

Class Newsletter

*Classes of 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985
Winter 2013-Spring 2014*

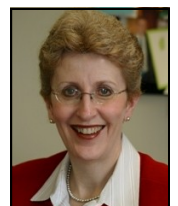
We've got to keep up with the times!



It's unbelievable that when I took over this newsletter from our first editor, **Tara McClellan McAndrew**, in 1985, we wrote quarterly newsletters with a fifth one in very newsy months! Imagine the workload that entailed for our Alumni Office staff times all of the living alumni we have.

Magazine so they reach our classmates in a more timely fashion. These are great steps and long overdue, so visit **titanpride.org** and post your updates!

With this change, the time has come for me to hang up my hat as the class newsletter editor. The exact nature of the role our editors will play in this new technology is still being finalized, but I think it is only fair to a new editor to give him or her the chance to get in on the ground floor of the new weblog newsletter format. With the exception of a short recess in late 1999, I've reported our class news for 28 years (not nearly as long as Vince and June, but getting close). We've seen births of babies and grandbabies, passings of dear classmates and friends, and crises and celebrations of every kind. It has been an absolute blast, and I can't tell you how much it's meant to me to know you beyond our four short years together on campus. So, as always, stay happy and well, and do keep in touch—this time, on the web!



—Kris Condon, 1984

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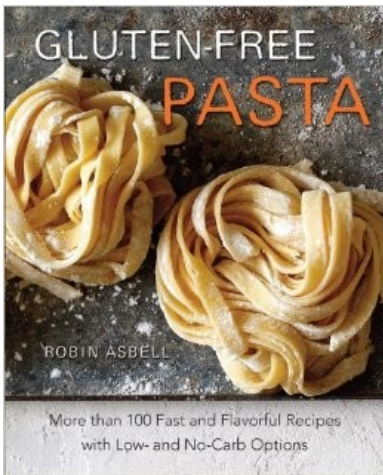
With time, we went to three newsletters per year, then two, then one at Homecoming and one after the holidays. Still, though, that took a lot of people power to send out newsletters for every class (which, at one point, included Vince Merritt, Class of 1938, and June Schultz, Class of 1944—talk about the deans of newsletter editors!).

And now, with 2014 dawning on us, we're moving to the next generation of improved newsletter communications: newsletter weblogs. During this coming year, all class newsletters are going to an online blog format at **titanpride.org**. You can post your news, updates, photos, etc., and have people see them right away—no more waiting six months for a newsletter to come out. This new technology also lets you route your updates directly to the IWU

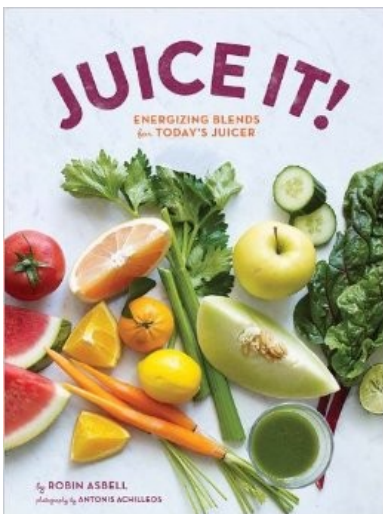
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2014
HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 17-19
SEE YOU
THERE!

University News from the Alumni Office



Robin Asbell's Gluten Free Pasta



Robin Asbell's Juice It!



Kris Condon '84 studied at the U.S. Supreme Court this summer. (The façade is under renovation; this is a decorative screening to hide the repair work!)

Alumni Nominations:

Nominate fellow alums for the Robert M. Montgomery Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, Loyalty Award, or Distinguished Young Alumni Award. The nomination form is located at

www.titanpride.org/nominations.

Alumni Website: Check out **www.titanpride.org** to update your alumni information, register for events, submit pictures, send class notes, and keep in touch with your old classmates. If you have any questions or need help setting up a new account, be sure to contact the Alumni Relations Office at 309-556-3251, toll-free at 888-IWU-ALUM, or by e-mailing **iwualum@iwu.edu**.

Annual Giving Continues:

The University's fiscal year ends on July 31, and your gift always makes a difference. Just visit **www.iwu.edu/gift** to make your impact.

Wesleyana Yearbooks: All yearbooks are now online to be viewed at **http://collections.carli.illinois.edu/cdm4/index_iwu_yearb.php?CISOROOT=/iwu_yearb**

Class Updates: Remember the infamous "green alumni update forms"? It's all green in a different way now—green, electronically speaking! The

update form is online at **www.titanpride.org/alumniupdate**. It keeps the University's records current!

And now, on to YOUR news!

From Robin Calhoun Asbell '84:

"Dear Kris, I have two new cookbooks coming out this Spring. I'm excited to announce my new gluten free book, which will allow the growing numbers of gluten-intolerant people to enjoy delicious pasta dishes. My book on juicing is a great starter book for anyone interested in reaping the benefits of fresh juices.

Gluten Free Pasta, More Than 100 Fast and Flavorful Recipes with No- and Low-Carb Options (Running Press) Spring 2014

Juice It! Energizing Juices for All Times of Day (Chronicle Books) Spring 2014

"I'll be traveling to Chapel Hill, NC; Atlanta and Savannah, GA; Decorah, IA; Eugene, Bend, and Portland, OR; and other cities to teach cooking classes, and I would love to see fellow IWU alums at my classes!" Reach Robin at **robinasbell@aol.com**.

From Kris Condon '84: Since our last newsletter, I had the phenomenal opportunity to study in Washington, D.C., for five days at the United States Supreme Court Summer Institute for Teachers. It

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was an amazing education in civics literacy that I am working hard to implement at the local (community college and 9-12) levels in the coming years. Made some new friends and had some great experiences, including a reception our last night in D.C. hosted by Chief Justice John Roberts. This fall, I began a term on the Lincoln-Way High School Foundation Alumni Committee and have really enjoyed reconnecting with friends and teachers from those days. On the doctoral front, I'm about five months from finishing my degree and hope to report a successful defense in mid- to late February! I always enjoy hearing from my classmates at kmcondon@msn.com.

From Kendra Hoyt Moses '83:

"Hi Kris, I am sending a photo of me and my 2 sons - Daniel, who is 25, and Ben, who is 17. I'm working as the Regional Administrator for the Illinois Office of State Guardian, a state agency that provides guardianship services for adults who are elderly and have disabilities. We now live in Peoria." Reach Kendra and her family at kendram61@gmail.com.

News about Phil Nicolosi '81:

"The Administrative Office of Illinois Courts announced that 17th Judicial Circuit judges [Winnebago County] voted to select Phil Nicolosi as an associate judge. He fills one of two associate judgeships left open by retirement.

Nicolosi, 54, has practiced law for 28 years in both civil and criminal courts and as both a prosecutor and defense attorney. He was Winnebago County State's Attorney from 2007-2008 after being appointed to the job by the Winnebago County Board.

"Nicolosi cares about the problems of the people who will appear before him in court," said Dave Kurlinkus, deputy state's attorney and chief of staff. Kurlinkus worked with Nicolosi before opening his own practice and ultimately joining State's Attorney Joe Bruscato's team.

"Associate judges commonly preside over traffic, DUI, misdemeanor, small claims and family law cases. Nicolosi has not been assigned to a particular court or been given a start date yet." Congratulations, Phil! Read more at <http://www.rrstar.com/article/20131220/NEWS/131229934/10333/NEWS#ixzz2pkv866qq> and reach Phil through LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com.

From Lori Poling Glaze '83:

"Hey Kris, Thanks for all you've

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Kendra Hoyt Moses '83 and sons Daniel and Ben.



Newly appointed 17th Judicial Circuit Associate Judge Phil Nicolosi '81.

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John '81 and Susan Russell.



John and Susan's kids: Simi (24), Tara (22), Cassandra (20), Frank (17).



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done to help keep our classmates informed and able to keep up with all that's going on with everyone. This year I celebrated 30 years of working for State Farm Insurance - still loving every minute of it. With my girls now pretty well grown, I had to find something new to keep me occupied which led me to becoming the VP of the Board of Directors for the Rutherford County Emergency Food Bank, which I enjoy. My oldest daughter Ashleigh is currently working at the Morgan County Maximum Security Correctional Facility as a recreational therapist and is currently engaged. My youngest, Katelyn, is attending Motlow State Community College and is looking at early childhood development." Wonderful to hear from you, Lori! Reach Lori at loglaze@aol.com.

From Sheryl Reynolds Markay '82: "Hi Kris - hope all is well with you and your family. I actually returned to campus in November to take my sixteen-year-old daughter, Melissa, on a prospective college visit. The campus looked beautiful with so many new structures since our days at IWU. My oldest daughter Melanie, a junior at DePaul University, has spent this fall studying in Madrid, Spain, and

she will be home in time for Christmas. I have worked at DuPage County for almost eleven years and received a promotion this year from Government Affairs Manager to Deputy Chief of Staff after spending sixteen years with the Illinois General Assembly and three years with the Minnesota House of Representatives." Sheryl, it was wonderful to hear from you. Reach Sheryl at sheryl.markay@dupageco.org.

From John Russell '81: "Kris - I tried to put together a report on what is happening in my life. Thanks for all your hard work in keeping us linked together!"

"I don't know that last time I checked in with the IWU alumni network, but a lot has happened in recent years. Fortunately, one thing that is still constant is my wife. Susan and I will celebrate 30 years of marriage in July of 2014. She still teaches (after 22 or so years doing it) Band (grades 5-8) and general music (K-4) at Calvary Academy here in our hometown of South Holland, Illinois. Our family is growing up as well. My eldest daughter, Simi, now 24, graduated from Illinois State three years ago with a degree in Music Therapy, and is now living and working as a music therapist in Elkhart County, Indiana, where she works for an private non-profit organization that provides health related services to the developmentally disabled. My second born daughter, Tara, aged

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22, is a senior at Illinois State, where she is studying special education. She will be moving back home as the current semester ends because her student teaching assignment is close enough to allow her to live at home. My third born daughter, Cassandra, aged 20, is a sophomore at Anderson University studying the Theater Arts. Our youngest, my son, Frank, now 17, is a junior at Illiana Christian High School in Lansing, Illinois.

"I don't have a recent full family picture. Attached is a shot of Susan and me. Then there is a pic of my kids – from left to right Cassi, Simi, Tara, and Frank. The white dog is Turbo (our family dog), the little brown dog is Bennet, Simi's dog.

"There have been a lot of big changes for me over the last 5 years or so. After serving for 15 years as general counsel for a not for profit organization that provided health care and housing services to seniors, I was informed in February of 2009 that the company could no longer afford to keep me. Seeing it as the only way to survive in the poor economic climate of the time, I decided I had to go into business for myself. So, I set up shop as John R. Russell, Ltd. I am a sole practitioner with an emphasis on labor and employment law, real estate, estate planning/probate, corporations/small business, health



care law, and non-profit organizations. (My law firm website

is **www.jruslaw.com**.)

It's been a struggle, but God has been so good to me and my family. In addition, I have an of-counsel relationship with the Laner Muchin firm in Chicago; they specialize in employer related labor and employment matters. I have also had to deal with some serious health related issues in recent years, but fortunately that all appears to be behind me now.

"The question I get from a lot of my IWU music school friends is whether I still play or sing. The answer, unfortunately, is very little. I play trombone and sing on and off with our church worship team, and even played euphonium the past couple of summers with the South Holland Municipal Band. The most fun I



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2014 HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 17-19
SEE YOU THERE!

This is a year of milestones for me. I just celebrated my 15th year of teaching at Kankakee Community College. This June, I will finally finish my doctorate —30 years after the Class of 1984 walked the portico at the School of Drama to receive our bachelor's degrees. Of course, this means that the Class of 1984 will celebrate its 30-year reunion this fall at Homecoming. And it's been a lot of fun to do this class newsletter for 28 years (although there is something less round about that number).

Milestones give us benchmarks to measure where we've been, where we are, and where we're going. They give us the opportunity to consider what the next phase of a project (or a career) will be. They give us time to take stock of what we've accomplished and to plan for next steps, course corrections, and the like.

So with sincere appreciation, thank you for the opportunity to share your own personal milestones with your IWU classmates. Some of you have been regular contributors; some of you wrote when you could or dropped me a note over the holidays to share those milestones with others. To me, it made the writing more fun, and I hope it made the reading more enjoyable. I hope to see you at Homecoming this fall to create and share some new milestones! —Kris Condon, Class of 1984

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have, however, is with my church's 'Kids Church' program, which I have been active in for 24 years. I'm part of a leadership team that writes, produces, and performs an original dramatic production for kids, with new shows every other Sunday. It's here I get to sing and perform to my heart's content, helping to share the gospel with kids. We also do a big dramatic production in a dinner theater format for our church every New Year's Eve, and are currently in rehearsals.

"I am also active in village government. I have been elected to three terms as a South Holland Library Trustee (I'm President of the Board), and I have been Chairman of the Plan Commission since 1992. I am very active in social media, both as a business and as an individual. I am on Facebook a lot (I have a page for me and a page for my business), and I have two twitter accounts (@**johnr1note** for me, and @**jruslaw** for the biz). I am also on Linkedin. If you feel inclined, you can reach out to me in any of those formats. I can also be reached by e-mail at **john@jruslaw.com**." John, thanks for the terrific update and the pictures!

One more update from Kris: I'm sorry to have to report the passing of the following classmates from our half-decade. These death notices are also available on the University's web site.

Maureen Capps Mathieu '81

November 1, 2012

Ricky E. Bruner '83

October 20, 2012

Please post your weblog updates at www.titanpride.org. It's important for us to stay in touch!

