



Chemistry Newsletter No. 38

Special Notice:

Before I forget, consider that all of you are invited to the inauguration of Fr. Tom Curran OSFS as the 14th president of Rockhurst University. You will probably get a more formal notice, but this event is scheduled for Friday, October 27, with Mass at 1:30 in the afternoon and the installation set for 3 o'clock and a reception after that. Set that day aside. More details later.

March 27, 2006

It is time to start this next version of this newsletter. Last Friday, Joe Devine ('67) was in town, and we had a nice visit. Joe is with Quest Diagnostics out of St. Louis. He is the lab supervisor and also a salesman. His email address is below. Joe got his PhD from Southern Mississippi U.

The other day I got an email from Dan ('91) and Sara Beth Casey in Fort Worth announcing the arrival of their third son a couple of weeks ago. Dan is director of residents at one of Fort Worth's big hospitals. He got his MD from U. Missouri – Columbia.

Also, a couple of days ago I got a note from Sara Oberhelman ('04) saying that she stopped by here while I was out. She is finishing up her second year at KU Med School and getting ready to start rotations.

April 3, 2006

Last Friday, Freda (Behrens) Boone ('56) came by. She worked for Colgate Palmolive in KCK until she retired 10 or more years ago. She and her husband live on a farm near Turney, MO, off I-35, near Cameron. Her email address is below.

And Saturday we had a baptism for Lisa (Meyer) ('91) Connor's newest, and first girl. She and Mike also have three pre-school aged boys.

April 4, 2006

Dan Simpson ('01) called this afternoon. Among other things, he and his wife have a young son, since February. Dan graduated from St. Louis U Law School and is now with a law firm in St. Louis, and working in litigation.

A couple of days ago, I got an email from Rina Hiratsuka who

was a Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Med student last year from Tokyo (her home). She is taking the MCAT this spring and is considering staying in Japan for med school, though she has not completely given up on coming back here. Her email address is below.

April 17, 2006

I had hoped to get at this over the weekend but the Easter weekend is about over, so this evening – a few notes.

Last weekend I was in Omaha with the admissions folks. We signed up something over 45 incoming freshmen. I also had a few minutes to visit with Patrick Mark Adams ('88). He is teaching part time at Creighton Medical School and also taking care of his daughter (less than a year old) while his wife, Mia, is doing her residency at Creighton. His email address is below.

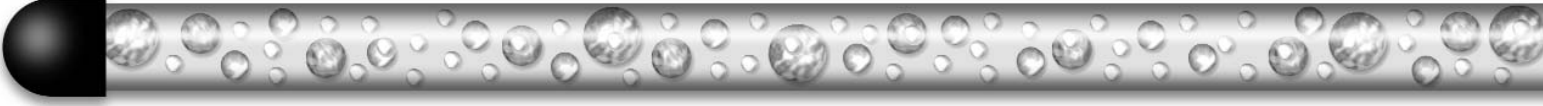
This afternoon, I had a fine visit with Buck Haney ('92). I think I accused him of getting his PhD in some kind of bio-chemistry field, but I was in error, since it really was in Analytical Chemistry from U. Missouri-Columbia. His wife Lisa also has her PhD in Analytical from U. Missouri. They have a girl (who starts kindergarten next fall) and a younger boy. Both Buck and Lisa are at MRI.

And this evening I got an email from Rudy Tovar ('98). He is finishing his residency at U. Kentucky (Lexington) in OB/Gyn and his wife, Molly, finishes her residency in Pathology also this summer. They both served as chief residents in their specialties this past year. Their MDs were earned at U. Texas Houston. They will be in Lexington for a couple more years, Rudy working in the Ob/Gyn department, and Molly doing a fellowship. His email address is below.

I guess I should bring you up to date about me. My pacemaker seems to be doing well, and I got clearance to go back to my weightlifting (slowly) and other normal stuff. I am rather slowed down, but I feel fine.

April 18, 2006

I got an email this evening from Dave Thomas ('95). Dave and Kerrilynne have three youngsters, a girl and two boys. They live in Pawleys Island, SC, near Myrtle Beach. He is an anes-



thesiologist at Waccamaw Community Hospital in Murrells Inlet, SC. Dave got his MD at Creighton Medical School. His email address is below.

The other day John Hervert ('05) stopped into the office. He was in town to interview with KCUMB for next year. He is working in a research lab at the U. Nebraska Med Center.

Mike Hughes ('59) stopped in, too. Mike is retired from his ear, nose and throat practice here in town.

April 20, 2006

I got a nice email this morning from John Hannigan (MT, '62). John is in Menlo Park, CA. He was a math major, but back in those ancient days I was teaching the Calculus I course as well as some General Chemistry. John's email address is below.

And a few days ago, I got an email from Ed Biersmith down in Monroe, LA. His email address is below.

A couple of days later, I got a nice email from Joe Glas. Joe is retired from Dupont and is living in Sheldon, SC. His email address is below.

I also got a note today from Kristin Woo ('02) from Lawrence, KS, where she has now finished with her cumes and orals for her doctorate. She says the research is going well and she is starting to write her first manuscript for submission to a journal. Also, for this summer she has receive an internship at Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA, which has her really excited. Her email is below.

A couple of days ago, I got an email from Bob Foster ('72). He has been with Coors Brewing in Golden CO for 32 years, and using EPR and ESR on their beer. Bob got his PhD from U. Heriot-Watt in Edinburgh, Scotland, in Brewing Biochemistry in 1997. He and Martha have two youngsters (11 and 9 yrs. old). His email address is below.

April 29, 2006

I have a lot of catching up to do. This past week has been a real "rat race," starting with Friday a week ago, April 21. As many of you know, the University put on a very nice reception for me in honor of my finishing 50 years this semester in the classroom. I have been tempted to try to remember all the folks who came, but I am afraid I will forget more than I remember – and remember the ol' man's memory isn't quite what it used to be. And one note: If you did not receive an invitation, I apologize, but if you let me know, I will send you one.

It has my picture on it, and I do have a number of extras.

I think I should say a very sincere and deep "THANK YOU" to all of you who came from near and far. I am floored. I don't know how I can tell you all who came, and those of you who sent greetings. You don't know how much all this means to me. THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart. I just can't say enough.

Earlier this week, I got an email from Jason Gordon ('00) at Notre Dame. He is about to get his PhD this next month. His field is biochemical engineering. Next year he will be doing a Post-Doc at Notre Dame trying to overcome various obstacles preventing miniaturization in a device for separating cells infected with malaria from normal cells. He will also teach an undergraduate lab for seniors in bioengineering.

Last Tuesday, I went to Washington DC for the Alumni reception, hosted as usual by Cliff Alexander ('66) at his law office in downtown Washington. I didn't meet everyone there nor did I know them all, but besides Cliff, there were certainly Joe Balcer ('67), Paula Jonak (NU '82) who sails a desk in the Navy in the District. Dave Jones ('03) was there, too. Dave is a third year medical student at Georgetown Med School.

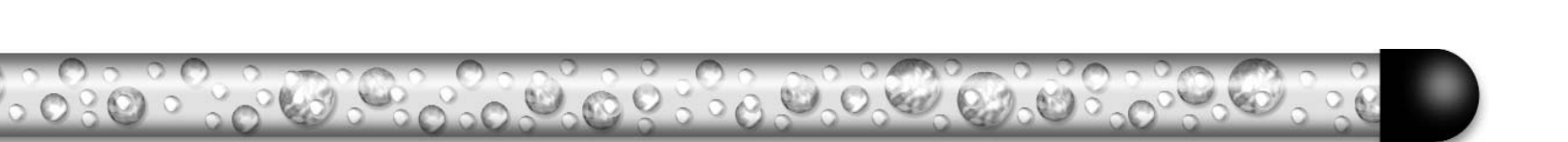
I just had a few words with Jim Kenworthy ('59) who does consulting from his office in Arlington. His email address is below.

A couple of days ago, I got a nice email from Scott Reisman ('03). Scott is in his second year toward his PhD at KU Med Center in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. His wife Carla (Heitman) is teaching English at Lee's Summit West High. His email address is below.

Of course Ed McKee ('66) was there. Ed is Sports Information director at George Washington U. Jack Landers ('61) was there, too. There were also a few more of the old timers, Larry Padberg ('67) is with a group called New Hope finding homes for the homeless. John Wintrol ('63) practices law in the DC area, and, I guess, around the world. Charley Lahey ('75) is with QwestLink in Arlington, VA. Art Meiners ('56) teaches Business Administration at Marymount University also in Arlington. Frank Cipolla (also '56) is retired, and living in Columbia, MD. Email addresses for several of these folks are below.

May 11, 2006

It seems all I do is try to play catch up, but here it goes again.



Last week, I got an email from Juliet (Montgomery) Gay ('97). She and Michael ('96) are moving from south of Houston, TX, to Rock Springs, WY, with their two boys. Michael has been managing the Schlumberger operations there since March. Juliet is thinking of working on a DPT through Regis in Denver. And she already has a PT job in Rock Springs. Their email addresses are below.

This afternoon, Gary Gagnon ('00) came by with his father. Gary says they give him a bit of a vacation from his ER residency at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX. In spite of the fact that he works so hard at that, he seems to be thriving well.

A week or so ago, I got an invitation to the KU Med graduation announcing that Eddy Hart ('97) is getting his MD this month. Eddy was accepted at KU in the early decision program.

A similar announcement came from Jack Galbraith ('02) who gets his MD from U. Missouri – Columbia.

Srini Iyengar ('00) dropped in for a few minutes the other day from his Ophthalmology Residency at KU Med. He tells me that Mike Watts ('02) graduates from St. Louis U Med school this month, and is going to Maine for his Emergency Room Residency. Mike's sister, Jennifer, has been doing her residency here in KC at Children's Mercy. And she is about to get married.

May 13, 2006

I was just checking over some of the information above, when Lee Trame (ES '77) came in with his son and grandson. Lee is with Boeing in St. Louis and lives across the river in Highland, IL.

On a sad note, I just heard the other day that Lyell Carver ('48) passed away last February. He has had cancer for quite some time.

May 14, 2006

This afternoon was our graduation ceremony. We now have the graduation in the quadrangle. This has been very successful since we started it four or five years ago. Up till now, the weather has been bright and sunny, this afternoon it was mostly cloudy and cool, but no sign of rain.

Just as the procession was about to start, I got the message that Mac Geschwind's ('63) wife, Elaine, has passed away. Those of you who recall the Variety Show that Mac directed back in the '60s will remember Elaine Loughead who was the dancer who choreographed much of the show. She and Mac were

married several years later. When Mac retired from Southwestern Bell they moved to California.

And speaking of the deceased, this morning's paper has a note that Dr. John Hill died on May 3. The notice was not in earlier. I know no other details. John, as many of you will remember, taught physics and mathematics here for many years. He lost his second wife earlier this past winter. He had been living in Lee's Summit, MO.

I think I should also tell where some of our grads are going next year. Five students are going to St. Louis U. Medical School: Mindy Auer, MaryBeth Huber, Broke Schlappe, Andrew Silver, and Colby Parks. Incidentally, Colby won the senior medal this afternoon for the best academic record for his four years. Also, I might add, Colby and Andrew (also summa cum laude) are the two leading pitchers on the Rockhurst baseball team.

Besides these, Scott Koerber will go to KCUMB as a Scholar, that is, after his junior year here (his first year of medical school counts also as his fourth year here at Rockhurst. Incidentally, Mike Brostoski ('02) gets his DO from KCUMB next week. He also is in the cooperative program that we have with KCUMB in which the student chooses to do the MBA program and receives the MBA along with the DO degree.

Going to KU Medical School are two of our Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Medical students: Tim Fendler (son of Kermit Fendler ('68)) and Janell Jones. These people have degrees from elsewhere and needed the sciences for med school. Tim's was in English and Theater, and Janell's was in Business and Accounting.

Peter Simone ('04) is going to the U. Nebraska Medical School (UNMC), which is in Omaha.

May 15, 2006

I got a note this morning from Christine Jelinek ('00). Christine is doing her residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital in Denver. She also mentions that Stephanie (Benson) Page is also doing her residency at Children's Hospital.

May 17, 2006

A couple of days ago Kyle Cummins ('05) stopped in for a few minutes. He is working on his PhD at Texas A&M in College Station. He seems to be getting acclimated to the Texas outlook on things!



May 18, 2006

I got an email from Dr. Dick Wilson this afternoon. He is doing well and working for a supply company in biology related materials. His email address is given below.

May 19, 2006

Earlier this afternoon, I stopped by the Student Activities Hall ("Party Barn"). The Helzberg School of Management was having a special ceremony for the MBA graduates who are also getting their DO degrees (this Sunday) from KCUMB. Michael Brostoski (BS '02 & MBA '06) is one of these graduates. He will be going to Casper, WY, for his residency in Family Practice.

Speaking of medical school students, I learned yesterday that Andrew Silver and Colby Parks were named to ESPN The Magazine Academic All District First Team. This qualifies them to compete for the All American Academic Team. Both of them are Chemistry majors who graduated last Sunday, and will be attending St. Louis U. Medical School later this summer. They are the two leading pitchers on the Rockhurst baseball team.

May 24, 2006

This morning I had breakfast with Manu Chaudrey ('01) and Adam Alt ('01). Manu was driving back from the east coast and stopped by here. He will start Dental School at the College of the Pacific near San Francisco in July. Adam is still trying to make up his mind, and in the mean time he is a commercial painter and "fixer-upper."

And as I was crossing the campus on my way to lunch, Mark Meinders (also '01) called to me. Mark is still working at Midwest Research with Tom Sack ('80). Mark is doing some of their more sophisticated mass spectroscopy work. Also, he tells me he just got married two weeks ago. Mark was here to get signed up for classes so he can start the MBA program

May 25, 2006

I got an email earlier today from Matt Hahn ('05) telling me that he has been admitted to the U. Nebraska Medical School for this summer. He has been living in Omaha, and working in Lincoln, NE with Novartis as a chemist. He is also on Creighton's wait list.

May 26, 2006

This afternoon, I met Seth Gengler ('02) in the new weight lifting room. Seth has just finished his first year of medical school at KCUMB. He looks like he has survived very well, and is looking forward to his next year starting in about a month.

June 2, 2006

I had a nice lunch with Shrini Iyengar ('00) and Jason Gordon (also '00), and Philip Colombo ('91) came over from his hiding place in the Dean's office. Jason is in town for a few days now that he has his brand new PhD in Chemical Engineering from Notre Dame. Shrini is doing his ophthalmology residency at KU Med, and Philip is doing a two-year stint as assistant dean of the Arts school, though he is still part of our Chemistry faculty.

And last Sunday, we baptized little Dennis Philip Colombo. He is the son of Philip and Jeni (Bryant) ('98) Colombo. Jenni is doing a G. I. fellowship at Children's Mercy Hospital, now that she has finished her pediatrics residency there.

I guess I should put in here another event of the University. For those of you who may have missed it, yesterday, Fr. Ed Kinerk ('64) officially moved out of the President's office and our new president, Fr. Tom Curran, O.S.F.S., (that stands for Oblates of St. Francis de Sales) moved in. For the last couple of years he has been assistant to the president of Regis U. the Jesuit school in Denver. Fr. Curran's formal initiation will be at the time of the Rockhurst Gala, October 27-28.

June 3, 2006

This morning, I went to the cemetery for the graveside service of Rosemarie Lampton, Larry's ('62) wife. He wanted her buried here in Kansas City, though they have been living in Columbia, MO, where he has been practicing for quite some time. He is a pulmonologist. He got his MD from U. Missouri-Columbia.

Larry mentioned that his classmate ('62) Ron Kinatader is an MD practicing in Keokuk, IA.

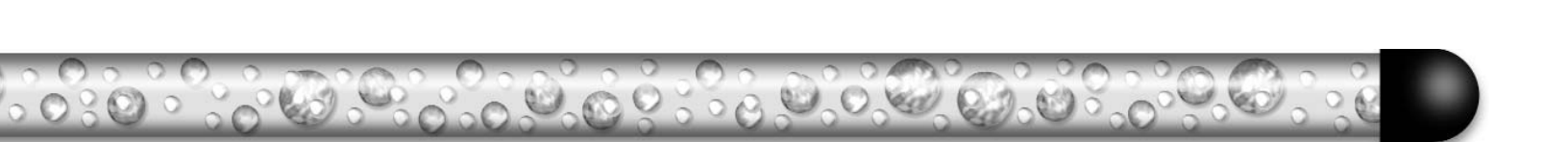
Earlier this week, Carol DeFeo's ('68) mother passed away. Fred ('68) got his MD from KU and is an internist and on the faculty of UMKC Med School.

June 10, 2006

I got an email from Paul Winkeler ('97) a couple of days ago announcing the arrival of his daughter. Mother and daughter are doing great. Paul is teaching chemistry and coaching a winning swimming team at Rockhurst High School. His email address is below.

June 15, 2006

I got an email from Bryan Menges ('99) a couple of days ago. He got his DO from KCUMB this spring and they have moved to Tulsa where he begins his residency in Emergency



Medicine at Oklahoma State Medical Center. Bryan and Dawn have two girls, 2 years old and one who arrived last February. Bryan's and Dawn's email addresses are below.

And I got a note from Juliet and Michael Gay ('97). They have now gotten all moved to Rock Springs, WY. New email addresses for both Michael and Juliet are below.

June 17, 2006

Yesterday afternoon, Vincent Nguyen ('01) stopped in for a few minutes. He has been living in Phoenix AZ for the last 5 or so years, and is thinking of moving back to the Midwest. His new email address is below.

June 20, 2006

I saw Dave Biersmith ('58) this evening. Dave is now president of Industrial Medical Centers here in KC. They deal with industrial personal injuries. His email address is below.

And I stopped by Creighton Medical School for a few minutes last week and visited with the admissions people. They were very high on My-Linh Trinh ('03). She sent me an email this evening saying she is "on vacation" studying for the next of her National Board exam (Step 2). She expects to do Peds Surgery rotation here in KC this fall. She begins her last year at Creighton Med School. Her email address is below.

June 21, 2006

And thinking of some of the ol' timers, I got a nice note this afternoon from Pat Clarke ('62). Pat was a math major that I saw way back when I was teaching calculus. His email address is below.

June 30, 2006

I got an email from Mike Brostoski ('02) this morning. He is poised to start his internship and residency at the Casper (WY) Family Medicine Residency Program tomorrow. He and Stacy Kooiker were married last February. His email address is below.

July 2, 2006

A couple of days ago I was stopped by one of the coaches to tell me that two of our Chemistry graduates of this spring have each been granted \$7500 scholarships by the NCAA for their pursuit of medical school. These are called post-graduate scholarships. There are only 29 awarded to male athletes, and 29 to female athletes, across all three NCAA divisions. Both Andrew Silver and Colby Parks have been outstanding pitchers for the University baseball team, and, as I have said often, outstanding chemistry students, for the last four years. They are both going to St. Louis U. Med School starting this summer.

July 8, 2006

Last evening, I attended the wedding of Kyle Cummins ('05) and Emily Hermann. Kyle has finished one year of graduate school at Texas A&M in College Station, TX. His brother Daniel was best man, and Jason Rogers was one of the readers.

And this morning, Dan Theesfeld ('82) stopped in for a real nice visit. Dan is in Nacodoches, Texas. He got his MD from the Chicago Medical School, and then went to Baylor in Houston for his residency, and decided to stay in Texas. He practices pain management in Nacodoches and in Plainview (an hour or so away).

July 12, 2006

This morning I got a couple of emails. One was from Tim Schmitt ('95). Tim has taken a position as Asst. Prof. of Surgery at the U. Virginia Medical School at Charlottesville. He will be doing liver, kidney and pancreas transplants as well as liver surgery. Tim and Jean have two young boys. His email address is below.

The other email is from Michael Brostoski ('02). As I mentioned above, he is starting his residency in Casper WY and reports all is going well, with plenty to do. He also sent me a few books for the pre-meds here about how to survive in med school – now that he has successfully survived. His email address is below.

July 15, 2006


I was just coming up to my office when I heard my name from down the hall. It was Jack Kelly ('59) and his wife Ameilia. Jack got his MD from St. Louis U and has been in practice in St. Louis ever since. Jack was one of the bright lights when I first came to Kansas City way back when.

And lest I get tied up and don't get back to this soon, this evening Annie Lee ('95) is marrying Tony Stanislav from Omaha. It takes place across the street at St. Francis Xavier, this afternoon.

August 15, 2006

And as long as I am talking about Annie's wedding, I should mention that Subbu Sarma ('95) was there. Subbu is a psychiatrist practicing here in Kansas City. He was a pre-med scholar and got his MD from St. Louis U. Med school.

There have been several folks that I have heard from recently, so, not in any order. Jason Gordon ('00) has started his post-doc and some teaching at Notre Dame.



Nicole Thomas ('04) starts the program in Clinical Laboratory Science at KU Med. Next week.

Today, I got an email from Jim Blair ('58). Jim was an NSF scholarship winner and went to the U. of Wisconsin in Madison, where he got his PhD in Physical Chemistry. He taught for a number of years in a small college there until they folded in the '80s. He has since worked in Madison as a chemist. He has also guided a number of tours through the West Indies specializing in a variety of snorkeling and related experiences in and around the Virgin Islands, maintaining his ties with the University of Wisconsin, including sailing on the lakes around there. His email address is below.

August 23, 2006

Over this past weekend I was in Chatham, MA, for the wedding of Rick Weiler's ('70) daughter. Rick is a very prosperous dentist there. He got his DDS from Maryland U in Baltimore. He has survived a very serious case of cancer about 14 years ago. Today he seems to be completely free and as active as ever. Rick and Pam also have a teenage daughter. His email address is below.

Jason Mickels ('96) sent me a new change of email address which is below. He is doing an orthopedic fellowship at the University of Minnesota in the twin cities.

A few days ago, I got an email from John Hervert ('05). John has accepted the invitation from West Virginia Osteopathic College and has now finished over a week of medical school. It is in a small town – he is living in Lewisburg, WV. He says the surroundings are very great and he is keeping busy. His email address is below.

August 25, 2006

A few days ago, the Kansas City Star had an article that said that Bryan Schumacher ('88) has been awarded the Bronze Star for his service as a Navy physician in Iraq in November 2004 and January 2005. Bryan was a pre-med scholar at St. Louis U. Medical School. He and Keri and their twin daughters have been living in Spain.

September 1, 2006

A week or so ago, it was announced that Bill Oulvey ('74) has been appointed the Secretary to the American Jesuits Assistant in Rome. He is scheduled to move to Rome around November. He has been the Jesuit superior of our Belize mission for the last 5 or so years.

One of our part time faculty (P. Chem), Dr. Claudia Parker told

me that Tom Sack ('80) was appointed Regional Vice President of MRI just a week or so ago. The announcement was then in the KC Star a few days later. As I understand it, this means that Tom is in charge of all their research divisions. Tom has been with MRI since he got his PhD from Nebraska in the mid '80s.

A couple of days ago, Terry Maher ('98) wandered into my office. He was here giving physical exams to the basketball players. Terry is an Emergency Physician at North Kansas City Hospital. He has been there since he finished his residency at Texas Southwestern in Dallas (Parkland Hospital). He did his medical School at St. Louis U as a Pre-Medical Scholar.

I was talking to Phil Byrne at KCUMB this afternoon, and he told me that Nhat Nguyen ('05) and Megan King ('05) have completed their master's degrees in Biomedical Science at KCUMB and have now started medical school there.

September 5, 2006

This morning Mike Kelly ('93) came into my office. His father, Jack ('59) and mother came, too. They were all here in KC for a family wedding. Mike is working as a Physical Chemist for a company in the San Francisco area. I think he is kind of wishing to come back to this part of the country. Jack is a physician in St. Louis. Mike's wife, Jean (Kellogg, '93 BSBA) is from Omaha, but she stayed home to take care of a sick little girl.

This afternoon I got a brief card from Sam and Mary Losapio (both '74). They have recently moved, but still in Columbia, MO. All three of their girls are now out of the house and on their own now.

September 11, 2006

Last Friday, I had a very nice visit with Mac Geschwind ('63). He was in town visiting some of his family. He lives in southern California.

September 22, 2006

Rudy Tovar ('98) and his wife Molly just left the office a few minutes ago. They are in town for a wedding this weekend. They are both MDs, Rudy is helping run the Ob/Gyn residency program in Lexington, KY. Molly is doing a Pathology fellowship.



September 23, 2006

This morning I got an email from Erin (O'Dell) ('04) and her husband Shawn Markley that they have a new arrival, a daughter born last Tuesday morning. They also have a new email address, see below.

September 24, 2006

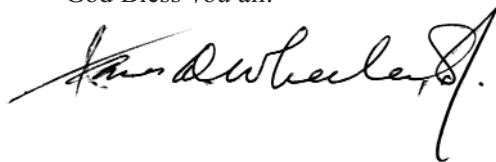
Tim Lawler ('05) just stopped in. He came over here to study, like so many of our alums from KCUMB. He is now in third year, doing his clinical rotations, now at the VA Hospital. He went to med school as a pre-med scholar, hence he is a year ahead.

You might also want to check your email address below. Some of them I have had a number of years, and I suspect some are definitely outdated. Let me know, and I will fix it for you for the next issue. Remember, the email addresses appear here in the printed edition, but not in the web edition (www.rockhurst.edu).

One more point is that there are several other folks less connected with the Chemistry Department and the Science Division who have asked to be included in this mailing list. So you may see a few of them mentioned from time to time. They are all good friends and Rockhurst alums.

I encourage you to let me know what goes on with you, and I'll pass the word along. And if you know of anyone who does not get this newsletter and would like to, let me know. Either send it by regular mail, or by email. My email address is below and on the web site if you are reading this on the Rockhurst web site. So,

God Bless you all.



James D. Wheeler, S. J.



Keep Fr. Wheeler and your classmates up to date. If you'd like to change your address or share your news, please return this form to: Rockhurst University Chemistry Department, attn: Fr. Wheeler, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Business Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Employer & Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Family, Friends, Comments, etc. _____
