president’s message
William G. Cale, Jr.

Last December the Board of Directors of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) took action in the final step leading to our reaffirmation of accreditation, approving UNA unconditionally. While we had every reason to anticipate this outcome it is nevertheless a nice moment to have the 10-year cycle completed. But SACS, which is by far the strongest regional accrediting body in the country, will continue to be a presence in our evolving program initiatives. For example, as we implement offering this semester our MBA program on the campus of Athens State University (what a wonderful and cooperative partnership that is) we will also have external evaluators from SACS come and conduct a site visit to ensure quality and compliance with the relevant off-campus standards. There is similar monitoring of distance learning, international offerings, and new degree programs. Quality within the Southern region is carefully examined from within and without, which is not a bad thing.

Speaking of quality, the University of North Alabama Department of Communication’s concentration in film and digital media production is in only its fifth year of existence, but its recent high rankings prove it to be off to a phenomenal start. In an international survey by Reelshort International online magazine released in mid-January, UNA is ranked No. 1 on the list of Top Ten Film Schools of 2012. Our own professor Jason Flynn was selected by Reelshort in 2011 as Film Mentor of the Year. While on the topic of film, the Lindsey Film Festival this year featured the new and highly acclaimed documentary “Muscle Shoals.” Much of the rich, cultural heritage of the Shoals is found in the story this film tells, which features many of the personalities that made Muscle Shoals famous.

Most of you will know that our dear friend and University Trustee Harvey Robbins passed away in February after a prolonged illness. Mr. Robbins and his wife Joyce Anne established at UNA is the Crawford Orr Robbins Professorship in the School of Music, which is not a bad thing!

As we continue through the Spring Semester we are in a mode of anticipation of good things under development. The Academic and Student Commons building is well on its way in construction, the much anticipated science and technology building is similar monitoring of distance learning, and the Antioch Science and Technology Center is under construction. The Academic and Student Commons building is under construction, the much anticipated science and technology building is under construction, and the Antioch Science and Technology Center is under construction. The Academic and Student Commons building is under construction, the much anticipated science and technology building is under construction, and the Antioch Science and Technology Center is under construction.

It’s our job to help students find the academic and student resources they need to be successful not only in their first year, but throughout their UNA careers,” he said.

The Center for Academic Advising and Retention Services (CAARS) will become part of the University Success Center. The University Success Center will allow CAARS to expand their present offering of in-depth advising, aside from aiding in the registration of classes.

The University Success Center takes its title from the belief that we need to support the whole student, and that what happens outside of the classroom has direct impact on what happens in the classroom,” Koch said.

It will also allow more flexibility for the Center for Writing Excellence. “Each semester, the CWE supports an average of 500-700 students in 1, 500-1,800 consultations,” Koch said. The Center for Writing Excellence currently staffs an average of 14 students and allows students to work either on one-on-one basis or in smaller groups.

The University Success Center will offer tutoring that will work toward hosting a regularly scheduled set of times for students to be able to access and. Koch said that a student may be visiting the Center for Writing Excellence, then see that a history, economics, or other curriculum tutor is available on the same floor and can easily access what he or she needs to achieve success at the University.

A center that focuses primarily on advising is also has been proposed. Listerhill Credit Union on-campus branch, The Hill, will be located on the same floor as the University Success Center. With the branch located nearby, it fills the need to help students learn how to create and maintain a budget and help in other financial affairs.

The floor will have two classrooms for the use of regular professional development and academic workshops. The floor will give an opportunity to create a consistent space and routine times for the programs offered.

Koch said the Center will serve as a welcome access point to UNA.

Inquiries about the University Success Center, its programming, and its development can be addressed to Dr. Robert Koch at rtkoch@una.edu.

All my best,
Bill Cale

UNA has new VP
Former Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Thomas Calhoun accepted a new position that started in January. Calhoun now serves as the vice president for enrollment management as appointed by university president Dr. William G. Cale, Jr.

Calhoun will implement a program dedicated to university recruitment and the involvement of campus services including academic support, financial services, and advising.

“Our plan is to attract more students who will not only enroll at UNA but who will thrive here and, four years later, graduate. We want that experience for as many students as possible,” Calhoun said. “That will require the strategic and integrated efforts of this new division as well as a variety of programs and departments throughout the university.”

Calhoun served as the vice president for academic support when he first started working at the university in 2010. The following year he was named the associate vice president for academic affairs.
UNA’s Film and Digital Media Productions (F&DMP) program ranked No. 1 among international universities on Reelshow International online magazine. The ranking was user-generated and included schools from the United Kingdom and India.

“When any of our programs receive recognition for quality, this college and the entire university benefits from the positive attention,” College of Arts and Sciences Dean Vagn Hansen said.

Department of Communications Chair Greg Pitts said the recognition is one more sign of the department’s investments made in technology and in personnel.

F&DMP is a concentration of the Communication Arts degree and was developed by Assistant Professor Jason Flynn. Flynn started at UNA five years ago, using his first year to create the curriculum and anything necessary to implement the program the following year.

“The fact that we’re accomplishing things as a young program is unusual, especially during hard economic times,” Flynn said.

He said that internationally, countries look toward the United States as home to Hollywood, but within the nation, UNA’s program isn’t that well known. Flynn said that individuals shouldn’t only look toward New York and L.A. to study film. ‘Some programs appear to exist just to win,’ he said. ‘We let them see our work, it’s what builds our name.’

‘The program has exponentially grown in terms of numbers with enrollment and graduates, but it has also grown in the levels of enthusiasm and energy,’ Pitts said.

Both Flynn and Pitts said the recognition is a complete reflection of the work the students put into their projects.

A senior concentrating in F&DMP, Jessica Colyer said she knew her sophomore year in high school that she wanted to pursue a career in film. After playing volleyball at a community college, Colyer took a tour of UNA’s campus where she met with Flynn.

Colyer said that she liked that the program was young and it could be something for her to join. With the program being smaller in comparison to other universities, she said she enjoys knowing all the students and the opportunities that each student has to help work on classmates’ projects.

During class, Flynn tries to minimize the amount of lecture, so the students can focus on developing their projects. ‘This is a safe time for students to make mistakes,’ Flynn said. ‘The first time they lose footage,’ he said, ‘they’ll know what not to do during their next project. Doing is learning.’

One of the main things Flynn said he wants his students to be aware of is their ability to think independently and critically. ‘I want the students to know how to find answers and hopefully I’m fostering that.’

‘Students need to care about what they’re making. I don’t edit their content,’ he said. ‘I want students to have creative freedom. I encourage that and push it repeatedly.’

‘I love hard,’ Flynn said. ‘I have a pretty open relationship with my students.’ He said he may not know everything about a student’s personality but he truly cares about them as an artist. ‘I’m not trying to make a Steven Spielberg, or 100 Spielbergs.’

Colyer said that throughout the course of knowing Flynn he has taught her to have a sense of humor. ‘I would take things so seriously and stress out, but now I’m just chill.’

‘Flynn is highly committed to his students and the program,’ Pitts said.

The communications department trains students in their concentration but also provides a background education in other fields for their future careers.

‘I know I like to write and I like to film,’ Colyer said of her plans after college. ‘The right [career] opportunity will open up.’

The program offers hands-on experience and equipment that is easily-accessible for student usage. Both Hansen and Pitts said they hope to move F&DMP to a stand-alone degree rather than having it fall under the umbrella of Communication Arts.

‘I am pleased that our students now study film in the context of the totality of communication media and the societal role of communications,’ Hansen said. ‘I believe the contextual understanding gained in college will be useful in careers after college.’
Throughout the course of her research project conducted last year, Kaitlin Ashley, a UNA senior from Madison majoring in elementary education, found that being an effective educator sometimes means not only teaching, but also taking the time to learn about her students.

Ashley’s research on the impact of iPads on teaching and learning began in a classroom of Kilby Laboratory School in Florence and went on to win first place in the Education and Pedagogy category of the 47th Annual Conference at the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), held in Boston this past November.

Her conference presentation, “Integrating New Technologies in K-1 Classrooms: iPads and Literacy Centers,” was based on the first phase of research she had conducted at Kilby.

Ashley spent two days a week at Kilby during the Spring 2012 semester monitoring kindergarteners as they used iPad apps with interactive capabilities to tell stories about what they were learning in class.

She determined through in-class assessments and survey feedback from parents that the iPad apps helped students gain a better understanding of concepts while improving their storytelling abilities.

The second phase of her research, conducted in the fall of 2012, used the iPads for students to practice mathematical journaling. Ashley worked with the same students, now first-graders, to find how iPad use is also effective in improving their understanding of mathematical concepts.

Ashley found the seven iPads for her research through contributions from Kilby parents and from Apple, which loaned a device for the duration of the project.

At NCHC, Ashley was approached by a representative from the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) to promote student writing, about having her research published.

That Kaitlin was approached about having her work published will make her more competitive in a competitive teaching market,” said Dr. Vince Brewton, director of the UNA Honors Program. “Employers are looking for people who have distinguished themselves as known innovators, and Kaitlin is an innovator.”

Brewton said that, in the three years that UNA students have attended NCHC, Ashley is the first student to win an award.

The National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) is the professional association of undergraduate honors programs and colleges, honors directors and deans, and honors faculty, staff, and students. NCHC provides support for institutions and individuals developing, implementing, and expanding honors education through curriculum development, program assessment, teaching innovation, national and international study opportunities, internships, service and leadership development, and mentorship. Nearly 2,000 students and faculty attended the conference this year.

Ashley said there were two people whose help was instrumental in the success of her research: her adviser, Dr. Katie Kinney, and Kilby kindergarten teacher Marisa Frederick ’06.

“The project went so much farther than I thought it would,” said Ashley. “I realized that it’s implementing technology, but it’s also impacting families. I wouldn’t have been able to do this without the kids.”
On Jan. 26, the Miss LUNA title was passed down from senior Anne-Marie Hall to freshman Emily Winkler.

“I was in complete shock when they called my name as Miss LUNA,” Winkler said. It wasn't until students on campus started calling her by her new title the following Monday that it began to sink in.

Winkler has been competing in pageants since she was 14 in hopes of winning scholarship money. She said that by the time she came to the university, she had earned enough money to pay for her freshman year.

Last year, she held the title of Miss Walker County and was able to compete in the Miss Alabama pageant in June. While she was there, she met LUNA Admissions Counselor Julie Yates Taylor '06 & '10. Taylor has served as the university’s representative for the past three years on campus.

On the evening of the pageant, Hall hosted the pageant alongside current Miss Alabama Anna Laura Bryan. Bryan's parents had accompanied her that evening and they said that Miss LUNA was one of the classiest pageants they have attended with Bryan. Since Hall has handed over the reins to Emily Winkler, she is more focused on her final undergraduate semester and has been working part-time at Harlan Elementary School. Each Friday afternoon she teaches fourth and fifth grade chorus groups. "This semester I have 47 wonderfully-talented, unique personalities to teach," she said.

Winkler took to the keys for the talent portion of the pageant. She has been playing the piano for ten years and said on the night of competition she found peace and was calm through her entire performance.

As Miss LUNA, Winkler will have the ability to establish her platform within the surrounding areas.

"I want to host events around the community for the American Heart Association," she said. Her platform, “Heart to Heart: Creating Awareness in My Community,” was created by the time she was 16 and was crowned Miss Rocket City Teen. The platform is centered on her father who was born with a hole in his heart.

To kick start the platform, Winkler sat with her father, asking permission to openly discuss heart-related diseases with the public. Once she gained his support, she began to implement her platform to educate individuals.

“My greatest accomplishment with my platform would be helping my dad to take better care of himself,” she said. Before she moved to attend LUNA, she said she would go on daily walks with him.

One event she said she would be interested in is hosting a community majorette clinic with the proceeds going toward the American Heart Association.

Winkler was a Pride of Dixie majorette for Classiest pageants they have attended with Bryan. Since Hall has handed over the reins to Emily Winkler, she is more focused on her final undergraduate semester and has been working part-time at Harlan Elementary School. Each Friday afternoon she teaches fourth and fifth grade chorus groups. “This semester I have 47 wonderfully-talented, unique personalities to teach,” she said.

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In July 2011, the Delta Scorpius star system was predicted to have an interaction between its companion star and its surrounding disk of matter. The interaction went unnoticed by most, but UNA senior Mary McDaniel was observing closely. She and several other students, with the guidance of their professor, Dr. Mel Blake, assistant professor of physics and astronomy and director of the UNA Planetarium and Observatory, conducted a spectroscopic study to determine any effects that may have been caused by the companion star and disc interacting with each other.

Using instruments from the UNA Planetarium and Observatory, McDaniel and the other researchers collaborated with Dr. Michael Castelaz at Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute in North Carolina to connect remotely to one of his telescopes.

The team collected data, took images, and formed a graph with the information. They determined that a mass transfer was occurring between the two stars. McDaniel kept working throughout the following fall and winter to process the team’s findings and turn them into a presentation, titled "A Spectroscopic Investigation of the Interaction of Delta Scorpius with its Companion," which she submitted to the 2012 Quadrennial Physics Congress (PhysCon) for review.

McDaniel was accompanied to PhysCon by three other members of the Society of Physics Students and Blake, who is the club’s adviser.

PhysCon is hosted by the physics honor society Sigma Pi Sigma, an organization of the American Institute of Physics. About 800 attended the November 2012 PhysCon in Orlando.

“I don’t think she realizes what she’s done, where she literally beat the entire country,” Blake said.

McDaniel’s award also includes an all-expense-paid trip to one American Astronomical Society Convention of her choosing.

McDaniel, who hopes to obtain a doctorate in either chemical physics or astrochemistry, said she has long been interested in science.

“When I was little, I had a ton of fun building stuff and mixing chemicals to see what would happen,” she said. “It’s not the safest hobby, but it was fun.”

McDaniel got the chance to meet her science hero, Jocelyn Bell Burnell, the British astrophysicist who discovered the first radio pulsars. “She is the reason I became interested in physics,” McDaniel said.

“It still hasn’t really sunk in yet,” McDaniel said. “It’s so hard to believe they chose me out of 800 other physics students.”
Alumna of the Year is the highest honor granted by the Alumni Association to a graduate of UNA. The award recognizes an individual who has contributed to UNA in a significant way and whose career is marked by success. Every year, one to three recipients are selected for the title and honored at the Alumni Awards Banquet. This year is the first in 30 years that only one recipient has been selected.

The 2012 Alumna of the year is Dr. Debbie Shaw ’82

Shaw is a native of Savannah, Tenn., but she has left deep footprints all over the state of Alabama. The majority of her professional career has been spent as a highly esteemed leader, instructor, adviser, and student advocate at Auburn University. Before becoming a deeply embedded member of higher education administration at Auburn, Shaw was a prominent student at UNA. She became involved in a number of activities, and is most remembered for her work in developing the Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration (SOAR) program. She and Jack Martin, director of Student Activities at the time, were key players in the development of the SOAR program at UNA. Since its initiation, the SOAR program has grown to be a thriving program and an integral part of freshmen and transfer students’ transition to UNA. She credits her passion for entering college students to her time spent as a SOAR counselor.

"Thirty wonderful years in university administration – all because of my choice to attend the University of North Alabama in 1978," Shaw said. "The four years spent at UNA had everything to do with my career choice. I loved every minute.”

Shaw spent much of her time at UNA under Martin’s mentorship. To this day, Shaw credits much of her success to his positive influence.

"[Martin] is the one who encouraged me to pursue a master’s degree in higher education administration," she said. "I am not sure I would have gone down the path I did without his guidance and confidence in me.”

Shaw graduated from UNA in 1982 with a bachelor of science degree in secondary education in history. Upon graduation from UNA, Shaw nursed her passion for helping college students with relevant issues they face during their college experience. She moved on to Auburn, immediately entering Auburn University administration as an Admissions Counselor, representing Auburn University at high schools and junior colleges throughout the Southeast and assisting with Pre-College Counseling. During her year as admissions counselor, she created and directed Auburn University Student Recruiters.

During this time, she was also working towards earning her master’s and doctoral degree in administration of higher education from Auburn.

For the five years following, she moved on to be coordinator of Student Organizations at UNA. Her duties during these years involved advising the Student Government Association, the SCA Organizations Board, the SCA Elections Board and the Tiger Cub, and coordinating more than 300 student organizations. From 1990 to 1995, Shaw held the title of associate director of student activities at Auburn University. During this time, she advised the 18 national sororities of the Auburn University Panhellenic Council, the 34 national fraternities of the Interfraternity Council, and the Auburn University Student Recruiters.

In 1991, Shaw developed her own curriculum for a college-level academic course, UH100: The Auburn Experience. She even authored her own textbook for the course and instructed it herself for ten years.

One of Shaw’s crowning achievements came in 1993, when she chaired the committee that started the development of Camp War Eagle, Auburn’s summer orientation for incoming students. At the time, it was only a small leadership training camp. Since then, the camp has grown to be a large orientation program, serving more than 6,000 incoming students and parents each year, and growing with each year.

In 1996, having made a reputation for herself as a tireless initiator, Shaw was appointed by Auburn’s vice president of student affairs to head up the development of the new Auburn University Success Center as its acting director.

From 1995 until 1998, she was senior coordinator for the Freshman Year Experience and Students in Transition. This involved directing Camp War Eagle. From 1998 until 2003, she was Auburn’s director of Foy Student Union and Student Activities.

Shaw has ascended in her role with Alumni Affairs since 2003, beginning as assistant vice president in 2003 and working her way up to her current role as vice president. She has been the Auburn Alumni Association, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization of over 46,000 members. With these positions, she is responsible for a budget of over $15 million, strategic planning, assessment, staff training and development, and all areas of communications, marketing, membership, programs, and facility management of association-owned alumni centers.

Also a gifted public speaker, Shaw has presented at over 30 national, regional, and state conferences, and workshops on leadership and college student issues. She has published numerous articles pertaining to Greek life.

Shaw continues her 30-year career at Auburn University, but remains connected to UNA. She has donated to the John C. (Jack) Martin Endowed Leadership Scholarship Fund, which she said is her way of expressing gratitude to her late mentor and to her alma mater. Shaw has both a niece and nephew who are UNA graduates.
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Danny W. Killen ’71 passed away in June 2012, and he is sorely missed. A man of strong character and a tireless community servant, his friends and community leaders remember him for his character, humor, and civic work that ranged from the Shoals’ National Championship Committee to the Florence Board of Education.

He was an active member of St. James United Methodist Church, where he served as lay leader and Sunday School teacher. He was also an active participant in the Alabama Emmaus Community.

Killen graduated from Florence State University and George Washington University. Killen’s passion for the game of football dates back to his high school days as number 74 on the 1964 Coffee High School Yellow Jacket State Championship team. As a team host for the Shoals National Championship Committee, Killen spent the week before each Division II National Championship game with two of the teams, assisting with every need surrounding the annual game at Braly Municipal Stadium.

Killen also served with the CHS Football Reunion Committee, UNA Blacher Creatures, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Boy Scouts of America and Camp Westmoreland. He was chairman of the local American Red Cross board and a member of the Florence City Board of Education. He served as president of the UNA Alumni Association from 1989.

Killen worked at the Alabama Employment Office as a career coach after retiring from the Tennessee Valley Authority. He also worked at the North Alabama Council of Local Governments.

Killen is survived by his wife, Patsy, and sons, Ben and Jonathan.

FRIEND OF THE UNIVERSITY AWARD

PGA Tour golfer Stewart Cink and wife, Lisa, have announced a $183,000 gift to the University of North Alabama athletics program. The gift is establishing the Stewart and Lisa Cink Scholarship Endowment Fund for students at Florence High School, adding to the university’s Chris Burns and Alex Sloan Endowment Fund and assisting in the construction of the Stewart and Lisa Cink UNA Golf Clubhouse and Teaching Center at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at The Shoals.

Stewart and Lisa Cink are 1991 graduates of Bradshaw High School (now Florence High School). Stewart Cink has golfered professionally since 1995, and spent his early years golfing under the mentorship of Chris Burns, now a retired golf professional at the former Florence Golf and Country Club. Stewart Cink joined the PGA Tour in 1997 and won his first major, the 1997 Open Championship, in 2009.

The Cinks are underwriting half the cost, or $43,000, for construction of the new Stewart and Lisa Cink UNA Golf Clubhouse and Teaching Center at RTJ. The facility will be used as a teaching center for the UNA golf team and to host Junior Golf Clinics.

Stewart and Lisa Cink have also supported the Healing Place Charity Championship Golf Tournament at Turtle Point and donated tickets for local junior golfers to attend The Masters at Augusta.

John Bunyan Cole

John Bunyan Cole has been the owner of Bunyan’s Bar B Que for the past 40 years. He is an investor in local real estate and other investment projects, managing several rental, commercial and residential properties. He retired from Ford Motor Company. Cole attended Alabama A & M University. He has participated in various business development seminars and workshops at the University of North Alabama Small Business Development Center.

Cole is a past chairman and current member of the Shoals Chamber of Commerce. He is also president of Mainstream Development Corporation and board member of several organizations, including the Salvation Army, Alabama Business Council, the University of North Alabama President’s Cabinet (now 1830), and, since 2004, the UNA Board of Trustees.

Cole and his wife, Rosie, created a scholarship in memory of his father, John Bunyan Cole Sr., a member of the UNA Board of Trustees from 1968 to 1975.

COMMITTEE SERVICE AWARD

Robert Steen ’60 is a 47-year public service employee (one year as a Lauderdale County teacher, 21 years as an officer in the U.S. Army, eight years as Human Resources Director for the City of Florence, and 17 years as Human Resources Director for the University of North Alabama).

Steen is chairman of the City of Florence Historical Board. He has given numerous presentations on the history of Florence, Lauderdale County, and the Shoals area. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Florence Cemetery Rehabilitation Committee.

Steen has been actively involved with the Wal-Mart developer in establishing a plan for the preservation of the General John Coffee and Servant Cemeteries. As a member of the Walk of Honor Committee, Steen has drafted committee policies and researched and recommended several recipients of the civic recognition award.

He has compiled numerous articles and booklets on historical events and structures on UNA’s campus. He is currently compiling a two-volume history of the University from 1830 to present day. He has assisted the LaGrange Living Historical Association in project development and has written for Roll Call.

Robert Steen has completed the manuscript for his book, “LaGrange College and LaGrange Military Academy,” which is to be published in mid-2013.

Steen is a member of several civic organizations, including the UNA Alumni Association Board, UNA’s Sportsman’s Club, LaGrange Living Historical Association, Tennessee Valley Historical Association, Knights of Pythias, Men’s Garden Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Retired Military Officers Association. He is also a member of the East Lauderdale Historical Society (which he organized himself), and the Veterans’ Memorial Committee.

Florence native Jan Ingle ’85 graduated from UNA with a bachelor of science in commercial music/business. She is a purchasing agent for SBS Electric Supply Company.

Throughout her career, she has made volunteerism a priority. Her life is defined by her genuine desire to serve others and her tremendous strength of character and integrity.

Ingle is recipient of the Shoals Chamber of Commerce Chairman’s Award and the United Way of the Shoals’ Volunteer of the Year Award.

She has multiple leadership duties in local organizations, such as the UNA Alumni Association, as past president and current public relations chairman, the Shoals Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the General Joe Wheeler Foundation, and Big BrothersBig Sisters, on the board of directors, the Shoals Chamber of Commerce, as chairman of the Ambassadors, the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), as president, and United Way of Northwest Alabama, as past president.

She has had a hand in the local music and theatre scene as well, namely with the Florence Music Study Club, as past president, the Shoals Community Theatre Children’s Group, the Gingerbread Players, previously on the board of directors, and the Florence Camerata Community Chorus.

She lives with her husband, Brian Ingle, in Florence.
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Dr. Eric Kirkman ’97 & ’00

received a bachelor’s degree in music education, a master’s degree in music education from UNA and, in 2009, a doctorate in education leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Kirkman’s educational experience spans the course of nearly twenty years, starting with his volunteer work as a summer band camp instructor at a local high school. His ability to work with and motivate young people caught the attention of other area band directors, who eagerly sought his assistance. As a result, Eric has worked at six different high schools teaching music, marching skills and instrumental leadership for section leaders. He also continues to work in his community as a choral instructor and professional musician. He offers free music lessons after work hours for student and adults who could not otherwise afford private lessons.

Kirkman is currently in his 13th year as an employee of Sheffield City Schools and is the band director of the award-winning Sheffield High School “Sound of the Shoals” Marching Band. His bands have achieved over 80 superior ratings and “Best in Class” designations at contests throughout the state and have performed at BCS Championship Bowl games as well as the White House. Eric serves as a mentor and college prep coach for numerous students, helping them fill out college applications and financial aid forms. He is also an active member of his local alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., which provides community service through personal development workshops, voter registration drives and scholarship giveaways throughout the year. Kirkman was recently named “Teacher of the Year” for Sheffield High School and “Secondary Teacher of the Year” for District 7 in the state of Alabama, making him one of the top eight secondary-level educators in the state.

Dr. Kirkman is the husband of Dr. Tera Kirkman ’98, a nursing professor at UNA. They have two sons, Jalen and Justin.

Dr. Randy Pettus ’78 & ’81

received his Bachelor of Science, master’s degree, and Class A certification in education from UNA. He received his AA and Doctorate in Educational Leadership from NOVA Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Pettus served in education for 34 years. He began his teaching career as a sixth grade teacher at Harlan Elementary School. He taught for 19 years and was named “Teacher of the Year” in 1980. After that, he was assistant principal and principal at Bradshaw High School. He was named “Principal of the Year” by the Alabama Student Council in 2003.

Pettus continued to work in his community as a choral instructor and professional musician. He often offers free music lessons after work hours for students and adults who could not otherwise afford private lessons.

Pettus has been director of Federal Programs, director of Transportation, coordinator of Testing and Accountability, coordinator of 504 for disabilities, and director of safety at Florence City Schools. He was named as Outstanding Leader for the state of Alabama for his work in Federal Programs and was honored with the award in Washington, D.C.

Now retired, Pettus continues to work for children and education through his work as executive director for “Shoals Scholar Dollars” with Northwest Shoals Community College. He is also an active member of his local alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., which provides community service through personal development workshops, voter registration drives and scholarship giveaways throughout the year.

Pettus is the husband of Dr. Tera Pettus ’78 & ’81, a nursing professor at UNA. They have two sons, Jalen and Justin.

Reeda Lee ’74

is a native of Tuscumbia and currently resides in Florence. She taught English as a Second Language to the international students at UNA. Reeda graduated UNA with a Bachelor’s degree and the University of New Orleans with a master’s degree, and received a TESOL Certification from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

She is also former placement officer in Career Planning and Placement and former head of the Language Arts program at Chattanooga State Technical Community College. She has instructed courses at universities and colleges in Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama.

Lee is a member of the Shoals community, having served on the Boards for Colbert County Tourism, United Way, the YMCA and First United Methodist Church of Florence, where she taught the youth Sunday School class. She is a member of the Shoals On Stage concert guild and the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center Volunteers. Lee is a member of the American Association of University Women and the UNA Alumni Association. She currently serves on the UNA Alumni Executive Board as the Alumni club advisor and is a member of the UNA Sportsman’s Club. She retired from UNA this year.

Lee has two grown step children and four grandchildren. She enjoys the arts, reading, bridge, sports, and all types of volunteering activities. She is especially passionate about promoting the Shoals area.

Dr. Steve Smith ’83

is Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs at UNA and treasurer for the University of North Alabama Foundation. He received his Master of Business Administration from UNA in 1981 and his Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Administration from the University of Alabama in 1998.

Smith has extensive experience in college, university, and governmental accounting (GASB), in foundation accounting (FASB), as well as in other financial matters including financial reporting, payroll and tax reporting, student loan collection, purchasing, business operations, budget planning, management and control, bookstore and food service operations, internal auditing, and SunCard Higher Education Banner System.

He is a member of Leadership Shoals, Who’s Who in the Southeast, Who’s Who in the United States and Who’s Who in the World. He is also a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at UNA and the University of Alabama.

He is a member of the board of directors for the Shoals Economic Development Authority (SEDA). He is also a member of the Alabama Association of College and University Business Officers, Shoals Entrepreneurial Center, Alpha Kappa Psi professional business fraternity, and Southern Association of College and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Smith and his wife, Morene, have two children and grandchildren.

Dr. Tera Pettus ’78 & ’81

Dr. Steve Smith ’83

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UNA Magazine

2013 spring
Andy Betterton ’75 is an elected member of the Florence City Council-District 6, serving currently on the Planning Commission, the Planning/Building and Public Works committees, the board of Lauderdale County E-911, and the Park and Recreation committee as chairman. He is a former elected member of the Florence City School Board.

Betterton has been board chairman for American Red Cross of Northwest Alabama, the UINA Wesley Foundation, the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center and the American Red Cross. He has been president of the Florence City Schools School Board, Shoals Habitat for Humanity and the Muscle Shoals chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants. He has also had a significant part in other non-profit organizations, namely the Florence Historical Board, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Alabama and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Shoals. He is a member of the UINA Presidents’ Cabinet (now the 1830 Fund) and a board member and past president of the UINA Alumni Association. He has participated in more than 30 community theatre productions put on by the Ritz, Zodiac, Gingerbread, and Shoals community theatres.

Betterton has been Chief Financial Officer of SBS Electric Supply Company since 1987. He is husband to Sandra Key Betterton, father to three and grandfather to five.

After graduating from UINA, Judge Sybil Cleveland ’84 earned a Juris Doctor degree from Sanford University’s Gambleland School of Law. She was appointed Municipal Court Judge for the City of Huntsville in 1999. She is currently serving her third four-year term. Prior to her appointment, she served as an attorney in the general practice of law in Birmingham as a Municipal Prosecutor for the Cities of Birmingham and Ensley and as a District Attorney in Madison County.

Cleveland is credited with implementing the City of Huntsville’s first Mental Health Court Program, which provides prosecuted persons with psychiatric disorders an opportunity to undergo treatment in lieu of prosecution.

Cleveland is involved in the community through multiple outlets. She is immediate past chairman of the Leadership Huntsville/Madison Board of Directors and is executive committee vice president of Learning for Life Greater Alabama Council of Boy Scouts of America. She is affiliated with Partnership for a Drug-Free Community and the Alabama Constitution Village Foundation Board of Trustees. Cleveland is a member of the Crestwood Hospital Women’s Advisory Council. She was on the board of directors of the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, where she gained funding for organizations such as the Harris Home for Children, Seminole Service Center, Huntsville Child Care Center, Cafes Inc., Boys and Girls Club, North Alabama Food Bank, and Habitat for Humanity.

Cleveland has been recognized as one of the “Outstanding Women of Year” by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. She has also been granted an Outstanding Leadership Award by the Alabama New South Coalition, a Distinguished Service Award by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and a Howell Heflin Award by the Alabama Administrative Office of Courts.

Judge Cleveland and her two children reside in Madison.

Lt. Col. Larry R. Allen ’75 is a Distinguished Military Graduate of UINA. Allen is a veteran of the Gulf War. He participated in military support to numerous high profile events including the National Bicentennial Celebration and the inauguration of President Carter. His military assignments have taken him across the United States and abroad, to Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star and Purple Heart, among others. He earned his Purple Heart in November 1995, when he was injured in a terrorist attack while serving as a military adviser to the Saudi Arabian Army in Riyadh. He recovered from his injuries and went on to complete a 23-year Army career, retiring in 1998 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Allen began a second career in 1999 with NASA. As a specialist in emergency management, he has provided security support and recovery operations following the crash of Shuttle Columbia and was one of several special agents deployed to New Orleans in response to Hurricane Katrina. In 2003, Allen transferred to the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville as a NASA special agent. In 2008, he accepted an appointment as a NASA Security Program Manager, responsible for professional security standards for NASA facilities across the United States.

Allen has served three years as a member of the Executive Steering Committee for the North Alabama Heart Walk. He also organized the 2012 Freedom Ride, a motorcycle charity ride event that raised money and awareness for the Wounded Warrior Project. Larry Allen and wife, Marie, who is also a UINA graduate, lost their oldest son, Ben, to heart disease in 2005. Allen enjoys motorcycling and writing. He is a contributor to the Huntsville Times newspaper. He and his wife currently reside in Madison.

Robert “Bo” Jackson ’63 grew up in Sheffield and attended Florence State College on a football scholarship. He earned a Bachelor of Science from UINA, a master’s degree in education from the University of Oklahoma and a Master in Business Administration from the University of West Florida.

Upon graduation from Florence State College in 1963, Jackson became a commissioned officer in the Infantry branch of the United States Army, serving three combat tours in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic. He earned the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, the Cross of Gallantry, Vietnamese Medal of Honor, Master Parachute Badge, Ranger Tab, and 13 other medals.

After retiring from the Army, he joined the Southern Company as region director. He retired in 2002 after 22 years of service to Southern Company.

Jackson was recognized as Alumnus of the Year for the University of North Alabama in 1978. In 2010, he was the guest speaker at the 60th anniversary for ROTC at UINA. He was inducted into the Colbert County Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007.

Jackson currently lives in Oneonta with his wife of 51 years, Betty Jackson. Their son, Robert Jackson, Jr., is an internationally recognized sculptor. Their daughter, Joshilyn, is a New York Times best-selling novelist, whose books include "gods in Alabama," “Between Georgia,” “The Girl Who Stopped Swimming,” “Backseat Saints” and “A Grownup Kind of Pretty.” They have four grandchildren—Daniel, Erin, Sam and Maisy Jane.
Gavin Best, an accounting major, is a captain of the LaGrange Society, serves on the SGA, and is a member of Alpha Tau Omega.

Ethan Cagle, a professional chemistry/math major and a member of the Pride of Dixie, is in the Honors Program and is a fourth year LaGrange Society member.

Loic Dimithe, an economics and finance major and Phi Kappa Phi Vice President, is a member of the UNA Mock Trials team and co-founder of the UNA Soccer Club.

Emily McCann, a professional biology/chemistry major, is vice-president of SGA and is a member of the LaGrange Society.

Taylor Pickens, a biology major, is a member of Alpha Tau Omega, Tri Beta Biological Honor society, Phi Kappa Phi, and the UNA LaGrange Society.

Will Riley, a public relations major, is a member of the LaGrange Society and Alpha Tau Omega, and is SGA President. He was 2011 Homecoming King.

Randy Thomason, a major in professional accounting, is the President of Alpha Tau Omega, head SOAR Counselor, and a member of the LaGrange Society.

Katherine Vandiver, a nursing major, is a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Lambda Delta, the LaGrange Society, and the Student Nurses Association.
Dr. Birdie Bailey, Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health (CONAH), recently spoke at a reception for the OPEN (Opportunities for Entry into Nursing) students to let them know and understand how significant and important they are to the future of nursing. Project OPEN assists under-represented and economically disadvantaged students in nursing complete a Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing.

Bailey said, “You will be extremely important to healthcare and the welfare of not only your families and loved-ones, but also to a new burgeoning health care system offering care to our diverse population in this country.”

“President Obama has shown his commitment to nursing and the healthcare of our nation in his recent authorization of the Affordable Care Act, which supports nursing programs funded by HRSA—the primary federal source of nursing education funding. $2.1 million in funds to support the scholarships students received for nursing education. He selected a nurse from North Dakota, Dr. Mary Wakefield, to be the administrator of HRSA, a $7.8 billion health care agency. Her selection reemphasizes his recognition of the nursing profession’s influence in meeting the healthcare needs of this country.”

2.1 MILLION DOLLAR GRANT

CONAH is OPEN for Business

This Affordable Care Act addresses the current and future nursing workforce challenges in many ways to improve the healthcare system:

1. Funding caps for nursing education have been lifted to allow HRSA to give more than the 10% cap previously restricted to fund doctoral nursing education.
2. Nursing schools have an increased ability to offer loans to master’s or doctoral-level nursing students interested in becoming nursing faculty.
3. Nurse education grants have been awarded to nursing students of disadvantaged backgrounds or with limited finances to help them succeed in nursing schools.
4. Up to $1.5 billion in new grants have been authorized over the next six years to increase home visits from nurses to expectant mothers in high-risk communities to sharply reduce infant mortality and morbidity.
5. The National Health Service Corp is drastically expanded and represents a great option for nurses who need to repay education loans, in exchange for working a minimum of two years in an underserved area.
6. A new grant program has been established to fund community-based Nurse-Managed Health Centers that are operated and managed by qualified nurses such as the one that is a partner of the CONAH and UNA wherein all UNA nursing students will rotate for clinical instruction. This Clinic program is especially needed as the health care system expands to cover as many as 40 million presently uninsured people in America.
UNA nurses, a cohort of 49 students, were welcomed into the department, as the future front liners of this expansive healthcare delivery system, and encouraged to entrench themselves for the next two to four years in the general studies and nursing courses offered at UNA to obtain the needed theoretical and practical knowledge. When they rise up from the trenches, they will be prepared to forge ahead with an open mind in view of the vast opportunities that will await them as change agents and advocates for optimal patient health.

The $2.1 million grant will be awarded over a four-year period beginning this semester. It will support about 67 scholarships for pre-nursing and nursing majors in its first year, and about 80 scholarships by Year Four.

“OPEN is a program designed for the success of students as well as communities,” said Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president. “The students admitted to this program would not otherwise have the opportunities they will find at UNA. In turn, they will benefit communities that are currently underserved by trained medical professionals like the ones these students will soon become.”

Dr. Bailey said that she thanks Dr. William G. Cale and Dr. John Thornell, for their commitment and support of the CONAH, a leader in the education of nurses since 1973, in its past, present and in the hopeful coming future, and Dr. Ernestine Davis and Dr. Tera Kirkman ’98, for their commitments to ensuring that nursing students have the best opportunity to be successful here at UNA. Dr. Kyrel Buchanan and Dr. Tanja Blackstone assisted the CONAH in obtaining this grant for $2.1 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration or more commonly known as HRSA.

For further information concerning OPEN, contact:

Dr. Tera Kirkman
256-765-4382 or tkirkman@una.edu

Dr. Ernestine Davis
256-765-4383 or ebdavis@una.edu
The twenty-third class of inductees for the University of North Alabama Athletic Hall of Fame included former student-athletes from the Lion football, softball, men's basketball, and golf teams.

The UNA Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2012, inducted on September 29, included former golf All-Americans and current Lions' golf coach Stuart Clark '99, All-GSC and Academic All-America first baseman Dr. Steve Kosa '99, three-time All-GSC South Central Conference and three-time Academic All-GSC softball selection Michele Logan Hyde '89, former football letterman James "Buddy" Moore '55, '69 & '78, basketball standout Louis Newsome and football letterman Brian Satterfield.

This year's induction brings the total number of inductees into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame to 106.

A four-year letterman on North Alabama golf teams from 1996-99, Stuart Clark helped bring the Lions' program to national prominence as part of UNA's first golf team to qualify for the NCAA Division II Championship Tournament in 1996. UNA tied for sixth in the nation that year and the Lions returned to the NCAA Tournament in his senior season of 1999.

Clark won six collegiate tournaments during his career at UNA, including winning the 1996 Gaff South Conference individual championship. He was the first UNA player to win the GSC individual title. He earned All-GSC honors in 1996 and 1999, was All-South Region in 1999, and was an honorable mention All-American selection as well as a senior. He was named UNA's golf team MVP in 1996 and 1999.

Clark graduated from UNA with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and played professionally on the Tight Lies, Developmental Players and Hooters Tour. He later served as an assistant, and then head golf coach at Northwest-Shoals Community College from 2002-07. Named UNA's head golf coach in 2009, Clark led the Lions to the 2010 GSC championship and was voted GSC Coach of the Year. He repeated that feat in 2012 as UNA again won the GSC crown and Clark earned his second GSC Coach of the Year honor.

In three seasons as head coach at UNA, Clark has taken the Lions to three straight NCAA South/Southest Super Regional Tournaments. Clark's wife, Melissa Clark, is an Associate Professor of Marketing at UNA and they have two children.

Michele Logan Hyde lettered four years in softball for the Lions from 1986-89. She was named to the All-Gaff South Conference three times (1986, 1988 and 1989) and was also selected to the Academic All-GSC three years (1987, 1988 and 1989). During her senior season she had a 9.6 record with a 1.45 earned run average in 106.1 innings pitched. She led UNA to Gaff South Conference championships in 1986 and 1987. A native of Pleasant Grove, Ala., and 1989 UNA graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, Hyde currently teaches at Pleasant Grove Elementary School. She is married to Mark Hyde and they have two children.

Steve Kosa was a two-year letterman and starter on UNA softball teams in 1998 and 1999. He helped lead the Lions to a combined 83-24 record over his two seasons at the school. The Lions went 34-12 in 1998 and 49-12-0 in 1999, winning the Gaff South Conference and South Central Region championships and advancing to the NCAA Division II World Series. A first-team All-GSC pick in 1998, Kosa also received one GSC Player of the Week honor as a junior. As a senior he was named to the All-GSC Tournament and All- South Central Region Tournament teams and was co-MVP of the GSC Tournament with current Minnesota Twins outfielder Josh Willingham.

Kosa played in 104 games with the Lions over two seasons and finished with a .391 batting average (147 of 376). He scored 109 runs, drove in 143, and had 33 doubles six triples and 25 home runs. He led the Lions in home runs in 1998 with 12. For his career, Kosa also stole 30 bases in 37 attempts. He hit .396 as a junior and .387 as a senior, had a .710 career slugging percentage and a .439 career on base percentage.

As a senior, Kosa was selected Academic All-GSC, CoSIDA Academic All-District and second-team Academic All-America. He also received the GSC Top 10 award as a senior and was selected UNA's Male Athlete of the Year for 1999.

Upon his graduation from UNA, Kosa graduated from the University of Kansas Medical Center and completed his residency in neurology at the Mayo Clinic. He is currently employed with Research Neurology Associates in Kansas City, Mo. He and his wife Jennifer have two children.

James "Buddy" Moore was a four-year letterman at football teams from 1981-84. The Lions had a combined 24-7-1 record during the four years that the Sheffield, Ala., native played at UNA. He served in the U.S. Army following his graduation and later became head football coach at Deshler High School in 1959, where he was the head coach for nine seasons. Moore also coached one season at Scottsboro High School and then coached at Coffee High School from 1975-81.

His 1965 Deshler and 1978 Coffee teams went undefeated and were national champions in 1965 and 1978. Moore also served as assistant principal and principal at Coffee during his time at the school. During his long tenure with the Alabama National Guard he was elevated to Commandant in Anniston and was later promoted to Major General. He was appointed by two different governors as the Adjutant General of the Alabama National Guard where he served for six years. After his retirement he served the Shulls as the highest ranking volunteer of the Alabama Red Cross.

As a standout on UNA's men's basketball teams in 1988-99, Louis Newsome was named the NCAA Division II field goal percentage as a junior in 1987-88, shooting an astounding 72.2 percent from the floor. He hit 192 of 268 shot attempts and his percentage still ranks as the 14th best single-season percentage in Division II history. Newsome finished second nationally in field goal percentage as a senior at 68.26—just .07 behind the highest ranking volunteer of the Alabama Red Cross.

As a junior in 1992, Satterfield was named the NCAA Division II men's basketball team in scoring (417) and rebounding (117) in 1987-88. His top individual game was a 42 point outburst against Auburn-Montgomery in 1988. He also scored 31 against Jacksonville State in 1988.

As a native of Cherokee, Ala., Newsome played professional baseball in the Atlanta Braves organization before coming to UNA to play his final two seasons of college basketball. He has been employed for the last 22 years at Robbins Tire and Rubber in the Shoals. He and his wife Michelle have three daughters.

A native of Epworth, Ga., Brian Satterfield finished his career as UNA's third all-time leading rusher with 2,817 yards on the ground. He was named UNA's Male Athlete of the Year in 1993 after helping lead the Lions to a perfect 14-0 record on the way to winning the GSC Championship and the school’s first NCAA Division II National Championship. UNA advanced to the Division II playoffs in three of his four seasons at the school (1990, 1992, 1993). He was named a member of UNA's 50th Anniversary Football Team and was also named to the GSC Team of the Decade for the 1990s.

Satterfield scored on UNA's first play from scrimmage in 1993 on a 48 yard run against the Valley State, and finished the game with a school record 97-yard touchdown run to give him 243 yards rushing on just 10 carries. That mark ranks as the second most rushing yards in a game in school history. Despite missing four games with a knee injury, he finished with 1,287 yards rushing on just 147 carries. He averaged 7.4 yards per carry, scored 14 touchdowns and had four 100-yard rushing games in 1993.

In the 1993 playoffs he was unstoppable, rushing for 116 yards against Hemlock on 20 carries in the second round. He gained 216 yards on 29 carries against Texas A&M Kingsville in the national semifinal, and 180 yards on 23 carries against Indiana, Pa., in the Championship Game.

As a junior in 1992, Satterfield was named first-team All-GSC as a fullback after rushing for 935 yards on 147 carries. In 1990, he carried the ball 83 times for 374 yards. He averaged 4.4 yards per carry and scored six touchdowns. As a freshman in 1989, he rushed for 890 yards on 98 carries. He averaged 4.4 yards per carry and scored four touchdowns. He also caught 25 passes for 289 yards in his career.

Satterfield and his wife Melanie have two children and reside in Blue Ridge, Ga.
Former University of North Alabama basketball player, basketball coach and athletic director Bill Jones ’58, will be inducted posthumously as part of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2013. The announcement was made by the Board of Directors of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. Included in the class of 2013 are Ronnie Baynes, the late Forrest Blue Jr., Eric Davis, Bill Oliver, Vickie Orr, Nick Saban, and Dannette Young Stone.

The newly elected eight inductees will bring the total of all inductees since 1969 to 313.

The 2013 Induction Banquet will take place in the Birmingham Ballroom, at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Reception and banquet tickets can be purchased by contacting the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame museum.

Jones played basketball at UNA in the 1950s and in 1974 he became the head basketball coach at UNA. He posted a 239-141 record which included the 1979 NCAA Division II National Championship. His squad was the first collegiate team from the State of Alabama to win a national championship in basketball. He led UNA to three Gulf South Conference Championships, three Gulf South Conference tournament titles. His teams won four NCAA Division II Regional Championships and appeared in four Division II Final Fours. He also served UNA as assistant athletic director, associate athletic director and athletic director during his time as an administrator.

Earlier this year UNA dedicated the Bill Jones Plaza, as part of the Bill Jones Athletic Complex, in honor of his contributions to UNA.

Jones becomes the 11th Alabama Sports Hall of Fame inductee with ties to UNA.

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Chris Walker has been hired as the fourth head women’s soccer coach at the University of North Alabama.

Walker, a Lee graduate and former player on the men’s soccer team there, has served as an assistant coach with the Lee women’s team for the last three years and helped lead the Flame to two NAIA National Championships.

“Chris is a person of outstanding character and is an outstanding coach,” UNA Athletic Director Mark Linder said. “He has recruited internationally and domestically in expanded regions from our current footprint and we feel he can lead our program to continued success.”

At UNA, Walker follows Graham Winkworth who posted a 111-81-8 record with the Lions over the last 10 years and led UNA to four consecutive NCAA Division II Regional Tournaments from 2009-12.

Walker had a successful playing career for the Lee Flames and was an integral part of the squad that qualified for the NAIA national tournament in 2005. He was a captain of the Flames squad and earned all-conference honors on three different occasions. He graduated from Lee in December 2006 with a B.A. in Business Administration and then served as a graduate assistant for the Lee men’s team in 2006-07.

In 2008, Walker moved to Tennessee Tech where he worked as the top assistant and finished his M.A. in Education in July 2008. He was also working as a director of coaching at Westfield’s Soccer Club in Indiana before returning to Lee in 2010 as assistant coach with the women’s program.

Over the last three seasons at Lee, the school has had the best women’s soccer program in the history of the NAIA. Winning three Southern States Athletic Conference regular season and tournament title and back-to-back national championships (2010-11), Lee now holds the highest winning percentage in NAIA national tournament play in the history of the organization. Lee also went all three seasons without a loss in league play.

Also during Walker’s time as an assistant at Lee, in addition to the numerous individual awards earned on the field by Flame players, the team carried at least a 3.3 grade point average all three years and was recognized by the NSCAA and NAIA as an Academic Team Scholar Award winner.

Walker is married to former Lee University soccer player, Tiffany Cox Walker.
The American Cancer Society named University of North Alabama Men’s Basketball Coach Bobby Champagne as the 2011-2012 Shoals Area Volunteer of the Year. Champagne received the award for demonstrating leadership qualities in fundraising efforts through the Coaches vs. Cancer Gala.

Champagne was the first Division II Coach in the nation to partner with the American Cancer Society for their Coaches vs. Cancer campaign. Over the course of his three years as the local Coaches vs. Cancer (CVC) host, CVC has raised over $350,000 for the American Cancer Society.

The Shoals community is one of the only areas to hold a Coaches vs. Cancer Gala in the Midsouth Division. Since Coach Champagne and his wife, Anna, became involved with this gala event, it has grown from raising $84,000 to $160,000 in 2011. The heart and compassion that Coach Champagne and Anna have for finding a cure, have almost doubled the amount the local American Cancer Society gala raises.

Beyond the gala event, Champagne is also committed to doing everything he can to help the American Cancer Society grow as a whole in the community, through other events including Relay For Life. During the basketball season, Champagne also holds a Coaches vs. Cancer “Suits and Sneakers” game, where he, along with his fellow coaches, wear sneakers with their suits to raise awareness for the fight.

“It is the community’s love and respect for Bobby and Anna that have made Coaches vs. Cancer such a huge success in our area,” said Megan Lovelace of the American Cancer Society. “Coach Champagne is an outstanding role model and has done a great job of involving his players in the fight as well. Champagne not only wants to work with his team to make them better basketball players, but he also wants to make them better citizens by getting them involved in such a great cause. This shows the heart of gold that Coach Champagne has for his players and community. He always wants to do for others.

“The Shoals area American Cancer Society is truly lucky to have such an incredible volunteer like Bobby Champagne. He has helped make strides in the fight against cancer that will help to save lives and create a world with less cancer and more birthdays.”
What a beginning to a very exciting year at the University of North Alabama. We kicked off the year welcoming a new Vice President for University Advancement, Dr. Dan Hendricks, and he hit the ground running. We followed his arrival on October 1, 2012, with a sellout homecoming concert featuring our UNA graduate John Paul White '99 and The Civil Wars. The proceeds from this concert allowed your Alumni Association to provide an endowed scholarship for the Entertainment Industry. We had a great football season with Coach Bobby Wallace back guiding our team and now the basketball season is winding down with both the ladies and men’s teams playing very well and representing UNA beautifully. Baseball, softball, and other spring sports are providing opportunities for our alumni to attend and support the student athletes who will soon be joining us as Alumni Association members.

Dr. Cale in his 2012 President’s Report showcased the exciting things that are happening in the academic arena as well as new additions to the University Campus. If you have not been on campus lately, the new Academic Center & Student Commons building is taking shape and will certainly be a beautiful building welcoming students and visitors to the University of North Alabama. The Alumni Leadership Summit is scheduled for May 3-4, 2013. We encourage each Alumni Club and Alumni Association member to participate in this event. It is a great time to renew friendships, visit the campus, and help develop and execute a plan for growth and leadership to take the UNA Alumni Association into the future. We need your support to help organize new clubs, provide leadership for existing clubs, and plan events that highlight our Alumni Association. The agenda for the Leadership Summit is taking shape and will provide you the opportunity to visit some of our satellite campuses. At the conclusion of the Leadership Summit there is a "UNA Derby Party" at Coby Hall from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. This is a fundraising event that fosters the University’s relationships with Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Community, and Friends sponsored by the UNA Office of Advancement. You can access ticket information at alumni@una.edu. At 7:30 p.m. on May 4 the Shulls Symphony will present a Choral Extravaganza in Norton Auditorium and tickets may be purchased at the door for $15. These two days will be full of exciting and entertaining events, so please make your plans to attend and help us plan for the future.

As President of the UNA Alumni Association I encourage each of you to get involved and consider supporting UNA in whatever way possible. Giving back to UNA is one way we can assure that our University will be able to provide scholarships for future generations. Each year our UNA Foundation has grown and that allows additional scholarships to be awarded to deserving young students. Thank you for your support.

Pat Burney ’88
UNA Alumni Association President

message from the Alumni President
**LION TALK**

**V O C A B U L A R Y  1 0 1**

By Elise Cofield
Student Writer, University Communications

**THE LION** is the official mascot of the University of North Alabama and has been for more than 60 years. Since the adoption of the original Leo in 1974, we have had Lion mascots on campus. Yeah, yeah, this is old news, right? Well, there’s more to our lion obsession than that. In fact, UNA has a whole slew of self-invented ‘Lion’ slang, and we’re willing to bet you aren’t familiar with every single term. Think you are? Prove us wrong. Winners will receive the gratifying knowledge that they are lion-savvy and possibly even a congratulatory high five from President Cale (disclaimer: we haven’t actually run this past President Cale).

**OUR RESIDENT KING** (AND QUEEN) of the jungle, Leo III and his sister, Una, live in the luxurious 12,764-square-foot George H. Carroll secure lion habitat at the entrance of campus. These cool cats are a treat to look at, but as you can imagine, it can get pretty costly to keep them happy and healthy. Much of the funding for their care comes from the Friends of the Lions Fund. Money in this fund is privately-raised and keeps our lions’ habitat beautifully maintained, eight pounds of food in their bellies each day and a caretaker to be at their beck and call.

In order to make education as affordable as possible, UNA created its own Lion Match Program. This program was set up by the University to match dollar-for-dollar the amount awarded to endowed scholarships that qualify and that have received $25,000 or more in financial contributions.

Another important part of Lion culture is athletics. Head over to the UNA athletic department website, roarlions.com, for all things sports.

Can you be a Lions fan and not sport Lion gear? Sure. But ask yourself this: do you really want to be a pastel in a sea of purple and gold? From Koozies to T-shirts to gloves with little purple-and-gold pom-poms on the fingers, Lion Gear is what distinguishes your average fan from an extraordinary one, and it can be found all around, including at locations such as the on- and off-campus bookstores.

Thanks to Lion Vision, (located on the roarlions.com website) you can stream select athletics events live and on-demand from any computer or wireless device.

The Athletics program has fans of all ages. Little Lions is our fan club for ages 5-12. Little Lions members receive perks such as an electronic birthday card, an autographed picture of Leo III and Una, T-shirt, free admission to UNA athletic events and opportunities to meet the players and even come out on the field or court.

While athletes, coaches and fans are certainly the hub of the athletics program, we credit much the success of our ever-growing, ever-improving athletics program to sponsors. Lion Alliance is a corporate partnership program between national, regional and local businesses and the Lion Athletics Program. After all, good things happen when we come together.

Speaking of which, communication is particularly important. Communication is what unifies us as a community. Staying informed is the idea behind Lion Alert, UNA’s central notification system that distributes important information via email, voice and text messages to students, faculty and staff. Subscribing to Lion Alert keeps you in the know in the event of an emergency.
The University of North Alabama Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Nu Lambda Chapter, presented an outstanding 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast at the Shoals Conference Center on MLK Day. The Kappa Nu Lambda Chapter consists of Alpha men from throughout the Shoals, Alabama, area. Established in Sheffield in 1974, the chapter contributes to our community through a variety of social, academic, economic, and political endeavors throughout the year.

The featured speaker was Anthony Sparks ’06 & ’07, former UNA Student Government Association president from Birmingham. The theme for the morning was “Life in the 21st Century: Are You/We Living the Dream?” and it was a special day as we both celebrated Dr. King and his legacy and President Barack Obama’s second term as President of the United States.

The Mission of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is to stimulate the ambition of its members, to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual, to encourage the highest and noblest form of manhood, and to aid downtrodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic, and intellectual status.

Another way UNA Lions communicate is through the alumni networking program, Between the Lions (department of Career Planning and Development). This system lets current students get connected with alumni for mentorship and professional advice.

This is a great way for alumni to stay connected to UNA and make an impact on someone’s future. LionJobs is an online employment service used by students and alumni to secure positions on and off UNA’s campus.

Looking around, it’s easy to say UNA Lions are a pretty diverse bunch. The Lion Battalion that makes up a fraction of our student body consists of military science students, or Lion Cadets, who are training to become future leaders of our country’s armed forces while also assuming all the responsibilities of a college student.

Log onto our OnLion community (on the Alumni Relations website) to update your records, make donations to the fund of your choice, and to become a part of the alumni pride circle of friends.

Congratulations, you now speak Lion. Add that one to your resume.

At the conclusion of the banquet, a Community Service Award was presented to President William G. Cale and Joan Williams ’07, Director of the UNA Office of Diversity and Institutional Equity, and Levon Humphrey ’93.

The local Kappa Nu Lambda Chapter goals include:

- Undergraduate scholarship program, to fund financial awards based on merit and need
- Project Alpha, to help teenage males learn about their role in preventing teenage pregnancies
- First of All We Vote, an historic and vigorous voter registration and education campaign
- Go to High School, Go to College, an ongoing education program stressing the importance of education
- Alpha Gents Academy, teaching leadership skills to high school seniors
- Monthly mentoring breakfasts, a partnership with local school system for mentoring males in grades 7-12

The University of North Alabama Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Nu Lambda Chapter, presented an outstanding 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Unity Breakfast at the Shoals Conference Center on MLK Day. The Kappa Nu Lambda Chapter consists of Alpha men from throughout the Shoals, Alabama, area. Established in Sheffield in 1974, the chapter contributes to our community through a variety of social, academic, economic, and political endeavors throughout the year.

The featured speaker was Anthony Sparks ’06 & ’07, former UNA Student Government Association president from Birmingham. The theme for the morning was “Life in the 21st Century: Are You/We Living the Dream?” and it was a special day as we both celebrated Dr. King and his legacy and President Barack Obama’s second term as President of the United States.

The Mission of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is to stimulate the ambition of its members, to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual, to encourage the highest and noblest form of manhood, and to aid downtrodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic, and intellectual status.
SALE OF STOCK
for Greater Birmingham Scholarship

“This gift was so easy to make. I had this stock, but never thought about it being a vehicle to give back. This was an easy way for me to give to the scholarship fund without it impacting my wallet.”

Al Rhea, Proud Parent

I remember coming to Florence and to UNA for the first time as a senior in high school on a college visit to campus. I remember driving with my parents to campus for the very first time and falling in love with it. At that point, I know that UNA was going to be my home for the next four years. Over those four years, my parents came to campus many times for various events including honor society induction ceremonies, football games, and various university events that I was involved with. They slowly started falling in love with UNA during their visits, just as I was as a student. Since then, my parents have been big supporters of UNA by coming to events hosted by the Greater Birmingham UNA Club, attending football games, buying a UNA car tag, and supporting the university in any way they can. I am excited that they are also supporting the Greater Birmingham Scholarship fund with this gift. This is a way for them to give back to help other parents wanting to send their children to UNA; to ease the financial burden.

My parents saw how much UNA meant to me and what an impact it has had on me to this day. They want to help other students have the same lifelong experience.

Eve Rhea ’02, President UNA Birmingham Club

Give to Alumni Scholarships in your area!

University of North Alabama
Office of Alumni Relations
256-765-4201 • alumni.una.edu/scholarships
Gamma Psi Chapter of Alpha Gamma Delta gathered on campus during Homecoming 2012 to celebrate 35 years on campus. The chapter was installed at UNA with 42 members in April 1977.

Festivities for the weekend began with a dinner at Picket Place. Members came from near and far to attend this casual event. The undergraduate chapter worked hard to make this a fun event, with a slide show of pictures from the chapter’s beginning to pictures of recent events. They also played Step Sing and Step Show videos from years past. Over 100 people attended.

The celebration continued with the UNA homecoming parade. Members gathered downtown around Trowbridge’s to watch the UNA homecoming parade. Then the group traveled to the grounds of Rogers Hall where the UNA Alumni Association had tents set up for groups to gather and visit. Since UNA’s campus has changed so much, many took the time to walk around campus before heading to Appleby Dorms to see the Alpha Gamma Delta chapter room and floor.

Tailgating is becoming huge at UNA. Alpha Gamma Delta is proud to set up a tent at most home football games, and this day was no different. Alpha Gamma Delta went all out for tailgating! Several people from other fraternities and sororities came by to visit with old friends.

Alpha Gamma Delta’s 35th anniversary celebration was a great success. Many have asked if the event can be a yearly event, and remarked that it is so rewarding to see the sisterhood of Gamma Psi chapter continue.
**CLASS NOTES**

**NON-GRAD**

Dan Heimemann was named provost for the Missouri State University for Women, which is a liberal arts college in Columbus, Miss. He is now the university’s second-highest ranked administrator. At University of Texas at Brownsville he served as dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Prior to that he served as chair of the Department of History and Political Science at the University of North Alabama in Florence, Ala., where he received a number of research fellowships. He is married to Claudia Haeno Heimemann ’93.

Elizabeth "Libby" Jordan has been named Tourism Professional of the Year through the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourism Association. She has served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Alabama.

**Ralph Grider** ('76) recently retired after serving 25 years as District Judge, Jackson County, Ala., and was named Jackson County Citizen of the Year by the Scottsboro-Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. He is currently serving as judge of the Scottsboro Municipal Court.

Pat Lewallen ('80) has been elected to the Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a four-year football letterman at UNA from 1980-92 and was named the NCAA Division II National Defensive Player of the Year by the Football Gazette. Following the 1993 season, he was selected first-team All-American by the Division II Sports Information Directors and second-team All-American by the Associated Press. Redcross played on the UNA team that went to the NCAA Division II Final Four teams. And played on the two NCAA Division II Final Four teams. Lewallen is now a systems engineer for the Oracle Corp.

Randall Conway ('80) is currently in the Senior Executive Service and works for the Department of Defense as Chief Information Officer (DoD CIO) as the Director for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Infrastructure (C4I). He has spent 32 years working for the Department of Defense in several capacities: as a Commissioned Officer for 26 years retiring as Colonel, and spent six years as a Federal Government employee.

Gaye Montgomery Choot ('81) started Grassl Birthday Celebrations, a wedding planning, consulting, and floral business in the Dothan, Ala., area. Gaye is a Certified Wedding Planner and a member of the Association of Bridal Consultants.

DeWayne Estes ('82) is a welder at Limestone Correctional Facility in Capshaw, Ala.

Stephen Rickerd ('84) has started a new business in Muscle Shoals. Audio Transfer Services transfers old albums, cassettes, micro-cassettes and reel-to-reel to CD.

Edward Thomas, Jr. ('85), a partner with AKP & Associates, LLC, a CPA firm in Birmingham, Ala., recently completed a specialized educational program in professional divisonal analysis and is now a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA) by the Institute of Divorce Financial Analysts, a national professional training organization.

Ami Griffith Hill ('87) is the eighth-grade language arts teacher at Oak Park Middle School and she has been selected as Decatur City School's Secondary Teacher of the Year. She will represent Decatur City Schools in the state teacher-of-the-year competition.

Debra Robinson ('87) has been appointed to the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) is the premiere association for kitchen and bath professionals with nearly 60,000 members. Robinson, a Certified Master Kitchen & Bath Designer, became involved in the local NKBA chapter in 1995 and has remained an active volunteer with the organization. She is the founder and principal of Kitchen Expressions Inc., located in North Alabama. She also has served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Alabama.

Amy Griffith Hill ('87) is the eighth-grade language arts teacher at Oak Park Middle School and she has been selected as Decatur City School’s Secondary Teacher of the Year. She will represent Decatur City Schools in the state teacher-of-the-year competition.

Raymond Monica ('90) is the 16th head football coach at Arkansas Tech. He was head football coach at NCAA Division III Limestone University in Pennsylvania from 2006 to 2012. Prior to his appointment at Kutztown, Raymond served as an assistant coach at the University of North Alabama and Temple University. He named a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education, recreation and human performance from the University of North Alabama.

Rebecca Alexander ('92) is a CPA and audit experience. Prior to joining Department of Defense he was a staff accountant for four years at DoD CIO as the Director for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Infrastructure (C4I). He has spent 32 years working for the Department of Defense in several capacities: as a Commissioned Officer for 26 years retiring as Colonel, and spent six years as a Federal Government employee.

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**1970s**

**1980s**

When you buy a UNA license plate, $47.50 of the $50 fee goes to student scholarships.

*Tax deductible as per IRS regulations*
Jerry Sulby played baseball and football at a University of North Alabama. He began a career in steel industry in his 20s and after being laid off from the steel industry he became a sales manager for cleaning services in the metro Birmingham area.

Elizabeth Harsson Wilson was a retired school teacher and had taught for Cleveland City School System at George R. Stuart and Templeton Hill. After her retirement she was a volunteer at the Museum of the Mississippi Delta.

Robert Stephenson was a retired school teacher and worked with Robbins in the Aluminum Association of North America. He was a leader and was a speaker through the Fourth Dimension Group on various topics.

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Michael Banks (’70) taught and coached at Cordova High School, Oakman High School, and Cuny High School, and he served as assistant principal at Farrmstead Junior High School. He retired as principal from T.W. Martin High School in 1996.

Alveta Davis Lynch (’70) worked for TWC and then worked in the Sheffield City School System for almost 20 years as the librarian at Wilson Middle School. After retiring from the city school system, Lynch volunteered for several years as the librarian at Covenant Christian School. She moved to work for Computer Sciences Corporation at the Sterns Space Center. She later worked for Hancock Bank, Beasline Storage, and Long Beach Church of Christ.

Ellen Beadle (’72) was involved with children and children’s welfare and adoptions, and in the latter part of her life was an advocate for the elderly.

Barry Stephens (’72) held the position of counselor education from Mississippi State University and the Ed.D. in rehabilitation counseling from the University of Alabama. He had more than 35 years of counseling practice, and taught full time for 14 years in counselor education programs at the University of Alabama, UAB, and Lindsey Wilson College in Bowling Green. Stephens was an avid sports car enthusiast and for many years was a driving instructor for the Porsche Club of America. He participated in numerous racing events sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America.

Kathy Nix Kowalski (’73) began her teaching career at Lexington School. She was a long-time teacher in the Florence City School System. A special education teacher, she taught at Harlan Elementary, Powell, and Bradshaw High School.

Lee Glasscock McCandless (’74) was an active member of the Florence First United Methodist Church and the Shools Emmaus Community. She taught kindergarten in Athens, Ala., at Julian Newman Elementary School for 38 years and was selected as Elementary Teacher of the Year for Athens City Schools during her career. She was also adjunct instructor in elementary and early childhood education at Athens State University for 20 years.

James Wallace Durden (’76), a native of Milledgeville, Ga., was a 1972 graduate of Baldwin High School where he played baseball and football and was named all-state his junior and senior years. At the University of North Alabama he played football under Coach Mickey Andrews as the placekicker and fullback. After graduation Jimmy worked in Alabama for Southern Guarantee Land & Timber Company. He later moved to Athens, Ga., and worked for Olive Branch Land & Timber Company.

Jimmy Clemmons Sr. (’78) was employed by Sears and Roebuck in Nashville, Tenn., and retired after 45 years of service. During retirement, he enjoyed cattle farming, woodworking, antique auctions, and travel.

Lanelle Brewer (’85) retired from Kimberly-Clark in Corinth, Miss., and from Marsh USA in Memphis, Tenn. At the age of 40 she returned to college and earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting from UNA.

Cathy Tucker Lyons (’78) was a Registered Nurse and had worked at ECM Hospital, Glineswell Nursing and Rehab, and more recently in home care.

Helen Laurence Howard (’78) studied theatre and journalism. She was active in the production of the play “The Miracle Worker” in Tuscumbia, Ala., at Ivy Green, Helen Keller’s home, eventually directing the play Howard got her start in broadcasting in the Shoals, working at AM radio stations including WLVY and WBIC (the former WOWL). She worked in television as an anchor on WOWL-7 TV. She later worked at WQLT-FM and at WAAU-TV as a producer, anchor, and reporter. She followed the path upstairs in broadcasting, working more and more behind the scenes as a producer and manager in many of the larger television markets. She eventually moved to Phoenix, Ariz., where she was active with the Valley Youth Theatre and worked with the American Red Cross, earning a Clara Barton Medal.

Robert White (’79) was the owner of Family Chiropractic Center in Lawrenceburg, Tenn. He received a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, Ga.

Tim Dunlap (’80) was a retired school teacher who taught at Brewer High School in Morgan County and Lincoln County High School in Tennessee. He taught trainable mentally handicapped (TMH) students for 30 years. He was founder of Terrell Industries Sheltered Workshop in Hartselle. He also served as a longtime member of the Community Watch Program in the Gandy’s Cove community.

Frank Greenwald (’80) was in the U.S. Navy for 20 years, retiring in August 1970 as Chief Petty Officer First Class. He was a photographer, and continued to use his photography skills long after his USAF retirement.

Shelby Epperson (’80) was a teacher for 37 years. She taught at Colbert Heights, Wilson Middle School, Lexington School. She was a Registered Nurse and retired after 35 years of service. Jimmy worked for Hancock Bank, Space Center. She later worked for Computer Sciences Corporation at the Sterns Space Center. She later worked for Hancock Bank, Beasline Storage, and Long Beach Church of Christ.

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ALUMNI INFORMATION UPDATE

Name (include maiden name if applicable) _____________________________________________

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) ____________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________________ State __________________________ Zip ______

Home telephone ____________________________ E-mail address __________________________

Business telephone __________________________ Position _____________________________

I want to get involved with UNA alumni in my area...
[ ] Local Club Development  [ ] Homecoming  [ ] Alumni Committee Assignment  [ ] Mentoring
[ ] Athletic Events  [ ] Board Member  [ ] Recruit Students  [ ] Reunions

Have you won an award, changed jobs, earned a promotion, or completed another degree? Your UNA classmates would like to know more about it! Send us your news and we will publish it in a subsequent issue of the UNA Alumni Magazine. Please complete the form and send it to the Office of Alumni Relations, UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001 or e-mail to alumni1@una.edu.

Join OnLion at http://alumni.una.edu

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Through the 1830 Fund, supporters at any giving level can make a difference. Unrestricted annual gifts allow the university to fund our immediate campus needs and strengthen our financial stability. The 1830 Fund echoes the mission of the UNA Foundation by providing important support for academic and student program initiatives. Our annual fund is dedicated to enriching the lives of current and future students, and to making a difference in their overall university experience. Together with others, your support allows us to be a fully functional and vital institution.

As alumni and friends of UNA, help us BUILD THE PRIDE!

YOU MAY CONTRIBUTE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT BY
Making an online gift https://alumni.una.edu/annualgiving
Responding to a mail appeal
Responding to a Phonathon call from UNA students
Establishing a payroll deduction (for UNA faculty and staff)
UNA Derby Day 2013
Coby Hall Lawn

Saturday May 4, 2013
3:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.

For more information:
University of NORTH ALABAMA
UNA BOX 5113 • FLORENCE, AL 35632
256-765-4201 • www.una.edu/derbyday