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THE PHILLIPS CONNECTION

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Association for Alumni, Faculty, Legacy Scholars & Friends

NEWSLETTER Spring 2017



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Calling the Loyal and True

At General Assembly 2017

By Jason Williams

The Phillips University Alumni and Friends Association will be at General Assembly for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) this July 8-12 in Indianapolis.

General Assembly is a great time to reconnect with friends from your days at Phillips. At the General Assembly in Columbus in 2015 60 Phillipians from all decades connected and reminisced.

Come visit our booth while you are at Assembly and reconnect with Phillipians from all over the country. The Phillips University Alumni & Friends Luncheon will be held Monday, July 10, 2017 from 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM

Tickets for the lunch will be approximately \$25. Check the General Assembly website for details as they become available. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

Last of the Grads

By Mandy Williams

"As one of the final graduates of Phillips University, I left campus during a time of chaos, fear and sadness. Some of my contemporaries were scrambling to find new schools, fearful of what else would happen, and saddened with a feeling of loss and betrayal by administration as a whole. If this poorly written sentence applies to you (grammar Nazis forgive my flawed words), you were likely a student of the late 90's.

We now find ourselves in a very interesting spot. Unlike previous generations of Phillipians, we

SAVE the DATES

REUNION

June 23-24, 2017

at the

Phillips University Campus

witnessed the self-destruction first hand, and were left bereft as our own beloved alma mater slammed its doors for the last time. There was nothing left for us. We never had a chance to do the "homecoming" activities as an alumnus. We never got the chance to fondly stroll across an active Phillips campus and drop in on our former professors. To be honest, we missed out on a lot.

We were lucky if we did graduate. We moved on. We forged new relationships, new friendships, and some new club memberships at our new academic homes. While we loved our campus, our friends, and yes, even some professors, the hurt caused by Phillips closing tempered our reverence. And it shows to this day.

Our alumni presence is practically non-existent. We may have an active on-line presence via social media, thanks to Facebook, but we rarely get together. We have one exception to this rule-funerals. In the past few years I have seen more of my fellow Phillipians at funerals than anywhere else. And while I love you all, and love to see you, it is NOT where I want to meet up. We've lost some dear friends, and celebrated their memory.

Our school, like our friends, lives on in our Please see *Last of the Grads* on page 6

SS Phillips Victory

By Tom Walker

What Phillips alum has not marveled at the exploits of Americans during World War II? From *Run Silent, Run Deep* through *The Longest Day* to *Saving Private Ryan*, we have been enthralled by the dedication and heroism of our soldiers, sailor, airmen and Marines. What received almost no acclaim is that which made it possible, the supplies of war materiel – what the infantry calls beans and bullets.

President Roosevelt termed it on the national level as the “arsenal of democracy.” It was the capability of the United States to produce the materials necessary for victory. Simple geography, to say nothing of common sense, tells us that our huge industrial base was of little value without the capability to transport what we produced to North Africa, Pacific islands, Europe, *etc.*

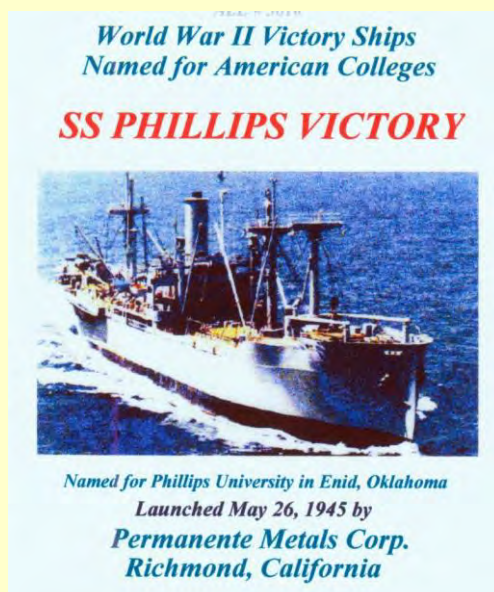
From the beginning of the war, naval cargo transport was key to all strategic planning. Our merchant marine had to move everything from bazookas to bandages, torpedoes to turpentine, from the US to a supply depot thousands of miles away. The initial solution was the Liberty ship, then later in the war the Victory ship.



This latter class was an armed cargo vessel, produced in large quantities to replace earlier ships lost to enemy submarines. It was larger, faster and more heavily armed than its predecessor. One of these was the SS Phillips Victory (MCV-758), named after our beloved university.

It was built in Richmond, California, one of the 531 Victory ships constructed. Christened in May 1945, it entered service too late to contribute to the war effort. However, it carried vital supplies to aid in the reconstruction of Europe.

After the war, it was sold, re-sold and renamed several times, eventually being flagged in Iran. Like all steel ships, its ultimate fate was being scrapped, the end coming in Hong Kong in June 1969.



Staying in Touch

By Winnie Oliver

Geoff and Sean have stayed in touch. They both live in the Tulsa area. This was at a Gridiron get-together a few years back at Bob Hutchins house.

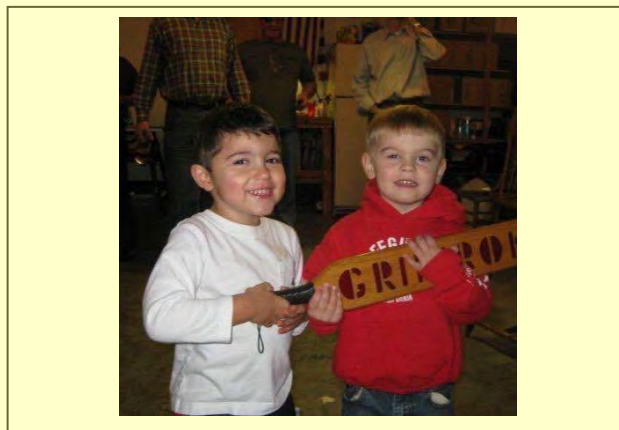
Phillips ties run deep and they transcend generations. Since the school is gone, alums have the responsibility of bringing the "Phillips experience" to their children. Staying in touch is a great way!

Phillips Legacy Scholars

By Nancy Philips

We have 26 total Phillips University Legacy Scholars this year. Here are the newest Scholars:

1. **Kincade Barreiro, Northwest University**, a freshman majoring in Theology and Missions. Hometown: Puyallup, WA
2. **Avery Bennett, Chapman University**, a freshman majoring in Peace Studies. Hometown: Bartlesville, OK
3. **Stephanie Caress, Chapman University**, a junior majoring in Music and Strategic & Corporate Communications. Hometown: Carmel, IN
4. **Bethany Cheyney, Texas Christian**, a freshman majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Hometown: Irving, TX
5. **John Giesen, Eureka College**, a freshman majoring in Business Administration. Hometown: Cassville, WI
6. **Sydney Green, Lynchburgh College**, a junior majoring in Athletic Training. Hometown: Kenbridge, VA
7. **Macy Grimsley, Texas Christian**, a freshman majoring in Political Science. Hometown: Rogers, AR
8. **Lauren Hozdic, Texas Christian**, a sophomore majoring in Business. Hometown: Atlanta, TX
9. **Chelsea Martin, Texas Christian**, a freshman majoring in Nursing. Hometown: Spring, TX
10. **Erin Michael, Drury University**, a sophomore majoring in Psychology. Hometown: Ft. Gibson, OK
11. **Erica Underwood, Barton University**, a freshman majoring in Deaf Education/Special Education. Hometown: Fayetteville, NC



Left to Right: Wilson Brannon (PU Alum parents Sean Brannon - Gridiron and Carrie Drew Brannon -Comets) Zack Beaty (PU alum Parent Geoff Beaty -Gridiron)



Adrian Brown

By Mandy Williams

Oklahoma City, OK – Douglas Adrian Brown, age 40, of Oklahoma City, OK was born on March 5th, 1976 in Enid, OK to Susie Elain Brown. In 1981 Susan married Dr. Douglas Kip Brown, who adopted and raised Adrian. He died Saturday the 9th of July, 2016 in Big Rapids, MI.

Adrian was raised in Enid, graduating from Enid High School in 1995. He studied theology and psychology at Phillips University and Oklahoma City University, graduating in 1998. Adrian and his brother, Kip Brown, developed their strong relationship during this period and Adrian was essential to helping Kip through his childhood cancer experience.

Adrian was awarded a Masters in Divinity from Brite Divinity School, Texas, in 2003. Adrian earned a full academic scholarship to Brite and was known there as an excellent student of theology and one of the top students of his cohort. He also quickly became known as an effective and compassionate pastor. He later earned a master's degree at the Lutheran Theological South Seminary, South Carolina, in 2009.

He married the love of his life, Dr. Ingela Thune-Boyle, at the court house in Fort Smith, AR on August 13th, 2014 and later had a church ceremony at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Oklahoma City on December 29, 2014.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Ingela Thune-Boyle, and their three beloved dogs, Star, Pippi, and Mandy; his father Dr. Douglas Brown and brother, Kip Brown (Marie-Isabelle Dionne) of Montreal, Canada; two half siblings, Jean-Rene White (Liz White) and Michaela White of Enid, OK and his aunt Toni White Dallas (Rick Dallas) of Enid, OK.

Adrian started his career as a Disciples of



Douglas Adrian Brown

Christ (DOC) pastor but converted to Lutheranism and served as pastor for the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). For both the DOC and ELCA, he served several churches, most recently Immanuel Lutheran church in Big Rapids, MI, Redeemer Lutheran church in Oklahoma City, St. Mark's Lutheran church, Midwest City and Ascension Lutheran church in Del City, OK. Adrian was known, above all else, for his compassion, humor, and tendency to go above-and-beyond the call of duty in his pastoral responsibilities. He was also known as a specialist in helping churches grow and evolve while staying true to their founding missions.

He was a wonderful and caring husband to his beloved wife Ingela. He loved his dogs, was a great friend to many people and impacted people's lives in significant ways. He was a gifted storyteller, both in the pulpit and in his daily interactions. Adrian was especially known for his long, elaborate, and hysterically funny jokes. No one laughed like Adrian.

He loved cooking with Ingela, playing computer games, watching horror movies and going to garage sales, but most of all, he loved spending time with his wife.

Adrian was active in raising awareness of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, a rare connective tissue disorder. Donations can be made in his name to the Ehlers-Danlos Society.

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Don Angle '55
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Enid, OK 73701

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Janet Sears Gingerich '66
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Fort Worth, TX 76137

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Mike Louthan '75
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Kingfisher, OK 73750

John Martin '68
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Enid, OK 73703

Matt Nelson '97
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Enid, OK 73701

Winnie Oliver '68
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Nancy Nicholson Phillips '72
(ex officio)
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Nancy Kaufman Sanders '68
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Grove, OK 74344

Joe Semones '74
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Dallas, TX 75287

Jenny Schaffer Wade '69
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Stockton, CA 95209

Jason Williams '98
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Thomas, OK 73669

Mandy Megrew Williams '98
216 N 6th Street
Thomas, OK 73669

**You may contact the
board through the alumni
office at
(580) 548-2336
And by email at
info.pualum@gmail.com**

**PLEASE SEND ADDRESSES OR
EMAIL INFORMATION FOR ANY
PRIOR PHILLIPS UNIVERSITY
STAFF OR PROFESSORS TO THE
ALUMNI OFFICE. WE WANT TO
INVITE THEM ALL TO THE
REUNION TO HONOR THEM.**

Meet the Board

By Tom Walker

The letter J will dominate the list of new members of the board of directors of the alumni association – Jim Ellis '69, Jim Holland '68, Joe Semones '74 and John Martin '68. They are joined by Winnie Oliver, '68 and Matt Nelson '97. Winnie and Matt are both retirees, having served once before.

Jim H, Joe and John are all retired. Jim E works at Oklahoma City Community College, Winnie works part-time for Tulsa Public Schools and Matt is a counsellor.

The returning board members are Don and Barbara Danforth Angle '55, Carrie Guthrie Cobbs '82, Janet Sears Gingerich '66, Lori Smith Hunter '86, Tom Jaworsky '68, Carla Gibbs Kelman '82, Leslie Putnam Klamm '89, Mike Louthan '75, Nancy Kaufman Sanders '68, Jenny Schaffer Wade '69, and Jason and Mandy Megrew Williams '98. Nancy Nicholson Phillips '72, is an *ex officio* member, representing the Phillips Legacy Foundation. Leslie will also serve as the part-time administrative/financial assistant.

Officers are Tom Walker '68, President and Chair of the Board, Sheri Smith Lashey '82, Vice Chair, Dana Herring Higeons '79, Secretary, and Erik Herring '81 Treasurer.

Reunion

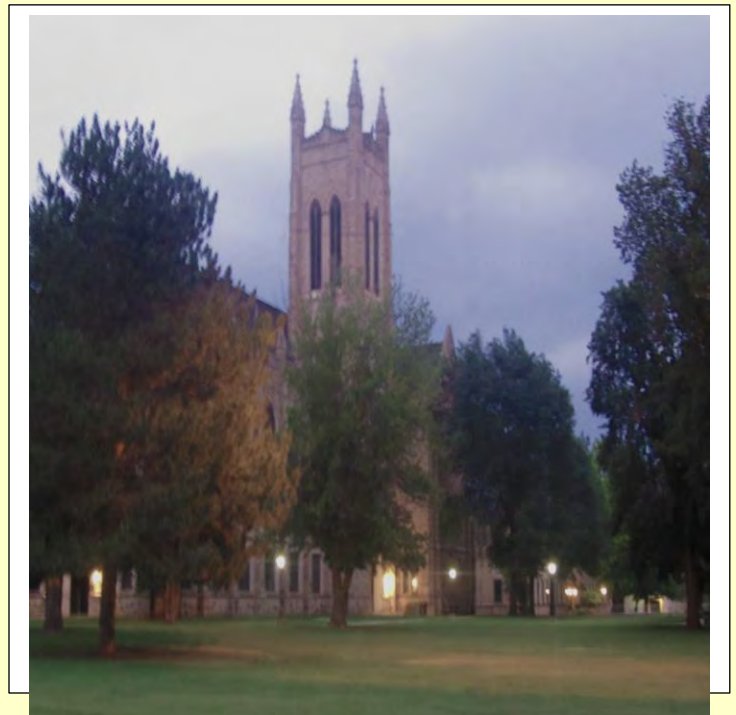
By Sheri Smith Lashey

Plans are being made for Phillips University Reunion 2017. The dates for the reunion are June 23rd and 24th, 2017, and will be on the campus of NOC (our beloved Phillips Campus.) We have picked a theme for the reunion, Honoring our Faculty and Staff. We have one of our past beloved faculty members coming to speak at vespers, and will all be involved in directing a choir of those from Phillips and the community. We would like for all that is interested in singing in the choir, to please mark Thursday off on your calendar as a day (evening) to rehearse for vespers, and perhaps at a reception to honor our faculty and staff.

If you are in contact with faculty and staff that are still able and willing to come to our Reunion, please get us their contact information so that we can invite them. If they are published, we would like to display their work; if they are an artist, we would like to display their art; if they would be a speaker, we would love to hear from them, etc. Please let Sheri (Smith) Lashley, 580-210-0013 sherilashley@hotmail.com, or Lori (Smith) Hunter, 580-278-9497 dljhunter62@gmail.com, know, so that we can invite them formally.



Also, make plans to be here on the campus as we see each other, and renew old friendships, and catch up with each other, and the professors and staff that meant so much to us once, and therefore still do! Looking forward to seeing you all! Look for more information about The Reunion as time gets closer!



Last of the Grads from page 1 memories and in our stories we share when we get together.

I challenge you all to consider coming to Enid in 2017 for the reunion. I've heard from some of you, and often heard reunions are for the "old" people. Well, none of us is getting any younger. Reach out to your college friends and pledge to visit the school next summer for the 2017 reunion. I challenge you to come and see how so much of our campus lives on. Whether you were here for a semester, a few years or received your diploma in Briggs Auditorium, you are a Philippian. And you are welcome.

Tri State Scholarship

By Lori Smith Hunter

Every year Phillips University Alumni and Friends Association awards a scholarship to and an outstanding Enid area high school senior music student and participant in the Tri-State Music Festival. This scholarship is a memorial to Milburn E. Carey, who was a noted Enid Public Schools Music Educator for 47 years, Director of the Music Education Department at Phillips University for a time and the managing director of the Tri-State Music Festival from 1936 to 1982.

Each year, the Tri-State scholarship committee has been very pleased to receive applications from impressive young musicians. This year was no different. The process of choosing our recipient is always quite a challenge for all of our judges. But we are pleased to announce that the 2016 Milburn E. Carey Tri-State Music Festival Scholarship recipient is Victoria Plunkett from Enid High School.

Victoria's list of music accomplishments is quite extensive. At Tri-State alone, she was awarded more than 20 Superior ratings for vocal and woodwind performances. She was named Tri-State Outstanding Vocal Soloist 2 times and Tri-State Outstanding Woodwind (Oboe) Soloist 2 times. She also received numerous Superior ratings at District and State level solo and ensemble contests. Victoria was selected to sing and play with several honor choirs and bands, including Oklahoma Music Educators All-State Mixed Chorus. She has been an active participant in both community and high school theatre including but not limited to Enid High School's presentation of musical *Oklahoma!*, playing the leading role of Laurey Williams, and *Oliver*, playing the leading role of Nancy. With the Perry Community Theatre, she performed the role of Mary in *It's A Wonderful Life*. She participated with the

Garber Community Improvement Association Dinner Theatre for 7 different productions and was recognized by the Enid Gaslight Theatre with the Gaslight Theatre Ron O'Neal Friend of the Gaslight Award for outstanding community service and volunteer work.

Apart from her artistic endeavors, Victoria was also High School Girls State Delegate, (elected City Committee Member and County Commissioner), National Honor Society maintaining a 4.0, National Forensic League member, Student Council Creative Arts Rep. and Band Council Rep. She was on the Garfield County Public Health Youth Advisory Board for 2015-16 and served as the Master of Ceremony for the Enid Special Olympics Talent Show in 2016.

It is such a pleasure to add Victoria Plunkett's name to the growing list of outstanding recipients of the Milburn E. Carey Tri-State Music Festival Scholarship.





Phillips University Alumni & Friends Association
 PO Box 331 ** Enid, OK 73702



Today's Date: _____
 NAME: _____ Maiden Name: _____
 ADDRESS: _____

 EMAIL: _____
 DATES ATTENDED: _____ GRAD YEAR: _____
 PU SPOUSE: _____

| DUES/ DONATION: | PAYMENT INFORMATION: |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Annual Membership: Single \$35 _____ | Check # _____ |
| Couple \$50 _____ | Credit Card: Name: _____ |
| DONATION*: _____ | Number: _____ |
| TOTAL: \$ _____ | Expiration Date: ____/____/____ |
| | Signature: _____ |

- Please remember that we are a 501c3 organization and your donations are tax deductible.

I give my permission for my information to be shared with:

Phillips University Legacy Foundation Yes / No
 Phillips Theological Seminary Yes / No

Please do not share my information:

_____ Signature

Honoring Our Past

Reunion 2017 – June 23th & 24th

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| Name(s) | Years Attended: |
| | |
| | |
| | |

| | | |
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| Address: | | |
| City: | State: | Zip: |

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| PUAFA 2017 Reunion (Includes all food and activities for the weekend) \$ 45 individual, before Monday, June 19th \$ 50 individual, after Monday, June 19th | \$ _____ |
| PUAFA 2016 Membership Dues \$ 35 per person/due annually (Membership dues cover the 2017 calendar year) | \$ _____ |
| Support your Alumni Association - Your gifts allow us to plan reunions and other PUAFA alumni events. | \$ _____ |
| PAYMENT OPTIONS: <input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> American Express | Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Card Name <i>(as it appears on card)</i> | Signature |
| Card Number | Expiration Date |
| Billing Zip Code | |

Friday:
 5:00 - 6:30 Registration
 6:30 - 7:30 Vespers, Bivins Chapel
 7:30 - 9:00 Alumni and Staff appreciation reception, heavy hors d'oeuvres served at Marshall Building. Enjoy chatting with your favorite Professors and staff.

**Reunion
 Schedule of
 Events:**
*(Subject to
 change)*

Saturday:
 8:30 - 10:00 Breakfast, pastries and build your own breakfast burrito, Gantz Center
 10:00 PUAFA annual meeting Montgomery Hall
 11:30 - 1:00 PUAFA luncheon Montgomery Hall
 1:00 - 2:00 Club circles, social hour...



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