

CLASS NOTES – FALL 2023

# SIMPSON

## THE MAGAZINE

Members of Tri-Delta showed their #ONESimpson Day spirit dawning their ambassador T-shirts during their annual girl's weekend. Pictured seated-Missy Winterboer '99, Liz Andersen '99, Lisa Vittetoe '99, Christy Burkhart '00, Kelly Rand '99, Margery Pierce '99. Standing-Amy Proctor '99, Sarah Shelley '99, Kelly Brummond '99, Tami Fahlander '00, Stacy Miller '99, Mandy Welch '01, Kate Malczewski '99.



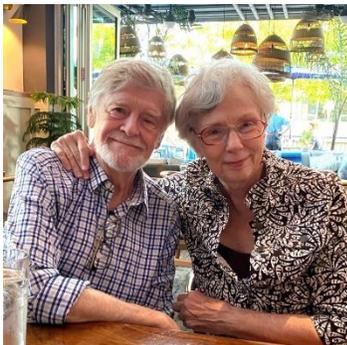
Members of the Kappa Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma met at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. on August 11, 2023. Pictured L to R are Willard Hutt '83, Curley Harris '82, Dr. Fritz Polite '82, John Nunez '80, Rudolph Walker '81 and Anthony Turner '83.





While traveling to a faculty development conference in Asheville, North Carolina, faculty members Lindsay Ditzler, Maeve Callan and Jackie Brittingham encountered Simpson alumni **Jeri Grotto '81, Sandy Russo '82, Deb Perry '81, Kim Gillaspie '82** and **Karen Marcussen '83**.

**William Carlson '59** is retired and resides with his wife, Marcia, in Montrose, Colorado.



**Gary Mehl '62** and **Carole Wells Mehl '62** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 31, 2023. They met at Simpson College and are proud to be Simpson Sweethearts.

**Donald Hammen '66** is retired and resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Larry Holland '69** is self-employed in Mesa, Arizona.

**Jon Mattison '69** resides in Canton, Ohio, with his Spouse, Sharon. Mattison retired after 35 years of teaching music and as a high school administrator. He is a professional performing musician with several ensembles including several orchestra and professional concert bands.

**Richard Fey '72** is a voice teacher at the Community Music Center in San Francisco, California.

**Lynne Clark '75** is retired, residing in Lorton, Virginia with her husband, Daniel.

**Jennifer Davis '77** is the executive director for Community & Culture Connections in Algona, Iowa, as well as the owner of Spanish Communication & Cultural Services, LLC. She resided in Algona with her husband, Mark Davis.

**Rick Kreamer '77** is a nutrition associate at the University of Missouri Health System in Columbia, Missouri.

**Lawrence Martin '77** is the assistant dock master at Detyens Shipyard, Inc., in North Charleston, South Carolina.

**Janice Williams '79** is senior manager, PMO at VF Corporation. She resides in Sunset, South Carolina.

**Scott Slechta '80** is an adjunct professor and substitute teacher at Des Moines Area Community College and Frederica Academy. Slechta earned his Doctorate of Education in reading, assessment and literacy from Walden University in 2022. He resides in St. Simons Island, Georgia with his wife, Tricia. They enjoy the sun, sand, and surf and to say "G'bye" to Iowa's winters.

**Perry Meyer '81** is executive vice president for the Iowa Hospital Association. He and his wife, Jeri, reside in Waukee, Iowa.

**Todd Bloom '86** was elected to the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors on April 3, 2023, for a 3-year term. Bloom is a tax attorney and CPA in private practice in the Greater Seattle Washington Area. He and his wife, **Katy Cotton '86** reside in Tacoma, Washington.

**Jon Friest '88** resides in Indianola, Iowa, with his wife, Kim, and is retired.

**Eric Christensen's '94** family ranch was honored as one of Colorado's 25 Centennial Farms and Ranches that the Colorado State Fair. Read more by [clicking here](#).

**Tricia McCoy Gonyo '98** was recently promoted to Senior Vice President at VenuWorks Presents, a full-service concert booking and marketing division of VenuWorks, LLC. VenuWorks Presents focuses on promoting live entertainment in clubs, theatres, arenas, and amphitheaters and provides cross-functional event support with contract administration, accounting, marketing, ticketing, and event management.

**Renee Woodward Dalrymple '99** is the owner of Soaring Crane Acupuncture, LLC in Indianola, Iowa.

**Lori Greubel Reha '01** is assistant principal at Ankeny Community Schools. She resides in Bondurant with her husband, Jeremy. Their son, Evan, is a current student at Simpson working towards a degree in elementary education and is a member of the men's soccer team.

**Kim Lamon-Loperfido '04** is an aging transitions administrator at the Orange County Department on Aging, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She earned her master of social work and master of public health in 2009 from the University of Iowa.

**Alison Jepsen '08** is the deputy director of judicial education and development for the Iowa Judicial Branch.

**Sarah Hammel Bakula '10** is the quality control virology team lead at Zoetis in Charles City, Iowa.

**Jamie Eddy Porter '10** is an educate at HomeGrown Christian Center in Osceola, Iowa.

**Sarah Silk VanderZanden '11** is a social worker for the U.S. Army at Fort Hood, Texas.

**Zachary James '13** is the director of marketing and communications for Bishop Heelan Catholic Schools in Sioux City, Iowa.



**Julie Heck '14** is the chief operating officer at IMPACT Community Action Partnership. She was awarded the National Sargent Shriver Personal Achievement Award. This recognition honors individuals across the country who transformed

their lives, embody Community Action's spirit of hope and work to assist others. The award is named for Sargent Shriver, the first director of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity which initiated the Community Action Program in 1964. [Click here](#) to watch a video about Julie's recent achievements.



**Steffi Lee Dwyer '15** has joined Dentons Davis Brown as an associate litigation attorney. Before joining Dentons, Dwyer graduated from Drake University Law School with high honors and held several internships and clerkships including the Iowa Association of Business and Industry, the Honorable Judge Romonda Belcher, BrownWinick Law Firm, Fort Bend County District Attorney's Office, and Disability Rights Texas.

Prior to her law career, Dwyer was an award-winning journalist. She worked for Sinclair Broadcast Group, covering the Iowa legislature and both the 2012 and 2016 presidential campaigns and Iowa caucuses. She then served as a state capitol

correspondent for over a dozen Texas-based television stations at Nexstar Media Group where she contributed to regional and national Edward R. Murrow awards for reports on school safety and the U.S.-Mexico border.

Dwyer plans to focus her law practice on litigation and immigration.

**Kathryn Court Carton '16** earned her master of arts in theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2021. Since 2018 she has worked in youth ministry, but the past year was spent teaching theatre arts at a Catholic high school in Houston, Texas. She is now a state at home mother, enjoying time with her daughter, Abigail.

**Hali VanVelzen '16** is a firefighter and paramedic for the City of Des Moines.

**Daniel Beitelspacher '17** is the assistant director of development, regional gifts, for the University of Iowa Center for Advancement.

**Walker Mask '17** earned a Ph.D. in education sciences from the University of Kentucky in 2023 and is the assistant director, polytechnic tutoring center for the New York University Tandon School of Engineering.



While on deployment, **Kay Fee Wolfkill '17** flew the Simpson flag in the MQ-9 Reaper UAV on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**Jacob Becker '19** is the fitness operations graduate staff assistant for The University of South Carolina.

**Geralynn Gear Doescher '19** is retired and currently working on her masters degree at Buena Vista University.

**Bo Kuyper's '19** company KDM Builders LLC earned The Best of Southwest Missouri's Gold for Best Home Builder and Best Customer Service.

**Matt Taylor '19** is an Endpoint Systems analyst II at EMC Insurance Company.

**Jen Schmadeke Swanstrom '20** is an information security officer at UnityPoint Health.

**Mackenzie Ritscher Bruns '21** is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher for the Paradise Valley Unified School District. Her husband, **Noah Bruns '21** is the human resources coordinator for Penske Automotive Group. The couple resides in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Brett Logsdon '21** is an accountant for Des Moines Performing Arts.

**Chase Henry '23** is assistant program manager at Innovative Captive Strategies in Waukee, Iowa.



**Heather Keiter '23** is senior business execution consultant, compliance business communications at Wells Fargo in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Judith Meyer '23** is a clinical coordinator at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

## ***MARRIAGES***



**Zachary James '13** and Kayla Betsworth James were married September 16, 2023 in Sioux City, Iowa.



**Bethany Jones Taylor '18** and **Matt Taylor '19** were wed August 8, 2020. The Couple resides in Norwalk, Iowa.



**Britney Samuelson Appelgate '17** and **Ian Appelgate '18** married October 9, 2021, and reside in Des Moines, Iowa.



**Mackenzie Ritscher Bruns '21** and **Noah Bruns '21** married December 30, 2022, and reside in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Kathryn Court Carton '16** and Clint Carton were wed July 2022. The couple resides in Houston, Texas.

## ***BIRTHS/ADOPTIONS***



Hudson Carlo Loperfido, November 29, 2022, to **Kim Lamon-Loperfido '04** and JV Loperfido. Hudson joins his fur siblings Olivia (dog), Vigo and Tilly (cats).



Vivienne VanderZanden, March 10, 2023, to **Sarah Silk VanderZanden '11** and Bradley VanderZanden.



Malcom Rustin Harris, April 6, 2023, to **Jennifer Humphrey Harris '06** and Jonathon Harris.



Fallon Grave Newton, February 3, 2023, to **Keely Goshia Newton '13** and **Joel Newton '14**.



Ethan James Strehlow, August 18, 2022, to **Holley Erschens Strehlow '02** and Jeremiah Strehlow.

Jensen John Bakula, June 4, 2023, to **Sarah Hammel Bakula '10** and Jason Bakula.

Julia Worden, May 19, 2023, to **Laura Finneseth Worden '17** and Anthony Worden.



Weston Jace Taylor, April 7, 2023, to **Bethany Jones Taylor '18** and **Matt Taylor '19**.

## ***IN MEMORIAM***

**Alice Eberle Jones '47**,  
December 30, 2022, Ames,  
Iowa.

**William Schooler '47**, June 5,  
2023, Carlisle, Iowa.

**Marion Konishi Takehara '47**,  
February 4, 2023, Houston,  
Texas.

**Dr. Leroy Moore '49**, October  
24, 2023, Albuquerque, New  
Mexico.

**Ruth Torine Guy '50**, March 28,  
2023, Rochester, Minnesota.

**Helen Garlock Zimmerman '50**,  
September 19, 2022, Rochester,  
Minnesota.

**Katherine Buxton Devine '51**,  
August 24, 2023, Des Moines,  
Iowa.

**Mary Morain Shaver '51**, April  
16, 2023, Hammond, Louisiana.

**Betty Atkins Simon '51**, August  
8, 2023, Charleston, Illinois.

**Lucile Sargent Johnson '52**,  
October 13, 2023, Des Moines,  
Iowa.

**V. Jean Hickey Bartley '53**, May  
30, 2023, Indianola, Iowa.

**Elwyn Beane '53**, July 24, 2023,  
Lancaster, Wisconsin.

**Barbara Kennedy Case '54**,  
September 4, 2023, Centennial,  
Colorado.

**Robert Etzel '55**, August 30,  
2023, West Des Moines, Iowa.

**Jacqueline Beaman Klein '56**,  
February 29, 2020, Virginia  
Beach, Virginia.

**Dr. Albert Hal Bryan, Jr. '57**,  
July 21, 2023, Yakima,  
Washington.

**Tom Zimmerman '57**, August  
18, 2023, West Des Moines,  
Iowa.

**Mary Hall Crabtree '59**, June 7,  
2023, Guthrie Center, Iowa.

**Roy Shimer '59**, May 21, 2023,  
Johnston, Iowa.

**James Allen '60**, July 8, 2023,  
Marshalltown, Iowa.

**Larry Lincoln '60**, May 23, 2023,  
Barrington, Illinois.

**Frank Nowasell '60**, October 13,  
2023, Indianola, Iowa.

**B. Jean Pickard Johnson '61**,  
June 17, 2023, Rochester, New  
York.

**Bertlyn Crouse Johnston '61**,  
October 17, 2023, Ames, Iowa.

**Gene Rohr '62**, July 21, 2023,  
Grinnell, Iowa.

**Andrew Thomas Flagge '64**,  
June 8, 2023, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

**Keith Osborn '64**, September  
20, 2023, Bettendorf, Iowa.

**Judith Hoiekvam Fredregill '65**,  
July 18, 2023, West Des Moines,  
Iowa.

**Dorothy Valen '65**, May 27,  
2023, Story City, Iowa.

**William McInnis '67**, July 15,  
2023, Tucson, Arizona.

**Tom Awtry '68**, July 27, 2023,  
Urbandale, Iowa.

**Thomas Hiscocks '68**, August  
26, 2023, West Des Moines,  
Iowa.

**Diane Holland '68**, July 31,  
2023, Charlottesville, Virginia.

**Jerry Ripperger '69**, June 13,  
2023, Indianola, Iowa.

**Donald Fatka '70**, April 30,  
2023, Madrid, Iowa.

**Nancy Walden '70**, May 26,  
2023, Des Moines, Iowa.

**Rev. Don Burket '76**, April 30,  
2023, Boone, Iowa.

**Randy Knoche '76**, January 18,  
2019, Cambodia.

**Juan Harrison '85**, June 17,  
2023, De Soto, Iowa.

**Lawrence "Larry" Leek '86**, June  
2, 2023, Des Moines, Iowa.

**Casey Kellogg '88**, August 27,  
2023, West Des Moines, Iowa.

**Jeffrey McCunn '92**, June 23,  
2023, Incline Village, Nevada.

**Scott Shoger '02**, June 3, 2023,  
Saint Louis, Missouri.

**Nicole Dady '05**, October 14,  
2023, Runnells, Iowa.

**Emily Kimzey Claxton '06**,  
October 22, 2023, Oak Grove,  
Missouri.

**Ryan McDonough '09**, May 10,  
2023, Adel, Iowa.

***Faculty & Staff***

Raymond Songayllo, August 10,  
2023, Indianola, Iowa.

Deb Terry, October 25, 2023,  
Indianola, Iowa.