The Player

Tourism guru and NAU alumna Karen Churchard, ’81, helps the Super Bowl touch down in Arizona

Room Mates
NAU’s new conference center and hotel are a marriage of town-and-gown resources  p. 12

All in her Mind
Philosophy professor Julie Piering talks shop about Plato, Socrates and playing third base  p. 14

ALSO: Warren Buffett hosts NAU’s CBA students in Omaha and shares his wealth of knowledge. p. 16
First & Goal
After 21 seasons at the Fiesta Bowl and a Super Bowl coup, playmaker Karen Churchard, ’81, leads the offense for Arizona tourism.

Where to Meet
Next year, NAU’s ever-expanding campus adds a conference center and hotel.

The Obstacle is the Path
Richard A. Wood professor Julie Piering talks about her passion for philosophy and how today’s students may be tomorrow’s deep thinkers.

Thoughts
A mystery novel conjures images of Flagstaff—a reminder of the connections we have with our mountain campus.

Links
A Message from the President. Looking for Mr. Goodell. Volunteer of the Year. Alumnus of the Year. A Branch Grows in Yuma and more.

Journeys
NAU’s CBA students travel to Omaha and meet Warren Buffett.

Connections
Linking up with former Lumberjacks and meeting some future ones.

Memoirs
They will be missed.

Gila River Primroses
—Photograph by George Stocking

Cover Photo
Karen Churchard, ’81, photographed at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz.—the site of the 2008 Super Bowl.—Photograph by Michael Mertz
I recently finished reading a murder mystery set in Flagstaff, which surprised me when it first referred to NAU. San Francisco Street, Snowbowl and other familiar landmarks were showcased throughout the story and made me stop and think about the many different ways Flagstaff resonates with people. It can be a home- or college-town, a vacation spot, even a backdrop for mystery and adventure.

Adventure is a common thread in this issue of PINE. You’ll meet Karen Churchard, ’81, whose dynamic career has taken her to the pinnacles of college and professional football, the Fiesta Bowl and the Super Bowl. Read how this dynamic advocate for Arizona tourism keeps the ball in the air (pg. 8). Julie Piering is a new NAU professor specializing in an intellectually challenging and rarefied field not usually dominated by women—philosophy. Join us as she offers a fresh angle on the status and direction of philosophy and ethics in modern culture (pg. 14).

On pg. 12, NAU’s 21st-century campus continues its startling metamorphosis with its new conference center and hotel. And it was the financial adventure of a lifetime for some of our alumni-in-residence (a.k.a. students) when they met the world’s second-richest man, Warren Buffett (pg. 16). As always, check out what your fellow alumni have been up to in Connections, and remember those who are gone in Memoirs.

Please remember to send us updates on you and your classmates. We truly enjoy sharing your accomplishments with your fellow alumni and friends. I leave you now with a note from our PINE editor:

Krista isn’t just paying lip service to the idea of alumni connection when she asks you to submit your life updates. I know that when I receive my alma mater’s alumni newsletter, I read it backwards, flipping straight to the class notes section. That’s how I found out a guy I went out with sophomore year has since founded his own religion, and that one of my closest college girlfriends not only works for a luxury California spa resort, but can get me honkin’ room rate discounts.

Think of your Connection as an answer to the burning question, “What has NAU done for me lately?” After all, 90,000 readers who read the PINE backwards can’t all be wrong.

**CORRECTION**

In the fall 2006 PINE article on climate researchers, “Feeling the Heat,” George Koch of NAU’s Department of Biological Sciences was incorrectly identified as an associate professor. He is a full professor.

**NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGES**

To submit address and name/marital status changes, call the NAU Office of Alumni Relations toll-free at 888-628-2586 (888-NAU-ALUM). or email sue.obrzut@nau.edu.

Send your letters to the editor to:

PINE
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Or email krista.perkins@nau.edu
An Unbreakable Connection

Reading this issue of PINE, you will discover further proof—not that you need any—of the unbreakable connection between NAU and its graduates, who continue to give back to the institution in innumerable ways.

Neil Goodell, who has two NAU degrees, is returning to Flagstaff to serve as our new alumni director. Welcome home, Neil. We look forward to working with you.

With so many alumni contributing in so many ways, it is difficult to select a few to be honored. Yet we have chosen some for special recognition.

Congratulations to Scott Coor, Sam Borozan, Harold and Marion Elliott, and Karen Churchard.

With so many inspiring accomplishments and strategies it is easy to be proud of Northern Arizona University and easy to be a proud graduate.

NAUAA Jeff Ferris (1936) Volunteer of the Year Award

Scott Coor, '76 B.S.B.A.

Not only did Scott and his wife Debbie make a significant personal gift to the College of Business Administration's building campaign, but Scott also stepped in as campaign co-chair, organizing fellow alumni into a gift-giving coalition that raised more than $50,000 for a classroom in the new CBA building. Scott also spearheaded the initial meeting with a donor for naming the CBA building.

Thanks to Scott’s vision, CBA students and faculty embarked on “the ultimate field trip:” a visit to Berkshire Hathaway Inc. to meet with the company’s renowned CEO, Warren Buffett, including a company tour and lunch followed by a Q&A session with

Tucson, Prescott and Yuma.

Our statewide endeavors are answering the call to make higher education accessible and affordable to all of Arizona, with our institution providing high-demand programs to satisfy workforce development needs.

Soon we will open a state-of-the-art facility at Interstate 17 and Greenway Road in Phoenix. It will be a wireless, full-service location for up to 3,000 students, with classrooms, advising, administrative offices, a cafeteria and more.

With so many inspiring accomplishments and strategies it is easy to be proud of Northern Arizona University and easy to be a proud graduate.

NAUAA Dwight Patterson (1934) Alumnus of the Year Award

Sam S. Borozan, '57 B.S., '61 M.A., '67 M.A.

At home on the playing field and in the classroom, Sam Borozan has been a familiar face at NAU for more than 50 years. As a student, he was a founder of “Mom and Dad’s Day.” As an administrator, he was recognized with the ASNAU Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award, and as the 1991 Homecoming Dedicatee.

Sam’s involvement in the lives of NAU student-athletes includes his endowment of three diverse scholarships. An NAU Athletics Hall of Fame inductee and former chair, he also donated scoreboards to three Lumberjack facilities.

Above all, he has enjoyed a 51-year mission as a coach and referee, culminating in a spot in the Arizona Softball Hall of Fame. The NAUAA congratulates Sam for all he has done to realize the academic and athletic potential of Arizona’s future leadership.
A treat for river rats and newbies alike, last September’s San Juan River trip offered geographical wonders and natural beauty for even the most jaded eyes, commentary by NAU anthropologists/archaeologists and a Hopi elder, and some unexpectedly gourmet perks (rack of lamb, crème brûlée). Now the NAUAA Lifelong Learning program is pleased to announce an encore outing, in conjunction with NAU Outdoors and the NAU Anthropology Department.

The 2007 San Juan River program, scheduled for June 8-10 with the evening of the 7th spent in Bluff, Utah, will again follow the spectacular three-day route to Mexican Hat. Both beginners and aficionados will experience a customized itinerary under the supervision of professional guides and academic study leaders. And again, the cuisine will be top-notch—“not the same old hot dogs and protein bars,” smiles organizer Toni Fox. Think champagne chicken, bruschetta...and a view to die for.

For information and reservations, please email Toni.Fox@nau.edu or call 888-628-2586.

A BRANCH GROWS IN YUMA

Although they’re already accustomed to extreme sunlight, folks at NAU-Yuma may wish to celebrate the dawn of a new day. After receiving approval from the Arizona Board of Regents, the longtime NAU-Arizona Western College affiliation has been officially designated a branch campus. In addition, NAU President John Haeger has named Krista Rodin as Yuma’s new associate vice president and campus executive officer.

The president noted that the change of the position title from executive director reflects the renewed commitment by NAU and the Yuma community to grow the campus. “NAU-Yuma is a significantly different campus,” Haeger says, “and we must develop programs that serve the students there.” Rodin, whose last position was vice provost for university outreach at the University of Connecticut and previously served in deanships and professorships at UConn, St. Joseph’s College and the University of Utah, is ready for the challenge of branch campus expansion: “The possibility of developing an interdisciplinary engaged campus that serves students and the community through experiential learning is very exciting,” says Rodin. “There are lots of ways we can focus the applied research expertise of the faculty in areas of local need.”

The NAU-AWC partnership has been cited among best practices for university and community college partnerships. Now, with its new status, the branch campus can seek federal designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution, which would qualify it for additional funding. Both the University of Arizona and Arizona State University have applauded this latest stage in the evolution of NAU-Yuma.

The NAU-Yuma campus was established in 1988 with 509 students. Today’s enrollment is nearly 700. For more information on this unique university partnership and its programs, please visit www.nau.edu/nauyuma/.
Looking for Mr. Goodell

By the time you read this, new NAU Alumni Director Neil Goodell, ’76 B.S., ’96 M.ED., will be at home in his Old Main turret office—when he isn’t meeting alumni and board, interfacing with university administration, and saving the world one tailgate at a time. When we asked Neil for some reflections on the university and his own personal philosophy, he demonstrated both calm professionalism and charming candor:

Everlasting Memory: “I was in grade school when my brother, Rex (’67 & ’68, B.S., M.A.ED.), graduated from NAU, so my family attended as many home football games as possible. One Homecoming, he gave me a Lumberjack sweatshirt that I proceeded to wear until it was in shreds. I was soooooo proud of that shirt—my mother finally had to rip it off my back.”

Coed Comfort: “I later lived in SAC Dorm, which is now McConnell. It was the university’s first coed residence hall, and though men and women had separate wings, the arrangement made for some interesting times. Kudos to the administrative team back then; they were extremely insightful.”

In Related News: “My wife, Annie, and I attended NAU together. We met on a family camping trip when I was in 9th grade...it was love at first sight. We were high school sweethearts, and recently celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary.” (With more than 15 years of experience working in higher education, Annie is now with the NAU Provost’s office.)

Advise and Consent: “When I was in the PR/journalism program, Professor Ray Newton was a very influential mentor. We’ve kept in touch; in fact, he encouraged me to pursue my NAU master’s degree, and I listened to him, as always.”

The Wisdom of Teetering: “I have always considered myself competitive. One of my mottos is: If you are not living on the edge, you are taking up too much space.”

‘66 Gets Its Kicks

Hailed as “the first graduating class of Northern Arizona University,” the Blue and Gold Class of 1966 converged on Flagstaff Homecoming weekend to celebrate the 40th year since their flip of the tassel. As we watched them enjoy their reunion perks, from tours of the radically transmogrified campus to their beaming introduction at Homecoming halftime in the Skydome, we couldn’t help wondering whether these children of the ’60s were hipper than thou. They certainly knew how to have fun, and could probably teach today’s students a thing or two.

Attending the ruby anniversary (and perhaps painting the town red), were Ron Black, Diana Ziede-Bunger, Ruth Schiavo Clarke, Bob Davies, Diane Edens Davis, Patti Blair Fordney, Mary Crawford Graham, Jim Hart, Jack Hay, Terry Cornett Hay, Gary Kreger, Frank Moody, Patrick Mount, Dewey Powell, Chuck Pilon, Ron Simonsgaard, Susan Simonsgaard, Betsy Gregg Suter, Diana Chafey Wagner, Dick Wagner, David Wear, Dennis Wilson and Don Wilson.

NAUAA Joe and Marie Rolle (1941/1950) Spirit of NAU Award

Harold L. Elliott, ‘49 B.S., ’51 M.ED. and Marion L. Dick Elliott, ’52 B.S, ’57 M.A.

The Elliotts’ love for NAU became apparent before they graduated. Harold lettered in football and Marion was a member of Cardinal Key. Decades later, their legacy includes sterling careers in the Yuma educational community and awards from the Yuma universe as well as the Arizona state government.

Even though they reside in both Yuma and Prescott, the Elliotts rarely miss an NAU event in either community. Both continue to frequent the campus—Marion as a three-time president of the NAU Foundation Board, and Harold as a past president of the Alumni Association Board. The Elliotts also have established seven scholarship funds for visual arts and arts education in NAU-Yuma and NAU-Yavapai. The NAUAA is proud to bestow upon Harold and Marion Elliott the Spirit of NAU award for their educational excellence and spiritual beauty, and a wit and warmth that blankets the state from Flagstaff to Yuma and beyond.
For most of us, playing in the pros is a dream. But Karen Churchard, ’81 B.S., has been working with the big boys for years, with a career trajectory that has led to prominence in multimillion-dollar football circles and landed her a key role in Arizona’s tourism industry.

Events Happen
Karen’s love of sports goes beyond regular participation—it goes as far back as her father’s involvement in Little League. “I absolutely knew what I wanted to do,” she says. “I always kept score for the baseball teams, even at NAU.” But in high school, although she was a cheerleader, another vocation emerged.

“I was always doing events,” she says, “running the different dances.” Later, at NAU, Karen was distracted from her intended photojournalism major by a public relations intro class. “I learned more about special events and thought, ‘Wow, if I can get paid for doing that ...’” So, a sports-minded public relations major was born.

While working for the journalism/mass communications department under the tutelage of professor Ray Newton, Karen proved Pasteur’s axiom that chance favors the prepared mind. “News of internships would come through Ray’s office,” she says, “and I learned that the Fiesta Bowl was looking for an intern.” Soon, with her B.S. and event smarts in hand, she was off to the Valley of the Sun.

Hatching a Phenomenon
In 1981, the Fiesta Bowl hadn’t yet become the mega-event of today, but it was on the cusp. Karen began her internship the fall before the bowl’s New Year’s Day debut.

“At first there were only four full-time staff and me,” Karen says. “But I hit my stride with the ‘old-timers,’ and saw the bowl’s first huge growth spurt. The 1982 game, USC vs. Penn State, was a big deal—not only were there two huge...
After 21 undefeated seasons at the Fiesta Bowl and a Super Bowl coup, playmaker Karen Churchard, ‘81, leads the offense for Arizona tourism.
teams, a Pac-10/Big 10 matchup like the Rose Bowl—but we also had Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Allen. After that the Fiesta Bowl just blossomed. By the time I left, and the bowl was in the BCS National Championship Game rotation, there were probably 35 full-time staff.”

As the Fiesta Bowl took off, Karen’s job followed, dramatically expanding and changing its focus. Her role as events intern matured into supervisor, and finally vice president of operations, overseeing all special events, staff and volunteers.

“My responsibility was team and game operations,” she says. “I worked directly with the teams on logistics such as hotels, did the team hospitality, worked with ASU on the stadium and with the City of Tempe on police and public transportation.” Karen even wrote the definitive Fiesta Bowl team manual, a necessary tool for survival.

“It went over every single detail for the teams,” she says, “because many of their support staffers don’t travel with them.”

As Ops chief, Karen found herself dealing with “a cast of thousands and thousands. There are 2,500 volunteers for the Fiesta Bowl, along with regular and seasonal staff. Each team has an athletic department and an alumni department. With just the band alone, you’re dealing with the director and staff, their volunteers, the band, cheerleaders, cheerleader staff. And then there’s the parade. I can’t even guess how many thousands are involved in that.”

Karen’s mantra for dealing with all these disparate groups—from NCAA officials to beer vendors—is deceptively simple: “Prepare, prepare, prepare.” Of course, things don’t always go as scripted, but that’s part of the job (see sidebar). Her other advice, particularly to NAU undergraduates, is, “Learn to write. I remember feeling in college that I wasn’t a very good writer, but over the years I’ve certainly used what I learned—and more.”

“Besides the obvious impact, the game brings a huge amount of visibility internationally that you could never buy, showing how beautiful our state is.”

Super Woman and Tourista Extraordinaire

After 21 years of coaching everyone from backers to linebackers, Karen briefly flirted with the idea of retirement. But opportunity hadn’t lost her phone number, and she was tapped for the Super Bowl Bid Committee, charged with the mission of bringing the über-game to the Valley in 2008. With her proven skills in logistics, negotiation and incentives, it’s possible that other cities never had a chance.

Weighing in on the Super Bowl’s expected effects, Karen says, “Besides the obvious economic impact, the game brings a huge amount of visibility internationally that you could never buy, showing how beautiful our state is—and our Valley. Restaurants, transportation and hotel taxes will be very significant. In fact, our resort hotels are usually already full during that time of year, but with the bowl an even greater majority of hotels will be sold out overall.”

Karen’s preoccupation with the well-being of Arizona’s economic prosperity didn’t end with the successful bid. In her current position as executive director of the Arizona Tourism Alliance, she has been entrusted with nothing less than shepherding the momentum of the state’s entire tourism industry. The alliance’s mission is “to increase awareness of tourism and strengthen Arizona’s economy” through 1) educating elected officials, businesses and the public about the benefits of tourism; 2) influencing government action related to tourism by advocating for tourism policy; and 3) facilitating partnerships between various stakeholder organizations that benefit from tourist expenditures.

Rubbing Elbows

Although reticent about name-dropping and dish, Karen told us about a few of the famous folks she met in the big bowl business:

Vice President Al Gore: “Very special. He came in for the Tennessee/Florida State national championship.”

Luis Gonzales: “He was grand marshal of the Fiesta Bowl the year the D’Backs won the World Series. Everything you’ve read about him is so true. He was concerned that I was going to get in the way of the Colorado buffalo, a live mascot, saying, ‘If you get hit by that buffalo you’ll be on ESPN forever—and that’s not the way you want to get on ESPN.’”

Garth Brooks: “We met with him in Las Vegas because we were trying to convince him to be our grand marshal. I’m not a big country fan, but I was really taken aback by how wonderfully down-to-earth he is.”
Although the importance of state tourism would seem to be a given, there are roadblocks. “Some people feel the state shouldn’t be providing monies for ‘marketing,’” Karen says. “But our argument is we are generating taxes from nonresidents. People come here to enjoy our great state. If they eat at a restaurant or stay at a hotel, about 3 percent of that tax money goes back to the Arizona Office of Tourism. Essentially, tourists are paying taxes that in turn pay for services in areas such as public safety and education.”

**Laurels, and a Few Perks**

Although Karen has maintained her ties with NAU as a member of the School of Communication Advisory Council, she never expected to be applauded by her alma mater for doing work she loves. In 2006, the NAU Alumni Association recognized her with one of its highest honors, the Dr. Cliff Harkins (1932) Distinguished Citizen of the Year award. “It was so humbling,” Karen says. “At first I was so amazed I didn’t even tell anyone.” Fittingly, the award was presented to Karen at halftime of the Homecoming football game on the 50-yard line, in front of a cheering crowd.

Professor emeritus Ray Newton, who nominated his former student for the Harkins award, agrees that Karen’s contributions can’t be valued too highly. “Professors are among the luckiest people,” he says, “for they are privileged to help educate and perhaps direct students into careers that can affect people in a positive way. Karen Churchard is an exceptionally talented and highly motivated person, with a commitment to quality and excellence no matter what the challenge. Because of her ongoing dedication, much of Arizona has benefited.”

Karen is certainly grateful as well, for her extraordinary experiences with thousands of people—and for a few extras.

“As part of the bid committee,” she grins, “I actually got to go to three Super Bowls.”

All in a day’s work.

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**The Truth Behind Murphy’s Law**

Karen’s favorite anecdote about staving off potential disaster goes back to one of the appearances of the Tennessee Volunteers marching band.

“Their band director, a very revered and meticulous individual, made me rather nervous,” she says. “I had already given him incorrect mathematical information [on the size of an American flag] that affected their routine. He was rightfully upset, and I apologized profusely, but I couldn’t make the flag shorter.”

“In the same program, the Air Force Academy Wings of Blue were to parachute into the stadium. These guys are training for combat, so their timing is very particular. Now, the Tennessee band has a famous routine where they march up and down the field, playing “Rocky Top.” So, after the opposing team’s band had performed, the Vols were getting ready to start. I turned my head to say something, and the Air Force guy is standing out on the field, signaling to the helicopters. ‘What are you doing?’ I said. ‘I didn’t tell you to start the jumping,’ He said. ‘I didn’t know there were two bands.’ I said, ‘There are two teams! Why wouldn’t there be two bands?’”

“I didn’t know what to do. But I thought, these guys are trained—if they can jump into a war, they can certainly figure out how to land safely. So, the band is at one end of the field, the Air Force guys land and suddenly the band turns and marches toward them in a body. The whole stadium was screaming. They thought it was the coolest thing ever.”

And what of the eminent band director?

“I went up to him, ready to apologize again, and he said, ‘That was great! Can I get a tape?’”

naualumni.com | Spring 2007
The construction cranes stretch their tapering silhouettes over the burgeoning NAU skyline. Over the last few years, new and renovated buildings have proliferated on the mountain campus, providing innovative learning environments. One ideological thrust of the new buildings has been fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. Now, as the result of a dynamic fusion of stewardship and innovation, NAU’s new conference center and hotel complex will emerge to meet the expansive demands of the Flagstaff community.

NAU President John Haeger is proud to note the origin of the conference center and hotel complex, the fruit of an extraordinary partnership among NAU, the city of Flagstaff and Drury Southwest Hotels.

“This is a unique enterprise model of engagement that crosses traditional boundaries,” Haeger says.

At the groundbreaking ceremony in October, Regents President Robert Bulla referred to the partnership as “a unique entrepreneurial effort.” He lauded this “model of distinction in a highly competitive marketplace” with a “ripple effect [that] will be realized by all local businesses.”

Flagstaff Mayor Joe Donaldson agreed, predicting “significant positive impacts on education, tourism and economic development throughout the greater Flagstaff area.”

A 160-room hotel built by Drury adjacent to the conference center will provide on-site accommodations to conference-goers—always an asset for participants, especially in chilly or monsoonal Flagstaff weather. Drury, which recently ranked No. 1 among peer hotels in a J.D. Power & Associates survey, is an organization very much in step with NAU’s ideals. Drury Southwest President Dennis Vollink recently drew an analogy between the hotel provider and the university.

“Just as NAU takes pride in educational excellence,” he says, “we take a lot of pride in our pursuit of excellent customer service.” Vollink compliments the “overwhelming support and enthusiasm” that Drury has received from the Flagstaff community. “We believe our hotel will meet the needs of conference center attendees, business travelers and vacationing families looking for top-quality accommodations at a great value.”

Speaking of NAU’s academic mission, the Drury partnership will provide an unprecedented incentive for the university’s School of Hotel and Restaurant Management students. The new facility will offer undergrads the opportunity for indispensable fieldwork in a modern, real-world facility.

With construction under way and a grand opening scheduled for early 2008, the conference center and hotel complex will offer new dimensions to the NAU/Flagstaff community—42,000 square feet of measurable benefit. Relief is just a site away.

We invite you to host your next conference here. For more information visit www.meetinflagstaff.com or contact Jane Kuhn at 928-523-7723.
Clean Rooms

All Drury hotel construction projects incorporate environmentally friendly specifications, as follows:

- Building and appliances must be energy efficient.
- Exhaust equipment must supply fresh air into each rental unit as well as public areas.
- Poured concrete construction (a renewable resource).

Following the precedent of other new NAU campus buildings, Drury has registered with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Council, with the goal of being certified for the Flagstaff project.

Vitals

Living Large: The hotel will feature 160 rooms.

Happy Feet: The conference center will measure 42,000 square feet.

Dining Room: There will be room to host 800 people at a sit-down dinner.

Down to Business: The ballroom in the main conference center can convert into five meeting rooms. (Nine other conference rooms are in the center and hotel.)

Drive-In: The new parking garage will house 344 spaces.

Can You Hear Me Now?: The facility will be wireless.
Why, of all subjects, philosophy?
As a youngster, I thought for sure I’d be a lawyer. I still love philosophy of law, but I don’t think I have the patience for memorizing codes. The challenge presented by philosophical concepts to thought in general is what really got me interested.

I fell in love with teaching philosophy in grad school. It is a mutual engagement with the students; we’re all involved in the same enterprise of trying to figure this stuff out—so it feels importantly collaborative.

Philosophers don’t agree with each other; there isn’t one single answer to these questions. We are always, unfailingly engaged in questioning and we delude ourselves if we think we’re going to get the final answer. Philosophy allows us to change our minds.

Unlike many other fields and professions, philosophy has remained largely a male-dominated field. To what would you attribute this?
Part of it is a legacy of our own history with regard to education. The idea that women could get a specialized college education is relatively recent. There are philosophical treatises that are fairly appalling, and certain philosophers (such as Rousseau) have perpetuated the problem. My guess is that women have not been as equal in the field because of a historical accident, as opposed to anything about the discipline of philosophy itself. You see a lot more women in philosophy today than there were even 50 years ago.
Female philosophers haven’t always been recognized by their peers. Do you think this is a function of their ideas or their gender? By and large there just haven’t been that many women who were considered professional philosophers. Thus, one can look to the Modern period where women weren’t philosophers professionally, but were in dialogue with philosophers and had something important philosophically to add. In such ages, literature and correspondence are two places where one can find the women’s voice. In studying Descartes, for instance, his female correspondents often write critiques of his philosophical position that are better than the formal critiques. Happily, their contributions are being recognized more and more often.

Do you have any personal heroes in the field? There are plenty, but I would have to say Socrates. He struggled to live a philosophical life. In Socrates’ trial, as represented by Plato among others, you get an image of Socrates defending not his particular life, not his physical life, but his way of living. To my mind there is something quite heroic about that.

Is there a paper or publication you’ve completed that you’re most proud of? I don’t know if I could pick one since I like them for different reasons. I tend to be more proud of seeing students grow and succeed than any paper or publication I could write.

How do you get students excited about what you teach? I operate under a principle—maybe misguided—that these topics are just fundamentally interesting. If I can relay why I think these ideas are some of the most important things to think about, the students tend to get excited. We discuss issues students have always thought of but never had the vocabulary to articulate. The intro classes start to give them the intellectual framework and the conceptual vocabulary to begin making sense of all the questions and ideas they already have.

How is being the recipient of the Richard A. Wood Philosophy Professorship different from a traditional professorship? What is expected of any professor is about the same. But because this position was created in memory of a cherished professor I feel a special kind of responsibility to that kind of devotion. There is something so beautiful about a group of alumni honoring their teacher by setting up a legacy for future students. There is something very selfless, generous and downright philosophical about that!

What do you think the role of the 21st century philosopher will be? And what do you think it should be? Philosophy and philosophers are at their best when they act as diagnosticians, when they use the skills of logical analysis to make better sense of the complex world around us. But when they try to involve themselves in prognosis, philosophers tend to miss the mark. For example, when a political thinker like Marx claims that communism is inevitable, it is misleading to look back at his prediction and think he got it right, and this can undermine some of his other ideas.

What are the philosophical debates or questions that keep you up at night? It strikes me that certain ideological and/or theoretical positions can have very concrete social and political effects. All too recent history demonstrates that Enlightenment ideals and utopian dreams can become unmitigated nightmares. I wonder, then, what philosophical positions we currently hold that we would do well to critique.

What do you think people would find surprising about you? I played third base for a champion kickball team called the Marquis de Sod.

There is something so beautiful about a group of alumni honoring their teacher by setting up a legacy for future students. There is something very selfless, generous and downright philosophical about that!
Wealth Matters

Pop Quiz: What do these pithy sayings have in common?
* “I don’t look to jump over 7-foot bars: I look around for 1-foot bars that I can step over.”
* “You only have to do a very few things right in your life so long as you don’t do too many things wrong.”
* “The business schools reward difficult complex behavior more than simple behavior, but simple behavior is more effective.”

Answers: 1) They all imply that success is often achieved through simplicity and common sense. 2) They all sprang from the nimble yet pragmatic mind of Warren Buffett.

Last fall, 41 students and two faculty members from the NAU College of Business Administration spent four hours with Buffett, the world’s second richest person, at Berkshire Hathaway in Omaha, Neb. Although Buffett speaks with about 2,000 college students each year, NAU was the first Arizona university to make the cut—thanks, in part, to alumnus Scott Coor, ’76, (see p. 5), who established the link with Buffett.

Trip costs were partially funded by alumnus Keith Newlin, ’79, president of Sierra Vista, Ariz., based Pioneer Title Co.

The CBA students had ample opportunity to feast on words of wisdom from the tycoon. They also found any stereotypical assumptions about multibillionaire Buffett changing, as he was revealed to be “normal, “humble” and “humorous.” According to CBA dean Mason Gerety, “Those students are still walking 12 inches off the floor. They came back and reported to our National Advisory Board and I was so proud of them. The students didn’t talk to the board about the great investment advice they received; instead they discussed what they learned about life.”

For more on the CBA’s cutting-edge programs, visit www.cba.nau.edu or call 928-523-3657.
NAU CBA alum Scott Coor shows Trendwood’s line at Nebraska Furniture Mart.

Buffett owns Borsheim’s (left). Gorat’s is his favorite local restaurant.

NAU’s CBA students in Nebraska Furniture Mart.

Holding court with students Jade Wallin and Roy McAfee.

Amber Richardson, Christine Fimia-Moe, Kelly Ribelin and Matt Gehl prepare to dig in.

Weston Dudley and Dillon Elston decked out in business attire.
Submissions to Connections are published in order of receipt and are edited for length; accompanying high-resolution photographs are welcome.

1960s
David A. Will, ’61 B.S.ED., ’64 M.A.ED. After 40+ years in California as a practicing speech pathologist, David is back in his hometown of Prescott, Ariz., “living in the family home that we’ve been restoring for several years.” Keen-eyed onlookers may have seen him in NAU’s 2006 Homecoming parade, driving a pristine white ’57 Chevy.

Bob Davies, ’66 B.S., retired after more than 40 years in electronics/aerospace as director of quality assurance for several Phoenix area firms. Wife Gerri Medlock Davies, ’68 B.S.ED., is retiring after 10+ years teaching in the Chandler School District. Bob adds, “We’re now enjoying our seven grandchildren and our cabin in Christopher Creek—and I’m proud to be celebrating 40 years as a member of NAU’s first graduating class.”

John Schreiber, ’67 B.S., recently retired from an almost unprecedented 35-year run as an Arizona State Parks ranger. Starting with Fort Verde State Park in the ’70s, John later aided in the master planning and unveiling of both Slide Rock State Park and Red Rock State Park. As manager of Riordan Mansion State Historic Park in his hometown of Flagstaff, he was instrumental in refurbishing the exterior of the mansion and visitor center.

Steven D. Richardson, ’69 B.S., writes that since graduating from Oregon Health Science Dentist School, he has been a practicing dentist in Coos Bay, Ore., for 27 years.

1970s
Jim Apperson, ’71 B.S., is working for the Arizona Governor’s office as deputy director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting.

Charles Stone, ’72 B.S.ED., recalls that in the Air Force, he often flew over Flagstaff and Sedona. “Invariably I would have an almost spiritual experience and visions that said, ‘Someday you are going to live in that beautiful place.’ We made that dream come true.” Chuck and his family lived in Flag for five years, and he was thrilled to attend NAU in the same class as his daughter. On a sad note, his beloved wife died of lymphoma on Feb. 3, 2006. “Thanks,” writes Chuck, “for being a part of my family history.”

Rick Cable, ’76 B.S.F., is a regional director for the Forest Service, which makes him one of the most senior foresters in the U.S. government. According to James A. Allen, associate director of NAU’s School of Forestry, Rick recently visited with profs and students, met with students in the “Tree House” (the SoF learning community) and spoke to a packed house at the Northern Arizona Chapter of the Society of American Foresters.

Eunice S. Hoffman, ’74 B.S., ’78 M.ED., writes, “Life after retirement can get exciting.” Since retiring from the University of Florida in 1996, she has volunteered as a nurse and educator for 10 mission trips in Mississippi, Honduras and the Dominican Republic. “I’m proud to be an NAU graduate and glad I’ve had the opportunity to use my education to help others.”

The Wild Bunch of 1946, together again in 2006!
After finding this great photo of his mom at NAU, captioned “Gals on Campus,” John Abbott got the ladies together for a reunion lunch and “actually re-created the adventure with the old car.” “What a ride,” say the ladies. “The car didn’t make it—but we did!”

(left to right) John’s mom Marie L. Stelin, ’73 B.S.ED., ’74 M.S., Martha Jean Smock Cvetkovch, attended, Joyce McLain Peters, attended.
Darryl Lytle, ’79 B.S., and Shirley Smith Lytle attended. recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows. According to The Arizona Republic, when the couple attended NAU together it wasn’t exactly love at first sight. Darryl couldn’t remember Shirley’s first name and called her “Miss Smith”; she thought he was “up to something.” A quarter of a century later, he says, “People can see that we’re in love.”

Leslie B. Lederer Bohm attended, graduated from University of Arizona in May 2006 with a B.F.A. in studio photography and a minor in mathematics. She lives in Tucson with her husband of 20 years, David, and their daughter, Linda.

1980s

Matthew Lit, ’84 B.S. JOUR., is a photographer based in Colorado. Recent exhibitions include “Togetherness” at the Boulder Jewish Community Center and a display of fine art Holga Toy Camera images in various Summit County buildings. Lit is also a photography instructor at Colorado Mountain College. For more information and images, please visit www.LITfoto.com.

Lori Arguelles, ’87 B.S., is founder, president and CEO of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, created to “preserve, protect and promote the nation’s network of marine sanctuaries and protected areas.” In 2006, NMSF was instrumental in getting President Bush to designate the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. Previously, Lori was spokesperson for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Jim Hoag, ’87 M.S., has joined the faculty of Champlain College (VT.) in the Division of Information Technology Services. A member of the Association of Computing Machinery, he has a special interest in spreadsheet learning, computer education history and curriculum. Jim has also volunteered in website management for the Limington, Me. Historical Society.

Matthew E. Moore, ’87 B.S., has been named administrator of the Idaho Transportation Department’s Division of Planning and Programming. Since joining ITD’s planning division in 1998, he re-engineered the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program and co-managed a nationally award-winning project to identify and articulate a 30-year transportation vision for the state.

Lena Booth, ’88 M.B.A., is founding executive director of the Private Equity Center at Thunderbird, The Garvin School of International Management in Glendale, Ariz., and associate professor of finance. A world-recognized researcher on initial public offerings, Lena has conducted research and taught in the United States, China, the Czech Republic, France, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

1990s

Sue Sisley, ’91 B.S., on behalf of her health education theater group, Ensuring Tomorrow Productions, has been selected as a finalist by the Arizona Cardinals Community Quarterback outreach program. The nonprofit organization received a $5,000 check, which will help support next year’s tour of Tobacco: The Musical, an original production actively touring its unique anti-tobacco message to 50 elementary schools across the state.

Charles A. Greenlee, ’92 B.S., has worked as general manager of Sweet Tomatoes in Sunnyvale, Calif., for the last five years, and recently marked his 11th year with the company.

Katie Coyle, ’92 B.S.ED., and Sean Kelly, ’93 B.A., ’03 M.A., are celebrating nine years of marriage. Although they were born a day apart and grew up a few miles from each other in the Arcadia, Ariz., neighborhood—and attended both the same high school and NAU—the couple knew each other only slightly and did not start dating until several years after graduation. They are now raising their children, Mairead and Liam, in Arcadia.

John L. Lohr, Jr., ’95 B.S., recently joined the law firm of Hymson, Goldstein & Pantiliat P.C. in Scottsdale as an associate attorney. He married Naomi Miller in 2006 and welcomed their daughter, Melodee Lee, Oct. 16.

2000s

Jim Tohtonson, ’01 M.ED., sends greetings from Rock Point Community School (Tse Nitsaa Deez’ahi Diné Bi’óta’) on behalf of his co-workers and fellow alumni. Carлотта Yazzie, ’03 B.S.ED., Valencia Begay, ’98 B.A., ’01 M.ED.,

John L. Lohr, Jr. ’95 B.S. with wife Naomi

Jaden Louise Harvey (below) Parents are Julius Harvey, '05 B.S., and Jewell Harvey, '00 B.S.Ed., '02 M.Ed., granddaughter of Jim Tohtsonie, '01 M.Ed., and Louise Tohtsonie, '01 M.Ed.

Shea Mitchell Southern (above) Parents are Derek Tiernan Southern, '02 B.S.B.A., and Candace Birt Southern, '02 B.S., '02 B.S.B.A.

Jennifer Yellowhair, '91 B.S.G.S., and Louise Tohtsonie, '01 M.Ed. Danielle DeBlois Early, '00 B.S.JOUR., is a freelance writer and editor for a real estate developer. She is married to Edward, and they live in Austin, Tex., with their son, Charles Fielding Early.

Jenna McKnight, '00 B.S.JOUR., '00 B.A., had an article published in the Oct. 17, 2006 New York Times. The piece, “The Sun Always Rises on HDTV,” featured Sunrise Earth, a program appearing daily on Discovery HD Theater, one of a growing number of high-definition TV channels.

Carol Niclay, '00 E.D.D., is director of professional studies for Extended Education and Summer Programs at Western Washington University. Responsible for development and implementation of both credit and noncredit courses for a wide range of audiences, Carol says, “Lifelong learning is my passion. You could say I’m an adult education junkie in need of a support group.”

Tom Butler, '01 B.S., '01 B.A., reports, “Research is going well. I’m still at UW doing experimental biophysics (sucking DNA molecules through protein pores). I hope to graduate in March or April, and then"

I’ll stay on as a postdoc for a year—we got NIH funding!” Speaking of bioscience, “I now have a baby son; he and mom are doing great. I’m not sure how I’m going to write a thesis while dealing with an infant, but I’ll figure it out.”


Dan Foster, '03 B.S., '03 B.S., is one of only five people chosen to receive this year’s graduate teaching assistantship in Human Communication Studies at the University of Denver. His thesis topic is a rhetorical analysis of major texts authored by Peter Drucker, the “father of management studies.”

Barbara Strachan, '03 B.A.L.S., '05 M.Ed., is program manager for the Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus Pine Council Inc. Juvenile Justice “Just Us” programs, delivering services to girls of every ethnicity and in every situation including after-school programs, detention facilities and group homes. She also helped design and develop the Adelante Jovenicas Youth in Transition program.
and would love the opportunity to get out of their current situation." For more on this compelling initiative, please visit www.capturefeatures.com.

**John Amos, '05 M.S.,** has been named East Campus administrator of Yavapai Regional Medical Center East, the new 50-bed hospital in Prescott Valley. His new appointment follows six years as YRMC’s director of Physical Rehabilitation Services.

**Scott Kirkessner, '05 B.S.JOUR.,** recently accepted a position as the coordinator of transfer admissions with Ottawa (Kan.) University. He writes, “All of the activities I participated in as an undergraduate have effectively prepared me for this amazing position.” He and Michelle Gardner (’08) were engaged in Hawaii on July 23. A fall 2008 wedding is planned, and the couple hopes to marry on the NAU campus.

**Carol Giles MacLean, ’05 B.A.S.,** is now executive director of VistaCare’s Sun City program. She also serves on the board for the Arizona Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, and has spent eight years providing hospice and case management services in the West Valley.

**Kelly L. Watson, ’05 B.A.,** has opened her own Lancaster (Pa.)-based copywriting business, Kelly L. Watson Communications. Her focus will be helping local business owners improve their profits with “catchy, low-cost copy.”

**Jessika Scogland, ’06 B.A.,’06 B.A.,** is living in Zambia for a year, “delivering HIV/AIDS education to children so they can make the choice to live HIV-free.” She represents the Grassroot Soccer organization, which is “taking a stance in the fight against the pandemic by providing education, opening doors to hope for people who don’t have the proper information to save their own lives.” For more information, please visit jessikainfrica.blogspot.com.

**David M. Goulet, ’04 M.ED.,** has been re-elected to a third consecutive four-year term on the Glendale, Ariz., City Council. An adjunct faculty member of two Valley universities, he advocated for the 2008 Super Bowl in Glendale and is a driving force behind current downtown revitalization projects.

**Michael Pierce, ’04 B.S., and Morgan Myer, ’05 B.S.,** are teaching film and video to students in the township of Khyaletisha, South Africa. “These students live in shacks, have lost parents and struggle to eat one meal a day. But they are also very smart, have an incredible work ethic and genuine. Just like Chauncey.”

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**Enzo Valentino Beata** (above)  
Mom is Dana Reed Beata, ’97 B.S.

**Guillermo Alejandro Moreno** (above)  
Grandmother is Becky (Rubio) Morales, A.A.S.

**Nicholas Hodder**  
Parents are Adriane Orlich Hodder, ’99 B.S., and Kevin Hodder, ’99 B.S.

**David Thorne**  
Father is Chris Thorne, ’97 B.S.B.A.

**Carl F. “Root” Roepke IV**  
Mom is Michelle Gleich, ’92 B.S.

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**Memoirs**

They Will Be Missed

We honor the memory of three educators who made all of Arizona their classroom

**Chauncey B. Coor, ’46 B.S.ED., ’52 M.A.ED.,** Dec. 5, 2006  
**Wilfred F. Killip, ’36 B.S., ’41 M.ED.,** Nov. 30, 2006  
**Lawrence H. Strom, ’64 B.S.ED., ’69 M.ED.,** Sept. 17, 2006

Messrs. Coor, Killip and Strom were living paradigms of the classic NAU educational tradition. With a lifelong dedication to learning, they forged extraordinary, sympathetic bonds with students and other teachers alike, creating powerful and lasting synergy in the lives and works of those around them.

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**Paving the Way with Grace and Dedication**

Chauncey Bryan Coor grew up in Jerome, Ariz. While attending ASTC, he met Cleo B. Cosper, to whom he was married for almost 65 years. During his WWII Navy service he attended Notre Dame and was commissioned as an officer.

After the war he returned to Arizona, where he began his education career in Kingman. He then relocated to the Valley, where he taught for 36 years. Among other assignments he was the first principal of Sunnyslope and first superintendent of Agua Fria High School. He also served as NAU registrar and as the Department of Education’s director of secondary education.

After his “retirement,” Chauncey was elected mayor of Goodyear, Ariz. He was also profoundly involved in Avondale’s United Methodist Church for more than 50 years. Chauncey was a committed optimist, always looking for a positive outcome.

NAUAA past president Larry Schnebly, ’52 B.S., describes his first impressions. “Chauncey was a past president of the ASC Alumni Association—I was very aware of those who had made that level of commitment to our alma mater. I was working at the college as assistant to the alumni executive director, Dr. Lewis McDonald, who always held Chauncey in extremely high regard—part of their shared heritage in Jerome, I bet. When we all met, Chauncey would have things very well organized. He always anticipated the needs of the group and individuals, and made arrangements that complemented each. I also remember that SMILE. It was warm and full and outgoing and genuine. Just like Chauncey.”

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**David Thorne, ’97 B.S.B.A.,**  
Hopes to marry on the NAU campus. A fall 2008 wedding is planned, and the couple would love the opportunity to get out of their current situation.” For more on this compelling initiative, please visit www.capturefeatures.com.

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**Enzo Valentino Beata (above)**  
Grandmother is Becky (Rubio) Morales, A.A.S.

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**Nicholas Hodder**  
Parents are Adriane Orlich Hodder, ’99 B.S., and Kevin Hodder, ’99 B.S.

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**David Thorne**  
Father is Chris Thorne, ’97 B.S.B.A.

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**Carl F. “Root” Roepke IV**  
Mom is Michelle Gleich, ’92 B.S.
Tough but Gentlemanly

The Arizona Daily Sun’s obituary of Wilfred F. Killip praised “his memory like no other, a treasure that all of us and the town of Flagstaff will miss.” A 74-year resident of Flagstaff, Killip fulfilled ASC’s strong educational tradition by earning two degrees. After teaching at South Beaver Elementary and Flagstaff High School, where he was later principal, he became assistant superintendent of Flagstaff Unified School District. In his 40 years of service, Killip was known as a strict, common-sense disciplinarian who truly loved working with kids while maintaining a close watch on school finances. The W.F. Killip Elementary School in Sunnyside is part of his rich legacy, as is NAU’s Wilfred and Joyce Killip and Family Scholarship for Flagstaff high school students embarking on an education major. More importantly, many educators, former students and colleagues alike have emulated his strength and straightforwardness.

Nancy Serenbetz, ’75 B.S., and development director for the College of Education recalls:

“Wilfred, or ‘Killip’ as he was affectionately known, was a marvelous gentleman. He and his wife, Joyce,’ 34 B.S.—who were married for 68 years—were wonderful friends to NAU and especially to our College of Education. He also had an impish sense of humor, especially when reminiscing about some of the early days. And apparently he was quite a ‘big man on campus,’ cutting a lively figure.”

Alumni

Ernest Hamblin “Ham” Pratt, ’46 B.S., Nov. 29, 2006. Star athlete in football, basketball and track at ASC. WWII Navy veteran; VA director of special services for Southeastern U.S. For 28 years, manager of Lake Mohave Resort near Bullhead City. Served on NAU Alumni/Foundation Board of Directors; inducted into NAU Athletics Hall of Fame; 1986 Arizona Republican Man of the Year.


Manuel A. “Marty” Martinez, ’64 B.S.ACCY., Aug. 11, 2006. Major (ret.) in the U.S. Army, serving at Flagstaff’s Navajo Ordnance Depot, followed by 11 years in civil service and retirement in Albuquerque.


John Douglas Kubisko, ’71 B.S., Oct. 27, 2006. Army sergeant in the late ’60s; Phi Kappa fraternity brother at NAU. Dedicated to raising his children and making travel and vacations the center of family life.


Willis F. Chansley, Jr., ’71 B.S., ’76 M.ED., Nov. 30, 2006. After playing football at NAU, taught and coached in the San Carlos School District (Ariz.). Member of Knights of Columbus.

Arlen C. Fark, ’76 M.ED., July 31, 2006. After a tour of duty with the USAF, worked his way through college at Las Vegas hotels and casinos. Teacher and counselor in Reno and Sparks, establishing a Tough Love counseling group. Grassroots political activist, world traveler and gourmet chef.


Seth Clark Abbott, ’85 B.S., Aug. 8, 2006. U.S. Navy veteran assigned to the destroyer USS Foote, recalled to active duty in Korea as a member of Naval Reserve. Worked 27 years for APS. Junior college welding teacher; Boy Scout leader; active Mason.


Marilee Collins, ’88 B.S.ACCY., Nov. 6, 2006. Longtime NAU employee, most recently a senior systems administrator for the ITS department. Student Supervisor of the Year in 2005, honored for her advocacy on behalf of student workers.

Clifford “Bud” Sliger Cauthen, Sr., ’90 B.S.ACCY., July 1, 2006. After four years in the Navy, worked for Orange Empire and Kaiser Steel. Retired from his road construction career in 2000, and until recently drove the school bus for Seligman (Ariz.) Schools and Akal Security.

Look for contests, surveys, and other ways to get involved at naualumni.com.
Randy Fernandez, ’90 B.S., May 31, 2006. in an accident. His lifelong love of sports led to a successful career as a teacher and coach.

Guadalupe E. “Lupe” Saavedra, ’90 B.S., Sept. 24, 2006. of leukemia. A secretary and former senior water quality inspector for the city of Phoenix, her battle with the disease inspired thousands of new registrations by Hispanics as bone marrow donors.

Mary Jayne Engel, ’96 M.A., Nov. 22, 2006. Energetic educator, journalist, lover of words, books, history and research. First woman regional director of the New York State Lottery; women’s rights and domestic violence victims advocate; promoter of family literacy; volunteer in the arts and environmental conservation.

Jennifer Michelle Swartz Danna, ’97 B.S.W., Aug. 1, 2006. of brain tumors. Devoted to family, camping and animals. For information on “Tatum’s Book Club,” a special initiative at the Barrow Neurological Institute for “kids of all ages with sick mummies and daddies,” please visit www.swartzfoundationatbarrow.com.


Zaharius Johnson, ’04 M.ED., ’05 M.ED., Nov. 21, 2006. of colon cancer. Former UA Wildcat who worked in the university’s counseling office. Other UA alumni helped raise funds for medical costs during his illness.

Dustin Yoder, ’05 B.S.B.A., and sister Kristen Yoder, attended, June 27, 2006. during mountain climbing expedition in the Cordillera Blanca mountain range in Peru.

Ray Manley, attended, July 15, 2006. Well-known photographer of Arizona’s land and people, with work displayed frequently in Arizona Highways and other major publications.


Friends and Associates


Orazio Giusti. Oct. 6, 2006. NAU faculty emeritus who taught French, Italian, Spanish and Russian and chaired the Department of Modern Languages. Served seven consecutive summers as language director for the Peace Corps Training Program at Montana State University.


Jean Zukowski/Faust, July 17, 2006. Professor and associate professor in NAU’s Department of English since 1984. While on leave from NAU served as associate director of the U.S. Peace Corps in Poland, for which she was awarded a 1992 Medal of Honor from Poland’s Ministry of Education. Strong supporter of ESL and bilingual education programs.

The NAU Alumni Association invites you to share your recollections of these outstanding individuals. Please email your reminiscences to anne.walden@nau.edu or write to PINE Memoirs, P.O. Box 6034, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-60234.

Reaching for the Stars

After earning his bachelor’s at ASC, Larry Strom continued to work toward his master’s degree on the mountain campus while garnering invaluable real-life experience as an engineering technician for the U.S. Geological Survey Center for Astrogeology. Collaborating on the Ranger, Orbiter, Surveyor and Apollo space missions, Larry’s primary responsibilities included the development of geophysical instrument prototypes used for lunar exploration. Later, his doctoral dissertation was selected as the outstanding doctoral study at the University of Missouri for the decade of the ’70s.

Larry’s faculty appointments include an assistant professorship at California State University in Chico, where he was part of a team that initiated the construction management and manufacturing management programs. From 1976 to 1999, he taught at Yavapai College in Prescott, Ariz., where he helped established programs ranging from solar technology to gunsmithing, and guided a plethora of student groups to excellence. Under his leadership, the Yavapai College student chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers was named Outstanding U.S. Chapter three times. Despite professional involvements almost too numerous to mention, Larry was known for keeping in contact with his students. He also conducted a seemingly endless round of field trips to high-technology sites from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to Disneyland, specifically the underground automation equipment that powers the Magic Kingdom.

According to the Strom family, Larry died unexpectedly in New Mexico while on a motorcycle excursion. “We are grateful that he was on the way to see family and they were able to be with him. We take solace and comfort in knowing he left us doing something that he loved and gave him great pleasure.”

N.B.: ASTC = Arizona State Teachers College at Flagstaff (1929-1945); ASC = Arizona State College at Flagstaff (1945-1966)
Alumni Benefits

- **Up-to-the-minute NAU updates** and alumni information at [www.naualumni.com](http://www.naualumni.com). Also, find fellow alumni using our online directory.
- **PINE magazine**: Our vital, informative alumni magazine keeps you up-to-date on university programs and what your fellow alumni are doing. Delivered to you anywhere in the world.
- **Alumni Contact/Forwarding Service**: call Alumni Records at 888.628.2586 or write: NAU Office of Alumni Relations, P.O. Box 6034, Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6034. We can contact fellow alumni on your behalf!
- **Personal invitations** to alumni gatherings on—and—off campus, including sporting events co-hosted by Alumni Relations and Athletics.
- **Information on our travel programs**, opportunities to see the world with fellow alumni in a stimulating and fun environment.
- **Customized reunions** for class years, residence halls or other common interests.
- **An affinity credit card offering** from Bank of America, the only credit card that supports Northern Arizona University alumni and earns you points toward cash, air travel, merchandise and much more—all with no annual fee and a low annual percentage rate.
- **Short-term major medical insurance and life insurance** offered by American Insurance Administrators.
- **Discounted car and home insurance** offered by Liberty Mutual Insurance.
- **Alumni Student Loan Consolidation**.
- **Cline Library borrowing privileges**.
- **Free resume posting and online job board** at [www.naualumni.com](http://www.naualumni.com).
- **Discounted rates** on use of the Recreational Center and Wall Aquatic Center, with alumni card.*
- **Opportunities to nominate and be nominated for alumni awards** and to continue to improve your alma mater by serving on boards, chapter and advisory committees of the Alumni Association and the university.
- **Ask us about our Volunteer Alumni Network**, an opportunity to recruit and mentor students, assist with events and more.
- **Offerings from Ticketmaster** — exclusive discounts to concerts, arts and sporting events, family shows and more—locally and nationally.

*The NAU Alumni Card is available from the NAU Card office at the Central Union, room 115. The photo I.D. costs $10.00.

**From river raptures to seaport treasures, the 2007 NAU Alumni Association’s Travel Program features a connoisseur’s montage of European adventures. Whether your toast of choice is aquavit, Chianti or Rhenish, you’ll find traveling with NAU alumni and friends both enlightening and delightful.**

**Alumni Campus Abroad: Italy**
May 25–June 5, 2007
Bella Italia beckons with *la dolce vita!* Spend five days in both Sorrento and Orvieto—an exclusive educational, cultural and travel experience.

**Alumni Campus Abroad: Scandinavia Discovery**
July 26–Aug. 5, 2007
Experience the romance and drama of the Nordic lands. Enjoy first-class accommodations while visiting Norway’s most beautiful cities, Bergen and maritime Oslo, and then it’s on to cosmopolitan Stockholm.

**Alumni Campus Abroad: Rhine River Cruise**
Sail the legendary Rhine River from historic Bonn, Germany to the beautiful French city of Strasbourg aboard the Dutch river cruiser, MS Heinrich Heine. Special lectures at unique locations will enhance your insight into this remarkable region.

For brochures and registration information, email Beth.Martin@nau.edu or call 888-628-2586.