BSC around the world

When C. Michele Johns ’88 (above, left) traveled to Montevideo, Uruguay, several years ago to join a Methodist mission program, she little expected to find a fellow BSC graduate in the community. But she soon met Rev. Robin Pierce Lambert ’86, who was serving as pastor to the English-speaking congregation of Christ Church. Robin’s husband, Navy Commander Vince Lambert, was posted at the U.S. Embassy.

Johns lived in Montevideo from September 2000 to December 2001, working as a teacher at the Instituto de Buena Voluntad, a community center for special need adolescents and adults through the United Methodist Mission Intern Program. On a return visit in 2003, she was joined by friend and fellow BSC grad Katherine D. Hudson ’87. Together (as pictured), Johns, Hudson, and Rev. Lambert shared an impromptu BSC gathering. Johns now is living in California and pursuing an M.Div. degree at Claremont School of Theology. Hudson lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., and has worked in Manhattan as a physical therapist at Mt. Sinai Sports Therapy Center since 2000.

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Author Dr. Sesa Jeter Naslund of Louisville, Ky., was a participant at the September conference “Conflict in Southern Writing” at Troy State University in Montgomery. In a special event of the weekend, she received the 2004 Hall-Waters Southern Prize at a ceremony at the Rosa Parks Museum and Library.

Dr. Harry William Mueller III continues working for Saudi Aramco in Saudi Arabia and, despite the recent increase of terrorist activities in that country, says he still prefers living and working there to living and working in Houston.

In July, Jacqueline Carroll Buck ended a 20-year tenure as director of the Morgan-Lawrence County Chapter of the American Red Cross and moved to Montgomery as director of the American Red Cross of Central Alabama. In her new post, she will head a staff of 36 employees serving 450,000 people in 13 counties surrounding Montgomery. Buck is mother of Amanda Buck Varella ’95.

Bob Clem of New Paltz, N.Y., is completing his full-length feature film Company K, a dramatization of the World War I novel by Mobile author William March. Meanwhile, fans of his work enjoyed a September showing of William March/Company K (scenes from the upcoming film intermingled with documentary footage on March) at Birmingham’s Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival. Also, William March/Company K and Clem’s earlier award-winning documentary Big Jim Folsom: The Two Faces of Populism were featured prominently in the October lineup of Alabama Public Television.

According to a July 25, 2004, article in the Talladega Daily Home, Dr. Robert Gray, a highly regarded pediatrician in Sylacauga for more than 40 years, has been named a “Health Care Hero” by the Alabama Hospital Association. The honor was conferred during National Hospital Week, May 9-15, 2004, at a reception and luncheon in Montgomery. Gray was among 10 honorees to receive this first-ever award from the AHA, which plans to continue the awards annually as a way of honoring Alabama’s health care workers.

Gray’s nomination received hearty support from co-workers, as well as from former patients and their grateful parents, many of whom offered letters of tribute citing his devotion to his work.

In addition to maintaining his busy practice, Gray has taught pediatrics for the UAB Family Practice Residency where he has been named Outstanding Preceptor for the past four years. In 2002, he received the Master Pediatrician Award from Children’s Hospital.

In early October, Dr. Lawrence B. Durham made two invited lectures in Vienna, Austria, at a workshop on “The Aging Workforce” sponsored by the U.N.’s International Atomic Energy Agency. He also received the Training Excellence Award from the American Nuclear Society at its mid-November meeting in Washington, D.C. Durham’s career has been split between the U.S. Navy, higher education, the nuclear power industry, and, presently, consulting in workplace learning and performance through his company, Sterling Learning Services Inc. He has served as director of development at BSC, dean of admissions at the University of Alabama, corporate training manager for TVA Nuclear, and vice president for training at Ontario Power Generation in Toronto. He and wife Anne Stimson Durham ’65 live in Vestavia Hills, where they enjoy time with their two children and three grandchildren. She serves on the BSC Arts Council, and both sing in the Vestavia Hills United Methodist chancel choir.

Dr. Micheal E. “Mike” Harper has joined the Urban Ministry in Birmingham, an inner city mission of the United Methodist Church, as director of development and volunteer recruitment.

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