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RENEWING VOWS

Each year, in the span of two weeks, Bucknell University hosts Commencement and Reunion. Although seemingly disparate events, they share at least one core attribute: a vow to Bucknell.

The “WE DO” campaign conveys the nearly infinite ways Bucknellians distinguish ourselves, give back to one another, and make our mark on the world. I hear “WE DO” and interpret it as a vow. When you get married, you say “I do.” Well, when we enrolled at Bucknell, we collectively made a vow to one another and to the broader Bucknell community. Essentially, we said “We Do.” It’s a pledge we cherish over time.

As I prepared to participate in Commencement for the class of 2013, I was alarmed to realize that I was a student at Bucknell when these new graduates were born — and that they’ve never known a time without email, blogs, or smart phones. But no matter the graduation year, when we walk across the stage to accept our diplomas, we renew our vow to the Bucknell family. Through alumni activities, and through our friendships, the bonds we make with each other and with the University are ours to keep — and keep strong — for the rest of our lives.

Nothing better exemplifies these enduring ties than Reunion weekend. From those who graduated five years ago (and attended in record numbers this year) to those celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation, Reunion provides a chance to remember, reminisce, and reconnect — and to celebrate together our love for Bucknell University. It reminds us that our vow is not for four years — it’s for a lifetime. As alumni, we find ways to open doors for Bucknell students, volunteer time and talent to serve Bucknell, give gifts to the University, engage through a range of activities, and return to Bucknell to celebrate milestones like Commencement and Reunion.

In this issue, we highlight examples of our ongoing commitment to Bucknell, including: this year’s Alumni Association Alumni Awards, honoring four distinguished fellow Bucknellians; Community Service events hosted by Bucknell clubs around the country this spring; recognition for our incoming and outgoing Alumni Board members; an alumni panel at Accepted Students Day; and Senior Sunset, marking the last day of classes for graduating seniors.

So, in the spirit of Commencement and Reunion, I ask: Do you take Bucknell to be your alma mater; to have and to hold from this day forward; to love and to cherish, all the days of your lives?

Bucknellians say “WE DO.”
Reunion 2013 was truly remarkable. We had record setting attendance, with over 2,300 guests, including nearly 1,700 alumni. This included more than 400 members of the class of 2008, two members of the class of 1943 (yes, they celebrated their seventieth reunions), and more than 1,200 alumni in between.

In addition to record setting numbers returning to campus, we also had an extraordinary showing of financial support from this year’s reunion classes. Thank you to the many alumni who continue to give to Bucknell financially. Reunion Rally recognized this support by announcing four Giving Awards and the cumulative total support from those classes at $38,023,874.

I would also like to offer congratulations to four exemplary individuals honored at Reunion Rally with Bucknell Alumni Association Awards and featured in this newsletter. A YouTube video highlighting these recipients is on the BLink homepage. I cannot tell you how many people said that these award recipients made them proud to say that they are a Bucknellian.

This August marks my 11th year of service to Bucknell, and Reunion is always one of our office’s most enjoyable (and exhausting!) weekends. What made this year so special? It may have been the number of people, the weather, the excitement connecting with old friends, or the enthusiasm that alumni showed for Bucknell, but whatever the reason it is certain to me that this Reunion was truly memorable.

We look forward to seeing everyone back on campus for Homecoming, October 25–27, 2013. Also, if you live or work in Boston or New York, save the date as the We Do tour comes to town on September 7 and November 16, respectively.

‘ray Bucknell!

LIFE UPDATES

- Masha Zhdanova is working full time at Avins USA as a technical sales engineer and will be moving to the Morristown, NJ area after graduation.
- Doug Bogan was featured in Bucknell Magazine.
- Pete Griffin started as the Director of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the largest non-profit working with post-9/11 veterans. He lives in Brooklyn and his office is next to Grand Central Station in NYC.
- Shari Aser is getting married in September!
- Walt McConnell is celebrating his 60th reunion this year, 60th wedding anniversary – and had a grandchild graduate.
- Lisa Bogan, Frank Davis and Melissa Plaisance celebrated their children’s graduation from Bucknell on May 19.
- Victor Arcelus named Dean of Student Life at Connecticut College (so we now have a New London club).
- Lynn Falkenbach Mull gave birth to daughter Nora Rosemary on July 17th. Congrats to Lynn and husband Jon Mull ’00
Bucknellians of all ages are busy people. With family, work and other commitments, it is a wonder that they find time to sleep. However, last April more than 400 alumni, students, parents and friends found time to give the gift of their time and their hearts in the University’s Annual Community Service Event. Sponsored by the Bucknell University Alumni Association, the Parents Association and the Association of Clubs, this effort is one of the activities that Regional Clubs around the world are increasingly sponsoring each year.

Service projects were held all over the country and even across the pond in London. Some newcomers participated this year, including Bucknellians in Alabama, Dallas and St. Louis. A record 26 clubs participated in 28 events which consisted of volunteering at food banks, cleaning up community parks and other venues, and walking to raise money for Juvenile Diabetes to name a few. Additionally, students on campus flexed their philanthropic muscle with close to 200 participating in the annual Spring Thaw Out.

As is tradition, a “Flat Bucky” was provided to all of the participating regional clubs. Flat Bucky serves several purposes; it is used on campus to promote and encourage volunteerism and helps to distinguish Bucknellians from other volunteers. Additionally, the Alumni Association provided stylish “We Do” hats for all volunteers.

April is now a month where Bucknell’s colors shine brighter than ever. These projects not only provide a great opportunity to engage with fellow Bison, but highlight the generosity and dedication of the Bucknell community. A slide show is available to view at www.bucknell.edu/x77626.xml.

WHO TAKES THE TIME TO GIVE BACK? “WE ALL DO”

BY RAJ THANGAVELU ’99
PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
CONSIDER A BUCKNELL FUTURE
BY LISA BOGAN ’78, P’13

Accepted Students’ Day, Saturday, April 20 marked the debut of an Alumni Panel discussion as part of the day’s activities. Moderated by Pam Keiser, Executive Director of the Career Development Center, the panel of three Bucknell alumni fielded questions posed by the moderator and the audience. Todd Singer ’91, a member of the Alumni Board and founder of the Bucknell Professional Network, proposed adding the panel to Accepted Students’ Day as he felt that speaking with alumni would add a critical dimension to the parents’ and students’ decision-making process. Todd, along with Ally Martens ’11 and myself, talked about the campus experience, with particular emphasis on how our lives were shaped by Bucknell. Not surprisingly, we all stressed the importance and effectiveness of the Bucknell network and it was interesting to see that it has only grown stronger over the years. What was also interesting is how each of the panelists has interacted with this network over the years, whether in business or socially.

Inquiries from the audience ranged from academics to the always engaging ‘Greek or no-Greek?’ question. All were answered thoughtfully, recalling that each student will have his/her own Bucknell experience. When asked for their ‘pearls of wisdom’, panelists generally agreed that each student should follow their heart and explore all that Bucknell has to offer, both academically and socially, as more often than not the degree we earned is not necessarily reflected in the careers we have pursued.

Of the 80+ parents and students who chose to attend the discussion, all seemed to be fully engaged during the 45-minute session. And, if the number of prospective students and parents sporting Bucknell spirit wear is any indication, the acceptance level will be high.

SUNSET AND SIONARAS
BY MASHA ZHADNOVA ’13

The second annual Senior Sunset event took place on the Academic Quad on April 30, the last day of classes. The widely attended event provided a chance for seniors to gather as a class one last time before Commencement marking the end of their tenure at Bucknell. The theme of giving gifts was prevalent; seniors learned they topped the Class of 2012 Senior Gift Drive participation rate of 70% with 78%. Additionally, the class gift to the University was revealed — a circular sitting wall inscribed with “Bucknell University” to be built on the uphill side of the Elaine Langone Center. Board member Marcus Hernandez ’00, addressed the students emphasizing the Alumni Association pillars; Open Doors, Give Gifts, Volunteer, Engage, Return. All seniors who attended the Senior Sunset received a memorable Class of 2013 champagne flute and a BUAA branded keychain.
2013 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

BY MICHELE BIAMONTE ’94 AND MEREDITH ROWLEY ’00

Every reunion weekend, the Bucknell University Alumni Association Board of Directors honors distinguished alumni in four categories; Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession, Loyalty to Bucknell, Service to Humanity and Young Alumni (15 years out or less). Award recipients are nominated by their peers and selected by a committee including current and past members of the Alumni Board, Club Presidents, past award recipients and Development and Alumni Relations. The 2013 honorees personify ‘the best of the best’ having served and enhanced Bucknell University in brand and mission since their respective graduations.

Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession: Dr. William Woods ’68
William G. Woods, M.D. is an internationally known leader in the field of childhood cancer. After graduating from Bucknell with a B.S. in Biology, Dr. Woods attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and spent 22 years at the University of Minnesota, most as faculty. Since 2001, Dr. Woods has been the director of the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta/Emory University, where he successfully merged two separate pediatric hematology-oncology programs into one, nationally ranked program. His peers consider him a creative and visionary researcher, and his work has led to remarkable advances in the survival and cure of children afflicted with cancer. In 2011, Dr. Woods was awarded the Distinguished Career Award from the American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. A ‘larger than life’ person of fine character, intellect, and warmth, Dr. Woods received multiple nominations for both the Chosen Profession and Service to Humanity awards.

Loyalty to Bucknell: Richard Fidler ’63
In the 50 years since Mr. Fidler’s graduation, he has served Bucknell in many ways. He has served as an Admissions alumni interviewer, an Annual Fund office volunteer for a number of years, and co-chaired his 45th Reunion Gift Committee. He now serves as Reunion Committee Co-chair of his 50th Reunion. Dick’s loyalty to Bucknell stems from his genuine belief in giving back. As the first blind student to graduate from Bucknell, Dick navigated the challenging landscape with courage and dignity receiving both his B.A. and M.S.Ed. in Mathematics. He recently established a Bucknell scholarship in honor of his parents and student readers from his time at Bucknell. Dick bleeds orange and blue and regularly attends many performing arts events on campus.

Service to Humanity: William Durland ’53
Bill Durland is an educator, lawyer, author and activist. A member of the Bars of the Supreme Court of the United States and the State of Colorado, he holds degrees from Bucknell (B.S., political science and history), Georgetown University Law Center (J.D.), University of Notre Dame, (M.A.) and the Union Graduate School (Ph.D.). Several of his legal cases on international, constitutional and human rights laws have come before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was a recipient of the State of Colorado’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award (1999) and Jack Gore Memorial Peace Award (2006). Bill is a recognized humanitarian who has traveled the world to volunteer and advocate for human rights and civil liberties in both his professional and personal life over the past 40 years.

Young Alumni: J.R. Holden ’98
In the 15 years since receiving his Bucknell diploma, J.R. Holden has left his mark on many European and Russian basketball courts. He was a two-time Euroleague champion and gold medalist in the 2007 European Championships (Russia’s first and only gold medal finish). He was top five in scoring while playing for the Russian National Team in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. He has been cited in many international magazines and was featured as one of the Top 100 athletes to watch at the Beijing Olympics by Time Magazine. Since retiring from professional basketball, J.R. authored Blessed Footsteps (2011). He has been a strong supporter of the Bucknell basketball program and serves as a mentor for current students and alumni. J.R. continually gives back, recently establishing an annual fund scholarship at Bucknell and another youth scholarship fund to support inner city students in his hometown of Pittsburgh.

Who will you nominate for a 2014 Award? Go to blink.bucknell.edu/alumniawards to submit a deserving alumnae/us. Deadline: Nov. 15, 2013
Every year the spring board meeting marks a bittersweet transition with the welcome of new members and a fond farewell to those who are reaching the end of their term. With three trips to Lewisburg a year and countless phone calls and emails in between, our board membership demonstrates a dedication to Bucknell that sets the gold standard for giving back.

The Bucknell University Alumni Board of Directors is proud to welcome new members:

Christine Kelleher ’91 will be serving on the Strategic Planning Committee. Christine is a managing director with Avec Capitol. Christine, her husband, Jason, and their son, Gabriel, live in Washington, DC, where Christine is also an active volunteer in church and school activities.

Carl Marchioli ’07 will be serving on the Communications Committee. After Bucknell, he attended Harvard Law School and served as a law clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court of the United States. Carl is currently an associate attorney in the Washington, DC, office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, and lives with his wife, Karen ’07, in Rockville, Maryland.

Tom Rooke ’06 will be serving on the Finance Committee. Tom currently leads one of Zurich North America’s underwriting teams in Chicago, and resides in Lake Bluff, Illinois, with his wife, Jacqueline ’06, and daughter, Mae. Tom and Jacqueline currently serve as cabinet members on the Midwest committee for Bucknell’s ongoing capital campaign.

Carolyn Wethington ’05 will be serving on the Clubs and Young Alumni Committee. After working as an analyst for Goldman Sachs, she earned her MBA from the University of Virginia and is now a management consultant at L.E.K. Consulting. Carolyn resides in Manhattan with her husband, Bryan, and daughter, Charlotte.

Chris Dunne ’15 will be serving on the Communications Committee. Hailing from Rochester, New York, he is a Presidential Fellow and Residential Advisor on campus. Chris is a member of Chi Phi and is active in the Outing Club.

Maddie Harrison ’16 will be serving on the Clubs and Young Alumni Committee. Maddie is from Greenwich, Connecticut, and plans to major in political science and history. She serves as a class representative on Bucknell Student Government and is involved in Colleges Against Cancer.

Colin Hassell ’15 will be serving on the Development Committee. Colin is double majoring in mechanical engineering and management and is from Aberdeen, New Jersey. He is president of his class and a member of Chi Phi.

We wish the very best to our retiring members:

Anne Samek Hopkins ’86 served on the Strategic Planning Committee. Anne and her husband, Chris, live outside of Philadelphia and have three children Catie, Drew and Ellie.

Walt McConnell ’53 served on the Communications Committee. Walt currently lives in Bolton Landing, New York, with his wife, Isabel ’53, with whom he recently celebrated his 60th Reunion and 60th wedding anniversary.

Joyce Seeley VanSchoonveld ’75 served on the Clubs and Young Alumni Committee. Joyce currently lives in Malvern, Pennsylvania, and will no doubt continue her commitment to Bucknell as a volunteer for the Bucknell Public Interest Program.

Doug Bogan ’13 served on the Development Committee. While at Bucknell, Doug was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Bucknell Student Government. He graduated with degrees in Electrical Engineering and Music.

Masha Zhdanova ’13 served on the Communications Committee. During her time at Bucknell, Masha was an International Orientation Assistant and member of Kappa Alpha Theta. She graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

BUAA retiring members Walt, Doug, Masha, Joyce and Anne


2012 – 2014 COMMITTEE

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katie_malague@hotmail.com

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Joel Berelson ’85

MEMBER AT LARGE
Michele Matz Biamonte ’94
Matthew Garman ’96
Robert Scott ’85

2013 EVENTS/KEY DATES

September 19
Club Welcome Events

October 24 – 25
Fall BUAA Meeting

October 25 – 27
Homecoming Weekend

November 16
Volunteer Leadership Summit/
New York City WE DO Event

CONTACT US

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Send your BUAA Magnet submissions or feedback to magnet@bucknell.edu.
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