

Association unites alumni across U.S.

From staff reports

The Alumni Association at USC is vital in keeping alumni united and in touch with university events and for raising money for scholarships.

The association serves over 160,000 alumni worldwide. It offers 50 alumni clubs across the United States and Canada for alumni to keep in touch with each other, according to Dot Gaddis, receptionist of the Alumni House.

"Our clubs are very active," Gaddis said. "They get together often. If an alumnus is in the computer with an active address, they will get information on alumni club meetings in their area. They get together to view football games, go to art shows, go

to Broadway plays.

"They also work as networks. If an alumnus moves to a new area, they will be put in contact with a contact person, and they can answer any questions or help with any problems the new person has," she said.

Members of the Alumni Association can use the Blatt P.E. Center and the Thomas Cooper Library for free and receive a quarterly newspaper, *The Carolinian*.

All students receive a year's free membership upon graduation. After the first year, dues are \$25 for singles and \$35 for couples.

Graduates interested in joining the Alumni Association can go by the Alumni House on the corner of Barnwell and College streets, across from Capstone or call 777-4111.

Use interview time to clarify job options

From staff reports

Once undergraduate school is complete, it's time to pick a career path. Whether that path leads directly into the job market or on to graduate school, choosing a career needs to be done with thought and research.

One way to get information about a specific career is by meeting with a professional in the field in a "information interview." This type of interview gives students the opportunity to learn about what they feel a particular career involves and the possible career options that would fit those ideas.

Because an information interview is a time to gather knowledge, not to ask for a job, it is a good chance for students to meet a professional in a low-stress environment under

pleasant circumstances. It is also one way to develop a professional contact.

There are six steps students should take to set up and prepare for an information interview.

■ Clarify goals. Students should write out a summary of their abilities, interests and values.

■ Select a place to visit. Students can get ideas from using the Alumni Community Referral File, the Yellow Pages, the Chamber of Commerce, friends, faculty, etc.

■ Set an appointment. When trying to set up an interview, contact the person who is actually doing the job. Avoid the personnel office.

When setting up the interview, students should introduce themselves and tell the professional where they received his or her name. Explain what the interview is

about and if the professional has time to meet with them. If he or she cannot meet, ask if he or she can talk on the phone for a few minutes, and ask for referrals to others in the same career field.

■ Before going to the interview, students should research the organization and prepare a list of questions. Be sure to dress appropriately.

■ During the interview, ask about the various careers in the field, how important the choice of major is, what the future outlook for the field is and what type of salaries are earned.

■ Students must follow up the information interview with a thank you letter. Keep a record of each organization visited, including the name of the contact person and what was discussed.

CLASS OF '94

University of South Carolina



Susanna Gasque,

You, little cutie, have grown up to be a beauty with a baccalaureate degree in geography. Congratulations, honey!

— Love, Mom and Dad

CLASS OF '94

University of South Carolina



Dot Bartell,

Dot decides to be a teacher. She likes having summers off! Congratulations.

— with lots of love,
Mommy and Ted

CLASS OF '94

University of South Carolina



Chris A. Pierson,

Thanks to God and to your hard work you finally got that cherished degree. The entire family is so proud of you and your accomplishments.

— Love, Mom, Dad and family

CLASS OF '94

University of South Carolina



Melissa Latrice Woods

Our wonderful daughter and sister. You are a beautiful, bright and intelligent young lady. May all your dreams become a reality. May God bless you! We are very proud of you.

— Dad and Mom,
Fred, Jr. and Bryan

Facing the Future



The Gamecock
Graduation
Special Edition