

# The Pronghorn Pronk



Volume 4 Issue 10

April 2015



**Moving forward by leaps and bounds...**

## President's Monthly Report

*John Marrin, President*

*March 2015*

### Transform the student experience.

Lamar Community College's Beta Eta Gamma chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society welcomed 40 new members, a record number, during the spring induction ceremony on March 9. LCC President John Marrin gave a brief welcome. Teale Hemphill, LCC's Director of Financial Aid, was the guest speaker. Teale is a singular role model for her athletic, academic and professional accomplishments. Teale was the LCC Head Women's Volleyball Coach from 2004-2006 and in 2006 became the LCC Director of Financial Aid. (*student bios and photos on pages 2, 3 & 4*)

### Transform our own workforce experience.

LCC is offering three 3-credit late-start courses this spring. Two of these may be of special interest to community members: Introduction to Coaching and Sports Officiating. These two classes are being taught by Brandon Stephenson, Head Volleyball Coach at Lamar Community College. The courses are a great opportunity for anyone wanting to start coaching or to be more involved in athletics. Social Psychology with instructor Rebecca Babcock is the third late-start course being offered this semester. Social Psychology will explore the behavior of human interaction in social settings.

### Redefine our value proposition through accessibility, affordability, quality, accountability, resource development, and operational excellence.

The Tutoring Lab in Bowman 129 has extended the hours of operation to include Sundays from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. All LCC students are encouraged to use this opportunity to finish projects, complete homework, write papers, and catch up on classroom assignments with the assistance of professional tutors.

### Other News

- Lamar Community College freshman Melanie Roman of Golden is currently ranked 2nd in the national standings of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) and was winning the Central Rocky Mountain Region in barrel racing after the fall season. Mason Johnson (Alamosa) is tied for 12th in Saddle Bronc Riding in the Central Mountain Region. The women's team currently stands at 4th place in the Central Rocky Mountain Region with the men's team coming in at 10th place. The team began its spring season on March 20 at the Gillette College Rodeo in Gillette, WY.
- The March 18, 2015 NJCAA national poll ranked the Runnin' Lopes Baseball team #12 in the country. Congratulations Runnin' Lopes!
- Dr. Nancy McCallin had pizza and informal conversations with the faculty and staff at Lamar Community College on Monday, March 23.
- In a bittersweet moment, Lamar Community College celebrated the retirement of long time Human Resources Director Gwen Krum. Gwen started at Lamar Community College as a student workstudy, after graduating from LCC she became a full-time employee in the business office. Gwen celebrated 30 years of service to Lamar Community College on Wednesday, March 25. ■

# PHI THETA KAPPA–BETA ETA GAMMA CHAPTER SPRING 2015 INDUCTION CEREMONY



**Courtney Justine Adams** is from Riverside, California, and came to LCC to play volleyball. She is pursuing a degree in psychology, and wants to become a psychiatrist and eventually own her own practice. Courtney loves to play volleyball in her spare time, and watch movies. She has an older brother and sister, and is also involved with Student Government at LCC.

**Aldo Almanza** is from Holyoke, and is enrolled in dual credit courses through Lamar High School. He enjoys his family and friends, and finding the beauty in life, and his career goal is to see what the world has to offer. His parents are originally from Mexico, and are very hard workers whose determination has gotten them where they are today. Aldo is involved in the National Honor Society, FFA, and plays football and soccer.

**Michaela Dawn Adams** is enrolled in dual credit courses through Springfield High School, and is interested in a degree in Social Work. Her mother is currently the cook at the Springfield Cafeteria. She started her passion for cooking when she moved to Springfield at a small restaurant where she was soon promoted to manager. Michaela also has an older brother, and her true hobby is photography. Michaela loves that she can almost bookmark a scene in her life and keep it to reflect over the years. Michaela's career goal is to help children and adults escape from their addictions and become better individuals. Michaela is President of FCCLA, Vice President of National Honor Society, and is also involved in FBLA, FFA, and 4-H.

**Kristin Michelle Arns** is pursuing an Associate of General Studies, and chose LCC because it was an affordable college where she could take her general education courses. She is considering becoming an engineer, marine biologist or veterinarian. Kristin is from Sheridan Lake, where her dad is a farmer and her mother is an independent sales consultant. Kristin enjoys painting, drawing, reading and working outdoors.

**Adam Adkins** is from Denver, and is earning his Associate of Applied Science at LCC. He came to LCC as a member of the baseball team, and also to enjoy the small town. His mom is a pharmacist and his father is a retired computers master who came out of retirement to pay the tuition for Adam and his brother. His goal is to become a teacher of math, and to complete either a masters or doctorate. He enjoys the outdoors and working with others, and loves tutoring in math and some sciences.



**Calvin Shyheim Rashad Brown** is from Omaha, but currently lives in Colorado Springs. He came to LCC for a second chance at success, and is completing his Associate of General Studies. He is a member of the TRiO Program at LCC, and plays for the LCC men's basketball team. Neither of Calvin's parents graduated from high school, and his grandmother, who also didn't graduate from high school, raised him. His goal is to get the highest degree he possibly can, while making a positive impact on others' lives.

**Shawn Dianne Carpenter** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School. She is originally from Austin, Texas, and enjoys gaming and hanging out with friends. Shawn plans to attend CU Boulder and then go on to a career as some form of scientist. She is also involved with Knowledge Bowl and National Honor Society.

**Heidi Danielle Carty** is completing her Associate of Arts Degree to become an elementary school teacher. She chose LCC because it's where she is raising her children, and its classes work well with her kids' schedules. Heidi was born in Pueblo, and stays very busy keeping up with her two children, ages 12 and 5. Heidi's parents married straight out of high school, and neither went to college. They began working and started their family with two daughters. Once they were in high school, Heidi's father got his Electrician certification. Heidi and her sister followed in her parents' footsteps, finishing high school and starting their own families, and Heidi has followed her dad by returning to school to get a degree.

**Courtney Logan Clark** is enrolled in dual credit LCC courses as a student at Lamar High School, and plans to pursue a degree in chemical or biochemical engineering to work in pharmaceuticals. She is from Lamar, and plays volleyball, basketball, and runs track, as well as being involved with Student Council and National Honor Society. Her mother is Marka Clark, her father is Robert Clark and her step mother is Shawn Clark.

**Lexi Shae Coen** is from Lamar and is enrolled in dual credit courses as a student at Lamar High School. She intends to pursue a degree in medical technology to work in radiology. Her parents were both born and raised in the Lamar and Wiley area. Her father is a fourth generation farmer and her mom is the Prowers County Clerk. Lexi enjoys playing sports, including swimming during the summer. She is involved in Student Council, National Honor Society, square dancing, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



**Jacob Ryan Giron** was born in San Diego, but has lived in Denver his whole life. He chose LCC because of the baseball program, the cost and school, and the opportunity to continue to learn and do what he loves. He is pursuing a degree in Business Administration, and his goal is to own his own business, possibly involved with baseball in some form. He has two siblings, and is the Vice President of the LCC DECA Club as well as a member of the

**Carly Ann Feuerstein** is from Loveland, and came to LCC for volleyball as well as academics. Her degree is in Marketing, and her career goal is to work her way up from Marketing Manager to become a CEO. She enjoys sports and being in the outdoors, and is also involved with DECA and Student Government at LCC. Carly lives with her mother and two younger brothers, as well as two dogs and a cat.

**Brittany Ann Gonzales** is enrolled in dual credit courses through Granada High School, and plans to continue into the pre-Nursing Program at LCC. She would eventually like to work as a nurse anesthetist. Her parents are Manuel Jr. and Stephanie Gonzales, and she has two brothers. Brittany enjoys playing guitar, piano, singing, and sports.

**Taryn Frazier** is earning her Associates Degree in Business, and is also a member of the LCC Women's Basketball program. She is from Colorado Springs, and her career goals are wherever her business major will take her.

**Leah Gaines** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School. Her parents are Kelli and Jay Gaines. Leah is interested in pursuing a degree and career in the science and math field. She is a 3-sport athlete, and is involved with Student Council and National Honor Society.

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**Andra Michelle Gutierrez** is from Wiley, and is enrolled in dual credit courses through Wiley High School. She is interested in Psychology, and would like to work with troubled adolescents. Andra enjoys reading, dancing and volunteering, and is also involved with All the Right Moves Dance Studio.

**Matthew Todd Hartshorn** is from Granada, and is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School. He is interested in a career in Computer Sciences, and is involved with cross country, track, and theater.

**Kevin Hicks** is completing his Associate Degree in Elementary Education, and his goal is to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade and provide a positive male influence to young minds. He is from Burlington, and chose LCC because he lives in this area and wanted to attend college.

**Rebecca Sue Henderson** is enrolled in dual credit courses through Lamar High School, and is interested in a career in physical therapy. Her mom is a counselor at Lamar High School, and her dad is a farmer and rancher. She has a twin sister and a younger brother. Rebecca enjoys reading, and is involved in gymnastics, cheerleading, diving, and National Honor Society.

**A note from our PTK faculty sponsors: Kelly Emick and Dr. David Frankel**

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the two-year college equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa, is the largest academic honors society in the world. Requiring at least a 3.5 grade-point-average to join, PTK organizes countless hours of service and distributes tens of millions of dollars of scholarships every year to particularly high-achieving community college students. Phi Theta Kappa members complete their Associates Degrees and transfer to four-year institutions at a much higher rate (86%) than the state (35%) and national (38%) averages, and their high success rates make them the sort of students to whom four-year schools reach out.

This spring, LCC's chapter signed up forty new members, its largest group ever, and had a join rate (the ratio of those who joined to those who were eligible) more than three times the national average, probably because of all the time and effort our members put into recruiting. Every PTK chapter can choose to work for anything from 1-Star to 5-Star status, with 5-Star being the highest; only about one-third of American chapters are at the 4-Star or 5-Star level. In spite of LCC's small size, our chapter has been at the 4-Star level for two years in a row.



**Bailey James Kennedy** is from Holly, and is enrolled in dual credit courses through Holly High School. Bailey plans to pursue degrees in Chemistry and Pre-Med, and after medical school he aspires to be an anesthesiologist. Both of his parents are business owners and operators, and both graduated from Texas Tech University. Bailey has a younger brother and sister, and is involved with National Honor Society, FFA, is a teacher's aide, President of his class, pee-wee basketball coach, and Sunday School teacher at Grace Lutheran Church. Bailey plays varsity baseball, basketball, track, cross country, and traveling baseball.

**Brandon Zachary Lamphier Shaffer** is earning his Associate of Science degree at LCC, and is a member of the baseball team. He is from Albuquerque, and is also involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes at LCC. His father owns a construction company, and he has four siblings. His career goal is to become a fitness professional and strength and conditioning coach. Brandon enjoys baseball, working out, hiking, and fitness.

**Ryan Dean Laydon** is from Pueblo, and came to LCC because it is a great school, a great community, and a great baseball program. His goal is to become a mechanical engineer. He has great family love and support; his parents have been married since 1987, and he has two older brothers. In addition to playing baseball for LCC, Ryan is involved with St. Leander Catholic Church.

**Timothy Quinn Ludwig** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School. He is involved in Boy Scouts, National Honor Society, Band and Knowledge Bowl.

**Jericka Eileen Melgoza** is enrolled in the prerequisites for the Nursing Program at LCC, and will be playing softball for LCC after she graduates from Lamar High School. Her parents are Christa and Kelly Melgoza. She plans to become a nurse and eventually a nurse practitioner. She plays softball during the spring and summer, and basketball during the winter and summer. Jericka is a member of the National Honor Society at Lamar High School.

**Hayden Nolder** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School, and is interested in a finance degree

**Marie Sally Beth Mohler** is from Lakewood, and came to LCC to further her education and to play volleyball. She is unsure of her career plans but definitely wants to be involved with coaching and possibly sports psychology. She has two older brothers; her mother is currently retired, and her father is a maintenance man for Catholic Charities Apartments. In addition to playing volleyball, Marie is involved with Student Government at LCC.



**Alexus Lynna Morris** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School, and is interested in psychology. She would like to have a career where she can help others, and would also be interested in an administrative position. Alexis is the daughter of Matt and Heather Morris, and has a sister named Lillie. Alexis is also involved in National Honor Society.

**Ryan Nordyke** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Holly High School, and plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Construction Science and Management from the College of Engineering at Kansas State University. Ryan would like to eventually own his own real estate investment business. Ryan's mother has been an elementary school teacher for over twenty years, and his father is the co-owner and operator of Ranchers' Supply in Lamar.

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**Audrey Johnson**  
—Mysterious—

**Ashley Genet Peterson**  
—Enigmatic—

**Evan Matthew Reed**  
—Inscrutable—

**Cheyenne Marie Reedy** is from Lamar, and is pursuing her Associates Degree by taking dual credit courses at Lamar High School. She is interested in psychology, and her goal is to become a psychologist and hopefully work with juveniles. She has a very supportive family that pushes to be the very best and encourages whatever she feels is in her best interests.



**Scott Loyal Savage** came to LCC to play baseball and ease his way into his college education so he can do his best. Scott is from Colorado Springs, and his goal is to earn a Masters of Accounting and work for one of the “Big 4” firms to eventually become partner. He is President of the LCC DECA Club, and enjoys baseball and other sports. His parents both graduated from BYU, and his father has a Ph.D.

**Heather Schnauer** is in the Nursing Program at LCC and plans to continue to UCCS for her Bachelor of Science in Nursing after she completes her RN degree. Heather lives in Campo.

**Luke Daniel Stratman** is from Morrison Colorado. He is earning his Associate of General Studies at LCC and plans to major in accounting or finance. He enjoys all sports, including snowboarding and ATVing, and is a member of the baseball team at LCC.

**Jacob Specht** is enrolled in dual credit courses at Lamar High School, and plans to go on to earn a degree in Construction Management and open an electrical business. His father is an accountant and his mother is an attorney. Jacob has lettered in baseball and basketball, and is also involved in National Honor Society, youth group, and is a four-year Academic Letterman.



**Beecher Joseph Strube** is from Casper, Wyoming, and is attending LCC to earn his AA degree in Business and play baseball. Both his parents graduated from college, and he has a sister in college right now, and two younger siblings. He is also involved in the DECA club, and enjoys baseball, fishing, hunting, and anything in the outdoors. His career goal is to manage his father’s business as a partner with him.

**Jaquelyn Nicole Wilson** is from Denver, and is attending LCC to earn her Associate of Science and play softball. She plans to become a physical therapist.

**Paige Ybarra** is enrolled in dual credit courses as a student at Lamar High School. She is interested in a degree in theology and psychology, and would like to do mission work and possibly counseling. She has two older sisters, and enjoys sports, singing, youth group, reading and drawing. Paige is involved in National Honor Society, Student Council, youth group, and helping at her church’s praise team.

**Morgan Ashley Young** is from Loma, Colorado, and is completing her Associates Degree in Agriculture. She plays softball for LCC, and is also a Resident Advisor. Morgan would like to be a high school Ag teacher and a 4-H extension agent.



Spring 2015 Phi Theta Kappa Inductees: Seated (l-r): Taryn Frasier, Timothy Ludwig, Courtney Clark, Leah Gaines, Adam Adkins, Beecher Strube, Jacob Giron, Jacob Specht, Hayden Nolder, Scott Savage. Standing (l-r): Courtney Adams, Shawn Carpenter, Andra Gutierrez, Alexis Morris, Brittany Gonzales, Paige Ybarra, Matthew Hartshorn, Ryan Laydon, Jaquelyn Wilson, Carly Feuerstein, Kristin Arns, Heidi Carty, Marie Mohler. Not pictured, Michaela Adams, Aldo Almanza, Calvin Brown, Lexi Coen, Rebecca Henderson, Kevin Hicks, Audrey Johnson, Bailey Kennedy, Brandon Lamphier-Shaffer, Jericka Melgoza, Ryan Nordyke, Ashley Peterson, Evan Reed, Cheyanne Reedy, Heather Schnauer, Luke Stratman & Morgan Young.

*COMING TO THE COUNTRY**Two Easterners Move to Lamar*

*This is part two of a two-part story*

*By: Susan Frankel*

Back on the Cape, David resumed adjuncting at Cape Cod Community College, while I contemplated what it might be like to be a therapist in the army. (For a while, because of all the veterans returning with PTSD, the army was recruiting civilian therapists. I got as far as telling them which military base I would prefer to be stationed to.) Life was still up in the air, and the end of our unemployment benefits was in sight. Then Dr. Loper called David and asked him if he was still interested in LCC. It was clear to me that he could see himself working there, but he wasn't sure he could ask me to relocate to a small town two hours from the nearest city and two thousand miles from anyplace I'd ever lived. Personally, I thought it would be all right—Lori would be an hour away, and we'd be a lot closer to my daughter and her family, who were in Missouri—but he insisted we visit Lamar together before he committed to the position. We arranged to fly to Denver and drive to Lamar during the week of the Fourth of July.

We arrived much later than expected—around midnight, Eastern time—and then it took two hours to sort out our rental car. At that point I was coping with twenty-two sleepless hours, altitude sickness, and air that seemed to contain no moisture whatsoever. We finally got our car at two a.m., only to find we'd been given a Prius, the inside of which seemed to have been designed by someone who'd grown up binge-watching *Deep Space Nine*. While we had to call technical support to get the car out of park, and for most of the trip were measuring our speed in kilometers per hour—it took some time to figure out why everyone was passing us

when we were going 75—we finally got to the hotel, where we were told that since we hadn't checked in by midnight, we didn't have a room. Furthermore, the hotel was completely sold out. Was someone in our room? we asked. Had a reservation for that room been sold since midnight? And if it hadn't why wouldn't it be available now that we had arrived—we had paid for it? The young man at the front desk, who appeared to be about fifteen, at first found our questions difficult to follow, but eventually, bless his heart, found us a place to sleep.

**It isn't where you are,  
or what you're doing,  
it's who you're with.**

The next morning we set out for Lamar in our rental spaceship, retracing David's drive through Limon and Kit Carson; he bought me lemon meringue pie at the Trading Post, insisting, correctly, that it would make the decision to move there easier. The further south we drove, the more scorched and forbidding the environment became. Now I understood what Lori had described to me a few months earlier about the landscape; I could feel my brain buckling and stretching as it tried to take in the vastness. We arrived in Lamar in the early afternoon, when, according to the sign on the Frontier Bank, it was 111°. (On Cape Cod, 90° is a hot day.) We went to the motel to check in, and much to my delight, Lori was there waiting for us. She had the day off and had rented the room next door.

We took refuge in the motel with the AC blasting, and talked and talked; then we went exploring. First lesson: drink a lot of water, and don't go anywhere without a lot more. (Though

the taste of the water turned out to be an acquired taste.) For dinner we went to Thai Spicy Basil, and then, when the temperature had dropped to a cool 96°, for a walk in Willow Creek Park. We settled in for the evening, talking, drinking incredible amounts of water, and planning the next day.

After breakfast, the plan was to visit LCC and get to know the campus. First we went to the Betz Technology Center, where we met a few people, and then to the Bowman Building; David got in a conversation with someone, so Lori and I took the opportunity to wander over to the Wellness Center, which was as nice as any gym I'd used on the Cape, and a whole lot cheaper. We both liked the campus, and everyone we met was friendly and helpful. Then we hopped in the car and went to explore the town. It had its charms, and, while the climate would take some getting used to, I thought I could live here—and at that point I hadn't even found the shop which makes the gourmet popcorn. We ate a late lunch at the Mission, and then Lori headed home. For the rest of the visit, David and I made plans and looked for housing. The move was going to happen.

It happened! David arrived in Lamar and began the process of adjusting to life on the high plains, his new LCC faculty position, and getting to know his coworkers. Two weeks after I arrived, I started volunteering at Sage Services (meals-on-wheels) program which started a progressive path: being the substitute cook/baker/site manager/driver; the interim baker when the baker was injured; and, tying it all up as being the site manager.

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After two years, I needed something more challenging, and David encouraged me to apply to do adjunct teaching at LCC. I applied. I was hired to teach, and, as life goes, one thing led to another, and I have had the opportunity to both teach and work on a couple of grant projects which focus on helping the students overcome obstacles to academic and career related successes.

So here we are, four years later; our family back East is still slightly dazed by that fact, but even they have to admit that we sound happy. The gentleness and kindness of the people in this town have turned out to be extremely durable. This is doubly true of the faculty and staff at LCC. Since my first semester at LCC, I was impressed by the dedication, leadership in and out of the classroom, high academic standards,

and the unrelenting generosity of spirit, time, patience, and nurturing that goes into making this a supportive learning environment for the students and all who pass through these halls.

Our experience here has confirmed something we'd always heard: it isn't where you are, or what you're doing, it's who you're with. ■



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**LCC Events Calendar —April 2015**

The wealth of activities and events are too numerous to share in this space.

Please view our full calendar of events at <http://www.lamarcc.edu/calendar/>

**LCC Sports:**

**Rodeo**

**Runnin' Lopes Baseball**

**Lady Lopes Softball**

1st—Registration begins for summer and fall semester

2nd— 8 -10 AM—Adam's State University Recruiter (Betz Atrium)

11th & 25th—8 AM—GED testing

15th— 9:30 AM—2:30 PM Career Expo

18th—7AM—ACT testing

**May Preview**

2nd—10 AM—76th Commencement

9th—8AM—GED testing