



# Eta Rho NEWS



A PUBLICATION OF THE ETA RHO CHAPTER OF SIGMA NU

FALL 2005

## ΣAEs TAKE LEAD IN CAMPAIGN *Sigma Nus Need to Keep Up*

I hope that each of you who attended the Homecoming/Eta Rho 40th Anniversary Weekend enjoyed it as much as I did. As Oma Kron **Bob DeSpain, CM** said to **Joe Clifton '60, HP 31/OK 58**, "After 50 years, it was as if we had just seen each other the week before." I could not say it any better!

Former Little Sister Cookie Whitehouse did a great job of summarizing the weekend. If you were not able to attend, read her article below and you will get an idea of how wonderful this weekend was.

The bond of Sigma Nu is something extraordinarily special. My best friends

are my Sigma Nu brothers. Many people paved the way for us, and I ask that we keep the tradition going for the extremely impressive current group of actives and pledges. We need to continue to support them, and, particularly, furnish them with not only leadership and support, but new bricks and mortar.

The ΣAEs had a very successful fundraising effort over Homecoming weekend and have approximately \$3,000,000 (yes, \$3 million) to build and maintain a new house. We have always been very competitive with the ΣAEs, and it's time that each of us step

up and pave the way for the current group and those who will be here 50 years from now.

I ask for your support as we are at a critical time in our fundraising campaign. You can help to make a difference. Now is the time.



Fraternally,  
**Joe Natcher '76, HP 293**  
Eta Rho Alumni  
Association President  
(270) 842-3463

[joenatcher@southernfoodsinc.com](mailto:joenatcher@southernfoodsinc.com)

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## ETA RHO'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

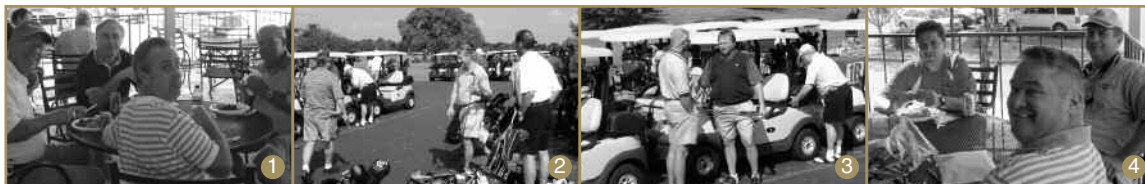
This year's Homecoming theme was *Celebrate Memories and Build Traditions*. The caring and warmth of those associated with Sigma Nu remains constant from year to year, and it was ever-present during Homecoming weekend. It was good to see old friends, share stories of our college days, and catch up on what everyone is doing now.

The golf tournament on Friday was a lot of fun. The course was in beautiful condition, and there had to be a record number of "fores" being called out. This year's winners include **Jeff Stone '77,**

**HP 311, Glenn "Buzz" Mitchell '77, HP 298, Randy Warmath '77, HP 304, and Jeff "Deadeye" Morgan '77, HP 300.** The Closest to the Hole Award was won by Deadeye (now you know how he got his name!), and the Longest Drive Award went to **Craig Sleight '85, HP 458.**

The get-together at the Duck Shack, co-owned by **Shane Van Meter '78, HP 321,** that evening was quite an experience. I had never been to this location, and it was well worth the visit. What a neat place for conversation!

*Continued on page 3*





# ETA RHO CHAPTER MORE THAN TRIPLES IN SIZE

Our chapter is now up to 36 members—a huge increase from the 11 we had at the start of last year—consisting of 20 members and 16 pledges. We only have four senior members, meaning Eta Rho is a young, growing chapter. Our new Gamma Lambda pledge class just won Pledge Olympics, and the chapter took second in the Kappa Delta Shenanigans.

Among our goals this year is to increase membership (which was accomplished this fall and will continue into the spring semester), resurrect the tradition of the Powderpuff and Three-on-Three Basketball philanthropies, establish a better presence in various clubs on campus, and earn the Most Improved Chapter Award.

The intramural season is under way, and our chapter is both participating and excelling. Intramural Chairman **Brandon Bawcom '05, HP 801** states, “Eta Rho’s presence is much greater this year than that of last, and we’re excited to go deep in the flag football tourney and even win some of the upcoming events.”

Intramurals is something nearly everyone has fond memories of. It is a good outside activity that not only helps brotherhood, but makes one well-rounded. I’m proud to say, thus

far, the chapter’s two teams are undefeated in the flag football competition! The chapter is also preparing for the checkers tournament, billiards tournament, volleyball, and basketball.

Over the past years, philanthropy projects were something sadly forgotten. Last year we restarted the rich tradition of the Powderpuff Football Tournament, which was a great success. We hosted this tournament November 14-18 and were pleased to benefit Girls, Inc.

In the spring semester, Eta Rho will restart the tradition of the Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament. **Chase Malone '04, HP 787**, philanthropy chairman, notes, “It’s nice having fun events that bring our chapter together, as well as help out a good cause and continue our traditions from the past.”

Eta Rho is proud to have a strong presence on Western’s campus. Our chapter members hold positions in the Government and Politics Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, and membership in College Democrats, S.T.R.I.P.E.S. Intramural Officiating Club, Gamma Sigma Alpha, Dynamic Leadership Institute, and Model United Nations.

This summer I was elected to serve as a representative for WKU for LEAD-

ERShape, an institution formed to teach leadership and conflict resolution within an organization. Not only was this a great opportunity for myself, but it benefited the chapter. I was able to share strategies to help Eta Rho grow and improve.

We would like to thank everyone involved with this year’s Homecoming. After such a positive weekend, there was no doubt in my mind that Eta Rho has the strongest and largest alumni presence. Current members and pledges enjoy sharing stories they heard over the weekend, and all had a great time. For those of you unable to attend, we invite you to stop by the house anytime you’re in town.

Overall, the state of the chapter is much improved from years past. The presence in all campus activities is much higher—whether in other fraternities’ philanthropies, intramurals, or clubs. With the momentum our chapter has now, we look forward to having higher membership and an even stronger chapter for years to come. We thank our alumni for all your support.



Fraternally,  
**Andrew Rash '05, HP 794**  
Commander  
(270) 776-1651  
andrew.rash@wku.edu



*Nick Hamilton '04, HP 789, Gabrille Jinnex, Chuck Moody '04, HP 791, Beau Windam '05, HP 803, Andrew Rash '05, HP 794, Andy Whitten '02, HP 775, and Ben Miller '02, HP 780 at the tailgate.*



Adam Reed '05, HP 800 (second from right) with new pledges and Little Sisters during Homecoming.

# Gamma Lambda Pledge Class

**Austin Adams**  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Hillsboro H.S.

**Joey Greenwell**  
Crofton, Ky.  
Christian County H.S.

**Matt Lisby**  
Shelby County, Ky.  
Shelby County H.S.

**Allan Miracle**  
Lexington, Ky.  
Lexington Catholic H.S.

**Dane Rodriguez**  
Louisville, Ky.  
South Oldham H.S.

**Rob Rowland**  
Lexington, Ky.  
Lexington Catholic H.S.

**Brady Chaney**  
Florence, Ky.  
Ryle H.S.

**Mike Herman**  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Father Ryan H.S.

**Drew Logsdon**  
Georgetown, Ky.  
Scott County H.S.

**Charlie Oddo**  
Nashville, Tenn.  
Father Ryan H.S.

**Sean Simmons**  
Louisville, Ky.  
Waggener H.S.

**J.P. Ferguson**  
Lexington, Ky.  
Lafayette H.S.

**Tye Lawson**  
Louisville, Ky.  
Waggener H.S.

**Dan Mancinelli**  
Atlanta, Ga.  
Blessed Trinity H.S.

**Nathan Pederson**  
Louisville, Ky.  
Ballard H.S.

**Tim Simpson**  
Rockcastle County, Ky.  
Rockcastle County H.S.

## ETA RHO'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

*Continued from page 1*

The Saturday morning breakfast was also fun, and, again, the food was great. It was nice being caught up on the progress of the fraternity and the new Greek Village. The ultimate surprise of the weekend for me was the pig roast at the Sigma Nu tailgate tent. If you have never tasted fresh, roasted pork, you don't know what you are missing!

WKU won the football game against Missouri State University (although it was close in the second half). After the game, everyone reconvened for a cocktail party at the hotel's convention center.

Photos from past and present were shown on a big screen projector, while everyone ate and mingled.

Following breakfast Sunday morning, and before everyone dispersed, **Bob Bristol '61, OK 69/HP 34** suggested that everyone put on their old grey bonnet until they all met again. Then he and **Harold Brantley '59, HP 40/OK 44** led a rousing rendition of "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet." As everyone said their good-byes, I witnessed true brotherly love and respect for one another. These men are clearly part of a wonderful organization

that has flourished for many years. As always, I left with more happy Eta Rho memories.

Many thanks go to **Joe Natcher '76, HP 293** and all of the brothers who make these reunions so special. God bless all of you and your families. I hope to see everyone again in 2010.



Sincerely,  
Cookie Whitehouse  
Little Sister '67-'71  
Sweetheart '71



Photos on cover: 1 Brothers Jay Horton '63, HP 35/OK 88, John Coombs '55, HP 749/OK 9, Tony Scott '78, HP 323, and Jack Doyle '61, HP 1/OK 64 enjoy lunch before golf. 2 Brothers prepare for the start of the game at Crosswinds Golf Course. 3 Bill Griffith '74, HP 261, Marshall Galloway '69, HP 145, and Reed Morgan '64, HP 15 chat before they begin. 4 David Elson '90, Epsilon Mu 1052 (WKU's football coach), Roger Hinkle '79, HP 339, and Chris Zirkelbach '78, HP 334. Photos on page 3: 5 Eta Rhos gather at the Duck Shack Friday evening for a night of camaraderie and fun. 6 Tom Hart '66, HP 57 presents Jeff Morgan '77, HP 300 an award for his work as the home association president. 7 Andrew Rash '05, HP 794 gives a gift to Rob Horton '90, HP 538 for his service as an advisory board chairman. 8 Darrell Pierce '77, HP 310 receives an award from Tom Hart '66, HP 57 for his duties as treasurer for both the home association and advisory board. 9 Joe Natcher '76, HP 293 and his former pet pig. 10 Oma Krons and wives enjoy the food and festivities at the tailgate.

## Advisory Board

Executive Advisor  
**Rob Horton '90, HP 538**  
Hendersonville, Tenn.  
(615) 882-6614  
rhorton@xtensiainc.com

Finance Advisor  
**Dean Montgomery '90, HP 540**  
Nashville, Tenn.

Candidate Education Advisor  
**Jon House '95, HP 648**  
Bowling Green, Ky.

Recruitment Advisor  
**Mike Simpson '82, HP 414**  
Bowling Green, Ky.

Alumni Relations and Social Advisor  
**Jason Mallory '89, HP 534**  
Nashville, Tenn.

Philanthropy Advisor  
**Will Fuqua '90, HP 546**  
Nashville, Tenn.

House Corporation Advisor  
**Brad Williams '92, HP 592**  
Bowling Green, Ky.

## Alumni Officers

Eta Rho Alumni Association President  
**Joe Natcher '76, HP 293**  
(270) 842-3463  
joenatcher@southernfoodsi.com

Eta Rho Home Association Inc. President  
**Brad Williams '92, HP 592**  
(270) 782-3763  
blw3435@aol.com

Treasurer (Eta Rho Home & Alumni Association)  
**Darrell Pierce '77, HP 458**  
drpnbg@aol.com

Secretary (Eta Rho Home & Alumni Association)  
**Tom Hart '66, HP 57**  
tom@bhtw.com

## Chapter Officers

Commander  
**Andrew Rash '05, HP 794**  
Franklin, Ky.  
(270) 776-1651  
andrew.rash@wku.edu

Lt. Commander  
**Andy Vandiver '05, HP 795**  
Island, Ky.

Treasurer  
**Tim McClanahan '05, HP 802**  
Falmouth, Ky.

Recorder  
**Adam Reed '05, HP 800**  
Lexington, Ky.

Pledge Marshall  
**Ben Miller '03, HP 780**  
Louisville, Ky.

# Give Back to the Fraternity that Continues Giving to You

As we progress in the *Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future* Campaign, I find that there are still a lot of questions about what we are doing and why. I would like to share some thoughts as to why the Eta Rho alumni are pulling together to provide a safe and comfortable home for our undergraduate members.

Most of us never gave a lot of thought as to whether or not we had a house or who provided it. We just had a home! That legacy goes back many years to the Oma Kron cabins and then to the present house at 1311 College. Our predecessors, for the most part, have always provided us a home. It is now time to move forward as 1311 is tired and outdated for today's student.

If we are to expect the best from our young brothers of Sigma Nu, we need to provide them the best. To get the best quality young men, we, as the alumni, need to step up to the plate and provide the new house we all need. I want our young members to be able to enjoy their time of brotherhood in an adequately equipped facility.

Like many others, I gave a little more to this building campaign than I ever anticipated, but I also have received much more than I ever expected from my brotherhood. Please give your pledge to the building fund if you have not already done so—and give a little more than you thought you would. You will be glad you did!

The site of the Greek Village has once again changed—and again for the better! The village will be along a newly aligned 14th Street at Center Street. You can view the site at [www.etarho.org](http://www.etarho.org).

WKU will be providing the land to us at no cost—not a lease, but a deed! The housing corporations will form an organization to share common area expenses and operating guidelines. We will design and build on our site within those guidelines. The site should be ready next summer, so we need to be ready!



Be a part of the future!

Fraternally,  
**Tom Hart '66, HP 57**  
Campaign Vice Chairman  
tom@bhtw.com

*"To get the best quality young men, we, as the alumni, need to step up to the plate and provide the new house we all need."*

<b>Western Kentucky University</b>	<a href="http://www.wku.edu">www.wku.edu</a>
<b>WKU Athletics</b>	<a href="http://www.wkusports.com">www.wkusports.com</a>
<b>National Fraternity</b>	<a href="http://www.sigmanu.org">www.sigmanu.org</a>
<b>Eta Rho Chapter</b>	<a href="http://www.etarho.org">www.etarho.org</a>



# Thank You Generous Brothers and Friends for Committing \$540,180

Thanks to the generosity and loyalty of the following Eta Rho brothers and friends, \$540,180 has been committed to the *Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future* Campaign. These men recognize the need for a new chapter house in order to continue Sigma Nu's strong presence on the Western Kentucky University campus for years to come.

All donors contributing a minimum of \$1,000 to the campaign, over a five-year period, will be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the new chapter house. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to the Eta Rho Home Association Inc., P.O. Box 1201, Bowling Green, KY 42102.

## Legion of Honor Society

(\$100,000 and above)

## Oma Kron Society

(\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Bob L. Bristol '61, HP 34/OK 69  
James A. Scott '78, HP 323

## 1311 Brotherhood Society

(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Thomas F. Hart '66, HP 57  
Joe B. Natcher Jr. '76, HP 293  
Jeff D. Stone '77, HP 311  
Shane N. Van Meter '78, HP 321

## The Rock Society

(\$15,000 - \$24,999)

Harold E. Brantley '59, HP 40/OK 44  
Jeff Ralph '73, HP 220  
Timothy D. Huston '74, HP 243  
Darell R. Pierce '77, HP 310  
*In Memory of Joseph M. Aull '77, HP 306*  
Audrey Aull  
*In Memory of Joseph M. Aull '77, HP 306*

## Eta Rho Society

(\$10,000 - \$14,999)

Gen. Earl L. Doyle Jr. '61, HP 1/OK 64  
M. Reed Morgan '64, HP 15  
Gerald L. Willis '66, HP 64  
David N. Roberts '77, HP 296  
Elbert R. Jones Jr. '78, HP 330  
*In Memory of Todd O. Travis '78, HP 332*  
Michael L. Simpson '82, HP 414  
Kenneth O. Rush '83, HP 422  
Jason C. Mallory '89, HP 534  
R. Robert Horton '90, HP 538  
*In Memory of Mike Welch '89, HP 518*  
Bradley L. Williams '92, HP 592

## White Rose Society

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Ronald W. Morehead '63, HP 10/OK 99  
Charles F. Rice '64, HP 16/OK 109  
James W. Denhardt '65, HP 45  
Kenneth P. Bowman '69, HP 140  
Andrew R. Stahl '72, HP 204  
*In Memory of Craig Burns '73, HP 224*  
David W. Marcum '72, HP 208

Paul B. Calico, Esq. '73, HP 225  
*In Memory of Craig Burns '73, HP 224*  
Judge Rick A. Johnson '73, HP 229  
Paul M. Nation '73, HP 234  
Joseph E. Bunch '74, HP 241  
James R. Hilliard '76, HP 285  
T.L. Montgomery Jr. '77, HP 299  
Jeffrey T. Morgan '77, HP 300  
Randall D. Warmath '77, HP 304  
Michael V. Brodarick '77, HP 307  
*In Memory of Joseph M. Aull '77, HP 306*  
Kurt A. Crenshaw '81, HP 385  
Anonymous

## Black and Gold Society

(\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Randall Capps '62, HE 77  
Cookie Whitehouse  
Charles C. Fuller '58, OK 35  
Paul T. Fuller '62, OK 75  
*In Memory of Hub Reese '65, HP 5/OK 78*  
*and Jim Brown '60, OK 52*  
Joe W. Clifton '60, HP 31/OK 58  
Jay Horton '63, HP 35/OK 88  
*In Honor of Dr. William R. Hourigan*  
Earl E. Edmonds '65, HP 46  
John C. Ludwig '66, HP 60  
*In Memory of Frederick M. Dyrsen Jr. '64, HP 12*  
Dr. Paul E. Gerard III '67, HP 99  
*In Memory of Dennis Dearing '67, HP 86*  
John T. Hutton '68, HP 122  
Thomas E. Simpson '68, HP 126  
Joe F. Glasser '70, HP 159  
Richard N. Vilines '70, HP 162  
Alan H. Vilines '70, HP 169  
Dr. Jack G. Glasser '71, HP 177  
Edwin E. Minard II '71, HP 193  
*In Honor of Randall Capps '62, HE 77*  
Richard V. Wood '74, HP 250  
Gregory H. Carter '74, HP 253  
David N. Ratliff, HP 268  
Hal W. Shunk III '76, HP 290  
Jeff D. Link '79, HP 340  
Thomas J. Nord '79, HP 342  
*In Memory of Joseph M. Aull '77, HP 306*  
*and Todd Travis '78, HP 332*  
Louis F. Lesemann '80, HP 354  
James S. Gardner '81, HP 372  
John W. Reed '83, HP 429  
Gary R. Brodarick '84, HP 431  
John P. Simms '85, HP 449

John G. Carter '87, HP 493  
Bryan R. Cherry '89, HP 527  
*In Memory of Mike Welch, HP 518*  
Robert H. Foster '89, HP 531  
Dean S. Montgomery '90, HP 540  
David A. Vanderpool '93, HP 608  
Jason S. Neagle '95, HP 659  
S. John Coombs Jr. '55, HP 749  
Anthony F. Farnoli '55, HP 750/OK 11  
*In Memory of Chester Corder '56, OK 17*  
*In Honor of Mike Moore*  
Kenneth A. Bragg '58, HP 754/OK 34  
Richard M. Roberson, HP 758/OK 43  
*In Memory of Chester Corder '56, OK 17*  
Brian Schorr '02, HP 764  
Jeremy Caldwell '02, HP 765  
Andrew Whitten '02, HP 775  
Taylor A. LaGrange '02, HP 776\*  
Adam McCarty '02, HP 777\*  
Ben Miller '02, HP 780\*  
Chase E. Malone '04, HP 787\*

## Five Arm Society

(\$500 - \$999)

Walter D. Richards '70, HE 4  
Donald L. Timmons '65, HP 51  
Glenn E. Racine '66, HP 81  
Patrick A. Tierney '00, HP 732  
*In Memory of Danny Bratcher '00, HP 711*  
Max Bradley '03, HP 779\*  
Addam Pence '02, HP 781\*  
Nick Hamilton '04, HP 789\*

\*Undergraduate Members

## ETA RHO Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of November 16, 2005

695 Active Alumni  
103 Contributors  
\$540,180  
Total Commitments

# ALUMNI NEWS

## Chapter Eternal

**John Conyers '56, OK 16**, Jacksonville, Fla., entered Chapter Eternal on January 22, 2005. He was buried with full military honors as he was retired from the U.S. Navy and a member of the Fleet Reserve.

**Roy T. Gentry '65, HP 47** entered Chapter Eternal November, 5, 2005, in El Paso, Texas. He was married to his wife, Nancy, for almost 40 years, prior to her death just two months ago. They have two sons together, Thomas and Lee. Roy and Nancy traveled the globe together and visited 47 countries. Before joining the El Paso Electric Co. in January 1986, Roy was a professor and debate coach at the University of Texas at El Paso and acted as a consultant to the CEO of the El Paso Electric Co.

**Kent Stone '72, HP 211**, Allentown, Pa., passed on to Chapter Eternal November 14, 2005, after suffering a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, Kathy, and daughter, Kristen.

## Alumni News

**Samuel "John" Coombs Jr. '55, HP 749/OK 9** reports, "Kay and I are building a new home in Beverly Hills, Fla., and should be moving in by early 2006." The two are currently living in Horse Cave, Ky. John is a retired territory sales manager for Citgo Petroleum. You can contact him via e-mail at [jcoombs@scrtc.com](mailto:jcoombs@scrtc.com).

**Dickie M. Roberson '58, OK HP 758/OK 43** married his high school and college sweetheart, Jo Meredith, on October 22, 2004. The two reside in Bowling Green, Ky.

**Richard M. Abell Sr. '61, OK 68** remarried this past October to Susan Young. He has retired as the president/CEO of Carondelet Health System and has moved with Susan to New Port Richey, Fla. You can send an e-mail to him at [rmikeabell@aol.com](mailto:rmikeabell@aol.com).

**Donald H. Winters '65, HP 52** retired May 31, 2005, from the U.S. Small Business Administration. He and his wife, Alice, live in Gallatin, Tenn., and have two children, Todd and Tracey. Send an e-mail to Donald at [donald.winters@sba.gov](mailto:donald.winters@sba.gov).

**Donald R. Mullins '73, HP 219** is retired from state government. He and his wife, Marietta, live in Louisville, Ky. Donald is an

# Eta Rho NEWS

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ETA RHO HOME ASSOCIATION  
OF SIGMA NU INC.  
P.O. Box 1201  
BOWLING GREEN, KY 42102

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Attention:** *This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Western Kentucky University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

adjunct professor instructing manufacturing/engineering technology at Indiana University Southeast. He can be reached via e-mail at [tmulco@aol.com](mailto:tmulco@aol.com).

**Rick A. Johnson '73, HP 229** is a judge with the Kentucky Court of Appeals. He and his wife, Lucretia, live in Symsonia, Ky. Rick is a candidate for Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court for 2006. He has been a judge for the Kentucky Court of Appeals for 14 years now. Contact Rick via e-mail at [judgejohnson@aol.com](mailto:judgejohnson@aol.com).

**Dave N. Roberts '77, HP 296** lives in Owensboro, Ky., with his wife, Claire. The two recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. Dave is serving on WKU's National Alumni Board, along with Brothers **Kent Preston '90, HP 539** and **Tom Emberton '81, HP 386**. He works with Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline as manager of regulatory affairs. He can be e-mailed at [david.n.roberts@sscgp.com](mailto:david.n.roberts@sscgp.com).

**Craig L. Ballenger '81, HP 390** is the senior project manager for HCA in Nashville, Tenn.

He and his wife, Catherine, have one daughter, Ava, and live in Hendersonville, Tenn. E-mail Craig at [cballenger@comcast.net](mailto:cballenger@comcast.net).

**Don T. Ray '89, HP 516** works in Franklin, Tenn., as the vice president of Van Meter Insurance. He and his wife, Dawn, have two children, Nolan and Emily. The family lives in Brentwood, Tenn. Don's e-mail address is [dray6474@comcast.net](mailto:dray6474@comcast.net).

**Todd Mansfield '90, HP 552** resides in Elkton, Ky., with Hannah, his wife, and their two daughters, Alison and Abigail. Todd is the vice president of United Southern Bank in Elkton and can be reached via e-mail at [tmansfield@usbky.com](mailto:tmansfield@usbky.com).

**Ryan Hackett '91, HP 588** owns E Commerce Solutions and lives in Nashville, Tenn., with his wife, Liz, and their children: Krista, Robbie, and Bella. He can be reached at [ryanhackett@comcast.net](mailto:ryanhackett@comcast.net).

Send your alumni news to  
**Tom Hart '66, HP 57** at [tom@bhw.com](mailto:tom@bhw.com).