

# Ford Scholar Alumni News

**Ford Scholar**  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Fall 2012

*Improving communities through volunteerism, civic leadership and philanthropy.*

## Alumni Families Enjoy Autumn at the Pumpkin Patch

By **Holly Scholz**  
Editor

Decked out in a Charlie Brown and The Great Pumpkin shirt, little Chase Turner was sizing himself up to a bright orange pumpkin. The one-year-old seemed intrigued by the gourd, but the corn stalk was interesting, too.

This was Chase's first visit to a pumpkin patch, said his mom, Karissa Turner. Eric Turner from the Class of 2000 and his family made the trek down from Portland to Bauman's Farm and Garden Harvest Festival in Gervais, Ore., just northeast of Salem, on Saturday, Oct. 6.



*Karissa, Chase, and Eric Turner (Class of 2000) visited Bauman's Farm and Garden Fall Harvest Festival in Gervais, Ore., on Oct. 6 along with other Ford Scholar Alumni.*

The Turner family and other Ford Scholar Alumni and their friends and families enjoyed the fall festivities at the family farm of Cari Bauman, an FSAA Board

member at large from the Class of 2002.

It was a glorious autumn day for the second annual FSAA social event. FSAA President Andrea Smith said creating opportunities to gather with other Scholars is part of the "connections" theme that board members introduced in January at the general meeting.

While Chase and his parents visited the pigs and goats in the Animal Zone, Theresa Logan from the Class of 2000 took her two little girls to the Sock Hop, where baby Adelie was delighted when her mom bounced her gently up and down as her sister raced through the bounce house.

## New Director Hired



Denise Callahan will join The Ford Family Foundation as Director of Scholarship Programs on Nov. 26, replacing Sam Rennick, who left the position in May.

Callahan is the Senior Director of Alumni and Parent Relations for Willamette University in Salem, Ore. She has been responsible for leading, managing and directing the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations in encouraging the continued involvement and engagement of alumni with the university. She also has oversight of the University's alumni magazine and is responsible for the marketing and branding of the development and alumni relations division at Willamette.

The Baker City, Ore., native holds bachelor degrees in English and Spanish as well as an MBA focused in organizational efficiency and design from Willamette University.

Callahan and her husband, John, plan to relocate to Eugene.

## Foundation President to Retire

Norm Smith, president and CEO of The Ford Family Foundation, will retire on April 15, 2013. Norm was the first employee hired when the Foundation commenced operations in 1997.

"Norm has been an outstanding leader in overseeing the growth and development of the Foundation throughout this critical period," said Ron Parker, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Foundation. "He has also been an effective spokesman for the Foundation and helped establish it as a philanthropic leader in the Pacific Northwest. Norm will leave the Foundation in excellent shape with two nationally recognized initiatives in place and an outstanding staff."

A national search for Norm's successor is underway, and a new CEO is expected to be in place before his departure.

"I intersected with the 1996 search for the president of The Ford Family Foundation while working in San Francisco in the Law and Government Affairs division of



*Norm Smith*

The *Ford Scholar Alumni News* is published twice a year.

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Norm Smith, President

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milestones, reflections or  
suggestions, contact:  
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Hobbs, Andrea Smith, Logan  
Smith and Tyler Smith.

Editor's Note: The authors'  
opinions do not necessarily  
reflect those of the FSAA or  
its members.

## A Note from the President

**By Andrea Smith**  
**FSAA President**

On Saturday, Oct. 6, the Ford Scholar Alumni Board met at the dining room table in the beautiful old farm home at Bauman's Farms and Garden (thanks, Cari!), prior to having some fun with our friends and families. Not that board meetings aren't fun, of course...

The meeting was only 90 minutes long, but we accomplished quite a bit in that short time. First, we set a date for the Annual Membership General Meeting – Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013; all details are TBA, but we're looking at a start time of 10 a.m. Save the date!

Our new board members, Logan Smith, Ryan Hildebrand, Rob Teel and David Carne are now officially instated, and we say a fond farewell to Mike Meyers, Michelle Boss Barba and Eric Collins, all of whom expressed their desire to stay involved with the organization. A HUGE thanks to them. And of course, Chris Schulze was reelected, so he's sort of in both categories, and I'm very thankful to have him back.

Member at Large Ellyn Canfield-Nealon, who wasn't in attendance, primarily because she lives in New York, provided us with an update of our Facebook group membership blitz. We are now 261 Friends strong, and hope to perhaps double that by the

end of the year. We're also working on increasing the page traffic... since when are Ford Scholars so quiet?

Suleima Garcia is the new board liaison to the Events Committee. If you like to plan fun stuff, or you have ideas for group outings/projects/opportunities, contact Suleima at events@fordscholaralumni.com. You don't have to join the committee to provide ideas, but you know you want to. ☺

Last, and hopefully not least, the FSAA and the Ford Institute for Community Building are exploring opportunities for our organizations to collaborate. It's all part of our "connections" theme. While we're not legally affiliated with the Institute, we are definitely united in purpose and principle. More to come on that subject.

OK, this is actually the last thing: Every once in a while, I just have to give special thanks to Holly Scholz for compiling, editing and writing a great deal of our newsletters. She's also our photographer extraordinaire. Without Holly, there would be no newsletter, and I really enjoy reading these things. So, thank you, Holly. (And Holly, I know you're editing this... no, you can't take out this section.)

## Introducing the FSAA Board Members

**By Eric Collins**  
**Class of 1995**

In the closest race for Ford Scholar Alumni Board of Directors ever, Logan Smith (Class of 1996) edged out Mary (Nelson) Chuinard (Class of 2002) and Eric Turner (Class of 2000) to win the vice presidency during the online FSAA Election in March. It was so close, in fact, that those responsible for running the election triple checked the numbers to make sure that Smith had indeed won.

Ryan Hildebrand (Class of 2000) will return to his former position as treasurer on the FSAA Board. The Board will also welcome

back current at-large member, Chris Schulze (Class of 1995), for another term. He will be joined by new members David Carne (Class of 2000) and Robert Teel (Class of 1998).

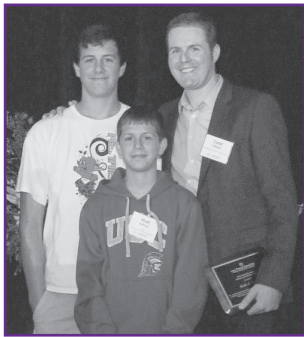
This year's candidates were all truly inspiring and impressive, and we thank them for stepping forward to help shape the future of the FSAA. Another opportunity to run for office will be available in 2013, when elections will be held for president, secretary and four at-large members.

# Todd Gifford and Tyler Smith Receive Gerald Bruce Award

Ford Family Foundation Board Member Joe Kearns awarded two outstanding Ford Scholar Alumni the Gerald E. Bruce Community Service Award on Saturday, July 14 during the Ford Scholars Recognition Conference in Eugene.

Bruce was a very close friend of Kenneth Ford's and one of the founding directors of the Foundation. He inspired others with his commitment to community, to giving back, to stewardship and leadership, and his belief that every young person, with a college education, could make a difference in the world.

As an entrepreneur, risk-taker and successful businessman, Bruce's life was



*Gerald E. Bruce Award winner Todd Gifford with his sons, Josh, age 16, and Matt, age 14.*

about recognizing possibilities. He saw in Scholars the potential they had to make positive differences in their communities. Unfortunately, Bruce passed away in 2002 after a valiant battle with cancer.

In living memory of Bruce's life, full of "giving back" to his community, this award is given to Ford Scholar Alumni who shoulder community leadership responsibilities without concern for getting credit, and who exhibit steadfast loyalty to the Foundation's core values of integrity, stewardship, respect, independence and community. In short, award

recipients are actively committed to changing things for the better.

The first Gerald E. Bruce Award co-awardee, Todd Gifford, comes from the Ford Scholar Class of 2001.

Gifford graduated from West Albany High School in 1990. Not long after high school, he signed on for a six-year enlistment in the Army Medical Corps and in 1998, was honorably discharged. The following year, Gifford began his academic career at Linn-Benton Community College and upon earning an Associate of Science degree was selected as a Ford Scholar and headed to Oregon State University.

In 2003, he graduated Cum Laude, with a Bachelor of Science in pre-dentistry from Oregon State University's Honors College. He received graduate funding from the Foundation to attend Oregon Health and Science University's School of Dentistry.

Today, Gifford is the owner of his own dental practice, Gifford Family Dentistry, in the Hillsdale community of Portland and is a part-time faculty member at Pacific University School of Dental Science.

He has worked hard to make community service a large part of his doing business. He and his staff recently volunteered on the Oregon Dental Foundation's Tooth Taxi, the Oregon Mission of Mercy, and Project Homeless Connect in Hillsboro. Through these outlets, he has contributed to providing free dental care for Oregon's underserved children and adults.

Another project that is near and dear to Gifford's heart is that of the Hillsdale Main Street Program, whose mission is to improve their community by making it a better place to live, learn, work and shop



*Ford Family Foundation Board Member Joe Kearns presents Tyler Smith with the Gerald E. Bruce Community Service Award.*

by promoting the development of the community's infrastructure and resources.

This award is accompanied by a grant of \$5,000 from the Foundation to the Hillsdale Main Street Program. The funds will be used to further their mission, including various outreach projects and/or marketing campaigns that reach individuals and families seeking to play a more active role in the community.

Gifford has enjoyed many positive experiences with the Foundation. "I find being associated with this organization that is so dedicated to doing good in the community inspires me to do the same."

The second Gerald E. Bruce Award co-awardee is Tyler Smith, a Siskiyou County Ford Scholar from the Class of 1998.

Smith graduated from Yreka Union High School and moved from a cattle ranch in "Little Shasta," to California State University, Chico. In 2002, he graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in communication design, with a minor in computer science. In 2003, he married another Ford scholarship recipient, Tina Faris.

Smith is the chief technology offi-

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## Nominate Alumni for Bruce Award by Nov. 15 Deadline

It's inspiring to hear about fellow Ford Scholar Alumni like Todd Gifford and Tyler Smith who are living out Gerry Bruce's vision of Scholars not only succeeding as entrepreneurs but incorporating community service into their lives as well. Do you know other alumni who have these same values? Maybe even yourself?

You are invited to nominate yourself or a fellow Ford Scholar from the Classes of 1994 through 2003 for the Gerald E. Bruce Community Service Award.

The Ford Family Foundation seeks nominations of Ford Scholar Alumni

who represent Gerry Bruce's vision of leadership and who: have demonstrated a strong propensity for "giving back" through volunteer service; have demonstrated leadership, civic responsibility, and the values of the Foundation in their work and service; and recognize and care about the potential of future generations.

The selected recipient will be recognized with a plaque and a \$5,000 grant made to a non-profit organization of the recipient's choice during an awards banquet on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at the Valley River Inn in Eugene, Ore.

Visit the Ford Scholar Alumni Association website for the nomination form, [www.FordScholarAlumni.com](http://www.FordScholarAlumni.com).

Please submit nominations and/or your application no later than Thursday, Nov. 15, 2012. The selected recipient will be notified by Jan. 1, 2013.

To encourage participation, nominators and applicants will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Call the Foundation Scholarship Office at 877-864-2872 or e-mail [ford-scholarships@tfff.org](mailto:ford-scholarships@tfff.org) if you have questions.



# New Theme Connects Alumni

By Logan Smith  
FSAA Vice President

Members of the Ford Scholar Alumni Association Board chose “connecting” as this year’s theme.

After much discussion at its annual meeting in Eugene, Ore., on July 14, board members agreed to focus on engaging alumni rather than the traditional planning of events.

New FSAA board member Robert Teel concluded by saying, “With less than 10% of the alumni body actively participating in our events and voting in elections, lack of involvement clearly remains our largest obstacle as a young orga-

nization. Holding events will be continually frustrating due to low attendance and dwindling membership activity if we do not change our method of reaching out to alumni.”

FSAA President Andrea Smith added that she has “heard from many alumni that feel they lose touch with their classmates once they graduate.” Smith went on to say, “Many alumni also have a difficult time finding employment and volunteer opportunities and likely have a desire to ask their Ford Scholar classmates for help. Alumni want to be more connected.”

According to a recent article, “How many alumni live near you” on the FSAA website, alumni membership now stands at 1,473 individuals with the vast array of professional skills located all over the world. Tyler Smith, co-chair of the com-

munications committee, noted “a network of this scope has potential to serve as a valuable resource for every FSAA alumni.”

The FSAA recently sent an e-mail to all members announcing the new “connecting” theme and inviting them to join the Facebook group and the LinkedIn professional network. The FSAA board encourages all alumni to join the groups and contribute to the conversation on how to make the network stronger.

In addition, the FSAA will blog Ford Scholar Alumni stories on the association website and eventually expand the “connecting” theme to include all alumni of Ford Family Scholarship Programs and Ford Institute for Community Building programs.

## Foundation President to Retire

*Continued from page 1*

AT&T,” Norm recalled. “My wife, Kathy, and son, Spencer, and I are all native Oregonians, so coming home was just one of the appealing aspects of accepting the position.”

Prior to his AT&T career, Norm had practiced law in Washington, D.C., and Portland, Ore., and served in the Oregon House of Representatives.

“The challenge of working with a new Board of Directors on a very promising, philanthropic start-up in southern Oregon was a powerful draw,” Norm recalled.

Norm was recruited at the end of 1996, when Kenneth Ford, founder of Roseburg Forest Products, was very ill. Mr. Ford passed away at age 88 in February 1997, but not before he had hand-selected a Board of Directors to shepherd the newly renamed Ford Family Foundation.

“I was on standby to fly up to meet him on short notice in early 1997,” Norm said, “but he passed away before I had the chance to listen to his thoughts and hopes for the Foundation. The Board stepped up to secure Mr. Ford’s legacy. They gave me great guidance and insight to his vision for a large, private philanthropy

to benefit small- and mid-size communities across rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, California.”

When Norm began, the Foundation had an endowment of \$256 million. Today, it is one of the largest private foundations in the Pacific Northwest and has recently ranked in the top 100 in assets in the nation, growing to \$700 million. In addition, it has distributed over \$250 million for charitable purposes since 1997.

The Foundation also operates the Ford Institute for Community Building. The Institute was launched in 2000 and is now working in 80 rural “hubs” across the region with leadership development, organizational capacity building, and community collaborations to achieve rural, community vitality. There are 4,000 graduates of the Institute’s rural, leadership program.

The Foundation in 1997 had a history of charitable gifts from Mr. Ford, and two programs that provided access to post-secondary education for financially needy students. Today, those two scholarship programs have grown into five, creating a major initiative of the Foundation. More than 1,000 scholarship recipients are cur-

rently enrolled, and alumni number more than 3,000. In most programs, recipients are eligible for receiving funding of up to 90% of their unmet need. The Foundation has granted nearly \$123 million to students.

The Ford Scholar Alumni Association strives to keep recipients of the Ford Scholars Program connected and engaged in their communities.

Norm encourages alumni to stay together and consult other programs and models. Perhaps even consider expanding to include other Ford Family Scholarship recipients like Ford Opportunity and Ford ReStart Scholars. He recommends participating in annual award banquets to solicit new interest and to keep highlighting successes in our newsletter.

“Ford Scholars are people of true grit,” Norm said, adding that alumni help fulfill Mr. Ford’s vision of creating vital rural communities. “You were originally selected in the belief that with a chance at post-secondary education, each of you would be closer to his vision of successful citizens. In that regard, exercise your citizenship by making your block, your village, your school a better place by engaging with others to that end.”

# Scholars Send Off Sam Rennick with a Surprise Flash Mob Party

By Holly Scholz  
Editor



Director of Scholarship Programs Sam Rennick said farewell to The Ford Family Foundation in May.

How do you say good-bye to a great leader who's made a difference in your life, helped you achieve so much and is your amazing friend?

A flash mob – dancing like there's no tomorrow – that's how you give a one-of-a-kind send-off to someone who will be missed.

An energetic group of about 35 Ford Family Scholarship recipients surprised Ford Family Foundation Scholarship Programs Director Sam Rennick with a flash mob farewell dance party in the south parking lot of the Eugene Scholarship Office on a sprinkling Friday in late April.

Rennick, who joined the Foundation four years ago as the director of scholarship programs, accepted a position as executive director of the Beatrice Community Hospital Foundation in his home state of Nebraska. His last day with The Ford Family Foundation was May 11, 2012.

"It was awesome," Rennick said of the party. "I was really touched by the turnout of Scholars and other well-wishers."

The whole idea of a flash mob came about when his co-workers Ashley

Stripling and Shamra Clark were chatting about how to say farewell. "Ashley mentioned a flash mob as a joke," Clark commented, but Clark ran with the idea.

Clark recalled Ford Scholar Isauro Saldana from the Class of 2008 being a great dancer at summer conferences, so she called him up. He lives in Eugene and was finishing up his bachelor's degree in business and commerce from the University of Oregon.

Saldana loves to dance and worked at dance studios and even taught dance to school kids. He choreographed a three-minute flash mob one afternoon to the tune of "Glad You Came" by The Wanted. The Scholarship Office gals filmed Saldana teaching the moves and posted the video on YouTube. Eugene-area scholarship recipients were invited to learn the dance and secretly show up at the Scholarship Office parking lot for the surprise flash mob.



Ford Scholar Isauro Saldana from the class of 2008 (on far right) leads the Flash Mob in Sam Rennick's honor.

"We've practiced so much and know so little," said Class of 2010 Ford Scholar Emily Gritzmacher with a laugh.

After a couple of practice rounds, the flash mob was ready.

When Rennick arrived in the back

## Annual Membership General Meeting

10 a.m. Saturday,  
January 12, 2013  
Location TBA, but in  
the Portland area

parking lot, Saldana and his dancing friend Brittney Walker did a 90-second dance, followed by the flash mob of dancing Scholars. At the end of their 90-second performance, they held up signs with messages to Rennick.

"I never saw it coming," Rennick said after the party. "I had no idea!"

The mob then moved indoors for cake and punch.

Rennick said he loved being a part of the Foundation, but the opportunity to return to Nebraska and be close to family was a major factor in his decision to leave.

"While I miss the staff and all the Scholars I've had the good fortune to meet, I am excited by the challenges ahead," he said.

Rennick describes his new town of Beatrice, Neb., as a dynamic and progressive small city positioned well to thrive in the years to come. He hopes to use some of the things he's learned about creating successful citizens and vital rural communities in his work with the hospital foundation.

Rennick hopes Scholars will actively seek to "unleash the power of others" as one of their primary goals in life. "And always act in a way that would make Kenneth Ford proud."

Even if it is a dancing in a flash mob.

### Todd Gifford and Tyler Smith...

Continued from page 3

cer at Matson and Isom Technology Consulting, an IT consulting service provider in Chico. He helped to rebuild the organization and in the process secured partial ownership of the venture.

Smith has been a dedicated member of the Ford Scholar Alumni Association. For the past 10 years, he has volunteered many hours creating and maintaining the FSAA's website,

including the voting process for alumni board member elections, donations and alumni conference management systems, and the Gerald E. Bruce Award online application process.

Smith has chosen the non-profit organization Chico Esplanade House to receive a \$5,000 grant from the Foundation. This organization is part of the Community Action Agency of Butte County and provides housing, education and transitional housing for homeless families. The organization will use the

funds for children's programs. Smith has assisted the Chico Esplanade House in technical planning and funding efforts.

Smith said it is a tremendous honor to be selected for this award.

"I've always considered the Ford Scholars Program to be an investment," Smith said. "I still wear my Ford Scholar Class of 1998 ring every day to remind me of the opportunities I've been afforded, and work to provide opportunities to others in any way that I can."

# Milestones

## Class of 1994

### **Marija (Kovacevic) Hobbs**

Marija returned to the workforce in August 2012 after many years as a stay-at-home mother. She is the operations assistant at the Foundation for Vancouver Public Schools, a nonprofit organization that has created opportunities to cultivate and inspire student success since 1988. The foundation relies on donations to help ensure all students are prepared, confident and excited to learn. This goal is achieved through meeting basic needs to families in poverty, developing interactions with positive role models, and providing enrichment opportunities. Marija's position involves management of mentoring programs, volunteers and donors.

### **Patricia Ludwig**

Patricia began her 15th year of teaching at Days Creek Charter School, where one of her assignments involves guiding seniors through the yearlong SAT, college admissions, financial aid, and scholarship process. She teaches secondary English and, occasionally, art at the middle school level. Patricia and her husband will celebrate their 44th wedding anniversary in December.

### **Anna Tester**

Anna was hired as the principal of Pilot Rock High School, from where not only she graduated but also her parents, siblings and children. She became the first graduate to be an administrator in Pilot Rock School District. She had to resign from her city council post, but she believes being involved with city government was a learning experience. She was co-chair of a reunion in her community celebrating 100+10 years (cen-ten-ial) of their city charter. Hundreds of people attended the two-day celebration.

## Class of 1995

### **Joy (Thompson) Brooke**

Joy began the Doctor of Leadership Program at Seattle University this summer.

### **Jeri Greenberg**

In July 2012, Jeri was promoted to director of the Dietetic Internship Program at Oregon Health and Science University after serving two years within the program as the placement coordinator as an instructor. She currently holds a faculty appointment in the Graduate Programs in Human Nutrition, where she enjoys teaching, mentoring students, building relationships with the program's many constituents, and serving in an administrative role.

## Class of 1996

### **Emily Arion**

Emily and her husband bought their first home in August. They did some remodeling before moving into their new home.

### **Nils Thingvall**

Nils and his wife, Jen, had a daughter, Brynn Renée Thingvall, on April 26, 2012.

## Class of 1997

### **Lisa (Taylor) Decker**

Lisa will serve as the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Society of Portland president for the 2013 fiscal year.

### **Emerald (Clarity) Lopez**

Emerald was recently accepted into the Doctor of Education in Organization Leadership Program at City University of Seattle.

## Class of 1998

### **Shauna (Hunter) Altman**

This summer, Shauna and her husband, Dan, welcomed their first child, a healthy baby boy, into the world. Peter Alexander Altman was born June 26, 2012, in Pendleton, Ore. He was 8 pounds, 1 ounce, and 22 inches long.

### **Jacob Crawford**

Jacob is entering his fifth year as sole proprietor of Powell Butte Veterinary Service, a mobile, mixed-animal veterinary practice in Central Oregon. He lives on a 40-acre ranch, raising registered black and red Angus cattle, as well as six other species of animals.

### **Rebecca Russell**

Rebecca recently opened her own law practice, The Law Office of Rebecca Russell, in the Salem-Keizer area. She practices immigration law, primarily family-based petitions, and citizenship applications.

## Class of 1999

### **Jeremy Arnold**

Jeremy graduated from Emergency Medicine Residency and is board certified in emergency medicine. He recently took a position at Concord Hospital in Concord, N.H.

### **Thomaida Hudanish**

Thomaida travelled to Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in June 2012 with a team from the Orthodox Christian Mission Center at the invitation of the first and only Orthodox Christian parish in the country. Highlights included staying in a yurt, sharing Mongolian traditional foods, and using Russian language skills to communicate with the locals.

## **Steven Hyde**

Steven married Gwynne Engelking on Aug. 4, 2012, at the New Leaf Greenhouse in Forest Grove, Ore. In a unique and home-grown style that matches the core values of the couple, they grew all of the flowers for the event at the greenhouse, grew all of the vegetables for the reception dinner on-site, and caught all of the salmon for the dinner. They also brewed the beer and served prime rib from Oregon Country Beef, a co-op where Steven's family sells cattle raised at the family ranch. They live in Portland, Ore. Steven works as an engineer at a medium-sized, private company.

## **Timisha Wilson**

Timisha graduated from Portland State University with a Master's of Social Work. She has begun the application process to be a licensed clinical social worker, and is currently a licensed clinical social work associate. She hopes to one day work with middle- or high-school students and have some experience in a hospital setting. Last year, Timisha expanded her volunteer experience internationally by participating on a mission trip to Mexico, where she helped expand a church and ran a five-day Vacation Bible School for almost 80 kids daily.

## Class of 2000

### **Kevin Wienecke**

Kevin has been promoted twice within the last six months and is now the lead content designer for Zynga's Pioneer Trail at Zynga, Inc., the world's leading provider of social game services. Kevin and his wife also celebrated their first wedding anniversary in June.

## Class of 2001

### **Josh Bruck**

Josh has worked for Abercrombie and Fitch for the last seven-and-half years since graduating from San Diego State University. He spent three years abroad in the United Kingdom before being promoted to regional manager of the Southwest United States.

### **DJ Burrows**

DJ married Class of 2004 Ford Sons and Daughters Scholarship recipient Megan Goddard in August 2011. Their son was born on Sept. 23, 2012. They live in Eugene, where he works for an engineering consulting firm and Megan works in commercial credit and lending.

### **Sara Dotson**

Sara recently moved to Keizer, Ore., and works with Polk County on their crisis team. She works in the rural area of Dallas, assisting individuals, hospital staff, jail staff and law enforcement in addressing crisis situations. She hopes to continue to facilitate groups as well.



## Milestones Continued

### **Annamarie (Ruble) Gallagher**

Annamarie worked as an admission counselor and a resident director at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Fla., after graduating from George Fox University. Later, she transplanted to Winston-Salem, N.C., to complete a Master of Arts in counseling from Wake Forest University. She works full time as a community counselor, providing community-based therapy and case management for chronically mentally ill individuals. She recently became a licensed professional counselor and works as an adjunct instructor for the Wake Forest Counseling Program. She and her husband, Terry, expect their first child in February. They have a puppy that will be a therapy dog.

### **Patrick Keys**

This fall, Patrick started a Ph.D. program in Natural Resources Management at Stockholm University, in Stockholm, Sweden. His research will focus on the relationship between rainfall, land-use change, and rain-fed agriculture.

### **Zachary Stevens**

Zachary and his wife had their first child, a girl, Ezraha Nayara, on June 11, 2012. In February Zachary traveled to Honduras with the charity he founded, Project Sole, and gave away 2,000 pairs of shoes in different orphanages outside of the capital city Tegucigalpa.

### **Class of 2002**

#### **Vicki (Fry) Ash**

Vicki and her husband, Chad, just had their first children – twin boys! They were born July 25, 2012. Ethan John Ash was 3 pounds, 15 ounces and 17 inches long and Coen Rudy Ash was 4 pounds, 12 ounces and 18 ¼ inches long.

#### **Brittany (Farrer) Daugherty**

Brittany married Jason Daugherty in Winston, Ore., on June 20, 2012.

#### **Jennifer (Hurlimann) Gomes**

Jennifer married Ruben Gomes in July 2011, and they welcomed their first child, Scarlett, in January 2012.

#### **Erin (Wolff) Kitumba**

Erin and her husband, Richard, a Ford ReStart Scholar from the Class of 2009, welcomed their second son, Anz Tayden Kitumba, on July 6, 2012.

#### **Heather (Kreindel) Savelich**

In 2012, Heather received a promotion at the park and recreation district where she works and now supervises the school-age programs, including a before- and after-school program and all school-age summer camps. Heather and her husband expect their first child, a boy, in December.

### **Class of 2003**

#### **Julie (Stumph) Hedford**

Julie continues to work as a labor, delivery, recovery, post-partum nurse at a small rural hospital. She recently became a nationally certified lactation consultant, which enables her to further assist her maternity patients, as well as her small community of families. Now that her youngest child has started school, Julie plans to begin her education toward becoming a certified nurse midwife. She recently became certified in bio/chemo IV therapy, allowing her to be diverse in what she can offer her small facility.

### **Class of 2004**

#### **Leana Dickerson**

Leana was accepted to the Master of Arts English program at Portland State University and will continue her educational and career journey this fall.

### **Class of 2005**

#### **Rebecca (James) McMahon**

August kicked off an exciting new school year as Rebecca began teaching for her second year at Butteville Elementary School in Edgewood, Calif. She shares the job with another third-grade teacher, which allows her to stay at home with her daughter, Laney, a few days a week. Laney turned one on Aug. 6.

#### **Jeremy Riel**

Jeremy recently finished his master's degree in communication, culture and technology at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. This fall, he started Ph.D. work in learning sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago where he researches digital literacy and learning technologies for better higher-education classrooms and student success.

#### **Katie (Strong) Ward**

Katie's second son, Kase Ward, was born on her and her husband's seventh wedding anniversary, June 24, 2012. She accepted an instructor position at Rogue Community College, where she teaches biology and anatomy and physiology.

### **Class of 2006**

#### **Timothy Chance**

Timothy is enrolled in a full-time Master of Arts in Teaching program at Concordia University in Portland. He teaches in a second grade classroom at Westside Elementary in Hood River. He will then spend six weeks in a fourth grade classroom before graduating in December. He will be endorsed to teach kindergarten through eighth grade in a contained classroom.

### **Emily (Blaylock) Conlee and Eli Conlee**

On Aug. 4, 2012, Emily and Eli Conlee were married in Redmond, Ore. They met at the 2006 Ford Scholars Conference before they began their freshman year at Corban University. They spent the next four years matching their class schedules and becoming each other's personal editor. As graduation brought new adventures, they continued their friendship from East to West Coast. Now after six years, the two long-time personal editors have become husband and wife. They live in Bend, Ore., working and enjoying the Cascades Mountains.

### **Heather (Munyon) Wolter**

Heather married Nick Wolter on July 21, 2012.

### **Class of 2007**

#### **Thao Trang Hoang**

Thao Trang studied abroad in Denmark last year, meeting people from all over the world and experiencing life in a different culture. She learned many languages, and her cooking skills have never been so excellent! She earned credit for electrical engineering and computer science in intense academic courses. This summer, she went to Kiev, the capitol of Ukraine, so she could learn Russian. She again met people from all over the world and was able to see the eastern side of Europe. Her dreams in electrical engineering and becoming an interpreter are within reach.

#### **Lily Shorey**

Lily began working for the American Cancer Society as an administrative assistant in the spring and in August was promoted to a community relationship manager. This job is her first step in pursuing her dream of working with non-profit organizations while also using her Bachelor of Science in public health. Lily recently completed the Hood to Coast, "The Mother of All Relays," spanning 199 miles from Mt. Hood to Seaside, Ore. Lily and Andrew Westlund are engaged and are planning a September 2013 wedding.

## CONNECT with the FSAA!

Join 260 Ford Scholar Alumni on our Facebook Page - search "FSAA" Network on our LinkedIn group "Ford Scholar Professional Network"

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*The Ford Scholar Alumni Association Board Members met during the Ford Scholars Recognition Conference on Saturday, July 14 at the Valley River Inn in Eugene. Pictured in front from left to right: Secretary Marija Kovacevic Hobbs, Vice President Logan Smith and President Andrea Smith. Back row from left to right: Members at Large David Carne, Robert Teel, Ryan Tharp and Chris Schulze, and Treasurer Ryan Hildebrand. Not pictured are Members at Large Cari Bauman, Suleima Garcia and Ellyn Canfield Nealon.*

## Keeping Connected

Learn more about the Ford Scholar Alumni Association online by visiting [www.FordScholarAlumni.com](http://www.FordScholarAlumni.com).

**Update your contact information (especially your e-mail address!)** by logging in to [www.MyFordInfo.org](http://www.MyFordInfo.org), or by contacting the Scholarship Office directly:

The Ford Family Foundation Scholarship Office:  
440 East Broadway, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401

Call toll free: 877-864-2872

In Eugene: 541-485-6211

E-mail: [fordscholarships@tfff.org](mailto:fordscholarships@tfff.org)

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Also join the FSAA Group. Search "FSAA" or type in [www.Facebook.com/groups/FordAlumni/](http://www.Facebook.com/groups/FordAlumni/)

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Search Groups for "Ford Scholars Professional Network" and click "join."

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