

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS, A COLLECTIVE HISTORY OF MILESTONES & MEMORIES ► P5

FALL 2020 VOL. 36, NO. 1

HORIZONS



The 2020 Time Capsule

*A collection of items telling the story of this
unprecedented time in our 125-year history*

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125 Years Together

I do not typically get a lot of questions about my time outside of the Graceland community. I think part of the reason is that immediately upon my arrival, Graceland's students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends embraced me as one of their own. There is something extremely special about how tightly knit the fabric of the Graceland community is woven. In my time at other universities, I have not experienced anything quite like it.

As I have spoken to alumni and friends over my years on "the Hill," one thing is clear: that feeling of community is one that virtually every Graceland can testify about, and I have heard so many stories of that *power of together* in action through the university's 125-year history.

Even though those stories through the years unite us in common purpose and mission, one thing is sure: 2020 has been a year like no other. Sure, Graceland has experienced similar circumstances before, enduring the 1918 flu pandemic. We have faced difficult financial struggles over the years too. But time and time again, the generosity of our alumni and friends has shown its true colors, as all the members of our community have stepped up to help us face the myriad challenges of the era.

As we face new and unprecedented challenges this year, I am confident in our resiliency as a community. I have that confidence because Graceland is not like the other places I have been. Graceland is special, and everyone who has been a part of our community knows it.

That specialness is evident through the pages of this special issue of *Horizons*, where you will see facts and figures from Graceland's rich 125-year history covering everything from the number of faculty who voted to approve dancing on campus to the number of layers of paint on the victory bell. There are so many interesting pieces of history, and I hope you will discover something about Graceland you didn't know before.

We'd love to hear about your memories from the last 125 years. As you enjoy these facts from our history, we encourage you to share your own by posting on social media with the hashtag #Graceland125.

Thank you to each one of you for being a part of our history.

Patricia H. Draves, PhD

President

ON THE COVER A classic Graceland University pennant; a new T-shirt with the Graceland shield; a Graceland face mask; *You Got This: Mastering the Skill of Self-Confidence*, a book by alumnus and trustee Ivan Joseph '96; a class of 2020 graduation tassel; the 2019 annual report in the last issue of *Horizons*; and a postcard introducing the newly completed Newcom Student Union on the Lamoni campus. What would you include in a 2020 time capsule? For more, see ► **P6**

i To minimize spread, the entire Graceland community is required to do daily COVID screenings, wear face coverings and follow social distancing guidelines on campus. These students might appear closer than they actually were, but we ensured all precautions were taken during this photo shoot. (Photoshop does wonders!)

The Buzz

*Paris
Anderson '23*

Independence, Missouri
English, Psychology
IDEA Rep, Hanthorne House

*Cassie
Tucker '23*

Kansas City, Missouri
Music, Viola Performance
IDEA Rep, Khiyah House

Diversity & Inclusion

BY BROOKE SUTHERLAND

Inclusion Diversity Equity Alliance

That's the idea. And it's a good one – good enough to change the Graceland student government (GSG) constitution to reflect it.

The newest branch of GSG, which goes by the acronym **IDEA**, grew from a conversation between student leaders and administrators who had a desire to see underrepresented populations become more represented as student leaders on Graceland's Lamoni campus. As a result, in early Spring 2020, IDEA was approved to become the eighth branch of GSG.

Today, each house has a representative within IDEA elected by its members. Additionally, the presidents of BSU (Black Student Union), LatinX Club, International Club, Polynesian Club and SAGE (Sexual and Gender Equality) all serve as ex officio members of the IDEA council. The IDEA president is elected by majority vote of the entire student body and serves on the GSG leadership council.

During its first year, IDEA has provided experiences of education and celebration related to the experience and tradition of underrepresented populations. They have sponsored or co-sponsored events related to Hispanic and LatinX culture and tradition, Native American and Indigenous heritage, and more. And while the focus of these events — and the clubs that sponsor them — is underrepresented populations, all students are welcomed and invited to participate. And many do.

*Santina
Hernandez '22*

Kansas City, Kansas
Hispanic Studies, Sociology
IDEA President

*Sarasopa
Lafitaga '22*

Waipahu, Hawaii
Biology
IDEA Rep, Powell House

Dayton Young '21

Oakland, California
English, Critical Race & Ethnic Studies
IDEA Rep, Tiona House

*Safume
Osakue '22*

Lagos, Nigeria
Biology, Chemistry
IDEA Rep, Shalom House

Diversity & Inclusion: Our Work Continues

Graceland strives to build learning communities that develop students from diverse backgrounds across our many academic and student experiences. We are dedicated to ensuring our community is part of a solution to a broader world challenge of inclusion and opportunity.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

New Areas of Study

The Graceland University Board of Trustees approved a new major and two new minors this summer that strongly align with the university's mission and values, and that support Graceland's continued diversity and inclusion efforts. Beginning Fall 2020, Graceland Lamoni-campus students have the option to major in **social change** and may choose from two new minors: 1) **critical race and ethnic studies**, 2) **women's, gender and sexuality studies**.

"I am proud of the work our faculty and students put in to bringing these programs to Graceland, and I am excited to watch them grow and shape our institution further as we continue to learn how to ensure we live up to our mission and values through new realizations and changing times."

PATRICIA H. DRAVES, PhD
President

These programs not only offer Graceland students new areas of study that are relevant and timely in a world where people are looking for change; they also support and enhance the culture Graceland seeks to create and provide for all students, and they complement Graceland's extracurricular and leadership offerings, as well as its unique student government and residence life programs.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Message of Support During Times of Hurt

Members of Graceland's faculty and staff came together on the Lamoni campus over the summer and created sidewalk chalk art that delivered a **message of solidarity** as the country was experiencing racial tensions.



Director of Seminary Helps Organize Peaceful Protest

Director of Graceland's Community of Christ Seminary, Zac Harmon-McLaughlin '08, helped to organize a **peaceful protest and rally** near the Independence, Missouri, campus Sunday, June 7. Harmon-McLaughlin and about 300 other protestors gathered at the United Nations Peace Plaza outside the Community of Christ Auditorium in unity with Americans around the country calling for justice and an end to police brutality.



Harmon-McLaughlin welcomed the crowd and then turned the megaphone over to Jenny Jackson '10 and Darron Story of Kansas City.

SUPPORT SERVICES

TRIO Grant Secures Funding for 2020-25

Graceland was once again successful in the grant competition for the TRIO program known as Student Support Services (SSS). The new grant cycle will provide

\$1.7 million over the next five years for program services to increase the retention and graduation rates of the 180 first-generation, income-eligible Graceland students served by TRIO. Program services include academic advising and support, multiple tutoring options, assistance in understanding and applying for financial aid, a one-credit Steps to Success course each semester, graduate school planning, technology access, cultural trips, a book library and more!



The TRIO team planned a campuswide celebration of National First Generation College Celebration Day Nov. 6. This group of first-gen students and staff came together for a photo in their "1st To Go" T-shirts.

WHAT IS A COLLEGE? It is the freshman's confusion upon arrival; it is the waiting in line for registration, concerts and dinner; it is the sleepless nights fraught with anxiety because of unwritten papers; it is the excitement of a close wrestling match or basketball game; it is the companionship of faculty members and other students. It is these plus a whole kaleidoscope of activities — some silly, some sad, some quiet, some hilarious. College is not to be retold — it is to be lived and remembered. These pages only begin to record what we have lived and what we now remember ... GRACELAND.

Acacia, 1963

1895-2020 125 years

BY BROOKE SUTHERLAND

A collective history of
milestones and memories
that forge the beloved
Graceland experience

The first reference to a time capsule at Graceland was for the class of 1952, and it included letters of ambitions, prophecies and reminiscences.

The cover of this *Horizons* hints at what might be included in a Graceland time capsule in 2020. And while the items represent a moment in time, we know that history is made up of so much more.

Our Graceland history is made of everything from impressive buildings to major decisions, but it is also intricately woven with bricks and paint, and with the interests of the people who determined it. The first 125 years of the Graceland experience includes vision, trials, love, undoubtedly some snorting laughter — and everything in between.

The following pages are just a hint of what has formed the Graceland that we now stand on as we look toward the future. As you read these 125 details — some big and some small, and maybe a few that could fit in a time capsule — we hope you'll remember some of your own. And we hope they bring you joy.

SOURCES

The Graceland College Book of Knowledge
www.graceland.edu
 Office of Institutional Effectiveness
 Sports Information Office
 Communications Office



There was just one graduate in the first graduating class of Graceland College.

Frederick Madison Smith was presented the first Graceland diploma June 15, 1898. The son of Joseph Smith III, Frederick's Graceland legacy lives on today. He is the namesake for the library on the Lamoni campus, as well as the snack shop within it, playfully named Freddie's Café.

1



A Typical Class Room

Briggs Hall was the second building built on Graceland's Lamoni campus.

Throughout its history, Briggs Hall has housed classrooms, a dormitory, the home economics department and a library. Today, Briggs Hall houses the C.H. Sandage School of Business, the humanities department faculty offices, the information technology services department and classrooms for general use. The three levels of Briggs stairs are notorious for causing students to lose their breath as they make their way to class.

2

The class of 1945 had 75 students, but just six of them were male.

By 1944, during World War II, Graceland had begun to resemble an all-female school, as male enrollment became limited to those who were not yet 18 and those who could not pass the army physical exam.

6

There were seven lettermen during the first track and field season in 1909.

7



8 Big G Lake is an eight-acre body of water.

William "Duke" Dudek, a 1965 graduate, holds the Graceland record of 13 varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball and track.

13

Field hockey became Graceland's first intercollegiate varsity sport for women in Fall 1965 with a team of 14 student-athletes under the organization of coach Betty Welch '48.

14



15

There were 15 original houses when the house system first began in 1962.

THEN There were **seven men's houses** (Aaron, Agape, Closson, Edwards, Faunce, Stewart Manor, Tiona), **seven women's houses** (Audentia, Belavera, Kimball Manor, Sariah, Shalom, Solah, Traver) and **one house for married students** (Electa).

NOW There are **17 houses: eight men's** (Agape, Cheville, Closson, Faunce, Orion, Powell, Stewart Manor, Tiona), **eight women's** (Amici, Aponivi, Hanthorne, Kihyah, Paloma, Sariah, Shalom, Solah) and **one for nursing students** on the Independence campus (McKevit Manor).



3

The name of the Higdon Administration Building was chosen to honor the three members of the Higdon family who collectively served as the college's president for nearly a quarter century.

Earl T. Higdon '27, 1964-66
William T. Higdon '49, 1966-74, 1992-97
Barbara J. Higdon '49, 1984-91



Nine teams have been inducted into the Graceland Athletics Hall of Fame.

1953 men's basketball, 2003
1962 men's track, 2008
1963 wrestling, 2009
1973 men's volleyball, 2004
1975 football, 2005
1979 men's volleyball, 2019
1986 women's volleyball, 2007
1998 men's volleyball, 2013
2004 women's soccer, 2010

9

Bud O'Dell '59 received \$10 in the contest to name Big G Lake in 1959.

The actual big, yellow G was added in November 1960 and had yellow paint mixed into the concrete. Today, the space between the lake and road where the G is located has grills, benches and a dock, donated by the homecoming honor class of 2011, and is often used for student recreation.

10

11 students registered for class on opening day of Graceland College Tuesday, Sept. 17, 1895.

11

During the 1968-69 school year, intersquad club hockey team the Flyers won the 12-game club conference.

12

There were 16 students enrolled in nursing studies when President William Higdon announced the creation of the baccalaureate degree program in nursing in April 1968.

Today, there are 659 Graceland nursing students: 34 pre-nursing in Lamoni, 90 in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in Independence, 28 in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and 490 in the Master of Science in Nursing online programs, and 17 in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.



16

Just 17% of the student body on the Lamoni campus was made up of part-time students during the 2018-19 school year.

17

18 There are 18 members on the Graceland University Board of Trustees.

18

20

Marietta Walker donated the first 20 acres of land to Graceland (of her farmland) for the Lamoni campus in 1893.

19 Graceland received 19 enrollment applications from participants at the first Spectacular hosted on Graceland's Lamoni campus in 1973.

19

Today, Spectacular is the largest single gathering of prospective student guests, enrolling multiple students every year.

Students who wish to earn an honors degree from Graceland must complete a minimum of 21 semester hours of honors credit.

21



22 In the fall of 1970, Graceland's Independence campus offered tuition at just \$22 per semester hour for accredited courses in religion and general liberal arts.

The courses offered were Bacteriology taught by John A. Edwards '39 and assisted by Mildred Kemp, Theory in Group Leadership and Recreation taught by A.H. Edwards '55, Races and Minorities taught by Lloyd R. Young '50, Service Playing taught by John W. Obetz, Church Music taught by Harold Neal, and Educational Psychology and Measurement taught by Raymond G. Williamson. Approximately 70 people enrolled in these courses.

23 In 1946, 14 dormitory rooms in Marietta Hall were remodeled into 23 practice rooms to accommodate increased enrollment in applied music.

Today, in addition to their coursework, students majoring in music — as well as students majoring in other academic programs on campus — can take part in diverse performance opportunities, including chamber choir, jazz band, concert choir, symphonic band and Graceland Harmonium.

24 24% of students enrolled in internships during the 2018-19 school year.

24

25 Closson House earned a \$25 theater party and a large group picture when they won the first house float contest at the 1962 homecoming.

26 The Alma Mater Hymn, Graceland's official alumni song, was written and composed by Roy Cheville '21 in 1926.



Cheville felt the school needed a song for the more serious gatherings of Graceland students and wanted a song that fondly recalled former years, current campus life and the greater Graceland yet to be.

27 New football stands resembling an inverted T cost \$27K.

They debuted at the west side of the field prior to the start of the 1960 season and remain the home section for Huntsman Field today.

28 The new Patroness Hall originally opened as a women's dormitory for the 1952 fall semester and contained three wings with 28 residence rooms painted in pastel colors.



29

George N. Briggs served as Graceland's president for 29 years from 1915-44.

30 The price of a year's tuition in 1906-07 was \$30.

Today, a year's tuition is \$30,650 for full-time undergraduate students on the Lamoni campus, and 99% of residential Graceland students receive financial aid.

31 Graceland currently offers 31 undergraduate majors on the Lamoni campus.

32 There were 32 graduates in 1915.

33 Tess Morgan Hall was named in recognition of the Graceland faculty member who taught English for 33 years and served as dean of women.



The first wing of the women's residence hall was constructed with 33 two-person rooms.



Graceland wrestler Bob McDowell '78 finished his regular sophomore season in 1976 with a record of 34-0.

McDowell went on to become Graceland's first NAIA national champion in wrestling when he won the 150-pound weight class final at the national meet in March of that year. Graceland's wrestling program was discontinued in 1982 and was reinstated in 2013. The university's second national champion in wrestling was sophomore Brennan Swafford '22, who won the 165-pound weight class final at the 63rd Annual NAIA National Wrestling Championships in March 2020.

34

Graceland Swim Club won its first-ever opening meet by 35 points (70-35) in a dual against Southwestern College at Wichita, Kansas, in January 1975.

35

At a peace vigil for the Persian Gulf War Jan. 14, 1991, a candle was lit in Cheville Chapel at noon and continued to burn for 36 hours, always under watch of someone in the sanctuary.

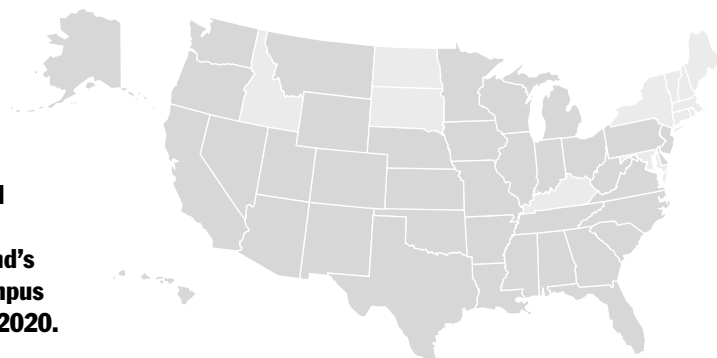
36

There were 37 graduates in 1917.

37

38

There were 38 states represented by students on Graceland's Lamoni campus during Fall 2020.



There are 39 steps between Ackerley Track and the top of the bleachers at Huntsman Football Field.

39



40

Just 40 students occupied Walker Hall, designed to house 120 people, during the Great Depression in the spring of 1933.

41

41% of students on the Lamoni campus participated in visual and performing arts activities during the 2018-19 school year.

42

In April 1968, 42 faculty members overruled 27 others in a vote that lifted the ban on dancing at Graceland.

43  SkillPath

Graceland finalized the \$43 million purchase of SkillPath in January 1995.

Revenue from SkillPath's learning and development programs has provided millions of dollars in scholarships to Graceland students over the past 25 years. [Q Learn more: skillpath.com](http://www.skillpath.com)

Graceland offered students participation in 44 clubs/organizations during the 2018-19 school year.

44

45

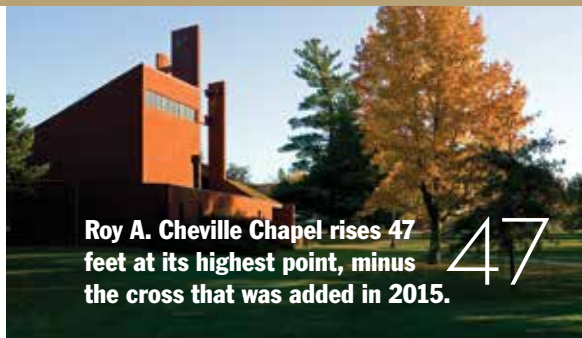
The title of Distinguished Professor, Graceland's highest title for active faculty members, was first conferred during commencement 45 years ago in May 1975 to Bruce M. Graybill '52, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and Velma Ruch '41, Distinguished Professor of English.

Graybill and Ruch were the only two people to be given the title during Graceland's first century. Steve Anders '73 is the only other faculty member in Graceland's history to receive this honor, which was conferred during commencement May 16, 2010.



Graceland's computer science and information technology major was developed by Dennis Steele and introduced 46 years ago in 1974.

Upper division courses during the program's early years were Switching Theory, Computer Design, Modeling and Simulation. Today, the hybrid major is designed to provide hands-on practical experiences that come from an information technology and theoretical basis that comes from computer science. That allows students to develop a skillset that combines important elements from the two disciplines.



Roy A. Cheville Chapel rises 47 feet at its highest point, minus the cross that was added in 2015.

There were 48 students in the first officially designated summer school session in 1954.

49 There were already four students at Graceland from Alaska when it became the 49th state in January 1959.



Those students were Mike Briggs '60 of Anchorage, Lola Condit '60 of Mount View, Marilyn C. Porter '60 of Fairbanks, and Rena Ann Wight '60 of Anchorage.

During his speech at Graceland's 50-year anniversary celebration, the first graduate, Frederick Madison Smith, expressed his hope that Graceland would have an entire building for a library, a building devoted to science, two additional dormitories, and a memorial building for those who had fought and died in war. He also spoke of his desire for Graceland to evolve into a university. All of these hopes were realized during Graceland's next 50 years.

50

Graceland's student body was 51% female for the 2018-19 school year.

51

Graceland first began offering a psychology major 52 years ago in 1968.

52

There were 53 bachelor's degrees conferred in 1962, but there were a total of 254 total graduates that year, including those who received associate degrees.

53

54

54 cans of paint were in the Facility Services stockroom when this fact was written.



55



During the summer of 1969, the North Door Singers went on a 55-day overseas USO tour with more than 70 performances in Japan, Korea, Okinawa, the Philippines and Guam.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

The North Door Singers began as a group of performing students who organized in the fall of 1965. By the summer of 1968, the group had become a full-time operation and appeared on TV's *Your All-American College Show*. The USO Executive Director saw their TV performance and was so impressed that he invited them to take the USO tour the following summer.

Ray Adams '69 was one of the original members, and these days, music and the friends he made at Graceland are still very much a part of his life. He and some of the early members of Graceland folk groups still gather to play music together under the guise *The Kaopektates*.

Today, Adams is the president and group CFO of ALG Transportation and lives in Leawood, Kansas, with his Graceland sweetheart and wife, Sidna Beck '70 Adams. They are both involved in their church and spend as much time as possible with their family. His son, Shane '99, currently serves as the Director of Marketing and Communications at Graceland.

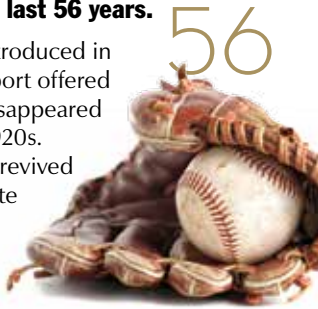


DID YOU KNOW?

The North Door Singers name is a reference to the grand entrance of the Higdon Administration Building's north door.

Baseball has been a sport at Graceland for the last 56 years.

It was originally introduced in 1896 as the first sport offered for students but disappeared during the early 1920s. Baseball was then revived on an intercollegiate basis during the spring of 1964.



The enrollment in 1897 was 57 students, reported by the *Graceland Arena*, Graceland's second student newspaper. The paper's editor was Frederick M. Smith.

The Graceland Ramblers, a singing group spurred from a 1978 winter term class, performed in 58 shows during their final summer tour in 1988.

Tour locations included Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky, Ontario and Grand Cayman.



59

Graceland has offered business administration, English and history academic programs for 59 years.

According to the 2018-19 Graceland fact book, 62% of Graceland's Lamoni campus student body were student-athletes (excluding student coaches and managers).

62

It takes approximately 63 steps to get from the front door of the Higdon Administration Building to the front door of Newcom Student Union.

63

Graceland's original land designation was about 60 acres.

George Barrett surveyed the original college grounds and is credited as the man who gave Graceland College its name. He worked as a civil engineer and marked off the first acreage of college land in Lamoni into 146 lots prior to construction of the administration building.

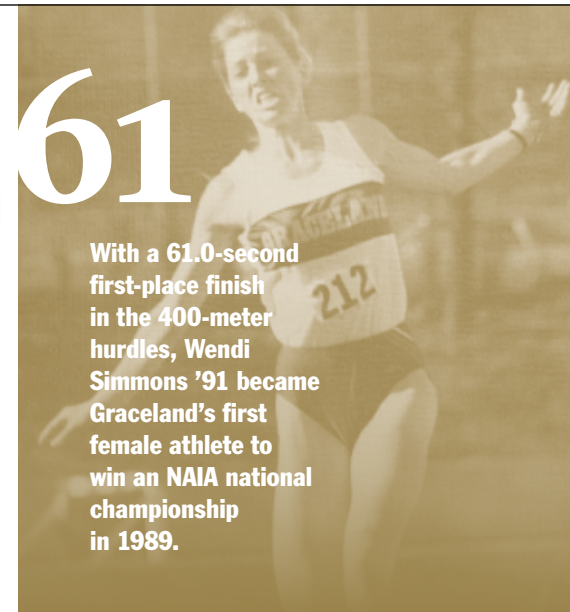
Frederick M. Smith, who had assisted in the surveying, wrote in the March 1903 *Athenian Arena*, "Just who suggested the name, we do not know, but are inclined to think that it was 'Colonel' George Barrett, who surveyed and laid out the grounds in 'lines of grace and beauty...'"

60



61

With a 61.0-second first-place finish in the 400-meter hurdles, Wendi Simmons '91 became Graceland's first female athlete to win an NAIA national championship in 1989.



64

Briggs Hall is 64 feet wide at its base.



In 1897, Graceland's first acting president, Professor Joseph T. Pence, earned a salary of \$65 per month.

65



There were 66 contest entries to name the Swarm Inn in 1963.

The contest began Oct. 24 and was supposed to end Nov. 15 but was extended into December to allow for more name suggestions. In December, the contest's prize was announced to be a newly designed Graceland blazer. Students submitted entries in the slot by the door to the MSC roller skating booth. Suggestions were judged by a committee, with the Council on Student Life making the final decision. The Council on Student Life selected the name "Swarm Inn" in January 1963 based on the suggestion "The Swarm Room" by Edwards House freshman Les Hall '68. On Feb. 1, 1963, *The Tower* reported that the name "typifies the purpose and activity of the snack shop. Since Yellowjackets do not hive, but instead gather in a swarm, an appropriate center for their gathering and activity is the 'Swarm Inn.'" 21 of the 66 entries used the words "hive," "nest" or "honeycomb."

66



67



Over a weekend in February 1960, 67 women moved into the newly built first wing of Tess Morgan Hall.

Graceland first introduced a studio art concentration 68 years ago in 1952.

68

The only Yellowjackets jersey to have ever been retired is the #69 football jersey.

69

It belonged to Jeff Criswell '86, who went on to play 12 seasons in the NFL.

73

There were 73 collegiate degrees conferred in 1925 with 97 total graduates.



Commencement Ceremony for Class of 2020

The in-person Spring 2020 commencement ceremony originally scheduled for April 26 and rescheduled for Oct. 3 was ultimately canceled over health concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. So, Graceland instead opted for a virtual commencement ceremony for the graduates on the rescheduled date, which premiered on the university's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Excellence in Scholarly Achievement

James Geiselman, DC, DACBN, MS, EMT-P
Assistant Professor of Allied Health



Exceptional Service Award

Max Pitt, MBA, '86
Associate Professor of Business



Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching

Catherine Clifford, PhD
Assistant Professor of English



Read the full stories online:
graceland.edu/Horizons

Graceland had 74 full-time faculty during the 2019-20 school year.

Faculty Recognized in Postponed Awards Presentation

Since the Spring 2020 in-person commencement ceremony was canceled in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Lamoni-campus faculty gathered in the Shaw Amphitheatre Thursday, Sept. 24, where President Patricia H. Draves and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jill Rhea presented the annual awards to this year's recipients. Video of the presentation was included in the virtual commencement ceremony.

74

When the gymnasium was located in Zimmermann Hall, the locker rooms in that building contained 84 women's lockers and 158 men's lockers.



84

85

There are 85 wood steps in the Higdon Administration Building, including the grand central staircase.



86

Gunsolley Hall opened in the fall of 1951 to 86 residents on just the first and second floors.

The nursing major attracted 70 students during the fall of 1969, when juniors in the baccalaureate program first enrolled in Independence.

70

Graceland College's phone number in 1898 was a simple two-digit 71.



71

The Big G (letter, not lake) is 72 feet from top to bottom.



72

During her years as a faculty member, Celia Schall '47 directed 75 theatrical productions, more than any other instructor in Graceland history.

75

Meals were served to 76 people in the first-floor commissary of the original Patroness Hall when it opened Feb. 18, 1909.

76

Students were assigned to tables for a two-week period, and hosts carried in meals in a family-style dining system.

Graceland's last Associate of Arts degrees were conferred on 77 graduates at the commencement ceremony held May 25, 1969.

77

78 There were 78 students enrolled in Enactus class during the 2018-19 school year.

As an educator preparation program in Iowa, Graceland must abide by Iowa Chapter 79, which governs the standards these programs must meet.

79

80 blocks make up the wall sculpture in the Shaw Center lobby.

The clay wall mural, entitled *The Seed*, was commissioned in 1979 by Jay '64 and Cherry '65 Newcom in honor of Jay's parents, Loyal and Arden Newcom. It was designed by Dan Keegan (Graceland art faculty member from 1974-76 and 1980-90) with assistance from Kauila "Mel" Clark '67 (Graceland art faculty member from 1971-84), Ember Moonbourn '75, Dewey Keaweehu '84 and Patty Kochaver '84.

The plaque for the mural reads, "Education nurtures the seed, or core of people, so they come into full bloom." During the 2012 Shaw Center renovation, the entire mural was removed and replaced, which took a toll on the sculpture. It was repaired in 2014 in part by Kimberly Manuel '01, who now works in the building as Assistant Professor of Theatre and Scene Design.

80



Commitment '81 was a four-year fundraising campaign announced in January 1977 that began with a \$5 million target.

Two of the campaign's goals were to raise money to construct a campus chapel and a performing arts auditorium, however, the success of the campaign allowed for the construction of the entire performing arts center as well as a chapel. JR Shaw '56 served as the Commitment '81 committee chairman, and the campaign ultimately raised \$9,202,000 upon its conclusion at the end of 1981.

81

The 100-foot flagpole west of the administration building was added 82 years ago during the summer of 1938.

It was donated by the classes of 1925-1932 and the class of 1938.

82

83

83 individuals have been inducted into the Graceland Athletics Hall of Fame.

87

There were 87 graduates in 1937.

At the dedication ceremony for the Floyd McDowell Commons Sunday, May 14, 1961, a slide show presented 88 images from the career of Floyd McDowell, 1911-25 faculty member and dean who pioneered Graceland's junior college movement.

88

89



At the age of 89, the students and faculty unanimously gave Marietta Walker the title "Mother of Graceland" in 1923.

At the time of Graceland's 50th anniversary, RLDS (now Community of Christ) enrollment among students was 90%.



Today, students outside the Community of Christ faith make up nearly 80% of the student body.

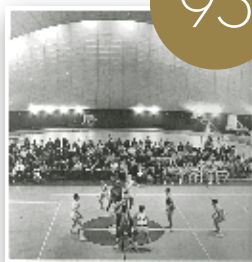
90

The total enrollment throughout 1896-97 rose to 91 from 34 the previous year.

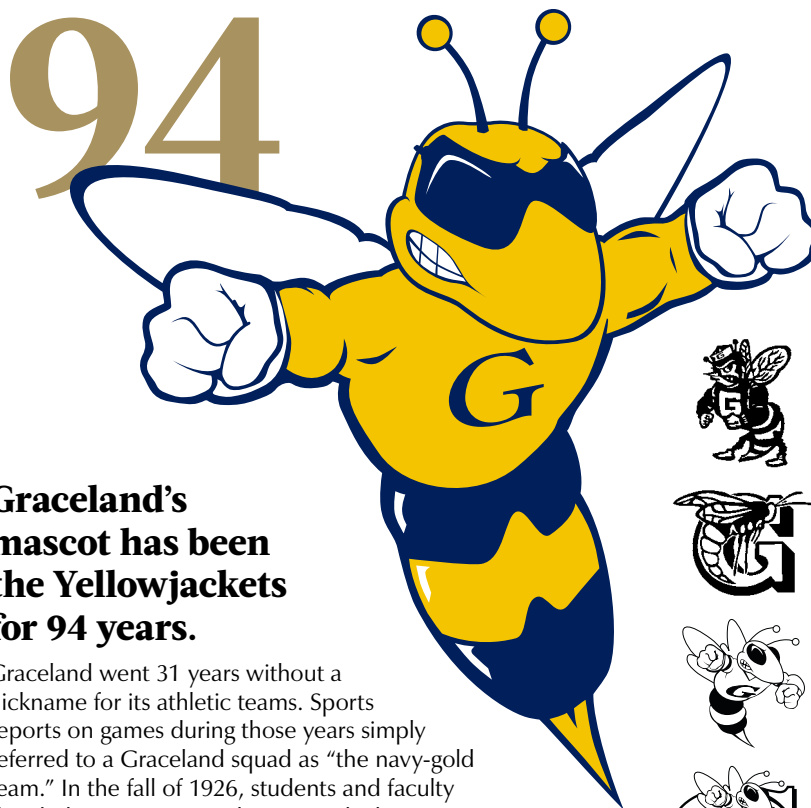
91

92 Final construction costs for Briggs Hall came to about \$92k.

On Saturday, Feb. 1, 1969, the Yellowjackets defeated Missouri Valley 93-73 before an overflow crowd of 1,100 at the first Graceland men's basketball game ever played in the Closson Center (now Morden Center) gymnasium.



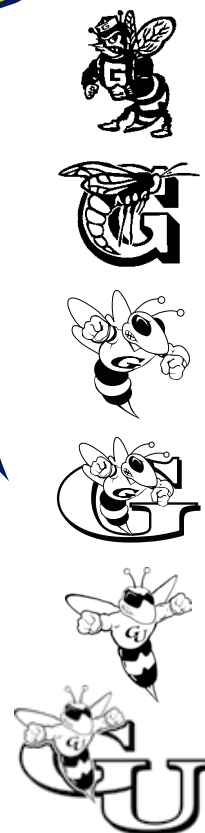
93



Graceland's mascot has been the Yellowjackets for 94 years.

Graceland went 31 years without a nickname for its athletic teams. Sports reports on games during those years simply referred to a Graceland squad as "the navy-gold team." In the fall of 1926, students and faculty decided to nominate nicknames, which were put up to a campuswide vote. The mascot name was announced in November 1926 as the Yellow Jackets, which was eventually melded into a single word. There was not an official design for the Yellowjacket mascot until around 1950.

The suggestion of the mascot was inspired by the many yellow jackets that buzzed inside and around the administration building. Sports enthusiasts back in 1926 reported that they liked the speed, the surety of aim and the fiery zip suggested by this small fighter.



Graceland Forever was written 95 years ago in 1925 by student Warren McElwain '25.

McElwain was inspired to write a Graceland song after an enthusiastic chapel convocation, during which Roy Cheville '21 expressed the hope that Graceland would someday have its own songs and suggested that Gracelanders should be the ones to write them.

McElwain went back to his room at Herald Hall and prayed for guidance about Cheville's words. One night, he dreamed he was at a college pep meeting and that there was a college band dressed in uniforms and leading a parade, playing a march he had never heard. McElwain awoke with the melody still in his mind. He hummed it over a few times and decided to write it down in the morning, but when he awoke, his mind was blank.

Later in the day, he began to recall parts of the melody until he had it all in his mind and wrote down the tune. A few days later, he wrote the words while sitting in the library in the administration building. *Graceland Forever* was the only song McElwain ever wrote and published.



95

Africa was first represented at Graceland 96 years ago when Michael Johanneses '26 came from Cairo, Egypt, in 1924.

96



KLAL was a radio station broadcasting at 97.7 FM that began in Lamoni in 1984.

During the fall of 1987, the station was relocated from the Chief Lamoni Motel to a room on the MSC mezzanine. A student staff began regular broadcasts from 6-11 p.m. in October that year, but equipment failures ended the effort in 1988. Today, you can listen to Kbuz, Graceland's student-run radio station, at radio.graceland.edu.



97



98
Crescents were first introduced at Graceland 98 years ago in 1922.

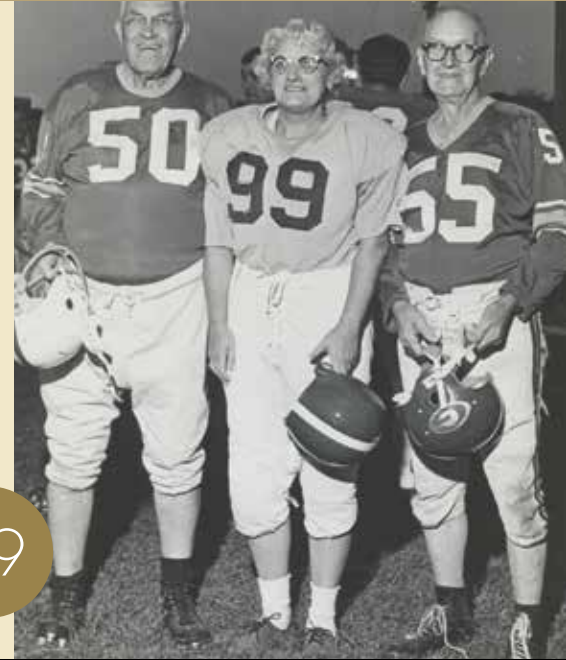
In 1929, Graceland President George Briggs

made a promise to women students that Walker Hall would last 100 years.

Just nine more to go...

“We want 99!” That was the chant from the crowd at the 1961 homecoming game when Clara Morrell, who served as administrative assistant to seven Graceland College presidents, became the only woman to ever play in a football game for the Graceland Yellowjackets.

She had been asked to suit up as #99 at the Friday night pep rally, and coach Harry Larche asked her to sit on the team bench for the next day's game. After chants from the crowd — and with a safe Graceland lead over Tarkio in the fourth quarter — Larche sent Morrell into the game with specific instructions to run just 15 yards. In 1995, at the age of 79, Morrell donned her uniform again for that year's homecoming pep rally.



99

102 There were 102 graduates in 1941.

103 103 years ago in 1917, Graceland became Iowa's first officially accredited junior college.

There was an increase of 101 students from 1964 to 1965, when enrollment exceeded 1,000 for the first time in Graceland's history. 1,058 students attended that year.

101

On Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1964, the second fire in the second Patroness Hall destroyed the entire contents of room 104 on the east wing.

104

In 1945 at Graceland's half-century mark, annual room rates for Walker Hall were \$105.

105

The first mass meeting of Graceland's student government occurred 106 years ago on a Tuesday in March 1914.

106

107

Graceland Community Lanes became the name of the Lamon bowling alley at 107 N. Maple Street when the college purchased it in 1969. It is now Baughman Athletic Center and houses the workout facility for Graceland's nationally ranked wrestling team.

108

108 issues of the Acacia have been published since 1912.

The college yearbook was first published in 1912 as a project of the Athenian Literary Society. The name is a reference to the acacia plant and was suggested by preparatory student Peter T. Chosokabe of Japan in a contest that drew more than 50 submissions. Chosokabe explained the significance of the Acacia name in a piece he wrote for the first yearbook. “The word shall be well compared to the distinctions of our college annual; the virtue of acacia to the virtue of Graceland College; the perfume of acacia to the sweet memories of old students; its euphonious sound to the peaceful atmosphere of the college location.”



The first indoor toilet was installed at Graceland 109 years ago in 1911 on the second floor of Marietta Hall.

109

During the first semester of OASIS (Older Adult Student Information Services) in Fall 1991, there were 110 married or nontraditional students at Graceland, making up 13% of the student population.

110

The first reference to a bookstore at Graceland was 111 years ago in 1909, when Jeremiah A. Gunsolley was appointed by the board of trustees to fix up a room for a book and stationery store.

111

The first known alumni banquet occurred 113 years ago in 1907 during the first annual Alumni Day, which was the beginning of homecoming at Graceland.

113

The tune from hymn 116 in the RLDS (now Community of Christ) *Hymns of the Saints* was used to sing *They Who Build*, based on a poem written by Cleo Hanthorne (Moon).

116



The lyrics were first published in the April 19, 1940, issue of the *The Tower*.

There are 114 seats in Carol Hall, the acoustically perfect recital hall in Shaw Center.



114

The winning score of the first-ever Jeremiah Gunsolley Desert Classic Miniature Golf Tournament, held in 1987, was 118 points, scored by Doug Dobkins '91 and Brent Millard '90. This was an annual nine-hole event held *inside* Gunsolley and Graybill halls.

118

Each house designed its own unusual hole running through the halls, house lounges and restrooms, and 26 pairs of student golfers competed alongside six noncompeting local celebrities: Dean of Students Tom Powell '73, Registrar Jim Closson '56, Bookstore Manager Ed Shields '72, and professors Bill Norman, Bob Ramsey '57 and Howard Booth '60.

119 years ago in 1901, Graceland's first graduate and president of the board of trustees at the time, Frederick Madison Smith, was the commencement speaker and spoke to seven students who had graduated from the business department.

119

One-act play festivals began as a Graceland theatre tradition in the spring of 1991. During the first three-weekend festival, 120 was performed as one of the plays.

Written by Tracy Salter '93, directed by J.J. Musgrove '92 and starring Gevin Booth '91, 120 was about a dystopian society contained within an apartment building where a young man's identity is taken over by a cult-like society.

120

The Graceland theatre department has resurrected the one-act festival in the past couple years. The students in a directing class direct a one-act play written from a playwriting class.

124



In 1926, the college farm was made up of nearly 124 acres.

Instrumental music was taught at Graceland as early as 123 years ago during the 1897-98 school year when Arthur H. Mills served as professor of music.

123



125

Graceland's first officially assigned coach was Roy V. Hopkins, who joined the Graceland faculty 112 years ago in the fall of 1908.

112

Hopkins coached football and track that school year, and in 1913, he coached the first organized women's basketball team at Graceland.

Graceland's first flagpole was atop the highest turret of the administration building, measuring 115 feet from the ground to the tip.

115



117 Floyd M. McDowell Commons is 117 feet long.

Graceland Student Education Association was first organized in room 121 of Kelly Hall Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1957.

121

122 Graceland's first commencement ceremony was held over six days 122 years ago in 1898.

122

We estimate there are approximately 125 layers of paint on the victory bell. (25 paintings per year every year since it was power-washed and installed in its new location in the spring of 2015.) ■

Graceland Forever



“Gracelanders continue to “dig in,” and together ... we build stronger communities and stronger people who are fighting on every front for a better world – in the next 125 years and beyond.”

We are living in amazing times. The events of the year 2020 have tested the world, including Graceland, in defining who we are, who we have been and who we aspire to be.

As a nation and a world, we have shared many challenges together this year: the COVID-19 pandemic, social unrest and turmoil, economic disruption and political turbulence.

As a university, we have responded to those challenges with initiatives and solutions: a redefined face-to-face educational environment for the pandemic, new academic and social programs for additional inclusion and social change, and initiatives that focus on the sustainability of a strong future for the university.

As we near the end of this challenging year, Graceland continues the work that will provide for students, faculty and staff, as well as our communities, in 2021 and beyond. The university has renewed its focus on who we are in the rapidly changing world of higher education while staying true to our core values and mission as an institution. We continue to foster growth in our students' understanding and compassion of the world around them, and we guide them as they develop into better citizens and whole persons entering a world riddled with challenges but full of possibilities.

As I look at our Graceland communities of learning, I see a resilience that reminds me of our past and gives me hope for our future. In this challenging year, we celebrate 125 years as an institution of higher learning. It's a 125-year history during which we confronted adversity and challenges, and from them, we built opportunities and hope.

Gracelanders continue to “dig in,” and together — students, alumni, faculty, administration — we build stronger communities and stronger people who are fighting on every front for a better world — in the next 125 years and beyond. As Gracelanders, when we say the words, “Graceland forever,” we know their meaning to be full of truth and endurance.

HARRY J. ASHENHURST, PhD, '70
Chair, Graceland University Board of Trustees



The Big Question

What are your favorite Graceland traditions?

We asked this question on Facebook a while back and got a variety of responses – we're sharing the most popular ones.

CARLA NILSEN '84

Ooo, there are so many. Right now, I'm missing choir, so I remember singing the Alma Mater at every choir concert. When I sing along with it now at homecoming or graduations, it brings tears to my eyes. Good tears.

STEPHANIE SHAW '81

Intramural sports gave me the opportunity to participate and have a lot of fun.

VICKI BEEBE '73 Gadets, Candle passings, House devotions, Pizza Shack pizza!

BRANDI MAIR '06 Air Band, Messy Games at Big G Lake, Homecoming, painting bodies for football games, painting the bell, house inductions, blind dates to movie nights, Assassin with Cheville during Bond Week, Final Fling, house meetings with brother/sister halls. Just to name a few!

JARED DOTY '99 Winter Term, Wednesday Night Movies, IMs, dodgeball at night games, Caroling & Cakes!

KAY HERRING '64 Skating and folk dancing.

CLASS NOTES

Send Us Your News

Completed a degree program? Published a written work? Received that awesome promotion? Earned a prestigious honor? If so, we want to hear about it. Share your memories and milestones by emailing us at alumni@graceland.edu.

73 Ray Campbell, Sheffield Village, Ohio, is a mobile nursing home administrator licensed in several states, traveling and acting as a troubleshooter. He is currently working in southern Ohio and is on the front line of the COVID-19 virus crisis.

75 Mary Ellen Foss Kimball, Osceola, Iowa, does public relations for Women in Aviation, Girls in Aviation Day and the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots. She chaired the Clarke Area Arts Council's gala and art exhibits at Lakeside Casino, and she continues to be active with the Iowa Cultural Trust Board and the Iowa Arts Council Board. She spends time at Graceland University and Des Moines Art Center creating and teaching.

00 Paula Bleile Belknap, Cheyenne, Wyoming, an assistant lecturer in the University of Wyoming's Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing, is the 2019 recipient of the Wyoming Innovations in Teaching Award, presented by the Wyoming Department of Education.

01 Matthew Bolton, Brooklyn, New York, an associate professor of political science at Pace University, New York City, has published a new book, *Political Minefields: The Struggle Against Automated Killing*. In this book, Bolton documents his experience working in humanitarian fieldwork, diplomatic settings and academia, while he searches for solutions to the landmine crisis and emerging autonomous weapons.

03 Lindy Wagner, Carbondale, Illinois, was named the Director for the Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

07 Tonya Moore-Huss, Orange City, Iowa, a lecturer in elementary and special education at Northwestern College, has been named the 2020 recipient of the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award.

17 William Lawrence, Bedford, Iowa, is the new defensive coordinator for the Graceland football team. Coach Lawrence, former defensive end for the Yellowjackets, coached the defensive line at West Hills Community College and was also the strength and conditioning coordinator. While at West Hills, Lawrence helped develop three players who were named all-conference defensive linemen. Most recently, Lawrence was part of the coaching staff at Missouri Valley College as the outside linebackers coach.

18 Jordan Bedford, Leesburg, Florida, was cast in a supporting role for the upcoming film *My Struggle*, based on the life of rapper Torrence Hatch Jr., better known as Boosie Badazz. Bedford, an aspiring YouTube and Instagram star, found notoriety for a YouTube video of him dancing with an alligator that went viral in 2017, earning him the nickname Alligator Man. He has also been a guest on Comedy Central's *The Daily Show* and has had his videos featured on the MTV show *Ridiculousness*.

WEDDINGS

- 80** Susan Cochran and R. Paul Davis '81, Chicago, Illinois, Aug. 8, 2020.
- 00** Ben and Carrie Land Fluegge, Raymore, Missouri, 2006.
- 11** Daniel and Arielle Koon Yee-Lam Wolf, Rock Island, Illinois, Oct. 12, 2018.
- 14** Bryne and Brandy Allen, Live Oak, Florida, Oct. 13, 2018.
- Scott** and Emily Higdon, Mitchellville, Iowa, June 10, 2017.
- 15** Corey and Jessi Eide Ulserts, Marion, Iowa, Sept. 10, 2016.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 53** Don and Jan Van Boskirk '54 Keairnes, Lamoni, Iowa, 65 years, Jan. 16, 2020.
- 55** Dick and Louita Goode '56 Clothier, Lamoni, Iowa, 60 years, April 16, 2020. Dave and Dona Bruch Tiffany, Grand Junction, Colorado, 65 years, July 30, 2020.
- 71** Rod and Janette Severyn, Shell Knob, Missouri, 50 years, Aug. 8, 2020.

BIRTHS

- 04** Jessica Silhavy, Vestavia Hills, Alabama, Corben Kirkpatrick, born Dec. 28, 2018.
- 05** Jake and Erin Farnham '07 Everett, Indianola, Iowa, Calum Thomas and John Wayne, born June 6, 2018.
- 06** Ryan and Lauren Mish Trimble, Dallas, Texas, Tate Ryan, born June 23, 2019.
- 11** Collin Isham and Tara Shupe, Kansas City, Missouri, Alaska James, born May 25, 2020.
- 12** Loralyn Heath and Michael Jenkins '14, St. Joseph, Missouri, Jerilyn, born 2017, and Jolene, born 2018.
- 14** Scott and Emily Higdon, Mitchellville, Iowa, Eric Terril, born Oct. 24, 2017.
- 15** Corey and Jessi Eide Ulserts, Marion, Iowa, Zella, born March 12, 2018.
- 19** Joe Lewis and Jasimeen, Jacksonville, Florida, Norriel, born Feb. 17, 2020.

IN MEMORIAM

- 22** Helen Rogers Winslow, East Machias, Maine, July 10, 2006.
- 23** Ida Eliason, Lee's Summit, Missouri, April 1, 2001.



IN MEMORIAM

JR Shaw made several visits to campus throughout the Shaw Center renovation to view construction progress and share in the excitement for the transformation.

Shaw's Graceland Legacy

JR SHAW, Executive Chair of Shaw Communications Inc. and a member of the Graceland class of 1956, passed away peacefully on March 23 at the age of 85.

Shaw greatly contributed to Graceland, and his generosity enhanced the Lamoni campus as well as the experience of students, employees and community members.

Shaw Center was named for JR's parents, Francis and Lottie Shaw. When the building opened its doors in 1982, it helped shape the physical and social landscape and the future of Graceland. The building has been a testament to the generosity of JR, his wife, Carol, and the Shaw family, who also made the 2012 expansion possible. They once again transformed and redefined Graceland's future as a strong liberal arts institution, and with their remarkable \$16 million gift, the largest in Graceland history, JR and Carol set in motion ripples of excellence that will be felt far into the future.



Shaw provided many years of service and support to Graceland. He served on Graceland's board of trustees from 1980-86, was one of the first people recognized with the Graceland Award of Recognition in 1987, and served as the chairman for Commitment '81, a four-year fundraising campaign to raise money for a chapel and performing arts auditorium. In 1993, he received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Graceland, and in 2014, JR, Carol and their four children spoke of the strengths and challenges of running a family business at the 23rd Entrepreneurial Roundtable.

JR built the Shaw empire and became one of the most influential men in Canada. He and Carol graciously chose Graceland as one of the many institutions of higher education they supported, and he delighted in hearing personal stories of students who had the opportunity to perform in Shaw Center.

Graceland President Patricia H. Draves commented, "JR not only supported Graceland financially, he and Carol invested themselves in the university's future." He will remain a role model of one who demanded the highest standards of himself and his colleagues, and who used the resources he generated to enhance the lives of others. - BY BROOKE SUTHERLAND



IN MEMORIAM

Yellowjackets hall of famer **STEVE PECK '73** passed away peacefully at his home Tuesday, July 14, 2020, after an 11-year battle with kidney cancer.

Peck was inducted into the 2017-18 class of the Graceland Sports Hall of Fame for his contributions and his successes in the athletics department.

He graduated from Graceland in the spring of 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts in physical education, recreation and health, and then went on to earn a master's degree. Peck taught and coached at Lamoni High School for 10 years, and at Raytown South High in Missouri for 25 years. He retired from teaching in 2012 but continued to coach baseball at Truman High School until 2018.

Peck loved Graceland. Brad Closson '86 met him when Closson was just a kid, and over the years, the two became good friends. Closson shared:

"Steve was a Graceland man. His favorite hole on the Lamoni golf course was number two because it borders the sports fields and Big G. He loved to look over at Graceland and think about all the wonderful times he had there ... Graceland was lucky to have such a wonderful person, coach and teacher. They don't come better than Steve."

Graceland runs in the Peck family. Two of Steve's children, Brad '09 and Sarah '17, are Graceland graduates, and his mother, Carolyn Andrews Peck, attended Graceland in the 1940s. Steve and his wife, Pam '80, have been loyal supporters of the university. The family made a trip to Lamoni over the weekend of Oct. 17 and planted a tree in Steve's honor. It's on the Lamoni golf course — at hole two. — BY BROOKE SUTHERLAND

24 Myrl Claiborne Dempsey, Eugene, Oregon, June 14, 2003.

25 Irene Rauch Key, Winchester, Massachusetts, Dec. 29, 2005.

27 Edna Brown Tousley, Lamar, Colorado, Feb. 23, 2006.

28 Boyd Holdren, Rockwood, Michigan, Nov. 29, 2013. **Iva Freeman Whiteaker**, Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin, March 25, 2005.

29 Ruth Allison Bettler, Sioux City, Iowa, May 3, 2005. **Nina Amundson Maloney**, Independence, Missouri, June 25, 2001. **Alfred Toombs**, Mount Dora, Florida, Feb. 18, 2005.

30 Francis Wrenn Cornell, Parkville, Missouri, Feb. 17, 2004. **Glen Johnson**, Bartlesville, Oklahoma, 2002. **Henry Rhoads**, Rancho Cordova, California, May 11, 2002.

31 Oral Craton, Hannibal, Missouri, July 23, 2008.

32 Pauline Wilson Gray, Jonesport, Maine, Dec. 25, 2001.

33 Dorothy Mundy Brown, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Feb. 22, 2005.

34 Clement "C.B." Cochran, Urbandale, Iowa, March 14, 2002.

35 Mildred Thompson Walling, Lamoni, Iowa, Dec. 28, 2011.

36 Clyde Ebeling, Stow, Ohio, Nov. 10, 2004.

37 Myron White, Seattle, Washington, Feb. 13, 2011. **Fairye Carpenter Wise**, Andalusia, Alabama, Oct. 6, 2014.

38 Dorothy Trowbridge Edwards, Oak Grove, Missouri, March 2, 2014. **Paul Edwards**, Oak Grove, Missouri, Jan. 12, 2008. **Wanita Stevenson Hawkins**, Santa Rosa, California, Jan. 26, 2004.

39 Marietta Truman Barr, Wamego, Kansas, March 30, 2005. **Ruth Grisinger Prost**, Bethesda, Maryland, Aug. 11, 2001. **Porter Sheppard**, Cedaredge, Colorado, Sept. 29, 2013. **Athena Austin Tucker**, Modesto, California, Sept. 1, 2005.

40 Betty Marshall Roberts, Warsaw, Kentucky, Aug. 26, 2013. **Margaret "Peggy" Bullard Tucker**, Pleasant Hill, Missouri, Dec. 5, 2018.

41 Thelma Gunn Francis, Fort Madison, Iowa, Jan. 12, 2011.

42 Charles Harris, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 12, 2019.

Winston Inslee, Tulalip, Washington, Feb. 10, 2020.

43 Frank Minton, Kailua, Hawaii, April 5, 2020. **Harold "Hal" Sandy**, Prairie Village, Kansas, Dec. 9, 2017. **Juanita Hunker Sutherland**, Gulf Breeze, Florida, Dec. 23, 2018.

45 Darlene VanBiber Wight, Kansas City, Missouri, March 22, 2020.

46 Earlena Ebeling Finken, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, Sept. 16, 2019. **Kay Jagger Van Fleet**, Independence, Missouri, Oct. 27, 2014. **Jackie Silver Flowers**, Independence, Missouri, July 22, 2020.

47 Joseph Pooler, Independence, Missouri, April 15, 2019. **Elva Barrington Snow**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, March 14, 2020. **Florine Schenck Van Tuyl**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Nov. 7, 2019. **Blair Wildermuth**, Wichita Falls, Texas, Dec. 11, 2019.

48 Francis Anderson, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 15, 2009. **Frances Malcom Johnson**, San Luis Obispo, California, June 29, 2020. **Duane Miller**, Kansas City, Missouri, July 1, 2008. **Earlene Johnston Russell**, Milton, Florida, May 23, 2020. **Leah Lesh Thompson**, Independence, Missouri, April 30, 2020. **Robert Turner**, Independence, Missouri, May 14, 2020. **William Webb**, Independence, Missouri.

49 Evelyn Berryman Barritt, Venice, Florida, Jan. 23, 2020. **Maurice Coffman**, Omaha, Nebraska, Sept. 14, 2018. **Jim Edwards**, Tracy, California, Dec. 24, 2019. **Edgar Van Fleet**, Independence, Missouri, Jan. 25, 2020. **Kenneth Swails**, St. Charles, Missouri, Nov. 2, 2019.

50 Hale Collins, Lamoni, Iowa, Dec. 14, 2019. **Dean Cox**, Austin, Texas, March 26, 2020. **Bruce Ellis**, Olathe, Kansas, March 1, 2020. **Joan Hansen Fisher**, Encinitas, California, Feb. 17, 2020. **Barbara Moore Kelly**, Onset, Massachusetts, Feb. 16, 2020.

51 Carl Fenn, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 28, 2019. **John Snider**, Kansas City, Missouri, March 15, 2020. **Chuck White**, Bettendorf, Iowa, July 8, 2020.

52 Joyce Dyjak Harrison, Panama City Beach, Florida, Jan. 14, 2020. **Verna Paddock Williams**, Riverside, California, March 16, 2020.

53 Donna Shaw Adams, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 4, 2019. **Loretta Arnold Fields**, Pueblo, Colorado, July 6, 2020.

Earl Koonce, Independence, Missouri, July 22, 2020. **Dean Limric**, Lamoni, Iowa, July 16, 2020. **Lois Taylor Shaffer**, Chandler, Arizona, March 20, 2020.

54 Jerry Barnett, Mechanicsville, Virginia, April 24, 2020. **Milton Ceraso**, Mayo, Florida, Dec. 14, 2019. **Robert Colyer**, Encinitas, California, Nov. 27, 2019. **Jim Crum**, Blue Springs, Missouri, June 29, 2020. **Bernard Parton**, Fruitland, Idaho, May 25, 2020. **Elaine Wadhams Snively**, Mackinaw, Illinois, May 18, 2020.

55 Donald Bain, Baggs, Wyoming, March 12, 2020. **Charles Christiansen**, Council Bluffs, Iowa, Jan. 20, 2020. **Opal Wessling Funke**, Medina, Texas, June 19, 2020. **Vernon Hein**, Lake Forest, Illinois, Feb. 13, 2019. **Barbara Gilstrap Holst**, Spokane Valley, Washington, March 26, 2020. **Lynn Jones**, Wyandotte, Michigan, Nov. 19, 2019.

56 Joann Phillips Bjorland, Lamoni, Iowa, Jan. 24, 2020. **Dr. Henry Prager**, Johnston, Iowa, Nov. 10, 2019. **JR Shaw**, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, March 23, 2020. **Jamie Tankersley**, Clive, Iowa, Dec. 31, 2019.

57 John Darling, Boerne, Texas, Feb. 17, 2020. **Floyd Fears**, Independence, Missouri, April 28, 2020. **Greg McGowen**, Fanshawe, Oklahoma, March 27, 2020.

58 Ralyn Baird, Port Orchard, Washington, Feb. 10, 2020. **Wilma Burtch Duff**, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, April 4, 2020. **Nancy Shelton Kemp**, Centralia, Illinois, July 22, 2020. **Leona Blackstock Snethen**, Indianapolis, Indiana, June 10, 2020.

59 Dawn Bartlett Corless, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin, Jan. 6, 2020.

60 Dixie Fitzwater Kilborn, Evergreen, Colorado, June 12, 2020. **Gael Tideman Self**, Oviedo, Florida, June 20, 2018.

61 Ilene Knudson Sheets, Odessa, Missouri, Feb. 14, 2017.

62 Onalee Nevill Baldwin, Bear, Delaware, May 30, 2020. **Jack Shalley**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Feb. 18, 2020. **Ronald Trimble**, Guelph, Ontario, Canada, March 2, 2020. **Mary Olson Williams**, Seattle, Washington, Jan. 25, 2020.

63 Corliss "Jim" Kelly, Pensacola, Florida, Sept. 11, 2019. **Patricia Berry Lewis**, Pawleys Island, South Carolina, Nov. 27, 2019.

64 Judith Manning Jones, Lachine, Michigan, April 20, 2020.

LaDonna Seres McLarty, Denver, Colorado, June 24, 2020. **Walter Zuber**, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 17, 2014.

65 Alexander Boychuck, Pittsboro, North Carolina, Jan. 6, 2020.

66 Frances Clement Anderson, Montpelier, Ohio, Feb. 25, 2020. **Meredith Mitchell**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Feb. 24, 2020.

68 Theodore Clark, Sherman, Illinois, July 21, 2020.

69 Tom Morain, Lamoni, Iowa, Oct. 11, 2020. **Robert Moser**, Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 19, 2018.

70 Glen Holmes, Independence, Missouri, May 28, 2020.

71 James Garwood, Independence, Missouri, March 6, 2020. **Dana Tift Osburn**, Fairfax, Missouri, Dec. 11, 2019.

72 Gene Combs, Kearney, Missouri, June 21, 2020. **Dennis Fabian**, Norwalk, Connecticut, Dec. 12, 2019.

73 Karen Skoor Bidney, Ankeny, Iowa, May 4, 2020. **Stephen Peck**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, July 14, 2020.

74 Beth Jess, Independence, Missouri, Feb. 18, 2020.

75 Dawn Weldon Beye, Independence, Missouri, Nov. 29, 2012.

86 Martha Weydert Cohen, Fleming Island, Florida, Feb. 27, 2020. **William "Billy" Guinee**, Lee's Summit, Missouri, May 29, 2020.

92 Philip Groner, Clive, Iowa, Feb. 18, 2020.

95 Wade Sanders, Fort Worth, Texas, April 14, 2020.

99 Kurt Thrutchley, Arlington, Texas, May 11, 2020.

08 Sheila Coleman, Oakes, North Dakota, Aug. 11, 2012. **Beverly Haffner**, Jacksonville, North Carolina, Aug. 7, 2011.

09 Samantha Hickey, Caldwell, Idaho, July 13, 2020.

10 Grant Leveridge, Independence, Missouri, May 15, 2020.

19 Caitlyn Saxton, Leon, Iowa, Dec. 20, 2019.

FRIEND Dale Luffman, Redmond, Oregon, March 5, 2020.

Policies

Submissions are included as space permits and may be edited for length or clarity.

Send high resolution digital photos: minimum 300 dpi or 1,200 pixels on the shortest side.



IN MEMORIAM

For almost 20 years of his life, **TOM MORAIN '69** expressed his love of Graceland through service to the university.

He served under six different presidents in roles that ranged from helping bring Iowa Public Radio to Southern Iowa to expanding cultural and educational opportunities for youth through AmeriCorps and the Dekko Foundation.

His giftedness seemingly knew no bounds. He was an accomplished historian, writer, musician and, most importantly, husband and father. He and his wife, Vikki Updike '69 Morain, met at Graceland before Tom moved on to earn his doctorate in American Studies at the University of Iowa. His two sons, Joel '97 and Michael '01, both attended Graceland as well.

Morain valued his relationships with his family and friends above all else. Those who encountered him saw his joy and orneriness in the way he told stories. One legend of his ability to tell stories was how he leveraged his position as a writer for *The Tower* to further the exploits of Rod Dixon, a fictional Graceland student fabricated by members of Cheville House and the class of 1969.

Tom's obituary begins:

"Throughout his life, Tom Morain was less determined to accomplish extraordinary things than to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and ended up doing both."

To those of us who were lucky enough to know and work with him at this university, this is extraordinarily true.

Tom passed away Oct. 10, 2020, after a battle with cancer. His memory and his legacy of service at Graceland will not be soon forgotten. Happy trails, Tom. - BY SHANE ADAMS



BY BROOKE SUTHERLAND

*The **COVID-19 PANDEMIC** has created a variety of challenges for nearly everyone on Earth, and Graceland's Lamoni campus is no different.*

The decision to move Spring 2019 classes to an online format during spring break was just the beginning of months of hard work and creative thinking combined with a caring, can-do attitude from Graceland's faculty and staff, and the university has come a long way in adapting for this unprecedented time.

TOWARD TOGETHER

Over the summer, Graceland created nearly 20 task forces charged with developing procedures for everything from academics to athletics. Working under the guiding principles of health and safety, quality academics, student experience and sustainability for the

"TOWARD TOGETHER" GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Health & Safety

of students, faculty, staff
and communities

Quality Academics

online and other student
educational experiences

Student Experience

campus life engagement
and experiences

Sustainability

of Graceland, especially the Lamoni
campus (enrollment, financials, etc.)

future, the result was the "Toward Together" plan that has guided the entire campus community and dictated new behaviors. And while Graceland has not been immune to this virus, the plan allowed the university community to continue working together toward our mission, even as colleges across the nation were forced to move to full online instruction and asked students to go home.

For Graceland, the need to limit the movement of students to and from campus to minimize asymptomatic spread of the virus led to a change in the academic calendar. Classes began a week early, fall break was eliminated,

Perhaps one of the greater challenges of providing a college experience during a pandemic, however, has been creating a social experience while maintaining social distance.

and the fall semester ended ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. Additionally, all students were offered the option of a single room this year in order to limit spread of the virus in the residence halls. Those who met particular FAFSA qualifications were even offered the opportunity to take advantage of this option without additional cost. So, students returned to Lamoni in August eager to begin a sort of normalcy amid the chaos.

While there have been many modifications, at a glance, the Fall 2020 Graceland experience may not look so different. Walking across campus today [as this is written], the reds and yellows of the changing fall leaves in contrast to the lingering green grass would still catch your eye, and you'd still see students wearing backpacks and a range of seasonal apparel you may or may not agree fits the chilly fall temperatures. But then, you'd realize that everyone is wearing a face covering; in fact, you'd be wearing one too.

You might notice "maximum capacity" signage posted at the entrance of all gathering spaces and see directional arrows in the Commons and Swarm Inn. If you visited a class, you'd realize the instructor is delivering the day's lesson to students in the classroom as well as those joining online through Zoom. At an athletic or music event, you'd be asked to show a digital ticket and would be scanned for your temperature. If you were asked to attend a meeting, the location listed on your digital calendar would likely be a URL for a video conferencing platform rather than a physical location. And while none of these adjustments have been especially simple, the Graceland community has pushed through together.

THE NEW NORMAL

Perhaps one of the greater challenges of providing a college experience during a pandemic, however, has been creating a social experience while maintaining social distance. Events planned by academic divisions, houses, COSA (Campus Organization for Social

Activities) and student clubs have also been guided by Graceland's COVID-19 guidelines, and these groups have taken initiatives to maintain the health of the campus community while providing somewhat of a normal college experience in a year that is anything but normal.

COSA, for instance, has hosted some of the most beloved traditional events such as messy games, roller skating and karaoke, but the student government branch has also taken great precautions. Masks are always required, social distancing is enforced, hand sanitizing stations are provided and, in some cases, the organization has mandated separation of houses, even going so far as to host both Wednesday- and Thursday-night movies to accommodate such separation.



"Graceland is a wonderful place to come for an outstanding education, but it is also known for its strong community and its power of together. Because COSA is following Graceland's guidelines, the spread of COVID-19 around the world has yet to stop Graceland students on the Lamoni campus from finding a way to stay together and keep the strong community we are known for."

MENA RUNKLE '23
COSA representative, Khayah House

Efforts and sentiments like this have become not only a new reality but a history page being written before our eyes. *The Graceland College Book of Knowledge*, published in 1997, makes just small, indirect references to the 1918 flu pandemic and how it impacted the Graceland community. One can't help but wonder what a future version of the Graceland Book of Knowledge will say about 2020. ■

❗ Before this issue went to print, the university made the decision to allow students to return home two weeks early amid rising case numbers across the country. Many students chose to complete their Fall 2020 studies and finals remotely.

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

🔍 View the online version of *Horizons* at: graceland.edu/Horizons



Carrying Our Community Through COVID-19

The Power of Together | The Power of Caring

Students are in need of your generosity in order to make a Graceland education and experience possible. With high unemployment impacting families across the nation, new and returning students face financial obstacles that may prevent them from coming to Graceland. We must increase financial aid and scholarships to ensure our students have the necessary support to attend Graceland. To meet this moment, we have launched the \$2 million *Carrying Our Community Through COVID-19* campaign, and we are asking you to help our students by giving to this cause.

Graceland is so fortunate to have generous alumni and friends who are willing to step up and help us meet the needs of our students, especially in crisis. Please **make a gift** to the campaign, and help us ensure that our students' financial needs are met during these uncertain times.

CAMPAIGN DETAILS



10% goes to help Graceland implement safety measures
\$200,000

90% goes directly to scholarship support for students
\$1.9 million

Make a Gift ▶

Contact the Graceland Development Office for more information:
development@graceland.edu • 800.645.3582 • graceland.edu/giving