

Dramatist portrays US president at 2013 Free Enterprise Dinner



Dr. Jack Van Ens portrays US President, Thomas Jefferson

President Thomas Jefferson made his debut in Hobbs on April 18. Portrayed by Dr. Jack Van Ens, the president first met with members of the community and USW students, staff and faculty in the afternoon on April 18 for tea and conversation. He spoke of the election, the issue of slavery and answered questions from the audience.

That evening, Jefferson spoke to an audience of 350, speaking eloquently of his dream to build Monticello, the obstacles he faced and his drive to persevere. He related this to the drive of the American enterprise system, where all men have the right to pursue their own dream, no matter what it may be.

Dr. Van Ens is a dramatist, historian and newspaper commentator. Van Ens serves as Executive Director of Creative Growth Inc. (www.thelivinghistory.com), making history come alive as he portrays Thomas Jefferson and the colonial preacher Jonathan Edwards in period costume for schools, religious organizations, libraries, and public service groups.

Having earned two Masters Degrees (one in colonial history) and a Doctorate in Communications from Princeton Theological Seminary, Van Ens has twice been invited as a Visiting Scholar at the International Center for Jefferson Studies at Monticello. His book, "How Jefferson Made the Best of Bad Messes," was published in 2000.

Also at the dinner, Hobbs resident, James Francis, was presented with the 2013 Trustee of Free Enterprise award. A 1975 honors graduate of New Mexico State University, Francis joined the Hobbs office of Johnson, Miller & Co. He became a Certified Public Accountant and in 1981 was the youngest person to have ever been admitted as a partner in the firm. He is now President of Johnson, Miller & Co., a firm which has grown to over 100 staff members, with offices in Midland and Odessa, Texas and Hobbs. Francis has also served on many local boards, including the Hobbs Rotary Club, the Hobbs Community Playhouse and the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County.



James Francis (right) is presented with the 2013 Trustee of Free Enterprise award

Share Your News!!

Have you recently been married or do you have a new little bundle of joy? Do you have a new job you are excited about? University of the Southwest would like to hear from you! Share your news with classmates and the USW community by completing and mailing in the form below or by sending the information via email to Idean@usw.edu. Your news may be printed in the next issue of *The Mustang*. Our newsletter is published twice per year and will include as many alumni updates as space allows. Send completed form to USW, Attn: Laurie Dean, 6610 Lovington Hwy., #501, Hobbs, NM 88240

USW Alumni & Friends Information Update Form

Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Miss (circle one)

Name _____ USW Alum? _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Email Address _____

Employer _____

Job Title _____

Degree Earned at USW _____

Month/year _____

Major/Minor _____

Birthday _____

Wedding Anniversary _____

Maiden name or name used while at USW _____

Spouse _____ USW Alum? _____

Month/year _____

Spouse Major/Minor _____

Children (Names/Ages) _____

Additional Info _____



faith. responsibility. initiative.

6610 Lovington Highway | Hobbs, NM 88240
575 392 6561 | www.usw.edu

Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Craftsman
Printers Inc.

University Mission Statement

University of the Southwest is a Christ-centered educational community dedicated to developing men and women for a lifetime of servant leadership by emphasizing individual faith, responsibility, and initiative.

Editor

Laurie Dean Director of Development Operations & Public Relations

Contributors

Garrett Bertola Webmaster
Richard Trout Instructor, School of Arts & Sciences

University of the Southwest

President: Dr. Gary A. Dill

Board of Trustees:

Gary Fonay, Chair
Judy Britton
Ken Bromley
Suzie Brown
Cliff Brunson
Cindy Bryan
Garry Buie

Brad A. Caress
Laura K. Castillo
Dr. Christopher Driskill
Shannon Duncan
Gary Eidson
Heather Evans
Will Hawkins

Debra Hicks
Rev. Calvin Hill
Dr. George L. Klein
David Pyeatt
Larry Scott
Nancy Shaw
Gary Sims

Finn Smith
Gregory OD Smith
Samuel S. Spencer, Jr.
Michael Whitehead

Mission of *The Mustang*

The mission of *The Mustang* is to share with the alumni and friends of USW news and happenings regarding the University and each other.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK — for current events, campus calendars and athletic news!!



University of the Southwest confers degrees



Kimberly Russell, 2013 USW graduate and outgoing president of SGA

University of the Southwest held Commencement Ceremonies on May 11, 2013 in the Jack & Mabel Maddox Student Life Center on campus. The night before, Dr. Gary Dill provided the message for the Baccalaureate ceremony, which was held in the Mabee Southwest Heritage Center.

Fifty-eight students earned bachelor's degrees and 95 received master's degrees in their respective studies. As part of the commencement exercises, USW students graduating with a master's degree participated in a hooding ceremony, which signifies a scholarly and personal achievement.

Kimberly Russell, graduating with a bachelor of science degree, and outgoing President of the USW Student Government Association, gave the student address. Scott Smith, 2011 MBA Alumnus, gave the commencement address, advising graduates to not let opportunities pass them by and to appreciate the ones they receive. Although there will be obstacles and trials along life's journey, perseverance and belief in oneself will help anyone reach their personal or professional goals.

Smith is a former Hobbs resident, who currently resides in Frisco, TX and works as a financial advisor for Edward Jones, LLP. Prior to this, Smith worked as Vice President and General Manager at Watson Truck & Supply of Hobbs, his family's business, for over 13 years. Smith received his bachelor's degree in business from Elon University in NC in 1998 and his master of business administration in 2011 from USW, with highest honors. Smith received the Outstanding Young Man of the Year in Hobbs and the Dean's Award for the School of Business at USW.



Commencement speaker, Scott Smith, addresses graduates.

Dr. James Smith, USW Provost, presented student awards to graduates who distinguished themselves academically or who performed outstanding service to USW and the community.

The recipient of the President's Award was **Cheryl Stephenson**, who graduated with a bachelor of science degree. Recipient of the Trustee's Award was **Donna Puckett**, graduating with a bachelor of business administration degree. Recipients of the Academic Excellence Award were **Donna Puckett** and **Jodi Keith**, who graduated with a bachelor of science degree. And the recipient for the Dean's Award was **Leah Snyder**, graduating with a master of science in education.

Inside this issue:

General Collin Powell (Ret.) speaks at spring lecture	2
USW hires new men's basketball coach	3
Students and Staff in the News	3
Jack Maddock Distinguished Lecture Jeannette Walls Fall Speaker	4
Dramatist portrays US president at 2013 Free Enterprise Dinner	5

- Robert Arreola**, '94 (BS, Secondary Education), was hired as the Lovington Wildcat head baseball coach. Arreola was the Wildcat baseball coach for 10 years before leaving to become the head football coach in Roswell in 2008.
- Justin Bateman**, '08 (BBA, Accounting), received his Juris Doctor degree on May 11 from the UNM School of Law. He is currently studying for his state bar exam.
- Gary Beal**, friend of USW, received the Outstanding Citizen Award at the recent Hobbs Chamber of Commerce/Jaycees banquet. Beal has worked at Leavell Insurance in Hobbs for 22 years and is a volunteer for several community boards.
- Joshua Benton**, '11 (BAS, Physical Education), has been selected to participate in Leadership New Mexico's "Next Generation of Leadership" program. This program helps a small number of young professionals develop personal leadership skills and explore critical issues facing the state.
- Nolan Brunson**, friend of the University and former board member, received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the recent Hobbs Chamber of Commerce/Jaycees banquet for his accomplishments in business and civic service.
- Linda Chapman**, '98 (BAS, General Business) and '02 (MSE, Educational Administration) and the current administrative assistant to the provost, as well as an adjunct faculty member, graduated from the Hobbs Police Department's Citizen's Academy Class in May. Also

continued on page 2

General Colin Powell (Ret.) speaks at spring lecture



General Colin Powell (Ret.) speaks to the audience at the Maddox lecture

On February 26, Hobbs welcomed General Colin Powell (Ret.), as the guest speaker for the Jack Maddox Distinguished Lecture Series. For over fifty years, General Colin L. Powell, USA (Ret.) has devoted his life to public service. Having held senior military and diplomatic positions across four presidential administrations, Powell's deep commitment to democratic values and

freedom has been felt throughout the world.

On the afternoon of February 26, Powell met with a group of around 300 area high school students (Hobbs, Lovington, Jal, Tatum), at Hobbs High School. Powell spoke to the students about finding their passion and doing what they love to do, no matter what obstacles they may face. Students were able to ask questions and get personal advice from General Powell. Many students indicated this was a once in a lifetime opportunity for them and found Powell's words very encouraging.

The evening lecture was a sold out event, with more than 1500 people in attendance. Powell's presentation covered some experiences in his personal life that lead him to his career. He also told several stories about the different administrations he worked under and how his military career has helped him throughout his life. Powell answered audience questions after his presentation. Pre-signed copies of his most recently released book, *It Worked for Me* (May, 2012), were available for sale at the lecture.

The son of Jamaican immigrants, Powell was born in Harlem in April 1937 and was raised in the South Bronx. He was educated in the New York City public schools and after graduating from Morris High School attended the City College of New York where he earned a B.S. in Geology. It was not until he joined the Army ROTC program at CCNY that he discovered his calling and launched his military career. He received a commission as an Army second lieutenant upon graduation in 1958 and went on to serve in the United States Army for 35 years, rising to the rank of Four-Star General.

From 1987 – 1989 Powell served as President Ronald Reagan's National Security Advisor. He served from 1989 – 1993 as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for both President George H.W. Bush and for President Bill Clinton, and was not only the youngest officer and first ROTC graduate to ever serve in the position but also was the first African American to do so. During his time as Chairman, he oversaw 28 crises to include the Panama intervention of 1989 and Operation Desert Storm in the victorious 1991 Persian Gulf War.

Powell is the Founder of the Colin L. Powell Center for Leadership and Service at his alma mater, the City College of New York. The Center is student-focused with a mission to develop a new generation of publicly engaged leaders. He is the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the America's Promise Alliance, dedicated to forging a strong and effective partnership alliance committed to seeing that children have the fundamental resources they need to succeed.

continued from page 1

in the graduating class was **Skye Wilson**, '09 (BS, Secondary Education).

- **Cindy Chism**, '00 (BS, Elementary Education), was honored with the Veteto Foundation's Excellence in Education award. Chism is a teacher at Coronado Elementary School in Hobbs. This award recognizes teachers who provide outstanding service to their schools and the community.
- **Andy C. Chester**, '05 (BS, Criminal Justice/Management), was one of the first online Criminal Justice graduates and has recently been appointed as the Police Chief for the city of Winnsboro, TX.
- **Dr. Chris Driskill**, USW Board of Trustees, was named as vice president for the New Mexico Medical Society, a statewide professional organization for physicians. Driskill practices at Premier OB/GYN in Hobbs and currently serves as the president of the Lea Regional Medical Center's board of trustees.
- **Lonna Enox**, former instructor at USW, has recently published her first novel, *The Last Dance*, which has received critical acclaim.
- **Chad Hardison**, USW's assistant to the trainer and Jim Bob Marshall, USW assistant baseball coach, were awarded Lifesaving Service Awards by the Hobbs Fire Department. The award is given to an active duty fireman whose personal actions were directly responsible for saving a life.
- **Debra Hicks**, USW Board of Trustees, was honored by Albuquerque Business First for her outstanding achievements, leadership and community involvement in the category of Business Services. Hicks is president and CEO of Pettigrew & Associates in Hobbs and was also recently appointed to two key state positions by Gov. Susana Martinez: the New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology Board of Regents and the New Mexico State University Board of Regents president search committee. Hicks' business, Pettigrew & Associates, received the Business of the Year Award at the Hobbs Chamber of Commerce/Jaycees banquet.
- **Senator Carroll Leavell**, friend of the University, received the New Mexico District Attorney's Association Legislator of the Year award in May. This award is presented to a legislator who supports the needs of the DAs office and advocates for safer communities within the district.
- **Darin Manes**, '01 (MSE, Educational Administration), was appointed earlier this year as the Lovington, NM Municipal Schools Superintendent. Manes has 19 years of teaching, coaching and acting as principal for schools in Lovington.

USW hires new men's basketball coach



University of the Southwest has hired Charles Goar as head coach of the men's Mustang basketball team. Coach Goar has spent the last six seasons as assistant men's basketball coach and assistant athletic director at Mid-America Christian University in Oklahoma City, OK, and was instrumental in helping the Evangels progress in the Sooner Athletic Conference of the NAIA. He also helped guide the Evangels to a 2007 NCCAA National Championship, a fifth place finish in 2006 and finished in the Elite 8 in 2010.

Prior to coaching at Mid-America, Coach Goar was the 6A head boy's basketball coach at Putnam City West High School in Oklahoma City in 2004-2005. In 2003-2004 he was the head women's basketball coach at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, KS and from 2001-2003 he served as the assistant men's basketball coach at Allen County Community College in Iola, KS. Coach Goar began his coaching career at NCAA II University of Central Oklahoma as the graduate assistant men's basketball coach in 1999.

Coach Goar started his collegiate playing career at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, MO and transferred to NJCAA Clarke College in Newton, MS where he played one year and finished his playing career at Mid-America Christian University, where he was a NCCAA first team All American in 1990 and was the Inter-State Collegiate Conference Most Valuable player in 1989. Coach Goar was honored by being named to the Team of the Decade of the 90's for his achievements as a basketball player at Mid-America Christian University.

Goar graduated from Mid-America Christian University with a bachelor's degree in English and earned his master's degree in Education at the University of Central Oklahoma. Coach Goar and his wife, Michele, have a nine year old son.

Students and Staff in the News



Marek Ondruj, the first USW competitor at the National championships

Marek Ondruj became the first USW tennis player to compete at the National Small College Championships last fall, taking home a 6th place finish for the Mustangs. Marek graduated in May with a bachelor's of science degree, with honors.

The Lady Mustangs softball team made their ninth consecutive appearance at the conference tournament this year and finished in fourth place. Head coach, Ron Landschoot, was named 2013 Coach of the Year by the Red River Athletic Conference.



USW Head Softball Coach, Ron Landschoot



Pictured from left to right are Mooney, vice president of administration and CFO; President Gary A. Dill; and Fierro, business office.

At an employee luncheon on April 12, Dee Mooney and MariaSanta Fierro were recognized for TEN years of service to USW.

The Jack Maddox Distinguished Lecture Series Announces Author, Jeannette Walls, as Fall Speaker



Critics have called Jeannette Walls' memoir, *The Glass Castle*, "spectacular," "extraordinary," "incredible," and "riveting." It has been a *New York Times* best-seller for more than four years, has sold 3.5 million copies in the US alone, been translated into 22 languages. It was named one of the "Top 10 Books of the Decade" by Amazon, and has won numerous awards including the Christopher Award, the American Library Association's Alex Award, and the Books for Better Living Award.

Walls will be the guest speaker at the Jack Maddox Distinguished Lecture Series on OCTOBER 1, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at Tydings Auditorium in Hobbs. Tickets will be available beginning in August and you may reserve yours by contacting Laurie Dean at tickets@usw.edu or by phone at 575-492-2108. Tickets are FREE but required to attend.

In *The Glass Castle*, Walls describes growing up in the desert of the American Southwest and then in a West Virginia mining town with her three siblings and the brilliant, unorthodox, irresponsible parents who manage at once to neglect them, love them, and teach them to face their fears.

The story is at times harrowing and at times hilarious as the children go without food and indoor plumbing yet are encouraged to read Shakespeare and dream of the beautiful glass house they will all one day build. Despite all her hardships, Walls develops the determination to leave West Virginia on her own at the age of sixteen, move to New York City, enroll in Barnard College and eventually become a well-known columnist for *New York* magazine and MSNBC.com and a television personality.

This inspirational book has been taught at universities in courses on literature, psychology, parenting, child development, and poverty. Walls has spoken at colleges, corporations, and business associations about overcoming hardship and the keys to turning adversity to your advantage.

Rosie O'Donnell called *The Glass Castle* "a beautiful, brave, transformative book...The best book I've read in years." And the Atlanta Constitution said, "Charles Dickens has nothing on Jeannette Walls...Dickens's scenes of poverty and hardship are no more audacious and no more provocative than those in the pages of this stunning memoir."

Walls lives in the Virginia piedmont with her husband, the writer John Taylor. She has appeared on Prime Time Live, Good Morning America, Larry King Live, Oprah, and the Diane Rheem Show. Her follow-up to *The Glass Castle*, *Half Broke Horses: A True Life Novel*, was released in October 2009, and was an immediate *New York Times* best-seller. It has been selected by Independent Book Sellers as their "Best Read" for October, and was called "essential reading" by Library Journal. Her next book, *The Silver Star* was released in June 2013.

Class Notes

FRIENDS PASSED

- **Mary Garnand Jennison**, '65 (BA) and one of USW's first alumni, passed from this life on January 9, 2013.
- **Lugene Parker Howry**, one of the first faculty members at New Mexico Baptist College (USW), teaching speech and drama, passed away on March 16, 2013.
- **Deborah McDonald**, '01 (BS, Special Education/Psychology), passed from this life on April 14, 2013.
- **Lennie Alpha Lyles**, '94 (BBA, Accounting), passed away May 13, 2013.
- **Betty Canon**, loyal friend of the University, passed away on June 5, 2013.

- **Pauline McLean**, '67 (BS, Elementary Education), passed from this life on June 7, 2013.

Life Together

- **Lindsey Hoffman**, '12 (BAS, Secondary Education) and Travis Spring were married on June 8, 2013.
- **Mary Thaxton**, '13 (BS, Secondary Education) and Alfonso Alonzo were married on June 22, 2013.
- **Delores Ann "DeDe" Perez**, '12 (BAS, Psychology) and **Eriberto "Eddy" Martinez**, '12 (BS, Elementary and Secondary Education) will wed on July 27, 2013.