



Dr. Thornley
Page 2



Anime Club
Page 3



Project Graduation
Page 5



Kim Delaney
Page 7

THE *trident* TIMES

August/September 2008

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QUESTIONS, ASKED AND ANSWERED: Dr. Mary Thornley, President of Trident Technical College

Editor's Note: I have had the privilege to witness Dr. Thornley's extraordinary dedication to the students of this college on many occasions during the past six years. I know firsthand that students, faculty and staff at TTC hold her in high esteem. Our staff at the paper wanted to give our readers a glimpse of the person who has been an inspiration to so many at TTC. She has a fantastic ability to make things happen!

Question: What led you to pursue education as a vocation?

Dr. Thornley: I was born on the "wrong side of the tracks" in Concord, North Carolina and attended a mill village school (grades 1–12). My parents worked hard, were 8th grade dropouts, and counted on me to help with my three younger brothers and sisters. My kid brother Rick, who was 12 years younger than I, actually spent more time with me than with our mother—until I graduated

from high school and went off to college.

Other than the Bible, there were no books in our home—until I went to school. I discovered books! I loved books, loved school, and loved my teachers. In retrospect, I realize all my teachers weren't great, but they were to me at the time. I wanted to be like them. In that small mill village school, my teachers nurtured my curiosity, had me reading on a twelfth grade level in the fifth grade. I graduated as valedictorian of my senior class, on my journey to be a teacher!

Question: What advice might you have for new and returning students?

Dr. Thornley: Dwell on what you do have, not on what you don't have. Read biographies of people like Harriet Tubman and Victor Frankl. Few humans are called on to handle more egregious challenges than these two. Yet, they both took responsibility



Dr. Thornley (left) presents SC All State Academic Awards 2007. Photo by David Spears

for their decisions. We do not always control what life slings at us, our conditions, but we can control our decisions. Stephen Covey eloquently explains this notion of proactivity in his 1989 best seller, 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Part of being proactive means sharing your needs and concerns with our faculty and staff. We want you here at Trident Technical College just as much as you want to be here.

Question: What career path did you take to the President's position at Trident Technical College?

Dr. Thornley: I never really chose any career path to the presidency. I came to Trident Technical College in 1973 as a part-time English teacher.

IN THIS
ISSUE

The Changing Face 2
Op-Ed 4
Potty Talk 5
Clemente Cabaret 7

Japanese Anime Club . . 3
Project Graduation . . . 5
Clemente Flyer 6
Out and About 8

Continued on Page 2

THE CHANGING FACE OF TRIDENT TIMES

By David Spears

Those of you who read this student paper regularly will have noticed some changes over the past nine months. We want to acknowledge the lasting contributions of our longtime editor-in-chief, Renata Dos Santos who has resigned to begin work in the culinary field and those of Co-editor Rebekah Brasfield, who provided political and culinary articles for the paper during the spring. Rebekah left to complete her last semester in her culinary program. She was a source of inspiration for the content changes here at the paper.

Changes in the format and design of the Trident Times are the result of work done by students in the ARV classes of instruc-

tor Dolly Raines. Ms. Raines, who holds a M.F.A. in graphic design from the prestigious Savannah College of Art and Design, is also an advisor for the Visual Arts Association on campus.

Class members format the paper, create illustrations to accompany specific articles, and have provided photographic coverage of student events. Their combined efforts have helped this paper move to a new level of readability. ●



Illustration by Justin Cammer



TTC President Dr. Mary Thornley (third from right) with student and faculty members of the 2008 Harvard National Model United Nations Team. Photo courtesy of TTC Marketing

Dr. Thornley, Continued from page 1

Such a beginning hardly signals a pathway to a presidency. I do believe the main reason I became

president was the belief I represented stability at a time when the college needed it. I'm grateful to the Area Commission of June 1990 for selecting me,

and I'm grateful to each Area Commission since then for keeping me. I have an awesome job. ●

Call for

The Trident Times encourages students, staff, and faculty of TTC to submit items

for review and possible inclusion in the paper. Submissions from student organizations about upcoming events and notices of awards and achievements are also sought. Due to deadlines, some time sensitive material may not be published. We also welcome submissions such as illustrations, photos and original art. For further information, please email trident.times@ttc.mailcruiser.com or contact us at 843.574.6347. Our office is located in room 130 F, building 410.

SUBMISSIONS

TRIDENT TIMES

STAFF:

Advisors: Lynne Ankersen
Pat Fox
Ann Welty

Design Advisor: Dolly Raines

Editors: David Spears

Design: Jason Layne
Brian Howell
Henry Nichols
Justin Cammer

Contact Info:
Room 130F, Bldg 410
ph 843.574.6347
trident.times@ttc.mailcruiser.com

JAPANESE ANIME EDUCATIONAL CLUB

Campus Club Members Act Out

By Brian Ford

Hello, I just want to welcome everyone and inform you about the Japanese Anime Educational Club here at Trident Technical College. My name is Brian and I am a student in the Visual Arts Association, majoring in photography. I want to become a freelance photographer and work for National Geographic someday. I have a web site, www.freewebs.com/briansphotography.

What is Anime? Its name JAEC, means Japanese Anime Educational Club. Members act out certain roles for their characters. The Anime Club's purpose is to provide service to the college and community and to generate interest in Japanese Anime and Manga. Additionally, the club hopes to promote enjoyment and assist club members in developing leadership qualities and academic skills that will help them in future endeavors. The membership fee is \$5.00 in annual dues for all

new and continuing members. Membership is open to all TTC students, faculty and staff.

I joined this club so it would help me as a photographer in the Visual Arts program with my work and so that others would see what I am doing in school. My expectations were met. I assisted with the Masquerade Ball held last October 2007, and travelled to Georgia Tech, Momocon convention in the spring.

The most fun I have had with the club was the trip to Atlanta. The fact you get to travel and get away from school for a few days is quite extraordinary I might add, especially if you don't get out much.

On that trip, the purpose was to provide a fun-filled adventure for the members who got to dress up and act like certain characters from TV shows, such as Nar toe,

dragon ball zee and many others

It was fun to see other students from all over the world gathering in one place and to see their costumes. I saw some crazy characters at that event. There was lots of great food, games, movies, shops and contests. The contest was the most gratifying

event of the convention. Man I tell ya!, they love to compete against one another. The whole reason I went on the trip was to have fun, meet new people, get away from school and take pictures so I could post them up on my web site. If you have any more questions, come look us up in the lounge in the 410 Bldg. ●



Masquerade Ball 2007. Photo By Brian Ford



JAEC Club Members at MoMocon Convention. Photo By Brian Ford

President George W. Bush: President by Proxy?

By David Spears

When we look back at the past two terms of our current president, and glance at the effects of his policies, we might wonder to ourselves: how did we elect him the first time? Well, maybe we did not really elect him the first time. We could perhaps blame that on the Supreme Court, or the elusive and mysterious Chad. As regards the second election, did we really expect anything different? Did we get anything different? Did we want anything different?

I think that what we got was a proxy. A proxy, in this case defined as a surrogate, possibly for his father, the military industrial complex, the religious right,

Carl Rove, or maybe all of them. Maybe it was none of them. Who knows? Better yet, who will come forward with the awful truth? Only time will tell.

I was living in Austin, Texas when George Bush beat Ann Richards to become Governor of Texas. I was still there when he was re-elected Governor. A pattern of partisan politics evolved during that time that has carried into his presidency. If only 51% of the voters are in favor of a candidate, it must mean that the other 49% were against the candidate. Somewhere there should have been common ground upon which to satisfy the greater good, which I define as 66% of the

voters. I have been accused, at times, of being an idealist.

I like our president as a human being. I believe him to be an essentially honest person who cares deeply about his family and his country. While these are admirable, indeed desirable traits for a president to possess, in my view, they are only part of the package of qualities that our president should possess. I prefer as a president, an individual who has an inkling of the issues and has formed their own opinions, without relying solely upon the judgments of others. I am sad for him that he was not able to achieve notable success during his service. Of course, given

time, history may prove my remark inaccurate. After all, he still has some time to serve. ●

VOTE

Illustration by Justin Cammer

**Are YOU
registered to
VOTE?**

**Register now and
be a part of our
country's future!**

WHO IS SENATOR BARACK OBAMA?

Just another politician?

By David Spears

Barack Obama has startled and angered many of his supporters by proposing changes in some of the positions he espoused during his primary campaign. One significant change pertains to troop reductions in Iraq. He is softening his call for the immediate withdrawal of troops at the rate of one or two brigades per month if he is elected. There are about 15 brigades in Iraq now. Another change in position is his support of the renewal of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), more specifically that of granting immunity for those companies that have allowed access to their phone and internet records. He had promised to filibuster when this item came up for a vote.

There is nothing new in this about-face among politicians. What is fascinating is that his supporters seem surprised by his revised positions. This is what politicians do to win an election. They or their campaign analysts

determine which way the wind is blowing and hoist their sails in that direction. Is there anything wrong in revising goals in light of new considerations? No! Absolutely Not!

In my view, Senator Obama is showing that he is willing to concede to the reality of the moment, not just for the sake of political expediency, but also as a part of a realistic evaluation of the current facts. Having reached this stage of the election process he has been briefed on previously secret information upon which he can make a more informed decision. I can reason that due to their years of involvement in national politics, both Senators McCain and Clinton would have already had access to a higher level of covert information. In comparing these changes in course to the positions of his major opponents during the primary, it is plain to see that he is now not that far from the middle ground. It is in this middle ground that he stands the chance

of attracting the greatest number of votes and the prospect of election.

The key point to remember about politicians is that they cannot achieve anything unless elected. If elected can we expect that he will follow the course followed by so many other politicians before him, or will he truly be an agent of change for the better? Remember, our current President Bush has been an agent of change. For better or worse? ●

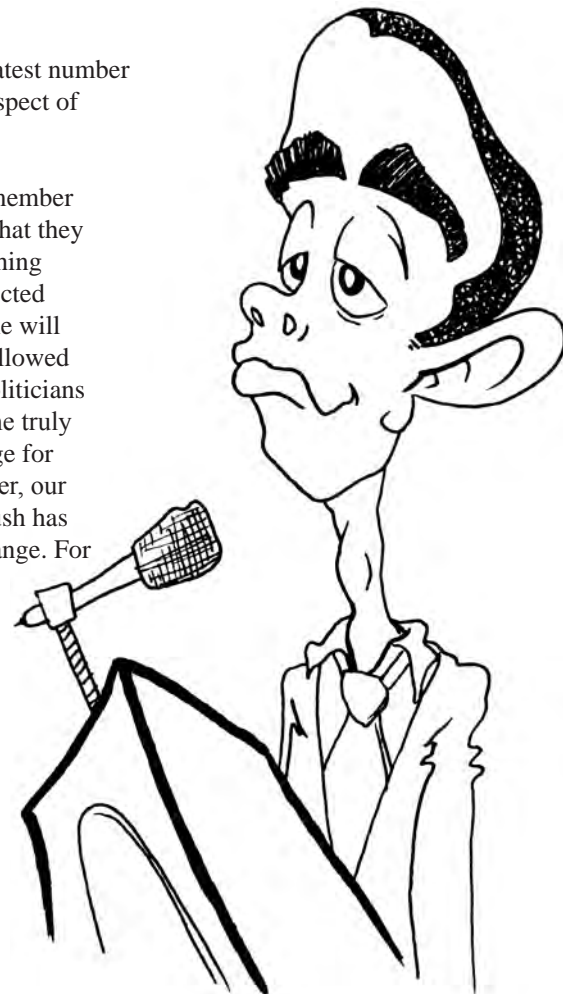


Illustration by Justin Cammer

PROJECT GRADUATION:

Phi Theta Kappa's, Alpha Epsilon Chapter at TTC, Feeds Brains and Bellies

By Melissa Enos, VP of Fellowship PTK

Project Graduation started for Trident Technical College on April 1, 2008, after an educational forum at PTK's International Convention in Philadelphia. First, we decided our mission was going to be feeding brains and bellies.

We started collecting books, adult and children's, and non-perishables and canned goods from local vendors and community members. Then we sent a challenge out to other organizations within our school to try to beat our donations.

The individual with the highest donation would get a \$50 gift card to the Mall and the club or

group with the highest donation would receive a pizza party hosted by Phi Theta Kappa.

Carolyn Tebbetts, a local in the community from Moncks Corner, won the individual gift and Phi Theta Kappa won the group award.

Overall, through the combined efforts, we collected 1213 books and 201 canned good items. All of our donations went to the following charities: The Jenkins Orphanage, the MUSC Children's Hospital, Department of Social Services, My Sister's House, Crisis Ministries, Nichol's Residential Care, and Magnolia's Assisted Living.



PTK members at Nichols House. Photo by: Melissa Enos

This project reached over 800 members in our community and hopefully in time many others. With the right Choices we can

embrace our Challenges and conquer our Consequences. Thank you Alpha Epsilon Omicron. ●

POTTY TALK

Please! No cell phones in the powder room

By Liz Remus

Raise your hand if you own a cell phone. That's probably everyone. Now raise your hand if you know someone that does not own a cell phone. I bet hardly anyone raises their hand now. Everyone and their grandma has a cell phone now. Yes, even my grandmother owns one or two.

I'm not belittling these wonderful pieces of technology at all. I think they are fantastic! When my car broke down, I didn't have to walk in the rain on the highway in Columbia. When I got into a car accident last week, I didn't have to walk into a place of business to use their phone.

Yes, cell phones are used for emergency purposes, but we use them for everything else too. I am just as guilty. My husband uses his phone to help him

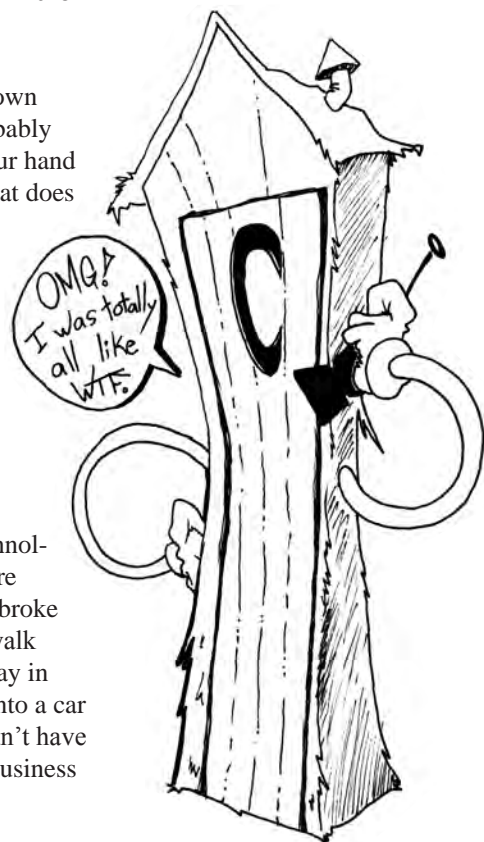


Illustration by Justin Cammer

remember his friends' birthdays. I use mine to send funny pictures

to friends. A friend uses hers to send me a funny "fwd". Maybe your wife is in a business meeting and you want to wish her good luck, so you may send her a message saying so. Hopefully, she had remembered to put her phone on silent.

Nothing drives me more bonkers than when I am in a dark movie theater, quietly enjoying my popcorn and I hear a cell phone singing. It's not enough that the phone can "ring" but that it actually sings "My hump, my hump, my hump, my lovely little lumps." Let's say this owner of this sing song device did indeed have an emergency and needed to be contacted right as Indy discovers the crystal skull, did she need to have her phone on to be contacted? Most phones have a silent mode that will vibrate when being called.

My beef is certainly not with cell phones, it's with cell phone users. At 7:30am on your drive to

work, I could understand using the phone to call your boss that you may be late but being on the phone for more than 20 minutes in the morning commute is pushing the limit! Who could you possibly be calling? If you were calling me that early in the morning and it was not an emergency, I would wake up, drive to your house, toss your phone in the river and after smacking you, I would then head back to bed.

The other day at school, I'm in the ladies room doing my business when a fellow student walks in the stall next to me chatting on her phone and continues to use her phone as she's doing her business!

When it comes to cell phones, is there a line? At what point do cell phones run our lives instead of the other way around? Can we turn them off and not feel anxiety? Are we simply on our cell phones all day to avoid feeling the emptiness? ●

Charleston Clemente Course Fundraiser



Build Your Resume!

Build your resume while contributing to your community. Trident Technical College (TTC) Clemente Talent Search Committee is looking for the following talented positions to assist with the 2008 Charleston Clemente Course Talent Search Fundraiser (the event will have a small budget to work with):

Caterer / Chef

Volunteer(s) to plan, organize and cater food and beverages

Decorator / Designer

Volunteer(s) to assist with decorations

Gift and Donation Coordinator

Volunteer(s) to assist with donations and purchasing gifts to make the event possible

Event Planner

Volunteer(s) to oversee and manage

Marketing Manager

Volunteer(s) to advertise and market including ticket sales

All positions and volunteers will be recognized / advertised.

Date: October 10, 2008

Theme: Costume Party (Optional)

Time: Arrival from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
(Show begins at 6:15)

Place: TTC's New College Center

We are planning for about 200 guests.

Contact:

Stephanie Young
Trident Technical College
7000 Rivers Avenue, RP-M
Charleston, SC 29406

843.574.6775

Stephanie.Young@tridenttech.edu

SOSL to Present Clemente Cabaret

Volunteers needed now for event planning and marketing

By Stephanie Young

For the past two years, The Society of Student Leaders (SOSL), a Trident Technical College student organization, has hosted a Cabaret-style fundraiser/awareness event to raise money for the Charleston Clemente Course. Every year the volunteers keep learning and the event keeps growing. Let me tell you a little about the Charleston Clemente Course. The Charleston Clemente Course is a free humanities course offered to disadvantaged and homeless individuals in the hope that a study of literature, philosophy and history can make a positive impact on their lives. The program has had numerous success stories. Many Clemente

graduates enroll in additional college courses. Many find permanent employment.

All Clemente students gain confidence, hope and respect for themselves.

Clemente students, all of whom have suffered numerous hardships and difficulties in their lives, come from homeless shelters, rehabilitation centers and low-income areas. Some have achieved three or four months of sobriety for the first time in their adult lives so that they can attend the course. An interview and placement test is required for admission because the course is a rigorous, college-level course.●



Kim Delaney, Photo Provided by TTC Marketing

Kim Delaney, star of “Army Wives,” coming to the Clemente Cabaret!

Stephanie Young of SOSL announced that the star has agreed to participate in the upcoming

Clemente Cabaret. Delaney stars as Claudia Joy Holden, in the Lifetime Network TV series. The

series, in its second season is set at the fictional Fort Marshall in Charleston, SC.●



ThankFULL Basket Drawing

Tickets \$1 each; 6 for \$5
 Drawing to be held
 November 13, 2008
 at 9:30 a.m.

Winner will be announced in the lounge area (410 bldg) and via CampusCruiser in addition to being contacted via phone.

The prize will be awarded only to one individual or organization as listed below.

.....
 Name _____
 Phone _____

Tickets are for sale September 9, 2008 – November 13, 2008 and can be purchased from any SOSL advisor and 200/102 on Main Campus.

OUT and ABOUT

Gibbes Museum of Art 135 Meeting St., Charleston

By David Spears

On my recent visit to this landmark museum, I parked in the public parking garage at Queen and King Streets. After a leisurely block and a half walk, I was bounding up the granite steps of the Beaux Arts style edifice. Inside the building, the classically ornate style continues with elaborate moldings and architectural detail.

I took advantage of the student discount, a real bargain at \$7. The museum also offers a yearly student membership for \$30. Gibbes Museum of Art states on their website that its mission, "... is to offer through collection, exhibition and interpretation a thorough knowledge of the

visual culture of Charleston, the Lowcountry and the American South from the colonial era through today." Their collection consists of more than 10,000 items.

Featured in the second floor exhibit gallery during my visit was 'Landscape of Slavery: The Plantation in American Art', which focused on images of slavery, plantation life and race relations. On display in this exhibition were works by artists, Winslow Homer and Hale Woodruff and those of local artists of historical note, such as Edwin Harleston and Anna Heyward Taylor.

I really enjoyed seeing several of the works I had studied in the Art-101 course at TTC. Their presentation on the wall in conjunction with other similarly themed works created a vivid impression of the artist's style and meaning. Sometimes you just have to see a work of art for yourself. It is a completely different perspective, up close and personal.

I took issue with the lack of seating. In several of the galleries, there was sufficient room to place benches or chairs to allow patrons the opportunity to reflect upon the works on display and still leave room for the accessibility needs of others.

Additionally, I felt that the lighting in many areas was not adequate for the works on display. There is a museum store with a very nice collection of prints and books and the large courtyard behind the museum is available to member artists who want to use it for painting purposes. As with many museums, there are special programs and classes designed for children.

Museum membership is reciprocal at many other museums in the southeastern region.●

www.gibbesmuseum.org



**Open Market
Wednesday,
October 8, 2008
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
410 Building Lounge**

Come to the 1st Annual Open Market Clemente Talent Show Fundraiser on October 8th.

One stop shopping!

Get an early start on **Holiday shopping!**

Money raised from booth rentals will be used to hold the 2008 Clemente Talent Show on October 10, 2008

Cabaret Doors Open at 5:00 p.m.

Show Starts at 6:15 p.m.

Tickets are only \$10

Young Children get in FREE!

For additional information on the Open Market or the talent show, contact Stephanie Young at 574-6775 or Stephanie.Young@tridenttech.edu

Open Market and Cabaret are sponsored by The Society of Student Leaders, TTC Student Organization