Feb. 6, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

**CLASS OF 1968**

Rev. Dr. Marlin Vetter, 64, died Jan. 28, 2011, in Sioux Falls, S.D.

**CLASS OF 1969**

Curt Hage, an Augustana Board of Trustees member from 1996 to 2005, was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame.

Janet (Ratliff) Johnson received recognition as a 2010 Distinguished Researcher and Scholar for the College of General Studies at SDSU.

**CLASS OF 1970**

Carl Miller has had his book “The Presence of God: Living the Empowered Life” published.

**CLASS OF 1971**


Robert Zimpfer had his poem “The Fallen Warrior” set to music. It will be performed at the Annual Jacksonville University Composer Fest.
Thomas Erickson, vice president of Government and Industry Affairs for Bunge North America, was the keynote speaker for the University of South Dakota School of Law’s hooding ceremony this May.

CLASS OF 1985
Mark Bergrud has been named the Senior Vice President of Marketing for United Airlines. The new career means a move to Winnetka, Ill., for Mark and his family.

Rev. Paul Hanson joined the Luther Seminary as a Philanthropic Adviser.

CLASS OF 1987
Betty (Beyer) Assimacopoulos was made the program manager for clinical education with the Yankton Rural Area Health Education Center.


Robert Velasco is the Amalga Program Delivery Manager with Dell Perot Systems in Oceanside, Calif.

CLASS OF 1988
Lynn Arnold has been teaching fifth grade in Rapid City, S.D. for four years.

CLASS OF 1989
Sonja (Olson) Brazell has been teaching Language Arts at Haines Middle School in St. Charles, Ill., for four years. In 2009, Sonja earned her national board certification.

Amy (Stoller) Stearns received the Sally Award for Arts Access from the Ordway Center for Performing Arts in St. Paul, Minn.

CLASS OF 1990
Lisa (Van De Wiele) Schenk was nominated for the YWCA Tribute to Women Award for her work with the Good Samaritan Society.

CLASS OF 1992
Lisa (Van De Wiele) Schenk was nominated for the YWCA Tribute to Women Award for her work with the Good Samaritan Society.

CLASS OF 1993
Lucille (Latza) Kelsey, 82, died April 4, 2011, in Sioux Falls.

Lisa (Evanson) Miskowiec has begun working on her master’s degree in Secondary Education. Additionally she owns and operates the Mississippi Valley Athletic Training Center.

Teresa (Rehder) Reoloffs works as a vocal music accompanist for Lincoln Christian School in Lincoln, Neb.

Fern (Enright) Steffen, 64, died Nov. 7, 2010.

CLASS OF 1994
Michael and Anita (Miller) Anderson and Michael welcomed twins Rebekah Martha and Micah Ivar on Aug. 24, 2010

Corey Camp is the Director of the Augustana Fund and Annual Giving with the Office of Development at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Corey and Tara (Sydnes) Camp, ’98, live in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Todd Feustel and Krista Feustel welcomed daughter Mackenna Alicyn Fuestal on March 6, 2011.

The new career means a move to Winnetka, Ill., for Mark and his family.

CLASS OF 1995
Karin (Bonde) Borgmann and Michael welcomed son Thomas Michael Borgmann on Oct. 25, 2010.

CLASS OF 1996
Brendon and Heidi (Mayer) Sato welcomed son Ethan Ken Sato on Aug. 20, 2010.

CLASS OF 1997
Paul Krueger was named President and CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of South Dakota in October 2010.

CLASS OF 1998
Derek Almendinger accepted a brewer’s position at the August Schell Brewing Company after receiving his Brewing Science degree in November 2009 from the American Brewers Guild.

Tara (Sydnes) Camp is working as a benefits specialist at the Department of Social Services in Sioux Falls, S.D. She and Corey Camp, ’94, live in Sioux Falls, S.D.


Wade Helleson, a K-5 instructional coach based at Lowell Elementary School in Sioux Falls, received a Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award in October 2010.

Jason Lohrenz recently received his Master’s degree in business administration from Bethel University in St. Paul, Minn. Jason, his wife, Stephanie, and their three children currently reside in Lakeville, Minn. Jason is currently the IT Director for Pediatric Home Services in Roseville, Minn.

CLASS OF 1999
Hayden Alexander, 37, died on Oct 16, 2010 in Ogala, S.D.

CLASS OF 2000
Wade Lone Elk, 37, died on Oct 16, 2010 in Ogala, S.D.

Laurie Melum married Aaron Johnston on Dec. 22, 2010. He is the women’s basketball coach at South Dakota State University and she works as an assistant athletic director for academics.

Bradley Meyer is the regional launch manager for Thrivent Financial.
CLASS OF 1999
Sonja (Dean) Ferrell was named library director of the Ottumwa Public Library in Ottumwa, Iowa.


Dr. Christopher Johnson and Dr. Melanie Klawiter, ’02, welcomed Ingrid Olivia to their family on April 11, 2011.

Sara Yager was married to Troy Junkermeier. She is a physical education and health teacher in the Fairmont School District.

Nancy (Drake) Ocampo is working as an office manager and dental assistant for Arthur Stanger, DMD. She and Arthur plan to be married in summer of 2011.

Litchfield High School biology teacher Beth Ring received the 2011 Medtronic Science Teaching Award.

Sara (Thalacker) Turner was elected as a new shareholder at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC in Birmingham, Ala.

CLASS OF 2000

The 2000s

Ann (Puthoff) Gooley and David Gooley welcomed daughter Colleen Melody on Nov. 21, 2010.

Liann Hanson will graduate from the University of Denver on June 3, 2011, with a Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Policy Studies.


Emily Winterton is a captain in the United States Air Force. She completed her MD training and is a resident with the Uniformed Services Program in Obstetrics and Gynecology of the National Capital Consortium.

CLASS OF 2001

Jenny Hill and Gary Walz, ’06, have opened “Legends,” an indoor hitting and softball training facility, in Sioux Falls.

Perry and Michelle (Menke) Snook welcomed daughter Ava Corinne Snook on Jan. 28, 2011.

David Urbaniak started a sports apparel line, Groucho Sports, with his business partners based out of Minneapolis, Minn. He is also working as a product innovation manager for FIS.

CLASS OF 2002


Helen Henkin was nominated for the YWCA Tribute to Women Award for her work with TLC Corporation.

Dr. Melanie Klawiter and Dr. Christopher Johnson, ’99, welcomed Ingrid Olivia to their family on April 11, 2011.

Jerrid Kruse and Shelby (Groen) Kruse welcomed son Lincoln Wayne on Dec. 23, 2009.

Dr. Jeff Oakland and his wife, Heather, have moved to Sioux Falls. Jeff is an optometrist at Dakota Vision Center.

Brytten (Hoefs) Rice and Nick Rice welcomed son Theo on September 1, 2010.

Emily (Korthals) Whiting left Augustana College after working for eight years as an Athletic Trainer to pursue a career as a Cancer Registar at the Avera Cancer Institute. Emily and Jason Whiting, ’08, live in Sioux Falls, S.D., with their sons, Cade and Brendan.

CLASS OF 2003

Janet (Eisfeld) Caven and John Caven welcomed Luke Jeremiah to their family on April 20, 2011.

Joe Evenson and Tresse (Klumper) Evenson have welcomed twin girls to their family. Brynn Michael and Jade Dorothea were born on March 23, 2011.

David Joyslin has been made a personal trust relationship manager with the Private Client Reserve of U.S. Bank in Minneapolis.

Joshua Kayser and Kara (Kann) Kayser, ’05, welcomed daughter Maggie Marie on November 12, 2010.

Lindsay (Hovendick) King and Josh King welcomed son Spencer Russell on Jan. 4, 2011.

Anna Otis married Josh Thoma in November of 2010. They live in Omaha, Neb.

Leah (Kooren) Van Dam was nominated for the YWCA Tribute to Women Award for her work at McGladrey.

Pamela (Hatlewick) Wilde and Chris welcomed daughter Elise Joy Wilde on April 24, 2010.

CLASS OF 2004


Geoff Kruse and Jessica (Nelson) Kruse welcomed Piper Rae Kruse into their family.


CLASS OF 2005

Jill Adams received her master’s degree in Social Work from the University of Denver in June of 2009. She works as a victim/family advocate in Englewood, Colo.


Kara (Kann) Kayser and Joshua Kayser, ’03, welcomed daughter Maggie Marie on Nov. 12, 2010.

Megan (Kean) O’Brien and Rick welcomed daughter Brooklyn Hollis on Dec. 11, 2010.

Stephanie Kokesh graduated from Creighton University in December of 2009 with a Doctorate of Occupational Therapy. She moved to Los Angeles, Calif., in August of 2010 to work with Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.


CLASS OF 2006

Andrea (Seeffeldt) Begeman and Brook welcomed Shelby Augusta to their family on Nov. 19, 2010.

Ginny (Hughes) Garzon welcomed Oscar Enrique into her family on March 8, 2011.

Denise (Dunn) Hebert married Mike Hebert on Nov. 30, 2010. They are living in Bellevue, Neb.

Amy (Drake) Larsen and Jarrod Larsen welcomed son Jackson Adam on Sept. 1, 2010. They live in Sioux Falls where Amy is working on a master’s degree in leadership in education at the University of Sioux Falls.

Rena Olsen is a school-based therapist for Orchard Place in Des Moines, Iowa.

In January 2011, Laura (Beatty) Sammon completed a Master of Arts degree in Education from St. Mary’s University.

Gary Walz and Jenny Hill, ’01, have opened “Legends,” an indoor hitting and softball training facility, in Sioux Falls.

CLASS OF 2007

Kyra Berkeness is currently living in Seattle, Wash., where she is managing the show “The Twilight Zone: Live!” at the Theater Schmeyer.

Betsy Homan has taken a position as a resource development director at the HelpLine Center.

Christopher Koopman married Brianna Erickson on January 8, 2011. They live in Sioux Falls, S.D.


CLASS OF 2008

Nanney (Andersh) Bright and Kevin welcomed son Isaac Nathaniel Bright on October 23, 2010.

Kyle Kelly and Margaret Kaffar, ’09, were married on Aug. 6, 2010.


Sarah Mason is a resident services coordinator at Mercy Housing in Boulder, Colo.

Arthur Pepper and Emily (Hughes) Pepper, ’02, welcomed son Oliver Dwight.

Jason Whiting is a fourth grade teacher at Hayward Elementary in Sioux Falls. He and his wife, Emily (Korthals) Whiting, have two sons who are four- and two-years-old. The family lives in Sioux Falls, S.D.

CLASS OF 2009

Andrew Christianson is a financial analyst at Ernst Capital Group.
‘At the end of the day, medicine is about people – their suffering; their vulnerable moments; and their well-being.’

CONTINUED FROM: Page 5

though, that’s a decision for later.”

As his dad, Tom says he’s just happy his son has found his calling.

“I’m gratified he found something he’s passionate in – that he’s found his calling and that he’s using his God-given gifts.”

While more than 30 years have passed since Tom was a student at Augustana, he says some things haven’t changed.

“GSC has certainly been a home away from home for both of us,” he says, smiling. He laughs at the mention of the Eagles (although he contends his roommate was the real fan of the group). “My roommate played the Eagles album in our room all the time. He recently sent me their latest CD. Matt listened to it, burned a copy, and is now playing it in his dorm room. Life really does come full circle.”

Tom also understands the emotional ride of the medical school application process.

“It’s not de ja vu, but listening to Matt throughout the process certainly feels familiar. It really did conjure up so many memories for me,” he said. “He has a big process ahead of him – from the rigorous training to learning about the business aspects of medicine.”

“My ultimate hope is that he never loses his sense of wonder. At the end of the day, medicine is about people – their suffering; their vulnerable moments; and their well-being. It’s also about life-long education.”

For Matt, it’s nice to know that someone’s been in his shoes before.

“It’s really comforting to know that he can relate to everything I’m going through,” he said.

For Tom, watching Matt grow up from a curious young boy to a curious young scientist and a competitive athlete has been the ultimate gift.

A standout on Augustana’s track and cross country teams, Matt has been widely recognized for his success as a student-athlete.

Most recently, he received the 2011 Dr. William Britton Scholar-Athlete Award for Academic Excellence, an award that recognizes the top male student-athlete within the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference. He was also named a 2011 NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship winner and was a 2010 NCAA Elite 88 winner at the Division II Men’s Cross Country Championship, the first Viking in school history to earn the award.

The Elite 88 is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA’s 88 championships.

Matt was an All-American in cross country in 2010. He was named a United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic Team member, earned Academic All-NSIC honors this past season and was presented with the NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award from the NSIC this spring.

“Parenting is like unwrapping a present in supreme slow motion,” Tom said. “You don’t really know what you’re unwrapping, because your children grow and change every day, but they’re the greatest gift ever. Matt and I are connected in so many ways – through running, through Augie, through our love of science, but mostly because I love him. I couldn’t be more proud of him.”