



Denise C. (Flynn) Hausauer '83



Gregory P. DeSart '87



Carol C. Baisinger-Criddle '88



P. Nicolaus Brunson '88



Rodger W. Stone '88



Kerri L. Garcia '92

first logistics graduate from the University and has been working in the industry since 1985.

P. Nicolaus Brunson '88 (management) is a fourth year adjunct faculty member of Organizational and Interpersonal Behavior at the University of Nevada, Reno. Nick recently authored and self-published *Don't Bully Me For My Lunch Money—Or My Vote!* He received his MBA from the University of Phoenix in 2003.

Rodger W. Stone '88 (finance) has accepted a position as vice president and senior loan officer with First Independent Bank. A Reno native, Rodger has 26 years of banking and commercial lending experience and specializes in commercial/industrial and real estate lending. He is secretary of the Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition, a committee member of the Associated General Contractors, and a member

of the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada, the Builders Association of Northern Nevada, Western Industrial Nevada, the CCIM Institute and the Nevada Museum Association. Rodger is an honors graduate of the National Commercial Lending Graduate School of the American Bankers Association at the University of Oklahoma.

Julie L. Ardito '89 (journalism) joined Gov. Brian Sandoval's senior staff as the director of community affairs and constituent services. She will oversee external communications, community outreach, and constituent correspondence and service. Julie has more than 20 years of experience in Nevada with a background in economic development, tourism, and corporate and nonprofit communications. In 2010, she became certified as an Accredited Public Relations Professional.

'90s

Kevin D. Lazarcheff '90 (veterinary science) has been elected to the board of governors of the California Veterinary Medical Association.

Kerri L. Garcia '92 (journalism) has been named the community relations and development manager for Microsoft Licensing in Reno. Kerri will be assisting Microsoft in developing relationships and shaping the way external audiences view and interact with the company in northern Nevada through focused community and public relations, project management and business development.

Gregory D. Reeder '92M.A. (counseling and educational psychology) retired from education after completing 30 years of service in Elko County, Nev., and three years in



Never one to keep track of my credit card benefits, last year I flew more than usual, unwittingly racking up over 100,000 points—enough to qualify for a Southwest Airlines Companion Pass. My first thought was “Woohoo!” followed by, “What’s a companion pass?” Turns out it allowed me to pick one person and bring them along for free on any flight I took in 2012.

The card arrived and I could hardly believe it. This must have been how Charlie felt discovering the Golden Ticket into the chocolate factory. Who would I bestow this honor upon? Who would be the lucky recipient of more than \$15,000 worth of free airfare? Like lottery winners who keep their success private, I discreetly screened people without their

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knowledge, deciding that this person would have to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind . . . OK, who am I kidding? This person would have to not bug the hell out of me.

Shall I choose my girlfriend? Well, first I'd have to find one. Plus, that would just cost me more money in dinner, travel and entertainment fees in the long run. Family members were out because they don't live near me. Friends were busy and couldn't up and leave every time I jump on a plane . . . oh yeah, and I don't have many of those left either.

I began to panic, thinking this pass would soon go to waste. Then I remembered my buddy, Say Em, an up-and-coming comedian of Cambodian descent. Say lives at home in Long Beach, Calif., and has never ventured outside of the city limits in his entire life. On my standup tour he'd be able to see the sights, help with my writing sessions and 'open' for me at all the colleges. He jumped at the opportunity and excitedly journeyed with me to places that I've already been to several times. As we traveled, I realized perhaps I had taken these great locations for granted and

fell in love with them all over again. The mundane uncomfortable plane rides became fun.

There was excitement even in the little things: Say had never been through the TSA metal detectors before. Waltzing right through the security checkpoint, I turned back to see him fumbling around with his shoes, his belt and the laptop. Say was being reprimanded, and all his liquids were being confiscated while he was swabbed for bombs. Truthfully, it brought a tear to my eye, reminding me of a younger version of myself . . . back when I was 5.

Six months and 40 flights later, it's as if I've adopted a full-grown adult child from a Third World country. As I write this, Say is looking through his window from 30,000 feet, shouting, “Everything looks so little from up here!” to anyone who will listen.

Now the question is, who to pick for next year?

K-von '03 (marketing) is a Nevada alum and comedian. His videos and tour schedule are available at www.K-vonComedy.com