



ALUMNI NEWS

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University of Wyoming Class of 1959 holds memorable reunion

Members of the University of Wyoming Cap and Gown chapter class of 1959 gathered after more than fifty years to reminisce about their Mortar Board year and to share what they've experienced since then at a class reunion. Nearly all of the 11 original members of the class were present at the two-day event. Eight were in attendance in Laramie and two were included by conference call.



Pictured are, from left, Bobbette Melcher Dannettelle, Joan Andersen, Pat Powers Kennedy, Ruth Bragg, Janice Hansen Erisman, Marilyn Barnes Noblitt, Kaye Richard Giesler and Juletta Northrup Corbin. Added by conference call were Marial O'Melia Bulmer and Julie Schmidt Horne. Eleventh member Lois Tikkaner is deceased.

A highlight for many of the members, who now live across the country, was a campus tour exploring the landscaped Honors Court, dedicated in 2007 in memory of chapter advisor Dean of Women E. Luella Galliver, the chapter's devoted advisor from 1934 to 1964. Dean Galliver had urged the members, as they moved on from college, to contribute lifetimes of leadership in their communities, a charge that served as a lens for reviewing the paths the members took.

A finale luncheon included alumnae from other "Galliver years" who joined in looking ahead to future opportunities. Leading that discussion was Charlotte Hearne Davis, who began a Mortar Board career at the University of Wyoming when this class tapped her in 1959, and later as Dean of Women herself, served 37 years as chapter advisor.

Tips for planning your own Mortar Board class reunion

1. Stay in touch

A purposeful networking from the minute the class graduates, not just 50 years down the road, is key to validating everyone's continued membership. This is the most valuable resource in facilitating any reunion. Stay in touch with letters, class newsletters, online networking and e-mail communication each year.

2. Incorporate memorabilia

Alumni and university staff will assist the class in obtaining meaningful scrapbooks full of photos and tokens from the class' year in Mortar Board. As a group, these alumnae enjoyed rediscovering their special distinction as members.

3. Involve others

In addition to a few chapter alumni from Dean Galliver's 30-year term as advisor, the reunion class welcomed directors of the university's alumni office and libraries. Both of these staff members happily endorsed suggestions about repeating Mortar Board reunions to encourage lifelong reciprocal support of alumni and the national organization.

Special tip from one of the event's planners

Jan Erisman, an alumna deeply involved in the reunion, encourages each Mortar Board chapter to include a reminder to update his or her information with Mortar Board regularly

Connect with Mortar Board



Recent Mortar Board headlines

[2009-2010 chapter and individual award recipients announced](#)
(8-12-2010)

[Member named Hometown Hero](#)
(8-9-2010)

[Mortar Board receives First Book Hero award](#)
(8-5-2010)

[Coast Guard names ship for late Mortar Board alumna](#)
(7-29-2010)

National Conference highlights

Nearly 300 chapter delegates, members, advisors, national leadership members, award recipients, staff and guests gathered in Chicago for the 2010 Mortar Board National Conference, July 23-25 for leadership development, chapter training, networking and more.

- [Award recipients](#)
- [Browse the photos](#)

Note to members

The Mortar Board National Office wants to know all about you - awards, new jobs, accomplishments, life events, and more! Update us using an [easy online form](#) or by [sending an e-mail](#).

along with congratulations to its graduating seniors. Whether a member moves to a new location, gets a new phone number, has a name change or moves in his or her career, this change can be shared with Mortar Board's valuable network so the class can continue to bond over the years. Call the Mortar Board National Office any time you have updated information to share.

Going to grad school or sending your child to college? Protect your tuition investment and your student with GradGuard Tuition Insurance.

Did you know that many colleges offer reduced or no tuition refund if a student is forced to withdraw from college due to an unforeseen illness or accident after the first week of the semester? GradGuard Tuition Insurance, a group policy with College Parents of America, will cover the nonrefunded cost of attendance including tuition fees, room, board and other legitimate expenses. Enrollment in GradGuard Tuition Insurance also includes its Student Protection Plan.

Coverage includes*:

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Student Protection Plan includes*:

- Identity theft protection and resolution services
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To enroll or learn more visit GradGuard.com/MortarBoard

**Subject to exclusions: Please review the complete list of coverage and exclusions on [GradGuard's Web site](#).*

Virtual Book Drive underway through November 12

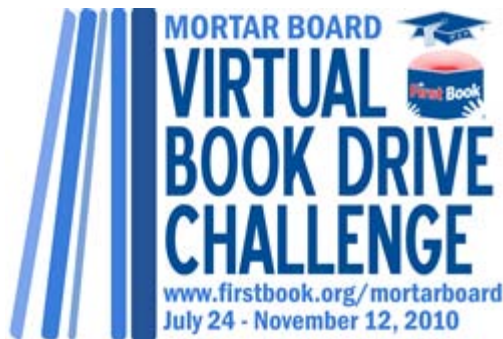
Mortar Board's third annual [Virtual Book Drive](#) challenge, held in conjunction with [First Book](#), runs through November 12.

This initiative, held as a part of the "[Reading is Leading](#)" national project, is a great way for chapters, alumni and supporters to unite nationally while working toward a common goal - to give children across the country access to books.

Whether you represent an alumni chapter or are simply a generous member, you can help Mortar Board unite nationally to raise \$30,000 so that a child in need can be provided with his or her very own first book.

How you can help

With a [donation](#) of just \$2, a child from a low-income family can be provided with his or her very first brand-new book. Nationally, Mortar Board hopes to raise \$30,000 to give children across the country access to books.



[Find an alumni chapter](#)

or

[Start a new alumni chapter](#)

WHAT DOES
MORTAR BOARD
MEAN TO YOU?



Upcoming event

In Mortar Board's *Bylaws*, you will find the following phrase in our purpose: "to emphasize the advancement of the status of women." Thanks to a tip from an alumna, it has come to our attention that an upcoming event is doing just that.

The Sophia Institute is hosting "Women of Wisdom," a convocation of evolutionary women leaders Oct. 1-3 in Charleston, S.C. To learn more, please [click here](#).

Share your memories for Mortar Board's first-ever historical book

Members of the Mortar Board Historical Publication Committee are researching the Society's rich history, and they need your help!

- Do you have great Mortar Board stories, photos or memorabilia?
- Would you like to serve as a chapter's permanent historical liaison to assist with the book?
- Can you help the committee obtain a chapter history from your alma mater? Check to see if we've heard from your chapter [here](#).
- Do you have a creative idea for the title of the book?

You can help! From e-mailing a photo to serving as a committee liaison for a collegiate or alumni chapter, there are many ways you can help to preserve Mortar Board's history.

Learn more and get involved here.

Mortar Board alumni spotlight

Helen Dickerson Wise, D. Ed., national leader The Pennsylvania State University (Initiated in 1948)

2010 Mortar Board Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award recipient

A devoted Mortar Board member for more than 60 years, Helen Wise has lived a life of distinction. She has been an award-winning educator, teaching social studies for two dozen years. President of both the Pennsylvania and Delaware state education associations, Helen also served as president of the National Education Association. A member of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, she shepherded 22 of 26 equal rights bills into passage, making Pennsylvania the first state in the nation with equal rights legislation.

Helen served her alma mater on The Pennsylvania State University board of trustees for more than 20 years (the first woman to be elected by alumni). Her honors are from many quarters. Penn State gave her its highest honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award. She received the Lion's Paw Senior Society's Medal for service "above and beyond." The Penn State alumni association honored her with the Alumni Fellow Award. Her sorority, Kappa Delta, for which she served as a collegiate president, advisor and national officer, inducted her into its Order of the Pearl. After her retirement as deputy chief of staff to the governor of Pennsylvania, a position she held for eight years, the governor named her a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania. So, too, Mortar Board has honored teacher, public servant, association leader and volunteer, a role model to us all, Dr. Helen Dickerson Wise.



Helen Dickerson Wise, D.Ed., accepting her Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award at the 2010 Mortar Board National Conference

Each year, renowned alumni members are honored with either the Alumni Achievement Award or the Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award. Nominations are accepted through March 15 of the award year. To nominate yourself or another alumna or alumnus to be honored in 2011, please use this form.

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