

From the Arbor



Monthly news from Jerry Weakley, VP for Endowment and Planned Giving

The Ferrell Green Turns White in January...

Just in case you are one of our readers who receive the Arbor in a slightly warmer climate than the one in which Baldwin City, Overland Park and Topeka are located I am going to allow you to enjoy a little of what you have recently missed. Beginning Christmas Eve and now continuing into the end of the first full week of January the Baker campus located in Baldwin City and referred to as the Ferrell Green has taken on a decidedly different hue...mainly WHITE!

Students, faculty and staff arrived back January 4th on the Baldwin City campus welcomed by several inches of snow packed on top of a coating of ice. In most places the total snow pack measured well over 6-8 inches with areas that had drifted due to the good old Kansas winds having a depth in excess of a foot. Another giant storm on the 6-7th left another 5+ inches and with more winds and ghastly minus degree temperatures the administration took the safe route and cancelled classes in Baldwin City on Thursday the 7th...not unprecedented, but certainly not an annual occurrence either!

Below and scattered throughout this issue are a few photographs of the campus that I took prior to the storm on the 7th. The suggestion to include a few winter scenes in this issue were made by Dail Blake '86. Thanks for the great idea Dail!!!



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Numbers of Importance:

an endowed scholarship- 785-594-8332

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The Arbor is Brought to You by...

Baker Planned Giving Info...

(No one 40 or younger may read...)

Thanks to Jim Kean '60 and his wife Becky, of Boulder, Colorado for a gift that allows the University to continue hard copy mailings by the US Post Office to those unable to receive the Arbor electronically!

Winter Pictures From the Baldwin City Campus...

The picture located on the front page is of the rebuilt edition of the Taft Bridge with the Osborne Chapel in the distance.



Above: Parmenter Hall and Below: Mulvane Hall...

Baker Football Players Rank #2 Nationally...

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has announced that a total of 212 football student-athletes have been named 2009 Daktronics-NAIA Football Scholar-Athletes. Nominated by each institution's head coach, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and have achieved junior academic status to qualify. Baker ranked No. 1 overall in the Heart of America Athletic Conference and No. 2 nationally with eight Wildcats being named to the elite group of student athletes. Congratulations Coach Grossner and to your fine group of student-athletes!



Baker Trivia for January... (R U Smarter than a Baker Historian???)

I have decided to begin the new year with a new name for this monthly column..."R U Smarter than a Baker Historian"??? The contents will remain basically the same as I address issues of potential historical significance and/or interest in a fun and hopefully interactive manner. I encourage guesses or any additional information you can share based upon the topic. So here we go for January: This person from Baker's storied past was born in Parkville, Missouri, was raised a portion of their youth in and came originally to campus from Auburn, Kansas at the age of 20, slept outside of Parmenter (at that time Old Science) their first night on campus and had acquired the nick-name "Willie Gill"... Name this important alumnus of Baker **University!**

The answer will be found on page four of the February Arbor.

Wandering Wildcats Update...

I am continuing to hear from a number of readers and others regarding ideas for future travel with the Wandering Wildcats. I will hope to have a finalized list from which to select our next destination by the February issue of the Arbor.

Christmas Vespers a Highlight...

Matthew Potterton, the University's new music director of choral activities conducted the student choir and orchestra and sang "O Holy Night" as the orchestra performed. Marci Ziegler, instructor of music, performed "Gesu Bambino". Other conductors for Vespers included Lori McKinney (orchestra), Ray James (brass ensemble), J.D. Parr (flute ensemble) and Nanette Kraus (accompanist). All in attendance felt the programs were a huge success!!! Congratulations!!!

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Baker's Season's Greetings One More Time...

In case you were too busy decking your halls, unwrapping presents or opening Christmas cards during December, here's a chance to relax one final time with the "E-card" the University sent to you and everyone in the Baker family with a valid email address. The card was entitled "Celebrate the Season" and has some wonderful campus scenes and a warm holiday message that we hope will resonate throughout all of 2010. Why not take a little over a minute to either view it again or for the first time. You can get to it by copying the following address into your browser: www.bakeru.edu/external/alumni/holiday_card.html. Have a hot chocolate or a java of choice while you enjoy!!!

Alumna Remembers visit to Pearl Harbor...

Following the December issue of the Arbor I received the following note from Margaret Engler '84 who at that time was a student member of the Baker Wildcat Marching Band that visited Taiwan, Japan and Hawaii in 1985. It is presented here with her permission:

"Let me piggy-back on the Pearl Harbor story - one that I tell to students in the U.S. History course I teach every year (almost always with some tears in my eyes.)

The Baker Orchestra and Choir blatantly stood out from others gathered to go out to the Arizona as we were in our performance attire which was formal. While waiting my turn to visit the Arizona memorial, I was wandering around trying to control my "anxiousness". An elderly man near me began talking with me. I learned that he'd been stationed at Pearl Harbor and this was the first time he'd been back since the war...a trip made due to the insistence of his younger brother. As I recall, he had been drafted in the pre-war draft and had been stationed at Pearl Harbor. On Friday, December 5, 1941, he received emergency transfer orders from the Arizona to another ship. On Saturday, December 6, his new ship set out from Pearl Harbor to go to sea for practice maneuvers. His ship (the name of which escapes me now) had been at anchor next to a ship adjacent to the Arizona, both of which were totally destroyed. Still to that day he felt guilty for surviving. Why did he receive those emergency

(Story continues on Page Four)

One Last Baldwin Campus Picture...The Clarice Osborne Chapel...



Baker to Honor Football Beginnings...

Did you ever don the pads and helmet of a Wildcat football team member??? If so, you should take note of this following information and get it on you calendar now! This next fall will commemorate the 120th year since Baker played in the first game of football in the state against none other than the University of Kansas...a game which the Wildcats won by a score of 21-9. To honor the 120 years that have passed since that first game, the University will welcome back to campus ALL FOOTBALL PLAYERS FROM ALL YEARS!

Friday night the 22nd of October will feature the Annual Athletic Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction. A special video honoring Baker's football past will be featured throughout the dinner and program. (The newest inductees will be announced later this spring.)

The next day on campus will once again bring together all former players for a huge tailgate cook-out, introduction of all team members by decade and a postgame victory BBQ along with Coach Mike Grossner's 2010 edition of the Wildcats. I hope you will plan now to attend! We will also be looking for former player/volunteers to help us communicate with and recruit their teammates to attend and assist in other meaningful ways. If you would like to help, please contact Alumni Director, Doug Barth '91 at doug.barth@bakeru.edu.

Upcoming University/Alumni Events ...

January

4th-25th...Interterm on Baldwin City Campus

February

25th...5:30-7:30 p.m.

Baker After Hours-Oeno Wine Bar, 330 N. Mead,
Wichita, Kansas

March

Baker Alumni/Former Student Socials-Green Valley, Scottsdale and Sun City, Arizona. Times/places to be announced in February...

Pearl Harbor Trip Memories Cont...

transfer orders? Why was he allowed to live when so many of his friends died? He was obviously very emotional by this visit to the Arizona and eventually excused himself to deal with his memories privately. Later, we were on the same ferry out to the actual memorial. I tried not to be nosey, but a couple of times I found myself looking in his direction as he pointed to numerous names of his former fellow sailors whose names were engraved in permanent memory on the wall as he talked to his wife. I took a picture of that and have it to this day."

Margaret Engler '84

Thanks Margaret for your very poignant and personal memory that you have shared from this historical Baker Student Trip!!!

Another Great Way to Check up on Campus Activities...

You can stay abreast of the most current activities on campus by checking out this YouTube site from time to time: http://www.youtube.com/knbu. Also there is a growing list of "official Baker sites on Facebook...why not join us???



December's Trivia Answer... The Question was: Name the original person responsible for composing the lyrics for the Alma Mater ("To the Orange"). Next, name the former faculty member responsible for having written the music that goes with the original lyrics. Finally, for extra credit, what was the first year that the "Alma Mater" was sung at an official "high University occasion". The Answers are: Music by...Dr. Roger Kugler Lyrics...Warren Shepard Year first sung: 1986

Students Receives Honors...

Twelve Baker University School of Nursing students have been inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society of nursing, for finishing in the top 35 percent of their class. The following students were recognized on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at the Pozez Auditorium at Stormont-Vail HealthCare: Lena Cooper, Angela Hageman, Stephanie Houser, Jaime Joseph, Johnna Mobley, Leandra Monreal, Jessie Pool, Adrian Ratlief, Scott Rowland, Chelli Schuster, Kristen Zielke and Emily Fernkopf. Baker School of Nursing alumni Lula Moore, Class of 1999, and Nichole Potts, Class of 2005, were also inducted into the honor society for their roles as community nurse leaders. Congratulations one and all!!!

I Hope You Have a Great
Month of January...
I'll write again in February!!!

Jerry L. Weakley '70

Vice President for Endowment and Planned Giving P.O. Box 65, Baldwin City, KS 66006 1-785-594-8332 jerry.weakley@bakeru.edu

Bequests

Every month or so I answer a telephone call, letter or e-mail that in essence asks for information on what is the best way for that individual to insure that a bequest to Baker in their will or trust gets to the place they most would like for it to go. My response is two-fold. First, and most importantly, they must place the University in that will or trust with wording that indicates as specifically as possible these things: I hereby make a bequest in the amount of example: \$50,000 (or percentage of the estate...example: 25% of the rest and residue of the estate) to The Trustees of The Baker University, 618 Eighth St., Baldwin City, Kansas, 66006. This bequest shall be: (state purpose if so desired)... example: "To be added to the general endowment of the University for the purpose of (fill in this blank)...or, perhaps it is the intent of the donor to leave the gift without restriction...example..."This gift is made without restriction and may be used for the benefit of the University as may best apply and be determined by the Board of Trustees or Officers of the College at the time of its receipt".

Secondly,iIf through a conversation with the donor I determine that they are indeed interested in making a bequest that would establish an endowed fund, I continue to speak with them about what they would like to have that endowed fund specifically support or accomplish in perpetuity. For example: The fund can be restricted to an endowed scholarship, endowment of a specific course of study or major, be used as an endowment for the library and acquisitions for that facility, for promoting faculty development or for any purpose within a wide range of on-going programs or needs. Endowed funds can be named per the desires of the donor and held in the University's accounts under that name provided the corpus of the endowment is \$10,000 or more...example: "The John and Mary Jane Jones Smith Endowed Scholarship in Business and Finance".

Provided a donor would like to add a specific name to such an endowed fund that will one day be established through the receipt of the testamentary gift I suggest that they allow me to develop a "Letter of Agreement" that adds specific language to the creation of the fund and that provides specific direction to the future officers of the college in the use of the endowment once established. Letters of Agreement allow the grantor of the trust to add additional specificity to the use of the fund...example....adding a grade point requirement, a major of study or other type of requirement in the award of a scholarship from the future fund. Letters of Agreement when completed and signed by both the University and the donor may be attached to the donor's will or trust. Copies of the same document are then kept in permanent files within the University's Business and Advancement offices to insure that once received, the bequest is utilized exactly as the donor had originally conceived.

If you are planning to include Baker in your estate plan, I would encourage you to think in terms of benefitting the endowment and to adding language that would provide a <u>percentage</u> as opposed to a <u>fixed</u> dollar amount. I have seen estates come to the University where the donor felt that a fixed dollar would suffice, when with the effect of inflation, the estate grew extremely large but, the impact of their gift to the University fell well short of what they were originally hoping it would be. Call me at 785-594-8332 if you have any questions.



Jerry L. Weakley

*The Above information is provided only for your consideration and should not be construed as "Legal or Tax Advice". You should always consult your own professional advisor before acting upon this or similar information.