

pacific

THE MAGAZINE OF PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

OREGON

summer 2016

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Tori Gunzenbauer '16 waits to cross the stage May 21 at the Pacific University Undergraduate Commencement ceremony at Hanson Stadium.

SEE MORE | [▶ flickr.com/PacificUniversity](https://www.flickr.com/photos/PacificUniversity/)





letter from the president

My father was a fighter pilot with the Marines in World War II.

Highly decorated for his service in the Pacific theater, he rarely spoke of his time at war. It was, however, a part of our family history, a part of who we were.

Over the decades, countless Pacific University alumni and students, employees and friends have served in the Armed Forces. Even more have had loved ones serve.

Pacific University has, from time to time, marked that service in a variety of ways, most visibly with the Alpha Zeta Walk on the Forest Grove Campus, which recognizes the 31 Pacific students whose lives were lost in World War II.

Last fall, we were proud to unveil a digital Wall of Honor, listing as many of our community's veterans as possible. To date, the online list includes more than 750 names of alumni and employees who have served in the military.

We suspect there are even more, and we invite you to let us know if you or a loved one should be added, and to tell us a bit of your own story. ▶ pacificu.edu/veterans

The military has been an important pathway for many of our alumni. Some started at Pacific, completing their degrees before being drafted or choosing a career in the military. We believe, for example, that every optometry graduate of the late 1950s and 1960s probably was recruited into service to offer medical care.

Others came to Pacific for additional education and training to launch their civilian careers, following their time of service. Our graduate and professional healthcare programs, in particular, often draw veterans seeking to continue the life-saving work they have done in the military.

The stories in this issue of *Pacific* magazine are just a very few examples of the outstanding students and alumni who have chosen to pair a Pacific University education with military service on their personal pathways.

I am proud that we have been part of their journey, and I look forward to continuing to build ways for Pacific University to welcome and support veterans and their families as part of the Boxer Nation.

Warmest Regards,

Lesley M. Hallick, President
president@pacificu.edu



George E. Moore Jr., father of Pacific University President Lesley M. Hallick, enlisted in the U.S. Marines in February 1942, while he was in college in Massachusetts. He earned his wings as a Marine fighter pilot at Jacksonville, Fla., and flew more than 150 combat missions in the Pacific theater. He earned at least 13 citations for his service and left the service with the rank of major.



editor's letter

You don't know what you don't know.

What I don't know could fill volumes.

I am very much a civilian, with almost no interaction with the military, and so I went into this issue of *Pacific* magazine with trepidation.

Am I asking dumb questions? Am I missing important questions? Am I even qualified to try to tell these stories?

I don't know.

What I do know is that military service — their own, or that of a loved one — is a huge part of life for many Pacific University alumni.

I know that there are nearly 22 million veterans in this country, and about 2.5 million of them served in Iraq or Afghanistan. I know that the U.S. presence in Afghanistan since 2001 marks the longest foreign war we have ever fought. And I know that civilians in the United States have been more isolated from this war than from any other in our history.

I know there is a world of experience that too many of us — myself included — do not understand.

My favorite author, Madeleine L'Engle, once wrote, "Stories make us more alive, more human, more courageous, more loving."

My goal as a storyteller is to immerse myself (and my readers) into the lives of other human beings, to help us understand each other better.

This issue only scratches the surface. There are dozens of stories I haven't told. (For example, the Pacific community includes many women in military service, too. Also, the focus on the Navy in this issue was purely coincidental. You can read some additional stories online, but there are more to be told.

But we have to start somewhere. L'Engle also wrote, "Part of doing something is listening."

I am listening. I hope you are, too.

Jenni M. Lockett

JENNI M. LUCKETT

Editor | pacificmag@pacificu.edu

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Pacific University students established a Muslim Student Association this spring with the hopes of building bridges between people of different backgrounds and challenging stereotypes.

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READ | Find more stories about these multitasking students online. ▶ pacificu.edu/athletics

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Dr. Brad Evans MS '02, PsyD '05 has served in the Army, Air Force and Army Reserves. Today, he is owner of Pathfinders Counseling and Consulting, a mental health practice serving veterans and their families.

SHARE | Let us know about your military experience for our online Wall of Honor and future stories. ▶ pacificu.edu/veterans

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In *Flashes of War*, Katey Schultz MFA '08 uses fiction to gain — and spread — a deeper understanding of her generation's wars.

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During World War II, Pacific students honored their classmates serving in the military with a service flag, featuring blue and gold stars. That flag was recently rediscovered among the university's artifacts.

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SHARE | Send us your news for class notes! ▶ classnotes@pacificu.edu

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12 'if that's what you need, i'm your guy'

Mark Loomis OTD '17 spent more than 10 years as a search-and-rescue swimmer in the Navy, serving in the Middle East. Today, he is embarking on a new career as an occupational therapist, hoping to help other veterans with the transition to civilian life.

WATCH | Loomis is a third-year student in the Pacific University doctor of occupational therapy program. See why he chose his grandfather's alma mater for his healthcare education. [▶ magazine.pacificu.edu](http://magazine.pacificu.edu)



15 the war at home

Stacy Bannerman MFA '17 knows too well the epidemic of mental health issues facing those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan — and their families. Through books, performance art and advocacy, Bannerman is raising awareness and support for military families.

16 and justice for all

As a federal judge, Rick Carnaroli '80 has unique insight into the legal system, and he has seen it fail veterans with substance abuse and PTSD. That's why he helped create a veterans treatment court in his Idaho county, one of 300 in the nation.

18 service on sea and river

After a 30-year career in the Navy, Norm Scott '63 continues to support fellow veterans. Most recently, he worked with Project Healing Waters Flyfishing in Spokane — but he believes there are lots of ways to serve those who served us.



20 spirit of survival

Doug Keller MAT '14 has traveled a winding road, often inspired by his father's tenacity first in a South Pacific concentration camp in World War II and later as an immigrant. Keller has served in the Navy, transitioned to a career in teaching, and survived a near-fatal bicycle accident, always holding on to a spirit of survival.



events calendar [▶ pacificu.edu/calendar](http://pacificu.edu/calendar)

AUGUST

- 9 Friends of Pacific Lunch
- 11 Alumni Remembrance Ceremony [▶ Forest Grove Campus](#)
- 13 Commencement [▶ Forest Grove Campus](#)

SEPTEMBER

- 13 Friends of Pacific Lunch
- 15-17 Pacific in Hawai'i Football vs. Occidental [▶ Oahu, Hawai'i](#)
- 30 Optometry Class of 1996 Reunion [▶ Portland](#)

OCTOBER

- 1 Pregame Party at PLU [▶ Puyallup, Wash.](#)
- 11 Friends of Pacific Lunch
- 14-16 Homecoming [▶ Forest Grove Campus](#)
- 21 Pharmacy Gala [▶ Portland](#)



LISTEN | Wid Bleything '51, OD '52, MS '54 recalls life at Pacific University post-World War II and his own 30 years in the U.S. Air Force in an our first podcast.

[▶ magazine.pacificu.edu](http://magazine.pacificu.edu)

PAC/WEST

Presents the
Legends Finale



PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

LEGENDS

TRIBUTE TO TOMMY THAYER



**Pacific University
celebrated a decade of
Legends on June 26, 2016,
with a special finale
event in Portland.**

For the past 10 years,
Trustee Tommy Thayer — guitarist of
the legendary rock band KISS — has
hosted this special event, generating
more than \$3.5 million for
Pacific University's NCAA Division III
athletics program.

This year, Legends guests honored
his generosity and leadership with
gifts that will carry that support
forward into perpetuity. The
Legends Finale benefited the
Tommy Thayer Endowed Fund for
Athletics and Music, which will
provide ongoing opportunities
for Pacific University students for
generations to come.

Make a Gift

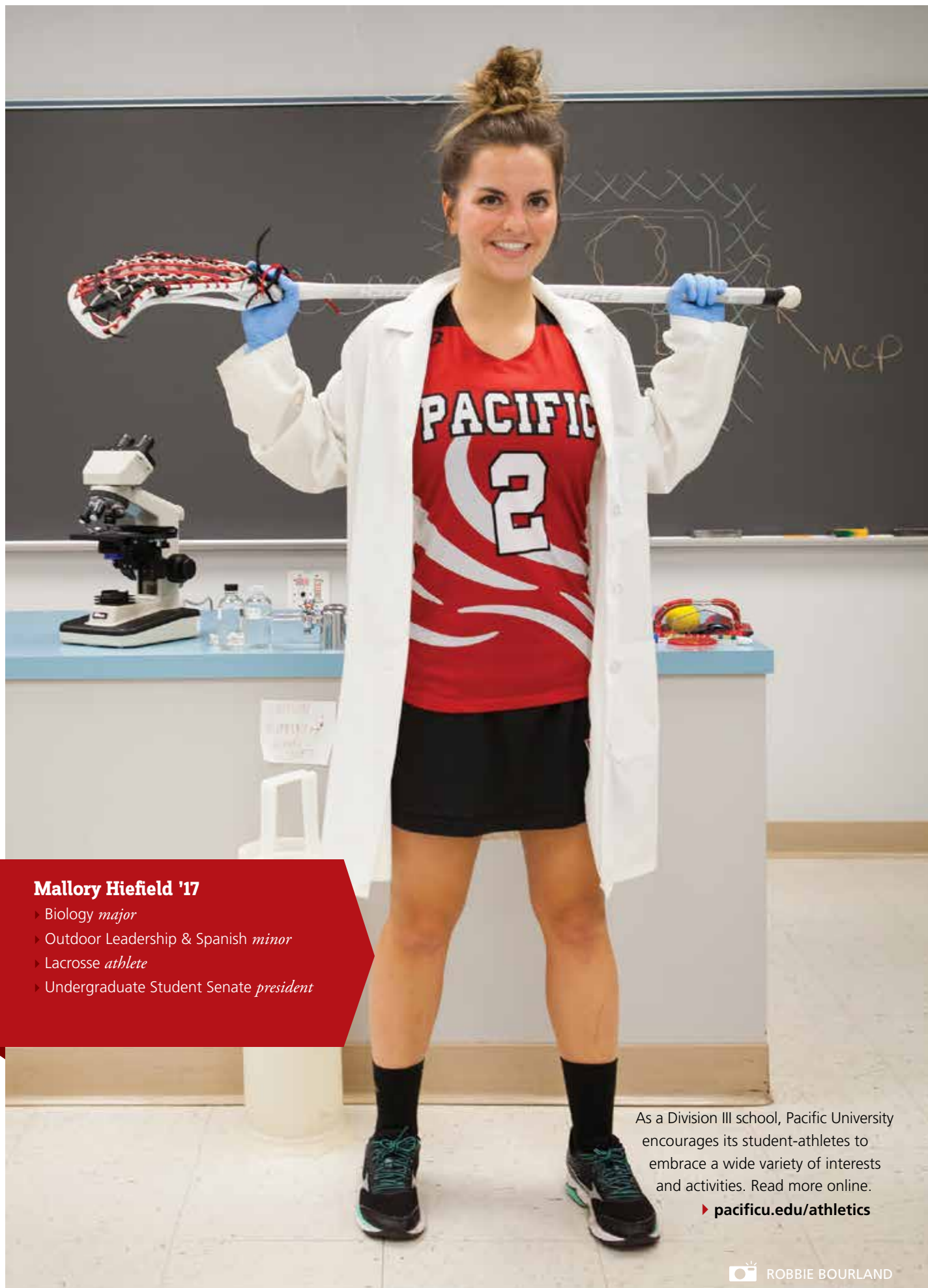
► pacificu.edu/give



news & notes

Salaam

The Pacific University Muslim Student Association hosted tables this spring in the University Center on the Forest Grove Campus inviting people to drop by, ask questions and say, "Salaam." The club, open to all students, aims to build bridges by challenging stereotypes and inviting personal encounters with people of different backgrounds.



Mallory Hiefield '17

- › Biology *major*
- › Outdoor Leadership & Spanish *minor*
- › Lacrosse *athlete*
- › Undergraduate Student Senate *president*

As a Division III school, Pacific University encourages its student-athletes to embrace a wide variety of interests and activities. Read more online.

› pacificu.edu/athletics

honors & awards



Wendy Hanks, Audiology, has been named the interim director of the Pacific University School of Audiology. She came to Pacific in 2013 as an associate professor in the then-new school, where she has been instrumental in building the three-year doctor of audiology program. She succeeds founding director Victoria Keetay.



Lisa Carstens, Arts & Sciences, had a short play, *Future Perfect*, selected for performance in the 11th edition of The Seven, a prestigious short-works festival in New Mexico. Carstens is the dean of the Pacific University College of Arts & Sciences, an English professor and literary critic, and a long-time closet writer of plays and short fiction.



Catherine Kim, Education, is the president of the Oregon Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). She is active in promoting professional development of ESL teachers through research, conferences and workshops. She also is directing a federal grant project, through which middle- and high-school STEM teachers can earn their Oregon ESOL endorsement.



Shun-Nan Yang, Optometry, will spend the 2016-2017 academic year on sabbatical, working to develop a new undergraduate optometric program in China. The Pacific University College of Optometry is developing a bachelor's degree program that will provide students in China with additional career opportunities and advance the optometric profession and services in that country.



Helen Sharp, Communication Sciences & Disorders, has been named director of the Pacific University School of Communication Sciences & Disorders within the College of Education. Sharp succeeds retiring founding director Marty Fischer. She comes to Pacific from Western Michigan University, where she has been an associate professor of speech pathology and audiology since 2009.

brieflynoted

NEW RECRUITS | Military veterans can take the next step in their lives with a Pacific University education. At the undergraduate level, Pacific's admissions process recognizes the unique opportunities and challenges of military service. Young people may mature through their military experience, while the active service and re-entry into civilian life can also be tumultuous.

Personal experiences are taken into account along with academic records. Additionally, some graduate programs offer specific opportunities for prospective students who are veterans. For example, the Pacific University School of Physician Assistant Studies offers two programs to help veterans become physician assistants. The school's highly competitive admissions

process has an advantage for veterans, guaranteeing an admissions interview for the top seven veteran applicants who meet minimum criteria. Additionally, the master's level program recognizes veterans' non-traditional routes to the PA profession and offers a bachelor's degree completion program for those without an undergraduate degree.

► pacificu.edu/veterans

continues ►

question & answer

WITH BRAD EVANS MS '02, PSYD '05

Tell us a bit about your military service?

I started off as an enlisted Army soldier in special operations. After completing my first enlistment and obtaining a background in basic psychology, I was convinced I wanted to formally study psychology. During my time at Pacific University, Sept. 11 happened, and I decided I wanted to return to active duty. I was accepted to Wilford Hall Medical Center (an Air Force internship) and was commissioned as an officer in the USAF. I spent four more years on active duty with the Air Force before going to work for Department of the Army as a civilian psychologist. I returned to the Army Reserves as an officer and psychologist in 2011, which allowed me to pursue my civilian aspirations while continuing to serve in the military part-time.

Why did you establish a practice devoted to serving military, veterans and families?

After spending years working with active duty and veterans, I knew that my passion was with this population. This is a group of people that is as diverse as any you could imagine, and the hardships endured not only by our military personnel but their families is immense. When I opened my clinic in 2012 I knew I had made the right decision. Less than four years later, we have experienced an 1,100 percent growth in providers. We now provide services to thousands of active duty, veterans, and their families across two large areas of Texas each year.

What are the most critical needs you see?

They need more providers and, particularly, more providers with some background or understanding of military personnel. This is a tight-knit group with very unique experiences who don't open up easily. Sharing a common background certainly helps with this. I would also say that despite the number of veteran-centric organizations that exist, we need more outreach, more specific training of providers to adequately care for them, and more understanding of the unique needs of veterans.

In your view, how can others help support active duty military, veterans and families?

One of the best and most helpful things that others can do to support active duty military, veterans, and their families is simply to acknowledge them. We are on the downslope of the longest war in American history, and many have already forgotten that we still have troops in harms way in both Afghanistan and Iraq (yes, also in Iraq) and numerous other locations, even if not involved in war as it is commonly defined. Remembering these brave men and women can be as simple as taking a few seconds out of our day to remind ourselves that they exist. If people are inclined to do more, perhaps they can get involved with veteran service organizations. You can write "any soldier" letters. Most importantly, we can appreciate the willingness of the soldier, sailor, Marine or airman to serve, regardless of our own personal views on war or military activity. ★



Dr. Brad Evans MS '02, PsyD '05 is owner of Pathfinders Counseling and Consulting, a mental health practice serving veterans and their families in Texas. He has served in the U.S. Army, Air Force, and Army Reserves.

SHARE | Let us know about your military experience for our online Wall of Honor and future stories.

► pacificu.edu/veterans

brieflynoted

HELP IS HERE | Pacific's Student Counseling Center offers consultation, crisis support and ongoing therapy for students who are service members or veterans. Psychologists have completed UC4 training through the Center for Deployment Psychology. The Pacific University Psychology and Comprehensive Healthcare Clinics in Hillsboro and Portland, meanwhile, partner with the Returning Veterans Project providing free counseling for post-9/11 combat veterans and their families.

NEXT STEPS | Pacific welcomed nearly 800 new alumni in May as it celebrated undergraduate and graduate Commencement ceremonies at Hanson Stadium on the Forest Grove Campus. A record 410 bachelor's degrees were conferred at the morning ceremony, where retiring Philosophy Professor Dave Boersema was the keynote speaker. The afternoon ceremony featured the hooding and degree conferral upon students who

had studied social work, business, finance, speech-language pathology, teaching, pharmacy, physical therapy, athletic training, optometry, and vision science. Trustee Doug Weberling '72, OD '74 was recognized with the Kamelia Massih Distinguished Prize for an Optometrist at the event. In June, more than 30 students also graduated from Pacific's Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program.

► pacificu.edu/Commencement2016



voices

BY KATEY SCHULTZ MFA '08

Writing About War

IN *FLASHES OF WAR*, KATEY SCHULTZ MFA '08 uses fiction to gain — and spread — a deeper understanding of her generation's wars.

I graduated from the Pacific University Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program in 2008. While I

formally studied creative nonfiction during my two years at Pacific, the nature of the program is such that the passion, precision and craft elements that make any piece of writing successful are valued first and foremost — and however you get there, whether through poetry, fiction or creative nonfiction, is up to you.

Today, when I tell people what I value most about my education from Pacific, I tell them that the faculty passed on a reverence for words that was at once accessible and humbling. In other words, they empowered me to live the writing life to the fullest, but they also made it quite clear just how hard and deep my work would need to be in order to find success.

Five years after graduating, I held my first book of published short stories in my hands. The fact that it was fiction surprised a lot of people, but perhaps more surprising than anything was the fact that I had written a book about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — a book that proved so persuasive, I was routinely mistaken for a veteran

continues ▶



and then, later, invited to address United States Air Force Academy cadets who read my book as a course requirement.

While working on *Flashes of War*, people often asked why I wrote fiction about this topic. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were described as “my generation’s,” but I knew very little about them and had no immediate ties to the military.

I am a civilian and have never travelled to the Middle East. Right or wrong, “their” side or “ours,” I wanted to know, on the level of basic human experience, what were these wars actually like?

How did people operate under extreme conditions with less-than-ideal tools for survival?

How did their personal traits influence their motivations and experiences against the backdrop of war?

What were the impacts of war inside the family home or in the far reaches of an individual’s mind?

I wanted to write my way toward answers to these questions by

I felt the stories brought me closer to something real and, if nothing else, could bear witness to the complexity of hope and suffering.

studying the intimate moments of a soldier’s or civilian’s life — images, decisions and thoughts so small and experienced under such strain that even an interview with the most forthcoming individual could not unearth.

I was not interested in becoming an embedded reporter or detailing the facts of either war through journalism. There are many writers who have done that and done it well. As someone inclined to make sense of the world through story, I knew my window into these wars would have to be narrative. What better way to begin than with unanswered questions and the creative freedom to write my way toward something I could believe?

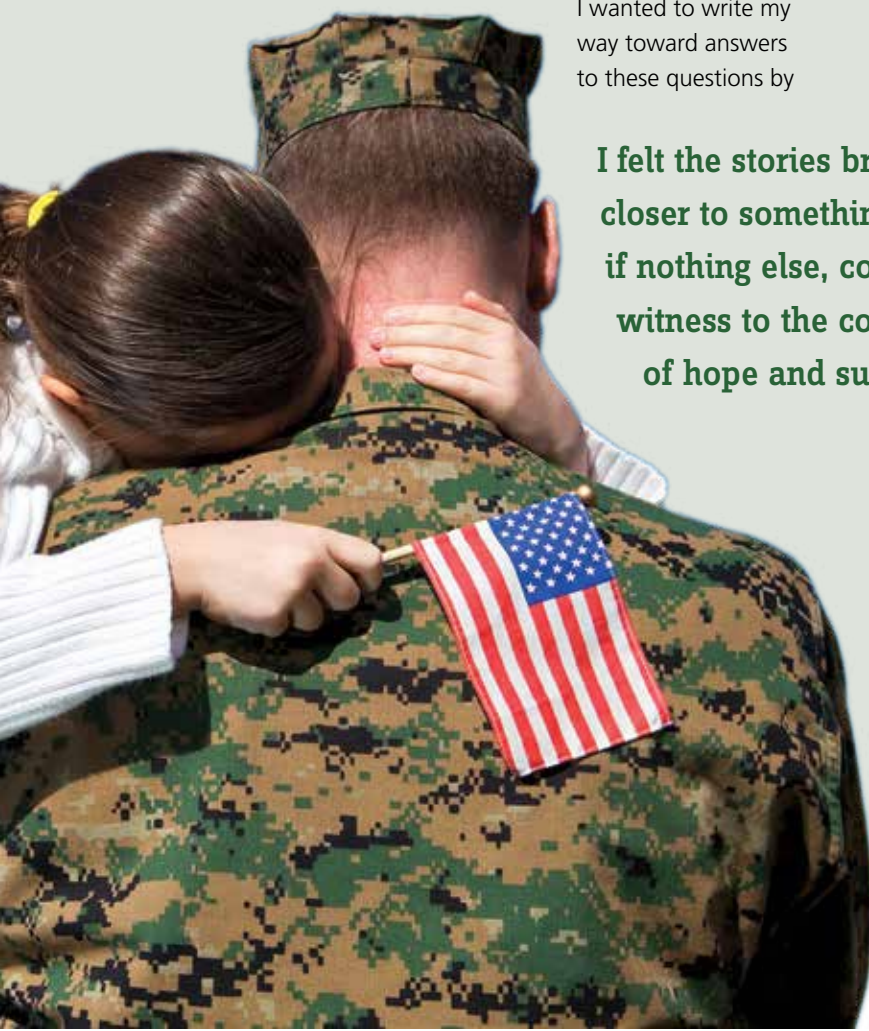
As I researched and imagined, inspiration for stories in *Flashes of War* initially came in two ways: from the rhythmic and emotional quality of a quote or from the jarring contrast of a memorable image.

One example is a series of YouTube videos I watched with embedded reporter Ben Anderson. In an interview, a soldier looked into the camera and said, “America’s not at war. America’s at the mall.” I felt struck by the tension and cadence of this —

the war versus the mall — and wrote my first war story titled, “While the Rest of America’s at the Mall.”

Another example came from the movie *Kandahar*, which included a scene depicting a group of Afghan civilians, each missing a leg and using crutches.

The men raced toward a plane flying overhead that dropped half a dozen prosthetic legs from its hatch, sending them down on parachutes. When I saw this, I paused the DVD. The countryside looked beautiful: rolling brown hills against a cloudless, azure sky. Then there were these legs silhouetted against the sun, these men hobbling toward them. This was a moment my



mind could not comprehend, and I felt compelled to explore it by writing "Amputee" and "My Son Wanted a Notebook."

To help immerse myself in the environment of war, I plastered my studio walls with quotes and photos. I used Google Images to "visit" Iraq and Afghanistan. In almost all cases, I was able to intersperse the stories with real locations, accurate historical or cultural references, and current facts.

I read books and watched countless hours of movies until the wars found their way into my dreams. I looked up weapons, order of military rank, Arabic and Pashtun terms, colors of uniforms. The list of new phrases at my disposal seemed endless: fobbits, ripped fuel, hot brass, haji, raghead, yalla yalla, got your six, pressin' the flesh, stay frosty.

Likewise, primary accounts from civilians proved evocative:

"Since my brother was killed, I cannot taste my tea. I cannot taste anything."

"I am but one fistful of dirt."

"There is no law. The gun is law."

Eventually, I filled myself with enough information to precisely imagine my way toward fiction I could believe in. I certainly didn't have all the answers, but I felt the stories brought me closer to something real and, if nothing else, could bear witness to the complexity of hope and suffering.

Since *Flashes of War* was published in 2013, it has been celebrated by veterans, civilians, military families, war-lit authors, and everyday readers alike. I often Skype into book club meetings or classrooms across the country (*for free — message me!*) and enjoy wonderful, lively conversations about authority, accuracy, and the writing life.

Students studying the book at universities from Germany to California, Washington to Massachusetts, are also thinking deeply about the work.

It's important for writers and readers of any age and circumstance to understand that "write what you know" doesn't just mean "write what you've experienced." Experience is not the only teacher. Empathy, the imagination, curiosity and research are also just as important. I'm honored to say that the faculty of Pacific taught me that, too. ★

Katey Schultz is known for the integrity-filled heart that she brings to her work as an author, instructor, and literary citizen. She is often lovingly called "serious" by her family, but after some thought, Katey believes that what actually defines her are *focus* and *devotion* — purposeful traits that allow her to live each moment fully for maximum impact and art-making. These are the traits that have fueled her life's passions and accomplishments: from hiking in more than 30 mountain ranges; to attracting 10,000 readers of her blog on the writing life; to winning critical acclaim for her debut collection of short stories, *Flashes of War*; to successfully guiding other writers toward publication and literary awards as the founder of *Maximum Impact: Precision Courses & Services for Writers, Artists & Trailblazers*. Raised in Portland, Ore. (where she acquired her serious passion for the outdoors, grunge music and coffee), Katey now makes her home with her husband, Brad, on the border of the Pisgah National Forest in Celo, N.C. Excerpts from *Flashes of War* were read at the Pacific University Veterans Day Ceremony in 2015. ▶ kateyschultz.com

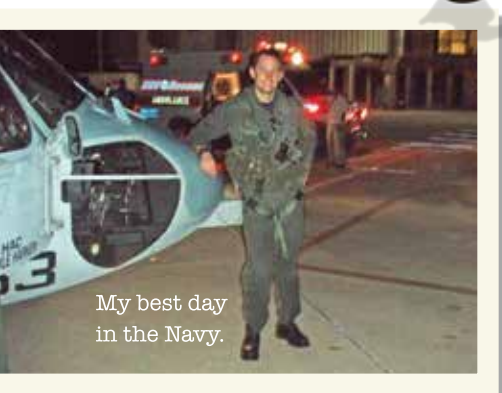




“If that’s what you need ... I’m your guy.”

By Jenni Lockett

 ROBBIE BOURLAND



My best day
in the Navy.

Three men sat stranded aboard their small boat, tossed around by 12-foot seas as their engine failed and a strong current swept them farther from their port in Saipan.

They had planned to be out just a couple of hours on a fishing trip. Instead, they drifted away overnight, carried for nearly 24 hours into the stormy north Pacific Ocean.

“As a veteran, you really connect with other veterans, with the language you speak and the bonds you have. You understand each other.”

Mark Loomis OTD '17 was stationed nearby in Guam with the U.S. Navy. As a search-and-rescue swimmer and helicopter crew chief, he was trained for just this situation.

Loomis was crew chief on this rescue operation — his first — searching the horizon from the starboard side of an H-60 helicopter.

“We searched all day and into the evening,” he said. “Probably eight hours, getting fuel a couple of times, just going back and forth.”

About 30 minutes before the night shift would take over the search, the sky began to darken.

“All the sudden, my swimmer and I saw a signal flare shoot up and light the sky a few miles away on the port side of the helicopter,” he said.

“I kept the location in sight and verbally guided the pilots.”

The helicopter flew overhead as Loomis scoped out the situation. He decided on a 15-foot swimmer deployment — the quickest way to get his swimmer in the water safely — but after a routine jump, a strong current kept pushing the swimmer farther from the boat.

Eventually, Loomis decided on another tactic, lowering a rescue hook and flying the swimmer directly to the boat with his own flight controls and rescue hoist system.

From the water, the swimmer hooked each survivor to the line, and Loomis hoisted them safely into the helicopter, hovering 70 feet overhead.

“We gave first aid, hailed the Saipan airport ambulance on the radio, and flew them back to safety,” Loomis said. “They were rattled. They had drifted about 12 miles into the deep blue, but we got them.

“That was my best day in the Navy.”

Loomis spent more than 10 years in the Navy, including his post in Guam and two detachments to the Middle East before a stint as a helicopter aircrew instructor in San Diego. Today, he is a third-year student in the Pacific University School of Occupational Therapy, working toward a doctorate to launch a civilian career that he hopes will allow him to help other veterans transition into civilian life.

Loomis grew up in Tuscon, Ariz., a star high-school golfer who had his eye on a future with the sport.

Then came 9/11.

His father had served in the Coast Guard during Vietnam. His grandfather — an optometrist who earned his own doctorate from Pacific University back in 1949 — was in the Navy in World War II.

No one was explicit in their expectations, but military service was in his blood.

"My dad made a couple of nudges, sort of, 'Hey son, it's time to step up,' but he didn't come out and say it. I just knew it," Loomis said. "It turned out the Navy needed helicopter rescue swimmers at that time. I said, 'If that's what you need, I'm your guy.'"

Aviation rescue swimmers are perhaps best known as part of the Coast Guard, but the Navy was the first branch to establish the job. The Coast Guard, Loomis said, had a two-year waiting period, but the Navy needed swimmers immediately.

It's an intense job, and the attrition rate at rescue swimmer school is high. The training not only includes swimming and physical fitness tests, but also open ocean survival, helicopter systems operation, and survival-evasion-resistance-and-escape tactics for behind enemy lines.

Navy AIRRs, as they are classified, jump out of helicopters into dangerous waters and rappel to remote crash sites to save lives. As aviation warfare systems operators, they also must qualify as crew chiefs, which requires additional training and puts them in charge of missions beyond search-and-rescue, such as combat missions, logistics, and medical evacuations.

Loomis' first station was in Guam, and from there, he was sent on two seven-month deployments to the Middle East for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The Northern Arabian Gulf became my new home, just flying missions in and around Iraq, flying tactical support inland and search-and-rescue for jets and different helicopters that were on our ship or in our battle group," he said.

Some missions, like that first rescue as crew chief, embodied the rescue swimmer motto: "So others may live."

Others did not have happy endings, but, he said, still provided valuable learning experiences.

He focuses on the successes, the achievements, and the lives saved.

"In the rescue swimmer community, we have a saying, 'Their worst day is our best day.' I guess it's bragging rights, when you can debrief, 'We found them in time, we got them out alive.'

"No one's keeping score, as long as people get saved. But the faster you are, the more efficient you are as a crew, the better the outcome. It's something you take pride in."

While aboard the USS Essex, for example, he took part in a unified assistance effort in Indonesia following the 2004 tsunami that devastated the region.

"I'd never seen full-size ships that were flipped over. Flying into that area, it was like a checkerboard that never ended. Everyone was thinking, 'What is that?' As we got closer, we saw they were concrete pads where houses used to be, just wiped out. It was a pretty unforgettable scene," he said.

"We just flew our tails off. I hadn't ever flown 12-, 13-hour days nonstop before. We have limits, but we pushed the limits for

continues ▶



Mark Loomis OTD '17 displays family memorabilia from his grandfather Roland Loomis OD '49, including an *Oregonian* clipping of his grandfather's Pacific University graduation day featuring Mark's 3-week-old father.



them, since we were doing such great work, saving lives and helping so many people."

Loomis' decorations include a green and white ribbon representing his Commendation Medal in honor of his work in Indonesia, as well as a maroon Humanitarian Service Medal. He also has two Achievement Medals related to specific rescue missions.

"It's odd, though, now, to watch people respond to such stories with awe. In my mind, I was just doing my job. It was my duty," he said. "In the Navy, you're not special. Everyone has their duty."

In 2012, Loomis decided to hang up his uniform in order to spend more time with his young family.

Shortly after arriving in Guam back in 2004, he had mailed a family heirloom ring to his high school sweetheart, Lucy, back in Arizona, along with a written marriage proposal.

"She called me on the phone when she got it and said, 'I do, I do! Let's do it.'"

He flew her to Guam, and they were married at Two Lover's Point, a cliff that towers over the Pacific Ocean. She was 19; he had just turned 20.

Twelve years later, Mark and Lucy Loomis have two children: Sarah, 8, and Elijah Roland, 3.

"In boot camp, they told us, 'You can't pack your family in your sea bag,'" Loomis said. "I knew my next tour was going to be on deployment overseas again, saying goodbye for a year or more. We knew the door was closing for the Navy and opening for us to spend more time together and switch gears."

Loomis looked carefully for his next career, friends and family pointing him to a health profession.

"My mom and grandma had occupational therapy for different reasons, and they said, 'You should look into this.' I had another Navy buddy who was hurt on active duty. He had a hand and arm injury and a TBI (traumatic brain injury), and he said great things about his OT.

"I did my homework on it and decided it was an excellent fit for me."

Pacific University already held a place in Loomis' family lore. After serving in World War II, his grandfather, Roland Loomis, had gone to Pacific to become an optometrist. A newspaper clipping shows Roland on graduation day in 1949, with his wife, daughter, and 3-week-old son — Loomis' father Roland Jr. — on the Forest Grove Campus.

"Growing up, seeing that picture on the wall, his degree from Pacific, made an impact on me," Loomis said. "I've always wanted to come back and live where my dad was born."

It didn't hurt that Pacific had one of only 11 doctoral level occupational programs in the country at the time.

"I wanted to have the highest level of education that I could," Loomis said.

After two years of coursework at Pacific's Hillsboro Campus, Loomis and his family have returned to San Diego, where he will complete his practicum rotations — 12 weeks in a post-acute rehabilitation setting and 12 weeks in a school setting.

He will wrap up with a doctoral capstone, which he hopes to complete with the Veterans Administration, examining the factors that may lead veterans to go through the VA housing program but return to homelessness.

"That's a question I haven't found an answer to from the veterans' perspective," he said. "I would love to help identify that and improve the VA's housing program to tailor that more specifically to meet the needs of veterans to help them stay housed and achieve long-term housing stability."

Eventually, he would like to work with the VA professionally, providing support for veterans transitioning into civilian life.

"As a veteran, you really connect with other veterans, with the language you speak and the bonds you have," Loomis said. "I think I'd be very effective working with veterans after I graduate. You understand each other." ★

WATCH THE VIDEO ▶ magazine.pacificu.edu

"It's odd, though,
now, to watch people
respond to such
stories with awe.
In my mind, I was
just doing my job.
It was my duty."



The War At Home

BY JENNI LUCKETT

Stacy Bannerman is dressed head-to-toe in red, white and blue.

Her Old Navy T-shirt is adorned with an American flag. She doesn't look like the stereotype of a peace activist. The political narrative often paints those who oppose the country's War on Terror as anti-military, even anti-American.

That's not Bannerman.

She knows more about military life than the vast majority of Americans, and she loves her country. Enough to want it to do better.

When Bannerman MFA '17 got engaged to her (now ex-) husband, she didn't know he had served in the National Guard, so she was surprised when he wanted to rejoin — but the almost attainable retirement benefits looked good, and she supported his choice.

That was 2000, though, when serving in the Guard was a part-time responsibility, one most likely to result in activation in a natural disaster.

Bannerman never imagined that she would become a full-time military spouse; that she would live years with the racking anxiety that comes with a husband serving multiple deployments in the Middle East; that the man she loved would disappear, replaced by a different person, one consumed by

post-traumatic stress, anger, and drug addiction. And, she never imagined that she would be left utterly alone through the experience.

"Less than 1 percent of this nation has been directly affected by the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," Bannerman wrote in her book, *Homefront 911: How Families of Veterans are Wounded by Our Wars*. "When America got the war it wanted in 2001, and again in 2003, I presumed the nation would go along. ... But the efforts on the warfronts were not matched with any effort whatsoever to secure a homefront."

In World War II, one out of every five American families had one or more members serving overseas at



some point.

"During Vietnam, it was roughly one in 10. During the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, America's longest war, it has been fewer than one in 100."

Where past wars came with rations, austerity, and the draft, the War on Terror came with a charge to keep the economy healthy — to go to Disney World and the mall.

"The imbalance in the burden of service and simultaneous abdication of civilian sacrifice has created an epidemic of
continues ▶

As a military spouse, Stacy Bannerman MFA '17 had personal insight into her books about military families.

“We’ve got to believe that the lives of our fellow citizens — and the lives of the people in whatever place we invade next — are precious. We’ve got to start conducting ourselves as though those lives matter.”

— STACY BANNERMAN MFA '17

disconnection between the civilian and military communities,” Bannerman wrote.

But people need to know, Bannerman said. They need to know what is happening, they need to know what their neighbors are experiencing, and they need to take action to demand policies that support both the troops who serve and their families.

Homefront 911 is Bannerman’s second book, written throughout her first year in Pacific University’s Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program. A mix of personal narrative and documented research, the book outlines the impact that the last decade-plus of war has had on the families of active duty military and veterans.

Mental health issues and suicide rates among military families are directly proportionate to those of military members and veterans, she writes.

She talks to dozens of other military families, sharing heart-rending stories that range from tales of domestic violence, to child suicide, to the loneliness that comes of being afraid to ask for help for fear of harming your spouse’s career and your family’s livelihood.

She details data — sometimes hard to come by — that paints a startling picture of the impact of war on military families. An example:

“Data collected in 2012 and 2013 as part of a study of secondary school students in California found that 21 percent of the military kids reported having a suicide plan and nearly 18 percent had attempted suicide,” she wrote. “By comparison, slightly more than 7 percent of civilian youth disclosed a suicide attempt during the same time.”

And, she points out the struggle of getting help for families.

“Since we’re not soldiers, there are no official military spouse-specific crisis hotlines, no 24-hour mental health clinics, no pre- or post-deployment mental health questionnaires,” she wrote. “The invisible injuries of the silent ranks are unnamed, unnoticed, and unofficial.”

In addition to her two books, *Homefront 911* and its predecessor *When the War Came Home*, Bannerman has created a performance art piece, *Homefront 911: Military Family Monologues*, which was performed at the U.S. Capitol.

She has testified before Congress and advocated for federal and state legislation to support military families, including the Military Family Leave Act. She works with several organizations to help create additional resources for military families, and she speaks publicly to keep pushing the conversation to the forefront.

It’s her only recourse, she said.

Sitting in the University Center at Pacific this June, Bannerman said her own story only got worse after the publication of *Homefront 911*. Her husband’s psychological and criminal issues deepened, eventually ending their marriage.

“I lost every single thing I loved in my life,” she said. “I get contacted by groups who want me to talk, but they want a happy ending. There isn’t always a happy ending.”

So she tries to forgive.

“It wasn’t just me learning to forgive my beloved — and he will always be my beloved. I had to come to a place where I also had to forgive not just the government, but the people who wanted the government to wage a war based on lies. That was the hardest forgiveness,” she said. “I had to keep asking myself, ‘Didn’t I matter? Did my life not matter?’ My life was destroyed, and I’ll never get it back. I have an opportunity to forge a brand new one, but I will never get it back.”

So she keeps talking, and she keeps writing — trying to make sure that other lives matter.

“We are first, last and always human beings,” she said. “We’ve got to believe that the lives of our fellow citizens — and the lives of the people in whatever place we invade next — are precious. We’ve got to start conducting ourselves as though those lives matter.” ★

AND JUST

BY JENNI LUCKETT

As a federal judge, Rick Carnaroli '80 has an inside view of the legal system.

And the power to make improvements.

That’s why in 2012, he helped start a veterans treatment court in his jurisdiction in Bannock County, Idaho.

The region already had other problem-solving courts — for substance abuse and mental health issues — designed to identify offenders who were more

likely to benefit from a treatment plan than jail.

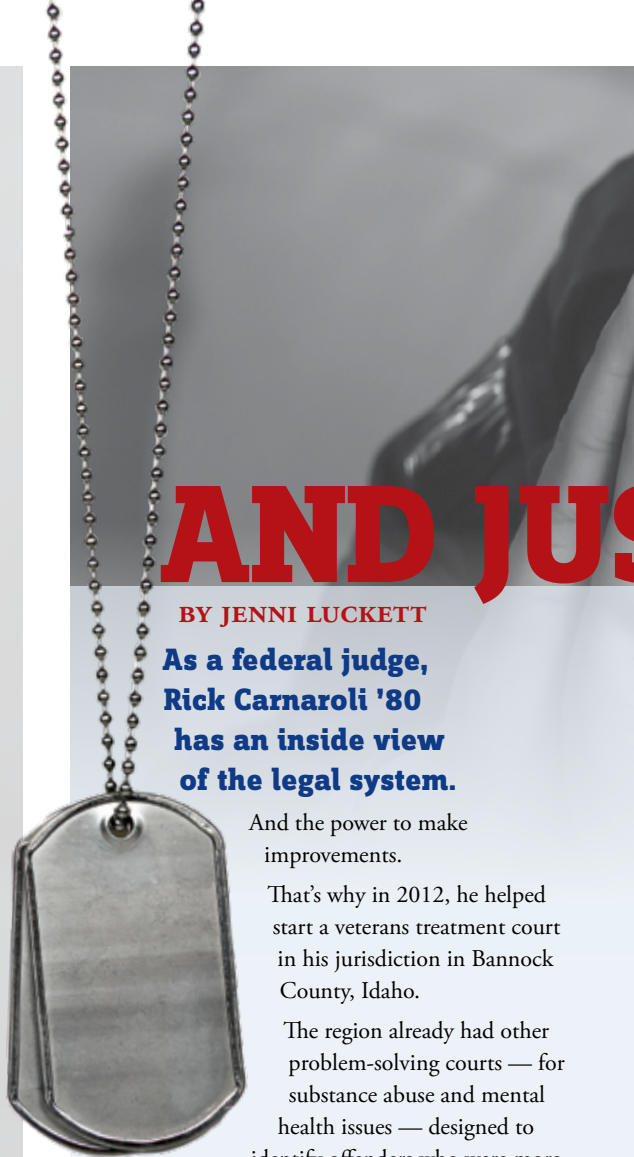
But those systems weren’t working for offenders who were also veterans.

“We were actually screening veterans out, because they were doing so poorly,” he said.

In an article for *The Advocate*, a publication of the Idaho State Bar, Carnaroli wrote about a highly decorated Marine veteran who had been wounded by a suicide bomber in Iraq and returned to the States with post-traumatic stress disorder. He turned to alcohol to self-medicate and accumulated three driving under the influence charges in 30 days.

“Due to his PTSD, ‘John’ was diverted prior to sentencing and ordered to successfully complete Mental Health Court,” Carnaroli wrote. “‘John’ performed miserably in Mental Health Court, failed to progress, and was sanctioned and jailed repeatedly.”

Later, Carnaroli wrote, his caseworkers admitted that the treatment providers available through the Mental Health Court didn’t have the training to treat participants



JUSTICE FOR ALL

with PTSD or traumatic brain injuries, particularly those from military backgrounds.

"I saw — and other people in our community saw — a need for something different," Carnaroli said.

For a long time, veterans were incarcerated at a disproportionately high rate, and the numbers traditionally go up in wartime. Overall rates have gone down since the abolishment of the draft, but today, there is a growing problem of substance abuse, violence, and mental health issues among veterans returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some of that can certainly be attributed to post-traumatic stress syndrome (formerly post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD), and substance abuse stemming from pain management.

And it's nationwide, not just in traditional military communities.

"I didn't realize how big the veterans community is in Anywhere USA," Carnaroli said. "We've got 6,600 veterans in Bannock County, where I am."

There are now about 300 veterans treatment courts around the country, trying to weave a safety net that catches veterans before they fall through the cracks.

In Carnaroli's region, an offender who is a veteran might come in with a felony charge and plead guilty, then be sentenced to the veterans treatment court. Participants are required to

show up for court regularly (weekly at first), undergo frequent random drug screenings, attend group and individual therapy, and complete community service.

They work closely with the Veterans Administration to ensure they access healthcare and other benefits, and they are paired with volunteer veteran mentors for support. It is similar to other problem-solving courts, but with some notable differences.

For example, Carnaroli said, most drug courts mandate that participants stay away from other former users outside of treatment.

"When they leave an AA meeting, they're instructed not to ride in the same car together. The theory is that one could bring the others down," Carnaroli said.

With the veterans treatment court, however, participants are encouraged to connect with one another for support.

"We put them back into the military unit mentality," he said.

"We allow them to ride together, associate with one another, and they kind of build a unit. They'll have each other's backs to make sure they all succeed as a unit."

Carnaroli said his community has been incredibly supportive of the veterans treatment court. A variety of

organizations collaborate to make it work, and employers have been more eager than he expected to offer jobs to veterans in recovery.

"We put them back into the military unit mentality ... We allow them to ride together, associate with one another, and they kind of build a unit. They'll have each other's backs to make sure they all succeed as a unit."

So far, 11 participants have graduated from the veterans treatment court in Carnaroli's district. Only four have terminated from the program — and each has been a learning experience.

"We let some guys in we had no business trying to treat, some who were both not criminal enough to be in the program and others who were too criminal to succeed," he said.

"It's kind of like baseball," said the former Pacific player and recent Athletic Hall of Fame inductee.

"You step in the batters box, take your swings, and sometimes you strike out." ★

Judge Rick Carnaroli '80, left, started his academic career at Pacific University where he was a star baseball player. In 2015, he was inducted into the Pacific University Athletic Hall of Fame, with much fanfare from friends and classmates.



Service on Sea and River

After a Navy career, Norm Scott '63 continues to support fellow vets

BY JENNI LUCKETT

 RICH LANDER

Chuck was a platoon leader in Vietnam.

In one battle, his unit was pinned down, surrounded by a North Vietnamese Army regiment. Chuck (not his real name) called in a request for an Arc Light Strike, a desperation move that would rain bombs on friendly and unfriendly soldiers alike.

Chuck escaped. Many of his men did not.

Some 40 years later, Chuck was one of the first veterans to participate in Spokane's Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, a nonprofit organization that seeks to support wounded and disabled veterans through flyfishing.

Norm Scott '63, a fellow Vietnam veteran, had recently taken leadership of the Spokane program as a project in his retirement.

He and Chuck had been fishing on the Coeur d'Alene River.

"On the way back, Chuck looked at me and said, 'Why me? Why are you doing this for me?'" Scott recalled. "'Why am I still here? Why me, when I lost all those guys?'"

"When he tells me, 'If it weren't for you, this organization, I wouldn't be here,' — the dark side had almost gotten to him — that really, really grabbed me," Scott said. "One of the things that concerns me is the suicide rate, not only among

active duty, but veterans. If I can do anything to prevent that sort of stuff from happening, that's why I'm in the program."

Scott grew up in Eastern Oregon,

a fishing rod in his hand. Recruited to Pacific University by then-Dean Charles Trombley, he was the first in his family to go to college, spending his college years studying biology and enjoying exploits with his Alpha Zeta Fraternity brothers.

As graduation approached, though, he knew the Army would be on his heels.

"I knew as soon as I stepped out of school, I was going to be in the Army," he said. "And I knew I did not want to go into the Army at the time — this was '63."

He went to Oregon State University, where he met students in various ROTC programs and decided that the Navy's officer procurement program would be a better option than the Army draft.

"I thought, 'Well, I'll spend my three years,'" he said. "I found myself the whole time in Vietnam.

"I didn't necessarily like what I was doing in Vietnam, but I did like the responsibility and the options available to me at the time," he said.

And so he stayed.

"I kept going from one assignment to another. I was ahead of my peers, getting early promotions. I was getting jobs that were, in my mind, very important



Norm Scott '63



and a step up," he said. "I had my first command when I was under 40."

Over a 30-year career, Scott held a variety of command positions, on ships and on shore. He spent two years with the AEGIS Shipbuilding Program, an assignment on the Atlantic Fleet Propulsion Examining Board, and a tour as a commanding officer of the USS Gallery, a guided missile frigate, and the USS Gridley, a guided missile cruiser. He closed out his military career as commander of the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Dahlgren, the Navy's largest Surface Ship Research and Development organization.

"That was a very rewarding tour," he said. "It was interesting being in that type of environment, R&D, providing new programs, researching new things in a wide variety of areas, all related to the surface Navy."

Throughout his career, Scott had the support of his wife, fellow Pacific University alumnus Cheryl (Gillis) '65. They married after he returned from Vietnam and together decided to continue the Navy life while raising a family.

"It was a lot of separation, a lot of time at sea, away from the family. We both learned to endure that, as did a lot of other military families in the same situation," he said. "But Cheryl and I weighed things. It was always a family decision."

After he retired from the Navy, the Scotts got into the hospitality business, owning a resort in Camp Sherman, Ore., for several years, until Scott returned to consulting and then running an engineering office in Virginia. When he finally retired from his civilian career, they settled in Spokane, where he soon got involved in Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing.

The national organization was started by one of Scott's friends, who met a pair of wounded Navy guys at Bethesda Naval Hospital near Washington, D.C.

"They were amputees, badly damaged. They got to talking and he found out they liked to fish," Scott said. "He wanted to take them out fishing to get them out of the hospital."

Red tape stood in the way at first, but the friend was able to make arrangements to start a project

with Walter Reed Army Hospital. Soon, it grew. When the Scotts headed to Spokane, Scott's friend told him to get involved with the local program. It took a few years to get things going, but Scott soon built up the local organization. He got it featured in the local newspaper, and on the cable TV program Trout TV.

"By doing things like fishing or horseback riding, they can focus on something other than their ills and aches and pains."

The individual stories he heard, though, were what kept him going.

"The veterans of today, what they've gone through, I would characterize as being totally different from what we older veterans went through back in the day," he said. "These young people coming out of Iraq and Afghanistan after multiple deployments, their

lives have been formed in a manner most of us don't want our lives formed.

"I remember coming home from Vietnam and going through stuff, but it's not the same as what these young people faced."

Scott has recently handed the reins of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing in Spokane over to a new leader, but he continues to support programs like it, hoping they can offer help for those who need it.

"By doing things like fishing or horseback riding, they can focus on something other than their ills and aches and pains," he said.

He remembers a young man who was partially paralyzed and had a traumatic brain injury from an IED in Iraq who took part in the program, eventually earning a master's degree and going to work as a wounded warrior advocate for the VA.

Another who had been shot nine times by an AK-47 in Iraq found fishing gave him a distraction from his daily pain. Eventually he and his wife had a baby, and his family took up his fishing time.

Yet another was injured in a suicide bombing in Iraq, almost killed and left with significant long-term injuries.

"But we got him out fishing. He stuck with it, then got involved in the Wounded Warrior Project," Scott said.

"It's rewarding to watch them pull themselves up and forget the past a bit." ★



Spirit of Survival

A father's tenacious spirit inspired Doug Keller MAT '14 through the Navy, the transition to a civilian career, and a near-fatal accident

This bike helmet saved Doug Keller's life the first time he wore it. Now he carries it as a lesson to others.

Doug Keller's father may not have been the most gentle man, but he was an inspiring one.

Fred Keller was just an adolescent when Japan invaded the Dutch East Indies, now Indonesia.

As descendants of the early European colonists there, Fred and his family were imprisoned, put in concentration camps where they were starved and tortured for years before being liberated by the Allied Forces.

Fred always remembered the U.S. Marines as his rescuers — and he set out to become an American, devoted to the opportunity and freedom he saw in the country.

"He had a great respect for this country that would sacrifice its young people to help someone from another country without any hope of compensation," Doug Keller MAT '14 wrote in a journal. "His life goal was to move to this amazing country full of amazing people."

Eventually he did so, by way of Holland, New Zealand, then Canada.

BY JENNI LUCKETT

 ROBBIE BOURLAND

Doug Keller, born in New Zealand, grew up in Oregon, attended Beaverton's Sunset High School and then the Naval Academy, became a Navy helicopter pilot, ran for U.S. Congress, and returned to school at Pacific University for a master's degree and a civilian career as a teacher.

As life has thrown him his own hardships, Keller has remembered his father's tenacious spirit.

"Everything I was taught was to keep trying, remain optimistic, and never, never give up," he wrote.

Keller was in fourth grade when he picked his career goal.

"The teacher was going around the classroom asking us our career intentions, and we were thinking up crazy stuff," he said. "I had seen pictures, and I wanted to fly off ships."

His father mapped out the steps that would allow Keller to reach his goal.

He made the grades and, in the meantime, excelled at high school waterpolo, eventually earning a place at the Olympic Training Facility, where he caught the eye of a Naval Academy coach.

"They can't recruit you as an athlete, but if you have the grades, they can put in a word," he said. And so, he went to Annapolis, then to flight school in Pensacola, Fla., to become a helicopter pilot.

"(In school) I was thinking airplanes, not helicopters," he said. "But it was like an addictive drug. Once I started flying helicopters, I didn't want to fly anything else."

His first post was in the Gulf of Mexico, helping to identify drug smuggling ships and notify the Coast Guard of their locations. Then, he



cruised around the horn of South America, working with foreign navies along the way.

He was in the Middle East in 1991, when Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, and served as a part of Desert Shield, the precursor to Desert Storm.

"We only had two battle groups there, and Saddam had the fourth largest army in the world. If he had wanted to, he could have marched through Saudi Arabia," Keller said.

He participated in blockading shipments going into the Gulf of Aqaba bound for Iraq.

"That's as dangerous as I got," he said.

After Sept. 11, he served aboard the USS Nimitz, which supported operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, including support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2000, he was aboard the USS Underwood when it ran aground in Egypt.

"The Navy doesn't have much tolerance for ships that run aground," he said.

But, he added, "Things don't happen by accident."

One port visit that the Underwood missed due to the grounding was in Yemen. The next ship to visit that port was the USS Cole, which was bombed in a terrorist attack there.

"That was a guided missile vessel. Ours was a frigate," Keller said. "If it had been us, it would have broken our ship in half. We were fortunate we ran aground."

Keller retired from the Navy in 2007 and went to work for Evergreen Aviation for a few years. He made a bid for U.S. Congress, in an attempt to oust then-Rep. David Wu, and he started coaching his daughter's waterpolo team back at his alma mater at Sunset. He also used his GI Bill benefits to earn master's degree, attending Pacific University to become a physics teacher.

But in July 2014, life threw Keller a curveball.

He was bicycling, training for a triathlon, when the accident happened. He doesn't remember the particulars — though he has tried to piece together the events of the missing days and weeks in his memory — but he knows that LifeFlight carried him to the hospital, and that his heart had to be shocked back to action once along the way.

continues ▶



Doug Keller MAT '14 meets the Life Flight pilots who responded to his accident.



He continues to coach water polo in Beaverton.



Doug with his Occupational Therapist during recovery.

"I have more empathy now. Everybody has a struggle. All these people look normal, but most aren't. Most are going through something."

up at your own wake, which is what it seemed like, but seeing [my brother's] face and everyone else's concern made me once again say to myself that I have to fight this and survive," Keller wrote later.

Even after his condition stabilized, he had months of rehabilitation in his future. He had to re-learn how to walk, how to control his body.

"I was this big strong dude, and suddenly I couldn't do anything," he said. "It changed me a lot."

But he was intent not only to survive, but to recover.

When doctors asked him his goal, he said he wanted to be out of the rehab center by Aug. 15 so that he could coach the upcoming water polo season, and he wanted to be able to run the triathlon he'd been training for the following summer.

"I saw some were excited, like, 'Let's do this!' Some were rolling their eyes," he said. "People that have negative

percent open, and his right carotid had an aneurism forming.

On his second day in the hospital, he began having strokes, which forced a risky surgery.

"It's a little disconcerting waking

attitudes, I don't want them around. It's like an anchor."

His family, his friends, and a team of occupational and physical therapists have helped him with each new step.

He did return to coaching in the 2014-2015 season, and both the boys' and girls' teams made the playoffs. And on Sept. 20, 2015, just over a year after the accident, Keller logged a 3:25:48 time at the Portland Triathlon, Olympic distance.

His journey, however, is not complete. He still spends hours each week in physical therapy, and as a result of the traumatic brain injury he suffered, his body doesn't respond to his mind's commands as well as he would like.

He is back to substitute teaching, but he gets frustrated that he can't make it through a full-time teaching gig.

Still, he focuses on the positive.

He's helped start a support group at his gym for TBI survivors, and he carries his smashed helmet in his car, always ready to offer a word of wisdom to cyclists without head protection.

He shares his recovery journal with those he meets who he feels might benefit from the consolation of another survivor's story.

And, he tries to remember those lessons he learned from his father: "the importance of looking for the bright side of things and to tenaciously survive whatever the challenge."

"I have more empathy now. Everybody has a struggle," he said. "All these people look normal, but most aren't. Most are going through something."

"I started out asking, 'Why did this have to happen?'" he wrote in his journal. "I don't know if I'll ever really understand, but now my question is, 'Why did I survive?'"

"Looking at the accident, I should now be dead. So many unlikely things had to come together for me to live, and now my hope is to continue the restoration process and become someone God can use to help comfort others in their struggles." ★



Blue Star University

In July, staff in the Pacific University Archives completed a project to create the first digital inventory of artifacts held by the Pacific University Museum.

Among the artifacts discovered in storage were Pacific's service flag, a relic of the 1940s, when hundreds of students and recent alumni headed overseas to fight in World War II.

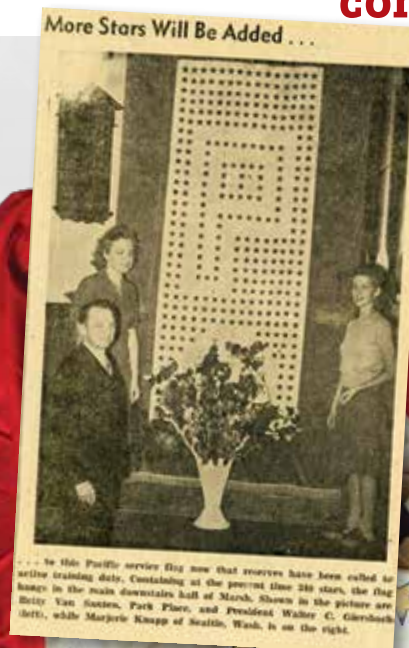
Service flags were designed in World War I and codified during World War II. White cloth, bordered in red, featured blue stars for each loved one serving in the war. Blue stars were replaced with gold when a service member died.

Pacific's service flag represented the members of the university family in the war. *Pacific Index* articles announced the addition of new blue stars as students and recent alumni were called to service. The 1943 *Pacific Index* photo at the right shows Betty (Van Santen) Mansfield '44, President Walter C. Giersbach and Marjorie (Knapp Coffin) Jones '45 with the service flag. Adorned with 340 stars the flag was soon to get more with the activation of reserve forces. By later in the year, there were 394.

The stars on Pacific's flag are paper, and not all have held up well through the years — but today there are still gold stars at the center of the flag. At least 30 men and one woman from Pacific are known to have died during the war, commemorated in a place of honor on the service banner. ★

► pacificu.edu/archives

community



class notes

1961 **REUNION**

Lyman "Ray" West '61, OD '62 and his wife, Charlene, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 24, 2015. They also welcomed their first great-granddaughter, Avery Kathleen Schlitt, on July 20, 2015. She joins two great-grandsons.

1972

Doug Weberling '72, OD '74 was named the sixth recipient of the Kamelia Massih Prize for a Distinguished Optometrist at Pacific University's Commencement on May 21. Weberling is president of Weberling & Associates optometric practice in Bristol, Va., where he is a longtime resident and the city's former mayor. He is a member of many professional organizations, including the American Optometric Association and Virginia Optometric Association, and is he is past president of the Lonesome Pine Optometric Society. He also is a member of the Pacific University Board of Trustees.

1973

Bob H. Meisel OD received the Clintonville (Wisc.) School District's Distinguished Alumnus Honoris award. In his fourth year of optometry school at Pacific, he was awarded a military scholarship and began his career in the Navy. After active duty, he joined the Naval Reserve and served with Marine Corps units, assigned to military

hospitals. He later was an adviser to the Navy surgeon general and with Navy operations at the Pentagon. He retired after 31 years as a captain with many honors, including the Clarence Gibbs Award, the highest honor given to a Reserve Medical Service Corps member. He went on to own two private practices in San Diego and was one of the first recipients of the California OD of the Year award. He served on the board of the San Diego County Optometric Society and was named its Optometrist of the Year in 2014. He was awarded the 2015 Key Person of the Year award by the California Optometric Association. He donates his time at a Lions Optometric Vision Clinic.

1974

Tom Millbrooke was named 2015 National Coach of the Year for Boys Track and Field by the National Federation of State High School Associations. The award was based on his career coaching record, community service, involvement in other school activities, involvement in professional activities, and basic philosophy of athletics. Millbrooke said his coaching philosophy was shaped by his years at Pacific, where he participated in football, basketball, cross country, and track and field. He volunteered as an assistant track and field

coach at Hillsboro High School as a Pacific senior, then taught and coached at Eddyville, Ore., for two years, at Ilwaco, Wash., for nine years and for the past 31 years at Canby, Ore.

1976 **REUNION**

Gail (Younis) Baltaxe reminds her friends to join the Class of 1976 at Homecoming 2016, Oct. 14-16. "Let's all go back in time, even if just for a few moments, and reminisce of our young(er) days, all the fun we had, and the great friends and memories we made."

1987

Matthew Groshart OD has retired from his optometry business in Sheridan, Wyo., after 30 years in the profession. Groshart's father was one of the first optometrists in the northern Wyoming town, and Groshart joined the practice after his graduation from Pacific. He took over Sheridan Optical and Groshart Eye Clinic in 1991.

Dan James

was named deputy administrator for Bonneville Power Administration. He is responsible for leadership, strategic planning, financial management and regulatory affairs, as well as intergovernmental and public affairs oversight. Most recently, he was vice president of public affairs and marketing at PNGC Power. He previously worked as a federal affairs representative at Pacific

Northwest Waterways Association and as a senior government relations specialist at Ball Janik in Portland and Washington, D.C. He also is a member of the Pacific University Board of Trustees.

1997

Fred Kondziela MAT has been named principal of Jacksonville Elementary School in Medford, Ore. He earned his master's at Pacific and went on to obtain an administrative license. In his 19 years as an educator, he has worked for the Tigard-Tualatin, Central Point, Eagle Point and Medford school districts. He most recently was assistant principal and athletic director at Medford's Hedrick Middle School and previously was dean of students at McLoughlin Middle School.

Natalie (Beltram) Reed '97, PT '01

manages the Joint Replacement Institute at Willamette Valley Medical Center in McMinnville.

1998

Richard Leebrick MAT has been a language arts and theatre teacher at the innovative Roosevelt High School in Eugene for the past 15 years, though he first came to the school as a junior high student in 1973. The school building is being demolished this summer as a new facility opens for the community. Leebrick led students in a musical ode to the 66-year-old building this spring.

2000

Rachel (Menasche) Georgeson PT and her husband Lance are taking a year off to travel around the world with their 9- and 12-year-old sons.

Susan Jankelson PT

is co-owner of Rainier Family Physical Therapy, an outpatient orthopedic clinic which also has raised more than \$50,000 for Bridges: A Center for Grieving Children.

Jeremy Kern PT works at Providence Milwaukie Hospital, specializing in mechanical diagnosis and therapy, as well as wheelchair evaluations. He enjoys running and soccer, and he and his wife Angela have two sons.

Emilie (Brewster) Kunder PT works for Ergonomic Worksites Health Programs, offering wellness and injury prevention at Weyerhaeuser in Longview, Wash. She also recently started recruiting for The KOR Physical Therapy in Portland.

Melissa (Lathrop) Leak PT earned a master's degree in global development and justice in May 2015. She and husband Brian are involved in anti-trafficking initiatives through local organizations.

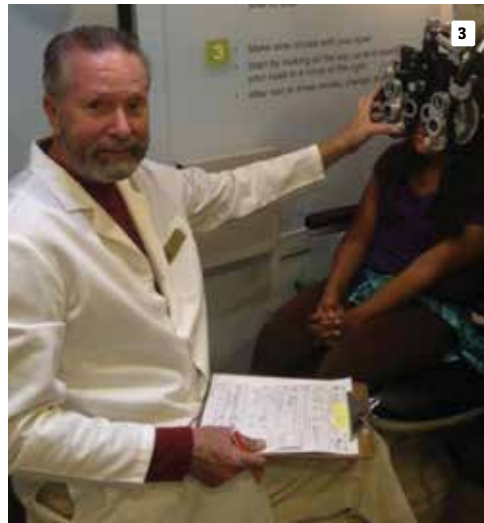
Jonna (Gaustad) Leighton PT is an acute care therapist at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Eugene, Ore., and the mother of three children.



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- 6 Zakrzewski MS '96, PsyD '01
- 7 James '87

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6



7



5




4


class notes

Athena Phillips was a delegation leader for a trauma training in Rwanda in June. She is the owner and founder of Integrative Trauma Treatment Center, a progressive outpatient therapy group in Portland specializing in post-traumatic stress and related disorders. ITTC partnered with the Global Engagement Institute and the University of Rwanda to provide a multicultural trauma training.

Julie Worski-Gustafson PT is a certified lymphedema therapist, working part time in an outpatient facility and with home health in Las Cruces, N.M.

2001 REUNION
 **Martin J. Zakrzewski MS '96, PsyD '01** was named director of psychology at BC Mental Health and Substance Use Services in Vancouver, B.C. He previously worked with Vancouver Coastal Health, Forensic Psychiatric Hospital and Riverview Hospital.

2002
Jeremie Murfin and his partners in Five Star Guitars in Hillsboro were awarded the 2016 Oregon Small Business Persons of the Year award by the Small Business Administration.

2003
 **2 Rebecca (Tilman) Claussen** and her husband, Christopher, welcomed twin sons, Ryan Monroe and Joel Matthew, on July 1, 2015. They join sisters Allison, 8, and Nicole, 5.

Arryl Kaneshiro is a member of the Kauai County Council. In his first term, he chaired the Budget and Finance Committee. He is a certified public accountant and works as a project manager at the Grove Farm Company.

Cisco Reyes recently advanced from associate professor to full professor in the Exercise and Sport Science Department at Concordia University in Portland. He also was appointed director of athletic performance within the university's Athletic Department, where he oversees and administers the year-round training and conditioning for all Cavalier varsity teams. He and his wife, **Kaui (Torres) Reyes '05**, also welcomed son Cullen Gabriel-Kainalu Reyes on May 20, 2016. He joins older sisters Kaila-Louise, 8, and Kenna-Rose, 6.

2005
Kimberly (Hee) Aina '05, PT '08 and husband Nick welcomed daughter Sydney Leialoha Tsugumi Aina on March 19, 2016.

Ariel Salzman PT married Brendan Robinson in April 2016. She passed her CMPT in May and also has an orthopedic clinical specialist certification.

2006 REUNION
Brianne Grogan PT, Christopher Grogan MAT '06 and family lives in Germany, where she is pursuing a women's fitness business and has published a book, *Lady Bits: Understand Your*

Body, Elevate Your Health, and Reclaim Your Spark Naturally.

Kirsten Hart made a special performance with the Vancouver USA Singers, performing the tragic role of Santuzza in selections from the opera *Cavalleria Rusticana* by Pietro Mascagni. She also soloed with the choir in the Moses Hogan spiritual *Wade in the Water*. She has sung with the Portland opera, Bel Canto Opera and Boston Lyric Opera companies and now lives in Boston, where she recently earned a graduate degree in voice from the New England Conservatory of Music. Hart's mother is director of the Vancouver USA Singers, which is an all-volunteer, by-audition, mixed-voice community chorus.

Stephanie (Shideler) Maher and her husband, Maj. Benjamin Maher, welcomed daughter Erin on Feb. 24, 2016. Erin joins brothers Finlan, 5, and Ian, 3.

 **1 Jayme (Ing) and Jesse Wong '07** welcomed Jaron Kahuamai-kapilikiponaaloha Wong on Dec. 9, 2015.

2007
Tasha MacIlveen PT is a member of the APTA House of Delegates. The Oregon delegation recently discussed policy and direction for the future of the physical therapy profession, specifically advocating for a motion on student debt.

2008
Kara (Lang) Schuft PT and husband Peter welcomed daughter Maisie Lang Schuft on May 8, 2016.

2009
Geoff Pursinger is the assistant editor of the *Hillsboro Tribune*, which is based in the *Forest Grove News-Times* office. At Pacific, he was editor of *The Pacific Index* from 2007 to 2009.

2010
Liane (Nakamae) Truong '10, PT '13 and **Daniel Truong '10, OD '13** traveled to Vietnam in 2015 to teach preventative healthcare to residents in the rural northern portion of the country. Daniel helped lead the team with eye health care, and Liane taught physical therapy for the back and neck. The team they worked with also covered dental care, women's health and maternity care, clean water treatment, and hand hygiene.

2011 REUNION
Breanna Chandler is creative coordinator at Revolution Messaging, as well as deputy to videographer Arun Chaudhary, who served as videographer for President Barack Obama during his first campaign. The firm's clients include Bernie Sanders, Melinda Gates, AOL founder Steve Case, MoveOn, and UltraViolet.

Jim Webster PT and wife Emily welcomed daughter Grace Marie Webster on April 12, 2016.

2012
Ashleigh Walters PT is a pediatric physical therapist with the Multnomah Early Childhood Program, where she works in early intervention with children 3 and under.

2013
Gavin Knittle directed the Theatre in the Grove presentation of *On Golden Pond*, which was performed in Forest Grove in June.

Liz Quimby is living in a small town in southern Albania, teaching comprehensive health education and life skills to elementary and middle school students with the Peace Corps. She also is starting a dance club and other community activities there during the summer.

2014
Craig Bailey graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland this spring. Bailey is a U.S. Air Force Reserve Airman First Class. His training included an intensive eight-week program that involved training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

2015
Jessica Hawley-Gamer PT welcomed daughter Noelle Shiloh on Sept. 14, 2015. Jessica works at Women's Physical Therapy in the LA area.

in memoriam

Friends

Katherine Dunn, a faculty member in the Pacific University Master of Fine Arts in Writing Program, died May 11, 2016, at age 70. She grew up in Tigard, Ore., and attended Portland State University and Reed College before embarking on her career as an internationally acclaimed writer. She was a National Book Award finalist and author of the best-selling novel *Geek Love*. In addition to fiction and poetry, she also wrote about boxing and a number of other topics. "Katherine Dunn was a shining star, an incredible intellect, and a fine human being," said Shelley Washburn, director of Pacific's MFA Program. Dunn is survived by her husband, Paul Pomerantz, and son Eli.

1938

Glen Rice died Feb. 21, 2016, at age 99. After graduating from Pacific, he went to medical school in Portland and was commissioned by the Navy in 1943. He made four hostile landings in the Pacific Theatre in World War II, earning a Silver Star and Purple Heart. After the war, he specialized in obstetrics and gynecology and met his wife, who was a nurse. They returned to Seattle, where he started a private practice and worked until age 71. In 40 years, he

delivered more than 5,000 babies. He also was a skilled surgeon, part-time instructor at the University of Washington and an expert on pregnancy of kidney dialysis patients. In 2009, he received the Pacific University Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eloise, in 2013, and by his sisters, **Jean (Klein) Heath '40** and **Mary (Rice) Klein '44**. He is survived by sons Steve (and Fredrica), Greg, and Pete; five grandsons, and six great-grandchildren.

1946

Margaret Bragg died Feb. 8, 2016, at age 92. Though motherhood was her favorite profession, her full life included many other jobs. She worked at Boeing, typing the specs for one of the bomber planes, worked at several shops, was a teacher's assistant in a high school science class, and worked as a receptionist for a U.S. senator. She was a writer, a poet, a musician, an artist and a storyteller. Upon retirement, she and her husband enjoyed a lakefront home in Olympia, where she belonged to book clubs, TOPS, and served on the Mended Hearts Board of Directors. She was preceded in death by her brother, Doug Bosworth, and son John Bragg. She is survived by her

Willanna 'Katheryne' Stout '49, OD '50

died March 18, 2016, at age 104. She attended business school and went to work for an insurance company prior to World War II, when she moved to San Francisco and worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad while attending college at night. After the war, she joined her brother **Colin Stout '49** at the Pacific University College of Optometry. She was a trailblazer as an early female optometrist in Iowa, where she and her brother had a practice for many years. Her specialties were vision therapy and working with children. She served as the state secretary of the Iowa Optometric Association for many years and received the group's Heritage Award. She retired at age 76, but continued to learn by attending Elderhostel courses around the world and auditing courses at Drake University. She was preceded in death by her brothers Colin and Robert Stout. She is survived by several nieces, nephews and extended family members.



Warren Higa '64

died May 26, 2016, at age 74. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, and a retired vice president at First Hawaiian Bank — Business Services Division. He was active in the Waipahu Community Association, the Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawai'i, AJA Baseball and Makule League. A Pacific football player, he was a supporter of the Boxers and of the Pacific University College of Business. He is survived by his wife Geraldine "Gerry" Higa; son Lance Higa; brother David Higa; and sisters Thelma (and Henry) Mitsyasu and Jane (and Wilford) Liu.

husband of 70 years, **Ken Bragg '45**; children Janet (and Ray) Wainright, Geoffrey Bragg, Janell Bragg and Cecilia Abad; grandchildren Dana (and Jamison) Kelleher, Shawn Miller, Jay (and Luz) Navas, and Ceci Navas; and seven great-grandchildren.

1950

Dean Wilcox died April 19, 2016, at age 88. After graduating from Pacific, he went on to the University of Oregon Medical School, and he

maintained a general practice in The Dalles, Ore., for 35 years. He also served with the U.S. Naval Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant commander awarded full military honors. He was an avid outdoorsman, a wheat farmer, a cyclist, and a marathoner. He was committed to public service and was a school board member, planning commissioner, and Pacific University trustee emeritus. He was preceded in death by his

daughter, Susan, and sister **Janet (Wilcox) Nelson '40**. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, **Beryl (Schantz) '53**; children **Dean '72** (and Fern), Gigi (and Rex) Robin (and Jim), Eric (and Sue), Jennifer, and Maria (and Griff); 17 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

1951

Anne Tucker Furguson died March 1, 2016.

in memoriam

1955

Jacqueline "Jackie" Marie (Benzel) Miller

died Jan. 25, 2016, at age 82. After earning a degree in journalism at Pacific, she worked as a speech pathologist in Vancouver, then as a substitute teacher in the Ridgefield School District. She enjoyed playing piano, reading, camping, and spending time with family and friends. She also donated her time to the Ridgefield Elementary School library. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, William Miller; son Patrick Miller; daughter Anne (and Steven) Coons; three grandchildren; and sisters Bobbie Sunday and Judy Scobee.

1994

Jim Kitch died Dec. 3, 2015, at age 43. At Pacific, he enjoyed participant in choir, jazz band, orchestra and Campus Crusade for Christ. He was vice president of sales and marketing for ADI Mobile Health, his family's business. He also was a member of the National Eagle Scout Association and volunteered with Young Life. He is survived by his wife of 12 years, Karla; children Jonathan, Matthew and Sarah Kathryn; parents Tim and Sue Kitch; and sister Amy (and Jason) Bowen.

2006

Joseph Louis Telesfor Luna PA died May 6, 2016, at age 38. After living in Arizona, Oregon

and Idaho, he made his home in Hawai'i, where he was a physician assistant with the Waikiki Health Center. He loved the ocean, especially snorkeling and going out to the sandbar in Kaneohe. He is survived by his wife, Denise Luna; daughter Jessa Luna; mother Susan Salove; stepfather Neal Salove; brother Andy Lieurance; sisters Michelle Gonzalez, Thereasa Lieurance, June Luna and Irene Hobbs; stepbrother Jeremy Salove; and stepsisters Mary Salove and Jessi Tookey.

2008

William Gardner MFA died May 12, 2016, at age 41. He specialized in poetry in Pacific's MFA in Writing Program and also earned an MFA in Creative Writing, Prose from the University of Southern Connecticut, where he was editor-in-chief of the 2014 *Noctua Review*. He was published in *The Portland Mercury*, the *New Haven Daily Nutmeg* and several literary journals. He also worked at Frameline and SPARC in San Francisco. He was a lifelong competitive swimmer, a volunteer with Openhouse of San Francisco and New York City's Anti-Violence Project. He led a rich life, crossing the country to collect stories and living in several locations. He is survived

Kenneth Ivan Cameron '64, OD '65 died March 4, 2016, at age 75. After graduating from Pacific, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army, ultimately as a captain, from 1965 to 1969. He opened his first optometric office in Boise and moved his family to Sandpoint, Idaho, in 1979. He was an avid skier and fly-fisherman. He also was a founding member of the Idaho Conversation League and a staunch supporter of Trout Unlimited. He is survived by his wife Gail Cameron; sons Matt and Tim, from his first marriage to **Mindy Cottrell Cameron '65**; and grandsons Sage, Riley and Henry.



Colin Scott '16 died June 7, 2016, at age 23.

He graduated summa cum laude on May 21 with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and had been accepted into an applied social and community psychology doctoral program at Portland State University. He was highly respected and well-liked by his classmates and professors, as well as friends and staff members throughout the university. He worked in the university Registrar's Office, was a member of the university's Psi Chi psychology honors society chapter, and was part of the Pacific University Speech & Debate Team. He also volunteered for the City of Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Department at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve and for POLST, a registry for giving voice to individuals with terminal illnesses about their end-of-life decisions. His family added that he was a dedicated Christian, whose love for people stemmed from the love he felt from God. He is survived by his parents Bryan and Lori, and his sister **Lacey '18**.



by his parents Bill and Stephanie Gardner; sister Hollis Gardner (and Lowell) Vaughen; nephews Quinn, Reese and Sloan; and long-time special friend and caregiver Krista Smith.

2011

Bryant Kilbourn MS '08, PsyD '11 died May 21, 2016, at age 32. After earning his doctorate from Pacific, he completed his internship at the University of

Central Florida Counseling Center, followed by his post-doctoral fellowship at Metropolitan State University in Denver. He was chief psychologist at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, then lived in Seattle until moving home to Michigan. He was a member of the American Psychological Association. He is survived by his parents Kelvin and Karen Kilbourn, and a large extended family.

inmemory

Pacific University remembers the lives of our alumni with a quarterly Alumni Remembrance Ceremony, where the Old College Hall bell tolls for each person. Upcoming ceremonies will be held Aug. 11 and Nov. 10, 2016.



THURSDAY, SEPT. 15

Second Annual Boxer 'Ohana
Golf Tournament

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16

Boxer 'Ohana Reception

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17

Tailgate Celebration
Pacific Football vs. Occidental

FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS, Pacific University has had a special relationship with Hawai'i. This fall, we celebrate that connection with a one-of-a-kind weekend.

In September, the Boxers will host Occidental College in the first-ever NCAA Division III football game to be played in Hawai'i. In the days leading up to the game, we invite all of our Boxer 'Ohana to come together in a series of special events.

More than 3,000 Boxer alumni, parents and friends live on the Islands, and nearly a quarter of each incoming undergraduate class of students hails from Hawai'i. We are excited to celebrate this part of our community and help keep our aloha connection strong. **JOIN US!**



Pacific University in Hawai'i

Golf Tournament | 'Ohana Reception | Football vs. Occidental

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AMBASSADOR S.L. ABBOTT

Ambassador Shirley L. Abbott '52, OD '53 (1924-2013) served in the U.S. Army during World War II, before attending Pacific University and becoming an optometrist. He practiced optometry in El Paso, Texas, where he also was a rancher and served in the Texas House of Representatives in 1977-1978. He was appointed ambassador to Lesotho by President Ronald Reagan in 1983. Abbott credited his Pacific University education for the foundation of his success, and he was a major donor in the establishment of the Abbott Alumni Center on Pacific's Forest Grove Campus. His military decorations, on the cover, are on display in the center. ★