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Don't miss the monthly alumni and friends newsletter. Send your email address to johnsonm@bethanylb.edu. The "Bethany Connection" can be your link to Bethany alumni, friends and the campus community. You can also receive news updates by becoming a fan of Bethany College on Facebook, or following at [bethanynews](#) or at [bethanyswedes](#) on Twitter.

January 2011

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Alumni News



Jenny (Ahlvers) Russell '02 is the owner of JenRus Freelance, an Internet Marketing firm that conducts social media, search engine optimization, and rural life marketing for companies. Recently, Russell represented a JenRus Freelance client on Yahoo! News, where JenRus Freelance secured placement on two stories in a three-week time period-[Kansas Free Land](#) and [Social Media and Economic Development](#).

Warren Olson '72 and **Lynnda (Peterson) Olson '72** recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a trip to the Hawaiian Islands.



Charles London '86 is a Captain of Police for the Miami Beach Police Department. He and his wife welcomed new daughter, Callaghan, born January 29, 2010.

Shawna Cullen '95 is a Clinical Trial Head in Oncology Translational

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Medicine for Novartis in Boston, Mass.

Corina (Cromwell) Ouellette '99 graduated in May 2010 with her Masters Degree in Educational Leadership and Administration. She continues to work in the Gardner-Edgerton School District as an Interrelated Special Education Teacher.



Amy Roberts '00 recently won a Homestead Blog Award for her website [Raising Arrows](#) where she writes articles to encourage homeschooling mothers around the world. She will also be speaking at a blogging conference in the Washington, DC area in April 2011.

Ty Roberts '99 took a promotion with The Boy Scouts of America to the Jayhawk area council in Topeka, Kans., where he will be serving as Assistant Scout Executive.



Mariah McDowell '08 teaches fifth grade at Grace E. Stewart Elementary, Salina Kans. McDowell won a Horizon Award from the Kansas Department of Education in 2011. [More>](#)

Courtney Farrell '95 was recently hired as an assistant football coach at Howard Payne University. [More>](#)



Earle Lapp '53 sings the National Anthem before each Cabrillo College basketball game in which he works the scoreboard. [Watch here.](#)



Kyle Johnson '95 will present his first recital as California Lutheran University's new organist on campus at 2 p.m. Sun., Feb. 6. He will perform pieces by German composers, including Bach, Buxtehude, Bruhns and Mendelssohn, at the free faculty organ recital. [More>](#)

Births



A son, Jacob Robert, was born Dec. 19, 2010 to **Heather (Harrington) Hernandez '97** and Robert Hernandez.

A son, Samuel Joseph, was born Jan. 10, 2011 to Amanda Menninga and **Joey Menninga '00**.



A son, Andrew James Todd, was born Dec. 14, 2010 to **Mandy (Todd) Moore '05** and **Mark Moore '05**.

A son, Garin Theodore, was born Sept. 23, 2010 to **Amy Roberts '00** and **Ty Roberts '99**.



A daughter, Elinore Enid, was born Dec. 2, 2010 to **Nicki (Andersen) Hansen '04** and Tevin Anderson.



A son, Christian Michael, was born Sept. 22, 2010 to Christianna Peterson and **Scott Peterson '97**.

Deaths

Rev. Clifford W. Lindgren '47 died Jan. 6, 2011 in Wahoo, Nebr.

Rev. Thor Matsen '42 died Aug. 1, 2010 in Portage, Wis.

Joan (Thompson) Elmborg '45 died Oct. 5, 2010 in Topeka, Kans.

Rev. Victor C.E. Andersen '53 died January 24, 2010 in Mabank, Tex.



Robert Sherwood '55 died Nov. 7, 2010 in Pensacola, Fla.

Upcoming Events

February 19

Alumni Night at the Basketball games
[Lil' Swedes Cheer and Dance Clinic](#)

February 24-26

KMEA

March

[Social Work Conference and Reception](#)

From the archives...



From left to right: Larry Stoecker, Treasurer; Larry Taylor, Vice President; Miriam Oman, Secretary; Merlin Larson, President

The picture above was taken from the 1961 Bethanian. The caption read: "Here the officers Merlin Larson, Larry Taylor, Miriam Oman, and Larry Stoecker pause on their way to classes, in Old Main, to exchange ideas about the next class meeting. Their main concern is preparing for the big day in any Senior's life.....Graduation Day. After this day, the Class of 1961 will go their separate ways but there will always be many memories of the days spent at Bethany College."

The class of 1961 will be celebrating their 50th Class Reunion during Homecoming /Hyllningsfest October 7 &8, 2011.

The following classes will also be eligible for a reunion during Homecoming/Hyllningsfest 2011:

1961- 50th Hosts- Don and Dorene Anderson and Bruce and Linda Harding

1966 -45th

1971- 40th Host- Robert D'Andrea

1976- 35th

1981- 30th Hosts- Tad Doering, Jim Ruble, Marc Anderson

1986- 25th

1991- 20th Host-Linda Ball

1996- 15th

2001- 10th Host- Amie Bauer

2006- 5th

The classes with hosts have begun planning and have sent out information regarding their specific reunion. If your class does not have a host listed and you are interested in helping, please contact Molly Johnson, at 785-227-3380, ext 8286 or johnsonm@bethanylb.edu.

Bethany News



Exchange agreement with Karlstad University signed

President Ed Leonard and Professor Thomas Wennstam, Karlstad University, Sweden, signed an exchange agreement yesterday in a ceremony and luncheon at Lindquist Hall. Professor Wennstam has been visiting Bethany to lecture during the class "A Swedish Perspective on World Politics." Dr. Eugene Bales, the President, and Professor Wennstam spoke on the importance of studying abroad and on the significance of the Karlstad agreement, which will encourage a flow of history/political science and business students and faculty between the two institutions. Bethany offers the Forsberg Scholarship, which assists students studying abroad in Sweden.

President Leonard is pleased for this opportunity and says, "This is a way Bethany College can honor its Swedish heritage. In today's globalized world, exchange programs like this can help connect Bethany's students with other cultures and prepare them for future interactions. We are honored to have hosted Professor Wennstam and look forward to building our relationship with Karlstad University."

Professor Wennstam looks forward to seeing Bethany students and faculty

and says, "Karlstad University welcomes students from Bethany College to take part in our programs, as well as everything else that Karlstad can offer—nature, culture, sports and a good social life."

Messiah tickets are on sale

To purchase or reserve tickets, call Bethany's Messiah Manager at (785) 227-3380, ext. 8137, or e-mail bunningb@bethanylb.edu. Tickets may also be purchased in person at Presser Hall Box Office on Bethany's campus, open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. [More>](#)

Bethany's "Fit for Lindsborg Kids" Awarded Funding

A Lindsborg project aimed at preventing obesity in young children through increased physical activity and improved nutrition is among twelve from across Kansas recently selected to receive funding from the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund of Hutchinson. The grants were selected from among 39 proposals received representing approximately \$2.5 million in requests. [More>](#)

Bethany announces its new wrestling program for fall 2011

Bethany College announces the addition of a wrestling program for the 2011 winter season. Following USD 400 board approval, Bethany will now partner with Smoky Valley High School to use its new wrestling facility. Bethany is the first college in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference to have a wrestling program. Baker University in Baldwin City, Kan., and Newman University in Wichita, Kan., are the only other two private universities in Kansas that offer wrestling. [More>](#)



Photo by Fran Cochran

Ford Thunderbird owned by Bethany icon makes a

special appearance

The Ford Thunderbird owned by Bethany icon Dr. Emil O. Deere made a special appearance at the Bethany-Menlo College baseball game held in Menlo, Calif., on January 29. Fran Cochran '68, Deere's great-grand niece and a Bethany alumnus, now owns the car and lives in Menlo Park, Calif. When she heard that Bethany would be playing at the baseball field near her house, Fran wanted to bring some of Bethany's history to the team, so drove over to meet them.

Deere bought the Thunderbird 50 years ago for his niece (Cochran's grandmother,) and since then it has been driven only about 40,000 miles and has been featured in many car shows. Deere was a loyal Bethany supporter from 1902 until his death in 1966. He was the first Dean of Liberal Arts and also served as the Biology Department Chairman. He was an avid fan of the "Terrible Swedes" athletics and he created the "Rockar Stockar" chant. He also founded "Blue Dozen Band." Because of his commitment to Bethany, retired residence hall, Deere Hall, was named after him.

Thank you, Fran, for sharing this piece of Bethany's history!

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Send your news to [Molly Johnson](#), director of alumni relations.