

Five Waldorf alumni receive Distinguished Service Awards

Waldorf College recognized five alumni with its Alumni Distinguished Service Award during Homecoming weekend. A banquet honoring the recipients was held Oct. 17. Those honored were Dr. Donald R. Belville, a 1943 graduate, Newport Beach, Calif.; Dr. Robert Belsheim, a 1942 graduate, Washington, D.C.; Jarvis C. Jones, a 1979 graduate, Eagan, Minn.; Chaplain (Col.) Irving G. Njus, a 1953 graduate, San Antonio, Texas; and Charles M. Skogerboe, a 1957 graduate, Spirit Lake.

Dr. Donald Belville, a Lake Mills native, was a staff radiologist at Long Beach Community Hospital for 28 years, and was Chief of the Radiology Department for 23 of those years. He is co-designer and developer of the Anglocor heart x-ray machine which was a state-of-the-art technological advancement well ahead of its time. He was highly regarded by his colleagues and served on the hospital board of directors. He has also been very active in his church, serving in leadership roles. He and his wife have four adopted children. Dr. Belville is now retired.

Dr. Robert Belsheim, a Leland native, worked for 29 years as a mechanical engineer for the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. His professional accomplishments are known throughout the world. He pioneered new shock and vibration analysis methods, which have become a standard for the Navy since the 1960s. His work has been the backbone of the ship protection program, which has made serving on ships and submarines much safer for our military personnel. He is ranked as one of the top five research engineers in the world in his field, by his colleagues. He served on several professional society committees nationally, and taught at Purdue University for several years. Before retiring, he was at the forefront of his profession, and presented numerous papers and symposiums throughout the country.

Jarvis Jones is currently Vice President of Alternative Agency Distributions for St. Paul Companies, St. Paul, Minn. He received his law degree from William Mitchell College of Law, and practiced law for six years, before being enticed to join the legal department at St. Paul Companies in 1991. Coming from inner-city Chicago, Jarvis has always had a passion for promoting justice and equality in the legal profession, and has successfully done so in the state of Minnesota. Presently, he serves as secretary of the Minnesota State Bar Association (15,000 lawyers) and is on a rotation to become the first African-American president for the MSBA. He is past president of the



WALDORF PHOTO

Waldorf College presented five Alumni Distinguished Service Awards during Homecoming at a banquet Oct. 17. The recipients were, sitting, left, Dr. Donald R. Belville, a 1943 graduate, Newport Beach, Calif.; and Dr. Robert Belsheim, a 1942 graduate, Washington, D.C. Standing, left to right, Charles M. Skogerboe, a 1957 graduate, Spirit Lake; Chaplain (Col.) Irving G. Njus, a 1953 graduate, San Antonio, Texas; and Jarvis C. Jones, a 1979 graduate, Eagan, Minn.

Hennepin County Bar Association, and the Minnesota Minority Lawyers Association. He successfully argued before the Minnesota Supreme Court for the adoption of a state requirement for all attorneys to take continuing legal education on the elimination of bias in the legal profession, and to strongly encourage attorneys to provide free legal services to those who cannot afford them. He has a very impressive list of community service achievements and honors and awards received, both from his profession, and his community. He received his bachelor's degree from St. Olaf.

Chaplain Irving Njus is a retired chaplain and colonel with the U.S. Army, now living in San Antonio, Texas, where he finished his army chaplaincy, and now serves as interim pastor at several Lutheran churches in south Texas. Chaplain Njus served 26 years in the Army, as chaplain in Augsburg, Germany, Fort Riley, Kan., South Vietnam, Fort Knox, Ky., Hawaii, and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. His career included coordinating professional development for the 325 Army chaplains across the United States, planned and coordinated training for 400 chaplains and chaplains' assistants from throughout the U.S. and Panama. He also served as Chief of the Department of Ministry and Pastoral Care at Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas. He was also Staff Chaplain for the U.S. Army Health Services Command, supervising pastoral

care in the eight Army Medical Centers and eighteen Military Community Hospitals across the U.S. and Panama. He has received seven service awards from the U.S. Army, and continues to be involved with inner-city ministry to homeless and disadvantaged people in San Antonio.

Charles Skogerboe, a Forest City native, retired last year as Executive Vice President for Outdoor Technologies Group (formerly known as the Berkley Co.) in Spirit Lake, where he worked for 30 years, working his way up the ranks. He pioneered several major changes in human resources, including establishing flexible working hours for employees, initiating a quality circles program, played a key role in the start-up of a new company in Arizona, and a manufacturing plant in Mexico, and led a complete restructuring of the company following an acquisition which doubled company revenues. His colleagues attribute the successful growth of OTG to Mr. Skogerboe's ability to attract the proper talent to the company, which facilitated the worldwide expansion of the company. He has also been heavily involved in community service, including the Spirit Lake Foundation Board, Area Education Agency Board, Spirit Lake Development Board, Lakes Art Center Board, and Spirit Lake Music Parents Board, and has served on several Lutheran church synod boards as well as in his local congregation.