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# Cast your ballot!

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*Furman University*

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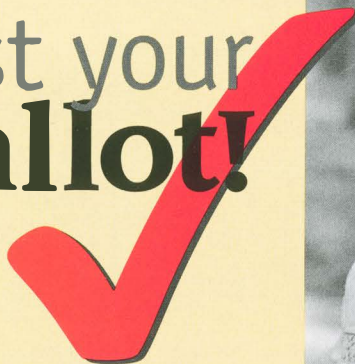
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# Furman alumni news

## Cast your ballot!



**F**urman alumni, take note: It's time once again to elect your Alumni Association Board of Directors!

Over the past six years, we have tested different methods of promoting the board election process. This year, the ballot is on the postcard included in this issue of *Furman* magazine, with biographies of the candidates for election listed on the page opposite this column.

For many years, members of the Alumni Board weren't elected; they were simply nominated, approved by the board and then announced to the alumni body. In an effort to give alumni a stronger voice in the selection of their leaders, the Alumni Board decided six years ago to hold head-to-head elections, with alumni from as many decades as possible represented on the ballot. Nominations come from the general alumni body.

Since we began this direct election process, we have seen an annual increase in voting interest. Last year, more than 1,000 alumni returned their ballots, representing the highest participation ever. By responding to this direct-election method, you have produced an enthusiastic and active board to represent your interests and views to the Furman administration. And since the process began, some elected Alumni Board members have even been appointed to the university's board of trustees!

We hope you will complete the enclosed ballot and return it as soon as possible. If through some glitch your issue of the magazine doesn't include a ballot, you have another voting option:

go on-line to [www.furman.edu/admin/alumni](http://www.furman.edu/admin/alumni) and follow the link to the ballot.

This year's candidates for the Alumni Board represent specific decades for which we seek further representation. Mark the postcard for each candidate of your choice and return it to the Alumni Office promptly. Vote for one candidate in each pairing. If you are married and voting together, simply include two checks beside each choice.

As you consider your choices, please remember the mission statement adopted by the Alumni Association Board of Directors, which states that the board will:

- Provide support, guidance and leadership to the university;
- Serve as a liaison group to represent the opinions, needs and interests of alumni in the life of the university;
- Serve as a model of participation in alumni activities and support the fund-raising efforts of the university;
- Serve as ambassadors for Furman by promoting the Furman message whenever possible.

Thank you for your continued support of Furman. If you have ideas or questions about how to strengthen the Alumni Association, please contact the Alumni Office.

— Lynn Powers Gibbs '78  
*President, Alumni Association*

## ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

**Furman Alumni Association telephone**  
1-800-PURPLE3

**Web site**  
<http://www.furman.edu/admin/alumni>

**E-mail**  
[alumni@furman.edu](mailto:alumni@furman.edu)

### Homecoming plans in the works

Homecoming reunion planning started with a bang during a training retreat Saturday, March 25. With 45 alumni representing the 10 classes in reunion, the retreat proved to be the perfect kick-off for the reunion planning process. This year's reunion classes end in 0 and 5.

Homecoming is set for November 3-5, with defending NCAA Division I-AA champion Georgia Southern providing the opposition for the football team. Plans are in the works to revive many of the activities which have made Homecoming so popular in the last few years, including the traditional "floats" on the mall, the Homecoming awards breakfast, lunch at Cherrydale and the Block Party in downtown Greenville.

In an exciting development, the newly renovated Westin Poinsett Hotel, one of the city's architectural landmarks, will be one of our sponsor hotels — just two weeks after its grand reopening!

If you have questions about Homecoming, please call the Alumni Office or check the Alumni Association's Web site for updates. And if you're in a reunion class, be willing to lend a hand if one of the following reunion chairs gives you a call.

**Class of 1950:** Peggy and Jim Hamrick

**Class of 1955:** Bennett Waitt

**Class of 1960:** Doug Pasley and John Platt

**Class of 1965:** Gordon Herring

**Class of 1970:** Betsy Gaskins Barkley and Katie Hardaway Burgess

**Class of 1975:** To be determined

**Class of 1980:** Roberta Laughlin Thomason

**Class of 1985:** Kent Igleheart and Boyd Yarbrough

**Class of 1990:** Christine Caputo Winn

**Class of 1995:** Jennifer James Barrineau

### Furman Club news

Early this spring, five Florida Furman Clubs held meetings, including the inaugural event of the Southwest Florida Club (Naples/Fort Meyers Beach). The Alumni Association is hoping to add a club in Tallahassee in the near future.

Admissions director Woody O'Cain and career services director John Barker were featured guests at club meetings this spring. O'Cain hosted a reception for alumni and accepted students in the St. Louis area, and Barker made a presentation to members of the Birmingham, Ala., club.

In late February and early March, many alumni were able to catch the Furman Singers during one of the stops on their annual tour of the Southeast. In addition, a group of Furman Clubs joined together on May 6 for service projects as part of a nationwide community service effort.