

THE HILLSDALE COLLEGE PRESIDENT'S CLUB NEWS

MAY 2009 ~ VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1

SCHOLARSHIPS RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE

How Hillsdale College Provides an Education Based on Liberty

President's Club members, students, parents and friends alike have long been attracted to Hillsdale College for its principled stance on independence, its adherence to America's founding, and its promotion of American constitutionalism.

Hillsdale firmly believes that the federal government should not be involved in higher education. It goes to great lengths to maintain its excellence and provide students with every opportunity—and every form of financial aid possible—to achieve “sound learning.” Scholarships are key to this purpose.

Hillsdale College students do not receive grants, loans, merit awards or scholarships from the federal or state governments. The College's replacement program for federal grants and loans began in the fall of 1985 and has expanded over the years.

Most recently, Hillsdale began replacing Michigan grants and scholarships available to residents of this state. In the past 24 years, the number of named scholarships established for general schol-

arship support has more than doubled, while the number of named scholarships for specific purposes has increased by approximately 90 percent.

The College's stewardship of the endowed and annually remitted scholarships, all privately funded, is exemplary. Despite the current economic downturn, Hillsdale has been able to award ample scholarship assistance this academic year to deserving students who meet such criteria as academic performance, financial need, or special talent or leadership abilities. In fact, Hillsdale awarded more scholarships this academic year than planned, due to last fall's large incoming class and a high overall retention rate of 97.1 percent.



Hillsdale College students do not receive grants, loans, merit awards or scholarships from the federal or state governments.

The College expects to meet the need for scholarship assistance in the 2009-2010 year as well. During the remaining years of the Founders Campaign—which concludes in 2012—the College is seeking an endowment goal of \$43 million to establish scholarships and private loan funds for undergraduates.

True to the College's longstanding practice of stewardship, the Hillsdale Col-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



During the remaining years of the Founders Campaign, Hillsdale College seeks an endowment of \$43 million to establish scholarships and private loan funds so that students might receive financial assistance while pursuing a liberal arts education.

IN THIS ISSUE

Jim and Gwen Steele..... PAGE 3

Scholarship Recipients
at Hillsdale College..... PAGE 4-5

President's Club Certificate
Recipients PAGE 6-9

New PC Members..... PAGE 9

Letter
from the Director PAGE 11

Calendar of Events PAGE 12

THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB

The Hillsdale College President's Club News
May 2009 • Volume 23 • Number 1

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time for Recovery

The autumn of 2008 brought events in politics and economics that touch upon the meaning of our country and how it shall be governed in the future. These events are, as Lincoln said of the results of the Civil War, both “fundamental and astounding.” They move us another step away from the principles and institutions that have made our country both good and great.

It is now time for recovery, both economic and political. The goal of that recovery is simple to state: We must regain the art of constitutional government. The means are also simple to state: We must begin by studying that art.

When I mention the art of constitutional government, I mean simply the art that provides good laws directed to encouraging free

people to govern themselves. The economic pressures currently facing us will pass, God willing. None of those problems need be fundamental. What is fundamental is the purpose and function of our political system. Either we shall have limited government, in which a few vital things are tended to with a careful eye and strong but limited powers, or we shall attempt to allocate the labor and capital of the nation by force of law.

The beauty of constitutional government consists first of all in an appreciation for the place of man in nature, not so high as the angels, not so low as the beasts. To recognize that place is to recognize that, just as government is necessary, it is for the same reason necessary that it be limited. When one sees that these principles are written in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, one begins to see what a revolutionary thing was achieved here in our nation.

Thankfully, at Hillsdale College, these principles and the books explaining them have been part of our curriculum for more than 160 years. Today, we teach them at least as rigorously as any institution on earth. I am pleased to report that we have now begun to teach them to our students and friends in Washington, D.C., where our Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Center for Constitutional Studies and Citizenship has opened.

The purpose of the Center, like the purpose of the College, is to teach. We teach our own students who are in Washington serving as interns or on fellowships. We will also teach those of any age who have the two qualifications to be successful students: They must be willing, and they must be able. We believe, and also we pray, that our activity persisting in that city will reignite a knowledge, then a respect, and finally a love, for the things our nation has given to its own citizens and to the world.



Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry P. Arnns".

Larry P. Arnns
President

DEDICATED TO THEIR ADOPTED ALMA MATER

Jim and Gwen Steele — Blowing Rock, North Carolina

One of the remarkable things about The President's Club is how many of its members have "adopted" Hillsdale as their school. With dedication and loyalty one might expect of an alumnus or parent, these friends of Hillsdale have given generously of their time, talents and treasure to ensure that the College continues to uphold and advance its mission. Jim and Gwen Steele of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, have personified this dedication since joining The President's Club in 2004, and they enthusiastically promote Hillsdale whenever and however they can.

Jim grew up in New England and graduated from Colgate University with a degree in economics. He worked in the commercial furniture business, many of those years with Herman Miller in Washington, D.C. Gwen, a native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, graduated from the University of South Carolina with an English major. After a few years of teaching and pursuing graduate studies in English, she went to work for IBM in sales, marketing and management, first in Charlotte, North Carolina, and then in Washington, D.C., where she met Jim.

Five years ago, Jim retired and got involved with remodeling and selling houses, and Gwen made a career change as well, going into real estate. About that same time, the Steeles's friend and fellow Hillsdale President's Club member, Ann Lauterbach, put them on the *Imprimis* mailing list. In October 2004, the Steeles made their first trip to campus for the Founders Campaign Gala and a CCA on Ronald Reagan. They quickly joined The President's Club.

"We realized then that there was something special about Hillsdale College," Jim said. "We met so many people who are not alumni, yet wholeheartedly support the school. We decided then and there that Hillsdale would be the college we would support."

Since then, the Steeles have attended numerous Hillsdale events on campus and around the country. In 2006, they hosted a luncheon at their country club, featuring Charles F. Kline Professor of History and Management Dr. Burton Folsom. The event drew 175 guests.

Additionally, Jim, who joined the Hillsdale Associates last fall, visits local high schools and gives presentations to students about Hillsdale. "When I tell the guidance counselors that I didn't go to Hillsdale, they can't believe it because I'm so passionate about the College," he said.

It is the teaching and learning that goes on in Hillsdale's class-

rooms, however, that most inspires the Steeles. "It's a thrill for me to sit in on classes," Jim said. "The students are always prepared and eager to participate and soak up knowledge. The professors are amazing and have unbelievable interpersonal skills."

"I love the freedom of discussion in the classrooms," Gwen added. "The professors really allow the students to think for themselves."

The Steeles recently established a scholarship to assist students with financial need who exhibit leadership in their church, community and on campus. The first award will be made this fall, and they look forward to helping many students attend Hillsdale, including their two young great-nephews. Jim has pledged to pay for their college education if and only if they attend Hillsdale College.

The Steeles personify the same leadership characteristics required of their scholarship recipients. They are involved at their church and belong to the Blowing Rock Historical Society and Blowing Rock Art and History Museum. Gwen volunteers at the community library, and Jim has participated in local government for several years. This fall, he will run for a position on the city council.

They have become some of Hillsdale's most passionate ambassadors as well, recruiting family and friends to support Hillsdale. Gwen's brother and sister-in-law, Ferrell and Marian Nolan of Atlanta, joined The President's Club. Jim has been working with his

congresswoman, Virginia Foxx, to set up an internship at her office for Hillsdale students, and last December, Congresswoman Foxx attended the Churchill Dinner and visited the Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Center for Constitutional Studies and Citizenship.

A solid liberal arts education grounded in the Western heritage offers the best preparation for students, according to the Steeles. "Hillsdale prepares students for life after school better than any other school," Jim said. "Its core curriculum is the best preparation." In fact, Jim has been reading the "Great Books" that students read in the core English 101-102 sequence.

"Hillsdale inculcates into its students a love for country and the principles on which America was founded, as well as an understanding of the Constitution, individual liberty and freedom," Jim and Gwen said. With such a strong foundation, the Steeles hope that many Hillsdale students will become leaders in this country and help restore America to its first principles.



Jim and Gwen Steele have been enthusiastic supporters of Hillsdale not only through membership in The President's Club but also by serving as ambassadors for the College wherever they go.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Daniel Baldwin, '09

As an accounting major, senior Daniel Baldwin truly appreciates the Academic Reward Challenge at Hillsdale College. Students participating in the program receive a low-interest loan that can be converted into an academic scholarship by maintaining a minimum 3.30 grade-point average, and the challenge is renewed every year for up to four years at Hillsdale.

"It really appeals to my 'sales' mentality," Baldwin said. "If you put in enough time to get the grades, you get a great reward."

The idea behind the program is to provide a second chance for students with high grades but somewhat lower test scores or high test scores but somewhat lower grade-point averages. Baldwin, a transfer student from Gurnee, Illinois, welcomed the challenge.

He initially attended the University of Illinois but learned quickly that he was not invested in his education there. Then he ran into a high school acquaintance who mentioned playing football in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The next day, Baldwin scheduled a visit to Hillsdale.

"I just fell in love with it," he said. "I really clicked with the guys on the team, and I thought I'd fit in perfectly here."

Transitioning to Hillsdale life was difficult but worthwhile. Baldwin enjoyed the small classes with professors who knew his name, and he approached football with a renewed passion for the sport. Baldwin also joined Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and later became president. Moreover, he thrived in his accounting courses and furthered this interest through the Accounting Club and the Alpha Beta Psi accounting honorary.

When his football career was cut short because of a worsening heart murmur, Baldwin continued as a student-coach.



His responsibilities—as a non-scholarship athlete—included working with the defensive line, managing videos of practices and games, and helping to lead off-season training.

"I've had a blast as a student-coach," Baldwin said. "The guys made me feel fully involved, and last fall, I received a little bit of money as a reward. That was something Coach [Keith Otterbein] didn't have to do, but he did it for me."

Baldwin's gratitude is unmistakable, which he makes a point of demon-

strating by hosting recruits and their families on campus. When he graduates this spring and begins his pursuit of a career in public accounting, he will take a part of being a Charger with him.

"Hillsdale will always be my home," Baldwin said, "and this team will always be my family."

Sarah Gillary, '10

Ministry could be called Sarah Gillary's comfort zone. She attended a high school that was connected with her church, and since coming to Hillsdale College, the junior from Beverly Hills, Michigan, has spent much of her



time in the service of others. She is a member of the leadership team for Hillsdale Christian Fellowship, co-founder of a weekly worship gathering called The Well, and a volunteer at Crossroads Farm, a local ministry for middle school youth.

At the same time, Gillary's years on campus have challenged her in ways that she never imagined. And she is quite thankful for being pushed beyond her own expectations.

"I wasn't aware of what Hillsdale expected of freshmen when I came

here," she said. "It was a tough transition, but it was a perfect fit in academics and people."

Gillary got her first glimpse of the Hillsdale experience during the summer before her freshman year. She traveled to Italy with one of the College's high school study-abroad trips, and a whole new world was unveiled before her eyes. It was, she said, a phenomenal opportunity.

The trip was also an introduction to Hillsdale's academic standards. Gillary received a merit scholarship, but that didn't make the college environment any less daunting. Being away from her two sisters made matters worse.

Nonetheless, Gillary adjusted quickly. She entered her Western Heritage course with a mix of apathy and fear; now, she couldn't be more excited to earn a bachelor's degree in history.

"It finally clicked that history is a study of the human condition and how to move forward with an understanding of the past, and it gives you an opportunity not to be a product of our generation," she said. "I don't want the way I think to be shaped by the views that are prevalent in society today."

Gillary, who is also a Christian studies minor, plans to take this perspective into the classroom as a teacher at a classical Christian school. Her hope is to foster a learning environment like the one given to her on campus—one enriched by encouraging friends and professors who hold steadfastly to their ideals.

"You learn in a permanent way at Hillsdale, and being able to talk to professors in their offices makes the learning experience so much more real," Gillary said. "You really begin to cherish Hillsdale College's principles. It's exciting to know that everything that Hillsdale stands for will be a part of my past once I leave."

ΓS AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Andrew Curtis, '11

Andrew Curtis initially didn't even consider attending Hillsdale College. He figured the College's refusal of all federal subsidies meant that he would receive little, if any, financial assistance. Then his family went to a Hillsdale event that left quite an impression, so Curtis applied, and he received a Hillsdale Tradition Award along with his acceptance.

"Without the Hillsdale Tradition Award, I probably wouldn't be here," Curtis said of the half-tuition scholarship given to qualified students with a 3.00 grade-point average. "I've found a phenomenal atmosphere for study, and the level of academics here has been unbeatable."

Curtis, a sophomore from Arlington, Washington, chose to major in European studies because its interdisciplinary requirements offered a variety of subjects that he could pursue. Moreover, European studies fit well with his continued interest in German, his other major. Curtis received the Lillian Libby Rick Study Abroad Scholarship and spent four weeks last summer at the Universität des Saarlandes in Saarbrücken, Germany.

He has always enjoyed traveling and engaging new cultures. After graduating from Hillsdale, Curtis is considering the field of linguistics or foreign relations, perhaps for the military or even the Vatican City embassy in Washington, D.C.

In the meantime, as much as he has appreciated the core curriculum at Hillsdale, Curtis looks forward to taking upper-level courses in his majors. He also hopes to keep studying Latin, which he considers an important part of his Catholic life, and to learn Greek in his junior and senior years.

"The faculty here have just been amazing," Curtis said. "We've got some top-notch scholars."

To complement his scholarly endeavors, Curtis takes part in the Catholic Society, Students for Life, and Swing Club, and he is treasurer of the Delta Phi Alpha German honorary. He also works in the mailroom and tutors fellow students in German in order to fulfill the Hillsdale Tradition Award's work requirement of eight hours per week. He certainly has the credentials; this spring, Curtis received an honorarium from the German Department for outstanding performance.

"For being such a small school that doesn't receive any federal funding, it sure seems like the administration runs a tight ship. They're very responsible," Curtis said. "At the same time, I've been amazed at the generosity of the school."



Jazmin Williams, '10

At the first collegiate indoor track meet of the 2006 season, the Hillsdale College coaching staff made a last-minute decision to have Jazmin Williams compete in the 400-meter dash. It was supposed to be a trial run in a non-marquee event for the freshman from Brownstown, Michigan, but then she clocked a 55.06—good enough for the school record and an automatic bid to the national meet.

"I didn't even know what nationals meant at the time," said Williams, now in her fourth year at Hillsdale.

She will return to Hillsdale next year to fulfill one more season of eligibility in indoor and outdoor track due to a redshirt year, and hopes to earn yet another appearance on the national stage. That goal might seem lofty for someone who wasn't supposed to run the 400-meter in the first place, but Williams has a proven track record of success. Since that inaugural race, she has qualified for the national meet on three other occasions and has missed earning All-American honors by the slimmest of margins.

"As a freshman, I was scared. I didn't know what to expect," Williams said. "I felt a lot of pressure after I ran that 55, but even if I don't run that time again, I'll still be able to trust in my coaches to train me."

Williams first learned of Hillsdale after being offered an athletic scholarship and was impressed by the College's employment rate within six months of graduation. She developed an interest in chemistry while on campus, and she recently switched her major to biochemistry. A career in medicine, possibly in nursing, has become a distinct possibility.

Also possible is competing professionally once her Charger days are done. Until then, Williams's main focus is to finish her collegiate career knowing that she could not have run faster. It's the kind of competitiveness—unassuming yet intensely driven—that led the track coaches to inform Williams in her sophomore year that she would be a team captain in the future.

Her style does not lend itself to being vocal, though Williams is working on being more outspoken. Rather, Williams leads by example and in her own way, such as giving freshmen a little extra support by sharing the advantages at different tracks and discussing how to set priorities as a student-athlete.

"It helps that I'm older now. I've learned how to balance my time, and I've gained more confidence," she said. "I'm looking forward to graduating and knowing that I ran my best times."



THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE



*Mary Buerger
CCA II
Hillsdale College*



Jerry and Jo Hein
CCA II
Hillsdale College*



*Sharon Pitts
CCA II
Hillsdale College*



*Jean Muffitt
CCA II
Hillsdale College*



*Lee and Jan Musser
President's Club Reception
Colorado Springs, Colorado*



*Josh Baker
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Chris Hardy and Terry Knockel
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Al and Ruth Strachocki
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Claude Zahar and Cynthia Sachs
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Dave and Toni Ecker
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Bill and Marilyn Creager
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*John Tomasek
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Craig and Michelle Rathbone
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Ed and Susan Meell
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Michael and Florence Mason
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Richard Haas
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*

*These members of The President's Club at Hillsdale College have upgraded to a higher level of giving.

THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE



*Joe and Jobi Hasse
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Jeff and Jo Ann Parrish
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Clarence and Ginni Thomas
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Michael and Marilyn Counen
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*E. Grice (and Jane) Galleher
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Ron Robinson and Michelle Easton
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Bruce and Joanne Evans
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Arthur and Sue Ann Peterson
Churchill Dinner
Washington, D.C.*



*Sheryl Perry
President's Club Reception
St. Augustine, Florida*



*Robert and Shirley Holliday
President's Club Reception
Orlando, Florida*



*Don Davis
President's Club Reception
Orlando, Florida*



*Rose Mary Ogram
President's Club Reception
Orlando, Florida*



*Tom (and Susan) Purdy
President's Club Reception
Orlando, Florida*



*Marshall and Claire Evans
President's Club Reception
Vero Beach, Florida*



*Matthew and Anne Smith
President's Club Reception
Vero Beach, Florida*



*Clifford and Lucille Taylor
CCA III
Hillsdale College*

THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE



*Troy and Renée Roth
CCA III
Hillsdale College*



*David and Kimberly Bingham
President's Club Reception
Houston, Texas*



*Tim and Sally Wallace
President's Club Reception
Houston, Texas*



*Richard and Peggy Jernigan
President's Club Reception
Houston, Texas*



*William and Lucy Carl
President's Club Reception
Houston, Texas*



*John and Jes Hagale
President's Club Reception
Houston, Texas*



*Donald and Teresa Ecker
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Warren and Nancy Rasmussen
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Tom and Mary Sharp
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Raymond Hite and Sue Yarusso
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Jack and Janet MaCris
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Fred and Karen Butler
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Will and Eunice Peterson
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*David and Beverly Hurley
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Tom and Jony Wallace
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*Henry and Louise Mahshie
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*

THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE



*Tom and Veetsie Ryan
National Leadership Seminar
Naples, Florida*



*(Jose and) Charlene Alentado
Parents Weekend
Hillsdale College*



*Bill and Jane Steadman
Parents Weekend
Hillsdale College*



*Frank and Gaye Auman
President's Club Reception
Atlanta, Georgia*

THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB

of HILLSDALE COLLEGE
proudly welcomes
the following new members:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Mr. Joshua E. Baker | Virginia | Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mueller | Arizona |
| Mr. and Mrs. W. Donald Bean | Ontario, Canada | Mrs. Gloria Muir | Massachusetts |
| Dr. and Mrs. Kevin Beyer* | Michigan | Mr. and Mrs. Evan P. Myers | Illinois |
| Mr. and Mrs. David F. Bingham | Texas | Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Peckham | Wyoming |
| Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Brown | Pennsylvania | Ms. Judith M. Ratcliff | Indiana |
| Mr. and Mrs. Dennis R. Brubaker | Michigan | Mr. and Mrs. Allan R. Roffman | Florida |
| Mr. and Mrs. William Carruthers | Washington | Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Root* | Michigan |
| Mr. and Mrs. James P. Clevenger | Ohio | Mrs. Merry Ann Sauls | Ohio |
| Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Collins | Missouri | Mr. and Mrs. James P. Selm | Ohio |
| Dr. Tom Conner | Michigan | Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Sharp | Georgia |
| Mr. Donald D. Ecker | Georgia | Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Snider* | Michigan |
| Mr. and Mrs. John Gordon* | Michigan | Mr. Mack Stanley | Arizona |
| Mr. and Mrs. Mark Grant* | Indiana | Mr. Phillip M. Stay | California |
| Mr. and Mrs. Russell R. Hammer | North Carolina | Mrs. Audrey Stokes | Ohio |
| Mr. and Mrs. David B. Hensch* | Michigan | Justice and Mrs. Clarence Thomas | Virginia |
| Mr. and Mrs. Lee E. Hoffman | Nevada | Mr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Van Andel | Michigan |
| Mr. F. Robert Hozian | Michigan | Mrs. Sally M. Wallace | Texas |
| Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hubbard* | Michigan | Dr. and Mrs. Mark H. Williams* | Indiana |
| Mr. and Mrs. Christopher H. Koerber | California | Mr. and Mrs. Jerry F. Wilson | Missouri |
| Mr. and Mrs. David Martin* | Ohio | Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey A. Yeutter* | Michigan |

* Current parents of Hillsdale College students

SCHOLARSHIPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lege Board of Trustees recently announced a freeze on tuition, room, board and fees for the 2009-2010 year. Meanwhile, the College is reducing its overall budgets by approximately 10 percent.

Currently, Hillsdale's five-year annualized tuition increases average 4.4 percent. This freeze will reduce that average to 3.4 percent. The strength of its management strategy has actually placed Hillsdale College in a financial position that is better than most other schools. On December 30, 2008, the performance of the College's endowment was down 18.5 percent, while the Standard & Poors Index reported a 37 percent decrease in college endowments nationwide.

The College's Financial Aid Office oversees the awarding of scholarships and often works with donors to assure the criteria are being met. Rich Moeggenberg, director of Financial Aid, is pleased with this year's scholarship program and is optimistic about the coming year. "Overall, the scholarship picture remains very positive," Moeggenberg said. "The budget recently approved by the board shows a net increase in scholarship monies available for 2009-2010."

Complimenting the College's management strategy, Moeggenberg stresses the care taken to make as few reductions as possible in other areas of the school's operations in order to ensure that students are not affected. He looks forward to working with the Institutional Advancement staff in the coming year as scholarship fund-

ing is secured, adding that the board and administration are making a "significant commitment to students, their families and the College's mission."

Michigan resident Christa Scharp, '09, is majoring in French and marketing management. She currently receives the Ralph L. Polk Memorial Scholarship for students majoring in business. This prestigious award was established by President's Club member Nancy Knorr Polk. The Polk Scholarship not only honors Christa's record of academic excellence and leadership abilities, and assists her with college expenses, but also enables her to attend the college of her choice.

Christa was initially drawn to Hillsdale upon learning of its fine record of placement. However, she quickly realized the many reasons behind Hillsdale's national reputation as a quality liberal arts institution devoted to its students. "I remember being impressed with the intimate class sizes as well as the personal attention and genuine interest the professors had in their students," she said.

Christa is grateful for the skills she has refined as a result of studying marketing and French, and being involved in the campus Greek life. In June, she will be working for Stryker Instruments in Kalamazoo and is eager to use these skills in the workplace.

She is enthusiastic about Hillsdale's academic programs and the intellectual growth she has experienced over the past four years. "I have been stretched, challenged and given a thirst for knowledge." And about the well-rounded educational experience, she added, "Our core curriculum is the heart and soul of this college."

There is much to do in the coming year to ensure that students like Christa receive the recognition they deserve. Hillsdale is a teaching institution, dedicated to providing young people with the best classical liberal arts education in the land. All who teach and work here do so in partnership with the students and their parents. The support of President's Club members is vital to a strong scholarship program that helps today's students achieve their goals.



Senior Christa Scharp is the recipient of the Ralph L. Polk Memorial Scholarship.



The Financial Aid Office oversees the awarding of scholarships and often works with donors to assure the criteria are met. The College offers a variety of financial packages that encourage and reward the many talents of Hillsdale students, from merit and need-based assistance to fine arts and athletic scholarships.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear President's Club members,

I write this while the weather is still rainy and wintry. By the time you receive it, spring will have arrived in Michigan. Perhaps the world, too, will look a little brighter.

The policies coming out of Washington this winter have been breathtaking and chilling. The bailouts, the takeovers, the proposals to extend federal control of the economy in almost every conceivable area—and none of this with any concern for the enumerated powers given to the federal government in the Constitution. It is mind-boggling how our leaders, in the names of crisis and urgency, have bypassed discussion about the constitutionality or even the practical consequences of these sweeping policies. In scant weeks, Americans were left holding the bag of an unimaginable debt. The financial burden and the abridgement of freedom this represents to our children and grandchildren are incomprehensible.

You have read of Hillsdale's recent purchase of a 16,000-square-foot building near Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., now named the Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Center for Constitutional Studies and Citizenship. Given the remarkable events of the last six months, the acquisition could not have been more perfectly timed. Renovations to the building will begin this fall, and we expect programs there to be online fully by the fall of 2010. Work at the Kirby Center will have four major objectives:

- To enhance the education of Hillsdale undergraduates—and, in time, graduate students—on the ideas of constitutionalism, citizenship and statesmanship
- To promote, through various means, an improvement in American civic education
- To produce and market materials aimed at increasing the understanding of the Constitution among Americans at large
- To hold seminars and other educational events in Washington and elsewhere with the goal of restoring the ideas of limited government, federalism and the separation of powers to a central role in American politics

Who more suited than Hillsdale to lead the debate to restore America's understanding of the relationship between a republic and its free citizens? May we each determine that the ideas and principles for which our Founding Fathers lived and many died will again be revered before they are irretrievably lost. As progress continues, we will keep you informed as we seek your partnership.

On a less serious and certainly more fun note, please consider, or perhaps reconsider, joining us on a wonderful cruise this coming July 28 through August 9 as we journey from Venice to Athens aboard the six-star *Crystal Serenity*. A two-day Athens post-cruise with Victor Davis Hanson immediately follows. An updated brochure is enclosed. Crystal has sweetened their original pricing by providing an additional \$1,000 per person (\$2,000 per couple) in shipboard credits to all travelers, which can be applied to any shipboard expense—including gratuities, wine and cocktails, shore excursions, spa services, and purchases in the ship's gift and boutique shops.

If you would like more information, cabin pricing, or to reserve a cabin, please call the Hillsdale College Cruise Desk at 1-800-797-9519. The speakers and itinerary for this particular cruise are truly exceptional! I'm hoping these additional incentives will motivate you to join old and new Hillsdale friends for a fantastic journey through the history, culture and stunning beauty of the Mediterranean. Meet me in Venice?



Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon Van Horn". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional but personal style.

Shannon Van Horn
Director

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS

Hillsdale College Cruise - Venice to Athens..... July 28 - August 9, 2009

Hillsdale Reception - Traverse City, Michigan..... August 20, 2009*

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Constitutional Issues and Controversies

Fairmont Miramar Hotel - Santa Monica, California..... May 18-19, 2009

U.S. National Security: Threats and Challenges

Sanibel Harbour Resort - Fort Myers, Florida..... February 16-17, 2010

Is America's Economic Liberty in Peril?

Sheraton Seattle Hotel - Seattle, Washington May 24-25, 2010

ON-CAMPUS SPECIAL EVENTS

Commencement May 9, 2009

CCA I - Lincoln, Tocqueville, and America September 13-17, 2009

CCA II - Traditionalism and Modernism in Western Art and Architecture November 8-12, 2009

CCA III - The New Deal January 31 - February 3, 2010

CCA IV - Films of 1939 March 7-11, 2010

*Tentative

The President's Club members are welcome at all events.

For more information, please call Shannon Van Horn, director of The President's Club, at (517) 607-2554.

The Hillsdale College President's Club News is a publication of Institutional Advancement. Sent to members of The President's Club, it keeps them informed about campus activities and events.

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