




-  weddings
-  births and adoptions
-  deceased


Mitzi R. Vernon (ARCH), Blacksburg, Va., received Virginia Tech's 2012 William E. Wine Award.


'87  **Michael F. Loibl** (VM), Fairbanks, Alaska, 4/23/12.

'88 **Charles D. Fisher Jr.** (ENGL), Roanoke Va., was named a Fellow in the Society for Technical Communication.

Christina M. Baum McIntyre (HNF '95), Eggleston, Va., received a certificate of merit in the "Academic Advising—primary role" category for the National Academic Advising Association's 2012 Outstanding Advising Awards. McIntyre also received Virginia Tech's 2012 Provost Award for Excellence in Advising.

Noel N. Nunnally Schulz (EE '90), Manhattan, Kan., was named Kansas State University's College of Engineering associate dean for research and director of the engineering experiment station.


 **Richard P. Mackey** (EE), Gilbert, Ariz., 6/29/11.


'89  **Pauline Donato Lea** (FCD '90) and Glen A. Lea, Glen Allen, Va., married 11/11/11.

'90 **Joseph M. DeSimone** (CHEM), Chapel Hill, N.C., and his firm, Liquidia Technologies, are collaborating with GlaxoSmithKline to research and develop vaccine and inhaled-product candidates using Liquidia's proprietary PRINT technology.

Zhenghe Xu (MESCI), Edmonton, Alberta, received the Frank Spragins Technical Summit Award from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta.

'91 **John L. Roberts Jr.** (AGEC), Amelia Court House, Va., received the 2012 State Friend of Extension Award for sharing his knowledge of the live-stock grading system with producers.

 **Beth Duffy Cox** (COMM), Charlottesville, Va., a son, 10/30/11.


 **Robert C. Weih Jr.** (FOR), Monticello, Ariz., 6/17/12.

'92 **Sherri L. Cook** (BAD), Blacksburg, Va., is senior associate director of finance and administration at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute.

Robert W. Hulvey (CPE), Redondo Beach, Calif., was named to the 2012 Bluetooth Hall of Fame by the Bluetooth Special Interest Group for his contributions to the development of the technology.

Charles E. Watson (STAT, ENGL '93, ENGL '95, EDCI '07) Blacksburg, Va., received the Distinguished Colleague award from the Division of Undergraduate Education at Virginia Tech.

'93 **Eric Cramer** (BAD, BAD '95), Woodstock, Ga., was promoted to chief investment officer at Buckhead Investment Partners LLC.


 **Matthew G. McCarey** (HIST), Davidson, N.C., a daughter, 10/7/11.


Amy C. Moore (EDPE, EDCH '95), Haymarket, Va., a son, 2/10/11.

'94 **Charles E. Cooper Jr.** (ARCH), Red Lion, Pa., is a registered architect and a senior project manager and director of sustainability at Frederick Ward Associates in Bel Air, Md.

Michael C. McWithey (AE), Colleyville, Texas, is manager of the Lockheed Martin High Speed Wind Tunnel.


Cynthia A. Whitbred-Spanouli (PSCI, PAPA '96), Virginia Beach, Va., is deputy director of the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center and was selected as the Virginia Beach Rotary Club 2012 Outstanding City Employee of the Year.

 **Joshua C. George** (CE, CE '96), York, Pa., a son, 4/26/12.

 **Jane M. Koehler** (ENGL), Baltimore, Md., 6/7/12.

'95 **Christopher T. Case** (ARCH), Charlotte, N.C., is senior project architect for the Durham County Health and Human Services Complex and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Engineering, Aviation, Computer, and Mathematical Sciences Building. **Jill Colletta Goebel** (HIDM), Alexandria, Va., is a senior associate for Gensler, an architecture firm that won a Gold Award in the 2012 Premiere Awards' educational category from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Interior Design Association for the interior design of the Virginia Tech Research Center—Arlington.

Stefanie F. Lazanov (SOC), Alexandria, Va., is director of revenue management for The Westin Georgetown in Washington, D.C.

 **Jerry L. Dowdy** (BSED), Christiansburg, Va., a son, 2/28/12.

A beacon of hope for orphans in Rwanda

by EMILY GOODRICH

In 2007, April Riegler (clothing and textiles '00) took a trip to Rwanda that changed her life. After meeting with children at the Robero Orphan Centre in Kigali, Riegler was inspired to create a program, Hope Shines, to provide those children with an education.

"I started the program in 2007 by fundraising and gathering volunteers," said Riegler. Among those volunteers was Dan Gladden (wood science and forest products '00), who runs the sports day camps every other year; Maxime Manzi, a freshman university studies major and a cadet; and a number of other Virginia Tech students who volunteer their time and skills for the nonprofit.

"I've kept a close relationship with my professors in clothing and textiles and work with [professors] to run a contest for design students to design the camp T-shirts," said Riegler. "I want to keep Tech involved; it is meaningful to have that community of Hokies."

Hope Shines began its program in Rwanda with a one-week day camp in 2008 and has expanded to include a second week of day camps and a new tutoring program.

"We focus on creative learning," Riegler said. "A lot of the education in Rwanda is 'repeat after me,' rote memorization. We try to get [children] to step out of that box."

The tutoring program focuses on what the children are currently struggling with in school. A teacher hired by Hope Shines works with a team of translators, most of whom are college students in the Generation Rwanda program, a scholarship program that provides full financial support for Rwandan students attending college. Riegler said Hope Shines is fortunate because the same group of teachers returns each year to build relationships with the kids and provide role models for them.

This year, the tutoring program expanded from four to six months. "Our goal is a year-long program, so we've been taking small steps in that direction," said Riegler. "We see it continuing to build. We never want to let the kids down and make them false promises. So, when we say we're going come back, we always do."

Emily Goodrich, a sophomore English major, is an intern with Virginia Tech Magazine.

Dan Gladden '00 and April Riegler '00 volunteer together to mentor Rwandan orphans.



COURTESY OF DAN GLADDEN