Valerie Purdie-Vaughns '93 analyzes how bias in intergroup relations affects human behavior
Horam Expecta Veniet

Dedicated in 1914, the Sundial kept time at the center of College Walk until its sphere developed a crack and was removed in 1946. Today, only the base and various engravings remain. For more current clock spotting, see page 18.

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Lessons from a Campus Landmark

“Meet at the Sundial” may be one of the phrases most frequently used by Columbians. It’s the best-known spot on campus. You may not be able to direct a visitor to Casa Hispanica, or maybe not even to Havemeyer, but there is no doubt you could give directions to the Sundial. We know the landmark so well, it’s so familiar, that we don’t actually think much about the Sundial.

I recently found myself contemplating the Sundial when I learned that this issue of CCT would have a photo essay featuring clocks around campus. Sundials are of course the precursors to mechanical clocks and have been in existence for millennia, used for telling the time of day. Not our sundial. It no longer has a gnomon — typically the blade-like piece that projects from the sundial’s face — to cast the shadow that reveals the time. But even when it did have a gnomon, our sundial was used to tell the date, not the time of day. Harald Jacoby (Class of 1885, GSAS Class of 1895), who became chair of Columbia’s astronomy department, conceived it that way. The Sundial was his class’ gift to the University upon its 25th reunion. Its gnomon was an immense granite sphere, which sat grandly at its center until 1946, when it developed cracks, and the prospect of 15 tons of granite falling on a passerby suggested its removal would be wise.

Even though the Sundial’s function and gnomon were both unconventional, anyone viewing it would have seen its physical operation as familiar. The shadow it cast moved in a clockwise direction when looked at from above. The rotation of the earth made it so. And the revolution of the earth around the sun made it possible for Jacoby’s sundial to indicate the date.

Our revolving earth makes many things predictable, in the sense of the recurrent: the seasons, the calendar and the cycle of the academic year. This is the College’s 262nd year; that is a recurrence of which we all can be proud. So, too, can we be proud of this being the Core’s 96th year. We can equally be proud that this recurrence means permanence but not stasis, as it should be when one of its anchor courses is called Contemporary Civilization.

This year we are very much focusing on securing the recurrence of our success and abjuring the stasis that would diminish our future. We are working on a strategic plan for the College, a plan that will engage all of us, because that future belongs to all of us. What future is worthy of a college that has existed for more than a quarter of a millennium? What do we need to produce that future? How do we acquire what we need?

Alongside that institutional plan, we are developing a “strategic plan” for every Columbia College student. It identifies a set of outcomes — knowledge, skills, abilities, perspectives, understanding, awareness — that we think every College student should possess at graduation. It also provides a guide for every College student outlining the many opportunities offered by the College that will enable each of them to plot a trajectory to achieve those outcomes — no matter their academic or extracurricular interests.

We would like those outcomes to be as recognizable in every Columbia College graduate as “meet at the Sundial” is to every Columbia College graduate. You could say that we want every Columbia College graduate to be as imaginative as Jacoby was when he conceived a sundial to tell the date, not the time of day. And you’d be right.
Letters to the Editor

Hamilton: A Columbia Story

A few years ago we tried to interest our kids in their Columbia roots by showing them campus, Schapiro Hall (where we met), Hamilton Hall (where we took many classes) and Faculty House (where we married). They were completely uninterested. But when Hamilton came to Broadway after its run at The Public Theater, we figured taking our son for his 15th birthday was bound to place Columbia in a more exciting light. The hip-hop musical’s take on Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778), the College’s own “$10 Founding Father without a father” (a line from the show), would have to interest not only us (a U.S. history professor and public interest lawyer) but also our son. It did.

First, into New York City and to the Richard Rodgers Theatre for a Saturday matinee. An entire block of West 46th Street was closed to traffic. Why? A tent was erected in front of the entrance. Metal detectors, bag searches, TSA, NYPD and Secret Service. The audience was seated, the lights dimmed and then President Barack Obama ’83 entered with his daughters, walking a few feet in front of us to their seats.

Watching one of our most famous alums watch another of our most famous alums, in a theater named after yet another famous Columbia alum, was fascinating, surreal and highly enjoyable. The musical’s multi-racial cast uses rap to tell the story of the American Revolution and early years of the nation in a way that directly connects the past to the present. The audience was electrified: Here was history written in hip-hop.

That President Obama was in that audience only heightened the zeitgeist of the performance. The critical acclaim for Hamilton speaks for itself; the show is superb. But for us it took on a special significance.

Richard Rodgers (Class of 1923) did his first two years of college at Columbia, Obama his last two. Hamilton’s studies at King’s College segued directly into his participation in the Revolutionary War. For each it was a place where significant events were put into motion, key friendships and partnerships were made and critical ideas were formed. We feel the same way about the college that brought us together, and led to our son (and daughter, who was too young to attend the performance). The thread that ran from Hamilton, to Rodgers, to the President, to the show, to us, made the experience positively exhilarating, even for our teenage. The final number of Hamilton asks, “Who tells your story?” We are grateful to have seen this Columbia story told.

Alice Bers ’93 and John Baick ’91
Longmeadow, Mass.

WKCR Nears 75

WKCR-FM is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2016. WKCR originated as the Columbia University Radio Club in 1936 and its first official broadcast was on February 24, 1941. On October 10, 1941, CURC was granted its license from the Federal Communications Commission. WKCR celebrates 1941 as its founding year and February 24 as its birthday.

The station will look back on 75 years of broadcasting and radio throughout the remainder of 2015 and throughout 2016. Check wkcr.org for exclusive content that is being unveiled for this milestone.

Alumni interested in WKCR’s 75th anniversary celebrations can find out more by contacting me at WKCR75@gmail.com.

Elisabeth Stam BC’16
New York City

(Editor’s note: The writer is WKCR’s station manager.)

Tilson’s Drugstore

Maybe I missed something, but I’m not sure I’ve seen in the food issue [Spring 2015] or in comments about it any mention of Tilson’s Drugstore, which through the 1950s was a familiar landmark at the corner of West 116th and Broadway. It had an excellent lunch counter and sold all sorts of things including art supplies,
t Leonard Schwartzman '67
Austin, Texas

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not CCT, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and CCT style. Please direct letters for publication “to the editor” via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.

Class Speakers
In flipping through the Summer 2015 issue I was disappointed to see that the speakers highlighted by CCT for the Class of 2015 were all male, especially considering the very public and much-discussed activism of Emma Sulkowicz '15.

I will not comment specifically on the accusations or broader issues exposed but I feel that Sulkowicz's actions were fearless and her commitment to her performative artistic expression extremely impressive. As an alumna who is also an artist, I commend Sulkowicz for her strength and strongly support her in standing up for herself and for any college students who have shared her experience and choose to remain voiceless.

It seems to me that — for this class in particular — the College should have invited at least one alumna to address the graduates. I am curious — what is the ratio of female speakers to male through the years since the College was opened to women?

I am not suggesting that being male and being an example to women are mutually exclusive but I do believe this ceremony was an important opportunity for the presence of female alumni to represent strength and success beyond the College.

Rachel Lindsay '09
BURLINGTON, VT.

(Editor's note: Salutatorian Stephanie Gerouldis '15 spoke at this year's Class Day. Also, since the College began admitting women in 1983, children's rights activist Marian Wright Edelman (1993), journalist Claire Shipman '86, SIPA '94 (1999) and broadcast executive Alexandra Wallace Creed '88 (2011) have been keynote speakers at Class Day. In recent years, the keynote speaker at Commencement has traditionally been the University president.)

Trigger Warnings
As I view the photo of some of the exuberant graduates of the Class of 2015 on the cover of the Summer 2015 issue, I wonder how many of them appreciate the significance of the movement among their classmates, reported in the press, to require “trigger warning” labels on those books included in the Literature Humanities reading list that treat of rape and other violent acts, on the grounds that these works might offend some students.

Since when has higher education had as one of its legitimate goals the avoidance of uncomfortable thoughts, rather than the impartation of knowledge, ideas and the cultivation of the ability to think critically and analytically?

How can we expect the future opinion leaders of our nation, and of the world, to strive for the advancement of humanistic values if they are kept in a perennial state of childlike ignorance by an institution that purports to prepare them to defend such values? And since when is the much-maligned “Eurocentrism” of the curriculum a bad thing, given the fact that men and women all over the world have for centuries looked to Western culture and its non-Western interpretations as the basis for their own efforts to strive for freedom of thought, intellectual and material advancement, and the abolition of racial, ethnic, religious and sexual injustices?

Is this what we want alma mater to stand for?

Daniel Waitzman '65, GSAS '68
HICKSVILLE, N.Y.

During the half-century since I was at Columbia, I’ve become increasingly disenchanted with the way things have been going there. In the latest episode that I’ve become aware of in the game “I’ll bet I can be offended by more things than you can,” the April 30 edition of Spectator published a letter by four students. Their main claim was: “Students need to feel safe in the classroom, and that requires a learning environment that recognizes the multiplicity of their identities.”

Look at the absurdity of considering everything according to “identity” and “feeling safe.” I’m 5-foot-5, quite short for a male in this country, so as a Diminutive-American I’ll follow those students and demand to have a “trigger warning” appear in history classes before every mention of Abraham Lincoln (6-4), George Washington (6-2) and Thomas Jefferson (6-2), lest I feel belittled by those towering figures. In order for students who share my identity to feel “safe,” I want Columbia to replace all classroom seating with computer-controlled chairs; as soon as everyone is seated, the teacher will press a button and all the seats in each row will go up or down as necessary to ensure that everyone’s head is at the same height. When it comes to language, teachers and students must keep from triggering feelings of inferiority in me and my height-challenged peers, so expressions like “short-handed,” “come up short” and “give short shrift to” are to be scrupulously avoided. On the baseball team, the fielder between second base and third base must be called the ground-ball-hit-to-left-field-stop. In Music Humanities, Schubert’s “Little C Major Symphony” shall be called his “Earlier C Major Symphony.” In literature classes, St. Exupéry’s masterpiece has to be referred to as “The Prince,” or, to avoid confusion with Machiavelli, “The 20th Century C.E. Prince.” The Supreme Court must be called the Supreme Tribunal because Columbia students are savvy enough about the world’s languages to know that court means short in French.

That would be folly, of course, but perhaps not to the dissatisfied students, who also wanted “a training program for all professors, including faculty and graduate instructors, which will enable them to constructively facilitate conversations that embrace all identities, share best practices, and think critically about how the Core Curriculum is framed for their students.” Look at all the jargon in that sentence. Worse than the clichéd writing, of course, is the substance of the proposal, which reminds us that in Communist dictatorships, dissidents and erring party members used to be sent to “reeducation” camps.

The writers of the letter are acting like petulant children who insist on having everyone cosset them. They might feel “safe” if they could be transported back to elementary school, where even simulacra of guns, and therefore triggers, are now forbidden, but if these students want to stay in college they should demonstrate that they’re mature enough for it by no longer being intimidated by every will-o’-wisp around them.

Steven Schwartzman '67
AUSTIN, TEXAS
Former U.S. attorney general and University trustee emeritus Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, LAW76 will be presented the 2015 Alexander Hamilton Medal at this fall’s annual Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner. The medal, the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community, is awarded each year by the Columbia College Alumni Association for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

The black-tie event will take place on Thursday, November 19, in Low Rotunda.

Holder served as the 82nd Attorney General of the United States from February 2009 to April 2015. He has since rejoined the law firm of Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., where he had been a partner from 2001 until joining the Obama administration.

Holder is the third-longest serving attorney general in U.S. history and the first African-American to hold that office. He is an internationally recognized leader across a broad range of regulatory enforcement, criminal justice and national security issues. In 2014, Time magazine named him to its list of “100 Most Influential People,” noting that he had “worked tirelessly to ensure equal justice.”

Including his tenure as attorney general, Holder — a 1996 recipient of the College’s John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement — has served in government for more than 30 years, having been appointed to various positions requiring U.S. Senate confirmation by Presidents Obama, Clinton and Reagan. He was deputy attorney general from 1997 to 2001; U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia from 1993 to 1997; associate judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia from 1988 to 1993; and trial attorney, Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Criminal Division, from 1976 to 1988.

Before becoming attorney general, Holder maintained a wide-ranging investigations and litigation practice at Covington. Among numerous significant engagements, he led the firm’s representation of a major multi-national agricultural company in related civil, criminal and investigative matters; acted as counsel to a special investigative committee of the board of directors of a Fortune 50 technology company; successfully tried a complex discrimination lawsuit on behalf of a leading financial services company; and represented several life sciences companies in litigation and investigations. He now advises clients on complex investigations and litigation matters, including those that are international in scope and involve significant regulatory enforcement issues and substantial reputational concerns.

A University trustee from 2007 to 2009, Holder was the Class Day keynote speaker in 2009 and a Dean’s Day speaker in 2013. He was a member of the College’s Board of Visitors from 1997 to 2003, and then again from 2003 to 2007, and was a member of the Law School’s Board of Visitors from 1995 to 2003.

Holder is married to Dr. Sharon Malone PS’88, an obstetrician, and the couple has three children.

For more information on the dinner, contact Robin V. Del Giorno, associate director, College events and programs: robinv@columbia.edu or 212-851-7399.

Alumni Awarded Fulbright Scholarships

Eight alumni have been awarded grants through the 2015–16 Fulbright U.S. Student Program. The 69-year-old program allows recent college graduates, young professionals and master’s and doctoral candidates to spend one year either conducting international research and study projects or teaching English internationally. Roughly 1,900 grants are awarded each year and the program operates in more than 140 countries.

The following alumni were accepted into the 2015–16 program: Celia Bell ’13 will conduct research in India for her project “Gendered Voices in the Poetry of Luft un-Nisa Imtiyaz and Mah Laqa Bai”; Joseph Betts ’15 will research “Sustainable Urban Housing Development and Classical Music Engagement” in the Netherlands; Rebecca Clark ’13 will go to Brazil to study “Race in Brazilian Theatrical Productions of the Western Canon”; Benjamin Spener ’14 will conduct research in Mexico for his project “Biahtonal Business”; Erida Tosini-Corea ’15 will teach English in Brazil; Tracey Wang ’15 will teach English in Taiwan; Eric Wong ’15 is headed to Finland to research “Global Competitiveness: How Finland Fares in an Increasingly Globalized World”; and Hannah Wilentz ’12 will conduct research in Cyprus on “Art and Architectural History.”
Toni Morrison Joins Ranks of Lit Hum Authors

Toni Morrison's 1977 novel *Song of Solomon* has been added to the Literature Humanities syllabus, making its Pulitzer-and Nobel-prize-winning author the first living and first African-American writer to be included in the required list of readings for the class.

The book, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award, will be the last book read in the two-semester course for the 2015–16 academic year. (Previously, section leaders had assigned a text of their choosing for the final slot.) Also cycling onto the reading list are four works from years past: Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Sappho's *Lyrics*, Euripides' *The Bacchae* and Boccaccio's *The Decameron*.

Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*, Euripides' *Medea*, Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and Goethe's *Faust* are among those on a break.

The changes came out of a routine review of the readings for Lit Hum, which debuted as Humanities A in 1937. A committee of faculty evaluates the reading list, taking into account recommendations from all faculty members who teach the course before proposing a revised syllabus. The entire course's faculty then votes on whether to adopt the changes.

“We thought it was time to have a later 20th-century text; it was something both instructors and students wanted,” says Julie Crawford, the Mark van Doren Professor of Humanities and chair of Literature Humanities. “*Song of Solomon* is in many ways a very canonical choice — Morrison has won all the major literary awards — and one that speaks brilliantly to many of the themes and arcs of the course. I think it’s an exciting addition, and I can’t wait to hear the conversations we have.”

Columbia College Fund Raises More Than $18 Million

The Fiscal Year 2014–15 Columbia College Fund surpassed the prior fiscal year’s total raised with 11,715 Columbia College alumni, parents and friends contributing $18.25 million. The money goes to areas such as financial aid, the Core Curriculum and student services, as well as helps to provide stipends for student internships and global study opportunities.

Donations received from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015, counted toward the total.

The Columbia College Parents Fund had the most donors in its history, with more than 1,740 parents contributing more than $3 million.

April was a stand-out month: Nearly 1,900 donors made gifts to the fund, exceeding the record for participation in that month and helping to secure a $100,000 challenge gift from an anonymous donor.

On Columbia Giving Day 2014, held October 29, the College took first place for overall giving for the third consecutive year by raising more than $3.08 million in 24 hours. College alumni accounted for 31.6 percent of the $11 million total raised by the University on that day.

To make a gift to the FY16 Columbia College Fund, go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/give/ways. You can give by credit card on the site, or learn more about giving by check, matching gifts, planned giving and more.

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A shared love of soccer sparked a friendship between Vivek Ramakrishnan '16 and Ben Makansi '16, and inspired their quest to give a community in Uganda a playing field of its own.

The ambitious project had its roots in Pass It On Soccer, a nonprofit that Ramakrishnan founded as a high school student in Madison, Wis., for the purpose of collecting soccer balls and cleats to send to charitable organizations in Africa. When he learned that the only public soccer field in Mpigi, a rural town in central Uganda, was slated to become a market, he resolved to provide its residents with a sustainable place to play. “The idea of Pass It On has been to make soccer accessible to people who don’t have soccer equipment, and [building a field] seemed like an extension of that,” he says.

Makansi joined the cause to support Ramakrishnan — they are best friends and also he considers soccer a potentially transformative force. “We both see soccer as a tool for social change,” he says. The Mpigi Soccer Field Project, as the endeavor came to be known, was a collaboration between Pass It On Soccer and Abato Foundation Uganda, a charity that works with orphaned and impoverished children in the region.

Open for all to use, the new field sits next to a school operated by Abato. According to Abato founder Moses Kalanzi, it is used by local youth soccer programs, including one run by his organization, which also uses the space for physical education, assemblies and group prayer. “It’s probably one of the few areas in the village where children feel safe and can play without limitations,” says Kalanzi of the field, which is also used for community meetings and weddings.

Among the first steps Ramakrishnan took toward building the field was applying for the Balanced Man Fellowship, established in 2013 by the Columbia chapter of the Sigma Phi Epsilon national fraternity and awarded every year to an undergraduate-run charitable project. (Ramakrishnan and Makansi belong to a different fraternity, Beta Theta Pi.) Ramakrishnan won the $3,500 grant in March 2014 and, with Kalanzi’s help, used the money to purchase part of the land for the field. He then asked Makansi to help him raise the rest of the funds. “He had the passion for it,” says Ramakrishnan. “And I knew it would be more fun with him.” Makansi managed the project’s social media accounts and online fundraising page. He also procured a $10,000 donation from H.F. “Gerry” Gulati GSAS’86, a University trustee emeritus and the benefactor behind the table tennis program, of which Makansi is a recipient. Meanwhile, Ramakrishnan raffled off a 2014 World Cup jersey signed by the U.S. National Soccer Team, which he obtained with the assistance of Sunil Gulati CSAS’86, a senior lecturer in the economics department and president of the United States Soccer Federation.

In July 2014, after raising a total of around $21,500 — enough to cover construction costs and their travel expenses, and to establish a maintenance fund for the field — Ramakrishnan and Makansi flew to Mpigi, where they stayed with Kalanzi. For a week, they rose around 8 a.m. and worked on the field until late afternoon alongside local volunteers. Their tasks included manually positioning plots of grass that had been hand-cut from the surrounding hills. “For Viv and me, it was really important to be a part of the hands-on aspect of the construction,” says Makansi. “But we also wanted the members of the community to feel they had ownership of the field, so we worked with them.”

Ramakrishnan and Makansi met as incoming freshmen during a game of pick-up soccer in Riverside Park. They both played the sport seriously when they were younger and have been teammates on intramural soccer teams at Columbia. Among their other pursuits, Ramakrishnan, an economics major, is a member of the Columbia Table Tennis Club (he was nationally ranked at one point) and is an auxiliary police officer with the NYPD; Makansi, an astronomy major from Steelville, Pa., founded the Columbia Atheist and Agnostic Students Society and performs with Sabor, the University’s student Latino dance troupe. This year, Makansi and Ramakrishnan are president and vice president of policy, respectively, on the Columbia College Student Council Executive Board.

As his and Makansi’s thoughts turn to post-graduation plans, Ramakrishnan doesn’t foresee having the time to continue his work with Pass It On Soccer; however, he considers the field a satisfying legacy. “This was the perfect capstone to the work of Pass It On Soccer,” he says. “Balls go flat, cleats wear out, but the field will endure over time.”

To view a video recap of the Mpigi Soccer Field Project, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.
In 1965, a group of College and Barnard undergraduates formed a pilot program with the dual mission of engaging Columbia students with the neighborhoods around them and helping the youth of those neighborhoods — who often attended underserved, underperforming schools — have a better shot at college.

The Double Discovery Center, as the program came to be called, has since developed into a multifaceted nonprofit offering services to NYC youth from tutoring and one-on-one advising to internships, academic classes, career days and more. In a half-century DDC has successfully served more than 15,000 young people. Now, it annually works with more than 1,000 students; 90 percent of its high school seniors graduate on time and enroll in college.

To celebrate its milestone year, DDC is holding a 50th Anniversary Gala on September 10 in Low Rotunda. The dinner will feature a silent fundraising auction and remarks by Dean James J. Valentini as well as the presentation of the James F. Shenton Awards, given in recognition of recipients’ accomplishments and contributions to DDC’s mission. This year’s honorees are Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS’74, DDC co-founder and the College’s dean of students from 1979 to 1998, and Joel I. Klein ’67, CEO of Amplify and EVP of NewsCorp.

“We wanted to use the 50th anniversary to highlight one of Columbia’s best-kept secrets — and arguably one of New York’s best kept secrets,” said Constantine Dimas ’96, chair of the DDC Board of Friends. “This celebration will hopefully usher in a new and significant era for the organization and the students it serves.”

Fundraising, Dimas explained, is a new part of DDC’s strategic plan: “We began [raising money] in earnest for two reasons. One was the very real risk of depleted federal funding for the program; the second was that we wanted to draw attention to Double Discovery and to pursue specific initiatives that will be rolled out in the coming months — things like focusing on technology and creating a permanent endowment for DDC. We want to ensure DDC’s survival as it currently stands but also to reach much further — to helping more students in more, different ways.”

DDC executive director Joseph Ayala ’94 had high praise for the honorees. “With Roger, you’re talking about an individual whose commitment and dedication is in many ways responsible for the survival of Double Discovery throughout the years,” Ayala said. “It’s important to him that there be some extension of the wonderful education that happens here at Columbia to children who wouldn’t otherwise get it. He has been a steadfast supporter of the program throughout his career and, now in his retirement, he is still one of the principal supporters.”

Shifting to Klein, Ayala added that many of DDC’s goals and aspirations are embodied in his career, which included eight years as NYC schools chancellor.

“When you think about those themes of our mission, it’s fitting to honor someone like Joel,” Ayala said. “He has been a big voice for educational innovation and a leader in our area.”
Roar, Lion, Roar

Matchup of the Year Highlights Homecoming 2015

Homecoming is always a big day on the fall calendar, but Homecoming 2015 promises to have a little extra juice. That’s because when the Lions run onto Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium at 3:30 p.m. to face the Penn Quakers, it will be the first time new Columbia coach Al Bagnoli faces the team he guided for 23 years before resigning last winter.

Bagnoli, the all-time winningest head coach in NCAA Football Championship Subdivision history, led the Quakers to nine Ivy League championships and 148 victories during his successful tenure in Philadelphia. Last winter, he opted to pass the coaching torch to longtime aide Ray Priore and transition to an administrative position in the Penn athletics department. But when Bagnoli discovered that deskwork was not as much to his liking as striding the sidelines, and Columbia came calling, he traded in his Penn navy for the Lions’ light blue (see “Switching Sidelines,” page 22).

The football matchup that both schools’ fans have been waiting for since Bagnoli’s move was announced in February will cap a big day for Columbia alumni, who will gather starting at noon for the camaraderie and family-friendly programs of Homecoming at the Baker Athletics Complex.

The Picnic Under the Big Tent will take place from noon to 3:30 p.m., with tickets priced at $20 for adults and $10 for children under 12, if purchased by Friday, October 16. A limited number of tickets will be sold on site for $22 and $12, respectively. Each ticket includes an all-you-can-eat barbecue buffet lunch, soft drinks (beer, wine and cocktails will be available at an additional cost) and admission to the Homecoming Carnival, where all Columbians — young, old and in between — may participate in face-painting, balloon-making, magic, games and other activities.

Picnic tickets may be bought online at college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming/2015. Tickets for the football game must be purchased separately by calling 888-LIONS-11 or online at gocolumbialions.com/tickets.

At halftime, which should be about 4:45 p.m., everyone is invited back to the Big Tent for dessert and refreshments before returning to the stadium to cheer on the Lions.

Single-game parking is not available at Baker Athletics Complex and street parking is limited, so the best way to get there is by mass transit. The complex is at Broadway and West 218th Street; take the 1 train to 215th Street, the closest stop to the stadium, or the A train to Inwood - 207th Street. There are often weekend subway changes, so visit mta.info for the most up-to-date transit schedules.

Complimentary shuttle buses will be available from the Morningside campus to and from Baker Athletics Complex. Buses will depart from the gate at West 116th Street and Broadway starting at 11 a.m. and will return to campus immediately following the game.

For more information, please contact Fatima Yudeh, Alumni Affairs: fy2165@columbia.edu.

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit gocolumbialions.com.
Irv DeKoff, Former Fencing Coach, Dies

Irv DeKoff, who coached Columbia fencing to great success from 1952 to 1967 and was selected to the Columbia University Athletics and USA Fencing Halls of Fame, died on July 19, 2015.

The Ivy League began competition during DeKoff’s era, and Columbia claimed 11 of 12 conference titles during his tenure. DeKoff’s teams posted a 141-25 record and won four NCAA team championships, and he was responsible for the development of eight NCAA individual champions, 18 All-Americans and two Olympians. He was enshrined into the U.S. Fencing Association Hall of Fame in 1967 and the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

“He was a winner who loved his students and loved the sport of fencing,” says current Columbia head fencing coach Michael Aufrichtig, who guided the Lions to the NCAA crown in 2015. “He will be greatly missed by the Columbia fencing family.”

EKE:
Nadia Eke ’15 capped her Columbia career by placing fourth in the triple jump on June 13 at the NCAA Track & Field Championships in Eugene, Ore. Eke jumped 13.46m (44'2''), which topped her Ivy League record of 13.39m set at the 2015 Penn Relays. On July 23, Eke, a four-time All-American in the triple jump, was named among the 147 finalists for the 2015 NCAA Woman of the Year award.

JACOBSON: Emily Jacobson ’08, a first-team All-American all four seasons at Columbia who competed in the 2004 Olympics and won the 2005 NCAA individual sabre championship, has been selected for induction into the USA Fencing Hall of Fame 2016 class. She compiled a record of 131-16 at Columbia, a winning percentage of .891, and was inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2014.

FENCING MEDALS: A trio of Columbia fencers earned a combined four medals at the 2015 Pan-American Games in Toronto in July. Jeff Spear ’10 won a gold medal with the U.S. sabre team, defeating Chile, Argentina and Canada. Nicole Ross ’13 earned a bronze medal in the women’s foil competition, and she and Nzingha Prescod ’15 took the silver medal in the team foil event after being edged by Canada, 38-37, in the finals. Earlier in the month, Prescod made history when she earned a bronze medal in the women’s foil at the Senior World Championships, becoming the first African-American woman to medal in the Senior Worlds.

LO: Maodo Lo ’16 led Germany to the silver medal at the 2015 University Games in July in Gwangju, South Korea, averaging a team-high 12.0 points and 4.2 assists in five games. He later trained with the German Senior National Team as it prepared to compete in the European Championships (EuroBasket) in September in Berlin. The 6-foot-3 guard was born and raised in Berlin, then spent one year at Wilbraham & Monson (Mass.) Academy before enrolling at Columbia.

SCOREBOARD

500 Yards gained last season by Cameron Molina ’16, Columbia’s leading rusher

4 National ranking of men’s squash team following 2015 season

.718 Career winning percentage for Al Bagnoli, third-best among active Football Championship Subdivision coaches
A 15-minute writing exercise, done by African-American students in seventh and then again in eighth grade, can make a difference in whether they go to college.

That's the powerful message Associate Professor of Psychology Valerie Purdie-Vaughns '93 has just delivered at the start of the keynote lecture at Dean's Day in May. Purdie-Vaughns is an expert in the causes and consequences of what could loosely be called insider-outsider dynamics and, 10 minutes into her lecture, the atmosphere already feels more like a TED Talk than a standard classroom address. She paces and punctuates her speech with the ease of a natural storyteller. The stillness that settles over the almost 200 attendees is telling: Everyone is paying attention.

The context for the study being explained is critical. These students, a mix comprising mainly whites and African-Americans, attend an inner-city middle school outside Hartford, Conn. Typically its sixth graders start out doing equally well but as they move through seventh and eighth grade, a difference in the performance of the two groups appears and widens — the oft-cited achievement gap.

In this case, Purdie-Vaughns and her team had a subset of the roughly 200-member seventh grade class participate in what they term an affirmation exercise. It asked the students to reflect on and write about their most important values, such as athletic ability, creativity, religion or sense of humor. Wrote one girl: “My family, I can’t live without them. My friends, I am my real self around them (and my sister). I can be silly, goofy and weird and they don’t care, they accept me for who I am.” The rest of the class served as the control group, writing instead about their least important values and why they might be significant to someone else.

Ultimately, the students completed four of these affirmations over the course of seventh and eighth grade. A transformative effect was evident in the minority students’ report cards by the time they graduated from middle school — but the stunner came seven years later, with college enrollment. Of the control group, 80 percent of white students and 76 percent of black students were attending college. For whites in the “affirmed” group, the number hovered around the same level as their control counterparts. For African-Americans, however, it climbed to 87 percent.

The explanation behind this change in academic trajectory is complex, and during the next hour Purdie-Vaughns carefully lays out the factors at play. She describes the nature of the self and of stereotype threat — a person’s awareness that he or she may be contending with a negative stereotype, such as the notion that African-American students do poorly in school, or fear of doing something to inad-

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Beating BIAS

Valerie Purdie-Vaughns '93 delivered the keynote lecture at Dean's Day in May.
PHOTO: SCOTT RUDD

Vertently confirm that stereotype. She explains how this threat can hurt both the physical and mental health of people on the receiving end, and how its existence and potency changes depending on the situation. And, as the affirmations showed, she and her colleagues are onto solutions for helping people to protect themselves, in a lasting way, from its most deleterious effects.

Purdie-Vaughns also makes clear that this is not a minority story. Everyone experiences stereotyping.

Purdie-Vaughns works in a large windowless office at the end of a hallway on the fourth floor of Schermerhorn. It’s messy on this afternoon, several weeks after Dean’s Day, and she apologizes: books, notepads and paperwork are spread out over a table-turned-second-desk and its chairs, and indeterminate clutter makes sitting on the couch an impossibility. A chalkboard hangs on one wall; bookshelves line two others.

The interesting thing about the office, however, is its history: The room was a storage closet before she claimed it upon arriving at Columbia to be a professor, in 2009, and more than a decade before that it was the place where she worked for three years as lab manager for psychology professor Geraldine Downey. “It has sentimental value for me because this is where I learned to be interested in scholarship,” Purdie-Vaughns says. She points to each corner, conjuring where she and three fellow researchers sat.

Indeed, as Purdie-Vaughns tells it, hers is a tale of two Columbias, and the varsity basketball player who was “an underperforming student” never would have imagined the professor sitting here now: director of the Laboratory of Intergroup Relations and the Social Mind, the hub for her research into how differences between social groups affect human behavior; a faculty member with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars Program; a former research fellow with the Institute for Research in African-American Studies; and a 2014 recipient of the Lenfest Distinguished Columbia Faculty Award for teaching. Purdie-Vaughns also speaks at colleges and companies nationwide and contributes to media from NPR to PBS’ Tavis Smiley Show to Fortune magazine and Huffington Post.

Political science professor Fred Harris, who directs the Center on African-American Politics and Society, underscores the value of this last point—especially, he says, given the carefulness of her research and caution when interpreting its implications. “Her work on conscious and unconscious bias is important,” he says. “Particularly with the events of the past year, with the incidents of police misconduct and police violence against people in this country, I think her research becomes much more relevant. She is one of the rational voices out there in the public realm.”

Downey notes, “Valerie is a social psychologist, but what differentiates her is that she links it to really pressing social problems and has a really good understanding of what it’s like to come from a minority group. She can get into the heads of people and understand how what they’re doing is shaped by the context they’re in.”

Purdie-Vaughns herself volunteers that she has struggled with questions around outsiders her whole life. She grew up in a lower-middle class, largely Italian neighborhood in Brentwood, N.Y., on Long Island — a railroad track town, she says, with whites on one side of the tracks and blacks on the other; hers was the first black family on their block. Her mother was a third-grade teacher and her father was an engineer at nearby Long Island MacArthur Airport; brother Vincent is 1½ years older.

“My parents spent a lot of time and energy, I can see now, trying to both raise black children to be aware of who we were as racial beings but also to protect us from a lot of the things that were happening in our neighborhood, some of them being really unpleasant,” says Purdie-Vaughns.

She shares an anecdote from when she was in fourth grade and auditioning for The Pirates of Penzance. She and a white girl were the finalists for the lead female role, and she recalls the music teacher telling her, “You’re the best and you should be the head actress, but you’re black and the part can’t be for someone who looks like you … so we’re going to make you the lead musician so you’re not on stage.”

Purdie-Vaughns shakes her head. “I didn’t tell my parents but I remember thinking, why does it actually matter? You’re acknowledging that I’m the best actress but I don’t look like what you think
Purdie-Vaughns was recruited by Columbia to play basketball — power forward — which became the anchor of her undergraduate experience. (At nearly 6 ft., she recalls with a laugh that her original sport was gymnastics.) Of the lessons of athletics, she says, “I wouldn’t be a candidate for tenure if I didn’t play sports; that was how I learned how to compete — the mental discipline, being able to push yourself, being able to do something that you never thought was possible.”

Academics were another matter. “I wanted to do well enough to not get kicked out,” Purdie-Vaughns says. “I thought getting into college was the end game, not the beginning of something else. I’d never even met anyone who had a master’s degree — maybe one of my parents’ friends? — and I wouldn’t have known what that meant, or why you would need to have one.”

Her plan was to be a teacher, and after graduation she took something of a related job with the I Have A Dream Foundation, running a program that created mentoring and summer camp programs for third-graders in under-resourced communities. In 1996, when she wanted to learn how to track her students’ progress in school across the longer term, to see if they made it to college, she turned to “the only professor I felt comfortable coming back and talking to” — Downey, with whom she’d taken an abnormal psychology class. The conversation piqued Purdie-Vaughns’ interest and she soon decided to leave the foundation for a job in Downey’s lab.

Downey’s research at the time centered on understanding teens’ transition from friendships to romantic relationships. Purdie-Vaughns quickly became excited by the work. “I realized I had different ideas about research questions because I have a different way of seeing the world, because I myself am a minority. And that was when I realized I had something to say to this thing called the research community.”

She also discovered that “being a researcher is like Wendy Williams, just a nosy person who wants to know the answer.” She laughs. “You can be a reporter, a researcher, a talk show host — the difference is just the training, learning the methods to go answer the questions.”

She soon began thinking about graduate study, and Stanford appealed to her for the opportunity to work with social psychologist Claude Steele. A leader in the field, Steele was among the first to establish and explore the concept of stereotype threat. (He also was Columbia provost from 2009 to 2011.) Purdie-Vaughns’ parents were by then divorced and, wanting the chance to meet Steele before applying, she persuaded her mom to take her and her brother on a California vacation, hiding her motive all the while. Purdie-Vaughns then camped outside Steele’s office one day until he had time for a conversation.

“He was known for his work showing that stereotypes are a big part of the story of what adds a unique form of stress for minority students, and that this stress undermines performance,” she says. “My entire life, I had always thought that minority students underperform because they come from bad homes or because they had bad culture, bad study habits. I never thought about the idea that there was something in the environment that has to do with bias that can be the cause of this underperformance.

“It was an epiphany to think you could capture this thing called social context that could tell you about the amount of bias in the environment, and then that would in turn tell you something important about human behavior.”

Purdie-Vaughns earned a Ph.D. in social psychology from Stanford in 2004, with Steele as her adviser. (“If you accept me, I will never disappoint you,” she recalls saying to him, adding, “I don’t know; I hope I haven’t.”) She then was an assistant professor in the psychology department at Yale until 2009, when she came to Columbia.

Purdie-Vaughns underscores that she wouldn’t be in her position without the support of her family: her mother, Shirley Purdie; husband, David Vaughns, a social worker and family therapist; and daughter, Marin (7). “When I applied for my first job, my husband listened to my job talk 26 times. It’s insane that I
Beating BIAS

would practice 26 times, but it’s insane that he would listen 26 times. And my mom, who’s almost 80, has been watching my daughter since she was born.

“I didn’t come from a wealthy family. I didn’t have all this day care and extra support. It’s been amazing. It’s important to know, it’s not each one of us alone.”

These days, Purdie-Vaughns is interested in any idea that connects identity, and the stressors that go with identity, with human behavior. “The way I like to think about it is: How does the dynamic of insiders and outsiders get set up in institutions? What does it look like, how does it feel, and what are the costs of that?”

This insider-outsider dynamic can assert itself in instances of race, age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and more. Along with the minority achievement gap, Purdie-Vaughns has studied women in the sciences, gender and negotiations, racial health disparities, concealment in the workplace by members of the LGBT community, the meaning of rational identity and how it affects immigrant citizen relations, and people’s propensity to associate blackness with criminality, and conversely, criminality with being black. She and Downey are embarking on a project with formerly incarcerated individuals and their capacity to find work.

“To me, these are the most important discussions of our time,” Purdie-Vaughns says about the need to understand and find ways to improve intergroup relations.

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“To me, these are the most important discussions of our time,” she says, citing examples from the past few weeks alone: the church shootings in Charleston and President Barack Obama ’83’s response to them; the revelation that an NAACP leader deceived people about her race; and the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling that same-sex couples are guaranteed the right to marry.

And though every situation comes with its own particularities, Purdie-Vaughns says, there are common themes.

For example, the source of the bias almost always starts with the institutions in which people find themselves. Consider a 50-year-old at a Silicon Valley company; he sees his much younger colleagues arrive to work on bicycles or scooters, or sitting around on giant inflatable green balls.

“That tells you something powerful,” says Purdie-Vaughns. “It’s visual, it’s immediate. It’s not policy, and yet it’s saying: ‘You don’t belong there.’ We need to be thinking, ‘What is it about institutions that make people feel like they don’t fit in?’”

Second, contending with bias hurts physically. The resulting stress can manifest in ways from extending the time it takes to recover from a cold to contributing to early onset heart disease and increased risk for heart attack. “Just like people know that eating enough potato chips puts you at higher risk for all kinds of cardiac problems, enough stress will have similar effects,” she says. “And it’s not just stress — the stress associated with bias in particular. I always laugh when I see policies coming out of Congress or the New York State Senate, aimed at getting people to exercise. If you think about where the health payoff is, I would put my money on reducing bias and discrimination because it takes such a toll on mortality, health, psychological well-being, how we treat our children.”

The last commonality, she says, “is why I study this: it’s not that hard to change.” The key is to eliminate either the stereotype or the stress that comes from it.

To help with the former, she advocates for structural changes in institutions. Diversity in the workplace, for example, may be increased by switching to cluster hiring — interviewing for and filling multiple positions at once — instead of hiring for individual positions. (People operate in a different mindset when they are considering groups, she explains: They think instead about teams, who fits best together and how there are many ways to define “best,” rather than fixate on some prototypical employee ideal.)

As for easing the stress of stereotype threat, the psychological armor described in her Dean’s Day lecture is one strategy; it causes students to reappraise their capacity to cope, with a ripple effect that ultimately puts them in better position to focus on schoolwork.

“You can protect minority students, women, LGBT [individuals], from the stress of stereotypes,” Purdie-Vaughns says. “There’s a lot of work that can be done. The key is getting it out of the laboratory and into practice. That’s hopefully the next big part of my career: integrating the world of academia with the world of policy.”
Purdie-Vaughns dreams of building a center at Columbia where people interested in policy, journalism and both basic and applied research would come together for discussion. Her media appearances are another way of increasing understanding about the causes of bias as well as raising awareness of potential solutions. “I don’t even think my opinion is important when I go on these shows,” she says. “I like to bring the science — to say, we can talk about these issues but psychologists study them, rigorously, and there are scientific answers to these questions.”

Of course, Purdie-Vaughns also is having an influence through the classroom and in her research lab. She regularly teaches “Introduction to Cultural Psychology” and “Cultural Psychology in the Public Interest” in addition to graduate courses. Her lab engages postdoctoral and doctoral students as well as postbacs and undergraduates, the latter through the Lobel Fellow Program. Now in its second year, the program provides funding for up to four undergraduates to work in her lab every year, including 15 hours a week during the school year and full-time in the summer.

“Columbia students care deeply about something in the world. It may not be the thing that I care about,” Purdie-Vaughns says, laughing, “but they care about something — and they’re going to get you on board.” With that in mind, she adds, “My goal is to turn on every student in all my courses once — just one day — to get them to think a little bit differently. That’s a lot of students, that’s a lot of days! But that’s what I ask for.”

Former lab manager Nick Camp ’09 attests that Purdie-Vaughns’ passion is contagious and her philosophy inspiring. “What I really learned from Valerie is that research, when it’s done right, has something to say to society and something to give back to society — and vice versa,” says Camp, now a Ph.D. student in social psychology at Stanford.

“Dynamic is a clichéd term but Valerie has the most positive energy of any academic I’ve known,” he adds. “She is constantly in motion and you can feel the energy in the room change when she enters; there’s a spark there.”

Downey agrees — “she pulls people along with her” — continuing, “Valerie has a capacity to communicate that’s presidential. She’s able to speak to the public in the different ways that are needed, to do it for broad and different audiences — not just [translating it into] layman’s terms, but whomever the audience is; she seems to be able to make that switch.”

Both qualities were on display during Purdie-Vaughns’ Dean’s Day lecture, as was the excitement generated by her research. She gamely took a 20-minute detour for questions in the middle of her talk, criss-crossing the room and half-jogging up the stairs to get closer to each questioner — then let the 15-minute Q&A portion run double. Afterward, attendees queued for more conversation; Purdie-Vaughns clarified concepts, shared her email address freely and invited one high-schooler to get in touch for a tour of the research lab. An hour passed before the last person said goodbye.

Purdie-Vaughns later reflected, “I’m looking at Columbia students across a 50-year span and I’m thinking, ‘Wow, this is our brand. This is what a Columbia student looks like.’ They’re asking questions, they’re attacking my theories. At the same time, they’re cheering me on, totally respectful. They’re being inspired, and they’re inspiring. It blew me away.”

She added that the outpouring of positive reactions was overwhelming. “I’m not an emotional person, but I went home and tears were running down my face. It was an amazing day and an amazing moment. I realized, ‘I’m an insider. ... I am a Columbian.’”

Alexis TONTI SOA’11 is CCT’s managing editor.
CLOCK SPOTTING

From doorway adornments to under-eave hangings, timepieces grace the campus’ oft-overlooked spaces.

Photos: Jörg Meyer
Those who live on the academic clock often mark the passage of time by the progression of fall and spring semesters, midterms and finals, Convocations and Commencements. Meanwhile, summer, which on Morningside Heights lasts from late May to late August, seems to exist outside of time altogether. Campus empties, the pace of life eases and a comparative quiet settles over the paths and green spaces. Buoyed along by these warm and mind-wandering days, it’s hard not to think about time — how it’s measured and the many reasons, despite the steady tick of the second hand, it feels like it speeds up or slows down.

With that in mind, we went beyond that most familiar of campus clocks, the Sundial, in search of spots that actually do (or did) count the University’s minutes and hours. This photo essay features some that we found, complemented by a new series of poems titled The Big Clock: Ten Haiku by David Lehman ’70, GSAS’78, the editor of The Best American Poetry series.

Alexis Tonti SOA’11
The Big Clock:
Ten Haiku

Comes love but then comes work, time to work, must leave love back in the bedroom.

Love is time’s foe but the balance of the battle hangs on the weather.

Love is time’s fool and the Fool tells truths, lies, and truths that sound like lies. Poems.

What is poetry if not chance, work, and time, which equals love times death?

Love and time are linked in the realm of aesthetics and not in real life.

Real time meant reel time in Holland where I watched High Noon dubbed into Dutch.

Time’s nonpartisan — it is anti-Semitic but otherwise fair.

Even if you work at something you think great, the time goes by too fast.

The time has come today: time to quit work, go home, embrace spouse and kids.

The face of time for us who live in the past is a big shattered clock.

David Lehman ’70, GSAS’78
n rare occasions, life gives you a mulligan. You make a decision, things don’t turn out quite the way you expect and suddenly you have a chance to do it over and make it right.

That’s exactly what Al Bagnoli did last winter. Following 33 years as a head football coach, 10 at Union and the last 23 at Penn — with the Quakers winning nine Ivy League championships — Bagnoli had decided the time was right to pass the torch to longtime aide Ray Priore and step into an administrative role in Penn’s athletics department. It was a logical move, but not the right one for Bagnoli.

“I’d always had an interest in the administrative world of athletics,” Bagnoli says, “but it wasn’t as challenging as I thought it would be. I guess I’m used to a different pace, different responsibilities. After three months, I had experienced it long enough to know it wasn’t really for me.”

That’s when Bagnoli got his mulligan, courtesy of Columbia and an intermediary named Andy Talley, the head football coach at Villanova for the past two decades and previously an assistant coach at Brown. Talley knew Bagnoli well as a Philadelphia football coaching rival. Talley also knew Peter Pilling, who at the time was a candidate to succeed M. Dianne Murphy as Columbia’s athletics director; Pilling had been an associate athletics director at Villanova 1998–2002.

“Andy put the two of us together,” says Bagnoli. “I think Andy understood my situation at Penn and that I was getting restless, and he might have been stirring the pot a bit.”

BY ALEX SACHARE ’71
The bold move to hire Bagnoli drew positive reviews around the Ivy League.

At a news conference on February 24 in Faculty House to announce Bagnoli as the Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football, the 20th man to head the Columbia program, Pilling revealed that he set the wheels in motion even before he was named Columbia’s AD. “I called Andy Talley, the coach at Villanova whom I had worked with, and I gave him a list of some people.” Pilling thought would be candidates to head Columbia’s football program. “When we reached the end of that list, he said, ‘You know, Al Bagnoli may be looking for a job.’ I thought that was very interesting. He and I started a dialogue, and when I was appointed athletics director three weeks later, I got on a train to Philadelphia and we met in person to continue the dialogue.”

What Pilling found was a man who was restless. “I had the title ‘director of special projects,’” Bagnoli says. “I guess I was kind of like the catch-all. I did everything from writing recruiting protocols and financial aid explanations to equipment inventory procedures and football scheduling. When the smoke cleared, I was more meant for coaching than being an administrator.

“It was like being on sabbatical,” Bagnoli adds about his time as an administrator.

But when the topic of possibly returning to coaching came up, Pilling noticed a difference in Bagnoli. “He had that fire in his belly,” Pilling says. “That was one of the things that struck me as a real positive.”

Bagnoli was the only coaching candidate that Pilling met with, and his hiring was accomplished in a matter of days. The bold move drew positive reviews around the Ivy League, as typified by this reaction from longtime Harvard coach Tim Murphy: “This is a great statement saying football is important at Columbia. In Al they are getting an outstanding veteran coach who will recruit well, get the most out of the kids and represent Columbia in a classy manner.”

The 62-year-old Bagnoli, whose teams compiled a 112-49 Ivy record at Penn including three undefeated seasons and who has an overall head coaching record of 234-99, knows full well that Columbia football has not enjoyed that kind of success. “If you like challenges, this is it,” he said at his introductory news conference, drawing a laugh from the crowd. But he feels there is a commitment at the highest levels of the Columbia administration to turning the football program around and is confident he will have the resources to do so.

“I knew the whole thing would have to change radically,” Bagnoli says. “If they were going to do business as usual, they were going to run into the same problems. If there wasn’t that commitment in terms of finances and attitude and other things, then I didn’t want to be involved. But I really became intrigued after speaking with Peter Pilling and President [Lee C.] Bollinger and hearing their...
commitment to doing things the right way, and I realized that this could be right for me."

Step one, Bagnoli says, is "making football fun again" for Columbia's players. "Practice has to be the best two hours of your day."

Football has not been much fun at Columbia for a while, if you equate fun with winning. The Lions have lost their last 21 games and were outscored 389-103 last season. Columbia's last winning record was in 1996, and it has enjoyed just five winning seasons since the Ivy League began football competition in 1956.

"There has got to be a cultural change," Bagnoli said in an interview in July, as he prepared for his first Columbia campaign. "We already have been able to do some things in terms of strength and conditioning coaches, practice times, things like that, which are relatively easy. The harder thing in terms of the kids is getting them to really enjoy football. It can be really discouraging when you're not enjoying much success. We needed to loosen up the reins."

Toward that end, Bagnoli assembled a staff of assistants that includes some coaches he worked with at Penn, some coaches with experience at other Ivy League and Patriot League schools, and "some guys with other backgrounds for new ideas. It's a nice mixture of people from various backgrounds," he says.

Bagnoli was encouraged by what he saw at spring practice in April, where one of his goals was to get a firsthand look at the returning players. "So far, so good," he said after the first day of workouts. "We didn't want to go into spring football with any biases or preconceived notions. We want everybody to have a clean slate and take it from there. We want to figure out whether we have kids at the right positions or whether we should shuffle things around. We're really going to try to tailor things around what kids can do well, what they are comfortable doing, and then try to expand on that."

Although Bagnoli arrived at Columbia late in the recruiting season, he was able to add two first-years and several transfers to the first-year players who had been recruited by interim coach Chris Rippon, former coach Pete Mangurian and their staff. And since arriving on Morningside Heights, Bagnoli already has gotten several prospects to commit to Columbia for 2016.

Asked in July to look ahead to the coming season and assess the team's strengths, he said, "Coming out of spring ball, once we get our defensive line intact, that's going to be a good unit. With Hunter Little '16 and Chad Washington '16 coming back to join Niko Padilla '16 and the rest of the kids we have, that should be a strength. Our kicking game, especially our punters, looked good in spring practice. And the offense did a really nice job adjusting to a new offensive system."

"We're cautiously optimistic. I'm very pleased with the work ethic and the attention to detail that I've seen."

Columbia opens its season at Fordham on September 19, with the first home game against Georgetown the following week. The Ivy League campaign begins at Princeton on October 2 and features a Homecoming matchup against Bagnoli's former team, Penn, on October 17.

Realistically, how would Bagnoli ask fans to judge the program's progress this season?

"Part of that is the won-loss record, of course," he says. "But you want to look at some different things as well — are we scoring more, are we giving up fewer points, are we gaining more yards and giving up less, do the kids play hard the whole game, what's the morale of the team? Those are things you look for. You have good morale if the kids are playing hard the whole time, and that helps your retention rate. You've got to be able to hold onto your players and develop them over the long haul."

"This place has great potential. The longer I'm here, the more I believe that."

Columbia can thank a veteran coach from Philadelphia's Main Line for helping to get Bagnoli out from behind a desk and back on the sidelines in coaching gear.

"Andy Talley was the matchmaker, and we owe him some nice Italian meals," says Pilling.

Alex Sachare '71, Columbia College Today's editor in chief, has seen 11 Columbia head football coaches since entering as a freshman in September 1967.

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The House Tells the Story

Homes of the American Presidents, in text and watercolors

In fall 2011, Adam Van Doren ’84, GSAPP’90 sent the first of many illustrated letters to eminent historian David McCullough from FDR’s home in Hyde Park. (“It was a frigid day and I damn near froze to death trying to render the house,” he complained, in impressively legible handwriting.) It was at McCullough’s suggestion that Van Doren, an architectural painter, had traveled to Hyde Park to sketch the house. Knowing Van Doren’s love for history — and his skill at rendering facades — McCullough suggested that he undertake the project of trying to paint the homes of America’s Presidents: a sidelong way of revealing each leader’s essential character.

As Van Doren traveled from Virginia (Monticello) to Texas (Prairie Chapel Ranch) and Missouri (Harry S Truman National Historic Site), he was taken by a gradual realization: It was not the majesty but the authenticity and, occasionally, humility of these not-always-stately homes that impressed him most. Our Presidents’ lives “are so staged, so scrutinized, that it is hard to separate public persona from private. But to see where they live ... is to learn first-hand what makes them human,” Van Doren says. Fifteen houses later — after Mount Vernon in Virginia, the Coolidge Homestead in Vermont and Sagamore Hill in New York — he was done.

The House Tells the Story: Homes of the American Presidents, a collection of these letters accompanied by evocative watercolors and with a foreword by McCullough, was released this year by art publisher David R. Godine.

— Rose Kernochan BC’82
Foreword

Adam Van Doren is one of those people who has such enthusiasm for a variety of interests that he is himself invariably interesting. Added to this is a grand sense of humor and great talent as an artist.

He lives with his family in New York, teaches a popular course in watercolor painting at Yale, and keeps in touch with friends with illustrated letters that are treasures.

Adam and I first met at a reception in New York and found we shared a common interest in architecture and painting, and it was not long after that the remarkable letters began arriving, mostly about Boston and Yale to begin with.

The first of those letters chronicling his tour of the homes of the presidents was dated November 22, 2011. And clear it was from the start that he was off and running in grand spirit. There was nothing imitative about the letters. They were just as he is, refreshingly observant, good-hearted, entertaining, alert always to those details that distinguish one setting or one individual from another.

The homes of our presidents have, of course, been photographed time and again over the years, but with his eye for architecture and the human element, not to say his distinctive sense of humor, Adam presents these historical landmarks, as well as their former occupants, in a manner quite his own. He sees them anew, and consequently, so do we.

The letters kept coming. Of the forty-two presidential homes open to the public, plus a few that are not, he traveled to fifteen. Some he was seeing for the first time. Others he had visited before, but never to study and sketch.

He started with Franklin Roosevelt's house at Hyde Park, New York, on the Hudson. It was his first time there and I love that right away he singles out the formidable portraits of FDR's mother and wonders how it must have been for Eleanor Roosevelt to have had to face them every day. Empathetic note is made, too, of FDR's beloved Fala, and with understanding comment on what the little dog's companionship must have meant to someone with the weight of the world on his shoulders.

Setting foot in the habitat of a major historic figure, moving from room to room, paying attention to details, you nearly always feel another level of understanding of the human being who lived there. It is a degree of appreciation to be found in no other way, in my experience. And it is this that Adam's letters convey page after page, in both what he writes and his lively watercolor sketches.

Fair to say that in all these houses one feels acutely the presence of their former occupants, but at none more so perhaps than Sagamore Hill at Oyster Bay, Long Island. Sagamore Hill is big, rambling, full of books and hunting trophies — elk and moose heads, elephant tusks — a house chock full of Theodore Roosevelt. There is never a question of who lived there.

A highlight of Adam's two letters from Sagamore Hill is his account of working alone out on the grounds one morning, concentrating on a watercolor of the house while trying to cope with the stiff winds of a November day. ("The ghost of Teddy?" he wonders.) Suddenly a voice speaks to him from behind. "Nice work. Keep it up." Turning, he sees Teddy himself — or rather, an actor dressed for the part, James Foote, who does dramatic recreations on the site.

Taken all together there never has been a tour of the presidential home places so refreshing as this, or one conducted by so congenial a tour guide.

David McCullough

Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, New York

Teddy Roosevelt (1858–1919)

Sagamore Hill is an elegantly designed, perfectly proportioned Queen Anne house, a masterpiece of late shingle-style architecture. It is not, however, what many people expect Teddy Roosevelt's house to look like. They envision a Parthenon-sized log cabin with massive timbers and boulder chimneys. TR, after all, was the swashbuckling hunter of big game, the larger-than-life hero of San Juan Hill, the colossal face on Mount Rushmore. But this is Oyster Bay, not Mount Olympus. Roosevelt had titanic energy and a notoriously fiery temperament, but he was equally capable of tenderness and subtlety; he loved poetry (a champion of Edwin Arlington Robinson) and was deeply affected by the beauties of the natural world. His house is full of books, artwork, and souvenirs from a life that reveals and confirms a thoughtful, even sentimental figure. Of all the presidential homes I have visited, Sagamore Hill is perhaps most remarkable for the many original personal objects that are still present, and they provide revealing insight into his wide-ranging, if not contradictory, character. There is a gun room upstairs, for instance, where he collected Winchester lever-action rifles. He was fond of hunting big game out West; and yet, ironically, this was the same man who also founded the National Parks.

At the side of the house, there is a generous porte-cochère supported by sturdy wood columns. It evokes images of the Roosevelts arriving for the summer by horse and carriage from Manhattan, all six children in tow. I could only imagine what the sweltering heat of the city must have been like in 1890, with the redolent odor of
horse manure — and worse — filling the streets. The cool shade of the large overhang and the sweet smell of the evergreens must have felt wonderfully restorative. It was the closest thing to air conditioning one could experience in the nineteenth century.

Entering the wide front hall, I felt as if I were embarking on a great adventure. The rooms on the first floor have a decidedly more virile quality than the exterior of the house: this part is pure man-cave. Mahogany beams and dark walnut moldings create a smoky atmosphere, like some back room of a Bull Moose Party gathering. The entrance to the large sunken living room, with its high vaulted ceiling, is punctuated by two great elephant tusks thrusting upward. Hunting trophies with jutting antlers line the walls, and animal skins cover the floors. I could name at least some of the slain creatures: elk, bighorn sheep, rhinoceros, wolf, antelope, moose, cougar. Where was my Panama hat and machete, after all? I felt like I was in the American Museum of Natural History in New York. But then again, and not surprisingly, Teddy was one of its founders.

The library parlor is less dramatic, and more intimate. I was given special permission to sketch it, as long as a ranger sat beside me. The supervision seemed excessive, but I was happy to oblige. Family portraits hung above three-quarter bookcases and a fireplace with arched brickwork. By the window was a rocking chair in which TR presumably relaxed; though I imagine, given his restless nature, he never sat for long. He was too busy plotting another safari, running a campaign, founding the Progressives. My friend Roger Angell, a writer for The New Yorker, once told me that Roosevelt suffered from manic depression and that's why he was always on the move, to distract himself from his own black moods. Kay Jamison, the author of Exuberance, characterized TR as "hypomanic on a mild day."

Roosevelt, despite his privileged, Gilded Age upbringing, was no stranger to tragedy. His first wife, whom he adored, died in childbirth (the same day his mother died). "The light has gone out of my life forever," he wrote in his diary. In order to submerge his grief, he requested, in true Victorian fashion, that
his family never utter her name again. No doubt Freud, who emerged on the scene only a few years later, would have had a field day with this repressed notion of how to deal with loss.

After stepping out onto the back porch, with its sweeping view of the Hudson, I walked down the sloping green lawn and set up my drawing stool near the flagpole — the same pole which rises above the graves of TR's sons, Quentin and Teddy, Jr., who died in World Wars I and II, respectively. Some of the children visiting the grounds took a break from sightseeing and seized the opportunity to roll down the incline in teams. I imagined the house as it once was, alive with Roosevelt's kids. Teddy once wrote to [his son] Kermit in 1904, "[N]o matter how things came out, the really important thing was the lovely life with Mother and you children, and that compared to this home-life everything else was of very small importance from the standpoint of happiness." (Kermit became a soldier and a businessman; daughter Alice became a writer and socialite; Archibald a distinguished army officer; and Ethel a World War I nurse who led the efforts to save Sagamore Hill).

When the coast was clear and the children had stopped careening past me down the hill, I began drawing my picture. I had just reached my stride with the pencil when I heard a deep basso voice behind me remark, "Good job!" Startled, I turned around and to my astonishment it was — TR himself! He was short and stout with spectacles, and wore his trademark wool vest and riding boots. In actuality, it was the actor James Foote playing the part. He visits the site once a month to entertain tourists, bringing the president back to life with an uncanny likeness. Foote is very convincing; he certainly had me fooled. In my mind's eye, I saw the real Teddy, bellowing with his hearty laugh, his squinty eyes, and his lust for life.

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Q&A WITH CCAA PRESIDENT

Back to School with ... Doug Wolf ’88

With a new school year just begun, CCT spoke with Columbia College Alumni Association president Doug Wolf ’88 about his years on campus, the classes that changed his perspective and the advice he’d give to today’s first-years. If you want to share your own answers to these questions, send them to alumni@columbia.edu.

What one keepsake did you bring from home your first year?
Bringing a Red Sox hat to New York City was my way of staying grounded. How could a born-and-raised Bostonian not carry his true colors into the heart of Yankee fandom?

What was your most surprising or enjoyable class?
My seminar class in physics was spectacular for its guest lecturers — the leading scientists of the day spoke to our group of 10 each week. But I loved Logic, which was a class in the philosophy department. The combination of elegant solutions to word problems and language analysis hit the spot in so many ways. I insisted that my friend take the class, and she lists it as one of her favorites, too. Still, I hope she [Sherri Pancer Wolf ’90] married me for other reasons.

Did you have a favorite study spot?
In my search for the quietest library, I studied at least once in every library on the Morningside Heights campus. In the end, my go-to place was with the poltergeists on any random floor in the Butler stacks. The darker the floor when I got off the elevator, the better. Then I would hunt for the furthest desk with a chair and light, and sit down with my Diet Coke and Baby Ruth.

What extracurriculars did you participate in?
I was involved with the University Dorm Council and while I don’t remember my precise title, I was head of intramural sports for the Board of Managers; our committee allocated student funds to about 50 intramural sports. I recall hockey took the “lion’s” share. In hindsight, participating in activities outside of academics and sports added experiences that were invaluable. It may not have seemed like much then but we were involved in negotiations with the teams, managed disappointment [for the ones that didn’t receive as much money as they wanted], worked with the administration and had real responsibilities.

I did not join a fraternity but through my time wrestling during my first year, and having a brother, Eric Wolf ’86, involved in Greek life, I was generally welcomed into frats on 114th for events.

What would you join if you were doing it all over today?
It certainly seems there are many more clubs and activities now than in the late 1980s! I’d probably look to some of the entrepreneurial-based organizations. I’ve generally been business-leaning in my interests, and something that would expose a student to that world at an early point would fascinate me.

Along those lines, I would also look to organizations that included alumni interactions. That sounds like a convenient view given my role today but it is actually my recognition that networking is critical in many social, philanthropic and business pursuits; building those connections as early as possible is something that many students don’t appreciate. I impress this upon my daughter, who is attending a different institution. She was hesitant as a freshman to attend alumni-inclusive events but has immediately seen the advantage in being one of the few underclassmen there and experiencing the enthusiasm of those alumni.

What do you think is the most exciting change at the College since you were on campus?
There have been many physical changes during the last 25 years, and I am envious of many — the abundance of places to eat, the makeover of most of the residential spaces and the new academic buildings. While I may reminisce about places like the student-run store in Furnald, its demise was probably for the best. I particularly like the seemingly popular gathering spots in Alfred Lerner Hall (on the site of Ferris Booth Hall, the student center in my era) as well as the common sight of clubs and other groups positioned on the ramps within. It provides a strong community feeling, which was more difficult to find years ago.

What advice would you give to new students on making it through the first semester, being away from home and navigating NYC?
On the issue of academics, the College does a fantastic job of screening candidates. Students are there because it’s the right fit for them. Do not be discouraged if there are subjects that are difficult to grasp and seem so easy for others. Those who appear not to be studying are. The Core is not easy and I used to get dizzy trying to make sense of the various concepts. But I knew that others had to feel the same way even if they did not show it. And that applies to more than academics. Students can take comfort from the fact that when they arrive on campus, there are more than 1,000 other students who have the same insecurities, concerns, anxiousness and excitement — none are as cool as they appear.
Lions

Dan Press ’64 Fights for Native American Rights

By Eugene L. Meyer ’64

Dan Press ’64, in a white shirt and tie, was headed to his Georgetown law office from his suburban Bethesda, Md., home one morning in June. But he was looking ahead to the following week, when he would herd cattle and fix fences on a ranch in the mountains of New Mexico.

“There’s something about jumping on a horse and going into the mountains and wandering around,” he says. “It does good things to you.”

Press, raised in a working-class Jewish family in Flushing, Queens, rides the range three or four times a year, returning to his postgraduate roots as a young law student helping Native Americans achieve their rights to fair employment and union wages on their sovereign land.

In 1972, four years after graduating from Yale Law, Press left the reservation but not the cause. Back in Washington, D.C., he worked tirelessly on behalf of Indian tribes for economic justice. In 1971, Press helped to establish the first labor relations office on the Navajo reservation to ensure that companies doing business on tribal land adhered to Navajo preference in hiring. Later, he gave it a name: TERO, for Tribal Employment Rights Office, and the idea caught on. Today, more than 300 Native American tribes have TEROs.

Press also helped start the Native American Bank, jointly owned by 20 tribes; assisted one tribe with legislation awarding it $450 million for land taken for a federal dam; and helped another tribe gain title to more than 9,000 acres of land at a former military base near its reservation.

“Dan is very humble, but he is one of the greatest lawyers who have made a national impact on Native Americans throughout the United States,” says Kenneth White Jr., a Navajo who is CEO of Native Americans for Community Action, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Press is also an adjunct professor in Columbia’s anthropology department and is affiliated with Columbia’s Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race. He teaches undergraduate courses on Native American issues and, more recently, helped found the AlterNATIVE Education program for Indian youth. The five-day summer program, offered on reservations from Zuni, N.M., to Pine Ridge, S.D., covers topics from identity and tribal history, to efforts to exterminate Native Americans and their culture, to how to apply to college.

Given his background, Press’ career path might seem surprising. His grandparents were Eastern European immigrants, his father a high-school dropout who sold magazines. Press assumed he was Queens College-bound. But his older brother, Phil SEAS’63, SEAS’65, had won a full scholarship to Columbia, so Press applied, expecting to commute. A night in Phil’s dorm dazzled him, however, so to afford on-campus life Press washed dishes in Johnson Hall, then a women’s graduate dorm.

“Columbia was eye-opening,” he says. “Taking Contemporary Civilization, thinking about all these big ideas, was the most wonderful thing that happened to me.” His CC instructor was Robert Dallek GSAS’64, now a prominent presidential historian. Press majored in sociology and studied with Daniel Bell GSAS’60, whom he calls “my intellectual idol. I was interested in social theory — what made the world work.”

The summer after graduating, Press worked at the New York World’s Fair waiting tables. During his spare time he reread The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, which inspired him to look west of the Hudson.

Press entered the Law School but after a year took a leave of absence to join Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), one of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s Great Society programs. Unexcited by his assignment at Columbia’s School of Social Work — “it was not quite floating down the Mississippi River” — he immediately traveled to VISTA’s Washington, D.C. headquarters to request another post. He could work with migrants, Southern coops or Indians, he was told. He chose Indians.

“I knew nothing about it,” he says. Three weeks later, he was en route to Montana. “I got off the plane, looked at the mountains, and said, ‘Yes, this is what I was looking for.’”

Press spent a year on the Crow Reservation. He and other VISTA volunteers tutored children, set up a library, created an after-school program. He also helped a tribal elder write a small book about treaties made and broken. Along the way, he went to a sweat bath, shot a deer in the mountains, helped gut it and ate deer liver cooked over a fire. So accepted was he that a Crow family adopted him into the tribe and family.

During that year, Press developed a love for horses and Indian law. He transferred to Yale and focused on learning about using the law for social change. As he was graduating in 1968, Navajo Nation recruiters came to campus to hire someone to start a legal services program. Press got the job and wound up in Window Rock, Ariz., the Navajo Nation’s capital.

In 1972, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he continued to fight for Indian rights, first as a consultant, then as a solo practitioner, later joining a law firm. In 1990, he went to another
AlterNATIVE Education facilitators and faculty adviser Dan Press ’64 at the Zuni (N.M.) Reservation in 2013.

PHOTO: ZOE BANDEAH

Little Started Demartini on the Path to Success

By John E. Mulligan III ’72

Dr. Felix E. Demartini ’43, PS’46 spent his career at the University’s medical complex and helped to usher it into the modern era, starting in 1977, when he became the first doctor to serve as both president and CEO of what was then called Presbyterian Hospital at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center. But Demartini says his first mentor was not a prominent physician. He was a Lions legend: football coach Lou Little, who was a stickler for good grades and who pushed his players to be off-the-field leaders.

Demartini was an accomplished high school player in 1937 when he made a recruiting visit to Little, the engineer of Columbia’s famous upset of Stanford in the 1934 Rose Bowl. But Demartini says he was also “a screw-up. I don’t think I’d ever read a book all the way through.”

An assistant coach delivered bad news: “You don’t have the grades to get into Columbia.” But, he said, Demartini might be admitted after a post-graduate year at prep school.

Back home in Ridgefield, N.J., this was not a tough call for Demartini’s father, a successful textile salesman. Andrew Demartini started working after eighth grade and spent years building a career. To the senior Demartini, education was everything.

“Don’t even think about it,” Demartini’s father said of the chance. “Do it!” So Demartini spent a year at Connecticut’s Cheshire Academy, where, he says now, “I found to my surprise that I could do the work if I disciplined myself.” The school’s academic rigor and the individual attention wrought “a profound change in me.”

And thus, in fall 1939, Demartini was playing freshman football at Baker Field. Great Britain was at war with Nazi Germany but Demartini says he and his friends “weren’t concerned about the war yet.” He was making his mark on the gridiron as a 6-foot-1, 185-lb. guard who stung opposing runners more with quickness than with strength.

A few weeks after the 1941 season, however, Pearl Harbor changed everything. Demartini says, military service became a preoccupation on campus.

Demartini and All-American quarterback Paul Governali ’43 were co-captains in 1942. “Our team was decimated because so many people were drafted or left school to enlist,” says Demartini. He, too, had a foot in the future. Months ahead of schedule, he left the College for a war-shortened course at P&S — 36 months instead of four years. He later practiced medicine as an internist.

Also in 1943, Demartini began his nearly 67 years of marriage to his childhood sweetheart, Mildred Van Valkenburg,
who died in 2010. They had three children: Felix Jr. ’71; Paul ’72, PS’77; and Lisa Demartini Ogburn.

After P&S graduation and an internship, Demartini served two years as an Army doctor aboard Navy transport ships. He began his residency and fellowships in 1949 at Columbia’s hospital. In 1953 he began his practice on the hospital staff. Later in the 1950s, he began teaching clinical medicine at P&S.

At that point, Demartini happily chose the track he followed until retirement: splitting his time between his practice and teaching. “The atmosphere was really unbelievable,” he says. So many professionals “were at the cutting edge of medicine that I wanted to continue in this institution.”

In 1974, Demartini began several years as the hospital board’s vice chair for professional and scientific affairs. At the time, the hospital faced two dire problems: The facility was so antiquated that it couldn’t be properly modernized (e.g., the old hospital building had been designed before X-rays were as routinely used as today — to say nothing of more modern high-tech equipment — and thus X-ray rooms were inconveniently located) and the institution was stricken with financial woes, partly rooted in the changes Medicare and similar programs had made in the economics of hospitals.

In 1977, the hospital board asked Demartini to tackle such challenges as its president and CEO. He compares the task to solving a huge, complicated puzzle. While making improvements to the old plant during his first years on the job, Demartini also had to develop the hospital’s plan for a large-scale modernization of facilities, technology and finances. Then he led the creation of the bricks-and-mortar modernization plan. Major pieces would include the Milstein Hospital Building; a string of storefront ambulatory care clinics in Northern Manhattan; and The Allen Hospital, a community hospital to provide cost-efficient care of illnesses and injuries that didn’t require the full resources of a major hospital. (Fittingly, the smaller community hospital’s location was a rocky parcel of Columbia land by the Broadway Bridge — yards from where Demartini had played for Little more than 40 years earlier.) After seven years at the helm, Demartini and his team had set the wheels in motion for the construction of the new complex.

Demartini, who turned 95 on September 9, views his leadership years as the capstone of an association with Columbia that lasted from the 1939 football season until his 1984 retirement. He feels “those seven years had more impact” on the hospital than all the work he did in his previous years in medicine.

Demartini has devoted his retirement to the same passions that drove him as a younger man: family, medicine and sports. He enjoys regular reunions with his children and their families and as an accomplished golfer, he belongs to the American Seniors Golf Association. Among other medical administrative work during his retirement, Demartini has served on the board of trustees of the Indian River Medical Center Foundation near his home in Vero Beach, Fla.

One day in the 1950s, Little sent Demartini a warm note with a copy of the football program from the 1940 game at Dartmouth — a 20-6 upset for the Lions, and the first game Demartini started on the varsity. That’s “what Mr. Little was like,” Demartini says. “He remembered something important to an old player, long after he was of service on the field.”

Bill Campbell ’62, TC’64, who as the Lions’ captain led Columbia to its only Ivy League football crown in 1961, says Demartini was cut from the same cloth as Little. “He played on great Columbia teams under the greatest Columbia coach,” in an era when the Lions still competed with major football powers and produced nationally-known players, says Campbell.

At the same time, adds Campbell, Demartini embodies the Columbia scholar-athlete who was hungry for a great education and career and who felt obliged to help subsequent generations to aim as high. Demartini always had time to give a tour of the medical school to young football players who were interested in medicine, Campbell says.

“This is what people in my era wanted to be like,” Campbell says, calling Demartini a mentor to younger Columbians who demonstrated that “you could be a jock, but you could also be a doc.”
Three Lions baseball players were selected in June’s Major League Baseball first-year player draft. Outfielder Gus Craig SEAS’15, the Co-Ivy League Player of the Year, was taken by the Seattle Mariners in the 30th round. Pitcher George Thanopoulos ’15 and outfielder Jordan Serena ’15 both were picked up in the 35th round, Thanopoulos by the New York Mets and Serena by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

In more Lions sports news, Katie Meili ’13 won a gold medal for the 100m breaststroke during the 2015 Pan American Games, finishing in 1:06.26. During the race preliminaries, Meili set a Pan American Games record for the 100m breaststroke with a time of 1:05.64, beating the previous record by two full seconds.

In June, Lea Goldman ’98 was promoted to the role of executive editor at Marie Claire magazine. She began at the women’s magazine in March 2008 and previously was its features and special projects director, as well as its deputy editor. In her new role, Goldman will manage writers and editors, continue to write and edit features on politics, women’s rights and international issues, and will have a special focus on the Marie Claire @Work section.

U.S. District Judge Alvin Hellerstein ’54, LAW’56 was in the news for his July 7 decision on robocalls, the automated calls that come from a dialing device and deliver a recorded message. In a civil suit brought by a Texas woman against Time Warner Cable, Hellerstein ruled that the company violated the Telephone Consumer Protection Act in making 153 robocalls to her mobile device even after she told Time Warner that she was not the intended recipient and did not wish to be called. The plaintiff was awarded $229,500 in treble damages.

College alumni were well represented during Emmy nomination season. Saturday Night Live’s Kate McKinnon ’06 received a nomination for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series; House of Cards creator Beau Willimon ’99, SOA’03 and Orange Is the New Black creator Jenji Kohan ’91 both received nominations for Outstanding Drama Series; and Maggie Gyllenhaal ’99 was nominated for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Limited Series or a Movie for her work on The Honorable Woman.

In other entertainment news, Steven Bargonetti ’78 received The Boston Theater Critics Association’s 2015 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Musical Performance by an Actor for his work in the play Father Comes Home From The Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3.)

Poet and artist John Giorno ’58 has two major exhibitions in 2015: His solo show at New York’s Elizabeth Dee Gallery, “SPACE FORGETS YOU,” was on view April 2-May 9, while a retrospective of his work will open on Monday, September 28, at Paris’ Palais de Tokyo as a mash-up of his poems against a backdrop of graffiti from French street artists Lek and Sowat.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed Gerrard P. Bushell ’83, GSAS’04 president/CEO of the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, one of the nation’s leading issuers of tax-exempt bonds and a major source of capital for infrastructure. DASNY provides financing and construction services for public and private universities, hospitals and healthcare facilities, and other nonprofits. “I am excited by the opportunity to serve Governor Andrew Cuomo and the people of New York State as we commence on an ambitious journey,” Bushell said in a DASNY press release.

The New York Times featured Tifphani White ’98’s relationship with now-husband Michael King as part of its “Summer Love” series exploring romance in New York City; the July 9 article was headlined “An Ice Cream Cone, a Ring, Then After 23 Years, a Promise.” White, the first African-American woman to become a tax partner at financial network Deloitte, began dating King in high school; the article covers the couple’s long courtship, including White’s time at Columbia, where she double-majored in economics-philosophy and dance. White and King were married at St. Paul’s Chapel on June 26.
Forgotten Trials of the Holocaust by Frank M. Tuerkheimer '60 and Michael J. Bazyler. Go beyond Nuremberg with this examination of 10 trials held in seven countries across 50-plus years. “Can one ever hope for justice in these cases?” the authors ask. Still, there is much to learn about how different legal systems confronted Nazi crimes and contributed to the collective memory of the Holocaust (New York University Press, $45).

The Prince of Minor Writers: The Selected Essays of Max Beerbohm edited and with an introduction by Phillip Lopate '64. Lopate, himself a nonfiction writer, gathers works by this late 19th- and early 20th-century British drama critic, essayist and astute observer of life. There’s an art to being a gentle, and gentlemanly, curmudgeon — and Beerbohm had it down (New York Review Books, $18.95).

Jews and Genes: The Genetic Future in Contemporary Jewish Thought edited by Elliot N. Dorff ’65 and Laurie Zoloth. With the layman in mind, the editors explain the science behind stem cell research, genetic mapping and identity, genetic testing and genetic intervention. Accompanying essays offer viewpoints on how Judaism should be applied to the research (University of Nebraska Press, $35).

Eternal Ephemera: Adaptation and the Origin of Species from the Nineteenth Century through Punctuated Equilibria and Beyond by Niles Eldredge ’65. Paleontologist Eldredge charts the history of evolutionary biology and its leading thinkers, exploring how and why scientific views on the subject have changed. It’s the evolution of evolution (Columbia University Press, $35).

Three Plays by John F. Levin ’65. The historically based play Vera Cruz, set in the Mexican city during its 1914 occupation by U.S. forces, sees famed author Jack London and the young Capt. Douglas MacArthur form an unlikely alliance. Snowbirds and Big Money round out this three-in-one collection (Black Apollo Press, $16).

Voices in the Night: Stories by Steven Millhauser ’65. The author, who was awarded the 2011 Story Prize for We Others: New & Selected Stories, adds to his short-form oeuvre with 16 tales of the fantastic. Some put ordinary people in contact with the extraordinary, while others reimagine myths and legends of old. Is it any wonder Paul Bunyan’s brother grew up in a large shadow (Alfred A. Knopf, $25.95)?

The Last Brazil of Benjamin East by Jonathan Freedman ’72. The Pulitzer-Prize-winning journalist turns to fiction with this novel that pairs the 72-year-old East, back in the United States after nearly 40 years in Brazil, with a woman who is fleeing an abusive relationship. Love, friendship and a road trip follow (Bright Lights Press, $12.95).

Pugilistic by George Guida ’89. The author’s fourth collection of poems focuses on people wading between despair and redemption. Spend time with a diverse cohort, from a card player and a comic, to a boxer, a divorcee, a witness to a disaster and more (WordTech Communications, $20).

The Isle of the Lost: A Descendants Novel by Melissa de la Cruz ’93. The children of Disney’s most notorious villains take center stage in the search for the hidden Dragon’s Eye — the key to helping themselves and their parents escape lifetime banishment on a remote island. Evil runs in the family (Disney-Hyperion, $17.99).

The New Freedom and the Radicals: Woodrow Wilson, Progressive Views of Radicalism, and the Origins of Repressive Tolerance by Jacob Kramer ’93. This intellectual history examines how progressives — who sought to regulate big business, reduce class conflict and ease urban poverty — thought about radical politics at the beginning of the 20th century (Temple University Press, $29.50).

Conversion by Katherine Howe ’99. This chilling novel follows dual plot lines: what happens when students at a modern-day elite girls’ school are beset by tics and other bizarre symptoms, and the similarly strange experiences that were at the heart of the Salem witch trials of 1692. It’s tough to be a teenage girl (Putnam, $18.99).


How to be a Supervillain: And Love Life Doing It by Leland Gill ’13. Come under the tutelage of Master Vex to learn how to build a career out of bad deeds, from finding your motivation to picking a name and a place to menace. Turns out, for villains, heroes are a necessary evil (Read Publishing, $12.99).

The Guardians: The League of Nations and the Crisis of Empire by Susan Pedersen, the James P. Shenton Professor of the Core Curriculum. This thoroughly researched history explores the complexity and significance of the 20-year experiment in international oversight that followed WWI. Imperialist ambitions, sovereign rights and idealism collide (Oxford University Press, $34.95).

Alexis Tonti SOA’11
Brad Gooch ’73 Revisits a Time Gone by in Smash Cut

I

n light of the historic June 26 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court declaring same-sex marriage a fundamental legal right, Brad Gooch ’73, GSAS’86’s Smash Cut: A Memoir of Howard & Art & the ‘70s & the ‘80s (Harper, $27.99) is an especially poignant remembrance of the relationship between Gooch and his longtime partner, the late filmmaker Howard Brookner 76. Gooch comments in the prologue on the changes to New York City and society in a short amount of time: He now lives with his husband, Paul Raushenbush, in gentrified Chelsea, within view of the formerly dilapidated Hotel Chelsea — the place where he and Brookner lived in the ‘80s, when the idea of legalized same-sex marriage was inconceivable to them.

The memoir covers the period between Gooch and Brookner’s first meeting, in May 1978, and Brookner’s death from complications from AIDS in April 1989, depicting the transformative and electric years in between. “I was aware of surviving and being a bit of an ancient mariner here,” says Gooch. “Every so often over the years people would say, ‘You should write a memoir about the ‘70s and ‘80s,’ and in the process of writing, I discovered that the heartbeat of [the time] was my relationship with Howard. That was at the center.”

Gooch is a poet, biographer and professor of English at William Paterson University. (His M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D — earned in 1977, 1979 and 1986, respectively — are all in English and comparative literature.) He is best known for City Poet: The Life and Times of Frank O’Hara and Flannery: A Life of Flannery O’Connor. The latter, published in 2009, was a National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist, a New York Times bestseller and a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. In his latest, he tells the story of his and Brookner’s journey, showing how they developed their artistic voices while simultaneously exploring their relationship during the hedonistic era.

The New York art scene provides the background for the memoir, and an array of celebrities and artists pass through its pages. Keith Haring’s graffiti dots the streets between Gooch and Brookner’s respective West and East Village apartments; a young Madonna visits Brookner in the hospital; Robert Mapplethorpe snaps Gooch’s first model portfolio shots. During the time covered by the book, Gooch alternately is a teaching assistant at Columbia, a model in Milan and Paris, a porn reviewer, a poet, a profile writer for major magazines (such as Vanity Fair) and a novelist; Brookner finishes film school at NYU while directing and filming a documentary about Beat poet William Burroughs, which later became the critically acclaimed Burroughs: The Movie (1983).

From nights spent in Burroughs’ underground bunker in the Bowery, to the couple’s first shared home in a series of connected apartments on Bleecker Street, to their drag dinner parties in the Hotel Chelsea, New York City is central to the story. Smash Cut offers an insider’s look at the New York of the ‘70s and ‘80s — promiscuity, drugs, underground clubs and the post-bohemian atmosphere that imbued the artistic community are all on display. Interspersed with international jaunts, the memoir is a heartfelt look at how memories are tied to time, places and people.

“Especially in the early part of writing Smash Cut, it was great to relive the ‘70s and youth and Columbia College and friends — all that was wonderful,” says Gooch. “But the book turns, as life turns, with AIDS in the ‘80s, and that I almost hadn’t bargained for. I realized I put those memories away in a lockbox and hadn’t really revisited them in all these years.”

Brookner was diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1987. The memoir explores the attitudes around AIDS in the ‘80s, with Brookner rushing to finish his final film, Bloodhounds of Broadway, while keeping his diagnosis a secret. Says Gooch, “When it got dark in terms of AIDS, I thought that the amazing thing was — and Howard showed it, but he was not alone — the dignity about the whole thing, and humor, and intelligence. People really rose to the occasion of death in those wards in St. Vincent’s [Hospital, in Greenwich Village, now closed], in ways that weren’t corny or melodramatic.”

Throughout the book, the love between Gooch and Brookner is constant; it keeps the two connected even as distance, infidelity, addiction and disease challenge their relationship. “It just seemed that the city had changed so much and gay life had changed so much and my life had changed so much; it was that radical difference that made me want to go back and recoup that time,” says Gooch about the inspiration to relive New York’s wild years in Smash Cut. “It was half magic and half tragic.”

Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09
Jeremiah Ciancia CP'39 writes, "March 17, 1918, was a long time ago, but here it is 2015 and the wheels are still turning. I wanted to get this into the '30-40 group before we both disappear from CCT." Jeremiah has been married for 68 years and has three children (a doctor, a lawyer and a teacher) and two grandchildren.

He adds: "I came through WWII on a Fletcher Tin Can [a U.S. Navy Destroyer] with medals and no scratches. Still active in the family businesses — enjoyed a stint in beautiful Bermuda and am now commuting with nature during the weekends on 100 acres in scenic North Jersey.

"Now, too, is payback time and Columbia is on the list so we're happy to help young people follow their dreams via scholarships."

Robert Zucker  26910 Grand Central Pkwy, Apt. 24G  Floral Park, NY 11005  rzucker@optonline.net

No news this time! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address No news this time! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address No news this time! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address No news this time! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address No news this time! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address

Colleen Byrnes, daughter of the late James J. Byrnes, sent a note to the Alumni Office reporting his death on February 18, 2015, in St. Petersburg, Fla., at 92.

James entered the College with our Class of 1942 but graduated with a degree in chemical engineering in 1943. He immediately began work with the Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corp. in Oak Ridge, Tenn., on development of the atomic bomb. From 1947 to 1951 he worked at H.K. Ferguson Co. in New York City, then joined Associated Engineers and Consultants in Garden City, N.Y., until 1964. James ended his career at Burns and Roe in Hempstead, N.Y., as a VP and supervisor in building power plants. Upon retirement to St. Petersburg, Fla., James volunteered for 20 years at the Christmas Toy Shop, fixing bicycles for young children. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and daughters, Maureen, Eileen and Colleen. We send our condolences to the Byrnes family and honor James' memory and distinguished career.

With sadness and regret, this correspondent noted an obituary in The New York Times on April 10, 2015, for our good friend Donald Seligman, who died on April 6, 2015, at 93. Don came to Columbia from Lawrence H.S. on Long Island, where he was an outstanding student and star football player. He played both football and baseball at Columbia, forming lasting friendships with many teammates. After Pearl Harbor, Don — along with teammates and friends Jack Arbolino and Philip Bayer — enlisted in the Marine Corps. All saw combat in the Pacific Theatre, where Jack was wounded on Okinawa and Phil was killed at Peleliu in a heroic effort to save the life of a fellow officer. Don also saw action at Peleliu and retired from active duty with the rank of major. After the war, Don began a successful career in the women's shoe business, including stints at Lord & Taylor, Saks Fifth Avenue and Bergdorf Goodman (Delman). He then founded his own unique label, The Yipes for Pappagallo, which he supervised until his retirement as a consultant-representative for other manufacturers. After retirement, Don and his wife, Dorothy, lived for 20 years in Rhinebeck, N.Y., before moving to the retirement community of Heritage Hills in Somers, N.Y., and living for the last few years at Atria on the Hudson in Ossining, N.Y.

Don retained his athletics skills as a senior citizen, playing tennis into his 80s and extending his warmth, affection and guidance to his friends and family as the years passed. He was greatly admired and loved, and will be sadly missed. This correspondent last saw Don several years ago when we both delivered eulogy remarks at the memorial service for Jack Arbolino in St. Paul's Chapel. Don gave an affectionate, humorous and moving portrait of his friendship with Jack through the years, including some interesting comments about their years on the football squad under Lou Little. We extend our condolences to Dorothy; Don's son, John; and extended family. Farewell, old friend.

With profound grief and mourning, I sadly report the death of Don Mankiewicz at 93 on April 25, 2015, at his home in Monrovia, Calif. Don, one of my closest lifelong friends in our great class, was the son of Herman Mankiewicz (Class of 1917) and the nephew of Joseph Mankiewicz '28. Herman won an Academy Award for his script for Citizen Kane, a 1941 film that ranks as one of the greatest movies ever made, and also wrote the script for Pride Of The Yankees, a 1942 film that this writer and several classmates saw at the Loew's Olympia on Broadway and West 107th Street.

Joseph won multiple Academy Awards as both writer and director of acclaimed films, including All About Eve, A Letter to Three Wives and Julies Caesar. In this gifted family tradition, Don won the Harper Prize in 1955 for his novel Trial (later made into a film with Dorothy McGuire and Glenn Ford), and was also nominated for an Academy Award in 1958 for his screenplay for the film I Want to Live! Don also created two famous television series: Ironside in 1967, starring Raymond Burr in a wheelchair, and Marcus Welby, M.D. in 1969 starring Robert Young. Between 1950 and 1986, Don wrote or co-wrote approximately 70 varied television episodes, some as co-author with his friend Gordon Cotler '44. Don wrote his first novel, See How They Run, in 1950 and later published his third novel, It Only Hurts a Minute, in 1966.

At Columbia, Don was a member of the debate council, where he showed his brilliant wit and gift for extemporaneous analysis. My lifelong friendship with Don began in 1958, when we met as incoming freshmen and shared an intense interest in horse racing. We soon found several other classmates who joined us in forming the Class of 1942 Certified Degenerate Horseplayers Club. This membership included Dr. Arthur "Wizzer" Wellington, the late Donald "Dicky" Biegle, the late Charles E. "Chic" Hoelzer Jr. Arthur (94) lives in Elmira, N.Y. He was a Marine artillery officer in the Pacific in WWII. Donald was a decorated infantry officer hero in Europe in WWII. After he recovered from wounds, he was employed in the early years of the Las Vegas gambling industry and became VP of the Tropicana Club. Charles was a Marine infantry officer in the Pacific in WWII, after which he attended Cornell Law and became a prominent attorney in Washington, D.C. The current writer often visited him at his apartment in the famous Watergate office complex.

Don Mankiewicz and I played on the Royal Elite Cuban Giants, our championship intramural softball team, in the 1940-41 season. Don, who chose this name with his usual cynical humor, played first base and I was shortstop. Our pitcher, William "Bill" Hochman, commanded a landing ship, tank.
The D'Angio clan had a spectacular Mother's Day. There were four generations of D'Angios present in Covington, Ky. They included my great-granddaughter, Maggie; her mother, Sara; her grandmother, Donna; and honorary great-grandma, Audrey Evans (my wife). Sara gave the sermon in her Peter and Sara areEpiscopal priests. On the previous Friday we had been at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati. There, Audrey — founder of RMD House — could meet some of the families and volunteers. It is a very warm and active RMD House quite near the hospital.

We spent Memorial Day planting flowers, appropriately, only these were on our terrace. We have a profusion of planters and trees, so it was quite a chore. The fallen were not forgotten, however. Audrey's 21-year-old brother Patrick was killed near Gelenkirchen, Germany, in November 1944. He was a captain in the British Tank Corp; thus parents Peter and Sara were proud British soldiers. He is buried in a beautifully tended, small British war cemetery in Sittard, the Netherlands.

Last year I gave up my medical license and this July we sold our car, although we had bought it only one year ago. We live in Center City in Philadelphia, where everything is indeed within walking distance. We drove the car a total of 15 miles round-trip to and from Audrey's school once a week and perhaps another 200 miles in any one month. There was little time in keeping that expensive piece of machinery — garage, insurance, monthly payments, upkeep — so another of life's milestones has toppled.

There was a gala reception on June 8 for Audrey's 90th birthday. It was a fundraiser for the St. James School, which she co-founded in North Philadelphia in an area short of good schools for underprivileged children. The affair was staged at the prestigious Union League of Philadelphia and raised about $175,000 that is much-needed to support the school. It was both a great financial success and a great tribute to Audrey's philanthropy.

We went to Ljubljana Beach on the sun-splashed deck watching the shoppers, the scuba divers and the hikers. The bird watchers and sightseers go ashore at St. Kitts, Antigua, Barbados and such places in the morning and return wearily but triumphant in the late afternoon. Albeit in this inactive way, I find simply being among those islands a pleasure. Even their harbors are beautiful to look at, and their year-round climate is beyond perfect (hurricane season excepted). One of these islands, Nevis, is the birthplace of the distinguished fellow Columbia, Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). He arrived in New York in 1773 to enroll in King's College and left, with his degree unfixed, for Washington on the Hudson River in 1776. I keep wondering if he felt any pangs of regret during his first winter in Manhattan.

"Sorry, didn't mean to inflict a lecture, but mouthy historian that I am, I couldn't resist. Besides, when the biggest life events of the last three months are getting new hearing aids and having effortless sliding doors installed in the lobby of your condo building, you grope for 'filler.'"

"Among the enjoyable moments of post-professional life is meeting younger alumni. I'm happy to record two such moments here. Just prior to the Israeli elections in March, I heard a good and farsighted lecture on the legality of the charges that Israel was guilty of war crimes under international law. The speaker was Jeremy Bob '00, a journalist living in Israel with his family. I'm pleased to say that I am one of his in-laws, as he is the husband of my wife's granddaughter. Then, at the high school graduation of a friend's son, I mingled pleasantly with Sandy Johnson '75/12/GS12 and Gabriella Spitzer BC13. They do the old place proud."
Senior Services in Fairfield, Conn.). Now I'm back doing the same old, same old: adapting the classics for ESL students.

"I started doing this about six years ago when a Japanese publisher paid me to abridge Crime and Punishment. Since they only wanted the Japanese rights, I published it in this country and have since done another five or six. I'm completing work on The Portrait of a Lady and [as I write this, planned to] have it ready for publication in another couple of weeks. I stopped creating my own books, after publishing about 16 of them, because I don't really have the energy and mental strength for creative work. I occasionally add to a book on old age I'm working on; it's already book-length, but I shall just probably leave that in the computer."

I mourn the passing of Roy Kallop '46, who was my freshman college track teammate, as well as my Yonkers H.S. classmate. Roy and I had a pleasant telephone conversation a few months ago, and there was no indication of the imminence of his demise. I encourage you to send news. You can reach me at either address listed in any catalog or bulletin at the College and is no longer available at Columbia. It was different from any other course because the students were required to attend it two hours a day, five days a week, and they ate all their meals there. The ‘professor’ was Max Lev, who instructed all his students in the art of vocal communication — that it be terse, accurate and audible. The students themselves also had to be dexterous, nimble and responsive to commands.

"The class was held just off campus in a moderately sized facility where persons not enrolled were able to watch the students carry out their assignments. To encourage as many people as possible to enter the facility, Professor Lev cleverly decorated the wall with publicity photographs of Columbia's sports heroes — football players, wrestlers, baseball players and others in aggressive poses. He also had tables, chairs, booths, a soda..."
Then as I looked up at coach Augustus ‘Gus’ Peterson with his cauliflower ears, bowed legs and no neck, I thought of all the pretty girls I had just seen in my last ‘class’ with their sly glances and saucy smiles. When I was slammed to the mat a few times I would remember where I was, “Each student who enrolled at the special class was compensated with $1.10 per day payable in food for three meals. Unbelievable as it may seem now, breakfast cost 15–20 cents (juice, eggs with toast and beverage), lunch 20–30 cents (sandwich, dessert and beverage) dinner 60–70 cents (soup, entree, dessert and beverage). With tips of a nickel or a dime you could amass 25 cents for a movie or even two dollars for a date that included a movie and a dinner.”

“The last time I passed by 116th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the U.S. Post Office had occupied the corner where the Columbia Chemists used to feed and educate many young people so long ago. I wonder if the postal workers sometimes heard echoes of ‘In the Mood’ from the jukebox or the voices of the Swiss mountain people that assailed those walls. Probably, the only direct connection to the past is in the current generation of city mice, who will never know the wonderful place their ancestors occupied.”

“REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Vanessa Scott vs2470@columbia.edu 212-851-9148 DEVELOPMENT Sarah Fan sf2610@columbia.edu 212-851-7833

46 Bernard Sunshine 165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G New York, NY 10023 bsuns1@gmail.com

Perhaps it’s hard to believe, but it is noteworthy and wonderful: Our class will celebrate its 70th reunion next spring, preceded by Class Day on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. Graduating seniors receive their degrees, and we are invited to march in the Alumni Parade of Classes with our class banner. It is an enjoyable and satisfying experience, and you will be pleased to have participated. There will be a reminder as we approach the date, but make note of it now. You will also be posted about our reunion luncheon.

Peter Rogatz PH’56 sent this note: “After training in internal medicine, I shifted my career to the organization and delivery of health care. I was director of Long Island Jewish Medical Center, associate director of the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center of SUNY and senior VP of Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Greater New York. In retirement I have focused my energies on issues of medical ethics, with particular attention to problems faced by patients and their families as death approaches. In 1998 I helped found Compassion & Choices of New York, which recently changed its name to End of Life Choices New York. It seeks to expand choice and improve the quality of care at the end of life, ensuring that patients’ wishes and values are respected. End of Life Choices New York is a plaintiff in a lawsuit against New York State seeking to establish that physicians who provide lethal medication in response to requests from mentally competent, terminally ill patients are not in violation of New York State law. “I am married to the former Marge Plaut, who throughout her life has been a major force in social change; we have had an organization and delivery of health care, with a week break between each. At entry I was 16 and I completed nearly six semesters before being drafted in May 1945, when I was sent for three more semesters to an Army Japanese language school at Penn. Columbia awarded my A.B. in October 1946, while I was on my way to Japan. I had entered with the Class of ’47, graduated a year sooner and shared little companionionship with most ‘46 grads. One of my prominent memories is of my kindly, sagacious adviser, Professor James Gutmann, who taught in the philosophy department. He helped moderate my youthful impetuous decision making about courses and other matters.”

“Frosh Rush. The morning of the tournament and played first board for the team every semester. For social change; we have had an organization and delivery of health care, with a week break between each. At entry I was 16 and I completed nearly six semesters before being drafted in May 1945, when I was sent for three more semesters to an Army Japanese language school at Penn. Columbia awarded my A.B. in October 1946, while I was on my way to Japan. I had entered with the Class of ’47, graduated a year sooner and shared little companionionship with most ‘46 grads. One of my prominent memories is of my kindly, sagacious adviser, Professor James Gutmann, who taught in the philosophy department. He helped moderate my youthful impetuous decision making about courses and other matters.”

“An impetuous decision making about courses and other matters.”
to take down the blue freshman beanie atop a 12-ft. greaseless poll (event three). Winning events two and three, we ended as victors.

We read about it. We hear about it. But John McConnell in Post Falls, Idaho, may be the only one of us who has experienced it: the devastation and angst of raging forest fires. This is the season of fire disasters, and thousands of acres of timberland have been destroyed. The devastation and danger to locals often carry consequences that alter lives. John has been sending me news and photos about the fires that have been appearing in the local press.

In a lighter vein, John recently turned back the pages to the 1941 World Series between the New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers. He recalls seeing Dodgers catcher Mickey Owen’s dropped third strike in game 4, which helped the Brooklyn Dodgers win two nights solo in Dizzy’s Club Coca-Cola (Monday-Tuesday, December 21–22, in Jazz at Lincoln Center, NYC); Naples, Fla. (Sunday, January 10) and aboard the MS Eurodam, Sunday, January 17.

We wish to thank you to Alvin N. Eden writes, “As I followed with pride the huge success of the Columbia baseball team, I was told that I, then a radio technician, was going from Low Library to Pupin Hall without seeing daylight. We’d dash back to the locker room after a few miles of running and would get a reviving rubdown from Gus, the trainer, and reel of running alcohol for future times.

“Some of us ‘in the know’ could keep warm while getting to classes in the many buildings on campus by using the underground utility tunnels linking them. I'm sure today’s security concerns have most of them locked but I remember going from Low Library to Pupin Hall without seeing daylight.

“Can you believe that entering in the basement of Pupin Hall for an upstairs physics class I would probably pass a door to a closely guarded war support effort named the Manhattan Project? Little did I — or anyone else — know!

“Those were exciting days for us, as many students who had studies interrupted by being called up for WW II service. I went into the Navy, where after 11 months of electronic studies I was told that I, then a radio technician, was going to the South Pacific to work on the invasion of Japan.

“My high school sweetheart, Norma Stout, and I, both 18, eloped, fearing we’d be torn apart, and were surprised when my assignment actually brought me to the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., as an instructor in radar and sonar classes. I never saw the ocean while in the Navy!

“I was very fortunate. Norma and I then embarked on 65 years of a wonderful marriage.”

Thank you to Martin and to Ed for getting in touch. CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Wishing you a foliage-filled fall.

Columbia School Designations

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
ccf@columbia.edu

Martin R. Warshaw writes: "Ten years after graduating from the College, I had worked in the family business, married, had four children, earned an M.B.A. at Michigan and joined the faculty as an instructor in marketing. Continuing in grad school at Michigan, I earned a Ph.D. in 1960 and was promoted to assistant professor. I ended up as a full professor and chairman of the marketing faculty. I retired in 1989 and have spent my time revising textbooks, enjoying time with my grandchildren, and living in Ann Arbor and visiting our family vacation home in Aspen, Colo."


Ed McAvoy, who lives in Turners Falls, Mass., writes: "The magnificent foliage in Western Massachusetts will be upon us soon, and the memories of last winter with the sub-zero temps and four-foot mounds of snow already have me shivering. What a bitter recall!

"It takes me back to my CC days of the mid-'40s during the cross country season at Van Cortlandt Park when, as a Queens County, 10-mile, and facing those cold and cutting winds coming east from the Hudson River was a real chiller. We’d dash back to the locker room after a few miles of running and would get a reviving rubdown from Gus, the trainer, and reel of running alcohol for future.

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"Some of us ‘in the know’ could keep warm while getting to classes in the many buildings on campus by using the underground utility tunnels linking them. I'm sure today’s security concerns have most of them locked but I remember going from Low Library to Pupin Hall without seeing daylight.

"Can you believe that entering in the basement of Pupin Hall for an upstairs physics class I would probably pass a door to a closely guarded war support effort named the Manhattan Project? Little did I — or anyone else — know!

"Those were exciting days for us, as many students who had studies interrupted by being called up for WW II service. I went into the Navy, where after 11 months of electronic studies I was told that I, then a radio technician, was going to the South Pacific to work on the invasion of Japan.

"My high school sweetheart, Norma Stout, and I, both 18, eloped, fearing we’d be torn apart, and were surprised when my assignment actually brought me to the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., as an instructor in radar and sonar classes. I never saw the ocean while in the Navy!

"I was very fortunate. Norma and I then embarked on 65 years of a wonderful marriage."

Thank you to Martin and to Ed for getting in touch. CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Wishing you a foliage-filled fall.

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New York, NY 10025
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John Weaver
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Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

Well now, there has been a resounding silence from all classmates, so I urge you to take a minute from your busy lives and send a word or two. I have high hopes that you will all chime in for future issues. We
Mario Palmiere
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mapa@bestweb.net

A computer malfunction has caused the loss of recent email. To those who sent news, please send again, although it will have to wait for the Winter or the Spring issue. I can only apologize for this mishap and hope that it never happens again. To all I say, the U.S. Postal Service is still in business and my phone number is 914-737-6077. Best to all.

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2-5, 2016
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How many classmates remember the back cover of our 60th reunion yearbook directory? It was the picture of the laughing Columbia Lion with the caption, “See you at the 65th!” Well, the 65th is around the corner and your class leadership has started planning. You can plan right now by circling Thursday, June 2–Saturday, June 5, on your calendar and dusting off your blue blazer.

Class president Elliot Wales will be responsible for coordinating our special events with the designated Alumni Office staff. The initial plan is to parallel this year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend activities on campus but reserve some time for the special events that pertain to CC’s51. We have also been in touch with Ted Borri SEAS’S51; their group is small but almost all of the members started with two years in the College. They would like to be a part of our activities.

The Class Gift is one of the most significant items on our agenda. Willard Block, class VP, will chair the fundraising for what is expected to be “the home run with the bases loaded.” No doubt most of us share Willard’s gratitude to Columbia College when he said alma mater “prepared him for what has been a wonderful voyage over these many years.” Please give generously when Willard and his committee call.

As usual, as class secretary I will prepare the reunion yearbook and class directory. Unlike previous yearbook publications (which were biographical), this final production will have no restrictions in content except for size. Class members may include photos; artwork; philosophy; advice for living; stories about life, family, professional and business relationships; or whatever tickles the imagination. Column size is restricted to 3/4 inches wide by 9 inches high, so be creative!

For further information, I may be reached on my cell phone at 914-610-1995 or at deshea@aol.com. Don’t use the old version.net email.

At past reunions, NROTC has scheduled some special activities that include activities with U.S. Naval personnel. Leonard A. Stoehr will be its contact person. Len writes the following:

“I received a phone call from Jim over the weekend reporting that he has moved from the assisted living condo that he had in St. Johns, Fl. He is now living in a condo penthouse (with ocean views) in Daytona Beach, Fl. The address is 2403 S. Atlantic Blvd, Bldg. A, Ste 308, Daytona Beach, FL 32118, and Jim’s phone number is 388-275-1083. It is certainly good to hear that one of us is moving toward greater independence.

“I wish that I could report similar progress for Phil Bergovoy 51, who is a fellow classmate from last year’s reunion. Phil’s physical condition has deteriorated; he recently needed EMT transport to take him to a hospital for an MRI. He lives in his wheelchair, seems to be in constant pain and is receiving physical therapy twice a week. His phone number is 914-822-0650; I’m sure that he would like to hear from any of his friends. He is, in any case, a great and she would be able to give you an update if Phil is not available.

“Among the cohort, [my wife, Jan, and I are finally getting back to normal after an almost six-month construction project that involved moving all of the junk in our garage to a new large garden shed. A contractor converted the two-car garage to a new master bedroom suite, complete with a bidet in the bathroom. We now have a four-bedroom, three-bath house replacing the former three-bedroom, 2½-bath place that we suffered in before. My junior year roommate, Fred, and now my wife, Beth, [were scheduled to visit] to check out the new guest room (former master bedroom).

“I’m still swimming, playing tennis and mowing lawns (on a tractor) to keep my self in (hopefully good) shape.

“Best regards to all.

Columbia College Today
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Norman Krasnow writes, “Now that I’m retired from SUNY Downstate Medical Center-Brooklyn and [Mount Sinai] St. Luke’s Hospital (cardiology) and living on the Upper West Side, I audit classes at Columbia regularly. All subjects, from poli sci to history to art history — no exams or papers, thank you.

“I am impressed that the students and professors have closer contact (including via the Internet) than I did as an undergrad. Also, they are graded more explicitly on class participation and they seem to write more papers than I had to (in the few math electives I took for fun for). I am impressed at how smart they are — more knowledgeable than I was at their age, and with a better memory (that isn’t hard). And I can appreciate better than I did as a green undergrad the quality of the faculty. The world-class professors Columbia always brags about are real and terrific: Eric Foner ’63, GSAS ’69; Andrew Delbanco; [the late] David Rosand ’59, GSAS ’65; and so on. These professors are usually welcoming to auditors. I have ever so briefly welcomed two others in the world-class physics department.

“I have never met a bunch of guys who like me and have formed close friendships, taking some classes with one or another of them and having a lunch every Wednesday to talk school or politics or our kvetch-erai. This doesn’t happen often at our age — 75-84. If it’s geographically possible, I urge classmates to try it.”

James Ketchum writes, “After Columbia I entered what was then named Cornell Medical College. While still a medical student, during my senior year, I joined the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps and completed a two-year residency in psychiatry at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, D.C., ending in 1961.

“Subsequent assignment was to Edgewood Arsenal’s chemical research lab in Maryland, where it needed a regular Army psychiatrist to help improve the design of psychopharmacological studies of atropine-related classified compounds. In addition, LSD, cannabis derivatives and common psychoactive drugs were administered safely to hundreds of military volunteers, with the help of more than 60 drafted, mostly specially trained physicians. The work was challenging and personally rewarding, although public support faded as the Vietnam War became more openly opposed.

“Awarded a two-year ‘sabbatical,’ I spent 1966–68 at Stanford as a neurophysiologist post-doc under neurosurgeon/psychologist Karl Pribram. For two years I thus had freedom from military duties and enjoyed many fascinating times, including attending the ‘endorphin’ conferences once a week at the free clinic created
We now have a small house with a pool, some Redwood trees and cozy isolation. Meanwhile, I wrote Chemical Warfare Secrets Almost Forgotten: A Personal Story of Medical Testing of Army Volunteers with Incapacitating Chemical Agents During the Cold War (1955–1975), and it had printed privately at 75. It is illustrated with 200-plus photographs and many statistical presentations...

In conclusion, I've become even lazier in the past few years, but still send out a few notes and letters when ambition pokes my drowsy 83-year-old, less-productive head. I remember my years at Columbia with much nostalgia.

Raymond Bartlett PS’56, of Simsbury, Conn., writes, “I completed a residency in pathology at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Conn. I remember being greatly influenced by the insight gained from Virginia Kneeland Frantz, who taught the surgical pathology course at P&S.

“Although I have been retired for 23 years from my position as director of the Microbiology Laboratory at Hartford Hospital, I was flattered to have a ‘biographical feature’ outlining my career published in the Journal of Clinical Microbiology in May 2015. The author, Andrew Onderdonk of the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, remarked, ‘I knew from the first day that Dr. Bartlett was a genius’.”

Raymond Bartlett ’52, PS’56 had a biographical feature on his career published in the Journal of Clinical Microbiology in May 2015.

George Economakis BUS’52, writes, “As a retired ‘veteran’ of 85, I am now an active grandfather, or pappou in Greek.

“I was financial analyst of the Axe-Houghton Funds at Carsons Castle, Troytown, N.Y., 1952-53. From 1954 through 1963 I was an adviser to my father for his jewelry business in Cairo and Suez and for the Ford dealership covering Suez and the Red Sea.

“In 1958 I founded and started operations of the Investment Bank of Egypt, S.A.E in Cairo. I was its chairman and managing director through the 1961 banking nationalizations by Nasser.

“In 1964 I founded, with Greek and American investors, ICAP Hellas in Athens. I managed this investment and financial services company, affiliated to ICAP Corp., N.Y.

“In 1966 I started with investors a maritime operation owning and managing ocean-going ships, with offices in Athens and Lausanne. From 1972 through 1978 I owned and operated my own tanker and cargo fleet.

“My last professional activity through 1985 was organizing and managing the Hellenic Marine Consortium, a marine service and consulting group. There were several Greek ship-owning member companies with 180 cargo vessels and tankers, with total dead weight tonnage of 3.7 million.

“Shifting to memories of Columbia, George continues, ‘I earned my B.A. (with honors), membership to Phi Beta Kappa and a M.S. from the Business School. In 1951 I won an ICF gold medal (sabre) with the Columbia varsity fencing team’.

“In conclusion. I’ve become even lazier in the past few years, but still send out a few notes and letters when ambition pokes my drowsy 83-year-old, less-productive head. I remember my years at Columbia with much nostalgia.”
Mike Sovern LAW'55’s book An Improbable Life: My 60 Years at Columbia and Other Adventures is filled with colorful anecdotes about the extraordinary professors he met as an undergraduate and during his years as dean of the Law School and as president of the University. If you are storing memories of events, classmates and teachers, please take a moment to send me an email about them so that your reminiscences can be included in a future column. The following is an example of one of my favorite passages from Mike’s book.

“Professor Irwin Edman ([Class of 1916]) was a Professor of Philosophy and as a sopometre, I was a student in one of his undergraduate courses. The professor’s behavior was unforgettable. He liked to nibble on a piece of chalk. One day, Professor Edman quoted William James: ‘Religion like sex and drink takes one from the periphery of life to its very core.’ That’s so good, the professor told us, I’m going to repeat it. ‘Religion like sex and drink takes one from the periphery of life to its very core.’ At that moment, a member of the Class of ’53 raised his hand as the professor was chewing on his chalk. Our 18-year-old classmate asked, ‘Sir, may we have a choice?’

Please email your memories of life on the campus as well as additional stories and articles for a future issue.

Our Classmates of Destiny are chock full of news. Thank you all for your prompt responses to my emailed info requests. Please note that the publication schedule is bimonthly, so items you submit may not appear as soon as you expect; in that case, do not resend the information, but rather send me an email alert with your new information. Here’s a condensed version of Dick Wagner’s unusual career.

Dick graduated from Yale’s School of Architecture in 1957, went west and "fell in love with the Northwest, with its environment of inland sea, forests and mountains but none of the Eastern Coast squabbles. At our age, we should be ready to go at any time." Exactly where Jim wants to go is left unclear, but he probably welcomes suggestions, destinations and costs. Let me know if you want his email address.

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does his own scientific research and has filed two patent applications. He still skis on the expert slopes, although in great pain, and both knees will need to be replaced before he will be ready for next season. He and his wife live in the mountains at 7,000 ft., have several national parks close by, go camping in Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons and fly-fish for trout in the High Units on the Green River. "Retirement has been a wonderful time in my life and Utah a wonderful place to retire to... no traffic," he says.

Richard Bernstein recently published a series of 50 videos on YouTube titled "Dr. Bernstein's Diabetes University." Additional exciting news about Dick will be published in a future issue.

Ronald Sugarman reports that "being in good health and having time to spend 'when you like on what you like' is not a condition that needs describing in the same way as the city. Three months later I left the department and went back to my private practice as a planner and architect. To this moment I still react to the events of that time with an emotional response."

Two years ago, Sheldon and his wife, Roz, moved to Florida from Riverdale, N.Y., leaving but not forgetting a large clan still up north. Their eldest son, Adam, has twin girls and another girl; his midwife son, Warren, is a physician in Providence, R.I., and he and his wife, Dr. Naomi Kramer, have three sons (the eldest a student at Tulane, where one of my grandchildren is entering this fall); Sheldon and Roz's youngest, Jason, is A/V director at the New-York Historical Society.

I continue in "semi-retirement": my wife, Helen, and I "commute" between Bronxville, N.Y., and our home in The Berkshires in Massachusetts, visit with and often see our sons and their families (five grandchildren in Manhattan and Westchester, two in Pacific Palisades, Calif.), and continue to support and perform the performing arts in theater, music and dance. After teaching a course on philanthropic management at last year at Berkshire Community College, I will cover a new subject this fall semester, "Story Telling as a Management Tool" (really!).

Thanks to all of you who submitted information, which I hope has been fairly presented in these Class Notes. Be well, all of you, stay in touch, and all my best. Excelsior!

---

Gerald Sherwin

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gs481@juno.com

This year’s Commencement was more than just a joyous occasion — the venerable Bill Campbell ’62, TC’64 (who has done more for the school than most any alumnus/a) was honored as a Doctor of Laws and as a Columbia University Alumnus Medalist.

Columbia alumni gathered in Italy for the highly anticipated 50th edition of the Rice, Roland Flatley and Fort Rennert and New England’s Ralph Wagner. From Brooklyn came Bob Schiff, Alfred Gollop, Igor Allbray and Bob Loring, while Abe Leban and Bernie Kirtman came from Northern California. Hall of Fame fellow Barry Pariser came, as did former Varsity Show writer, performer and fencer Herb Gardner. Lew Mendelson, Marty Dubner and Roger Stern came, as did Harris Epstein, Bill Epstein (no relation), Norman Goldstein, Andrew Lombard, Dan Lauter, Rochester’s Beryl Nussbaum, Long Island’s Larry Balfus. Also showing ‘59 pride at Alumni Reunion Weekend were Lew Sterneckel, Ralph Tanner, Herb Cohen, Ed Siegel, Sven Johnson, Jules Rosenberg, Paul Frank, professor Neil Opdyke, Daren Rathkopf, our point guard Ezra Levin, North Carolina’s Mike Liptzin, Berish Stauch, Henry Weinstein, author Dick Ascher, Milt Mereit and professor Gerry Pomper.

If a name has been omitted, it will be made up in a future column. We heard from several ‘59ers who couldn’t make the reunion events; maybe we’ll get them in five years. Walt Flanagan, Mike Vaughn, former oarsman Harry Scheiber, Bob Banz, Dan Howe, Bill Mink (Bob Brown’s high school classmate) and Milt Finegold in Texas all passed along well wishes.

Allbray and Bob Loring, while Abbe Leban and Bemie Kirtman came to mind how many of us have..."

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016

FALL 2015

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

OLLEGE TO DA’
As age should only be viewed as a number, not as a demarcation of "approaching old age," it should be remembered that Buzz, as I have said, the youngest member of our class, will not be celebrating his 80th birthday for another 1½ years. For those of you who might remember, we had a number of Ford scholars in our class, and Buzz was among those who were sponsored by the Ford Foundation as an educational experiment, entering college having not even completed high school, at 16 (some at 15).

Reflecting on family, I note that my oldest granddaughter [has begun] her senior year in high school and will soon apply to a number of colleges, something that many of you are familiar with. Also, my two youngest grandchildren (boy and girl), are attending Horace Mann, and are potential Columbia candidates.

If you would like to share info about your life experiences (including family and other observations), we are proposing for our 60th reunion to have all our class members submit a one- or two-page bio update, together with a picture, to be included in a booklet to be given out at the reunion. If we do not receive enough responses to make up a booklet, they will be included over the course of the next year in Class Notes.

We had a class luncheon on May 6 at Faculty House. In attendance were Buzz Paaswell, Danny Link, Stan Soren, Ralph Kaslick, Jerry Fine, Mark Novick and me. We invited Gregory Rempe ’16, one of our class scholarship recipients. Greg will graduate in June and we hope to have celebrate our 60th reunion. He is from Albuquerque, N.M., and shared with us many of the current goings-on at Columbia; in response, we shared some of our Columbia experiences as well as some of the benefits we have gained from our Columbia education. We hope Greg will be able to attend at least one of our 60th reunion events.

On May 19, Danny Link, Leonard Wolfe and Ron Kapon represented our class on Class Day, marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes with our class banner. This is the first year I have missed it, as I had just returned from one of my Mexico trips. I hope, for our 60th, we will have a "battalion" of class members marching with our banner.

At Dean’s Day our class had one of the best attendance we have had for many years. In attendance were Stanley Soren with his wife, Ruth; Danny Link and Elinor Baller; Bob Siroty; Peter Klein; John Censor; Ralph Kaslick; Jerry Fine with his wife, Barbara; and me. At lunch, we shared our evaluation of the morning lectures which, as usual, were quite interesting and informative. I found the afternoon lecture, "Learning from Jazz," given by associate professor Chris Washburne GSAS '99, to be not only informative but also entertaining, as it included a quartet of students performing many of the works that were covered in the lecture. It was the consensus of our attendees that the lecture presenters were a great indication of the quality of teaching at the College today.

On June 11, we had our first summer class luncheon at Danny Link’s country club, Bonnie Briar, in Larchmont, N.Y. Those attending for tennis were Jerry Fine, Bob Novek, Danny Link, Mark Novick and me. The non-tennis players were Ron Kapon, Bob Siroty and Peter Klein. We had the benefit of instruction from the club pro, Nelson, who got us moving faster than we are (but at a safe level). Surprisingly, the “sleepy player” of the group, Mark Novick, was easily the most improved player with instruction, and the winner of the last match.

The sessions began on Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5. Herbert was professor of Herbert L. Strauss GSAS ’60 at Faculty House. In attendance make up a booklet, they will be given out at the reunion. If we do not have a booklet, they will be included over the course of the next year in Class Notes.

The excellent Spring 2015 issue of CCT, with its coverage of Magna Carta for True Local Government: 800 Years of Lessons from the United Kingdom and the U.S. Senate was filled with another series of forums, a luncheon with Cherie (Mrs. Tony) Blair as speaker and a reception at Guildhall. I attended two forums on the Magna Carta; the first called "What if...?" followed by "A Magna Carta for True Local Government: 800 Years of Lessons from the United Kingdom and the U.S."

I will attend the second forum on the Magna Carta; the first called "What if...?" followed by "A Magna Carta for True Local Government: 800 Years of Lessons from the United Kingdom and the U.S."
In London I walked around the Inner and Middle Temples, Royal Courts of Justice, Bank of England, Gunpowder Tower and the Monument to the Great Fire of London. After 10 days in London, I took the train to Edinburgh, Scotland, for a week. As the presumed capital of the possibly emerging independent state of Scotland, I had a special interest in the city. There is the Royal Mile, running downhill through the Old Town from Edinburgh Castle, with its spectacular views of the city below. The Royal Mile runs past several points of interest, including St. Giles' Cathedral with its crown-shaped spire, Deacon Brodie's Tavern (that of a split personality said to be the basis of Robert Louis Stevenson's Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde), the John Knox House and the strikingly modern, stark white new Scottish Parliament building. At the foot of the hill is the Palace of Holyroodhouse, residence of the Queen when she is in Edinburgh. Across the Sunken Gardens is the Georgian-style New Town (from the 18th century), the star of which is the Georgian House on Charlotte Square, open to visitors. Among the exhibits has a video scene showing him stripped to the waist of the exhibits has a video scene showing him stripped to the waist. The chair of the professional and corporate consortium of the American College of Cardiology, Henry earlier this year took his 16th trip to China, where he was invited to give a talk at the China Healthcare Investment Conference in Shanghai; he also visited numerous companies (both established and startups) involved in different aspects of healthcare there.

Also unretired is Henry Solo¬mon. The chair of the professional and corporate consortium of the American College of Cardiology, Henry earlier this year took his 16th trip to China, where he was invited to give a talk at the China Healthcare Investment Conference in Shanghai; he also visited numerous companies (both established and startups) involved in different aspects of healthcare there.

David Horowitz wants us to know, "I'm a proud Columbia dad again as my son, Ben Horowitz '88, delivered the graduation speech for the Engineering School in May. Not so proud of the attempts to censor Ovid and other classics at the school by the faculty thought police. My teachers were such great models of what the disinterested pursuit of knowledge looks like; I feel very sad for the liberal arts undergrads today who are generally indoctri¬nated in the left-liberal dogma and will probably never encounter a conservative adult in their four years at the school."

"I recently published The Black Book of the American Left, Volume IV: Islamo-Fascism and the War Against the Jews. The book will include poems, paintings, photos and other items dug out from John's vast archive; one unique specimen is a reel of film shot by Andy Warhol that became the basis of his infamous film, Sleep (1964); five hours of nothing but a nude John sleeping — the ultimate reality show. Russeth's article reads like a prelude to a full-length biography, from John's days hanging out with artists like Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg and Warhol; his long career as a quintessential avant-garde poet; the latest addition of painting to his repertoire; and a description of his home in the 1885 brick loft building on the Bowery that he took over from author William Burroughs. I'll be glad to email the full article to anyone who wants to read more."

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month, in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinclass.com

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Retirement? Retirement? What is this "retirement" of which you speak?
After a long, successful career as a litigator with the NYC firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges, Peter Greenberg joined LAW '61 and another major firm, Greenberg Traurig, as senior counsel. He will continue to focus on complex business litigation. Peter has represented clients ranging from the NBA to Rose Perot as well as acting as lead counsel in the bankruptcy proceedings for Drexel Burnham Lambert, Enron and Lehman Brothers.

He is a founding member of the litigation section of the American Bar Association. He has also taught at the Law School. Responding to his new firm's warm welcome, Peter praised its attitude toward experienced lawyers, saying, "The firm has a very attractive attitude: not worrying about hiring senior partners. Many firms don't wish to deal with older lawyers, and I don't think they understand the benefits that can be derived from having a senior lawyer on the team."

Peter also passed along the news that his grandson, Ethan Abrams '19, of San Diego, was admitted early decision, becoming the third generation of Peter's family to attend Columbia. Ethan is a right-handed pitcher who was recruited by several California schools but chose the Lions (who, incidentally, have three consecutive Ivy League baseball championships).

See the new tomb of Richard III in the cathedral.

Richard III's rather gory death at Bosworth Field, his remains were buried in a Grefriar monastery church in nearby Leicester. The church presumably was one of many destroyed in the aftermath of Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries; ultimately someone built a parking lot over the ruins. Using old records, a group of scientists located the remains and identified them as those of Richard III through the scoliosis of the back and one shoulder being lower than the other. One of the exhibits has a video scene showing him stripped to the waist for an armor fitting; evidently, notwithstanding his deformities, he was not the ugly hunchback that Shakespeare painted.
of Arthur Irving Newman, who was and is a month younger than I. I must be one of the few alumni who have come to reunions not so much to see old friends as to meet those classmates whom I hardly knew, being a transfer student and having to live at home, three subway trains away. Today's kids don't know how lucky they are to be on campus or nearby.

"I don't have a great deal to report. I'm checking the accuracy of quotations in the notes to my forthcoming book Beethoven, the Relentless Revolutionary, a time-consuming activity. I [was scheduled to present] a paper, 'Immortal Love: Beethoven's Fidelio,' at a conference at the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies at San Jose State University in July, and in October will enjoy a tour of Beethoven's Vienna (and environs), sponsored by the center."

From Luis Stephens, "Really not much has changed for myself; my wife, Karen; and our five children since the last Class Note I sent in. I still paint — I'm working on seven large (5 ft. x 6 ft.) canvases, each one representing a day in the seven days of creation as described in the King James Version of the Bible's Old Testament. I'm on day three. Karen writes as a fellow in SUNY's New York State Writers Institute, and our daughters, Phoebe and Annette, design and produce the most kick-ass jewelry with their company, Anndra Neen. Our youngest, Thomas, plays drums for the group Great Caesar and also paints; Dustin edits commercials, and Luis José does phone solicitations. We are a vibrant and close-knit family. Still no grandchildren, ugh. Best to all classmates."

Peter Rosenfeld GSAS'61 led a symposium at the Association for Psychological Science in New York on May 22, "Studies of instructed memory suppression in concealed information tests, with autonomic, behavioral, fMRI and brain wave responses." Before that, he met with the Clive Chajets, the Mike Brombergs and the Al Gelbs for dinner at Cesca on May 19.

Ron Sommer writes, "I do not sit around and drink beer. In fact (a shock to my old fraternity brothers), I rarely drink any kind of alcohol anymore. Have lost the taste for practically anything except excellent wine.

"When I am not sitting around not drinking, I have been doing volunteer development work for a wonderful organization, DB Peru. This totally volunteer organization provides health care education and services to 18 isolated indigenous villages on the Rio Napo, a branch of the Amazon River. How isolated is it, you ask? Well, there is no electricity, no telephones, no Internet and no television. There are no roads into the area and the nearest city is a 12-hour trip by boat on the two rivers. I am working on a community development project to improve the nutrition of the population. It will consist of an 11-hectare plot containing coops for 400 chickens, a pond to raise about 2,500 tilapia per year as well as some hydroponic veggies, and a huge garden. We already own the 11 hectares, the coops are built and the pond has been dug. Now I need to raise $10,000 for pumps, generators, filters and so on. If anyone would like to contribute or to learn more, please go to dbperuong.com.

"In my spare time I tend my own garden, walk my dog, Scott; and play with my parrots. Sometimes I travel to learn more about my adopted Peru and its surrounding nations. In all, a great retirement."

Bernie Pucker wants us to know, "After 48 years at 171 Newbury St. in Boston, we have moved the entire Pucker Gallery (some 5,000 sq. ft.) to 240 Newbury St., 3rd Fl. The gallery is now all on one floor! It is exciting and we are enjoying it enormously. It was certainly well beyond any expectations I had at 77.

"Fortunately our son, Jon, spearheaded the entire endeavor: design, build-out, planning and opening of the new space. Additionally we had to move more than 7,000 objects. I would guess that some 50 percent of those objects were ceramics. It is now all happily installed and I do hope that one day you will visit."

"Graduations for us included our grandson from Brown and a granddaughter from The Com-"
monwealth School in Boston. She will go to Bowdoin for college."

Allen Rosenshine reports, "Having retired from advertising at the end of 2006, I have consulted for various companies and have worked with Dean James J. Valentini on how Columbia College should position itself in order to differentiate itself from its primary competition — Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, Chicago and so on. We have focused on two distinguishing offerings unique to Columbia: the Core Curriculum and the New York City environment. The dean and the powers-that-be seem to have accepted this approach.

"I also worked with the Columbia College Alumni Association on its [new] logo and name redesign in the hopes of distinguishing it from the Columbia Alumni Association, as there seems to be confusion between the two caused by the similarity of their symbols and the typefaces used in their names. The new CCAA logo features a lion icon and a new font. Having served as chair for both our 50th and 55th class reunions, my late-in-life return to the campus has been apparently meaningful and personally satisfying."

S. Sidney Mandel reports, "My father recently died at 100, and in cleaning out his apartment of 47 years I found my yearbook! I can look up everyone in our class; it is remarkable that so many of us survive."

Patrick Mullins and his daughter went to Israel with a GOP delegation during the spring.

From Matt Sobel SE'64, GSAS'64: "Last July I behaved as if I heard my biological clock ticking, and became an emeritus faculty member at Case Western Reserve. I sought greater flexibility and time for research and writing, and the first year of retirement has been productive. Several papers were submitted for publication, a prize was received for the best research paper in one of my fields (published in 2013) and I became a distinguished fellow in one of my research so I have found you! Can I look up everyone in our class; it is remarkable that so many of us survive."

Robert A. Machleder

address to me at rmachleder@aol.com. I do not share them with anyone, not even Columbia, unless I have your explicit permission. [Editor's note: If you do wish to update or correct information on file, please contact CCT via email at cct@columbia.edu or use our simple webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.]

Allen Rosenshine '59 helped to redesign the Columbia College Alumni Association logo, which now features a lion icon and a new font.

Allen Rosenshine '59

to his dedicated service as chair of the committee on student sports. Alan is a professor at Tufts University School of Medicine and chair of the nuclear medicine department at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Boston/Cambridge."

My thanks to Alanna Russo for bringing this accolade to our attention. Vince and Alan were formidable masters of the sabre on Britain's parliament, "You might have omitted a name or two, for possibly comment."

Sam Tolkin GSAPP'62 took the professional option route in our junior year and in 1989 entered the Architecture School. After earning a bachelor's of architecture he earned a master's of architecture in urban design from Harvard. Sam worked for I. M. Pei & Associates and Victor Gruen Associates before establishing his independent practice in 1974. He continues to pursue his more than 50-year career as a practicing architect and urban planner. Licensed to practice in New York, California and Washington, he maintains his practice in Santa Monica, Calif. In 2010 Sam was on a National Science Foundation panel reviewing grant proposals for the development of revolutionary architectural materials and processes with the aim of creating buildings with net zero energy consumption. Aside from private projects, Sam is developing a "prefabricated, eco-friendly, approaching-net-zero system of buildings designed to respond to the rising seas that threaten so many urban areas."

Sam has received wide recognition in the fields of architecture and industrial design. Most notably, he was nominated for a fellowship by the Los Angeles chapter of the American Institute of Architects and has had his industrial design work accepted as part of the permanent collection of the Cooper Hewitt, at the Smithsonian Design Museum.

Perhaps Sam's most cherished accomplishment is his family. "I am truly blessed," he writes, "with three children with my former wife, Francine, and eight grandchildren and one step-grandson. My oldest son, Peter Tolkin GSAPP'91, followed me into architecture. He maintains his own practice here in Pasadena, Calif. Peter's child, Elias, has dual Swiss and American citizenship and attends the University of Zurich, studying economics. My second child, Jonathan, after attending UC Berkeley and Loyola Law, became a successful developer, also in Pasadena. His older daughter, Porter, recently graduated from the University of San Diego with a major in communications and her younger sister, Storey, will major in business at USC. My daughter lives in Ashland, Ore., and has made a successful life raising four of my grandchildren, three boys and a girl. As of September, two of her older children, Riley and Jackson Richmond, will attend Yale as undergraduates. The others are in high school."

Congratulations to Alan Ashare, who, on April 30, received an award from the Massachusetts Medical Society in recognition of his dedicated service to the committee on student sports. Alan is a professor at Tufts University School of Medicine and chair of the nuclear medicine department at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Boston/Cambridge."

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Paul Nagano, having departed the mainland for Hawaii, has readjusted to the island of his roots. He writes, "You may think I've fallen off the face of the Northeast, and of course I have, but I've landed on my feet in the mid-Pacific where, after five months of settling in and acclimating myself to my new island surroundings, I have been able to do some work in my workable studio."

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Before departing for his annual sojourn in Bali, Paul completed three marvelous watercolors: Stone Lake Tide, which was done as a commission; Stone Bridge and Turtles; and 7 Mynahs in the Garden of Jakun. I hope by the time this issue reaches you Paul will have added these works to his online photographic collection, which you can access and enjoy at flickr.com/photos/YTNAGANO.

To all: Be well. If you are unable to make our first Thursday of the month class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York, make a plan to attend our 60th reunion in 2020.

Gerry Brodeur is recovering nicely from having his cancerous right kidney removed. The surgery removed all of the tumor and he did not need chemotherapy or radiation. He is back to golfing twice a week after a five-month layoff.

Joel Pitt and his wife spent two months in Asia — six weeks teaching calculus at Soochow University in Suzhou, China, followed by two weeks of travel in Japan (Tokyo, the Izu peninsula, Kyoto). They are busy packing up their house in Princeton, N.J., in hopes of renting it out for one year, starting in September, so they can spend a year traveling. They plan to drive across the country, spend the first two weeks of October in California and then fly to China to teach for eight weeks at Soochow. Joel's wife will teach English while he teaches linear algebra and differential equations. When the eight weeks in Suzhou concludes, they plan to spend several months exploring Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and India, with the rest of the year undecided.

David Konstan’s new book, Beauty: The Fortunes of an Ancient Greek Idea, was released in January. Search for it on Amazon, or Google the title for a preview.

Ted Stanley received the 2014 Willem J. Kolff Lifetime Achievement Award last October at the Blank, Flannery Annual Urology and Urologic Surgery Summit. Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and Rep. Jim Matheson (D-Utah) presented the award.

Phil Cottone was appointed by FINRA to a national task force of 13, charged with taking a comprehensive look at FINRA’s (arbitration and mediation) to improve how the forum handles disputes between investors and brokers. Phil also reports that he and his wife, Maureen, were invited to visit Vietnam and Thailand for two weeks as part of an American Bar Associaion delegation to discuss and teach arbitration and mediation to the judiciary in both countries.

Maureen and Phil are still active tennis players, and Phil plans golf as well. Maureen is also an avid bridge player but Phil is saving that for his retirement, if that ever happens! Phil is a full-time arbitrator and mediator for FINRA and the American Arbitration Association with a commercial practice specializing in real estate and securities. They have 11 grandchildren, ranging in age from 13 to 29. Three have graduated from college, three are in college and one is in high school. They first met in early 2015.

Gordon Ryan Cottone ’15 is the third generation of Cottones to graduate from the College, along with our Phil, and Ryan’s uncle, Anthony Cottone ’80.

Charles Wurinen received both a Pulitzer Prize and a MacArthur "genius" grant for his contemporary classical music compositions. He has written more than 260 works, including an opera, Haranu and the Sea of Stories, which premiered at the New York City Opera in 2004. The work was immediately hailed for its score and as a singularly apt musical response to the novel by Salman Rushdie on which the opera was based.

Charles returned to the opera stage in 2014 with a new work, Brokenback Mountain. Charles said when he saw the film of the same name he knew there was operatic material at hand. Upon reading the original novel, he was astonished at the differences between the story and the film. To his great joy, Annie Proulx, the author, agreed to write the libretto for his proposed opera. He informed her that his mission was to restore the meaning of a story that may have become famous but has been hidden in the process. Renowned Belgian opera director Gerard Mortier became aware of Charles’ interest in the story and commissioned the work for the Teatro Real in Madrid, where it premiered in January 2014.

Bob Pollack and his wife, Amy, have collaborated on many projects during their 53-year marriage. Amy, an artist, has often provided the frontispieces for Bob’s books. Bob, a professor of biological sciences who leads the Center for the Study of Science and Religion and was dean of the College from...
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At the end of May, I had a delightful visit with Allen Young at the marvelous house he and friends built 41 years ago in Royalston, Mass. Allen’s octagonal home stands far down an unpaved road in the midst of a grove of old maple trees. It has created a rich life here; he is deeply rooted in his garden and continues writing. He’s at work on a memoir, requested by his publisher. He’s a sweetheart, Kathryn Thompson, and I talked about the past and future as we sat in a breezy, screened gazebo perched on a broad wooden deck. On our way out, Kathryn and I startled a magnificent mama black bear and three spritely cubs.

To commemorate his 79th birthday, Neilson Abeel signed for six days of ocean racing around the buoys at the 2015 Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta (April 15-21). He was aboard the John Alden 52-ft. schooner, Heron, built by its owner/skipper in 2003 to a 1927 design. Heron was based in Falmouth Harbor, Antigua, and each day the 24-foot, 15,000-lb. vessel was emboldened by 15-20 mph winds and 8-12 ft. swells. More than 60 classic yachts participated. The largest was well over 130 ft.; the smallest, a British Folkboat, was 22 ft. It was one of the best sailing I’ve had in 65 years of experience. In 1960 I was a member of the Columbia team that competed in 44-ft. Luders yawls for the intercollegiate McMillian Cup (now Kennedy Cup) at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Anthony Valerio’s new video about writing and the writer’s life is out. It is designed to improve/sustain viewers’ writing skills and to describe what a professional writer’s life is like. Anthony says, “I must say I’m pleased with it. Covers pretty much what I wished would be there. The link is tiltmode/learn-from-the-masters-anthony-valerio-on-writing/instructorPreviewViewMode=guest.

On April 16, The New York Times published the following Letter to the Editor from Jeffrey Milstein, of Burlington, Vt., who was married to a magician and policy planner in the State and Defense Departments and was an assistant professor of political science and international relations at Yale.

“Honorng Russia’s War Dead.”

To the Editor: Re “Czech Republic: President to Skip Parade in Moscow” (World Briefing, April 11): The United States government and our European allies have been imposing economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation on Russia, President Vladimir V. Putin, in an effort to dissuade him from further military involvement in the conflict in Ukraine and for his annexation of Crimea. This diplomatic effort apparently includes a planned boycott of the military parade in Moscow on May 9.

“Oh that Victory Day, Russians will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the 1945 surrender of Nazi Germany and the Allied victory in Europe in World War II. The Soviet people paid a terrible price in that victory: more than 20 million total deaths, including more than 8 million military deaths—a majority of all Allied deaths in the European theater of war.

“To pay due respect to the few surviving war veterans, and to honor that great sacrifice of the Russian people to our shared historic cause, President Obama himself should be present in Moscow on Victory Day, but not attend the parade’s show of military force. Instead, he should lay a commemorative wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a place sacred to the Russian people. That would be an act of statesmanship worthy of a Nobel Peace Prize winner.”

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A strong contingent of ‘63ers joined me for the 12th annual Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day in May. Henry Black, Doron Gopstein, Lee Lowenfish, Robert Podell and yours truly carried the class banner. Dean’s Day also saw several of your classmates enjoying the barbecue lunch, attending the Mini-Cores and mixing with the reunion classes. Next year we hope to have a large turnout, to have an event just for our class and to turn this day into an annual tradition. I welcome your ideas to improve our class participation.

Chappelle Freeman writes, “I retired from the Cinema Art + Science department here at Columbia College Chicago in January, having taught for more than 40 years. The college praised me in its emeritus professor of film and video, which pleased me a lot. Among other small perks, the position gives me the right to retain my Columbia email address to the end of my days. This is lucky, as the address is lodged with my film festival income and is always in production around the world through my travel the last nine years on the executive committee of CILECT, the world organization of film and TV schools.

“My first project in retirement will be to move to Los Angeles to appear in a short film one of my former grad students is producing. It’s based on my memory of something that happened to me during the 1961 holiday season on the subway in Manhattan. “Never in my wildest dreams did I think to discuss my experience on a panel at the University Film and Video Association conference in Washington, D.C., critiquing ‘truthiness’ in current Hollywood movies. My part of that will be based directly on what Professor George Nobbe taught us in 1963 in his seminar on the invention of the novel in 18th-century England.

“So I guess you could say the years we shared as Columbia undergraduates are coming back to fetch me in my retirement.”

Bernie Kabak writes, “Just as I began writing this note with WNYC playing in the background, Eric Foner GSAS’69 came on The Leonard Lopate Show to discuss his new book about the Underground Railroad, Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad. Congrats, Eric!”
"By happy coincidence, my note also has as its subject freedom in the context of African-American history."

Two miles south of alma mater sits Freedom Place, a street named after Freedom Summer, the 1964 campaign to boost voter registration among Mississippi's African-American citizens. Freedom Place also honors James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, Freedom Summer activists who were murdered by the Klan.

“It happens that the Lincoln Square Synagogue is a neighbor to Freedom Place and that the martyred Andrew Goodman grew up nearby. Surprised by these local ties, the synagogue marked the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer in 2014 with a commemoration, which I was honored to chair. “Freedom Summer saw America’s blacks and Jews, perhaps more than at any time before or since, standing shoulder to shoulder in the fight for liberty and justice for all. To recall that relationship, the synagogue invited Harlem’s Canaan Baptist Church of Christ to co-sponsor the event, held in the synagogue’s sanctuary. Speakers included a synagogue and church clergy as well as the political leaders Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.). But the most poignant speakers were the Rev. Julia Chaney Moss, David Goodman and Sudan Schwerner, siblings of the slain activists.

“In one respect, the commemoration was a celebration as much as it was a memorial. In 1964, the number of African-Americans registered to vote in Mississippi numbered in the thousands; Mississipi has more African-American elected officials than any other state. Yet today the voting-rights legacy left by Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner is being whittled away. All good people are called on to long for the day when the dream becomes reality.”

Ken Ostberg ’63 and his wife spent three weeks traveling in Southeast Asia, visiting Vietnam, Cambodia and Singapore.

“We’re very active with several local volunteer groups, supporting Planned Parenthood, Habitat for Humanity, the UNC School of the Arts and, of course, the local Democratic Party as we try to move the state back into the 21st century. Andi is also busy with her art; she exhibits regularly at local shows and occasionally sells a piece. Altogether, we’re as busy now as when we worked, and that’s a good thing.”

John Moorhead writes, “A few days after I graduated from Columbia, I married Barbara Wendy Tonkin, and it was one of the best decisions of my life. After teaching high school for a couple of years, I served as an air intelligence officer in a Navy fighter squadron in two cruises to the Mediterranean. Wendy met me at some of the ports (Athens, Barcelona, Istanbul and the islands of Malta and Majorca). It was a great adventure.

“As my career began to come into focus, I would reflect on the staffs of two newspapers, the Richmond Times-Dispatch and The Christian Science Monitor. With Richard Combs LS ’65, I started a business research company in Chicago. We retrieved and assembled information from the Internet before this invention of the worldwide web. The business was a success and we co-authored a book, The Competitive Intelligence Handbook. My last work before retirement was advocacy to members of the West Virginia Legislative Leadership."

Michael Hassan sent in a summary of his life after following investment strategy from Morgan Stanley. (Bottom line, he figured he could do better than their advice by following his own, and has.)

Nicholas Zill’s study, Red State Families: Better Than We Knew, which he wrote with W. Bradford Wilcox, was discussed in “The Upshot” section of The New York Times on June 11. Nick continues to write political humor and has posted a new animated musical video on YouTube, “Republicans’ Best in Show.” He wrote the music and lyrics. You can subscribe to the YouTube channel “City In A Swamp” to see more of his work.

Victor Margolin writes, “About eight years ago I retired from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where I was professor of design history, and I am now professor emeritus. I recently published the haranguing hapless bystanders about its wonders.”

In 2008, I got a letter insisting that I was a Spanish knight, because King Juan the Catholic—an exceedingly rare honor and the first time it had been given for using flamenco dance, song and guitar to illuminate Spain’s arts, customs and character.

“In smoky bars of Seville, Gypsy caves of Granada and hidden haunts of Jerez, I’ve listened, recorded and learned from now-legendary singers and guitarists. I blew my Time Inc. 401(k) to unearth and preserve priceless Spanish documentary films for the flamenco exhibition at Columbia’s Center for Ethnomusicology. I wrote the U.S. section of the international petition to have UNESCO declare flamenco an Intangible Patrimony of Mankind, a status granted in 2010. After the 2014 death of guitarist Paco de Lucia, I petitioned the Spanish government to issue a stamp honoring his life and work — an effort the petition committee rammed through in just eight weeks. After 55 years of practice, I can play much of his amazing music and that of preceding giants of the art, sometimes fairly well.

“Mike Wilcox, was discussed in “The Families: Better Than We Knew,” which he wrote with W. Bradford Wilcox, was discussed in “The Upshot” section of The New York Times on June 11. Nick continues to write political humor and has posted a new animated musical video on YouTube, “Republicans’ Best in Show.” He wrote the music and lyrics. You can subscribe to the YouTube channel “City In A Swamp” to see more of his work.

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“Jack Spaulding, is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award for design research, given by Cumulus (the international association of schools of design) and the Design Research Society. I’ve also been traveling a bit for lectures and with my wife for holidays. We took a lovely Danube cruise last October, visiting lots of places in Eastern and Central Europe — Belgrade, Serbia; Bucharest, Romania; and Budapest, Hungary, among them. We have plans to go on a tour of Southern Africa in December, and I will go to South Korea and maybe China for conferences in October. I have also been doing political and liberal arts education at Columbia prepared me to enter a new field and make my way in it.”

Brook Zill’s study, has 1,800 pages of information, opinions, translations, news and a bio/CV. I see myself as one in an flamenco studies department patiently waiting for that discipline to be recognized; meanwhile I’m seeking lecture gigs and writing the book on the art’s history, aesthetics and changing social context.

“My wife, Kristin, and I live on Martha’s Vineyard, where we met in 1957 and where we’re near our daughters, Francesca and Jennifer. Sometimes on the Butler Library steps, just as in my Columbia days, I play the flamenco of the revered master to the same delight of dancing kids and the same indifference or mild annoyance of the passing intelligentsia.”

Dr. Robert Morantz has been the 2015 recipient of the Greater Naples Leadership Distinguished Leadership Award. He was honored at a celebration dinner on April 2.

I hope that many of you will return for Homecoming on Saturday, October 17. We have a new f<ref>magagni</ref> The game is against Penn, and we are going to win. It should be a
I am writing these Class Notes in July, as temperatures hit 90 and the humidity percentage must be close to that.

You are neither too old to learn, as Dan Press wrote from Washington, D.C.: "Taking a mini-Lit Hum course by Skype — we may be 50 years out but we are on the cutting edge of educational technology. This past spring, seven members of CC '64 living in the Washington, D.C. area piloted a combination of traditional and high-tech approaches for alumni to continue their Columbia education, even if they do not live in New York City (where Columbia regularly offers short courses for alumni). Lew Cohen, Clark Haug, Daniel Levine, Gene Meyer, Barry Shapiro, Peter Trooboff and I (joined by Elliot Wolff '65 and Lew's wife, Monique) worked with the Alumni Office to organize a three-book, mini-Lit Hum course.

Our first face-to-face session with the professor, Patricia Grieve, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor in the Humanities, in the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures (Grieve is also former chair of Literature Humanities), we gathered regularly in a D.C. conference room to interact with her over Skype.

"After conscientiously reading the assigned text, we came together one Tuesday a month during March, April and May to discuss our 50-year-old skills of participating in class discussions and dive into the readings, helped by questions Professor Grieve had emailed us in advance of each class. The discussions were vibrant, insightful and regularly reflected the ways our minds had been shaped (or bent) by living in Washington, D.C. Everyone considered it a valuable and enjoyable experience, and everyone received an A."

"As stated by David Levine: 'It was a true delight again to be reading in the focused, careful, text-based manner we'd learned in Humanities. The experience was quite rich, and there was a special added value from the 50-year-later different perspectives we each brought.'"

"We have working with the Alumni Office and Professor Grieve to schedule a second Mini-Core Course for the fall, with the readings to be jointly selected by Professor Grieve and us. We invite other members of CC '64 in the D.C. area to join us for this second installment."

Dan Nussbaum wrote in July from Pebble Beach, Calif. "I have yet to hang up my professor's hat; I'm running interdisciplinary programs in energy and in-cost estimating. The last 90 days were almost a continuous period of work-related travel — Ottawa; Munich; Sofia, Bulgaria; Bucharest; Washington, D.C.; San Diego; and Honolulu — but now that's done, and stability will be easier to achieve and I think everyone cares about energy and in-cost estimating."

Dan and his wife, Bev, paid a visit to Jeff Sol and his wife in Kailua, Hawaii. At reunion, Dan renewed his friendship with fraternity-brother Larry Kaznetz SEAS '64 and discovered that Larry, too, lives in California, and he visited Larry at his home in Berkeley Hills.

Barry Bley writes from the Denver suburbs (where he has lived for almost 20 years): "This fall will be a busy one with another round of work interviewing applicants for admission to the College. Since my retirement from the Denver Public Schools in 2008, this has been a way of keeping my hand in with young people. It has been my good fortune to have met with hundreds of the best and brightest and to know they will obtain excellent educations, whether that be at Columbia or elsewhere. I give a special salute to one of my former students and now fellow alumnus, Eric Nidikumana '12, P14, who is at Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine."
(led, then and now, by Dan Carlin-
sky, who executive produced, and Ed Goodgold). Dan and Ed posed the questions to contestants Mike Cook, Jim Morren and Peter Smith, were joined by Michael, Jeff Kurnit '68, Rich Rosenblum '68, Rob Leonard '70 and John Mueser '71; the pianist was Peter Janovsky '68 and the violinst (a la Jack Benny) was Jerry Bergman '70. The trivia winner (and still champion) was Steve Handzo!

A few days later, I asked Dan if he and Ed had realized from the stage how much the blissful audience enjoyed the show. He responded, "Absolutely. I knew from the reaction of the room. 'It's Howdy Doody time' from a good three-quarters of the house that it was going to work."

Finally, on Sunday morning, our class had a brunch and farewell in the Faculty Room at Low Library. Our Reunion Book is also a significant fundraising event. I'll let Jay Woodworth present the final recap:

"Dean Valenti had done some homework before he came and spoke to our class during the Friday cocktail reception at the Friere Club. He said something that has reverberated in my mind, which underscores how CC'65 has changed in the 50 years since graduation."

"The dean read a couple of paragraphs from The New York Times' foreign correspondent from our Commencement in 1965, which referred to the 'cheers and cat-calls' from us as Dean David B. Trumpoe spoke. I dimly recall the Times' article and how I had winced at the time."

"No more wincing in 2015. As fundraising co-chairs, Larry Guido and I heard from one or two classmates who complained about [President] Lee C. Bollinger's hefty salary, but the mood of our class was remarkably different from 1965. For one thing, most of us knew that John was down (my family might beg to differ about me). For another, I think we've become not only comfortable with Columbia but also have become proud of alma mater."

"That's borne out by the incredible generosity of our class in raising about three times the highest amount that CC'65 has previously raised (for our 40th reunion). This was a broad-based fundraising, with a record number of John Jay-level ($1,500 or more) contributions for the class. We met our fundraising goal for the Columbia College Fund; in fact, we blew through the broader fundraising goal of a comprehensive $6 million and achieved more than $10 million in pledges and bequest intentions."

"Harry Coleman '46, Columbia's then-brand-new director of admissions who admitted us to the College in 1961 with a mandate to achieve a more diverse and geographically balanced class than in previous years, would be very proud of us. I'm very proud of CC'65, too."

Another major part of the reunion process was led by Michael Schlanger, who put together a comprehensive questionnaire that was emailed to classmates for whom the College had valid email addresses. Michael compiled the responses (insightful and fascinating) and prepared a bound Reunion Book that was distributed at reunion. A second edition has been prepared. If you're reading this but have not yet got Michael's emails, please notify Michael (mschlanger@zuckerman.com) or me (pack1b@iol.com), and we'll get you an e-copy of the second edition."

"We had a good turnout at a reunion with apologies to anyone who was there but not on the official list, the following classmates registered (although there were a few last-minute cancellations): William Albert, James Alfini, Donald Bachman, Douglas Barnert, Stewart Biro, Martin Blume, William Brenner, Allen H. Brill, Joel Budin, Michael Busch, Dan Carlinsky, Barry Chaitlin, Ronald Chevako, Michael Cook and Pellegrino D'Acierno. Also attending were Robert Donohue, Stan Fein, Peter Frankel, Eugene Friedman, Harrison Fitch, Brian Fix, James Fleisher, Michael Friedman, Peter Fudge and Robert Fuhr."

"Dean Gamanos, Ira Gomberg, Louis Goodman, Peter Gorlin, Alan Green, Thomas Guiltier, Laurance Guido, Norman Guindon, David Halperin and Stephen Handzo came to celebrate their 50th, and Ken Hara, Robert Henn, Barry Herman, Gad Heuman, Joel Heynfeld, Stephen Hoffman, John Howe, Paul Hyman, Richard Krulwich, John Kalamardides, Arthur Klink, Jack Kress and L. Michael Krieger were back on campus as well for the festivities. Also on the registration roster were Robert Kronley, Jeffrey Kruchwitz, Jay Kurtz, Luis Lainez, Alex Lancaster, Barry Levine, James Levy, Martin LeWinter, David Lionel, Raymond Lopatin, Ed Malmstrom, Eric R. Marcus, Robert Mattingly, Howard Matz, Charles Mayer and Kenneth McCulloch."

"Also representing CC'65 at Alumni Reunion Weekend were Edward Merlis, Stephen Merrill, Christopher Moreen, Jim Murdaga, Joseph Nalven, Michael Newell, Leonard Pack, Robert Pantell, Bruce Peck, Noah Robbins, Arthur Roberts, Peter Sack, David Sarlin, Michael Schaul, Jonah Schein, Michael Schlanger, Waldemar Schulz and Charles Schwartz. Joining in the celebration were Dennis Selkoe, Steven Shum, Frederick Shuart, Jim Siegel, Mark Siegel, Daniel Silna, Neil Silver, Roy Skodnick, J. Donald Smith, Neil Smith and Peter Smith."

"Barry Solomon, Allen Steere, Steve Steinig, David Stewart, Valerie Stingle, Stephen Strochach, John Sullivan, Michael Tapper, Leo Vozel, Brian Wasaagard, Bernard Weinstein, Herbert Weisberg, Serge Wind, Elliot Wolff, Jay Woodworth, Robert H. Yunich, Harvey Zarren and Owen Zurhelden rounded out the wonderful weekend. Spouses and significant others swelled the attendance considerably."

On a more somber note, I heard from Bill Mitchell '64 that Jack Strauch BUS'67 succumbed to leukemia at a Houston hospital on May 20, 2015. Some of you may remember the Class Notes description that ran in the Spring 2014 issue about Jack's 70th birthday party, which took place shortly after his leukemia diagnosis. And after she courageously attended the Friday cocktail reception at the Friere Club, Jay Woodworth's wife, Susan, succumbed to cancer on July 3, 2015. I'd like to dedicate this column to our other classmates who are no longer with us. For a full list, please see the online version of this column at college.columbia.edu/ fall2015/class_notes."

Ave Atque Vale!"
FRAMINGHAM STATE; also 22 years at Harvard’s Radcliffe Seminars) and have continued to teach what I love, offering free, drop-in poetry writing workshops at the Framingham Public Library and, in the summer, at the library in Wellfleet on Cape Cod, Mass.

George Appelbaum tells us, “Nothing much new — still happily living in rural El Dorado County. I’m practicing law part-time out of my house; gardening; hiking; and playing the flute. I’ve been married for 31 years and took recent trips to the Czech Republic, northern Spain and Australia. Best regards to everyone in the Class of 66.”

From Paul Ehrlich: “I practice allergy medicine in New York City and am married to the wonderful Avis Alexander (who works for the Department of Education) and have four children and five grandchildren. None of the former went to Columbia, but my daughter, Audrey Ehrlich, came to New York in July and was looking forward to a visit in Maine. I miss the only good nova and bagels I’ve ever had” — and she’s only 31! Got to start them early.

“There are five of us C’ers who manage to get together. Barry Coller, Herb Hochman and I had a wonderful time at our annual restaurant along with Arthur Reynolds (who started with us in 1962, but sprung ahead to graduate in 1965) and Joel Klein ‘67. The five of us sat there for three hours talking about what the last 45-plus years has brought. The four of us from the Class of 66 look forward to the 50th.”

Barry achieved great recognition at Stony Brook University School of Medicine. From there he went on to Mount Sinai Hospital as chairman of the Department of Medicine. He became physician-in-chief at Rockefeller University and was appointed to the first David Rockefeller chair, which he presently holds, and is second-in-command at Rockefeller.

Richard Postupak writes, “I have taken a brief sabbatical from my pastry business in Aixerre, France, leaving my assistant in charge, as we now have an established reputation. I am using the free time to return to one of my first loves, the teaching of transcendental philosophy. Some of you may recall from earlier Class Notes that I spent a number of years doing this at the now-defunct University of Sasepolcoro in Tuscany. There is a private effort to revive the philosophy department and I’ve been invited as a guest instructor. Basically pro bono, but I will have enough free time to attend our 50th and am looking forward to seeing many of you there. I’m hoping that my dear old pal Fran Furay and [I] were fellow midshipmen in the NROTC unit! After graduation I served five years, including a tour in Vietnam. After that I used my GI Bill benefits to go to medical school at Tufts. After completing my pediatric residency at Yale I returned to active duty as a Navy medical officer. After 30 more years of active duty, I retired in 2001 as the chairman of the department of pediatrics at National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. I am a clinical professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University School of Medicine. I lost my dear wife of 28 years to cancer recently but my son is a wonderful consolation prize, with fine disregard for his father’s career track. He is a bicycle manufacturer in the only good nova and bagels I’ve ever had” — and she’s only 31! Got to start them early.

Byron Michael Noone was honored posthumously on April 25 at the 40th anniversary event of Vietnam’s Operation Babylift at the New Jersey Vietnam Era Museum & Educational Center. In addition to being a member of the program dedicated to Byron’s memory, he was also recognized during the event by his widow, Dana Noone. He is portrayed in the first Operation Babylift play, Children of the April Rain, which was presented as a reading by an Off-Broadway theater company. He was a tremendous acrobat. Byron’s daughter, Jennifer Nguyen Noone SW’99, was also portrayed in the play. Barry Nazarian attended the program. Additional performances are being planned; updates are at vietnambabylift.org.

John Longuill tells us, “While you all know from previous posts that I never joined you at graduation, please believe that I am looking forward to seeing old friends at the 50th. Much time has passed and there have been many changes, especially I want to reconnect with Bill ‘Moose’ Corcoran, Bob ‘Klinger’ Kingslensmith and Harvey ‘Wildman’ Kurzweil.”

Neil Brownstein writes, “Four kids, 3.5 grandkids and five surrogate grandchildren. All of the offspring are part of the nest. We’re right-sized from our too-large home in Palo Alto, Calif., to a terrific condo in Menlo Park. With our two dogs, we do our 10,000-plus steps each day. When not in the Bay Area, we reside in our Park City, Utah, home for hiking, biking and (in the winter) skiing and snowshoeing. Still have all of the original body parts but the knee may be upgraded in the next year. Our business adventures are being phased out in India, but I have yet to bear fruit; we hope to start harvesting in the next few years. As my life-clock ticks faster I ask, ‘How do I feel today?’ Mosty ‘good’ to ‘very good.’”

We sadly inform the class of the death of Michael Coen on June 7, 2015. Survivors include his son, Glen; daughter-in-law, Ellen; daughter, Michelle; and wife, Diane.

Richard Beggs and his wife, Gerry, relocated for the summer to the Pocomos from their Florida winter quarters. Rich’s grandson, Alex, recently was accepted to The Peddie School for high school, and his granddaughter, Morgan, received an award as an outstanding softball pitcher (she’s 11 and 5-foot-7). Rich plans to put them both on the track for Columbia. He recently returned from a trip to Sicily and Rome, reporting, “Had a great time and consumed much wine and pasta, as my extra five lbs. will attest.”

From Gary Foulks PS’70. “After 40 years practicing as an academic ophthalmologist in Fort Lauderdale with a private practice and the University of South Florida, I retired to Wilmington, N.C., in 2012. Most of my time was spent on the faculty at Duke but I did spend eight years in Pittsburgh as chair of ophthalmology and then director of children’s Eye Health. That was followed by eight years at the University of Louisville School of Medicine as the Arthur H. and Virginia T. Keeny Chair of Ophthalmology and as an assistant dean of clinical research. I consult with pharmaceutical companies developing new treatments for dry eye but am relieved at not having to battle the bureaucracy and expanding regulations of practicing clinical medicine. My wife, Sims, and I celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary in June and enjoy our retirement in Wilmington, near two of our three grandchildren. I spend much of my time gardening and fishing and try to get to Idaho at least once a year for fly fishing with our son. Sims is active in our church and with both the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

“I had the pleasure of catching up with Jim Larson and his wife when they visited Beaufort, N.C., last summer but I haven’t seen much of the rest of the class. I enjoy keeping track of folks through the Class Notes and emails with Ken Rollston, Mike Stephens and a number of the Class of ’65. I am hoping to attend the 50th reunion.”

From John Doody in Fort Lauderdale: “I’m happy to say that I won’t be able to regale classmates with stories about my children or grandchildren, because there are none. Two marriages brought forth no issue, on purpose. And now at 71 I can be my own kid. I’ve found the fountain of youth that Ponce de Leon sought here in Florida 400 years ago. Actually, Ponce could have stayed home because there are young women everywhere. I usually have two that added together fall a decade or so short of my age.

“After my M.B.A. and Ph.D. studies at BU, I taught economics and finance at Bentley for 20 years. I left in 1994 to start what are now three investment newsletters focused on the stocks of companies that mine gold and silver. My firm’s newsletters are the world’s only with outside-audited investment returns just as the SEC requires of mutual funds.

“I haven’t practiced law because, frankly, it’s expensive to be me. Few businesses have the profit margins of newsletters, once you get a critical mass of subscribers. The business has afforded me a new, ultra-modern 10,000-sq.-ft. home on the water in Fort Lauderdale with docking for a fleet of boats totaling 150 ft., and a pied-a-terre on St. Barths. Such are the fruits of no kids, although I have provided for college for my seven nieces and nephews, with one hoping on the Class of 2020.

“I’ve been coming to reunions every five years, and in between seeing Harvey Kurzweil on Nanucket, Mass., and Tom Harrold on St. Barths, and am regularly visited by my freshman roommate, Ken Pearson. I miss Joe Cody, who I always think of as ‘Mr. Columbia.’ My Columbia degree was important to my successes and I’m happy to give back with a $1 million bequest to help kick off the 50th reunion [Class Gift]. See you all in June.”

As a final note, your Reunion Committee is happy to announce the co-chairs of our 50th reunion: Michael Garrett, Mark Amsterdam, Rich Forzani, Rich Zucker and Barry Coller. Please stay tuned.

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Several classmates took time to catch us up on their adventures of the past 48 years.

Bruce Burgess writes, “I have been happily retired for about 13 years after a career as a teacher in the New York City public schools. I recently went on a Road Scholar trip to the American Southwest,
visiting Phoenix, Sedona, the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon National Park and Zion National Park. I hope to do more trips. Best wishes to classmates.

Aris Christou writes, “After graduating with a B.A. in physics, I received my Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Penn in 1971 and have been in the research establishment and academia ever since. I have been a professor of materials science and engineering since 1990 and have published more than 200 research papers on semiconductor materials as well as six books. More information may be found at christou.umd.edu.”

Bob Rosenberg writes, “What a journey! I am enjoying an incredibly fulfilling time in my life, with only the responsibilities I choose to take on — a very privileged position indeed. My wife, Pamela, and I have two daughters, Lauren ’99, LAW’02 and Alexandra, and four grandchildren. We are headed for Morningside Heights in the next 10-15 years.

“In 2012, I retired from Latham & Watkins, a large international law firm where I chaired the international insolvency group for many years. I now have an independent practice doing mediation, trusteeships, independent directorships, expert testimony, etc.... (everything except practicing law). Two years ago I ran on an insurgent ticket to the next 10-15 years.

“I continue my long service as president of The New Group, a highly successful, not-for-profit New York theater company, which I have led since 1971 and have been in the research establishment and academia ever since. I have been a professor of materials science and engineering since 1990 and have published more than 200 research papers on semiconductor materials as well as six books. More information may be found at christou.umd.edu.”

“In later years, I added antitrust practice, and, occasionally, First Amendment issues. I was fortunate to work alongside a legend, Jeff Newman, partner in the firm of Dolgenos Newman & Cronin in New York. We all miss him.

“Dean also shared an update, “Now that I have retired from my law firm, I no longer have much excuse for not responding to Al Zolomon’s e-mails! For updates to here goes: I have spent the last 43 years at a single law firm (once a solo practice, now seven partners), handling everything from antitrust to employment to environmental to even hospital malpractice. I was fortunate to be able to spend much of my time at Cahill Gordon & Reindel dealing with constitutional issues and the First Amendment, representing institutions like The New York Times, NBC, Time and Penguin Publishing, along with individual television shows like Inside Edition and, occasionally, Law & Order. I handled cases involving libel, privacy and fairness doctrine issues. I was fortunate to work alongside a legendary partner in the bar, Floyd Abrams. “In later years, I added antitrust work to my menu, representing Sony Music and 3M and, most recently, YouTube. I have had the good fortune to be involved in many major cases, including Sony v. UMG (filed in 2008 and litigated for nearly a decade), the recent Apple antitrust case, the government antitrust case against Google and the most recent antitrust case against Facebook. I have also handled many First Amendment cases, including Google v. Morrison (which I argued before the Supreme Court), and many others. I continued to handle my original Employment Law practice, including many pro bono matters for the ACLU.

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“I have two daughters, Lauren ’99, married Jeff Newman ’01, and Alexandra , married to Drew Shannahan ’03. I taught legal history and immigration law at the University of Chicago Law School. Jeff Newman was intellectually satisfying, occasionally involving making new friends. I am a member of the Chicago Bar Association and the American Bar Association. I have been a member of the American Bar Association’s Antitrust Section since 1971 and have been a member of the Chicago Bar Association since 1972. I have spoken at many conferences and seminars on antitrust, employment and First Amendment law. I have been a member of the American Bar Association’s Antitrust Section since 1971 and have been a member of the Chicago Bar Association since 1972. I have spoken at many conferences and seminars on antitrust, employment and First Amendment law. I have been a member of the American Bar Association’s Antitrust Section since 1971 and have been a member of the Chicago Bar Association since 1972. I have spoken at many conferences and seminars on antitrust, employment and First Amendment law.
Left to right: Mark Wenner ’71, Susan Hutcher ’70, Hank Reichenman ’69 and Juan Gonzalez ’68 got together on June 13 in Washington, D.C., at the American Association of University Professors Annual Conference.

PHOTO: MICHAEL FERGUSON

hood. Here, I present a first batch of responses; those who do not see their responses in this issue will find them in a future issue (along with the personal and professional news that classmates provide). I invite classmates who have yet to email me with recollections to do so now. In the meantime, we can all ponder another momentous number; namely that, over the course of the next year or so, our age will come to match our class year — the number “69” seems less funny now than it did back then.

Let’s begin with the blackout of 1965. Fred Neufeld writes: “I was replacing the lightbulb in my dorm room desk lamp on the 13th floor of Carman Hall on November 9, 1965. When I turned on the lamp, the new bulb blew out. Seconds later the lights went out in the room and then on our floor. The guys were screaming for the lights to come back on. ‘Yikes,’ I thought, ‘I just shut down the dorm’s power.’ Car horns were blaring on Broadway. I looked out the window facing southbound and saw the Empire State Building’s lights go out. Oh yea! An hour later I learned it was a coincidence. I still get the willies telling the story.”

Unbeknownst to Fred, Michael Schnipper had found another cause of the blackout: “As a freshman, I lived on the fourth floor of John Jay Hall, a few flights above the cafeteria. One night in November, a few of us were eating dinner, the lights went out. When they did not come on for a few minutes, we walked upstairs. There was Roger Walaszek in the hallway in his underwear looking for a place to hide his prohibited hot plate, certain that he had caused what we later learned was the Great Northeast Blackout.”

I have a different recollection of the blackout; at the moment it began, I was on the roof of Ferris Booth Hall helping to mount a sign for an upcoming Board of Managers event. I remember turning to the upperclassman I was assisting and asking, “Why are they closing Butler Library so early tonight?” and then we saw the streets were dark and — of greater immediacy — the stairways from the roof to the lobby were pitch black.

And now a range of other memories. From Marc Schmidt: “I vividly recall a night in late October of freshman year. The varsity football team, after an evening at The Gold Rail, was inspired to carry my 1959 MG roadster (purchased from Tom Lesley ’68) from West 114th Street into the hands of Carman Hall. Upon my return a few hours later from The West End, the bemused night guard held open the doors while I drove out of the lobby, through the gates, down some steps and down the sidewalk to Broadway.”

Steve Conway writes: “I fondly remember my arrival day at Columbia. It was a dark and stormy morning (trite but true), and my father drove me from Philadelphia through a terrible thunderstorm. When we pulled up to the curb on Broadway, an upperclassman, Tony Scilingo ’67, was waiting to help the next arrival (me) with luggage. That felt very nice. (Tony later became a Rochester, N.Y., family court judge and city council member and then a dean in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester.) My father left, my roommate seemed nice enough and we walked across Broadway to find dinner. I knew I was in New York when I asked the server how their hamburgers were and he replied, ‘They have their moments.’”

David Sokal states: “My most enduring scholarly memory of my first year at Columbia is reading the selections from philosophers such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, David Hume and Adam Smith, who provided the ideas that influenced the founding fathers and led to the creation of the United States. The power of ideas and how they evolved across time was fascinating. On the personal side, I made some good friends among my roommates and fellow bridge players.”

From Dave Rosedahl, recalling our senior year: “Professor Dustin Rice, in 19th-century art class, listened patiently to a long and elegant discussion by one of my classmates. I remember thinking, ‘Gee, after nearly four years here, I’ve learned nothing compared to this fellow.’ Upon completion of the guy’s dissertation, Professor Rice brought a long stream of smoke (Canell), leaned forward and said: ‘You’ve been reading books...’”

From Dave Parshall: “The first memories of the College that came to my mind are: “One: What a remarkable faculty we were exposed to! I have a few memories of exceptional professors, such as reading Greek lyric poetry with Professor Moses Hadass in my freshman year. He was a renowned classicist and gentleman, never flustered. It was a late afternoon class and at the moment of the blackout in the fall term, he was amused, not concerned. Many Columbia guys headed across the street to Barnard during the blackout. I was devastated to learn upon my return from summer vacation in 1967 that Hadass had died during a trip out west to Aspen, Colo. Another freshman memory is of Professor Polykarp Kusch, a Nobel Prize winner, who made Physics for Poets come alive. And how about Professor Howard Davis’ course on Northern European painting? I have unforgettable memories of his insights (and, of course, many others). Weren’t we fortunate?”

“Two: Aren’t computers the best? We used to type papers on an old-style typewriter, hoping not to make too many errors to be typed over. I remember going down the elevator in Carman one day and standing in the front of the elevator next to a fellow who was proofreading a paper that he was preparing to submit. All was well until, as he was exiting the elevator, he dropped the paper and it fell through the narrow gap at the elevator door opening, never to be seen again. A devastating setback! The poor fellow had undoubtedly pulled an all-nighter to complete his masterpiece; today, it would all be saved on a computer.”

“Three: One spring day in later years, I was selling raffle tickets for a spiffy sports car near the Sundial on College Walk. Undoubtedly for a good cause, although I do not remember what it was. However, I do remember asking a Barnard undergraduate who was passing by if she would like to buy a chance to win the car. Her quick response ‘I don’t have a chance.’”

Ed Hyman writes: “I remember one of my first days on campus at the end of freshman week. I had returned to John Jay and entered into a series of fascinating conversations with Eddie Goodgold ’65, who had just graduated and had entered law school but returned to visit the fifth and sixth floors of Jay, of which he had been the counselor for the only undergraduate floors in an overwhelmingly graduate student dorm. Goodgold and I were joined in this diverse-themed discussion by another friend and roommate, Daniel Gruter, who committed suicide by jumping off our building. Of having to identify my dear friend and roommate, Daniel Gruter, who committed suicide by jumping off our building.

From Michael Jacoby Brown: “Sadness: remembering meeting the sweet David Gi ’56, and passionate Ted Gold ’68, and how the craziness of the times led them to do crazy and destructive things. Of having to identify my dear friend and roommate, Daniel Gruter, who committed suicide by jumping off our building. Of having to identify my dear friend and roommate, Daniel Gruter, who committed suicide by jumping off our building.”

“Luck: getting into Kenneth Koch’s creative writing class when I placed out of English and discovering that the old man in my elementary Greek class was Eric Bentley, one of my heroes and the editor of Bertolt Brecht’s work.”

“Lessons: being beaten by the NYPD at the behest of Columbia
for having the gall to protest the war in Vietnam and the ‘Jim Crow gym’ Columbia wanted to build in Morningside Park. When will they ever learn?

“Still lucky after all these years,” was how Visions, a multi-racial group that provides training and consulting in developing multi-racial and multicultural organizations.”

Bill Bonvillian writes: “When we arrived we all recall being subject to the humiliation of wearing light blue beanies — hardly hazing but still bizarre; we thought, wasn’t this Columbia.

...? I discovered something different was going to happen when that fall Paul Newman spoke at a Ferris Booth Hall festival of his films. A pipe-smoking Columbia type got the first question, and asked Newman a long, esoteric question about metaphysical meaning in Cool Hand Luke (that would be typical of us then, certainly about Luke. I wonder if he’s got here is a failure to communicate,’ with Descartes’ theorem in Lit Hum). Newman responded by yelling back something like, ‘I didn’t come here to discuss god-damn movies, I want to talk about the budget war!’ We all grasped this hint that beanies weren’t going to be the message of our time at Columbia.”

Let me add an observation of my own — something from freshman year that I did not foresee turning out the way it did. I lived in Carman 815B during my first year and one of my suitmates, in 815A, was a guy from Maplewood, N.J., named Mark Rudd. Across the hall in Room 814 was Paul Auster. Who knew at the time that those two would be neighbors in the early 1960s, for giving college scholarships to 1,300 students whose generosity enabled us to exceed our class fundraising interest to say about it.”

A University of Columbia Athletics press release reports: “Columbia men’s soccer alum Rocco B. Commissio [SEAS’71] joined 100 other outstanding individuals who were recognized at the 29th Annual Ellis Island Medal of Honor Ceremony held at the historic landmark in New York Harbor... “The Ellis Island Medals of Honor were established in 1986 and rank among our nation’s most prestigious civilian honors. The award recognizes individuals who share with those less fortunate their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents and selfless generosity, all while maintaining the traditions of their ethnic heritage as they uphold the ideals and spirit of America.”

Past recipients include six U.S. Presidents; Nobel Prize recipient Elie Wiesel; Generals Norman Schwarzkopf and Colin Powell, Hon. Hillary Clinton; Sen. John McCain; Dov Zakheim, Former Assistant Secretary of Defense; Barbara Walters; Mike Wallace; and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. “... Commissio was hailed as one of the most successful Italian immigrant entrepreneurs in our nation’s history and was lauded for, among other things, providing college scholarships to 1,300 students nationwide.

“During his remarks, Commisso described the struggles his family faced in war-torn Italy in the 1950s. He thanked America for opening its doors to his father, a World War II prisoner of war, and for giving his family boundless opportunities to succeed by simply working hard, pursuing an education and relying on self-initiative to get ahead.”

From Peter Jacoby: “Oh May 19, under my name, attended the College’s Class Day and took part in the 12th annual Alumni Parade of Classes behind the banner of the Class of 1971 with Cary Queen, Dick Fuhrman and Alex Saphore. As in past years, the parade elicited wonderful and the energy was great. We will plan earlier for the 50th, and work the phones to get an impressive turnout.”

Amen to Jim’s final thought!

**CLASS NOTES**

**ALUMNI AFFAIRS**

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**DEVELOPMENT**

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Columbia University Athletics
prolonged and heartfelt applause from the graduating seniors, who obviously recognize and value the sense of connection to Columbia that persists for us all long after the toil of exams and writing papers has faded from memory.

“Following the parade, we stayed on for the graduation exercises and were treated to an immensely impressive address by Eric Garcetti ’92, SIPA’93, mayor of Los Angeles since 2013. Garcetti adapted a set of 15 common themes (distilled by a website) from the texts of hundreds of such commencement speeches, providing a talk that was at once humorous, insightful and uplifting in its call for graduates to work at equality in our nation.

“As with Class Day last year, a significant number of the students had placed red tape strips on their mortarboards in a silent, but nonetheless compelling, demonstration for the ‘No Red Tape’ movement, which continues to fight for improvement in the University administration’s policies and practices for addressing gender-based misconduct.

“A notable point in the procession of the more than 1,100 students across the dais to receive acknowledgement of their passage into the ranks of alumni took place when Emma Suilkowicz ’15, a visual arts major who has carried a mattress with her about the campus for the past academic year to protest the school’s handling of her own alleged sexual assault, took the stage with four of her classmates, who assisted her in carrying the mattress. The loud cheers and applause from her fellow graduating seniors — and from knowledgeable persons in the audience — spoke volumes about the fact that this subject will continue to require the close attention and involvement of all members of the Columbia community, not least including those of us in the alumni body.”

Howard Stoffer SIPA’75, GSAS’80 reports: “Just to be up-to-date on my professional and family activities these last nearly 50 years, I had a great career in the State Department, leaving as a member of the Senior Foreign Service; the United Nations as a senior director of the Security Council’s Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate; and now at the University of New Haven as an associate professor of national security. Please contact me via LinkedIn.

“I live on the west side of Manhattan after spending years in Europe, Russia, China and the Middle East. My wife, Jane Rosenberg, is an attorney in real estate law and my daughter, Hannah, started at Dean College last year.

“Hope to see some of you at the 2016 reunion and hope to stay well so I can attend our 50th reunion! All the best to everyone.”

“Our reunion will take place Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2016: Mark your calendars and start making your plans. As I submit this column on June 29, 2015, you should already have received an email from Patricia Carchi (pc299@columbia.edu) in the Alumni Office about joining the CC71 Reunion Committee. I presume that by the time this issue of CCT is in your hands in September, you will have heard from the committee itself. I’ve enjoyed serving on Reunion Committees, so definitely count me in. Are you? Whether or not you join the committee, plan to attend reunion. Our reunions, especially our most recent, have been smashing successes. The campus is the same, yet different, and so are we. Enjoy old friendships and make new ones. I have already heard from class members living on other continents who are planning to attend. Remember back 48 Septembers ago and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. We are still connected.”

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Marty Edel has been practicing law in New York City for 40 years, first at Cravath, Swaine & Moore and then at Miller & Wuhrer. “My practice has been an interesting mix of commercial litigation, ranging from antitrust to contractual disputes to sports law. I also have been teaching sports law at Brooklyn Law School for more than 15 years and, this year, will be teaching sports law at NYU.

“All of that pales by comparison with the joys my wife, Pam, and I share watching our children and, yikes, grandchildren grow up. Our son, Charlie, is an assistant professor at the U.S. Naval War College. His first book, Nation Builder: In John Quincy Adams and the Grand Strategy of the Republic, came out last fall. Our daughter, Eliza, was a teacher (until she had her first child) and now is a developer of curricula. We have three wonderful grandchildren, who range in age from 10 months to 3 years. We continue to see good Columbia friends, including Steve Shapiro and David Stern.”

Ronald Cohen PS’76 is a “hard-working neonatologist at Stanford, in dry California,” where he’s clinical professor of pediatrics and director, Development and Behavior Unit and Intermediate Intensive Care Nursery, at the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital. He recently completed his “magnum opus,” Neonatology: Clinical Practice and Procedures, co-edited with David K. Stevenson and Philip Sunshine. Here are Ron’s brief memories of arriving on campus for Freshman Week: “First person to greet me — Mark Rudd ’69, handing out flyers. During a campus tour from a senior, I heard, ‘New York City is that way, campus is this way — between the two you’ll get a great education if you survive.’”

Ron and his wife (a fellow P&S grad) enjoy living in Palo Alto, Calif. He says, “Columbia folk are few and far between out here but I have fond memories of my days on both Morningside Heights and Washington Heights.”

And for those of you with fond recollections of the Barnard campus, Lehman Library will disappear in the coming months to be replaced with a more up-to-date building, including a tower that will nestle next to Altschul. Things are always changing on Morningside Heights.

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Once more down to the beach although this column, written in June, will not appear until fall. For those who believe they’re being neglected it’s just... timing.

In order of appearance: Michael Shapiro has been performing with the Chappaqua Orchestra and the Dallas Wind Symphony and premiered it this summer in Birmingham, England. It will be released through Amazon, iTunes and CD Baby. This past season he conducted the Virginia Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas’ Wind Symphony, playing his most popular work, Frankenstein — The Movie Score, which is played simultaneously with the classic Boris Karloff version of the film. Michael has been performing Frankenstein all over the United States, and for Halloween season 2015 will be once again at colleges all over the country. He is working on a new work called Bomboul, commissioned by 10 colleges nationally, which will premiere in 2016. His regular gig remains The Chappaqua Orchestra in New York.

Ending one of the longest runs on Broadway, the imperturbable James Minter retired from Columbia’s Undergraduate Admissions Office in June after 30 years of “wonderful colleagues and immea
surable professional rewards." Worst of all, he is giving up his Columbia phone number, 212-854-1973, which I have always envied. The soon-to-be-mentioned Mitch Freinberg dedicated a plaque to James in the office's conference room, thus keeping his spirit alive. We'll miss you, Jeem.

Benjamin Feldman LAW'76 retired from his law and real estate career in 2000 and has morphed into a Yiddishist; he is chair of the board of the New Yiddish Rep theater company and a historian of 19th and early 20th century New York, having published three books and 50 essays (newyork wanderer.com). He lives in the Heights, has two daughters "and an ex-wife," and spends a great deal of time exercising al fresco.

Steve Flanagan passed a couple of milestones this year. January marked the 40th anniversary of his marriage to the redoubtable Lynn Waring, a date that may have inspired their twin sons, when they began their romance at Columbia. Their younger son, Neil Flanagan '08, is a junior architect working on the "Bow Tie," a building on Columbia's Manhattanville campus. In April, Steve passed the two-year mark of his second tour at the National Security Council staff as special assistant to the president and senior director for defense policy and strategy; he says it's "been demanding, but an honor to serve."

We heard recently (from Raymond Forsythe) that Rob Gallup passed away in February from a heart attack. He's survived by his wife of 22 years, Jane (janegallup@hotmail.com); Rob was executive director of AMEND Counseling Services in Denver for more than three decades and a fervent supporter of violence prevention and intervention groups, and was a crime victim services administrator for the State of Colorado for 16 years.

Carter Eltzroth SIPA '79, LAW '80 is a lawyer focused on new technology, notably the licensing of standardized technologies like digital TV, WiFi and smart grid. He and his wife, Arline, live in Washington, D.C.; they have two daughters "and an ex-wife," and spend a great deal of time exercising al fresco.

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"Those meddling kids!"

That's a phrase of many of us remember from watching endless episodes of Scooby-Doo with our kids or grandkids. In the cartoon series, which premiered just before we started at the College, it was said by a villain referring to Shaggy and his friends. In this case, the meddling kids are the Millennials that are showing the Baby Boomers off-center stage and diminishing our influence on both cultural and economic issues in society.

The censuses bureau tells us Millennials (those born approximately 1980-2000) are now 80 million strong as of last March — larger than either Gen X (born approximately 1965-1979) or even our beloved Baby Boomers (born approximately 1946-1964). Why is this important? For most of our lives, society has molded the world around us to kowtow to the wants and desires of our cohort. When we wanted bell-bottoms, tie-dye and long hair, they were suddenly fashionable. Our parents might have supported the Vietnam War, but society and its politicians sided with the majority of Baby Boomers that seemed to feel otherwise.

What if the new Millennial Majority make skinny jeans the new fashion statement when mankind favors relaxed-fit Levis? If what they end up much further right or left in politics when our generation is moving more toward the center (or vice versa)? A recent survey showed Millennials watch less TV than their parents. No biggie ... until you learn that The Walking Dead garnered six of the top 10 cable telecast viewership slots for this age group. Will that mean the death of quality programming like CSI and NCIS — let alone Celebrity Wife Swap? Those meddling kids! One thing that's for certain is that they rose up on half a century of some great music. Some might say it started with The Rolling Stones in 1962. Others might cite the 1964 British Invasion led by The Beatles. All that is clear to those jaded ears is that the title of Bob Dylan's 1964 album said it all — The Times They Are a-Changin' — and you skinny jeans/sky latte/Walking Dead Millennials missed the moment! Reminds me of the time when a young buck in my office asked me disparagingly, "When did you go to college?"

I responded, "I just say it was after the invention of the birth control pill and before the arrival of AIDS." His eyes glassed over.

One classmate who hasn't let the Dieskult get to him is investment banker/drummer Roger Kahn. I saw him and his wife, Therese, on campus at Dean's Day in June. After learning they had just attended a great jazz lecture, they had to dash off because they had tickets to The Who's 50th anniversary show.

At a time when we are being told that Baby Boomers are retiring and moving to Florida for a life of shuffleboard and early bird specials, notes from our classmates show this is not always the case. Not only are many of our careers continuing to evolve but also many of our classmates are returning to NYC (at least for part of the year).

Dr. David Melnick F578 writes that he left pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca 34 years ago to return to Manhattan and to assume a position as VP of clinical development at Actavis (which subsequently acquired Allergan and took its name). The combination of the companies created one of the world's top 10 pharmaceutical companies. He will continue hunting for new antibiotics to fight highly resistant bacteria (like MRSA),

David notes, "What I have learned over 37 years of treating infectious diseases: The micro-organisms are smarter than we are."

Also moving back to NYC (part-time) is Bill Meehan. He recently bought an apartment in the same building as his daughter, Katie Conroy '02, and his grandsons. He tells us he'll be spending "fall/winter in Palo Alto, Calif. and spring/summer in NYC ... back and forth."

I need to explain that following his retirement in 1999 from his executive position at the consulting firm McKinsey & Company, Bill has been on the faculty of the Stanford Graduate School of Business. I received a press release saying he was honored last spring with the Excellence in Leadership Award from the school. Aside from his teaching, Bill has been involved in helping numerous nonprofit and for-profit institutions (such as the San Francisco Symphony, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Fordham Preparatory School and the United Way of the Bay Area — just to name a few). He also manages to find time to be a director of John Deere, one of the largest hardware companies.

Although he spends most of his time in Washington, D.C., managing Cuneo Gilbert & LaDuca, the law firm he founded 27 years ago, Jon Cuneo also has an apartment in NYC because he spends a fair amount of time doing legal work in the area. Last spring he was here for a different reason: Jon stepped into the boxing ring against former No. 1 heavyweight contender Gerry Cooney in Montreal. The three-round fight raised money for Youth Consultation Service, which serves at-risk and special needs children and young adults in New Jersey. Rumor has it that Cooney was "swearing bullets." I was just happy to see Jon listed in the obits of the last CCL!

A note came in from Msgr. Fred Dolan in Montreal. He pointed out a June 23 New York Times article saying most of the restaurants we saw in Seinfeld have long disappeared (like H&H Bagels, Kenny Rogers Roasters and the Royal Pastry Shop). But 17 years after Seinfeld left the air, the Times notes: "the gang's favorite hangout from the show, Tom's, arguably has become the most recognizable "Seinfeld"-related tourist attraction in town."

The Times went on: "Tom's is comfortable with friendly enough service and old-world charm; it is hard to argue with a bacon cheeseburger deluxe for $9.25, and you will never go wrong with the milkshakes ($5.75). But, really, cash only?"

Aren't those prices a little higher than you remember?

I was reading in the Spring/Summer 2015 issue of Columbia Magazine about the new Tang Center for Early China, to be housed in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures in Kent Hall. As my son has an interest in this area, I researched further online. There I discovered that Haruo Shirane CSAS'83 is chair of this department (as well as being the Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture).

While this column often features classmates who change careers, few of these changes are as dramatic as that of Dean Weber and his wife, Lynne. Dean exclaimed that my column a quarter-century ago described them as "the ultimate yuppy couple." After all, Dean was a corporate attorney at Lord Day & Lord (and later McDermott Will & Emery) and Lynne was an advertising exec. Soon after that 1989 column, Lynne left advertising to attend the Union Theological Seminary and was ordained an Episcopal priest in 1994. Five years later, Dean left law, also to attend Union Theological, and was ordained to the priesthood in 2000. He turned 50. Dean has since been rector of All Saints' Church in Leonia, N.J., and Lynne served at St. Elizabeth in Ridgewood, N.J., 1993-2000 and as rector of the Church of the Atonement in Tenafly, N.J., for the
past 15 years. Dean adds, “In both the priesthood and the law, TGIF has always meant ‘only two more working days until Monday,’ with the difference that I now feel I have the best job in the world.”

There you have it. Classmates moving back to NYC in their “golden years” and enjoying their careers and time with their families. Other classmates are continuing to explore new careers or are moving to the top of their long-time passions. Whatever is going on in your life, send in news, because your friends of nearly half a century want an update!

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It was an amazing reunion weekend. Your Reunion Committee took the best of our collective WAIs (Wild-As-Ideas) and, I think, delivered a couple of outstanding WEIs (Wildly Exciting Experiences).

We had a great turnout. The following classmates were seen during the weekend, even if they didn’t sign up for an “official” event: Glenn Bacal, Richard Barnett, Jeff Burstein, Fernando Castro, Barry Concol, Geoffrey Cummings, Lou Dalaveris, Gene Davis, Dan Deneen, Jim Dolan, Bob Edelman, Ed Firuzatule, Michael Flagg, David Gawarecki, Guy Golembrziski, Bill Havlena, Phelps Hawkins, Robert Hebert ’76, Peter Holliday, David Isby, Steve Jacobs, Bob Katz, Gerry Keating, Jeff Kessler, Steve Krasner, Frank Lanciottelli, Stewart Linder, Peter Garza-Zavaleta, Robert Lopez, Barry Mahler, Ira Malin, Richard Mattiacci, Fran Minarik, Albert Mrozik, Randy Nichols, Joe Pober, Matt Rizzo, Ken Scherer, Bob Schneider, Rick Shur, Barry Sorrelts, Roger Stefin, James Steffen, Jason Turner, Joe Vassallo, Floyd Warren and Sigmund Wisner-Gross. The class photo is packed and, when partners/spouses are added, we fill the frame. (Spouses/partners, sorry — there just isn’t enough room to list your names, too.) See it at college.columbia.edu/cc/t/summer15.

On Thursday evening, some of us met at the Columbia University Club of New York as guests of SEAS’75 after our event was canceled at the last moment. Dean James J. Valentini dropped in to greet us and welcome us to the reunion. Afterward, Jim Dolan, Penny Liberatos BC’74, Ira Malin and Randy Nichols had dinner at Aureole New York, Charlie Palmer’s restaurant. Jim’s brother, Bill, installed its kitchen and hooked up the group with executive chef Marcus Gladow-Ware, who sent over several wonderful surprises.

Thanks, Bill! On Friday morning, David Gawarecki, Randy Nichols and several others hung pieces for the Sam Steinberg exhibit. The event ended up with more works and more display space than expected, and so displayed more works than planned. As the final touches were going up, a couple of special guests arrived and David gave them an in-depth tour. Theneth Jackson, the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences, who entertained us and regaled us with his stories of New York.

We had another mini-reunion at the 7 Carman elevator on Sunday morning during check-out. Mike Flagg, Barry Mahler and Randy Nichols had all stayed on the floor. Randy was in the room that he shared with Jose Martinez and suitemates Charlie Lindsay and Bill “Mac” McCarthy ’74. Theirs was the largest and more secluded. Once they were back then. And, do you remember the desk chairs with the shallow angle on the base at the back, so you could lean back in your chair but only so far? We had them then, and Carman has them now. Are they the same chairs? Thank you to all who attended any part of reunion, or who didn’t but still worked to make our 40th an outstanding success. Pictures have been posted to the class Facebook page (facebook.com/columbia1975).”

What’s Your Story?

Letting classmates know what’s going on in your life is easy. Send in your Class Notes! ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cc/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.
MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

FALL 2015
Moses Luski grew up in Charlotte, N.C., surrounded by art collected by his parents. As an adult, Moses has been motivated to collect and to share art. The Moses Luski Contemporary Collection was displayed throughout the UNC Charlotte Center City campus. Though artwork is often presented in traditional gallery settings, this diverse exhibit was found on the many floors of a modern urban building, adjacent to classrooms, lecture halls, faculty offices and meeting rooms. The goal, according to UNC Galleries Director of Galleries Crista Cammaroto, was to “invite daily critique and reflection.”

Richard Mattiacci commuted freshman year at the College and got to his first college exam in Professor Herbert Terrace’s behavioral psych class more than an hour late because of a snowstorm. He had to backtrack in the Bronx because the snow had forced him to the Broadway local, and he ended up on Lenox and 116th. When he finally got to the test after a nearly three-hour trek, he was soaked and exhausted. They would not give any extra time. Rich says, “That was the sweetest ‘A’ I ever got.”

“Some priests are known for their work among the poor, others for their learning, still others for decades of service to a parish. The Rev. C. John McCloskey III, a priest of the traditionalist Opus Dei order, has a different calling. He makes converts, often of the rich and Republican.” So started a June 12 New York Times article on C.J., who preaches, publishes, pastors and is otherwise engaged in his work in California.

After 29 years in private practice, Floyd Warren joined the NYU Langone Faculty Group Practice this past November, where he is clinical professor in neuro-ophthalmology. There are no retirement plans in his immediate future, he says. His younger daughter graduated from Rochester in June, so there are no more tuition checks in his future. They do road trips seeing the various baseball stadiums (stadia? maybe we can channel Karl-Ludwig Sedl), and his three grandchildren now live in NYC and works in public relations. Floyd and his wife, Jane, have been happily married for 27 years and have enjoyed being empty nesters for four years.

You will see and read more about reunion in the next few issues, as other classmates are poked and prodded to send details. It was an amazing weekend. Sam Steinberg 2015 was so well received! Classmates and friends had a wonderful time during the weekend. We will continue to post class photos and other news on facebook.com/ColumbiaNYC75. There is a sad (and that word is nowhere near enough) outcome to report. Bill Ross, Mike Rosen, Mike Czarina and Joe Lipari all contributed Sam’s to the exhibition, and they were among the 60 Sam’s that were accidentally discarded at the end of the weekend. (Mike Flagg’s little centaur survived and has been returned to him.) More information, and pictures of the exhibition, is on facebook.com/Steinberg2015.

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016
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Our 40th reunion plans are well under way. Please save the dates, noted at the top of the column. Events will start on Thursday night and continue until Sunday morning. There will be more information coming through the mail and email. Hope to see a lot of you there.

At Class Day this past May, four ’76ers proudly carried the bicentennial class’ banner: Dan Baker, Michael Sackler, Howard Berg and me. All of us are also proud parents of recent College graduates. Both Michael and Howard are proud fathers of members of the Class of 2015.

Dan Baker’s consulting practice is going well and he’s been spending a lot more time on campus since he and his wife, Rebecca, got a place on the Upper West Side. He says, “I enjoyed helping carry our Class of ’76 banner at Class Day and hearing Eric Garriott ’92, SIPA’93’s address to the graduates (perhaps he’ll be the second College grad president?).”

And in June my son, Ben Baker ‘07, BUS ’14, was married in St. Paul’s Chapel at the reception at Faculty House. Two generations of alumni were in attendance, including Sara LaMarche, Vin Briccetti, Jeffrey Gross ’73, Bruno Santonocito ’66 and my daughter Ben’s sister, Sarah Baker ’10.

Rich Rohr wrote “Thad to make an abbreviated visit to Dean’s Day this year, as my parents were moving to assisted living on that day. I suspect that many in our class feel sandwiched between helping their parents and supporting their children. Nonetheless, I was able to hear an amazing lecture by Valerie Purdie-Vaughns ’93, associate professor of psychology, describing her research into how racial prejudice directly impacts intellectual functioning and how psychological support can be beneficial. Her personal story is also fascinating, having been told in high school that ‘people like you (i.e., black) don’t get into Columbia and they don’t finish.’ She proved the counselor wrong on both counts, and Dean James J. Valentini counts on her now as a close adviser. I wish I could talk about all the classmates with whom I connected at Dean’s Day but the attendees tend to be elderly. We all have busy lives but I encourage you to take one day a year to remind yourself of the fabulous intellectual resources at Columbia.”

Lieber Cohen writes from Illinois: “I am a professor in the ob/gyn department at Northwestern. My expertise is in ultrasound and my most recent research has been in developing methods for congenital heart defects and in 3D/4D ultrasound. I am an avid amateur cellist. My wife, Elizabeth BC ’75, LAW ’79, works for the American Bar Association and is an expert in legal ethics. She loves sewing and tailoring most of her own clothes. We have one son, Jonathan, who is an equestrian and a manager for showbars in Wellington, Fla., and Warren, vt.”

Terry Corrigan is living the good life in North Carolina. He writes, “We’ve been busy here in Pinehurst between work and hosting a number of players in last summer’s U.S. Women’s Open and this year’s Rolex Girls Junior Championship and North & South Amateur Championships. Looking forward to a trip to Ireland to relax, visit with my parents and play.”

Rich Scheinin checked in with details from California: “I have three sons: Jesse (26) is a saxophonist and bandleader in Brooklyn; Max (30) is a writer in Austin; and Ben (34) is a contractor in Maui, with two sons of his own. So my wife, Sara Solovitch BC ’76, and I are grandparents.

“She and I met in spring ’76 (we lived across the hall from each other) and got married in ’79. She’s a journalist, too, and we moved a lot in our early years, from...”
being rebuilt. Despite our often younger kids, youthful bodies and Internet- and Columbia-fed minds, I wonder if our conversations and activities this summer are as interesting and groundbreaking as those we overheard 45 years ago from our parents.

Our column question this month was, “What’s your favorite vacation spot?”

Tom Bisdale writes from New Jersey. “My youngest graduated from college this spring, so now it’s between me and the banks. For vacations it is hard to beat the North Carolina Outer Banks, especially when sharing an off-road house with the Goldbergs ’77 and Lubkas ’76 and BC ’77.”

Alex Demac is also thinking about children and college. “This spring my eldest son graduated from college, my second got on deck for his final college year, my third son graduated from high school and the fourth got ready for 11th grade,” he says. “Shepherd-ing my children from adolescence to adulthood is humbling and an admixture of hope and trepidation.”

John Nastuk commented on my missive about leaving the 50-somethings next year. “What do you mean you’re still 50-something? I turned 60 this past December. Like you, achy and tired, but what else is new? My ‘News on the March’ is that my second son is gainfully employed (or is that finally?) as an engineer, making three of them in the house all driving Mom crazy! We have a summer cottage on the lake in Sanbornville, N.H., 70 miles north of home (Danvers, Mass.) and it has an excellent ‘magic beer fridge’ on the porch!”

Dr. Richard Schloss has a decidedly international take on life and vacation: “I work full-time in my private practice in general psychiatry in Huntington, N.Y. My wife, Meredith Jaffe NRS ’82, is a dentist who divides her time between practices in Huntington and Hampton Bays, N.Y. Our older son, Bradley (’09 Hofstra), graduated from Touro Law Center in May and our younger son, Jason (’13 Pratt), entered a master’s program in digital game design at LIU Post in September. We will have gone on vacation in Copenhagen and Reykjavik from late August to early September. My favorite vacation spots and trip destinations are San Francisco, Paris, London, Amsterdam and St. Maarten.”

Another international note comes from Carl Strehlke GSAS ’86: “I will publish on November 30 a catalogue of the Bernard and Mary Berenson Collection of European Paintings at I Tatti (in Florence). I now live full-time in that city. [And what a city! I went there last summer. — MN] My favorite summer vacation spot is certainly a small town called Limni in Euboea, Greece, usually as a guest of Don Guttenplan and family. Otherwise, I like the Italian side of Monte Bianco. That is not to say I don’t like Martha’s Vineyard, Mass.; Northeast Harbor, Maine; and any big European capital.”

James Hill, who is with the New York office of the U.S. Treasury in New York, told this tale: “In summer 1973, I arranged to deliver an orange sporty Karmann Ghia from my hometown of St. Louis to San Francisco. The owner gave me 60 bucks, six weeks and unlimited mileage to drop it off in the Bay Area in one piece. I blasted through corn fields in Kansas, toured national parks and backpacked on long hikes throughout the west including Estes Park, the Grand Canyon, Sequoia National Park and Yosemite. After the drop, I put my thumbs up, hitchhiked back home to St. Louis and resumed my lifeguard job at a city pool.

That autumn semester, while reading Sea Fever by John Masefield in a literature class, I got hooked by wanderlust in the final verse:

“I must go down to the seas again,
to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull’s way and the whale’s way,
where the winds like a whetted knife.

And all I ask is a laughing yarn
from a merry fellow-rover.

And a quiet sleep, and a sweet dream, when the long trick’s over.

Well, cheer that it ain’t over yet, my friends.”

I guess musicians don’t get to think about vacations much, but Steven Bergonetti always sends us his latest clips from Variety — impressive as usual. “I recently received the Boston Theater Critics Association’s 2015 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Musical Performance by an Actor, for Father Comes Home From The Wars (Parts 1, 2, & 3) at the American Repertory Theater (NYC),” he says. “The Elliot Norton Award is Boston’s equivalent of the Tony Awards.” Congrats, Steve!”

Another one of our regulars is Paul Phillips, from Brown, who also gives us an update on his accomplishments but no summer fun stories. “My CD Music for Great Films of the Silent Era, Vol. 2, was released in April. This ‘Film Music
We close on a sad note: Aaron Saul Greenberg tells us, “With great sadness I report the death of Dr. Jonathan Aranoff FS’82. Jonny was the brightest person I ever knew. He was Junior Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude; he had no problem getting A-plusses in the hardest pre-med courses at Columbia. He was fiercely competitive, but always with good spirits and fun. We will miss him.”

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Vitor L. Garcia was ordained a priest by the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of St. Mary on June 13. Victor decided to enter religious life several years ago; he is now based at St. Joseph the Worker Church in East Patchogue, N.Y., and sends greetings of pax et bonus to all. For those of you playing at home, that means, navel too!

David J. Hachey happily reports, “Recently celebrated my 37th year as an adviser with Northwestern Mutual, which includes one year as an intern in 1978. What’s even more exciting is that my oldest daughter, Lindsay, who was married two years ago, joined my group earlier this year as an adviser. It has been wonderful having her in the office and she will likely be part of my succession plan moving forward. I am equally proud to report that my youngest daughter, Carly NRS’14, who graduated from Hamilton in 2012, works at NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester in the medical office. She is now based at St. Joseph the Worker Church in East Patchogue, N.Y., and sends greetings of pax et bonus to all.”

Jeffery Frieden GSAS’84’s new book is out: Currency Politics: The Political Economy of Exchange Rate Policy. It’s an academic book, of interest at best to a handful of scholars (and maybe to some speculators). For those of you playing at home, that’s called “kveling.”

Chris Chu ’17, Mike Brown ’80, Shawn FitzGerald ’80 and Christian FitzGerald ’17 played a round of golf at the Friar’s Head Country Club in Riverhead, Long Island, in late July.

It’s fall in NYC, the leaves are turning and the cool nights feel good (for once). Football is on our minds and coach Al Bagnoli has the team back in a competitive mode. There is still a lot of work to do, but the early signs are encouraging. Jim Schachter and the news team at WNYC have been providing coverage of the Lions’ progress, and listeners can expect more to come. The Class of ’80 plans to be well represented at Homecoming on Saturday, October 17, with AJ Sabatello, Mario Biaggi and Charlie LaRocca cheering on the team.

I still can’t get “Breakfast Special” by Needle Dik out of my head after the band’s great performance during Alumni Reunion Weekend; many thanks to Needle Dik for a fun night. Steve Gendler stopped by Dinosaur Bar-B-Que during the show. Steve is a real estate executive in Philadelphia, and with a focus on nonprofits in education and healthcare.

Dan Johanneson is the CEO of ACMH, which provides community outreach and promotes the wellness and recovery of persons.
Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

Check out the Columbia College Alumni page! facebook.com/alumninc

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

Fall greetings! It’s a lighter column than usual, no doubt due to summer plans for many of you. Please keep me updated on the latest and I’ll do my best to fit your news into a future issue.

In New York City, Ethan Halpern is the latest class member to add a branch to the Columbia tree! His daughter, Shira BC’19, started at Barnard this fall.

Congratulations, Ethan, and we look forward to your impressions of the campus, as it has been far too long since many of us have visited.

For those visiting NYC in the coming months, Kirby Cookin is curating an exhibition, “The Value of Food,” with his partner/wife Robin Kahn BC’82, at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, right in Columbia’s neighborhood. The exhibition will be placed throughout the cathedral and its grounds; it is scheduled to open on October 6 and run for six months.

Kevin Fay recently returned from a week in the Middle East (specifically, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain) on business but is otherwise enjoying the hectic pace of the business world stateside.

Also, Edward Klee recently returned from an exciting vacation in Iceland. It’s good to see our classmates are enjoying adventures far beyond the Big Apple.

Please keep me updated on your events, achievements and travels—I look forward to hearing from you! You can email me at the address at the top of this column or submit a Class Note through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

The result is that Scott, who is based in Washington Heights, along with 24 other artists, writers and photographers, will head off in October to spend three weeks sailing on a tall ship through the waters of the international territory of Svalbard, an Arctic archipelago just 10 degrees latitude from the North Pole. If anyone would like to get behind Scott’s efforts, his GoFundMe campaign can be found at gotundine.com/teapatriot. I’m certainly going to.

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Roy Pomerantz

Babykings/Petking

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From a Dormitory Authority of the State of New York press release regarding Gerrard Bushell: “New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo appointed Gerard P. Bushell to the role of president/CEO of the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), one of the nation’s leading issuers of tax-exempt bonds, and a major source of capital for infrastructure. DASNY is a key player in building partnerships to develop and help shape New York State’s social infrastructure. DASNY provides financing and construction services for public and private universities, hospitals and health-care facilities and other not-for-profits that serve the public good. I am excited by the opportunity to serve Governor Andrew Cuomo and the people of New York State as we commence on an ambitious journey,” says Gerrard.

Gerrard is currently a senior relationship manager and advisor in BNY Mellon’s alternative and traditional investment management businesses. Prior to joining BNY Mellon, Gerrard has held a number of senior advisory roles; they include: director in the Client and Partner Group at Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. (KKR), managing director in Business Development at Arden Asset Management, and the head of institutional sales at the Legg Mason affiliate, Clearbridge Advisors (formerly Citibank Asset Management).

I also had the pleasure of speaking with Gerrard on the telephone. Unbeknownst to me, Gerrard was a high school classmate of Wayne Allyn Root. Gerrard shared some great stories, including a rave review of the pastrami served at the local delicatessen owned by Wayne’s father. Gerrard also marched in the Alumni Parade of Classes; Andy Gershon, Stuart Lutzker, Ed Joyce, Steve Coleman and my son Ricky also joined in.

Andy Gershon reports: “At this writing, my wife, Gail, and I are preparing for our nest to empty out next August, as our kids, twins Alex and Sophie, will head off to college. Sophie graduated from Stuyvesant H.S. in Manhattan where she distinguished herself academically and athletically. Sophie was named an AP Scholar with Honors after her junior year and is a National Merit Scholar finalist. One of the top soccer goalies in the city, she was captain of the girls’ soccer team and started for the Public School Athletic League team in the 2014 NYC Mayor’s Cup Soccer All-Star Game. On the basketball court, she led the city in rebounding and was named All-Manhattan Westchester Second Team as a junior (The Daily News has yet to make selections for last season). As a senior, she was captain of the girls’ basketball team, averaging 20 points and 14 rebounds per game, and was again chosen to play in the Mayor’s Cup All-Star Game where she led the PSL team in scoring. Sophie also started at first base and batted cleanup for the Stuyvesant softball team.

“She was featured on Time Warner’s channel NY1 as a NYC Scholar Athlete of the Week and also took the field at Yankee Stadium as a New Era Pinstripe Bowl Scholar-Athlete. Sophie will be pursuing her interest in computer science and playing basketball at MIT. ‘Despite being born with a genetic disease and seizure disorder that seriously impairs his cognitive abilities, Alex became a fine travel team pitcher. He is a 6-foot-6 lefty with a knuckleball who throws lots of strikes and has played on the NY1 All-Star team, which he led the PSL team in scoring. Sophie also started at first base and batted cleanup for the Stuyvesant softball team.

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Then I received an invite to a private gathering at [casino magnate] Sheldon Adelson’s home for an intimate dinner with President George W. Bush.

“I’d met W. at the White House Hanukkah dinner in 2006 with my wife, Debra. We had a chance to tour the White House and chat with George and Laura. But there were a couple hundred people there; this dinner at Sheldon’s home was a small, private setting. The most special part of the night was when [casino magnate] Steve Wynn and his wife walked in right after me. To be in a living room with a former president and two of America’s richest billionaires doesn’t happen every day. Even W. was impressed; he said to the group, ‘It’s amazing to see both Steve Wynn and Sheldon Adelson with us… we have the world’s gaming market cornered in this one living room!’ For a blue collar SOB (son of a butcher) from Mount Vernon, N.Y., whose parents never went to college, this was a great thrill. I’ve come a long way. As Don King would say, ‘Only in America!’”

Kevin Chapman sent a fascinating summary of his trip to Las Vegas to play in the World Series of Poker. “I’ve been playing for many years and really enjoy tournament poker. So, on my bucket list for a long time has been going to Vegas for the World Series. I cashed in on two of the smaller daily tournaments but did not make the big money that I had set out to do.”

Some updates:

- **Andrew Botti** sent me the most incredible bookmark with images of his original artwork (oil on canvas). I was blown away! In fact, Andrew was our Class Notes correspondent in 1990 (as noted in the CCT sent to me by Ken Gruber ’82).

- From Jon Ross: “As I write, I am in the Philippines, on the east coast of the island of Samar, an area that is in the direct path of Pacific typhoons (especially Haiyan in 2013 and Ruby in 2014). Here is an update on the work my company, MicroAid International, is doing building permanent houses for survivors. I remind you that we stay focused on areas after the world’s attention has moved on (rest assured that MicroAid will go to Nepal down the road, when the earthquake survivors will still need our help). As well as all disasters, here in the Philippines there are many people who have not received assistance years after the typhoon disasters.

“The people here say ‘maopai’ for ‘hello,’ because they speak Warai not Tagalog. Samar is like its own country. They are fierce and independent but they have been friendly and helpful to me. They are aware that MicroAid is a small family of supporters who understand people still need help. They are grateful. So am I.”

- **Wayne Allyn Root** writes: “Finding out Donald Trump is a fan was a wonderful development, and getting his endorsement of my book was a nice development.

- **William R. Spiegelberger** writes: “On June 12, I was elected as a member of the supervisory board of Strabag SE, the Austrian construction company, but will continue to be director of the international practice department at CU Ruslau in Moscow.”

- **Andrew Botti** sent me the most incredible bookmark with images of his original artwork (oil on canvas). I was blown away! In fact, Andrew was our Class Notes correspondent in 1990 (as noted in the CCT sent to me by Ken Gruber ’82).

From a press release about Kenneth Chin: “Kramer Levin is pleased to announce that banking and finance partner Kenneth Chin has been inducted as a fellow into the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers. The ACCFL extends fellowships by invitation only, and after careful investigation, to those lawyers who have achieved preeminence in the field of commercial finance law and exemplify the highest professional and leadership standards. Mr. Chin has more than 25 years of experience providing legal and transactional advice to a wide variety of clients in corporate and financing transactions. He has been recognized by Chambers USA, The Best Lawyers in America and New York Super Lawyers as a leading lawyer, and in 2014 was named one of the Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business by the Asian American Business Development Center.”

I look forward to seeing classmates at the CC basketball games and to checking out German basketball player Lukas Meisner ’19.
Earth-2 Comics in Sherman Oaks, Calif., this past March. Hard to believe we opened the shop in 2003. We also recently returned from the Comic-Con International Membership Meeting, where I was re-elected VP of the trade association for comic shops owners. In July, I went to San Diego to judge the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, which are given out each year at the Comic-Con International: San Diego. The Eisners are essentially the Oscars for the comic book and graphic novel industry, with awards for best writer, artist, series, graphic novel, etc. ... Apparently, Columbia now has a major comics library and archive as well. Maybe I should look into that.”

Longtime reader, first-time contributor Robert Rubinstein writes: “I’ve lived in Baltimore for 16 years with my wife, Randi Schwartz, a psychologist, and my children, Stella (15), Joel (16) and Adam (14). I’m a graduate of the University of Baltimore School of Law and am director of clinical education there. What’s been on TV is not, by any stretch, representative of all of Baltimore although, unfortunately, it is representative of part of me. I am involved in helping to improve things: The clinical program I direct enables students to represent low-income clients and engage in community development initiatives. It’s fulfilling work and I hope it’s helping to make things a little better.”

Congratulations to Karim Assaf BUS’86 on being named co-chair of Bank of America’s global investment bank. Karim was my high school classmate and, coincidentally, my “seatmate” on both the JRR and Law Review (he was the star at the start) and in Professor (now General Studies Dean) Peter Awn’s Lit Hum class that first Monday of classes.

This year’s Dean’s Day included a Columbia University Band performance and viewing of a long-forgotten 1935 Universal Pictures short film (only 18 minutes!), Meet the Professor!, featuring the Columbia University Band. Set on a college campus (not Columbia!), a young woman — either a reporter or a prospective student — has notes while following a professor (not Selig, but pretty reminiscent!), takes a tour (which includes a gym filled with acrobats) and culminates with a band (not named Columbia, but really Columbia!) playing (for no particular reason) “Who Owns New York,” “San Souci” and “Stand Up and Cheer.” Lucky for them, they actually played and are designated as “The Columbia University Band” in the film credits. Special thanks and congrats to band alumni leaders Dan Carlinsky ’65 and Samantha Rowan BC’96 for finding and obtaining this little gem.

Perhaps some of you might remember that in 1984 (literally the week after graduation) our generation’s Marching Band was hired to participate as a unit (albeit, uncredited) in Turk 182. Wearing our band uniforms with a red bandana to mask our CU identity, we holstered with actors Timothy Hutton, Robert Urich, Peter Boyle, Robert Culp, Darren McGavin and Kim Cattrall for a week of shooting on Roosevelt Island from dusk to dawn! Unlike that 1935 band, union rules prohibited us from playing, so the songs were added “in post,” as they say. Still, our band — including Ira Gilbert as conductor and yours truly, Dennis Kleinberg, playing trumpet — can be seen (best on wide screen) acting/playing at the tail end of the movie.

As I’m the last name in boldface this year, I would like to also congratulate my son Adam on his successful graduation in finance and accounting from SUNY New Paltz.

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Our 30th reunion is over, but we will continue the momentum until our 50th. I will need several columns to fully report on the festivities; kudos to John Phelan and Leslie Smartt for leading the reunion effort on the planning and communications fronts. Many thanks also to Joe Till, Pat Murphy (who conducted a great questionnaire that solicited interesting info about us and led to great discussions. The results: The Class of ’85 attended school for an average 3.74 years beyond our graduation; has lived in 2.08 countries and 3.2 states; has had 4.06 jobs, has been married 1.05 times and has 2.18 children. The most jobs reported was 10, the least was one; the children reported was six, several respondents reported zero, the most marriages was three; all respondents reported at least one year of post-graduate education, one reported 12 years; and there is an inverse relationship between times married and number of children.

From Tom Vinciguerra JRN’86, GSAS’80: “Had a ball at the reunion. No matter how closely I stay in touch with alma mater, only when I reconnect with a critical mass of classmates do I recapture what life in the College felt like. Thank you, all who were there.”

“My book Cast of Characters: Woolcott Gibbs, E.B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age Of The New Yorker will be published in November. In October, the Philo- logical Society will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its revival. It’s difficult to convey the pride I feel in having dusted off and nurtured this oldest and most essential of Columbia student activities.”

Joel Feldman is married to Pamela Schwartz BC’85 and has three children: Isaiah ’18 (19), Gabriel (17), rising high school senior; and Talia (14), rising high school freshman. “Since 1993, we have been happily living in Northampton, Mass.,” says Joel. “We’ve traveled quite a bit (lived for six months in Oaxaca, Mexico, with the kids, and spent all of last summer in Ecuador — desperately trying to become fluent in Spanish, but not quite there yet).”

I went to Harvard Law School, graduated in 1988 and became a partner in an law firm that serves poor people in western Massachusetts with housing, employment, consumer and discrimination problems. We had grown this year to seven lawyers, until some turnover in the last couple of months.

Our services have been a national model, and I have been active through state/national bar associations trying to recruit attorneys to use our fee-shifting model locally and nationally. I am on the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission, attempting to solve the problem of access to justice for the poor; have taught at many seminars; and have also taught at Western New England School of Law (our local law school).”

Mitch Regenstreif is in Manhattan Beach, Calif., and his law firm is doing well (up to 70 lawyers). “I focus almost entirely on real estate transactions,” he says. “My wife, Ellen Regenstreif ’88, is busy with her travel business (she is a travel agent/consultant focusing on family travel, hence her company name, Family Adventures). We have two kids (14 and 12) and have family, anyone who worked for the Harvey family, anyone who worked for the Harvey family, anyone who worked for the Harvey family.”

“I’m a partner with Dentons and am on the Massachusetts Access to Justice Commission, attempting to solve the problem of access to justice for the poor; have taught at many seminars; and have also taught at Western New England School of Law (our local law school).”

Professionally, I am fortunate and actually enjoy being a lawyer. I’m a partner with Dentons and leader of the firm’s global employment and labor practice group. With Dentons’ combination with a leading law firm in China, I am a partner with Dentons’ China practice group and its recent merger with McKenna Long & Aldridge, the firm will have about 6,600 lawyers and professionals in 125 locations across 50-plus countries. My practice group will have more than 350 lawyers, across more than 30 countries. While I still do much U.S. litigation and counseling, my practice increasingly involves coordinating global teams and advising multi-national companies on cross-border matters. It’s very interesting and challenging.

“I half-seriously consider it a collector’s item, as the Kansas City Board of Trade was purchased by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange in 2012, which closed it in 2013. “I was one of journalist Stephen Fried’s research assistants on his book about [19th-century restaurant and travel industry entrepreneur] Fred Harvey, Appetite for America: Fred Harvey and the Business of Civilizing the Wild West — One Meal at a Time. Last fall, I took a two-week driving trip to New Mexico and Arizona, visiting Harvey-related sites including three hotels: La Posada (restored and reopened in Winslow, Ariz.), La Fonda (still in business in Santa Fe, N.M.) and La Castaneda (being renovated in Las Vegas). I’m a FredHead and would love to hear from relatives of the Harvey family, anyone who worked for the company or who is a descendant of a Harvey girl/other employee. I also would be delighted to correspond with collectors of Fred Harvey memorabilia. I administer a Facebook group, Harvey Girl Descendants (search for it by name), opened the Facebook group created in Harvey. My email addresses are hpaxton@kc.rr.com and alwayshpn@gmail.com.”
night, and dragged my 12-year-old to the Saturday barbecue and campus tour before returning on Saturday night for the class dinner and Starlight Reception. In addition to seeing and catching up with old friends in person, I emailed or spoke with others who could not make it. I hope to build on the reunion momentum and spend more time with my Columbia (and Barnard) friends."  

Richard Mammon lives in Center City, Philadelphia, with his wife, Susan, and sons (12 and 15) and is a partner in the Kieran Timberlake architecture firm. His current projects include the new U.S. embassy in London; a new building for NYU that will include athletics, academics, performing arts and housing; an addition and renovation to the Tulane School of Architecture; a redesign of LOVE Park/John F. Kennedy Plaza in Philadelphia; and renovations to Congregation Rodeph Shalom, also in Philadelphia. Richard is also active on the boards of the Arden Theatre Company and the American Institute of Architects. He says, "Great to be back at Columbia, to catch up with the Class of '85 and to see progress on the new Manhattanville campus. Looking for a better '85 turnout next time."

From Michael Coudreaut PS'90, who lives in Utah: "Great to see everybody. Eleanor Jay was well represented and I enjoyed getting to know many whom I recognized but didn't know in college. Drinking on Low Steps and getting backstage access to the New York City Ballet (thanks to John Phelan's daughter) were the most memorable parts of reunion. I work for Intermountain Healthcare at Intermountain Medical Center as a consultation liaison psychiatrist; my wife, Kimberly, works for the same company in PR. Our daughter, Tillary, graduated from pre-K and was voted the class expert in Frozen. She wants to be a ballerina when she grows up. Our son, Curtis, is starting fourth grade this fall and plans to be the goalie for the U.S. World Cup Soccer team in 2026. We recently returned from the kids' first multi-day, self-guided rafting trip on the Green River. It is one of the advantages of living here, but my ballerina is not a fan. I am a partner in a Utah distillery — we make Five Wives Vodka and Underground Herbal Spirit, among other things. Ask for it at your local liquor retailer."

Colin Redhead: "My wife, Anne Redhead '87, and I live in Mount Kisco, N.Y., and have four kids: Andrew (19) is a sophomore at Grinnell; Matthew (16) is a senior at Fox Lane H.S.; Sarah (12) is in seventh grade at Fox Lane; and Chris (10) is in fourth grade at Mount Kisco Elementary. We're hoping that either Sarah and/or Chris attend Columbia."

"Since leaving Columbia, except for two years off for business school, I have worked in financial services, primarily debt capital markets for several banks including J.P. Morgan, Chemical, Chase and one bond insurer, MBIA. In early 2104, I interviewed for the position of deputy treasurer at Columbia. I thought it was a unique opportunity; the University is experiencing dramatic growth while several schools are maintaining or improving their selectivity in many areas. It is a very different institution from the one we left. I remain connected with the crew program, fundraising and as a member of the Rowing Advisory Committee."

From Glenn Alper: "News from my wife, Lynne, and me: Our oldest son, Teddy, graduated from Penn State last year with majors in business management and Spanish; and a minor in international business; he works at investment bank Stifel Nicolaus as an analyst in the San Francisco office. Our daughter, Evelyn, graduated this year with a major in food science from UC Davis and started a job in product development, also in the Bay Area. Our younger son, Elliot, is a sophomore at the University of Washington and is studying business. Lynne and I continue our medical practices unchanged, me as an obstetric anesthesiologist in Berkeley, Calif., and her as an internist at UC Berkeley's University Health Services. Now in the empty nest phase, we are traveling more and trying to catch up with old friends. The reunion was excellent. I really enjoyed catching up with everyone and hearing about all the varied life experiences."

Richard Maimon notes: "My wife, Makiko Yamamoto, and I had a wonderful time at reunion, catching up with my classmates as well as track/cross country teammates. We look forward to making it to the 35th. We now have another College alum in the family — our daughter, Monica Carty '15."

"Congrats, Monica!"  

Noah Sabin is a neuroradiologist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, where he does clinical work and research on brain tumors and on adult survivors of childhood cancer. He writes, "My wife, Joanne Levine, is a pediatrician. My oldest child, Rebecca, started her junior year of high school this August. She has begun to look at colleges and had a nice introduction to Columbia at reunion! I also have two sons who began eighth and sixth grades this fall. I've been in Memphis for six years and enjoy it, especially the work at St. Jude."

Joe Dapello unfortunately had to miss reunion — his New York-based law firm, Schneck Rose Dapello & Adams, recently opened an office in Beverly Hills. His practice still focuses on representing actors, writers and directors in film, television and theater, but now they'll officially be doing it on both coasts.

Tim Toma had a fun time at the 30th. "I especially loved singing with stray members of the Glee Club at the Sundial," he says. "I stayed in Carman with my freshman roommate Joel Feldman and coralled Barry Ableman to come into the city for brunch on Sunday. It was great to catch up with everyone."

"I am a Superior Court judge in Vermont. I cover the criminal, civil and family court dockets. Vermont is one of the few states where judges change courts every year or two. So, I never know where I will be stationed from year to year. It's a tough but rewarding job. My wife, Vivian Ladd Tomasi BC'86, and I have three children. Our oldest daughter is a sophomore in college, our middle daughter is headed to college this fall and our son is in eighth grade. Hope to see even more folks for the 35th."

Columbia/Barnard Hillel honored Michael Lustig '86 with a Gershom Mendes Seixas Award to thank him for his support of Jewish student life at Columbia. Attending the award ceremony were, left to right: Alon Mogilner '86, Sam Katz '86, Lustig and Everett Weinberger '86.

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2-5, 2016  
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Jonathan Rutchik updated us on his amazing 50th year travels to multiple continents while keeping his neurology and occupational medicine practice thriving in the San Francisco Bay Area. "I began
2014 with a fabulous road trip starting in Buenos Aires, then through Santiago in the northern Patagonia and Bolivia’s southern cities and salt flats, then through Chile’s Atacama Desert to Santiago. Las tres (my wife, Beth; son, Rex (now 8); and me) loved taking a manual four-wheel drive through these amazing high-altitude spots and seeing Andean nature and culture. “Spring break found us in Paris and Monte Carlo celebrating our 10-year wedding anniversary, where les trois Rutichks watched tennis stars Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal on red clay.

“For my birthday in May, I ventured solo to the Canadian arctic and northern Baffin Island to observe Inuit traditional lifestyle and to see narwhal, bowhead whale, polar bear and another of the ice floe’s peninsula! It was a trip of a lifetime, no doubt. I also went searching for jaguar in the Pantanal, Mato Grosso, Brazil, on a motorized house boat for a week in the fall with an American researcher studying birds and animals. Quite amazing!”

“In December we went to Morocco to visit Casablanca and the imperial cities of Rabat, Fez and Marrakech, where I had worked 22 years ago as a volunteer doctor with an international organization. Sex tourism was terrific but road tripping by ourselves to the south (where we slept deep in the Sahara in a caravan tent) was even more fabulous! The year was filled with happiness, love, health and a lot of photography and watercoloring!”

Congratulations to Michael Lustig on receiving the Gershon Mendes Seixas Award from Columbia/Barnard Hillel at a dinner on May 14 in Low Library. It was a mini-reunion, as in attendance were Sam and his wife, Alon Mogilner; Guy Reiss and his wife, Barbara Tepler Reiss BC’86; SW’94; and me. Michael is president of Columbia/Barnard Hillel and has deep involvement with the UJA-Federation of New York, chairing a number of its committees. He’s a trustee of Congregation Shearith Israel, also known as the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue of New York, the oldest Jewish institution in North America, and lectures for two classes at the Business School.

Michael had a 25-year career at BlackRock, where he was a senior managing director overseeing structured products and derivatives trading. He also created the firm’s training program and led that effort for 15 years.

Rick Wolf has already started working on our 30th reunion and has set up a Facebook page for our class; please search for “Columbia College, New York Class of 1986.” Let’s greatly increase the number of group members, which was at 29 as of July. Once there, click on whether you’ll attend our 30th reunion, which will be held Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5.

Sarah A. Kass
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The Class of ’87 has been very busy of late in the academic arena. Lee Illan shared the great news about her Carman suitemate Alex Gitelman, who recently was promoted to full professor of statistics at Oregon State. Alex majored in computer science at Columbia and earned an M.S. in mathematics.

Her Tory, a new film written and directed by Magaly Colimon-Christopher ’87 on the subject of grief and healing, debuted on June 10.

From Portland State and a Ph.D. in statistics from Carnegie Mellon. She joined the Oregon State faculty, where she focuses on environmental management and epidemiology.

In more academic news, Arthur Small recently began a stint as a visiting fellow at Cornell in the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, and Eli Kawon’s essay, “Beyond the Dark Ages: Modern Jewish Historians and Medieval Judaism,” was published in the Journal of the Interdisciplinary Study of Monotheistic Religions of Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan, in April. Eli is a regular blogger for The Jerusalem Post website.

The academic hits keep coming! Edward Bethel recently completed a Ph.D. at Concordia College. His work was titled “A Systematic Review of One-to-One Access to Laptop Computing in K-12 Classrooms: An Investigation of Factors That Influence Program Impact.” Well done! Edward, who is on the faculty of the College Of The Bahamas, also wrote that he spent his 50th birthday running his third Marathon in Bahama.

Impressive! Dan Bofft shared the story of how he celebrated a milestone: “I spent a 50th birthday weekend with my son, Peyton, and nephews, Derek Taylor and Brent Biggs, in five national parks and areas in south central Utah canyoneering, rappelling, hiking, backpacking and camping. We visited Capitol Reef National Park (Cassidy Arch); Grand-Steens Escalante National Monument’s Hurricane Wash — to access the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area’s Jacob Hamblin Arch, Cliff Arch and Coyote Gulch; Bryce Canyon National Park for sunrise, including the canyon trail loops and hoodoos; and Zion National Park’s Angels Landing for sunset. It was an amazing mara¬thon, spending time away with no access to wireless or mobile phone service. Nature at its best, and we shared lots of stories around the evening campsite, including some that my son now old enough to hear … but not all.

“Happy 50th to everyone in our class. Make it a memorable day, week or month.”

In career moves, Judy Kim now lives in London, where she is launching her derivatives consult¬ing company, Judy J. Kim (UK). I had hoped to see her when I was in London in May, presenting a paper at the first World Congress for Existential Therapy, but as always, Judy is working crazy hours.

Next time, Judy! Margaret McCarthy started in November as a research associate at the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research at Cornell. She continues to teach trial advocacy at Cornell Law and to maintain a private law practice representing children and indigent adults on appeal.

Michael Burke has joined New York Life as COO of the New York Life Foundation and as corporate VP in the corporate responsibility department. Michael is responsible for New York Life’s internal operations, including fiscal oversight, nonprofit oversight, vendor and project management, and general governance. We of the Class of ’87 are also incredibly well-rounded — we have a bounty of artistic as well as academic talents. Magaly Colimon-Christopher, who has appeared in countless episodes of the Law & Order franchise as well as on Guiding Light, recently released a short film that she wrote and directed. Her Tory deals with life and loss and healing, all topics near and dear: youtube.com/watch?v=ZVKT3Beeuutlc.

Andean nature and culture.

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Alumni Sons and Daughters

Sixty-one members of the College Class of 2019 and six members of the Engineering Class of 2019 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.

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* member of the Engineering Class of 2019  ° deceased
after three months. Shortly after this she decided to bake me the world’s most elaborate birthday cake — I think that it was finally ready to eat shortly before midnight on my birthday. She was delighted, in what turned out to be the last throw of the dice, to be involved in an experimental treatment pioneered by professor Steve Gill at Southmead. I think that the main reason she was so pleased to be involved was not so much that it could cure her — though that would be an obvious bonus — but that someone might learn something useful as a result. In October 2014, it became clear that no treatment would succeed, and Julia made arrangements to withdraw with her family, including her mother. Katherine. Julia died at home on January 15, 2015, surrounded by family, gracefully and in peace.

“I can see that I’ve let a lot out. No mention of chicken-rearing, experimental cider-making, her Boy Scout pack, business mentoring for The Prince’s Trust, the quest to write a popular business book based on actual research and actual science, and her tendency to go off and sleep in the woods for the night because she felt like it.

“Julia was a remarkable person who made a profound impression on a large number of people. She was passionate but calm, inspirational but politically rigorous, a brilliant planner and persuader who achieves results without managing in their less in time, all without her feeling that she ever really finished anything. She was interested in everything and everyone, and she was generous with her time and with her spirit. Given her generosity, she wouldn’t want to leave a hole in anyone’s life, she’d be much happier to be remembered by people asking themselves ‘What would Julia do?’ What would Julia say?’, or ‘What would Julia think?’ in the hope that they’d gain some benefit from it. I’d like to picture Julia where (except perhaps in the company of family and friends) I think she’d be happiest — in some vast library, researching a near-impossible problem and devising a practical plan to solve it to make the world a better place for all of us.”

Richard said Julia would appreciate it being noted that she was buried under a pear tree in a small orchard. May her memory be blessed.
help give the world a greater 20/20 vision, a greater clarity about how we got where we are and where we should go from here.

Ijeoma Achiogho Eje 95/94

left private practice in September 2014 to join Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville, N.C., as its first bariatric surgeon. She says it’s going great! The job isn’t scary but being the mom of a teenager (Chidera, 13) is. Ijeoma keeps in touch with Diann Nagler (née Morse), who lives on Long Island with her husband, Mike, and children, Emma and Alex. Diann has become more of a New Yorker than Ijeoma (who was born and raised there).

Diann, Ijeoma is still waiting for that move to North Carolina! Ijeoma would also like to reconnect with Stan McCloy, so if you are reading this, Stan, please phone home (or contact me).

Mark Ambrosino is the president and co-founder of Momstamp.com, a social recommendation platform where people share, search for and save word-of-mouth recommendations of everything from tutors to tile installers, piano teachers to podiatrists. Momstamp launched in Los Angeles in the spring and is expanding to other cities in the fall. Paulette’s four kids range in age from 11 to 17.

Mark Ambrosino is the president and co-founder of Sojourner Records as well as a professional drummer and producer who runs The Madhouse, a recording studio in Elmont, N.Y. I was lucky to catch him playing with one of his artists, Blessing Offor, at the Kennedy Center in July.

Theresa Rice was disappointed to have missed reunion after having so much fun at our 20th. She lives in Coral Gables, Fla, and after many years as a senior executive at global public relations agencies has launched her own strategic communications firm, Out Loud Communications Consultants (outoudc.com, @outloudce), a network of senior multilingual and multicultural professionals in corporate communications, marketing communications, crisis communications, public relations, government relations, litigation communications and associated disciplines. She explains that the firm lends its expertise to private- and public-sector clients around the world as well as provides institutional and client communications support to professional services companies like public relations, advertising agencies, and management consulting firms.

Dean Temple makes his debut appearance in this column. He says, “A film I wrote, produced and star in, The Naked Truth About Fairies, was an official selection of the 2015 St. Tropez International Film Festival, where it received four award nominations: Best Short, Jury Prize, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress. The film had its world premiere in May at the festival in Nice, France, which I attended with my co-producer. Although we didn’t win anything, I was pleased to spend time in Nice and visit with Ronnie Halpenny while I was there. Check out nakedtruthaboutfairies.com and facebook.com/thetruthaboutfairies.”

If you were at reunion and didn’t see your name in print here, there’s an easy fix to that. My email address is at the top of this column. Happy fall to all.

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2-5, 2016

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No news this year! Your classmates want to hear from you; send your updates to either the email address at the top of this column, or submit your news through CCT’s webform.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Have a terrific fall, and be well.

92 Olivier Knox
9602 Montauk Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20817
oknox9602@gmail.com

Hello there, Class of ’92ers!

On her way to London in late March, Wah Chen wrote that she spent a little time in Los Angeles with Randa Grob-Zakhary, Karl Cole-Friedman and Yoshie Maruyama. SEAS’92 at Eric’s crib, AKQA Getty House.” Yeah, I had to search online, too — that’s Hizzoner Eric Garcetti SIPA’93’s official residence.

“Randa was visiting from Switzerland with one of her Hanson-some sons,” Wah reports. George Kolombatovich ‘93, LAW’98 was on hand, which makes sense given that George’s Twitter profile lists him as “Deputy Counsel to Mayor De Blasio.” Side note: My Internet search for George turned up news from 2011 that his father, George Kolombatovich, retired as Columbia fencing coach after 33 years, and I was immediately transported to taking fencing for the gym requirement. #Disengage

Yours truly also received a long report from John Tullai — his first Class Notes submission — who tells this tale, which I’m reproducing pretty much in full:

“I was attending the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington, D.C., in November, 2014, and decided to look up my old friend, Olivier Knox. I don’t think I’ve seen him since our fifth reunion, but we have had an on-again, off-again Twitter relationship. He recently tweeted that he was being encouraged to run in the 2014 St. Tropez International Film Festival, where it received four award nominations: Best Short, Jury Prize, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress. The film had its world premiere in May at the festival in Nice, France, which I attended with my co-producer. Although we didn’t win anything, I was pleased to spend time in Nice and visit with Ronnie Halpenny while I was there. Check out nakedtruthaboutfairies.com and facebook.com/thetruthaboutfairies.”

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93 Betsy Gomperz
41 Day St.
Newton, MA 02466
Betsy.Gomperz@gmail.com

Classesmates: I love hearing from you and, when I don’t, I turn to social media. After a Facebook plea and some Instagram “likes,” I heard from Melissa de la Cruz-Johnston, who quite frankly looks like she’s having a lot of fun (I should say “like” a lot of her posts). Melissa told me that she’s “happy to share that my latest novel, The Isle of the Lost (which is a prequel to Descendants, a Disney Channel original movie), has been No. 1 on The New York Times bestseller list since its publication (going on 10 weeks [as I write this]). It is aimed at readers ages 6-12 and my daughter, Mattie Johnston (8), gave me critique notes while I was writing it. The next book in the series comes out next year. My sequel to East End was adapted into a television series and aired on the Lifetime network for two seasons; the show is now available on Netflix if anyone is curious! The young adult spinoff, Triple Moon: Summer on East End, comes out this November.

“My husband, Mike Johnston, is a fellow author and we run a creative content company called Spilled Ink, a book and television package. We live in Los Angeles and Palm Springs and recently had the pleasure of getting together with Gabriel Sandoval, a partner following a near-fatal hemorrhagic stroke in March 2012. She is doing amazingly well, and we are thankful for every day. We have plans in place to travel to Palm Springs, Hawaii and South Africa. Email me at jw49@columbia.edu if you are up our way; we’d love to catch up.”

Louise Dubin has a new CD, The Franchomme Project, a tribute to virtuoso cellist and composer Auguste Franchomme. The project is the culmination of years of Louise’s research on the French Romantic-era musician; she transcribed the cello quartets from Franchomme’s mostly unpublished manuscripts. Louise will be putting on two concerts in NYC to mark the CD’s release: Saturday, September 19, at John Street Church (44 John St.) and Sunday, September 27, at St. Paul’s Chapel/Trinity Church (209 Broadway).

That’s it for this edition of the CCT’92 Class Notes mailbag! Please send me your updates using the email address at the top of the column or the CCT webform.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. There are classmates who are wondering what you’ve become!
at a Pasadena-based law firm (Gabie left Columbia junior year for Stanford), and Jennie Kim as well as Jennie’s husband, Jason Harman, and their son, Jack (2). I also recently reconected with Amy Wilkins ’94 at Paris Photo. Amy is the director of an art book press in New York City and travels regularly to Europe for art fairs. Many fun Columbia memories were shared!

Alan Freeman also responded to my plea and shared that he is “practicing law as a partner at Blank Rome in Washington, D.C., but in my spare time I’ve been volunteering in a variety of roles at the Charles E. Smith Life Communities, which most people still know as the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington. We are the seventh largest, single-campus, not-for-profit senior living community in the country (comprising nursing, assisted and independent living) and in May I became chair-elect of the Board of Governors. Not sure what that says about the judgment of my fellow board members, but I love the work we do there and it’s good to know there will be a place there for my wife, Rachel, and me in 60 years or so! Beyond that, my days look a lot like many of yours — trying to keep up with the kids, but we got a break when they went off to camp for the summer. [As I write this, I was] looking forward to spending Alumni Weekend with Joel Usman BUS ’99 and his family in Connecticut.”

Outside of my social media outreach efforts, I was pleased to hear from Jacob Kramer GSAS ’98, who recently wrote a book, The New Freedom and the Radical Right: William Wilson, Progressive Views of Radicalism, and the Origins of Repressive Tolerance. Jacob was promoted to associate professor of history at Borough of Manhattan Community College in 2013.

Rachel Turitz shared a wonderful anecdote from Diego Holc and reports: “A couple of years ago, Diego and his wife moved to Cali, Colombia, and they enjoy their life there. Diego manages their personal care business for Technoquimicas. They welcomed their second son, Diego February; fortunately he is well behaving and has slept through the night since week nine. Their first son, Carlos, is not quite 3, is learning to swim and recently had his first music recital and horseback ride. Quite exciting.” Rachel also mentioned that she and Neil Turitz have begun brainstorming about plans for our 25th reunion.

Finally, it is the end of an era in Italy. Since moving to Rome in summer 1993, Jenny Hoffman has been a hostess to many classmates and friends from Columbia traveling through Europe, and in particular those visiting Italy (I visited her four times while she was there). But now she’s back in the U.S.A. with her family. Jenny works at the Washington, D.C., office of Astaldi, a global infrastructure company based in Rome. All Towle, Robyn Tuerk and I squeezed in one last memorable trip to visit Jenny in Rome in late May, which was as fun and wonderful as anyone could expect when four college friends are able to travel in a foreign country for vacation.

Please keep sending in updates!

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Congratulations to Jeremy Workman, who sent an update about his latest documentary film, Magical Universe. After a successful theatrical release last year and a number of film festival accolades, the film can now be found on Netflix and on DVD. It tells the story of Jeremy’s 10-year friendship with an octogenarian outsider artist in Maine. Jeremy writes that his “movie trailer and production company in New York, Wheelhouse Creative, continues to work on scores of indie films while producing several documentary films, including for ESPN’s 30 for 30 series.”

Congratulations also to Danny Franklin, who shared the happy news that he and his wife, Erica Gyer, welcomed daughter Anna Beatrice this February. I’m happy to report that as I slowly (very, very slowly, it seems — moving is much more overwhelming than I remembered) get my footing in the Chicago area, my family recently had the opportunity to get together over lunch with Elliot Regenstein, his wife, Emily Paster, and their son, Jamie. It was quite a delight to get to meet some of Elliot’s family, whom I’d heard so much about through the years. Elliot is SVP of advocacy and political strategy at the American Lung Association. Fund, a public-private partnership dedicated to providing all children with high-quality early childhood experiences, from birth to age 5. A bonus for me is that he could help me understand, at least a little, the political environment in Illinois, which I’ve found fairly baffling since moving here.

That’s it for this latest installment of “CC ’94: 21 years later.” Looking forward to your news, whether dramatic or quotidian, for next time. Don’t forget that you can email me at the address at the top of this column or via the CCT online submission form college.columbia.edu/ccc/submit_class_note.

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We are all still having a hard time believing that we graduated from college 20 years ago, so Alumni Reunion Weekend served as a nice chance to catch up.

I will be sprinkling in updates about our next few columns from classmates with whom I caught up at reunion, and after.

Up first is Rachel Klauber-Speiden, who sat at my table at the Saturday dinner with her husband, Josh Emison. Rachel, Josh and their children (Lucinda, 10, and Becket, 8) recently returned to the Big Apple after more than a decade of beach living in Santa Monica, Calif. They spent their first year back in Manhattan, but by September will be installed in Brooklyn for the foreseeable future.

Whitney Rowe lives in San Francisco, where she has been firmly planted for 12 years. She and her husband have a 6-year-old daughter, Fiona. Whitney is a fifth-grade teacher in a Spanish immersion public school in The Mission District. She’s also been driving since she moved there. She earned a graduate degree at Bank Street College of Education, a few blocks from the Columbia campus.

Kent Pierce JRN’96, one of my classmates from the J-School, is in his 16th year with WTNH-TV, the ABC affiliate in New Haven, Conn. “Folks in Connecticut can see me covering major (and sometimes minor) stories of the day, Monday-Friday, on Good Morning Connecticut,” Kent writes.

Patrick Belton writes that in 2008, he married Soo Koon Lee and moved to Shanghai, China. In 2009, they welcomed their first child, Patrick. He and his partner, Ken Wong, have a house in Prospect-Lefferts Gardens in Brooklyn.

Patrick Belton writes that he attended the University of Pittsburg and moved to New York City in 2010, where he was a research associate at the American Museum of Natural History. In 2011, he made a radical switch, starting school at SUNY Upstate Medical in Syracuse, alma mater of his wife, Melissa Morrone ’97, Jane Chew ’91 and Wei Chen Foo ’99, all in attendance.

After graduation, Patrick worked in finance and hedge funds, mainly in New York City. In fall 2011 he made a radical switch, starting school at SUNY Upstate Medical in Syracuse, alma mater of his wife, Melissa Morrone ’97, Jane Chew ’91 and Wei Chen Foo ’99, all in attendance.

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and Soo, and they would be happy to hear from fellow Lions in the area, in real life or on Facebook.

Malik Rashid recently hit his three-year mark at the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines. He writes that the experience has been amazing for both him and his family, but for personal reasons they are planning to move back to the Northeast. In anticipation of that happening fairly soon (and now that his daughter is old enough), Malik and his family will travel extensively in the region.

Hard to believe, but our 20th reunion is coming up next year (Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5), so save the date! And please keep the notes coming so that I don’t have to bombard you all with another desperate mass email plea. I leave you with this:

"Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken."

— Oscar Wilde

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Carrie Bass Mezvinsky and her husband, Scott, relocated to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., from Moscow for his job with Yum!Brands. They said they were in Russia for three eventful and adventure-filled years. While overseas, Carrie gave birth to their son, Beau Bass Mezvinsky, who turned 2 in July and is the light of their lives. Carrie writes that she recently had the pleasure of reconnecting with Zaharah Marke and Naveena Ponnusamy in Miami during Art Basel. Now that she is back in the United States, she says she looks forward to seeing more CC people soon.

Ayana Curry participated on the legal team that presented a groundbreaking case to the United States Supreme Court regarding the treatment of disabled citizens by the police pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The case was City and County of San Francisco v. Sheehan, which was decided May 18, 2015. Ayana writes, "This was an exhilarating and humbling experience for me, my husband, Rashaan Curry ’99, and our two sons.”

Oren Lerman has been named director of breast reconstruction at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan. He is an assistant clinical professor of plastic surgery at Lenox Hill as well as a new microsurgical breast fellowship. Oren lives with his wife, Sandy Schwartzberg-Lerman BC’99, in Englewood, N.J., with their twin sons, Solomon and Michael.

Joel Finkelstein is the director of strategic communications at Climate Advisers, a policy and politics consulting firm working to deliver a low-carbon economy. He has been active developing and executing campaigns to transform global agriculture, which have led to commitments from major commodity traders to end deforestation across supply chains. These efforts were profiled in The New York Times and in financial media around the world. Joel lives in Alexandria, Va., with his wife, two children and a growing unease about our political system’s ability to address global warming without structural reform.

Gabrielle Fulton’s film In/Reconcilable received its broadcast premiere on HBO. Her play Uprising premiered this summer at Horizon Theatre in Atlanta. Sadarias Harrell ’99 has been busy, with much success. He is an actor, singer and writer, and has worked on movies including Hot Pursuit (2015), Lee Daniels’ The Butler (2013), When the Game Stands Tall (2014) and Black or White (2014). He also released a popular music EP, Sadie.

Please send me your updates using the email address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. There are classmates who want to hear from you!

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It’s a column of baby news!

Congratulations are in order for Heath E. Stern (née Deejen) and her husband, Gabriel Stern, on the birth of their identical twin girls, Willow Edeline and Elowen Alissandra, born on a palindrome (5-15-15). Heath remembers fondly the nature vs. nurture debates from her classes and looks forward to formulating her own opinions from personal experience. The Sterns live in Pasadena, Calif., where Heath is a partner in a law firm specializing in legal services to banks.

There’s also baby news from Lori Meeks: "My husband, Jason Webb, and I are delighted to announce the birth of our son, Jupiter Patrick Webb. He was born on May 19 at 6:20 p.m." Lori and Jason are professors at the University of Southern California. She is an associate professor of religion and East Asian languages and cultures and he is an associate professor of comparative literature as well as associate director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture.

In work news, Lea Goldman was promoted to executive editor of Marie Claire in June. Before that, she was for three years the features and special projects director and also was the features director, deputy editor and features editor since starting at the publication in March 2008.

Congratulations, Lea!

On the homefront, Lea and her husband, Ofer Goldstein, have two sons, Ozzie and Rate. Lea also shared the following: In March, a bunch of Columbia friends met up at the Neil Diamond concert at the Barclays Center at the invitation of Megan Kearney to celebrate the life of her twin brother, James Kearney (a big Neil Diamond fan), who died in 2004. In addition to Megan and Lea, Hilton Marcus, Tom Sanford, Claudia DeSimio ’99, Amol Sarva and Joe Master were in attendance.

I’d love to hear from more of you! Please send your updates using the email address at the top of the column or the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson
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Hello, classmates! Fall is almost here, and we’re happy to report some impressive accomplishments as well as some additions to the Class of ’99’s extended family.

We were delighted to hear from Juliet Koczak, who caught us up with her life since 1999. Following some time traveling and working, she earned a master’s in architec-
From the Rhode Island School of Design. After getting married and having her first daughter, she headed back to her hometown to work! Beverly lives in Brooklyn and is balancing life underwriting counsel in January. Nationwide Title Agency as attorney at Kimmel Carter, which is "over the moon about the leadership she will bring to the firm," according to one source. She recently moved to the United Kingdom to join the firm's London office. She is the editor of our class' yearbook and has been running her own immigration law firm for almost a decade, the last three years with DC Prep, a charter management organization with five campuses in (and only in) Washington, D.C., where they serve about 1,300 students. They're preparing to open a campus in Anacostia, a neighborhood in D.C., where she will be the operations manager. Rhonda is excited to "connect with alumni about their work and personal injury law. "I mainly work with the Spanish-speaking community. Lucky for me, there are virtually no Spanish-speaking lawyers in Delaware," she says. "On the family front, my wife and I had our third child — a boy — on July 21 at 12:14 p.m. Cole Hudson Legum came in at 8 lbs., 1 oz. and 21 inches. We have a 6-year-old son, Dylan, and a 2½-year-old daughter, Taylor; both were excited to welcome their brother to the Legum family." 

Rhonda Henderson has been working in public education for almost a decade, the last three years with DC Prep, a charter management organization with five campuses in (and only in) Washington, D.C., where they serve about 1,300 students. They're preparing to open a campus in Anacostia, a neighborhood in D.C., where she will be the operations manager. Rhonda is excited to "connect with alumni about their work and personal injury law. "I mainly work with the Spanish-speaking community. Lucky for me, there are virtually no Spanish-speaking lawyers in Delaware," she says. "On the family front, my wife and I had our third child — a boy — on July 21 at 12:14 p.m. Cole Hudson Legum came in at 8 lbs., 1 oz. and 21 inches. We have a 6-year-old son, Dylan, and a 2½-year-old daughter, Taylor; both were excited to welcome their brother to the Legum family." 

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On April 18, David Epstein ’02 married Elizabeth Green (JRN’09 Spencer Fellow) in Warrington, Va. Front row, left to right: Jeff Novich JRN’04 (in beige), Andrew Edwards ’04, Will Boylan-Pett ’05, Delilah DiCrescenzo ’05, Scott Moncur ’04, the bride, the groom, Lee Kowitz ’04, Evan Zeisel ’02, Vincent Galgano ’04 and Sheila Casey. Back row, left to right: Darin Schroeder ’03 (with beard), Ryan Heath ’05, Martin Gehrke SEAS’06, Caryn Gehrke ’05 and Tommy Jager ’02.

Congratulations to Ethan and Nazanin! Katie Campion Land and her husband, Matt Land ’05, welcomed their second daughter, Daphne Rose, on April 4 at 11:29 p.m. in Tulsa. Daphne weighed 9 lbs., 7 oz. Katie, Matt and 25-month-old Nina Jane are thrilled that she’s finally here ... Class of 2037.

Congratulations to Katie and Matt! On June 14, Lauren Abraham Mahoney married Jared Safran. The wedding took place at the J.B. Fuqua Rooftop Pavilion with views of downtown Atlanta and, despite the heat, the evening was a lot of fun. In attendance were close friends and family, including Karen Silver ’04 (née Abraham), Lisa Marx GS’05 and Antonia Abraham LAW’08. The newlyweds are taking a "familymoon" with Lauren’s daughter to Vancouver, are taking a "familymoon" with Lauren’s daughter to Vancouver, and had a daughter, Caroline, in June 2014. David Epstein GSAS’04, JRN’04 married Elizabeth Green (’06 Harvard), who was also a Spencer Fellow in Education Reporting at the Journalism School in 2009. As always, I look forward to hearing from all of you. If you can send updates to soniah57@gmail.com or via college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Michael Novielli World City Apartments Attention Michael J. Novielli, A608 Block 10, No. 6 Jinhui Road, Chaoyang District Beijing, 100020, People’s Republic of China mjp29@columbia.edu

Summer seems to have been a busy time for our class; as the weather cools down, please take some time to send me an update. Robyn Schwartz writes, “[My husband,] Dan Hammerman ’02, and I have continued our travels, but hopefully will be staying put for the next few years! After another brief stint in Italy (preceded by three years in Texas, split between Houston and Fort Worth), we moved to Los Angeles this spring, where Dan works for Renzo Piano Building Workshop, focusing on the construction of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences’ Academy Museum. We are joined here by our dog, Aldo, and daughter, Elsa (2), who arrived four months before a certain chilly queen. I work with New York City-based nonprofits on various editorials and database projects and look forward to exploring additional opportunities in California. My cookie business, Fino a Fisco (launched when we were in Texas), likely won’t see another move, but stay tuned. We hope to (re)connect with L.A.-based alumni as we explore our new city.”

Gregory Vaca writes, “I recently moved back to New York from Río de Janeiro, assuming the role of managing director of acquisitions for Tishman Speyer, a global real estate PE firm. My wife, Maria Fernanda, and I live in Manhattan and look forward to (re)joining the CU community.”

Katie Rose Thomton is an assistant director of development / major gifts officer for the Redhawks at Miami University (Ohio). She writes, “We’re in the midst of an $80 million athletics campaign, which supports all varsity programs at Miami. I will be looking for a place to live in the Cincinnati area. I’m excited about this new opportunity in my career in college athletics.”

RSR Partners, a leading board and executive search firm, announced the appointment of Dany Berghoff as principal in the firm’s Sport Leadership Practice. With a wealth of experience in consulting for sports and entertainment organizations, Dany will play a key role in the firm’s business development and search executive efforts, where he will concurrently focus on traditional and emerging media ecosystems.

Peter Neofotis went to the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C., to perform his solo show, The Aristiss, which opened during the weekend of May 22.

Maxim Mayer-Cesiano married Kate Supnik last October at the Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles. Max writes, “When I’m not celebrating my marriage, I’m practicing corporate law in New York at Skadden, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions.”

While back in Beijing for work, I stopped by Bill Isler’s new baijiu bar, Capital Spirits. He’s already opened a second baijiu bar / distillery and he’s also working with his team on various consulting projects. Calvin Chen ’07, BUS’14 and Alex Yao ’05 also joined. I also caught up with Kat Don BC’03 at the opening of bar Mei in the Rosewood hotel in Beijing. Please drop me a line if your travels will bring you through either Singapore or Beijing. And, as always, don’t be shy about the updates.

Angelene Georgopoulos moved to 200 Water St., Apt. I711 New York, NY 10038 aeg90@columbia.edu

Hello CC’04! Let’s jump right into the news:

Janine Sutton has been living in Boston for a few years, working at EYP/Architecture & Engineering. In November 2014, she finished her seven requisite exams and became a registered architect. Christine Luu (and her dog) relocated from Memphis to Los Angeles last fall after she completed her federal judicial clerkship. Since then, she has been working in downtown Los Angeles at Kirkland & Ellis in its intellectual property litigation practice. Crystal Proenza recently moved from Miami back to the tri-state area, as she was promoted to director of public relations, U.S. and global marketing, for Colliers International. Katie Zien is entering her fourth year as an assistant professor in the English department at McGill, where she teaches theater and performance studies. She lives in Montreal and is writing a book about theater in the Panama Canal Zone. Emily Shin writes: “I’m finishing an orthopedic hand surgery fellowship and moving to Honolulu to work at Tripler Army
Maxim Mayer-Cesiano ’03 married Kate Supnik last October at the Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles. Present were, left to right: Andrei Schor SEAS’72, David Schor ’07, Marin Feldman ’02, Phil Bezanson ’01, Doug Kravitz ’05, Josh Salzman ’03, Caroline Kravitz ’05, Harry Layman ’02, the groom, the bride, Josh Rosenberg ’03, Bobbie Andelson ’03, Jennifer Phillips ’08, Cyrus Habib ’03, Evan Mayo-Wilson ’03, Viviana Beltrametti-Walker BC’03 and Garber Robinson ’05. Not pictured: Alice Abraham ’05.

June. They live in Seattle.

January 29. Tricia Bozyk Shemo James Lee SEAS’04, JP Chisholm will surpass 200,000 km soon! I’d however my career has taken me to have a little brother. Bradley 2-year-old, Charles, is thrilled Mack Alexander, on June 12. Their Michelle Neistadt to the world on Meredith, welcomed Chloe ’03 and me.

Vasarhelyi, Daniel Goldman, Turza Greer also works). Medical Center (where Lauren Turza Greer also works).

Congratulations go to G. Andrew Johnston, who married Robin Faulkner in Southampton, N.Y., in June. Helping the happy couple celebrate were Milidkos Vasarhelyi, Daniel Goldman, James Lee SEAS’04, JP Chisholm ’03 and me.

David Neistadt and his wife, Meredith, welcomed Chloe Michelle Neistadt to the world on January 29. Tricia Bosky Shemo her husband, Joseph Shemo, welcomed their second child, Mack Alexander, on June 12. Their 2-year-old, Charles, is thrilled to have a little brother. Bradley Weinstein and his wife, Sarah, welcomed their first son, Zeke Marias Weinstein, into the world this past June. They live in Seattle.

Congratulations to you all! Finally, Kent Sherman sent in an update from Fiji: “I look forward to sharing some of the exciting things that have been going on with me and my family [which includes my wife, Karol Petreshock BC’04 and our three children]. Our 6-year-old daughter definitely got her father’s height, as she is already over 5 ft. tall. We live on my native island, Fiji, however my career has taken me to some fantastic destinations all over the world. I love my job in the Ministry of Agriculture as the director of legume harvesting. Sufficient to say that I am keeping busy here on the island — my scooter will surpass 200,000 km soon! I’d love to visit with classmates if they find themselves in Fiji (though it’s often a destination for people on their honeymoons).”

Please keep the Class Notes coming! Send an email to aeg90@
columbia.edu or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/
cct/submit_class_note.

Until next time!

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My big news is that I was married on June 19 to James David Lee of San Francisco. I’m going to use that as an excuse for having done a poor job of collecting submissions for this column. In light of that, I thought the least I could do is share the scoop on the lovely Columbians who wed at our wedding.

Michael Yates Crowley was the officiant. He’s officiated quite a few Columbia weddings during recent years, though this was his first on a farm in West Virginia. When he’s not orchestrating major life events for his friends, he’s writing plays and fiction in Brooklyn. You can catch his company, Wolf 359, at the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Mass., in October.

Aashti Bhartia ’06 made her way to West Virginia from Delhi, India, earning her the distinction of farthest distance traveled. She runs both a restaurant (The Coast Café) and an online fashion retailer, Ogaan, in Delhi, and is always an amazing host to Columbians passing through.

Josh Hadro is the deputy director of NYPL Labs, the team working to reformat and reposition the New York Public Library for the Internet age. Word on the street is that he gives a great library tour.

Sutton Kiplinger ’04 joined us from Boston, where she is dedicating her talents to her role as Greater Boston regional director at The Food Project, a youth development organization.

There was a strong San Francisco contingent, including Rob Meyerhoff ’06, who recently made us very happy by heading west after more than 10 years in New York City; Ted Summe SEAS’06, who is a San Francisco social maven with a startup named Discoverly that helps users get more out of their social networks; Laura Goode ’06, who writes the column “Antithorines” for Bright Ideas Magazine, where she is also a contributing editor; Pat Cushing SEAS’06, who runs WorkHands, a professional network for workers in the skilled trades; Elizabeth Dwoskin JRN’09, who covers big data for The Wall Street Journal and is a serious yogi; and Vanessa Carr, who in addition to being a documentary cinematographer introduced me to my new husband via an email with the subject line, “Connection is Perfection.”

Until recently, Justin Hulog ’06 and Ramsey McClazer would have been on this list, but they’ve just made exciting moves beyond the Bay. Justin is now in Portland, Ore., where by all accounts he is loving life and his job at Say Media, and Ramsey earned a Ph.D. in comparative literature from UC Berkeley in May and is a Pembroke Center Postdoctoral Fellow at Brown.

There is a space for your news in this column even if you weren’t at my wedding. Please email me with your latest and greatest at claire.mcdonnell@gmail.com and your update will be in a future issue!

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Vanessa Scott vs2470@columbia.edu 212-851-9148 DEVELOPMENT Sarah Fan sf26100@columbia.edu 212-851-7833 Michelle Oh Sing 9 N 9th St., Unit 401 Philadelphia, PA 19107 mo2057@columbia.edu

Here are some updates from our classmates:

After two years as an organic farmer and two more as an investigative reporter for the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson, Emily Bregel is returning to her hometown of Baltimore, where she will be the real estate and economic development reporter for the Baltimore Business Journal. Emily is also the proud aunt of Piper (5) and Tener (1), and is thrilled to finally live closer to the kids and the rest of her family.

Seth Anziska GSAS’15 earned a Ph.D. in history in May and will be a lecturer (assistant professor) in Jewish-Muslim relations, with a focus on Israeli and Palestinian society and culture, at University College London starting this fall.

Jacob Rubin writes, “Hard to believe it’s been a year since I got married, with Chris Belz, Matt Del Guzzo, Jimmy Mark and Rod Salguero among the groomsmen. Since then, I’ve been working on the Bay Area investing for Lonestar Capital Management and have moved to the ‘burbs like an old person. Those groomsmen have been busy, too: Rod got married in June (congrats!), Chris is working on an album with his accordion, Jimmy has surprisingly taken up skateboarding and Matt might start a business focused on security (password protection emphasis). Go Columbia!”

Neeta Makhija and Nithya Nagella met in Hindi class as freshmen and now, 13 years later, are finishing their residency in ob/gyn together at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Woohoo! A reminder: next spring will mark the 10th anniversary of our graduation. Whoops! While I think the reminder is a note of how old we’re getting, I’m already looking forward to Alumni Reunion Weekend.

Until then, wishing you the best, and please send news! You can use the email address at the top of the column or the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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Thank you so much to everyone who submitted notes! It’s nice to see all of the updates our classmates are up to. Love is in the air for CC’07 ...

Tina Wadhwa is happy to announce that she married Christopher Charles Dods in a multi-day Indian/English wedding celebration in Tuscany in June. Tina continues to live in London with her husband. Stacey Hirsh SEAS’06, Sydney Spector ’06 and Kate Cederbaum ’06 were in attendance.

Lenora Babb Plimpton writes, “I married John Plimpton on May 30 in Sundance, Utah. In attendance were Suzanne Hopcroft Roszak and her husband, Jonny Roszak ’05 and Kori Estrada and her husband, John Estrada SEAS’07. My husband and I [planned to] move to Denver this...”
August, where I’ll start a judicial clerkship with Judge Justice Nancy Rice [of the Colorado Supreme Court]. I’m looking forward to connecting with Columbians in the Denver area!

And on June 20, Benjamin Baker married Elise Herbruger. The ceremony was performed in St. Paul’s Chapel and the reception was held in Faculty House. Among the grooms were Bryan Mochizuki and Jacob Olson. Also in attendance were Ben’s father, Daniel Baker ’76; sister, Sarah Baker ’10; and friends Aaron Bruker, Arvind Kadaba and Kylie Davis.

And many classmates are starting exciting new professional chapters...

Anna Nathan shares, “I recently graduated from residency in OB/GYN at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and started as an attending physician at Hackensack University Medical Center in New Jersey.”

James Mahon writes, “So excited to have recently graduated with my Ph.D. from Harvard! Accepted a position with Deloitte and [was planning to] move to Cobb Hill, Bronx, in July. Looking forward to catching up with all the Columbia folks still in New York!”

Josie Raymond (née Swin-dler) shares, “I’ve finally moved home to Louisville, Ky., with my husband, Ilya.”

Since 2011, I’ve been the busy gallery director of Arts Westchester in White Plains, N.Y. In March, the gallery opened Redbeard Bikes in Brooklyn, which is owned by Kasia Nikhamina and her husband, Ilya.”

David Greenhouse lives in London and recently started as an implementation consultant for AppNexus, a company that provides technology solutions to the digital advertising industry.

Julia Kite writes, “I am the new policy and research manager at Transportation Alternatives, a nonprofit dedicated to safer streets in New York City. I’m looking forward to helping make New York a better place to walk, cycle and otherwise get around without a car, and to putting my nerdy obsession with all things urban to good use. If you’re looking to cycle in the city, wholeheartedly recommend Red Bead Bikes in Brooklyn, which is owned by Kasia Nikhamina and her husband, Ilya.”

Kathleen Reckling shares, “This was a pretty fantastic year! Since 2011, I’ve been the busy gallery director of ArtsWestchester in White Plains, N.Y. In March I opened ‘Crossing Borders: Memory and Heritage in a New America,’ an exhibition of artwork responding to the contemporary immigrant experience. As curator, I was proud the exhibition won a federal grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and was featured in a fabulous full-page spread in The New York Times. I’m excited to share that I was recognized as a 914INC. ‘Wunderkind’ for 2015 — one of 22 professionals under 30 who are making significant contributions to the business climate of Westchester County. And one final exciting announcement: My next curatorial project, ‘SHE: Deconstructing Female Identity,’ was also awarded a significant grant from the NEA. The show opens in March 2016; I hope to see any NYC-area alumni there!”

Beatrice Lee ’09 and Victor Chiang SEAS’09 were married last October at St. Paul’s Chapel. Left to right: Wilson Li, Pik Yee Lai, Peter Fung, Andrea Chan SEAS’09, Phillip Foo, Katherine Zhang ’09, Steven Mon SEAS’09, Pamela Sundelacruz SEAS’09, the bride and the groom.

When we graduated, only one state in the country recognized same-sex couples’ freedom to marry. Now, seven years later, the Supreme Court confirmed what many of us believed all along: that every American seeking the freedom to marry the person he or she loves deserves equal dignity in the eyes of the law.

Andy Schlesinger is proud to have been working for the ACLU (which was co-counsel in two of the four marriage cases that reached the Supreme Court) on decision day, and he wants to share his joy with all his fellow LGBT alumni who can finally choose to marry (or not marry!) whomever the heck they want, wherever they want. David Henry Gerson recently earned an M.F.A. in directing from the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. He says, “My thesis film at AFI was in some way the completion of my thesis from Columbia!”

Congrats, David!

JD Stettin recently moved to Dallas to start a commercial real estate investment firm with his brothers, Jesse. They relocated from their lifelong home of New York City in order to be central to their coast-to-coast investments and investors. JD loves commercial real estate and investment, and is always happy to talk with fellow Columbians. If you can’t make it to Dallas for a tour of his latest office building in Dallas Arts District, you can call (971-502-0615) or email (jdstettin@carmgiecp.com) him anytime — though it is Central Standard Time these days.

Jonathan Basile created an online version of Jorge Luis Borges’ Library of Babel (libraryofbabel.info). It contains every possible permutation of a page of text of 3,200 characters. Thus, it is a collection of everything that ever has been or could be written, including this message. And it’s searchable. In total, there are about 10^4677 410-page books on 640x416 pixel canvases (Babel Image Archives: babelia.libraryofbabel.info). It contains portraits of every person who ever lived at every moment in his or her life, digitized versions of every work of art ever created, even those lost to history, as well as every work of art that ever could be created, and photographs of your own birth, wedding and funeral. It contains 10^961755 images.

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Beatrice Lee and Victor Chiang SEAS’09 were married in October 2014 at St. Paul’s Chapel. The couple began dating during their junior year of college and got engaged on the six-year anniversary of their first date. They were able to celebrate their joyous day with many friends from Columbia, including Steven Mon SEAS’09, Katherine Zhang, Pamela Sundelacruz SEAS’09 and Andrea Chan SEAS’09.

Michael Accordion ’07 and Lauren Accordion welcomed their first child, Maximus “Max” Joshua, on April 23. They are hoping he joins the Class of 2033.

On May 8, Clark Koury surprised his girlfriend of three years, Christy Polanco, by proposing during sunset on the beach in Carmel, Calif. She said yes! (An under-
couple and pooch packed their car to the brim and drove cross-country to the golden shores of El Lay, where they hope to live a more sandy and serene existence.

After six years of investment banking at Barclays Capital and Credit Suisse in NYC, David Alade moved to Detroit in late May. There he joined his best bud, Andrew Colomb ’05, to work on a company they founded last year, Century Partners. Their mission is to facilitate holistic community revitalization primarily through three channels:

1. sustainable residential housing development and property management;
2. grass-roots community outreach and advocacy; and
3. core competency development and empowerment through the arts.

In the summer 2014, David fell in love with the energetic biking community within Detroit and began financially investing in its neighborhoods. For more information on how to get involved in what David calls the most rapidly evolving — but accessible — urban space in the USA, shoot a note to david@centurypartners.org.

In July, Winston Christie-Blick planned to pedal his way across Europe in July as part of the Transcontinental bike race. Alongside 200 other participants, he planned to attempt to find the fastest route crossing 2,500 miles from Brussels, Belgium, to the gates of an Ottoman fortress in Istanbul. Show your support and change a life by contributing to Winston’s World Bicycle Relief campaign: teamwbr.worldbicyclerelief.org/winstorcb.
set in while I was at my bachelor party in Colorado. I woke up with swollen eyes and looked like what Floyd Mayweather Jr should have looked like after a fight, with Manny Pacquiao. Despite this setback, I had an epic Memorial Day weekend with a group of guys that I'm fortunate enough to call brothers. We tore through Denver like a Kansas tornado and found our way to Breckenridge, where we met nature and all its wonders. “Briefly after, I landed in New York City for the Class of 2010 reunion. These were my takeaways from the reunion:

“1. It’s great to be a nerd among a sea of nerds.

“2. Names came back quicker than I thought they would, and there were a lot of people who, even though I hadn’t kept in touch with them or seen them during the last five years, it was genuinely super cool to see who they are now and hear what they have been up to.

“3. The weather in New York could not have been any better for our brief time there. It made me very nostalgic for all the wonderful times that I had there.

“4. I met a Beyonce-like angel that the ice melted and I found myself engaged at 26. Love conquers all.

“9. Reunion was a special thing. Approximately 2,000 kids graduated with our class, and whether or not we knew everyone, we all brushed shoulders, crossed paths and walked on the same campus for four years — some of the most influential years of my life. We grew up together around some of the smartest, most distinguished and coolest kids in the world. We weren’t the traditional type of cool, but we had edge. We got to live in New York as 18-year-olds and explore a gangly beast of a city in the prime of our youth. I grew up in college, went from being a shy, bashful kid to an adult who could speak up and for himself. I learned about God, truth and that the fear of sounding stupid is totally irrational. I learned about privilege, about how people who you consider friends who you can truly count on for anything. I learned how to get by, how to struggle, how to pass tests and cram and I learned that that’s not the way to do it. I’m not the only one who learned these lessons and some people said different ones but we all did it on the same campus and it’s because of the people we came across. I loved my time there and wouldn’t trade it in for anything.

“Now, my wedding? What a beautiful day that went by too quickly. I had three groomsmen from Columbia — Justin Leung ’09, Zak Ringlestein ’08 and Varun Gulaif SEAS'10. We had our wedding on a farm in Winters, Calif., just a 1/4-hour drive from San Francisco. I was nervous, but our lives were in attendance. We had a Ferris wheel, and it was the most magical night of my life to date. My wife (can’t believe I’m calling her that) walked out to a Lord of the Rings song played by a string trio, we kissed on the aforementioned Ferris wheel, walked through a lavender field, danced with our parents and were lifted up onto our friends’ shoulders as ‘Forever Young’ played and our guests charted ‘House of Yim.’ It was truly a special day that I spent two days recovering from.

Lots of love and thanks to our family and friends who made our day a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I have never felt so much love. Check out photos on Instagram; hashtag #peaceandyims.

“The opportunity to pay it forward.

“10. I realized that there is an ever-evolving, ever-shifting thing. That’s why, if you’ve ever had braces, you need to wear your retainers. If you don’t, your teeth start to shift again. And you can never stop wearing retainers because your mouth is always changing. People are like that; we’re constantly changing.

“3. I’m going to butcher this, but my dentist told me that your mouth/teeth/gums are an ever-evolving, ever-shifting thing. That’s why, if you’ve ever had braces, you need to wear your retainers. If you don’t, your teeth start to shift again. And you can never stop wearing retainers because your mouth is always changing. People are like that; we’re constantly changing.

“4. The importance of finding a good partner is to make sure the person you’re putting on your teeth is one that’s going to make your smile look great (this metaphor isn’t perfect). But if you’re all messed up, a wreck on the inside, then the retainer itself is no good and you’ll just mess that up, too. My point is, find a lady/guy who is good to you, who makes you better and fortifies you. Also make sure that you’re not too selfish, self-centered and messed up; otherwise, you’re no good either. Once you do find him/her, hold onto him/her for the rest of your life.

“Finally, I give this all up to the man upstairs, who made life and love possible. Even when I forget and live the hedonistic life, I know in my heart of hearts that I couldn’t live and believe in humanity without believing that we needed to be saved and that someone who thought the universe of us had to do it. Lebron isn’t the King. That’s my homeboy, Jesus.

“REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Vanessa Scott vs2470@columbia.edu 212-851-9148 DEVELOPMENT Sarah Fan sf2610@columbia.edu 212-851-7833 Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell c/o CCT Colombia Alumni Center 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530 New York, NY 10025 nurielm@gmail.com sean.udell@gmail.com

It continues to be a pleasure to hear about all the successes four years out from graduation! When we aren’t writing these columns, your class correspondents have been hard at work in their respective medical endeavors. Nuriel is taking a year off from medical school at Stanford to learn more about policy development and Sean recently joined the Class of 2019 at Penn Med. If you’re visiting California’s Bay Area or Philadelphia, please drop one of us a line! We’d love to say hello.

Many of our classmates report new beginnings at this stage in their careers. Kara Bess McCaleb started a job with Goldman Sachs within its business architecture and change management subdivision. Specifically, she will work with its industrialization team to drive the adoption of global core competencies meant to bring greater efficiency and risk management capabilities to the operations division.

Michelle Yuan left the banking life at J.P. Morgan in Hong Kong for her dream startup: the Asia Wedding Network Ltd. (asiaweddingnetwork.com). It’s a platform for newly engaged couples to plan their wedding, connect with vendors and get expert advice on planning a wedding in Asia.

On the other side of the pond, Sam Beck and his wife, Louise Beck (née Stewart), have been living in London while Sam completes his Ph.D. and Louise is an objects conservator at the Science Museum. They planned to move back to the United States in August; Louise was to start graduate school at Johns Hopkins, doing research into the aging and preservation of 3-D printed materials. Sam will be writing up his Ph.D. and be an adjunct professor while applying for postdoc spots.

Matthew Stewart recently started graduate school at Tufts in occupational therapy (O.T.). He has been working in psychiatric rehabilitation since graduation from Columbia, where he was a counselor in a mental health and substance abuse day program in East Harlem. He hopes that studying O.T. will help him improve his skills as a mental health worker. He will also develop a new set of rehabilitative cognitive skills that will enable him to assist other populations with their day-to-day needs.

Past class correspondent Colin Sullivan recently left his role in business development at The Huffington Post and completed a spring internship at Starwood Hotels and Resorts before starting an M.B.A. at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management this fall. Prior to journeying to Illinois in late summer, Colin planned to spend July and August traveling through the Far East and Europe with Cindy Pan ’12. This past spring, he
run the Brooklyn Half Marathon with Akhil Mehta SEAS’11 and enjoyed catching up with fellow alumni and friends at the 2015 Young Alumni Spring Benefit. After eight years in New York City and being a consultant after graduation, Jessica Schwartz also planned to move to Chicago in August to attend the Kellogg School of Management. Jessica is looking forward to getting her M.B.A., alongside a few other Columbia 2011 alums. Prior to starting grad school, Jessica planned to travel in Japan and Taiwan.

Neil Pearlman is in his fourth year of living in the Boston area and touring the country (and sometimes farther afield) as a Celtic/jazz musician, both freelance and with his band, Alba’s Edge, which also features Doug Berns ’10 on bass and Neil’s sister, Lilly Pearlman BC ’14, on fiddle. This year the band released its debut album, Rent to Fly, produced by world-renowned Scottish fiddle player and composer Aidan O’Rourke. Aidan has been a lifelong musical hero of Neil’s, so it was a major milestone both personally and professionally. They’re very excited about the resulting recording, they said.

After graduation, Kasey Koopmans moved to Kathmandu, Nepal, to work with Save the Children through a Princeton in Asia fellowship. After a year there, she moved to Yangon, Myanmar, for a position with a local NGO via Princeton in Asia. When that wrapped up, she found a job in market and industrial research that kept her in Yangon up until a few months ago. Kasey packed her bags in April and dragged them back stateside. She planned to hike the Pacific Crest Trail for five months, with no idea what her life will hold at the end. Follow her on her blog, The Importance of Elsewhere: kaseykoopmans.wordpress.com.

Shira Schindel is engaged to Ron Gejman ’10! They met on campus in 2007. They’ve also tons of graduation notes to note! Ana Bobadilla recently graduated from an M.B.A. program at IESE Business School in Barcelona. She says it was great fun in an awesome city and looks forward to joining a rotational program with Citi (Latin American CITIZens Management Associate Program), where she will travel around Latin America for the next two years.

Zila Reyes Acosta-Grimes LAW ’15 will start at Debevoise & Plimpton this fall. Nicole Cata graduated with a J.D. from The George Washington University Law School and with an M.A. from the Elliott School of International Affairs. In September, she will start as a judicial law clerk for the U.S. Department of Justice’s Executive Office for Immigration Review in New York. She also recently attended Women’s Power to Stop War’s WILPF 2015 Conference, hosted by the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom in The Hague, and helped facilitate roundtable discussions about feminist peace activism on university campuses.

Alexandra Coronillas PS ’15 moved to Boston to start an internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. In Los Angeles, Taylor Tomczyzsyn recently received a master’s in urban planning from USC. Taylor continues her work as the director of national programs for CBS EcoMedia, and is engaged to be married in fall 2016.

Kyle Robinson graduated from the University of Florida’s College of Medicine with honors and matched into plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Tennessee at Memphis. He recently became engaged to Sarah Carey, whom he met in medical school and who will be a pediatrics resident at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. They are tying the knot in November 2016, in Miami.

And, of course, many Columbians continue to make positive changes in the world without making major changes in their own lives. Dhruv Vasishtha has begun a smoothie obsession, typically buying healthful ingredients at his local farmers market. He makes the treats in his Ninja Professional Blender every morning, when you can still hear his soul screaming.

Tania de Daniel recently celebrated her one-year anniversary as a pathologist office assistant at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. She supports a team of clinicians and researchers who are working to shed light on the varied tumor morphology that presents in the gastrointestinal tract, driving toward personalized medicine and cancer treatment for G.I., primary and metastatic tumors. Excitingly, she added that she planned to take a reunion trip to Thailand this past summer with other Columbians, including Luwam Kidane ’12, Katherine Klymko and Zawadi Baharanyi. Their friendship dates back to living in Carman on the mezzanine floor as freshmen. The annual trip started with an alternative Spring Break in New Orleans and, each year since, they’ve made time to reconnect and go on an adventure. Thailand will be their furthest stop yet.

Pretty awesome. Joey Shemuel works on the social work team at an HIV clinic in San Francisco, is taking prerequisite courses to apply to public health programs, lives in a “silly” co-op in Oakland and is happily dating a geographer.

Ben Kurland and Raphael Pope-Sussman went to India this past summer to celebrate Nilkanth Patel SEAS’11’s wedding. Dino Grandoni was supposed to come but applied for the visa too late. See the nearby photo for other attendees!

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Class of 2012, we have lots to celebrate with many graduations, new jobs and even an engagement on Low Steps!

Last Thanksgiving, Max Banaszak proposed to Gina Ng (University College London ’11, NYU ’13) on Low Steps. The two celebrated at Dinosaur Bar-B-Que with Jason Alford, Morgan Fletcher, Anshit Nayar, Theo Bachbaum ’14 and Ayelit Evrony ’13. Max writes, “The rest of John Jay 12 was there in spirit!”

After graduation, Max taught English in the rural countryside of Yunnan province, China, for two years, then worked in finance in Hong Kong. As of this past August, he moved to Singapore to be with Gina. There, he works in the Southeast Asian physical commodities business.

On May 15, Sarah Engle graduated from Georgetown with an M.A. in security studies. Also graduating this past May, Carolyn Matos Montes earned a J.D. from Cornell Law along with Jordan Koba ’10, Russell Kostelak ’11 and Jessica Flores ’10. Carolyn writes that she is glad to have survived the three brutally cold winters in Ithaca.

Former roommates Ben Kurland ’11, Raphael Pope-Sussman ’11 and Nilkanth Patel SEAS’11 met in Delhi, India, for Patel’s August 2014 wedding. Left to right: Anna Arons BC ’10, Alexandra Katz BC ’11, Patel, Kurland, Larisa Sunderland and Pope-Sussman.
Congrats to all the graduates!

Paul Hsiao spent the summer going to various tech events with Emily Ahn, going to Cape Cod and visiting Sonal Bothra in Seattle. Paul sends best wishes to Chuck Roberts, who is in law school (he writes, “Who’s going to rock bowties now?”), and welcomes Alex Harstrick back to New York from his training with the U.S. Army Reserve. Paul also entertains James Tyson, who is spending several years in Washington, D.C., as a fellow for the Brookings Institution, to come back to New York (his note included #drafttyson).

After living and teaching in Seoul, South Korea, Jenn Leyva moved to Brooklyn in August to teach seventh-grade science. She says that she is looking forward to pizzas, bagels and plus-size shopping in Brooklyn.

Yin Yin Lu completed her first year as a D.Phil. (Ph.D.) student at the Oxford Internet Institute and Balliol College. Her thesis is on the rhetoric of hashtag campaigns. Outside of academia, she has been actively involved in Oxford’s entrepreneur ecosystem and in May and June participated in the Venture Idea Exploration Workshop at Said Business School. The event culminated on June 12 with her pitch to the audience and investors for Hashnovel, a new media publishing platform that visualizes crowdsourced stories as branching trees. She writes, “If you’re intrigued, find out more (and see the demo) at hashnovel.com. It will potentially be a new genre of literature.”

Aditya Mukerjee shared an exciting update: “The Columbia collection never ends!” After a three-month retreat at the Recurse Center (founded by Nicholas Berenson-Shulock SEAS'08 and David Albert SEAS'09), Aditya is excited to be starting work at Stripe, a startup that enables businesses to accept and manage online payments. He’s joining Dan Weinstein, Pierre Gergis and even his next-door neighbor from Shapiro 3 — Nathan Bailey! Stripe is headquartered in San Francisco but Aditya will be staying in NYC and will work remotely.

The Recurse Center, based in SoHo, is “a free, self-directed, educational retreat for people who want to get better at programming, whether they’ve been coding for three decades or three months.” Aditya used it as a sabbatical and a chance to work on his personal projects without any distractions.

Sarah Ngü is a freelance writer, primarily producing thought leadership businesses and leaders. She lives in South Slope, Brooklyn, with Carolyn Ruvkun ’13, whom she met through Nightline, Columbia/Barnard’s student-run hotline.

Since graduation, Cristina “Cha” Ramos has appeared in numerous plays around New York City (including a staged reading of her own full-length, original play), a few short films, a couple of internationally televised dance performances and a spoken word piece or two (one in front of thousands at Madison Square Garden!). She decided to pursue training in stage combat and is now certified with recommendation from the Society of American Fight Directors in three combat disciplines. She’s also taken on an administrative role at The Boston Consulting Group and says she loves the people. She is still happily living in New York City with her percussionist/entrepreneur brother, Javier Ramos ’11, and four other professional musicians.

Thanks for all the awesome submissions, and keep them coming because I know I’m not the only one who enjoys hearing our classmates’ news!
**Obituaries**

**1939**

Ohio State University '39, retired dentist, Harveys Lake, Pa., on May 26, 2015. Born in Larksville, Pa., on May 15, 1918, Siegal was the son of Josephine Adamczyk and Walter Szczegiel. He was a football star at Larksville H.S. and later excelled with the Lions. Pairing up with Sid Luckman '39, Siegal was named All American in 1937. He was drafted with the Bears in 1939 and played five consecutive seasons, during which time the Bears won three World Championships. At the time of his passing, Siegal was the oldest living Chicago Bear and the third oldest living NFL player. While playing for the Bears, he attended Northwestern's Dental School. In 1944, Siegal served as a lieutenant in the Navy. In 1946, he declined an offer to return to the NFL and opened a dental practice in Plymouth, Pa. Siegal moved full-time to his summer residence at Harveys Lake in 1963 and retired from his dental practice in 1986. He was an avid sports enthusiast, gardener and golfer. Siegal and his wife, the former Emily Ann Klimkevich, celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary before her 2009 death. Siegal is survived by his children Tara Ann Cortes and John W. Jr. '77; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a daughter, Cheryl Lee Javer, in 2011.

**1942**

William R. Carey, reinsurer, Allendale, N.J., on July 3, 2014. Carey served actively in alumni and Class of 1942 affairs, where he held numerous leadership positions, including class president, and was recognized with a number of alumni achievement awards. As a supporter of the Columbia football team, Carey, who earned a degree from the Business School in 1942, and his wife, Hertha Birner Carey, were fixtures at Baker Field and never gave up believing in a bright future for the Lions. One special moment was a surprise 80th birthday party thrown by his children under a tent at Baker Field prior to a home football game in 2000. Carey completed his 80th birthday weekend by riding the Cyclone roller coaster at Coney Island three consecutive times. Among his many philanthropic activities was to fund the British Isles tour for the Columbia Lions Rugby Club in the ‘80s. He and his wife, who predeceased him, were proud of the six College alumni in their family. Carey is survived by three children, including William R. Jr. '69, and their spouses; 21 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

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**Don M. Mankiewicz ’42, Film and Television Writer, Novelist**

Don M. Mankiewicz ’42, an Academy Award-nominated screenwriter and novelist, died on April 25, 2015, in Monrovia, Calif. He was 93.

The son of Herman J. Mankiewicz (Class of 1917), co-writer of Citizen Kane, and the nephew of Joseph L. Mankiewicz ’28, a writer and director of films including All About Eve and Julius Caesar, Mankiewicz was born on January 20, 1922, in Berlin, where his father was a foreign correspondent for The Chicago Tribune. He grew up and attended high school in Beverly Hills. Mankiewicz enrolled at the Law School but left to join the Army; he served in military intelligence in France, Belgium and Germany.

Mankiewicz published his first story in The New Yorker in 1945, thereafter joining the magazine as a staff writer. He wrote his first novel, See How They Run, in 1950. His second, Trial, was published in 1954 and made into a movie in 1955 starring Glenn Ford and Dorothy McGuire. That same year the novel garnered him the Harper Prize. In 1966, he published his third novel, the semi-autobiographical It Only Hurts a Minute, which analyzes his poker skills, said to be considerable.

In 1957, Mankiewicz was assigned to adapt F. Scott Fitzgerald’s The Last Tycoon for the CBS television series Playhouse 90, which produced weekly 90-minute dramas. His script for the 1958 film I Want to Live! was loosely based on the true story of Barbara Graham, a prostitute wrongly convicted of murder and put to death in California’s gas chamber in 1955. Mankiewicz received an Academy Award nomination for the screenplay, an adaptation of Graham’s letters and the newspaper coverage of her execution.

Mankiewicz also wrote the pilot episodes for the successful television series Ironside, in 1967, about a paraplegic detective, starring Raymond Burr, and the medical drama Marcus Welby, M.D., in 1969, starring Robert Young. Mankiewicz contributed later episodes to both. Between 1950 and 1986, he wrote or co-wrote approximately 70 television episodes. These included a first-season episode of Star Trek, titled “Court Martial”; episodes of MacGyver, Mannix, McMillan & Wife and Simon & Simon; and the 1964–65 NBC series Profiles in Courage, adapted from President John F. Kennedy’s book.

While living on Long Island, Mankiewicz was drawn to local Democratic Party politics and union activism. In 1952, he lost a race for a New York State Assembly seat but remained active in local and state politics for years. In 1966, he ran as an at-large delegate to the state constitution convention, outpolling one of New York’s biggest vote-getters, Sen. Jacob K. Javits, a Republican. As a member of the Writers Guild of America, Mankiewicz helped to gain union representation for quiz-show writers.

Mankiewicz returned to California in the early 1970s. He is survived by his second wife, the former Carol Bell, whom he married in 1972; their adopted daughters, Jan Diaz and Sandy Perez; his children, John and Jane, from his first marriage to Ilene Korsen; and four grandchildren. Mankiewicz was predeceased last October by his younger brother, Frank, a top aide to presidential candidates George McGovern and Robert F. Kennedy as well as the president of NPR from 1977 to 1983.

Karl Daum ’15 and Lisa Palladino
OBITUARIES

1944

Robert A. Shanley, professor emeritus, Springfield, Mass., on November 1, 2014. Shanley was born on June 1, 1922, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He served during WWII with the Army in the occupation duty at Okinawa, 1945–46. Shanley earned an M.A. in political science from GSAS in 1949 and a Ph.D. from Georgetown. While attending Georgetown, he held positions in the Documents Division, U.S. Congress, and later was a research assistant with U.S. Air Corps Intelligence. Shanley taught political science at Detroit and at Oglethorpe, then was a research director for the Joint Civic Agencies, in Springfield, Mass. He later was assistant director of the Bureau of Governmental Research at UMass. Shanley’s 32 years of teaching and research focused on the American presidency, as well as environmental and energy politics and policies; his research focus was presidential executive orders. After retiring in 1994, Shanley volunteered for several causes; he assisted immigrants in passing their citizenship exams, read aloud to Springfield fourth graders, and worked with Meals on Wheels and Rachel’s Table. Shanley was predeceased by his wife, Charlotte Belenky Shanley; and brother, James V. He is survived by his cousin, Walter Strohmeyer; and nephew, Neil Belenky.

1946

Donald C. Adrian, retired ob/gyn, Liberty, N.Y., on March 26, 2014.

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for college alumni. Deaths noted in the next available issue in the “Other Deaths Reported” box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors’ discretion. Click “Contact Us” at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1948 David N. Brainin, attorney, New York City, on June 13, 2015.
Robert E. Colwell, advertising agency founder and owner, Old Tappan, N.J., on March 2, 2015.
Joseph A. Mangano, retired physician, Raleigh, N.C., on November 7, 2014.
Kenneth H. Milford, retired publishing executive, flutist, New York City, on July 18, 2015.
George T. Rozos, professor emeritus of philosophy, Brooklyn, N.Y., on July 1, 2015.
Matthew Rosenshine, retired university professor, State College, Pa., on June 11, 2015.
Elliot J. Brebner, Bridgewater, N.J., on November 10, 2014.
Jay W. Seeman, attorney, New York City, on June 23, 2015.
George F. Fickieisen, Santa Ana, Calif., on November 18, 2014.
Charles A. Goldstein, art restitution attorney, New York City, on July 30, 2015.
George P. Spelios, Bayside, N.Y., on June 24, 2015.
Barry H. Leeds, retired English professor, Bristol, Conn., on April 15, 2015.
Robert A. Levy, retired professor of architecture, Syracuse, N.Y., on December 28, 2014.
Jeffrey A. Newman, litigator, Bronx, N.Y., on March 17, 2015.

Born on June 30, 1926, in New Jersey, Adrian was a member of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Liberty, a 65-year member of the Rising Sun Lodge No. 15 F&A/M in Haddonfield, N.J., and a Navy veteran. Survivors include his wife, Charlotte Belenky Shanley; and brother, James V. He is survived by his cousin, Walter Strohmeyer; nieces, Gloria Rothman and Susan Haskell; and nephew, Neil Belenky.

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Robert A. Shanley, professor emeritus, Springfield, Mass., on November 1, 2014. Shanley was born on June 1, 1922, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He served during WWII with the Army in the occupation duty at Okinawa, 1945–46. Shanley earned an M.A. in political science from GSAS in 1949 and a Ph.D. from Georgetown. While attending Georgetown, he held positions in the Documents Division, U.S. Congress, and later was a research assistant with U.S. Air Corps Intelligence. Shanley taught political science at Detroit and at Oglethorpe, then was a research director for the Joint Civic Agencies, in Springfield, Mass. He later was assistant director of the Bureau of Governmental Research at UMass. Shanley’s 32 years of teaching and research focused on the American presidency, as well as environmental and energy politics and policies; his research focus was presidential executive orders. After retiring in 1994, Shanley volunteered for several causes; he assisted immigrants in passing their citizenship exams, read aloud to Springfield fourth graders, and worked with Meals on Wheels and Rachel’s Table. Shanley was predeceased by his wife, Charlotte Belenky Shanley; and brother, James V. He is survived by his cousin, Walter Strohmeyer; nieces, Gloria Rothman and Susan Haskell; and nephew, Neil Belenky.

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Alfred P. Rubin, retired professor, Belmont, Mass., on November 30, 2014. Rubin was a professor of public international law at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts from 1973 to 2002. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on October 13, 1931, he graduated from Stuyvesant H.S. and earned a J.D. from the Law School in 1957. His studies were interrupted by service in the Navy, from 1952 to 1955. While at Columbia, Rubin was a nationally ranked foil fencer. He attended Jesus College, Cambridge University (England), and earned an M.Litt. While at Cambridge, he met his wife, Susanne (née Frowein); they married in 1960. Rubin began his career in 1961 as an attorney in the legal department of the Department of Defense, advancing to director of trade control in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense. In 1967, he accepted an appointment to Oregon Law, where he taught until his appointment to Fletcher in 1973. There, in 1993, he was selected as the first recipient of the James L. Paddock Cup for teaching excellence. Rubin authored the books Ethics and Authority in International Law; The Law of Piracy; The International Personality of the Malay Peninsula; and Piracy, Paramilitary, and Protectorates in addition to articles, notes and reviews. He is survived by his wife as well as his children, Conrad, Anna and Naomi, five grandchildren, and brother, Sander.

Otto H. Olsen, professor emeritus, Gainesville, Fla., on December 4, 2014. A first-generation Norwegian-American, Olsen grew up in Schenectady, N.Y. As a young man he served in the U.S. Merchant Marine, licensed to pilot any ship

Otto H. Olsen '57

1957
Andrew D. Hyman ’88, Healthcare Advocate

Andrew D. Hyman ’88, a government official, healthcare advocate and philanthropic leader, died on February 24, 2015. He was 49 and lived in Princeton, N.J.

Hyman was born on January 21, 1966, and grew up in Englewood, N.J. He graduated from Horace Mann H.S., majored in history at the College and graduated from Fordham Law in 1991, after which he joined Bill Clinton’s first presidential campaign. Hyman served in the Clinton administration for eight years, first as special assistant to the general counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services, headed by Secretary Donna Shalala, and later as the HHS assistant secretary for intergovernmental affairs. From 1998 to 2001, Hyman was the deputy director and then director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at HHS, serving as Shalala’s liaison to state, local and tribal governments. His work at HHS also included efforts to combat tobacco use, implement the Children’s Health Insurance Program and advise the secretary on Medicaid.

Hyman next served as director of government relations and legislative counsel for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, which represents the public mental health systems in every state. In that role, he sought to advance policies that secure positive health outcomes and full community participation for individuals with mental disorders.

In 2006, Hyman joined the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where he worked with policy experts, researchers and advocates to help state and national policymakers to enact and implement policies designed to expand coverage. He also worked with the foundation’s staff to develop a strategy and design programs to address violence and its impact on children and families, with a particular focus on mental health.

Hyman’s passion was ensuring that everyone in America, especially the poor and the underserved, has the coverage necessary to access high quality health care — physical, behavioral or both. He worked tirelessly to create the State Health Reform Assistance Network to help states implement the coverage provisions of the health care law.

Hyman also made sure that consumer advocates had seats at the tables where decisions are made. To that aim, he helped establish Consumer Voices for Coverage, a national program designed to strengthen the role consumer advocates play in state health reform efforts. A committed board member of HITOPS, a Princeton-based organization promoting the health and well-being of young people through prevention, education and support groups, Hyman also was active in several philanthropic and Jewish organizations.

Hyman’s family and good friends are raising an endowment to create nonprofit and government internship opportunities for students. If you have comments or questions regarding participation, contact Jim McMenamin, senior associate dean for Columbia College development and senior director for principal gifts: 212-851-7965 or jtm2@columbia.edu.

Hyman is survived by his children, Lily and Nathaniel; parents, Valerie and Dr. Allen Hyman ’55; brothers, Joshua ’85, PS’90 and his wife, Eliza; and Jonathan and his wife, Susan, and their families; and former wife, Molly Chrein.

A memorial is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, at 4 p.m. in the P&S Alumni Auditorium, 650 W. 168th St., First Fl. Shalala is scheduled to speak.

Lisa Palladino

Correction

The Summer 2015 obituary for Donald R. Pevney ’54 was missing some information for his survivors. His brother, Bruce, is a member of the Class of 1962; his daughter Donna Masterson is a member of the Barnard Class of 1982 and the Law School Class of 1985; and her husband, John Masterson, is a member of the Class of 1953. In addition, Pevney’s years of service in the Navy were incorrect; they were 1954–63. CCT apologizes for the errors.

Danielle Forlano Galluccio, and her husband, Doug; sister, Diane C.; four grandchildren; and many cousins. He was, until the moment of his passing, a proud patriot and fiercely proud Marine officer. Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior Project (woundedwarriorproject.org) or to Water Missions International (my.watermissions.org/donate).

David S. Chessler, retired economist, Waltham, Mass., on November 19, 2014. Born on March 16, 1942, in Brooklyn, N.Y., Chessler graduated from Thomas Jefferson H.S. and earned two degrees in economics from Columbia: a bachelor’s and a Ph.D. (GSAS, 1974). After his academic career, Chessler worked for the FCC and later ran his own consulting company. A lifelong learner who was passionate about reading, Chessler also loved the outdoors and was active in the Boys Scouts of America as a leader for many years. He enjoyed camping trips with his family and summer vacations to Orr’s Island, Maine. Chessler also enjoyed cooking for his family and friends, and never met a home improvement challenge he couldn’t master. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Christiane (née Larbaletier); son, Marc, and his wife, Amy; daughter, Anne-Danielle Gierahn, and her husband, Todd; brother, Michael, and his wife, Heinke Forotta; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia College Fund (college.columbia.edu/alumni/give/ways) or Good Shepherd Community Care (hospital) of Newton, Mass.
Alumni Corner (Continued from page 88)

was slain in 1804 at 47 (maybe 49) in a pistol duel in New Jersey by Vice President Aaron Burr; it pretty much closed the book on whatever unlikely chances he had to become our nation’s chief executive.

But in his all-too-short life, Hamilton’s achievements were assuredly on par with other achievements of Founding Fathers who ascended to the presidency. After all, he served bravely as an artillery captain at the Battle of Trenton and later as a general and close confidante to Washington during the American Revolution.

In addition to being the first Treasury secretary, Hamilton also created our central banking system, is credited with the establishment of Wall Street and its stock exchanges, founded the Federalist Party, campaigned successfully for the adoption of the Constitution, fought against slavery, wrote the original announcement or a more recent decision that warrants explanation and consideration beyond the convenience of timing.

Others are with me — notably a grassroots organization called “Women on 20s,” which has been campaigning for a woman to replace Jackson on the $20 bill since late last winter. This solution also was endorsed by The New York Times in a July 4 editorial. However, as things stand now, Hamilton won’t keep his star billing on the sawbuck while “Old Hickory” continues in undiminished glory on the $20 bill since late last winter. This announcement in 2013 that the 10-spot was up for redesign, nothing was said about taking aim at Hamilton. That makes it either an odd omission from the original announcement or a more recent decision that warrants explanation and consideration beyond the convenience of timing.

So now comes Treasury, ready to ax its founder in favor of a deserving woman — perhaps Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks or Eleanor Roosevelt. Featuring a woman on our paper money for the first time in almost 1½ centuries is a commendable idea and needs to be done. But at Hamilton’s expense? For shame!

A better target would be Andrew Jackson, whose portrait is on the $20 bill and whose track record includes the Trail of Tears that evicted Native Americans from their ancestral lands, along with making a tidy little profit from slave trading. Jackson reportedly kept hundreds of slaves at his Hermitage plantation near Nashville.) He deserves to go, not Hamilton.

Treasury Secretary Jack Lew (who ironically holds the post created by Hamilton) says that the $10 bill has been slated for an anti-counterfeiting redesign for some time and, as part of the process, an opportunity arose to honor a deserving woman with the central portrait while still recognizing Hamilton in some undetermined way. But when Treasury made the announcement in 2013 that the 10-spot was up for redesign, nothing was said about taking aim at Hamilton. That makes it either an odd omission from the original announcement or a more recent decision that warrants explanation and consideration beyond the convenience of timing.

Bob Orkand ’58 entered with the Class of 1954 and graduated while serving in the Army. He retired as a lieutenant colonel of infantry, from Knight-Ridder Newspapers as president and publisher of the Centre Daily Times in State College, Pa.; and as a high school teacher in Texas. He writes a weekly opinion column for his local paper, The Huntsville (Texas) Item, where an earlier version of this article appeared; it is reprinted and adapted with the Item’s permission.
Alumni Corner

Who Needs Change for a $10 Bill?

By Bob Orkand '58

I graduated from a college in Manhattan that a wag once described as a seat of learning nine blocks south of the Apollo Theater in Harlem.

Arriving for class at Columbia each morning a few minutes before 9, I’d pass a bronze statue of Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) that stood 14 ft. tall mounted on a formidable pedestal in front of the academic and administrative building bearing his name and where many of my classes took place.

I think he frowned more than once at the sophomoric casualness with which I was under-applying myself to what should have been a quality educational experience. After all, my professors were some of the greats in their fields, namely Mark Van Doren GSAS'21, Lionel Trilling ‘25, GSAS’38 and Jacques Barzun ‘27, GSAS’32 as well as lesser-known but equally brilliant scholars and teachers such as Charles Everett GSAS’32, Richard Chase, Quentin Anderson ‘37, GSAS’53 and George Nobbe.

At my tender age, I lacked the maturity to recognize and appreciate the wisdom and depth of knowledge to which I was being exposed and, for my troubles, ended up during my senior year receiving a “greeting” and calling from my “friends and neighbors” on the local draft board to undergo a different type of educational experience with a large nonprofit organization known as the United States Army.

After I’d been commissioned and had served the first of what would be three duty tours in Asia, Uncle Sam allowed me to return to Columbia (at my own expense, of course) to complete the final semester I needed to qualify for my B.A.

As I returned to Hamilton Hall after a four-year absence, I was convinced the statue out front looked down at me — still holding, apparently, the same sheaf of papers in his left hand and striking his chest with his right — as if to say, “See, smarty pants, if you hadn’t been so lazy and unappreciative of what was being offered, you might by now have risen to become an English instructor in this very building, instead of needing eight whole years to earn your B.A.”

As you can see, my relationship with Hamilton is a close, personal one that goes back many years, and I’m one of those who’s aghast at the recent and misguided initiative by the Treasury Department (which Hamilton founded in 1789, for heaven’s sake) to more or less bump him off our $10 bill.

The statue celebrates one of Columbia’s earliest students, who became one of our nation’s Founding Fathers. Hamilton, in fact, might very well have been one of our early Presidents except for accidents of birth and death.

He was born in 1755 (maybe 1757) in the British West Indies, the illegitimate progeny of a married woman and her wealthy paramour, but despite his many qualifications was rendered ineligible at birth for the U.S. presidency because he wasn’t a natural-born citizen. This was stipulated by Article II, Section 1 of the very Constitution he was instrumental in getting adopted. And when he

(Continued on page 87)
Name That Coach

Al Bagnoli, the Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football, is the 20th man to lead the Lions since the team first played intercollegiate football in 1870 (albeit for the first 29 years, Columbia did not see the need for a football coach). Test your knowledge of Columbia's gridiron leaders.

1. Who was Columbia's first head football coach?
2. What coach holds the records for most games coached and most wins in Columbia history?
3. Who coached the Lions from 1974 to 1979 and later served as chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees?
4. Aside from Lou Little, who coached the Lions from 1930 to 1956, two other men coached Columbia for more than 10 seasons. Name them.
6. What former Columbia head coach is now the assistant head coach/running backs coach at Rutgers?
7. He coached the Lions for 14 seasons, including their last two winning campaigns (1994 and 1996). Name him.
8. Who coached at Columbia in 1985 and is the father of the current head coach of the Dallas Cowboys?
9. Who was Columbia's coach during the official first season of the Ivy League in 1956?
10. What coach holds the best winning percentage in Columbia history?

Answers on page 87.
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college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2016
THE JOY OF LOOKING

PROFESSOR ROBERT HARRIST JR. DELIGHTS IN STUDY OF ART IN ALL ITS FORMS
Reinvigorating CCT

Columbia College Today is changing. The CCT staff has spent much time during the past two years examining every aspect of the magazine, from content to design to distribution, trying to ensure that the publication we create for you, our readers, is fresher, more inviting, more contemporary and more engaging. The new CCT remains a work in progress, but with this issue we are proud to unveil a new look that you can see on every page, from the CCT nameplate on our cover, to new page designs and graphic treatments, to a cleaner look for Class Notes.

This redesign is CCT's first in nearly two decades. There have been changes and tweaks along the way, to be sure, but never an overhaul. To borrow from The New York Times when it unveiled its redesigned magazine, "We have used the hammer and the tongs but perhaps not the blowtorch; we sought to manufacture a magazine that would be unusual, surprising and original but not wholly unfamiliar. It would be a clear descendant of its line." We are proud of what CCT has done so well through the years in connecting our readers to one another and to the College, and we wanted to retain the best of the past, supplement it with the product of new thinking and new ideas, and present it all in a way that would appeal to readers of all ages.

Take our new nameplate, for example. We're still Columbia College Today, but we on the staff have always called the magazine by its initials and we want you to feel as friendly with it and as close to it as we do. We were wowed when we saw the acronym approach, and we hope you will react the same way.

To lay the groundwork for this redesign, we conducted readership surveys to ascertain what you like about the publication and where you would like to see improvement, in content as well as in presentation. On a parallel track, we conducted an intensive study of other alumni magazines, not only from Ivy League schools but also from colleges and universities throughout the country. We looked beyond academia, too, to publications of other nonprofits such as museums and foundations, and to commercial magazines that have survived, and in many cases, have thrived in recent years. All of this was done to help inform rather than dictate our thinking about what we wanted CCT to be, not just in print but also online (an updated CCT website will be coming in 2016). And of course we also took a critical look at our own magazine, its strengths and weaknesses, what areas we felt were working well and where improvement was needed.

To be clear, we're talking about more than packaging. We looked at every element of our magazine with a discerning eye, asking not only how best we could present something but also whether it was still worth presenting or whether the space could be put to better use. Simply put, are we giving you what you want to read? Publishing a first-class magazine is an expensive and time-consuming effort, but it is worth it when we connect with you, our readers, and when we connect you with fellow alumni and with the College.

And survey results confirm that CCT is connecting with the vast majority of you. In two surveys conducted during the past three years, the majority of respondents indicated CCT was their primary source for news and information about Columbia College. Nearly all said they read all four issues each year, and 60 percent said they spent 30 minutes or more with each issue. Class Notes was rated the most compelling section by the most respondents, with articles about alumni achievements, student life, history/traditions and the Core Curriculum also getting high marks. When asked about print versus online distribution, 90 percent of respondents in our most recent survey said they wanted to receive a print edition of CCT—a number made all the more remarkable by its coming in response to an electronic survey.

With that mandate, we set about the work of renewing and reinvigorating CCT. In recent issues, you may have noticed increased coverages of students, faculty and academics (especially the Core), and more graphic, eye-catching story treatments. That was dipping our toes in the water; with this issue we dive all the way in, with significant changes throughout the magazine in the design, organization and presentation of features, news items, columns and departments. We've also added new elements, such as "Heard on Campus," which chronicles just a few of the amazing speakers who come to campus each quarter, and "Did You Know?" which highlights a fun and interesting Columbia fact.

Recently, we made the difficult decision to change designers, believing that fresh eyes and a new perspective were needed to help us achieve what we seek. All of us on the CCT team thank and acknowledge the hard work and creative efforts of our previous art director, Linda Gates, of Gates Sisters Studio, who has been a part of the CCT family for more than two decades and done yeoman work throughout that time. Linda and her sisters Kathleen Gates and Susan Gates became more than trusted colleagues through the years; they were valued friends.

Joining the CCT family as art director is Eson Chan. Eson is an award-winning designer who worked for 10 years with Columbia magazine; his other credits include the alumni magazines of Brandeis and Northeastern as well as Columbia Medicine and Columbia Nursing. In the last few months Eson has become an integral member of our team, participating in our weekly planning meetings, offering suggestions and bringing a different perspective to what we do. Eson's ideas can be seen throughout this issue, with more to come.

We hope you are as excited as we are with the launch of this new chapter in CCT's life. Let us know what you think; cct@columbia.edu.

Alex Sachare '71
Editor in Chief
The Joy of Looking

Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS'81 delights in the study of art in all its forms.

By Shira Boss '93, JRN'97, SIPA'98

Making Her Mark

NYC Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 advocates for the underserved.

By Jonathan Lemire '01

Dual Identity

Michael Oren ’77, SIPA’78 bridges the American-Israeli divide.

By Eugene L. Meyer '64

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   - Q&A on The Year of Lear with James Shapiro '77
   - More on St. Patrick's Cathedral's restoration

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Letters to the Editor

President Hamilton?

Being both a College grad and a resident of Hamilton County, Ohio, I am interested in Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). I found an error in the Fall 2015 “Alumni Corner” by Bob Orkand ’58. He states that, due to his birth in the West Indies, Hamilton was ineligible to be President. That is not really true. Article 2, Section 1, Clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution states: “No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.”

Hamilton truly was a citizen at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, so he would have been eligible (even had he not supplied his long-form State of Hawaii birth certificate).

As an aside, several, including this article’s author, think that instead of replacing Hamilton on the $10 bill we should replace Andrew Jackson on the $20 bill. As a College grad I have an affection for Hamilton but I am also a graduate of Andrew Jackson H.S., so I shall remain neutral.

Barry Austern ’63
Cincinnati

In his brief essay on Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) and the $10 bill (“Alumni Corner,” Fall 2015), Bob Orkand ’58 repeats a common error regarding Hamilton and his eligibility to run for President. Article 2, Section 1, Clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution clearly says: “No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of the Constitution is eligible for the presidency. Or is he claiming Hamilton served in the Revolution as Washington’s chief aide, and as secretary of the Treasury, while being a foreigner?

I find it suspicious that the current secretary of the Treasury wants to remove a firm opponent of slavery, who founded New York’s first anti-slavery society, while leaving intact three slaveholders (Washington, $1 bill; Jefferson, $2 bill; Jackson, $20 bill). Jackson in particular should be removed as a probable bigamist, scorner of Supreme Court rulings and initiator of genocide.

Thomas Wm. Hamilton ’60
Staten Island, N.Y.

Contact Us

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not CCT, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and CCT style. Please direct letters for publication “to the editor” via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.

Editors note: CCT reached out to Columbia faculty for clarification and received the following from Herb Sloan, professor emeritus at Barnard, whose teaching interests are history of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, and the history of American law, including the Constitution:

“Hamilton was definitely eligible to serve as President under the ‘citizen at the time of the adoption of the Constitution’ rule. (You might note that all of the presidents before Van Buren were born British subjects and were not natural-born citizens.) I cannot tell you precisely how he became a citizen of New York, but I assume it was by virtue of being there at the time—which is how he and everyone else became U.S. citizens under the Constitution … there was no formal process, no paperwork, etc.”

Don’t Stop the Music

Great to read about the wonderful piano stylist Dick Hyman ’48 [CC’48 Class Notes, Fall 2015], who continues to pack them in at concerts in the United States, Canada and everywhere. I knew Dick as the composer for the Varsity Show, April 1946. I was part of the all-male chorus line — after daily rowing practice on the Harlem River (I was coxswain at 115 lbs.). Tell Dick
to keep it up, make more fingers snap and make more records!

Dr. Joseph P. Rumage '47
Kenner, La.

Putting Names to Faces

The Fall 2015 issue, page 49, features a photo with the caption “New students mingle on Low Steps in 1957.” Fourteen freshmen (wearing freshman beanies) are shown with an older gentleman in a dark suit.

Who are these anonymous students? All freshmen in the Class of 1961, presumably. Of the five students sitting in the first row, I can identify three for certain. Second from the right is Alvin Schifrin ’61, in the middle next to him is David Blicker ’61 and next to Dave and second from left is Matthew Chamlin ’61, BUS ’64 — that’s me! Some of the other faces look vaguely familiar but I haven’t a clue as to who they are.

Alvin was a roommate of mine and I believe still practices law in California. Dave passed away in 2012 and his life and untimely death were noted in CCT (college.columbia.edu/cct/fall13/obituaries). After graduating from the Business School, I was president of nine consumer product companies and am now retired. My only connection with Columbia these days is occasionally auditing courses at the Business School and attending lectures and other events at the Harriman Institute.

I don’t recall ever seeing this picture before and dating from what was probably our first week of our freshman year in 1957, it is a bit of an historical relic. Nice to see it!

I wonder what other treasures from Columbia’s past are stored in the University Archives?

Matt Chamlin ’61, BUS ’64
New York City

Teddy Roosevelt’s View

I was enjoying Adam Van Doren ’84, GSAPP ’89’s “The House Tells the Story” (“Columbia Forum,” Fall 2015) until the fatal moment the author stepped onto the back porch and experienced its sweeping view of the Hudson River. Had he been describing FDR’s home at Hyde Park, all would have been well. Alas, he was writing about TR’s beloved Sagamore Hill, firmly anchored above Oyster Bay, Long Island Sound. This geographical absurdity had passed neutrino-like through the scrutiny of historian David McCullough, the editors of David B. Godine, Publishers, and ultimately the editors of CCT. I conjure the ghosts of Van Doren’s distinguished ancestors, Carl (Class of 1911 GSAS) and Mark GSAS ’21, who would caution the House of Intellect is vulnerable as was the fabled kingdom of old to perishing for want of a horseshoe nail.

Tony O’Keefe ‘59
Port Chester, N.Y.

Editor’s note: Van Doren reports that the error has been corrected in the book’s second edition, which recently went to press.

Correction

A photo of students in the Spectator office (Summer 2015, page 57) was incorrectly captioned. The students are, left to right: Dr. Larry Gartner ’54; Lawrence Kobrin ’54, LAW ’57; Dr. Larry Scharer ’54, PS ’58; Judah Berger ’54; and Michael R. Naver ’54. All were members of the 1953–54 Spectator managing board. Board members not pictured included Charles Selinske ’54; Bernd Brecher ’54, JRN ’55; and Richard Werksman ’54, LAW ’58. CCT apologizes for the error, and thanks Kobrin and Naver for bringing it to our attention.

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Message from the Dean

Expanding Opportunities for Our Students

This past summer, my son Colin GS’17 took Art Humanities and Music Humanities at Reid Hall in Paris. Colin and his classmates, 18 Columbia College and fellow GS students, spent six weeks studying the great composers and artists — as they are studied by every Columbia College student — but with the special addition of visiting important monuments and museums, and seeing performances, in Paris and the surrounding region.

This was the first summer that the College offered Art Hum and Music Hum together in Paris, and the first year we offered any part of the Core Curriculum abroad (beginning with individual Art Hum and Music Hum classes during the Spring 2015 semester). Colin and his classmates were lucky to have the opportunity to study with two of our most renowned faculty: Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS’81, one of the leading scholars on Chinese painting and calligraphy, who is profiled in this issue, and Susan Boynton, an expert on both liturgy and music in medieval Western monasticism, and music and childhood. And the students were able to extend their coursework beyond the classroom, from the collections at the Louvre to Monet’s home in Giverny.

Expanding opportunities within the Core and beyond Morningside Heights, as we have with our new Reid Hall program, are two goals of Core to Commencement, the campaign we launched on November 20. Core to Commencement aims to strengthen what I think can justifiably be called the world’s greatest undergraduate experience by bringing the students who can best contribute to and profit from the unique College experience to campus; by supporting the great scholars who teach, advise and mentor our students; by increasing opportunities beyond the classroom through internships, research projects, fellowships and global experiences; by sustaining our unique Core; and by maintaining the financial aid that makes a Columbia College education accessible to so many.

Our goal as an institution is to prepare students for a future world that they do not know and cannot conceive. We need to teach students to communicate and work with people who hold opinions different from their own, to adapt to unfamiliar circumstances, to navigate complex situations. We need to offer guidance for how to build what Plato called “the Good Life.” These are skills that students gain through the Core, as they delve into great works of literature, philosophy, music and art, and connect with their own beliefs and those of their classmates. These are skills that they gain when faced with new challenges beyond the classroom, while conducting research, working on internships or studying abroad.

This campaign will ensure the vitality of the Core Curriculum, the one formative experience that has been shared by all students and alumni of the College for nearly a century. It will expand that experience and replenish the academic departments that make it all possible, and it will provide opportunities for our students, alumni and faculty to connect and learn in new and imaginative ways. It will allow us to keep the Core true to what it always has been, while allowing the College to continue to adapt to a changing world and prepare our students for the unknown and the unanticipated.

To do all of this, we are depending on you, our committed alumni, parents and friends. This year, you relaunched Columbia College Women, you provided internships and mentoring through the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program and you gave nearly $3.8 million on Columbia Giving Day, topping the leaderboard for the fourth consecutive year. Columbia College continues to attract outstanding students and faculty and to rank with the best institutions in the world. The College is part of a great university, renewed by the Columbia Campaign, the network of Global Centers and the new Manhattanville campus. Our global profile is rising, with faculty and students winning international awards and propelling scholarship around the world. And our alumni engagement and support is accelerating, with the Columbia College Alumni Association’s strategic plan to drive it.

This is the College’s moment, and we are relying on you to support our future. I hope you will visit college.columbia.edu/campaign to learn more about our campaign, about our values and about our commitment to our students, our faculty and our education. And I hope you will continue to help us build the best undergraduate experience for our students.

James J. Valenti
Dean
College Launches Core to Commencement Campaign

Columbia College has launched Core to Commencement, the first-ever fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to Columbia College. With a goal of raising $400 million, the campaign is defined by five central aims that together will enhance the College experience:

- endowing the Core Curriculum;
- supporting students;
- supporting faculty;
- growing the Columbia College Fund; and
- strengthening community.

Core to Commencement was publicly launched with a special event in Low Rotunda on November 20; the campaign is scheduled to run through the Core’s centennial, in 2019.

The campaign expresses a comprehensive vision for the College’s future. It seeks to capitalize on the opportunities that are inherent in the College’s unique educational experience, especially the Core, and also created by its position within the University and in New York City. It includes priorities as varied as evolving the Core through the use of innovative technologies; offering all students at least one funded summer internship, research fellowship or global experience; and increasing support for faculty and their scholarship, including endowed professorships that attract and honor the best faculty. The College Fund will be reinforced as the College’s essential ongoing source of the funds needed to assure its continuing excellence. And connections among students, parents, faculty and alumni will be strengthened through increased mentorships, internships, intellectual programming and volunteer opportunities, among other things.

“I often say that Columbia College is the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world,” says Dean James J. Valentini. “The Core to Commencement campaign is a commitment to sustaining this greatness for our students and the faculty who teach them. I am excited about this endeavor, which will ensure the future vitality of the Core Curriculum, the formative experience shared by all students and alumni of the College, while also expanding our students’ experience and strengthening the academic departments that make it all possible.”

The launch event featured Tony Kushner ’78, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes, in conversation with Lisa L. Carnoy ’89, University trustee and campaign co-chair. Also speaking were President Lee C. Bollinger; University Trustee Jonathan S. Lavine ’88; Meredith Kirk ’12; Julie Crawford, the Mark Van Doren Professor of Humanities and chair of Literature Humanities; and Valentini.

“This endeavor will ensure the vitality of the Core Curriculum while expanding students’ experience and strengthening the academic departments that make it all possible.” — Dean James J. Valentini

The campaign’s details and progress can be found at college.columbia.edu/campaign. Among other things, the website will feature articles about Columbians of all kinds—students, professors, alumni and more—speaking to the impact the College has had on their personal and professional lives.

Columbia Honors Alumni Leaders

The 11th annual Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend took place October 9–10 on campus. Sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association and featuring interactive sessions, an Alumni Leaders Luncheon and the annual Alumni Medalists Gala, the event brought together volunteers from all Columbia schools.

Two College alumni were honored during the weekend. Left, at Saturday’s luncheon, University Trustee Kyriakos Tsakopoulos ’93 presented Carlos A. Cuevas ’05, SIPA’12, PH’12 with The Richard E. Witten ’75CC Award for Volunteer Leadership, and right, later that day at the College session, Dean James J. Valentini presented Michael Cook ’65 the 2015 President’s Cup, for leadership during his 50th reunion.
Giving Day by The Numbers

The fourth annual Columbia Giving Day was held on October 21 and, for the fourth consecutive year, the College topped the charts with the most funds raised — more than $3.76 million from the grand total of more than $12.78 million. Alumni, students, parents, friends, faculty and staff participated in the 24-hour donation marathon, with University trustees generously funding matching bonuses for various challenges. Some facts and figures from the results:

$12,788,367
Total raised University-wide

$3,760,834
Total raised by the College

13,090
Total gifts to the University

1,666
Total gifts to the College

$671,936
Increase in funds given to the College, as compared to 2014

$5,000
Bonus earned by the College for winning a parent gift challenge

32.6
Percent of total University-wide funds given by College-affiliated donors; for having the highest percentage, the College received a $65,181 bonus (double the percentage of money raised)

Climate change is a reality and not to address it is gross negligence by government and irresponsible as citizens.
— Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.), in signing the “Under 2 MOU” agreement, which joined New York State in a global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050

Sculpture exists to be in your way, to force you — as the viewer, as the participant — to interact with it.
— Roberto Ferrari, Columbia’s curator of art properties, leading a walking tour about sculpture on campus

Developing an experimental practice can be a lonely business — they don’t understand you, or they think you’re crazy.
— Wolfram Knaue, director of Germany’s internationally renowned jazz research center jazzInstitut Darmstadt, on saxophonist Charlie Parker’s innovations in bebop

There is no easily discernable structure to olfaction ...
Considering that, I ask you to describe to someone the smell of an orange without ever mentioning an orange. Odor, I argue, can be recreated and communicated only by association to past experience.
— Dr. Richard Axel ’67 at the lecture “Scents and Sensibility: Representations of the Olfactory World in the Brain”
Chris Washburne

Associate Professor of Music Chris Washburne GSAS’99 is an acclaimed trombonist whose interests and versatility extend to jazz, classical, rock and Latin music. His seven-member band SYOTOS is hailed for its innovations in Latin jazz, and Washburne has played with musicians as diverse as Tito Puente, Arturo Sandoval, David Byrne, Björk and Justin Timberlake. On the faculty at Columbia since 2001, he performs up to five nights a week during the school year in addition to teaching, his directorship of the University’s Louis Armstrong Jazz Performance Program and other activities. But he took time out one afternoon in September — on the eve of a performance at no lesser a venue than Carnegie Hall — to talk about the varied beats of his life and career.

HE GREW UP on a farm in Bath, Ohio, a small town south of Cleveland.

HIS FIRST GIG was in high school, as the trombonist in a Led Zeppelin cover band.

HE BECAME INTERESTED in music as a career through his stepfather, an amateur jazz drummer. “He always had jazz playing in his car and took our family to local clubs. We saw the Count Basie Band, Lionel Hampton’s band, some really famous musicians.”

HE EARNED a bachelor’s of music in classical trombone performance from University of Wisconsin - Madison and a master’s in third stream studies from the New England Conservatory of Music. His Ph.D. is in ethnomusicology: “using music as a lens into the study of culture — combining the fields of anthropology and musicology.”

HE LED the charge to add jazz to the Core in Music Humanities classes, which happened in 2003. “I always thought it was strange that we would study Gershwin and Stravinsky, two musicians who were much influenced by jazz and who influenced jazz greatly — but we weren’t talking about Duke Ellington or Louis Armstrong. Having even a small unit of jazz in the Core enables students to connect the music that they listen to much more easily to classical music traditions and to a variety of different societal forces.”

HE STILL HAS his first trombone. A neighbor gave it to him when he started learning because his family couldn’t afford one. “It had been in the attic, this tarnished thing, covered in dirt and dust — horrible looking. I came home and cried. But my mother said ‘Uhh, why?’ and he explained what a rare instrument collector, ‘took one look and offered me thousands of dollars for it. I said, ‘Uhh, why?’ and he explained what a rare and great instrument it was. Suddenly my attitude changed drastically. It’s from 1938. I still play it sometimes.” — Alexis Tonti SOA’11
Mini-Mini-Core: The Biodiversity Crisis

There have been five mass extinctions in Earth’s history, including the end-Cretaceous event that felled the dinosaurs 66 million years ago, and many believe we are in the midst of a sixth, with species disappearing at a rate that’s 100 to 1,000 times faster than normal. Don Melnick, the Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Conservation Biology, in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, tackled this topic, including its causes and consequences, this fall in his three-part Mini-Core Course “The Biodiversity Crisis.” Herewith, the takeaways from his classes.

WHAT’S THE PROBLEM?

GLOBAL TRENDS: Humanity, through our many activities, has drastically altered the environment. This has led to mass-scale degradation of land ecosystems; destruction of aquatic ecosystems; accumulation of greenhouse gases; decline of populations and species; and increases in emerging infectious diseases.

LOCAL EFFECTS: Plant and animal populations are declining in size and becoming more isolated as environments are degraded and fragmented, and therefore are losing genetic diversity more quickly, which means they run a much higher risk of disappearing altogether.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

GLOBAL TRENDS: The negative effects of environmental degradation abound: climate change; decline of fresh water; collapse of fisheries; loss of pollination, pest control and disease-buffering services; mortality, morbidity and declining economic security; and social displacement, civil disorder and eroding national security.

LOCAL EFFECTS: The decline of fragmented populations and species disrupts or diminishes ecological processes and the invaluable services these processes — pollination, insect control, water purification and so on — provide the human population.

HOW DO WE FIX IT?

GLOBAL TRENDS: Develop policies that incorporate the undeniable reality that nature is the infrastructure upon which our security in water, food, health, weather, money and personal safety depends and degrading that infrastructure makes us not only less secure, but takes tens of thousands of lives every day in places all over the world.

LOCAL EFFECTS: Stem rate of transformation of habitats, reclaim hundreds of millions of acres that have been transformed and reconnect the now-isolated habitat patches and populations of species they host — all to restore gene flow and slow erosion of genetic diversity.

EXTRA CREDIT: Read The Monk in the Garden: The Lost and Found Genius of Gregor Mendel, the Father of Genetics, by Robin Marantz Henig. Says Melnick: “His experiments were elegant in their simplicity, ahead of their time in their mathematical sophistication and led to discoveries that have stood the test of time. He laid the groundwork for everything we know about genetics today.”

Did you know that the architect of St. Patrick’s Cathedral was James Renwick Jr. (Class of 1836)?

Renwick (1818–95), whose father was an engineer, architect and professor of natural philosophy at Columbia, entered the College at 12 and studied engineering. He earned a master’s in 1839. His first major commission, at 25, was to design Grace Church in New York City, and three years later, he won a competition to design the Smithsonian Institution Building in Washington, D.C.

His best-known work, however, is St. Patrick’s, built in a Gothic revival style with German and French influences. Renwick was commissioned by Archbishop John Hughes in 1853 as the cathedral’s architect and construction began in 1858. Progress halted during the Civil War but the cathedral opened in May 1879 and was formally consecrated in 1910.

On September 14, 2015, during his visit to New York City, Pope Francis delivered the homily during a vespers service in St. Patrick’s. He was the fourth pontiff to visit the cathedral, following in the footsteps of Pope Paul VI (1965), Pope John Paul II (1979 and 1995) and Pope Benedict XVI (2008). Prior to Pope Francis’ visit, St. Patrick’s underwent a three-year, $177 million renovation that included conserving and replacing exterior marble and cleaning, stabilizing and conserving 3,700 stained-glass panels and the plaster, wood and masonry interior.
Building a Better Bleach To Fight Ebola

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Thanks to a trio of Columbia students, healthcare workers treating Ebola may be better protected against the deadly virus by next summer.

The innovation is a powder designed by budding scientists Katherine Jin '16, Jason Kang SEAS'16 and Kevin Tyan '16. Called Highlight, it alters the properties of bleach — the decontamination agent most commonly used in West Africa against Ebola — to make it more effective. Adding Highlight to bleach turns the otherwise colorless disinfectant bright blue, which allows doctors and nurses to see what parts of their protective gear have been sprayed. The visualization helps eliminate gaps in coverage, a potentially lethal pitfall in the case of Ebola. The stain fades after 10 minutes, the contact time required for bleach to kill the virus, to indicate that the process is complete.

The students were spurred to develop Highlight by the Columbia Design Challenge: Confronting the Ebola Crisis, which launched in October 2014. Alarmed by the number of healthcare workers who contracted Ebola during the crisis in West Africa, and aware that doctors and nurses in underdeveloped nations are overtaxed, Jin, Kang and Tyan sought to improve existing decontamination protocols without overcomplicating them. “Our goal was to come up with something that was easy to use with minimal training,” says Jin, who is studying biology and computer science.

At first the students conceived of their product solely as a colorizer. But as they pinpointed bleach’s other shortcomings as a disinfectant, they adjusted the formula. In its current form, Highlight also slows the evaporation rate of bleach to ensure enough contact time to neutralize viruses and prevents droplet formation, which essentially allows the liquid to stick better to waterproof surfaces (such as hazmat suits). “Highlight bridges the gap between having a disinfectant and using it effectively,” says Tyan, a biology major.

As a winner of the challenge, which was sponsored by Engineering and the Mailman School of Public Health, the three received support from the University to develop Highlight, which is patent pending. They scored a major victory last February, when Highlight was awarded a substantial federal grant as one of 12 winning entries in USAID’s Fighting Ebola: A Grand Challenge for Development, which received more than 1,500 submissions.

Though developed with Ebola in mind, Highlight can also be used to combat other infectious diseases. To ensure that it does not compromise the antiviral potency of bleach, the product has been subjected to rigorous viral testing. Having shown to be effective on the West Nile virus in tests conducted at the Center for Infection and Immunity at Mailman, at press time it was undergoing testing on influenza at CII and was slated to be tested on Ebola at the National Institutes of Health.

For Jin, Kang and Tyan, who met as first-years and were already good friends when they began developing Highlight, what started out as a purely humanitarian
endeavor quickly became a path to entre¬
preneurship. They realized they would
have to start a business in late 2014,
when, in what they consider one of the
most exciting developments of their jour¬
ney, the New York City Fire Department
requested a demonstration of Highlight
and subsequently purchased and incorpo¬
rated the product into its hazmat decon¬
tamination protocols.

Soon after, the students formed a com¬
pany, Kinnos, which received $10,000 for
placing third in the “Undergraduate Chal¬
lenge” of the 2015 Columbia Venture Com¬
petition. The company’s board of advisers
comprises Mary C. Boyce, dean of Engi¬
neering; Aaron Kyle, lecturer in biomedical
engineering; W. Ian Lipkin, the John Snow
Professor of Epidemiology and CII direc¬
tor at Mailman; and Samuel Sia, associate
professor in biomedical engineering.

“[Healthcare workers treating Ebola
patients] are risking their lives every day,
so we want to do our part to help them,”
says Kang, who is majoring in biomedical
ingenineering. “At the same time, in order to
keep providing this protection, we need to
have a viable business.”

Welcome Center Dedicated

President Lee C. Bollinger formally dedicated the Susan K. Feagin
Welcome Center at the Columbia Alumni Center (CAC) on Novem¬
ber 19. Feagin, a 1974 GS alumna who is special advisor to Bollinger,
was EVP for University development and alumni relations 2003–10,
during which time the University completed the largest fundraising
effort in Ivy League history, the $6.1 billion Columbia Campaign. She
also was instrumental in the creation of the CAC, which since 2009
has provided a place for gatherings and meetings of Columbia alumni
and is the administrative hub of University and College alumni affairs,
development and communications personnel.

Postcrypt: 50-Plus and Going Strong

One of Columbia’s iconic spaces lies
deep beneath the stately stained glass win¬
dows of St. Paul’s Chapel. For more than
a half-century, Postcrypt Coffeehouse has
been bringing musical performers from
Columbia, New York City and beyond to
its basement performance space — and it’s
still going strong.

“Postcrypt Coffeehouse brings together
the Columbia community and city resi¬
dents, as well as [unites] current students
with previous generations,” says head man¬
ger Spenser Krut ’16. “Many of our regu¬
lar audience members attended Columbia
and enjoy coming back again and again
because Postcrypt’s doors are still open.”

Founded in 1964, the student-run
acoustic performance space hosts two
shows weekly during the school year and
ranks as one of the oldest surviving coffee¬
houses in New York City. Shows are free
and open to the public. Past performers
have included Suzanne Vega BC’81, Jeff
Buckley, Dar Williams and Ani DiFranco.

Much of the appeal of the ‘Crypt, as it is
widely known, is its intimacy — a capacity
of just 30, with exposed brick walls, strings
of lights and the original stage and mosa¬
ic bar. “It’s special because every show is
unplugged and the performers relax,” Krut
says, “as if they’re just playing and chatting
with friends in their living rooms.”

“The ‘Crypt is my favorite place on
campus,” says outreach manager Mahelet
Fekade ’16. “When you are in the ‘Crypt,
it doesn’t feel like you are on campus or in
Morningside Heights. It’s an oasis.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a fre¬
 lance journalist and an editorial producer for
LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s offi¬
cial Spanish language website.
Columbia's fencers are seeking to defend their national championship and the men's basketball team is looking to continue its climb up the Ivy League ladder in the winter sports season that began with wins for both squads in November.

The fencers opened their season in impressive fashion with a clean sweep at the Columbia Invitational on November 6. The men's team beat Stevens Tech 22-5, NJIT 19-8 and Hunter 19-8 and the women defeated Northwestern 16-11, NJIT 24-3 and Fairleigh Dickinson 27-0.

"Last year after we won the NCAA championships, we all sat down and it was like, 'What are we going to do for this year?'" said head coach Michael Aufrichtig. "And the goal was, 'Now is the year we start the dynasty.' We did lose a few seniors who graduated, but we have a huge senior class and they are really excited to defend that championship."

Columbia is led by men's epeeists Jake Hoyle '16 and Brian Ro '16, who were first and third, respectively, at last year's NCAA championships. Aufrichtig also cited overall team depth and what he called the "strongest women's sabre team in the country" as other strengths.

"Our mindset this year is to even go stronger than we did last year," he said. "We know we definitely have a target on our backs — I kind of feel as Columbia we always have a target but especially this year as the defending national champions we do have a target. Our mindset is we're champions, we're looking to defend that championship and be champions again."

Columbia will compete in four more multi-team invitational leading up to the round-robin Ivy League championships at Cornell Saturday, February 6-Sunday, February 7; the NCAA regionals at Vassar on Sunday, March 13; and the NCAA championships at Brandeis Thursday, March 24—Sunday, March 27.

The men's basketball team, which was picked to finish second behind Yale in the preseason Ivy League media poll, opened its campaign at Levien Gym on November 13 by beating Kean 107-62. Three days later, Columbia traveled to Manhattan, Kan., and dropped an 81-71 decision to Kansas State.

The Lions, who won 21 games two years ago, dipped to 13-15 last year after All-Ivy forward Alex Rosenberg '16 suffered a broken foot during preseason and withdrew from school for the year. Coach Kyle Smith is optimistic that with Rosenberg and guard Grant Mullins '16, who missed last season because of a concussion suffered during the previous campaign, returning to a team headed by All-Ivy guard Maodo Lo '16 and the versatile Isaac Cohen '16, the Lions will have the firepower to contend for their first Ivy League championship since 1968. Lo (18.4 ppg) and Rosenberg (16.0) led the Ivies in scoring the past two seasons and are...
the first pair of 1,000-point career scorers Columbia has had on the same team since 1998–99. Behind Lo, Mullins and Cohen, the Lions have solid depth at guard with Kyle Castlin ‘18, Nate Hickman ‘18, C.J. Davis ‘19 and Quinton Adlesh ‘19.

“We’ve been picked to do well, and frankly we should,” said Smith, who likely will go the first pair of 1,000-point career scorers with a three-guard lineup most of the time the Lions have solid depth at guard with Columbia has had on the same team since Davis ’19 and Quinton Adlesh ’19.

At the same time, frontcourt players will need to step up. Key figures in this group are 7-foot-1 Conor Voss ‘17 as well as Luke Petrasek ’17, Chris McComber ’17, Jeff Coby ’17 and Lukas Meisner’19.

Columbia plays 17 games against non-conference opponents before beginning Ivy League play with a home game against Cornell on Saturday, January 16. After that the Lions will play five consecutive Ivy games on the road before finishing their season with six of eight conference games at home, the last against defending co-champion Yale on Saturday, March 5, at Levien Gym. Yale topped the preseason media poll with 117 points, followed closely by Columbia at 114 and Princeton at 108. Harvard, the league champion or co-champion each of the last five years, was picked to finish fourth with 96 points.

The Lions’ game at Yale on Friday, February 5 will be nationally televised on FOX Sports 1. Two other games will be televised by the American Sports Network: at home against Harvard on Friday, February 19, and on the road at Princeton on Friday, February 26. Columbia’s women’s team, in its first season under interim coach Sheila Roux, who took over after Stephanie Glance stepped down to become the executive director of the Kay Yow Cancer Fund, also has a nationally televised game, at home against Penn on Sunday, February 28 on the American Sports Network.

Football Snaps Streaks

Columbia’s football team “got that 800-lb. gorilla off our backs,” coach Al Bagnoli said after the Lions beat Wagner 26–3 on October 10 to emphatically end a 24-game losing streak that stretched back to November 19, 2012, when Columbia beat Cornell 34–17.

Three weeks later, Columbia ended two more streaks — 18 consecutive Ivy League losses and 22 straight road losses — by traveling to New Haven and defeating Yale 17–7 in the Yale Bowl. “This is important as the next step as we try to establish credibility,” said Bagnoli, who took over as Columbia’s coach on February 24 after 23 years and nine Ivy championships at Penn. Those wins gave the Lions a 2–8 record (including 1–6 in the Ivies) after two winless seasons. Equally important, even though Bagnoli is quick to say there are no moral victories, is the fact that Columbia was competitive in every game except one (Homecoming against Penn), and Columbia’s defense, which allowed 38.9 points and 494.5 yards of total offense per game last season, cut those numbers dramatically this year to 19.8 points and 290.3 yards per game.

“I think by most people’s standards, we’re heading in the right direction,” Bagnoli said after the final game. “We’re far more competitive. We’re playing people for 60 minutes. It’s just one year. I’m not sure what people’s expectations were. But we’re making progress — it just never comes as fast or as seamless as you want it to come.”

CROSS COUNTRY: Men’s cross country won the Ivy League Heptagonal Championship and the women’s team finished third at Van Cortlandt Park on October 30. Director of Cross Country/Track & Field Daniel Ireland was unanimously voted Ivy League Men’s Cross Country Coach of the Year. Leading the men’s team were Aubrey Myjer ’16 (third overall) and Jack Boyle ’17 (seventh), both of whom earned All-Ivy first-team honors, while Tait Rutherford ’16 (ninth) ran his way to the second team. Tops among the women were Olivia Sadler ’16 (ninth) and Leila Mantilla ’14 (14th), who earned second team all-conference honors.

MEILI: Katie Meili ’13 won three medals at the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto in July, including gold medals in the 100m breaststroke and 4x100m medley relay, both in event-record times. She also won silver in the 400m freestyle relay. On September 1, Meili was among 107 members named by USA Swimming to the 2015–16 U.S. National Team, where she joins such stars of the sport as Missy Franklin, Katie Ledecky, Ryan Lochte and Michael Phelps. Meili hopes to compete in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Friday, August 5–Sunday, August 21; she’ll attempt to qualify for the team at the Olympic Trials in Omaha, Sunday, June 26–Saturday, July 3.

FOOTBALL PODCAST: WNYC, New York’s public radio station, this fall produced the podcast “The Season,” following the Columbia football team under new coach Al Bagnoli as it attempted to bounce back from two winless seasons. Host Ilya Marritz and the producers had extensive access to players, coaches, alumni and University officials, including trustee emeritus and former coach Bill Campbell ’62, TC ’64, who spoke on the October 1 episode about why football matters. “It is the ultimate team game,” Campbell said. “You cannot be successful without a team all operating on the same page. When you snap the ball, when you play defense, when you do everything that you need to do, 11 people all have to be in coordination and in sync.”

ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit gocolumbialions.com.

SPOTS SHORTS
It is August, a traditional time of respite for academics, but Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS’81 is hard at work. The Jane and Leopold Swergold Professor of Chinese Art has just returned from teaching an Art Humanities/Music Humanities immersion program in Paris and is now preparing to travel to China to give a talk about inscriptions on Mount Tai (“When you go to China you don’t just climb a mountain, you read it,” he explains).

Harrist, 63, is one of the world’s foremost experts on Chinese painting and calligraphy — and one of the few who did not grow up speaking Chinese — and he knows the subject of this conference particularly well; it is the same as his 2008 book, *The Landscape of Words: Stone Inscriptions from Early and Medieval China*. The intense preparation has to do with giving a professional-level, public talk to a mostly Chinese audience, in Chinese — not something he ordinarily does.

“Words you think you know how to pronounce you might be mispronouncing because of the tones,” he explains. “All those years you’ve been meaning to look it up but haven’t quite gotten around to it.” Now he is spending hours practicing saying those words.

Only days earlier, Harrist was in Paris speaking fluent French. He can also read Japanese and speak it conversationally. Yet he claims he is “not good at all at foreign languages.” He plays Bach, Schubert and Chopin quite well on his Steinway grand, although he says, “I play at the level of an advanced beginner, and have for about 45 years.” He has thought of trying to teach Music Humanities: “It’d be wonderful, but I don’t think I could do it well. I barely know enough to teach Art Hum!” In fact, he has a degree in music in addition to an uncharacteristically deep knowledge of Western art.

Harrist’s devotion to various art forms — he is also a ballerina who has written for *Ballet Review* — is part of an overall enthusiasm for life’s ornaments, from the literally monumental to the quotidian. He notices details and delights in them. One might guess that his varied expertise and talents make him intimidating, but his humbleness as well as *joie de vivre* have won him many

By Shira Boss ’93, JRN’97, SIPA’98

The Joy of Looking

Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr.
delights in study of art in all its forms
Can you imagine anything better than being paid to look at sculptures of Michelangelo and talk about them with smart, young people?"
"It was because of calligraphy that I decided to study Chinese art. I fell in love with it before I had started to learn Chinese, and although I encourage everyone to study Chinese, it's possible to enjoy calligraphy deeply without a knowledge of the language. The text of this scroll consists of the biographies of two ancient worthies, but a connoisseur of calligraphy would concentrate on the structure of the characters and the energy of brushstrokes, not on the content of the text. It's sometimes said that the linear patterns of Chinese calligraphy can be appreciated in the way we appreciate abstract art. That's true, but unlike, let's say, a painting by Jackson Pollock, calligraphy has to conform to rules: no matter how wild or abbreviated the characters, they have to be written from top to bottom following a prescribed order of strokes. In this scroll you can see traces of how time passed as the calligrapher worked. In the next to last column on the left, the brush was going dry, and before writing the final column the calligrapher dipped the brush in the jet black ink."

Another day, Harrist led Hood upstairs to look at a late-period Monet water lilies. Hood says he himself had always been prejudiced against the Impressionists, but that Harrist took him up close to the painting to examine how the color of the paint interfaced with the texture on the painting. "It was astounding. I'd never seen Monet before," Hood says. "That's the type of scrutiny that very few people are capable of. He's capable of deep scrutiny, of any period, of any style, of any culture. Bob is so dedicated to the life enhancement that can come to a person who's willing to put the effort into engaging with a work of art."

Which is why Harrist declares Art Hum his favorite course. He teaches it nearly every year, alongside Chinese Art 101 and a graduate seminar or lecture, often on Chinese painting or calligraphy (a rare offering at U.S. schools). Even his graduate classes on Chinese art, however, are geared toward the non-specialist; he encourages students of European art to participate. "He's a rigorous looker. He can look at a single work of art for hours and continue to come up with fresh observations," says Joseph Scheier-Dolberg GSAS'12, assistant curator of Chinese painting and calligraphy at the Met and a grad student of Harrist. He recalls the day when Harrist put up a slide of an ornamental detail in his Chinese art class and asked if anyone could identify it. Nobody could. It was a pattern from a mosaic on the subway platform at 116th Street. "He never turns his eye off. He's always looking," Scheier-Dolberg says.

Harrist says that getting people truly to look is a main job in art history: "The older I get, the more I find myself focusing on that," he says. "It's incredibly hard to look at things. You think you're seeing things but really your eye is just drifting." Recently he has been examining the ways of the late Meyer Schapiro ’24, GSAS’35, the preeminent art reviewer, historian and Columbia professor. Schapiro believed that to examine a work of art closely, it helped enormously to draw it. To that end, Harrist himself took up drawing about the time he became chair of the department and enrolled in classes at a studio downtown. As chair, he secured funds for students to take life drawing classes.

He says about art, "I love it more every year. Sometimes I feel I've only recently begun to see things myself. It makes me wonder what I was doing all those years and all I missed."

Despite his wide-ranging expertise, Harrist is repeatedly described as low-key, humble, open-minded and humorous. "He has so much knowledge and knows all these facts, but you can go out with him and just have fun," Stuart says. She says there's nobody she'd rather go to a concert or ballet with than Harrist.
Nancy Zafris GSAS’79, friends with Harrist since meeting at International House in 1978, describes attending a Matisse cutout exhibition at MoMA last December: “Bob was talking to us and pretty soon there was a little cluster of people listening and following us,” Zafris says. “He was so clear and insightful and interesting, and so accepting of other people. Two older women were there from out of town and he went off with them to look at something. He was very excited about what they had to say.”

Zafris says Harrist “finds a lot of pleasure in things other academics might disdain; he doesn’t disdain anything.” She mentions his watching a Facts of Life sitcom marathon with her when he was in grad school at Princeton and his finding it “quite delightful.” On a visit to New York in October 2014, she and Harrist went to see the New York City Ballet and then went straight to a Bill Murray movie.

Susan Boynton, chair of the music department and Harrist’s teaching partner for Art Hum/Music Hum this past summer in Paris, noted that Harrist has so many friends that he was invited out or to someone’s home nearly every night. “He can relate to people really easily. There’s not a grain of snobbery in him,” Boynton says. Those traits also make it easy for Columbia students to relate to him, she says, and contribute to his popularity.

Students of Harrist appreciate that he gets to know them and listens to them. As part of Art Hum in Paris, on a visit to the Louvre, Harrist told the class first to spend time walking around Michelangelo’s Dying Slave and Rebellious Slave sculptures, and for the students to note what interested them. Then, in the midst of the crowds, Harrist led each student around the sculptures individually for a few minutes to discuss the work. “He asked us what stood out to us and took us over to that part of the sculpture and talked about it,” says Ben Libman ’17. He says each student did as much talking as the professor: “It was very collaborative. He really embraces the seminar environment.”

“He would incorporate your strengths or interests to bring out the best in you, and for the class,” says Kaitlin Hickey ’18. She says Harrist picked up on her knowledge of mythology, and when the class was at the Medici Fountain in Luxembourg Garden, he asked her to say a bit to the rest of the class about the depiction of Leda and the Swan behind the fountain.

Indeed, it is the students, Harrist says, who keep him inspired: “I’m always looking for new things to say... it’s through teaching that I continue to engage with the works.”
The Joy of Looking

Bacchanal: A Faun Teased by Children, 17th century (ca. 1616-17)
Gian Lorenzo Bernini (Italian, 1598-1680)
Italian (Rome)
Marble; H. 52 in. (132.1 cm)

“This work is an old favorite on Art Hum tours of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It is probably a collaborative work by Pietro Bernini and his far more famous son, Gian Lorenzo, one of the great virtuoso sculptors. Finished when he was only 18, this piece is a spectacular demonstration of skill. The visual interaction of the wild faun, plump children, a dog, a lizard, a tree trunk, vines, grapes and other fruit is so complex that it’s hard to know where to start looking. One thing you can do is just try to figure out where all the hands and feet are placed. Looking in this way pulls you around the statue, which is composed to make you move. Another way to enjoy Bernini’s art is to make a visual inventory of the different textures, all carved from marble: skin, hair, fur, bark, leaves, vines, fruit and more. Bernini, like a wizard, could transform stone into anything he liked.”

During the year Harrist spent in New York when he was on sabatical from Oberlin, he went to see the New York City Ballet 65 times. It was the year of the Balanchine festival, and Harrist had discovered a love of Balanchine while in grad school at Columbia. “It changed my life,” he says of the first performance he saw. “I could tell instantly this was something marvelous I’d want to see again and again. It’s complicated, like paintings. It’s not something you can see once and think you’ve figured it out.” He became somewhat of an expert on choreography by self-study.

Harrist continues to expand his horizons within the art world. He has taken an interest in contemporary American ceramics artist Betty Woodman, for example. He continually goes to exhibitions — back in New York in September, in the 10 days between his return from the China conference and departure for a work trip to England, he was trying to squeeze in a gallery visit to see a show of works by Martha Armstrong, an artist he had never heard of. “I can’t wait to get down to Chelsea to see the paintings,” he says.

In 2010, Harrist encountered the abstract paintings of the late modern artist Roy Newell at a Chelsea gallery. But he didn’t stop at acquiring a work for his own collection; he returned to the gallery and made inquiries, then sought out Newell’s widow, Ann, to learn more. “She was so entranced with Bob, she gave him access to everything,” Hood says. Harrist curated an exhibition of Newell’s work at the Pollock Krasner House & Study Center on Long Island in 2014 and wrote the accompanying catalogue on Newell and his work.

“It was refreshing to do something outside of my normal field,” he says. “If you love art, you should love it all. You can’t be an expert in everything, but you should be interested in everything, and you should stretch yourself.”

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Making Her Mark

Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 uses her role as NYC council speaker to advocate for the underserved

As recently as late fall 2013, Melissa Mark-Viverito ’91 was a relatively obscure member of the New York City Council. A Democrat, she cruised to reelection in her district, which largely comprises East Harlem and portions of the South Bronx, seemingly destined to serve four more years in the 51-member legislative body before term limits would force her out of office and, more than likely, back to the world of activism and nonprofits.

And then her political future changed forever.

A behind-the-scenes push to elect a liberal speaker of the City Council — which included unprecedented intervention from then-Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio — propelled Mark-Viverito into arguably the second-most powerful elected post in the nation’s largest city.

Mark-Viverito, the first Latino or Latina to be elected to the role, has seized the opportunity, leading with a focus on diversity and activism that was in part forged by her experiences two decades prior as a College student. Outspoken and often unfiltered (particularly on Twitter under the handle @MMViverito), she has worked in tandem with de Blasio on a number of progressive reforms for the city, including mandating paid sick leave and creating a new municipal identification program. She also has wielded the power of her position to broaden the reach of government into the lives of its citizens, particularly those left behind by New York’s recent economic boom.

“The speaker is a fierce advocate,” says de Blasio. “A sense of social justice pervades everything she does. I respect that a lot, and I think it’s something that her colleagues in the council trust and respect as well.”

But Mark-Viverito also has broken with the mayor on several key issues, such as the size of the police force, and has used her office as a platform to become a forceful national figure on issues like immigration rights and criminal justice reform.

While largely no-nonsense in City Council chambers, she also can display a lighter side, from playfully talking trash during the annual City Council vs. Mayor’s office softball game, to live-tweeting the Latin Grammy Awards, to sipping champagne and dancing well past midnight during the city Democratic party’s yearly retreat to her native Puerto Rico.

And, with her four-year term approaching the halfway mark, she doesn’t want to squander any time.

“Eyes around the world are on this city,” says Mark-Viverito. “Everyone watches what we do.”

Mark-Viverito’s journey to New York’s corridors of power began far from City Hall.

She was born in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, but frequently spent summers visiting family in New York (the five boroughs are home to more than 720,000 Puerto Ricans — six times that of any other United States city). Feeling the pull of Manhattan, she eagerly enrolled at the College.

But her transition wasn’t easy.

Coming from a high school that had a graduating class of 40, Mark-Viverito was overwhelmed by Columbia’s size. She initially intended to follow in the footsteps of her father, a doctor, but abandoned that track after a year.

She nearly abandoned Morningside Heights altogether, feeling adrift on a campus with few other Puerto Ricans and, she felt, with little support from the administration. “I started interacting with some people who had a very negative view of who a Puerto Rican is,” says Mark-Viverito, who previously had never lived anywhere but her hometown. She can, decades later, still recall the sting when a Carman floormate decried Puerto Ricans as “parasites” who were “all living on welfare.”

Another time, a student yelled at her to “get back on your boat and go home.”

“That challenged me,” she says. “That got me thinking about what it means to be a Puerto Rican in this new environment.”

She realized that her experience of being an outsider was far from novel at Columbia.
and in the city at large. “That did help shape my level of critical thinking and my place in the city,” says Mark-Viverito, adding that it spurred her to be more involved with social equity issues.

Two passions emerged during her sophomore year that kept her at Columbia.

The first was WKCR. She spent two years co-hosting a radio show that unlocked the world of Latin Jazz to her. Armed with a press credential, she frequented shows at some of the city’s most famed jazz clubs, from Blue Note to the Village Vanguard. She saw the likes of Tito Puente perform and was dazzled by their artistry and moved by the musical tradition of her native land. (Mark-Viverito’s time at WKCR would, after graduation, steer her to the New York City radio station WBAI, a listener-supported liberal station, where she was a volunteer contributor to the news department and political shows.)

The other passion was a burgeoning taste for activism, particularly for racial and cultural causes. As a sophomore, she joined Acción Boricua, a student organization founded to foster awareness of Puerto Rican culture, history and current affairs while also providing support for Latino issues at Columbia. She also became heavily involved with a campaign to diversify the Core Curriculum and another to push for more Latino and Puerto Rican professors and staff. Both met some resistance.

Her niche at Columbia grew to include a political science major and a love for Latin-American film classes. She fondly remembers late nights in Carman and Ruggles debating the issues of the day, and also visiting friends at NYU and on the Lower East Side.

But it was her time involved in political causes at Columbia that helped to shape her career and eventually the policies of New York City’s government.

Her first steps onto the municipal political stage came a few years after graduation when she joined a local community board and then coordinated a group that protested the Navy’s use of the Puerto Rican island of Vieques as a bombing target. She later became a top organizer at a politically powerful health care workers’ union before running for council in 2003.

She lost, but captured the seat two years later.

Mark-Viverito’s focus was on bettering the lives of the less fortunate in her Upper Manhattan/South Bronx district, which contains the poorest ZIP code in the nation. She sponsored bills focused on tenant harassment and on improving parks; at times she waded onto larger stages, such as when she criticized Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.)’s prior opposition to so-called “sanctuary cities” for not enforcing all immigration laws.

“When it comes to issues of fairness, of sticking up for the dispossessed, she will not compromise,” says City Councilman Corey Johnson, who represents parts of Manhattan.

Mark-Viverito won reelection in 2009 amid a swirling controversy around then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s move to overturn term limits and capture a third term. The backlash against Bloomberg’s extended tenure breathed new life into the city’s previously downtrodden political left wing, including the formation of a progressive caucus in the city council — helmed by Mark-Viverito — and the rebirth of the Working Families Party, which was founded by union and liberal community organizations.

The party formulated secret plans to rally around a progressive speaker candidate in 2013, after more than a decade of rule by moderate speakers who largely kept the body’s liberal tendencies in check. Mark-Viverito and her allies defied the county political bosses who normally hand-pick the speaker and, with de Blasio’s stunning intervention, rounded up enough councilmembers’ support to secure her victory.

The vote that made her victory official turned into an impromptu fiesta within City Hall’s council chambers; some spectators waved Puerto Rican flags, and a group of drummers and maracas players broke out into a salsa-inflected song when the tally was over.

New York City’s government is set up to have a powerful mayor but a bill only becomes law if it’s passed by the 51-person council which, traditionally, is dominated by a strong speaker who can set when — or if — legislation can come to a floor vote. Mark-Viverito’s win moved the council, which only has three Republicans to go along with 48 Democrats, in line with de Blasio and ushered in a series of progressive reforms and programs.

Free pre-kindergarten was expanded throughout the public school system, which educates more than 1 million students a year. The NYPD tactic known as stop-and-frisk, which allowed police to question anyone they deemed suspicious, was sharply curtailed after critics decried it as discriminatory against young men of color. And the council passed living wage legislation and paid sick leave, offering a helping hand to those barely scraping by.

“The council under her leadership has been there time and again to drive things forward,” de Blasio says.

Mark-Viverito’s political views are mostly to the left of the famously liberal de Blasio. She’s moved past the mayor on pushing for criminal justice reform, including the creation of a bail fund for minor offenders and a call for some low-level violations, such as jumping a subway turnstile, to warrant only summonses instead of jail time.

She also sided with the family of Eric Garner, who was placed in a fatal chokehold by a police officer on a Staten Island street, and she wore a T-shirt in the Council chambers emblazoned with his last words — “I Can’t Breathe” — as a sign of protest. The police unions demanded an apology. She refused.

“My feeling is very comfortable in my role,” says Mark-Viverito, who says she has tried to balance the needs of her district with those of the entire council. “I feel really good about what we’ve accomplished. We’re really making a change in people’s lives in what we’re doing.”

Early in her term as speaker, Mark-Viverito was dogged by a pervasive belief in political circles that she would not defy the mayor because she was beholden to him for helping to install her atop the council. But that has changed.

During two consecutive city budget negotiations, she and the council advocated for hiring 1,000 more police officers to continue to keep crime low and also to provide more outreach to communities that have felt mistreated by the NYPD. The first year, de Blasio held firm and the officers weren’t hired. But in the second, relenting to pressure from the speaker and Police Commissioner William Bratton, he gave in and issued the green light to hire even more police officers (nearly 1,300) than Mark-Viverito had requested.
She also opposed the mayor's consideration of a plan to tear up Times Square's popular pedestrian plazas as a means to rid the iconic attraction of costumed characters, like Elmo, and half-naked ladies who aggressively panhandle tourists. And she pushed de Blasio to declare a truce with the ridesharing company Uber and then publicly rebuked the mayor for seemingly taking the council's support for granted.

The squabbles — and her growing national profile — have helped Mark-Viverito move out of de Blasio's shadow and assert her political independence.

"Everything is on a case-by-case basis," the speaker says. "It's not like I'm calculating that I have to do this or not. Depending on the issue, if it's something I have to break with the mayor, I'll do it."

Mark-Viverito's voice has become the loudest on immigration issues. She's made regular appearances on cable TV news as the debate in Washington heats up, and the council has established a fund for unaccompanied immigrant minors' legal fees. She also endorsed Hillary Rodham Clinton for President and has become a key surrogate for the Democratic frontrunner in Latino communities.

The municipal ID card, introduced in early 2015, is perhaps her signature achievement. More than 500,000 New Yorkers have signed up for the card, which allows undocumented immigrants — and groups such as the elderly and the transgendered — who would otherwise have trouble obtaining legal identification a means to access vital city services.

"I think she was underestimated at first," says Jeanne Zaino, a political science professor at Iona College and pundit who has watched Mark-Viverito's tenure carefully. "She has shown a willingness to step away from the mayor and, on immigration, she is becoming a key voice on an issue that looms large in the 2016 presidential campaign."

Mark-Viverito, 46, has a known preference for privacy and doesn't often discuss her life outside City Hall. She is equally as tight-lipped about her political plans, though she has ruled out a 2017 mayoral primary challenge to de Blasio or a run for Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.); her Congressional seat when he retires that same year.

But while she can be at times cagey in interviews, she speaks more freely in another venue: Twitter. She runs her own account, rarely submitting tweets to her staff for review, and she has been known to use the social media service to criticize public figures from Andrew Cuomo to Donald Trump. She also used Twitter to reveal in August 2014 that she has human papillomavirus, or HPV, and used the moment to urge her 17,000 followers to get vaccinated.

Twitter is also where she displays her lighter side. She live-tweeted a Republican presidential primary debate and often uses it to tease reporters. On the night of her April 1 birthday, she posted a photo of a diamond ring with the hashtags #OMG #YES, sending reporters — and some of her staff — scrambling.

Eleven minutes later, she sent another tweet: #HappyAprilFoolsDay.

That sense of fun is also present in the privacy of her office. There, she can be colorful and loud, nonchalantly dropping an expletive to make a point. Well-liked by her staff, she moves easily between English and Spanish when talking to her aides and has decorated her office with Puerto Rican artwork.

One of those pieces is by Don Rimx, the same artist whose mural once led to Mark-Viverito being accused of — wait for it — performing voodoo. The painting, of a large and rather colorful decapitated chicken, had appeared on the side of her 2013 council opponent's apartment building several weeks before the primary. The opponent said it was a hex; in fact the piece was commissioned by El Museo del Barrio. (Mark-Viverito, unsurprisingly, took to Twitter to address the wild claim, writing "Darn! My little secret revealed! #cantmakethisup").

She also says she'd be open to building a relationship with Columbia. She has spoken at a few Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University events and she credits her time on the Heights for playing a part in getting her ready for her next challenges.

"I do appreciate the academic rigor and the discipline that it helps develop," says Mark-Viverito of her studies at Columbia. "There were tough moments, but I definitely value and appreciate that they helped mold me into the person I am."

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DUAL IDENTITY

Michael Oren '77, SIPA’78 bridges the American-Israeli divide

By Eugene L. Meyer '64
Michael Oren ’77, SIPA ’78 is no longer Israel’s ambassador to the United States, a post he held from 2009 to 2013. But here he was this past fall in Washington, D.C., beginning a grueling 10-day, seven-state speaking tour — and this, immediately after conferring with the presidents of Panama and Nepal in their capital cities of Panama City and Kathmandu, some 8,400 miles apart.

In his first two crammed days in Washington, Oren, a newly elected member of the Knesset, Israel’s parliament, met with Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Elliott Abrams, a former assistant secretary of state under President Reagan and adviser to President George W. Bush; had breakfast with seven Democratic members of Congress; and met separately with two Republican and two more Democratic members.

During the trip, rising as early as 5 a.m., he would also do 16 media interviews and 17 scheduled events, including speaking to students at American University.

Oren’s memoir of his years as ambassador, *Ally: My Journey Across the American-Israeli Divide*, published in June, generated buzz for its critical view of U.S. policies toward Israel and came up repeatedly as he toured. But he is writing a new chapter in a hectic and sometimes controversial life and career that have taken him from Morningside Heights to the heights of diplomacy and now into politics as a member of the Knesset.

Along the way, the American-born Oren also earned advanced degrees; taught Middle East history at Harvard, Princeton, Yale and Georgetown to undergraduate and graduate students; and wrote four well-reviewed, best-selling books. His landmark work, 2008’s *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: 1776 to the Present*, and his memoir, published in English, were scheduled for Hebrew editions late this year.

“His mind races,” says Halevi. Oren’s successes in academia, in the publishing world and now in politics were not preordained. Raised in West Orange, N.J., Oren (né Michael Scott Bornstein) struggled with dyslexia and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. “I didn’t know how to spell, couldn’t do math. I didn’t know how to do a lot of things,” he says. These deficits consigned him to what he calls in his memoir the “dumb classes,” essentially the lowest track in an academic classification system. Even when a high school teacher noticed he was writing poetry and promoted him into honors English, he faced an uphill battle.

Oren was preparing to apply to colleges but scored poorly on the SATs. The problem was he couldn’t draw a direct line from the question to the right answer box. Armed with a ruler when he retook the test, he more than doubled his scores, helping him to gain admission to Columbia, which he says was his “dream school.” (A writer of short stories, plays and poetry — some of which were published in *Seventeen* magazine — he was impressed that Jack Kerouac ’44 and Allen Ginsberg ’48 were Columbians.)

Oren’s upbringing also did not seem to presage his pathway to the Middle East. Though Jewish, he went to a YMCA camp because that’s what his parents could afford. While at the Y camp, he recalls, “I went to church every Sunday, said grace before every meal.” The only Jewish kid on the block where he lived, he writes in *Ally*, “I rarely made it off the school bus without being attacked by Jew-baiting bullies.” When he was in high school, his family’s synagogue was bombed.

In the face of these traumas, Zionism — the creation of a Jewish national state in Palestine — seemed increasingly appealing. “As a teenager,” he writes in *Ally*, “my Zionism was simple, a passion for an Israel that furnished muscular answers to anti-Semitism and a dignified response to the Holocaust.”

In May 1970, Oren visited Washington, D.C., on a trip sponsored by Habonim Dror, a global Labor Zionist youth movement. There he shook hands with Yitzhak Rabin, former commander of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) who was then Israeli ambassador to the U.S. and later the country’s prime minister; he was assassinated in 1995 by a Jewish extremist opposed to his peace efforts. Through Habonim Dror, at 15, Oren spent a transformative summer working on an Israeli kibbutz. He decided then that he would later “make aliyah” (literally, to ascend) to the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people, a right granted to Jews worldwide; among other things, this would involve immersing himself in the culture and in Hebrew language study and, after becoming an Israeli citizen, serving in the IDF. What motivated him, he says, were “my faith plus 5,000 years of [Jewish] history.”

At the College, Oren took Arabic and majored in Middle East studies. He pledged Alpha Delta Phi, which he
describes as the "literary and jazz fraternity," and joined the crew team not only because he enjoyed the sport but also because was in training, he reasoned, to serve in military.

As an upperclassman, Oren decided to pursue a joint master's program that, for a total of five years at Columbia, enabled him to earn an advanced degree from SIPA in addition to a bachelor's. He moved into an apartment on Claremont Avenue with David J. Rothkopf '77, now the CEO and editor of the FP Group, publishers of Foreign Policy Magazine, and still a close friend.

“He was serious, ambitious, an interesting, diverse guy,” says Rothkopf, “in some respects, the ideal combination of these things that Columbia, and places like Columbia, look for.”

While undergraduates, Oren and Rothkopf were instrumental in helping to start the campus television station. Oren also was news director of WKCR and editor of the yearbook, for which he interviewed Herman Wouk '34. He wrote and produced plays; two were performed on campus. He was inspired by professors Karl-Ludwig Selig, Columbia's Cervantes expert, and Wallace Gray, who famously taught the course “Eliot, Joyce, Pound.”

“Selig taught me how to read a book,” Oren says. “Gray taught me how to write one.” He made the Dean's List several times.

Oren likes to point out that a number of his Columbia friends also made aliyah around the same time, in the late 70s and early 80s. These include Dore Gold '75, director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry and former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations; Judy Maltz, BC'83, an Israeli journalist and documentary filmmaker; and Tom Sawicki '74, JRN77, director of programming in the Jerusalem office of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Changing his surname was part of Oren's acculturation and assimilation in Israel, where many American émigrés adopt Hebrew names. “Oren” is Hebrew for pine tree, which Oren describes in his memoir as recalling his American roots but also referring to his regeneration in Israel. But there was more to it than that. After talking with his father, Michael Scott Bornstein became Michael B. Oren, to retain at least part of his birth name: The “B” stands for Bornstein.

Soon after earning an M.L.A., Oren moved to Israel. He joined the IDF and was a paratrooper in Lebanon, which Israel had invaded in 1982 after cross-border attacks by the Palestinian Liberation Movement.

The year before, a chance meeting on a Jerusalem street led to his marriage to Sally Edelstein, a San Francisco native who was working in a frame shop and teaching dance in the holy city. (She is currently president of the Hadassah International Board of Trustees, Israel, and on the board of Batsheva Dance Company.) Still in the military, Oren redeployed to Beirut the day after their wedding.

When Yoav GS'11, the first of their three children, was born in 1983, Oren told the obstetrician that his son "would never wear a helmet" because of his own traumatic experience in Lebanon, where his unit suffered heavy casualties and its commander was killed. “And I thought in 18 years we wouldn't be at war still,” Oren says. But Yoav, now 32, did serve in the military; he was wounded in 2004 on the West Bank by a Palestinian terrorist. (Oren's other children are Lia, 28, and Noam, 25.) Violence affected the family in another, horrific way. Oren's wife's sister was killed in 1995 while visiting Israel when a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up on a bus in which she was a passenger.

Carrying both Israeli and American passports, Oren easily crossed back and forth between “the Israeli-American divide,” a not uncommon condition for many Israelis with roots or careers spanning both countries. Oren returned to the U.S. in September 1982 to complete a doctorate at Princeton, and to teach history.

Oren, the scholar, wrote the 2002 best-seller Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East. Eliot A. Cohen, in Foreign Affairs, called it "a gripping account narrative that sheds light not only on the tortured politics of the region but on the broader, troubling question of how politicians may find themselves drawn into a conflict that they have neither anticipated nor desired."

Oren has also written two novels, one of which, Reunion, is based on his father's WWII Army combat experience during the Battle of the Bulge. In 2009, Oren was teaching “America in the Middle East” and “The Military History of the Middle East” at Georgetown when the ambassadorship to the U.S. opened up, and he decided to throw his hat in the ring. The ambas-
sad sponsorship "connected me to the two parts of my identity," he says now. "It was the link between Israel and the United States. I didn't want to be the ambassador to Switzerland." His first diplomatic post was also Israel's most important.

To assume the post, Oren had to renounce his U.S. citizenship and surrender his American passport. "I cried, literally," he says. However, he adds, "I understood it wouldn't make me any less of an American, less of a football fan or less of a Civil War buff."

In Washington, Oren would represent not only his adopted country but also the Likud government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a controversial figure among American Jews. His challenge would be to walk a fine line, defending the government against its critics and against skeptics in the administration of President Barack Obama '83 while seeking to maintain good relations with the increasingly divided American Jewish community.

Publicly, Oren frequently referred to Israeli-American relations as "unbreakable and unshakeable." In Aliy, however, Oren writes that privately he found Obama sometimes overly sympathetic to the Arab world while browbeating Israel. "I'm a centrist," Oren said during his recent American tour. "Enough. Let's stop calling each other names." But in his memoir, he is critical of the administration's negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program, and he discloses that he later disagreed with Netanyahu's decision to address Congress as politically polarizing.

Being ambassador was, Oren says, "four years in a pressure cooker, with very little sleep." Obama during the four years I was ambassador" (actually 4½, as he ascended to Netanyahu's request that he extend for six months).

In Rothkopf's view, Oren as a "strategic thinker" was "an extremely effective spokesman for the Israeli government. He was a very effective advocate and talented diplomat. He sought to advance what he saw as his country's interest through a position of strength. He has had to face and navigate moment-to-moment political and personal tensions while keeping his eye on the long-term arc of the relationship."

After Oren stepped down as ambassador in October 2013, he did not have concrete plans. But Rothkopf had an idea. As he recalls, "I said, 'Look, what are you going to do next?' He said, 'I don't know.' I said, 'What about politics?' He hadn't thought of it. I said, 'If you don't try, you won't be satisfied. You need to check that box.' He felt he wanted to retain a seat at the table. That was the most reasonable path."

A typical day for the Knesset member Oren begins early enough for him to read four or five newspapers before he drives 1½ hours from his home in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The Knesset meets in plenary sessions Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Committee meetings begin at 9 a.m. and last until 2 p.m. or 4 p.m., when the plenary sessions start, and sometimes end late into the night or early the next morning. "I hadn't pulled an all-nighter since Columbia," Oren says. "Now, I do it pretty regularly."

Entering Israeli politics on his own, Oren eschewed the prime minister's conservative Likud party for centrist Kulanu (Hebrew for "all of us") with a center-left domestic agenda but center-right on defense and international issues. With 10 seats, it is the second-largest party in Netanyahu's governing coalition. "I always considered myself somebody who is center-right on security issues and center-left on social issues; Kulanu is closest to that," Oren says.

Though he chairs the key foreign affairs subcommittee on security, he admittedly has a lower profile as one of 120 members of the Knesset than as ambassador. "That's the pinnacle," he says of his previous position, "and frankly there is really nowhere else to go." But, of course, there is. Does he aspire to higher office, say, to be the prime minister? "I'm not going to go there," Oren demurs. "I'm happy serving my country in the best way I can. That's the diplomatic answer."

Oren's fall trip to the U.S. was put together by The Israel Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization that seeks to "inject facts and an honest perspective into the public conversation about Israel, the Middle East and U.S.-Israel relationship."

At American University's Abramson Family Recital Hall, Oren — who had opposed the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq — delivered a ½-hour critique of America's foreign policies in the years since, which he described as a "hodgepodge of American reactions" to the 2011 so-called Arab Spring and to subsequent events, in Libya, Syria and the nuclear deal negotiated with Iran. He then settled his lanky, 6-2 frame into a leather easy chair on stage for a conversation with Professor Tamara Wittes, director of the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, followed by Q&A. Afterward, he lingered to talk to students. Like the politician he is, he also posed for pictures with them.

Looking on, Leslie Meyers, Oren's Israel Project facilitator on this trip, recalled his appearance at Washington's
Politics & Prose in June, perhaps the country’s best-known independent bookstore, when eager buyers formed a long line for him to autograph their copies. “He’s so patient,” Meyers says. “He talked to every person.”

Oren’s next stop that night was the Kennedy Center, where he and current Israeli ambassador Ron Dermer were named 12th — as “the new Israel lobby” — on Politico Magazine’s top 50 list of “thinkers, doers and visionaries transforming American politics in 2015.”

A few days later, Oren was talking again, this time at 6:50 a.m. on CNN with Chris Cuomo. The set’s backdrop was an enlarged cover of Ally. The two discussed escalating tensions in the Middle East and the sometimes difficult Israeli-American relations under President Obama, though Obama’s name was never mentioned.

Oren noted that Palestinian terrorists had killed four Israelis within the past few days and there was a “sense of growing violence.” Right-wingers were demonstrating in front of Netanyahu’s residence demanding retaliation. Even Oren’s children, whom he says are not right-wingers, felt Israel should “do something.”

Ever the teacher, Oren explained that Palestinians are Sunni Muslims who “see what’s happening in Syria,” where Shiites backed by Iran are killing their religious brethren. Palestinians “don’t want this,” he said, reiterating his support for a two-state solution. “But you need someone to sit down at the table with you.”

Cuomo turned the focus back to Israel and America. “Things have changed,” Cuomo said. “It feels different.”

There are “serious differences,” Oren acknowledged. “Iran is a big one,” on which he said there is a national consensus in Israel that “this deal is bad. Iran moved 5,000 soldiers into Syria last week. For us, it’s not just a nuclear issue.”

Yet, politicians aside, Oren added that support for Israel in this country is at an all-time high.

Cuomo wrapped up the segment reminding viewers of Ally, adding, “I read it.”

Not missing a beat, Oren offered to autograph his copy.

Eugene L. Meyer ’64 is a former longtime Washington Post reporter, an author and the editor of B’nai Brith Magazine.
Shakespeare, literary architect, performs a gut renovation and creates a classic

James Shapiro ’77 is the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature and an eminent Shakespeare specialist: the Shakespeare Scholar in Residence at New York’s Public Theater, a member of the Board of Directors at the Royal Shakespeare Company and a governor of the Folger Shakespeare Library. His last book (as an editor) was Shakespeare in America: An Anthology from the Revolution to Now (Library of America, 2014).

Shapiro’s latest foray into the Bard’s works, The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606 (Simon & Schuster, 2015), takes a radically new look at the so-familiar author. Shapiro admits that, like most scholars, he saw Shakespeare as mainly an Elizabethan writer; the playwright grew to prominence during the “Gloriana” era’s gradual decline. But three of Shakespeare’s best-known tragedies — King Lear, Macbeth and Antony and Cleopatra — were written in a single, extraordinary year early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth’s successor, King James. James had actually named Shakespeare and his players the “King’s Men,” his official theater company, by 1603.

In The Year of Lear, Shapiro describes how Shakespeare’s Lear was written in the shadows of England’s Jacobean gloom, as London was beset by plague and the bitter aftermath of treason. He shows us Shakespeare’s efforts to renovate an older dramatic work (King Leir, performed by the Queen’s Men) and the subtle literary changes he used to make it modern.

— Rose Kernochan BC’82
K
ing Lear draws so extensively from King Lear that Shakespeare’s indebtedness couldn’t have come solely from what he recalled from acting in it or seeing it staged years earlier, however prodigious his memory. The profusion of echoes confirms that reading the recently printed edition proved to be the catalyst for the play now forming in his mind. King Lear’s survival in turn allows us a glimpse of Shakespeare as literary architect — performing a gut renovation of the old original, preserving the frame, salvaging bits and pieces, transposing outmoded features in innovative ways.

Demand for new work was as insatiable at the public theaters as it was at court. Because Elizabethan and Jacobean spectators expected to see a different play every day, playing companies had to acquire as many as twenty new plays a year while rounding out their repertory with at least that many older and reliably popular ones. Attendance would eventually drop when familiar plays began to feel stale, and the task of breathing fresh life into those staged at the Globe would almost certainly have fallen to Shakespeare. While we know that Shakespeare wrote or collaborated on as many as forty plays, we’ll never know how many old ones he touched up. We do know (by comparing early and later versions) that he updated his earliest tragedy, Titus Andronicus (c. 1590–92), adding a poignant new scene in which a maddened Titus tries to kill a fly with a knife. Some scholars believe he was also the author of the speeches added to that old chestnut The Spanish Tragedy (c. 1587), by Thomas Kyd. For all we know, over the course of his career Shakespeare might have refreshed dozens of his company’s plays in this way and was as practiced as anyone at giving a cold, hard look at an old favorite, recognizing what now felt a bit off or what trick had been missed. His ability to pinpoint what was flawed in the works of others was one of his greatest gifts, though not one we know enough about nor celebrate today. It was a talent closely allied to his habit of relying on the plots others had devised rather than inventing his own.

Shakespeare had a talent for recognizing the untapped potential of resonant words, even the simplest ones.

Before he picked up a copy of the old Leir, Shakespeare was already familiar with several versions of this story. He may have first read about Lear’s reign in his well-worn copy of Holinshed’s Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland. He had also read Edmund Spenser’s brief account of it in The Faerie Queene and had come across retellings of the tale in both Mirror for Magistrates and Albion’s England. He might have even consulted Geoffrey of Monmouth’s Latin version of Lear’s story from which all these other versions derive. Yet scholars who have painstakingly compared King Lear with each of these sources conclude that as voracious a reader as Shakespeare was, and as much as he might have drawn on these and other versions of the story for particular details, it was King Lear that he worked most closely from — and against.

That “against” would have been obvious to anyone who compared the title page of King Lear with that of the first printed version of Shakespeare’s play, a quarto that appeared in London’s bookstalls in early 1608. Ordinarily, considerably more time passed before Shakespeare’s playing company turned one of his plays over to a publisher; a delay of a couple of years was closer to the norm for his Elizabethan plays, and as yet not a single one of his Jacobean plays had been printed. So it’s doubly surprising that Shakespeare’s play was entered in the Stationers’ Register in November 1607, less than a year after it was staged at court. The full title of the 1608 quarto of Lear feels like a riposte to the title page of the old play, which had read in full: “The True Chronicle History of King Leir, and his three daughters, Gonorill, Ragan, and Cordella, As it hath been divers and sundry times lately acted.” This time, the publisher not only names the play’s author but — and this was new — gives England’s best-known playwright top billing in large font. The play is emphatically Shakespeare’s: “HIS” is in capital letters and even gets a separate line. The main title that follows is much the same as the old play’s: a “True Chronicle History of the life and death of King LEIR and his three Daughters.” It too claims to be the “True Chronicle History” rather than distinguishing itself, say, as the “True Tragedy of King Lear.” But the title page goes on to distinguish the new play from the old one by emphasizing that it is about both the lives and the deaths of Lear and his three daughters. It also offers more than its predecessor: a secondary plot about “the unfortunate life of Edgar, son and heir to the Earl of Gloucester, and his sullen and assumed humor of Tom of Bedlam.” It would be the first and last time that Shakespeare ever included a parallel plot or subplot in one of his tragedies.

He needed it, because it was immediately clear that the story in Lear lacked counterpoint, a way to highlight Lear’s figurative blindness by juxtaposing it with something more literal. It would also enable him to critique the very notions of authority and allegiance at the heart of the main plot. Shakespeare’s genius was first in discovering the perfect foil to this story and then in almost seamlessly weaving it into the narrative of Lear and his daughters. He found it in a tale about a blinded father and his two sons, one virtuous, the other evil, that he had read years earlier in the most celebrated of Elizabethan prose romances, Sir Philip Sidney’s Arcadia, published in 1590. Sidney’s striking image of a blind and suicidal old man being led to the edge of a cliff by his good son, both of whom appeared “weather-beaten” and in rags, had clearly stuck with Shakespeare. Sidney’s words had also stuck with him, especially what the old man tells his son as he prepared to leap to his death: “Since I cannot persuade thee to lead me to that which should end my grief, and thy trouble, let me now entreat thee to leave me... Fear not the danger of my blind steps, I cannot fall worse than I...” It took very few strokes for Shakespeare to make this scene central to his new play. In Sidney’s story, the suicidal old man had been a king who was blinded and stripped of his kingdom by his
bad son; it was easy enough for Shakespeare to turn him into an earl and a follower of King Lear, then have his evil son implicated in both his undoing and blinding.

What seems inevitable in retrospect was anything but: merging plots from a play and a prose romance to form a double helix, firmly interlocked and mutually illuminating. Shakespeare also saw that Lear's elder daughters could vie for Edmund's affections while the good son, now named Edgar — in Sidney he eventually becomes king — could emerge as something of a hero. All this could replace the meandering and unsatisfying middle of the old play. The anonymous author of Leir seems to have decided that "nothing" would be the motif of Shakespeare would all but scrap. It also solved a major problem of the old play. The anonymous author of Leir had been content to build to a somewhat wooden reconciliation scene between father and daughter, one that failed to pack much emotional punch. Shakespeare's Lear would substitute for that not one but two powerful recognition scenes, the first between Lear and Cordelia, the second, soon after, where the two plots converge, between the mad Lear and the blind Gloucester. It's debatable which of the two is the most heartbreaking scene in the play.

As Lear's division of the kingdoms spills into a psychologically complex drama of two families, motives become more complicated and unsettled. Does Lear go mad because he has foolishly divided his kingdoms or because of his ruinous relationship with his daughters? It's impossible to tell, because in scene after scene the political, the familial, and ultimately the cosmic are so deeply interfused. The fortunate survival of Leir enables us to see the sheer craftsmanship involved in all this. Yet it also needs to be acknowledged that Shakespeare didn't always get the parts to fit together quite so neatly. As keen as he was to work in that image of a suicidal man led by his son to the edge of a cliff, audiences have wondered ever since why Edgar, disguised at this point as Poor Tom, doesn't simply reveal himself to Gloucester (the excuse that Shakespeare gives Edgar, that he is trying to cure his father by putting him through all this, feels lame). And the French invasion of England, though with only partial success.

Rather than rely entirely on his own considerable vocabulary, Shakespeare somewhat surprisingly recycled what he could from the language of the old play. He had a talent for recognizing the untapped potential of resonant words, even the simplest ones. Take "nothing." The word appears often in Leir, even as part of a raunchy joke (Gonorrill and Ragan laugh about women getting stuck with a man "with nothing" — that is, one who is castrated, so has no "thing" [2.3.22–23]). But it is never used with any particular emphasis in that old play, not even when the French king asks Cordella whether Leir has "given nothing to your lovely self?" and she pointedly replies, "He loved me not, and therefore gave me nothing" (2.4.71). Each Shakespeare play has its own distinctive music and, not unlike a symphony, its themes are established at the outset. At an early stage of recasting the old play, Shakespeare seems to have decided that "nothing" would be the motif of Lear's score. The first time we hear the word is after Lear demands of Cordelia what she "can say to win a third more opulent" than her sisters, to which she replies: "Nothing, my lord." Lear, stunned by her response, hurls the word back at her: "How? Nothing can come of nothing" (1.78–81). This first "nothing" takes on a life of its own, reverberating with greater force from then on, punctuated by this pointed exchange between Lear and his Fool:

LEAR. This is nothing, fool.

FOOL. Then, like the breath of an unfe'd lawyer, you gave me nothing for'. Can you make no use of nothing, uncle?

LEAR. Why no, boy. Nothing can be made out of nothing

(4.122–26)

Shakespeare would also, and brilliantly, use "nothing" to suture together the Lear and Gloucester plots. Even as Cordelia's initial response to her father are the words "Nothing, my lord," so too, in his first exchange with his father, Edmund, when asked by Gloucester about the contents of the letter he has hastily hidden, replies, chillingly, with the very same words: "Nothing, my lord" (2.31).

In Shakespeare's hands "nothing" becomes a touchstone — and the idea of nothingness and negation is philosophically central to the play from start to finish. Cruelly, by play's end Lear turns out to be right: nothing does indeed come of nothing, only not in the way he first meant. Early on in imagining his version of Lear's journey, Shakespeare saw that what began with that first "nothing" must end with Lear left with nothing, except, perhaps, the knowledge that his dead and beloved daughter will never return — "never, never, never" (24.303). In the interim the words "never" and "nothing" recur more than thirty times, the word "no" more than 120, and "not" twice that often. The negativity is reinforced by the sixty or so times the prefix "un-
occurs, as characters are "unfriendied," "unprized," "unfortunate," "unnanishment," "unnatural," and "unmerciful." Call it what you will — resistance, refusal, denial, rejection, repudiation — this insistent and almost apocalyptic negativity becomes a recurring drumbeat, the bass line of the play.

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EARTH TONES

Schermerhorn Hall was built in 1897 as the home of Columbia’s natural sciences. Designed by famed architectural firm McKim, Mead & White, the building is known for its inscription above the doorway, which reads “For the advancement of natural science. Speak to the earth and it shall teach thee.”

The building is a gift from former trustees chair William C. Schermerhorn (Class of 1840), who encouraged Columbia’s move to Morningside Heights from its former location in midtown. The gift: $300,000 for a building of whatever purpose the University saw fit.
Columbia Pride Is on the Rise

By Douglas R. Wolf ’88

For those who weren’t at Homecoming this year, let me paint a scene:

I drove to Robert K. Kraft Field from Boston that morning. It promised to be a great day — cool, crisp weather and, just as important, no traffic (or tickets) during the three-hour trip. The Big Tent hummed with the comings and goings of hundreds of people — alumni, students and their families, many wearing an impressively diverse array of Columbia gear. Hellos were called out, lunch plates were heaped full with barbecue sandwiches, pasta salad and corn on the cob. Outside the tent, the youngest attendees tested their skill at a variety of games at the Homecoming Carnival. It wasn’t long before I found my brother Eric Wolf ’86, his son, Adam, and my former roommate Rob Daniel ’88. Our gathering quickly turned into a mini-Carman 9 reunion including Houston’s Sean Wright ’88 and Long Island’s Rich Ritter’88.

Around the inside perimeter of the tent, shared interest groups manned tables to spread the word about their activities. Among these was our Columbia College Alumni Association table, laden with stuffed lions, our proud mascot. The lions sported spirited shirts — navy with our new CCAA logo — and they were as popular as ever. Kids clamored for them. Students pocketed them, literally, turning them into accessories that stuck out of back pockets and shirt pockets and even shirt collars. And then there were the alumni: Some took a lion without hesitation; others felt compelled to offer an explanation for why they wanted the little guy. There were even a few embarrassed-seeming outliers who circled the tent, coming closer to our table with each pass, until finally they asked for one (or two).

But there’s nothing to be embarrassed about. That’s CC Pride. And it’s not limited to Homecoming. It’s here to stay.

Columbia College nation is embracing that. The CCAA numbers tell the story, with 150 meetings, programs and events expected during the 2015–16 academic year. More than 8,000 alumni participated in an event or program last year, with 3,500 involved as active volunteers. We have a bit more than 7,200 Facebook likes, which does not include the many Columbia-based affiliate groups online. We have also almost doubled the number of unique visitors to our website (college.columbia.edu/alumni) in the past year.

Columbia Pride has grown not only within the alumni base but also among students. A visit to campus finds students awash in College colors. I hear from parents that their students rave about the Columbia experience. Recently, a friend’s son questioned whether to apply but after connecting with a current student for an overnight stay, he immediately submitted an early decision application.

We should all take great pride in the accomplishments and contributions of our current and former students. There was a great turnout at Valenti’s College session during Alumni Leaders Weekend in October, where Mike Cook ’65 was presented the President’s Cup for his tireless work on his class’ hugely successful 50th reunion. Session attendees also heard from Yvonne Hsiao ’16, who spoke about her summer experience in California working with the International Medical Corps — an opportunity offered by the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program — provided by Margaret Traub ’88, head of IMC’s Global Initiatives. And there were opportunities to interact with more than a dozen current students from a range of majors and backgrounds, each one already extremely accomplished, and it was clear that the alumni who attended were impressed.

As part of the CCAA Pride campaign, we are hoping to build on this excitement (and have some fun) with our CCAA lion. If you picked up a lion at Homecoming, please take it with you on your adventures and send us photos. Feel free to include yourself or your family in the photos. Please send them to us via Facebook’s Messenger feature (facebook.com/alumnicc), post them on your own page or group pages and use the hashtag #CCPride or email them to the Alumni Office: ccalumni@columbia.edu. If you don’t yet have a lion, never fear; they will be available at upcoming CCAA events.

ROAR, LION, ROAR!

Left to right: Doug Wolf ’88 and Rob Daniel ’88; Justin Ifill ’06 and Christine Ortiz ’08
Dan Dolgin ’74, LAW’77 was honored by Community Impact at its Fall 2015 Gala Benefit Auction with the Outstanding Community Service Award. Dolgin is the director and co-founder of Power My Learning, a national nonprofit that uses technology to improve student achievement with a focus on blended learning, professional development and family engagement.

School of the Arts associate professor of the professional practice of film Ramin Bahrani ’96 won the grand prize at the American Film Festival in Deauville, France, for his film 99 Homes. The psychological thriller, which debuted on September 25, is centered around the U.S. subprime mortgage crisis and stars Andrew Garfield and Michael Shannon.

Jacob Marx Rice ’12’s play Coping, a black comedy about suicide, mental illness, love and family, premiered at the New York International Fringe Festival on August 16. At the 2014 Fringe Festival Rice won the Excellence in Playwriting Award for his show Chemistry. The Coping production team included Alex Donnelly ’14, Allie Carieri ’15 and Fernanda Douglas ’16.

On September 30, former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, LAW’76 received Harvard’s W.E.B. Du Bois Medal, the school’s highest honor in the field of African and African-American studies. The award is given to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to African-American culture.

Actress and model Hari Nef ’15 has broken new ground on the runway, becoming in May the first openly transgender model to be signed by the U.S. offices of modeling agency IMG Worldwide. In July it was announced that she would join the cast of Transparent, an Amazon series that focuses on a family with a transgender parent. The second season, featuring Nef, was set to debut on December 4.

Chris Baio ’07 of the popular band Vampire Weekend (whose other members are Ezra Koenig ’06, Rostam Batmanglij ’06 and Chris Tomson ‘06) released his debut solo album, The Names, on September 18. Baio’s press release, which appeared in Spin magazine, said the project “has reverberated through my mind for much of the last five years ... Its themes began to take shape when I moved from New York to London in 2013.” The album’s first single, “Brainwash yyr Face,” reached No. 28 on the Billboard Twitter Emerging Artists chart.

Richard Ravitch ’55 was inducted into Crain’s Hall of Fame 2015, which honors those who have had decades of business and civic leadership success. In a profile that accompanied the announcement, Ravitch said, “I was able to accomplish what I did because there are two things I understand well: finance and politics. I could always explain politics to the business world, and business to the political world.”

Brian Dennehy ’60 starred in the 10-part TNT drama Public Morals, which is set in 1967 and focuses on the NYPD’s Public Morals Division. The Golden Globe and two-time Tony winner played a mobster who controls the west side of Manhattan.

Journalists Jodi Kantor ’96 and David Streitfeld coauthored “Inside Amazon: Wrestling Big Ideas in a Bruising Workplace,” a New York Times exposé on the inner workings of Amazon and its grueling corporate culture. The piece, which was published on August 16, caused controversy when Amazon disputed its representation in the article; it also sparked wider debate about workplace practices in the tech industry.

Thomas Dyja ’84’s book, The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream, was selected by the Chicago Public Library as the focus of its semi-annual “One Book, One Chicago” program. This latest installment of the program — which encourages all Chicagoans to read the same work with the goal of fostering community and a book club-like atmosphere throughout the city — began in October and will continue through April. The Chicago Tribune calls Dyja’s work “a beautifully written exploration of the cultural explosion that took place [in Chicago] roughly between the end of World War II into the 1960s ...”.

— Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09
Horn

Lea Goldman ’98 Is a Shot-caller Among Shot-callers

By Lauren Steussy

When Lea Goldman ’98 joined Marie Claire in 2008, there seemed to be a running cliché in women’s magazines: a credit card frozen in a block of ice.

The symbolism was used in advice columns and articles, and sometimes in illustrations for those columns and articles. It spoke to the narrow and increasingly outdated notion that women couldn’t make their own decisions, financial or otherwise — a concept proven wrong not only by the women reading the magazines but also by Goldman herself.

“It was never the real stuff happening at work,” Goldman, now Marie Claire’s co-executive editor, says over lunch in the magazine’s Midtown headquarters. “Questions like ‘I just got a job offer. Am I just supposed to take the offer and be grateful?’ Or ‘How should I ask for more money?’ There were real questions people had — that I had, too — about work that were not acknowledged.”

Goldman’s answer to those questions was a section she started in the magazine in 2011 called “@Work,” about empowered women and their professional lives. It’s filled with profiles, advice and the ever-elusive definition of “business casual” fashion.

As a writer, editor, and television and web personality living in New Jersey with her husband and two young sons, Goldman embodies the values reflected in the section’s pages. She’s audacious, stylish and unabashedly successful.

“I have passions outside the office,” she says, “but my work is very important to me. I network my face off and love it. I’m trying to be as versatile as I see a lot of these women in the magazine are.”

Prior to joining Marie Claire as features and special projects editor, Goldman was hired at Forbes magazine straight out of Columbia and worked her way up to senior editor. Along the way, she covered finance, wealth and entertainment, and compiled some of the magazine’s “Top 100” valuation lists.

Goldman studied literature at the College but admits she was more involved in extracurriculars, like student council, and was an RA. She co-founded the now highly anticipated annual Bacchanal
festival, introducing to the stage a rapper you may have heard of named Busta Rhymes and a little band called Sonic Youth.

At Marie Claire, in addition to launching the @Work section, Goldman edited the magazine's first column for plus-sized women. As a writer, she authored an expose, “The Big Business of Breast Cancer,” which won the James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism. This spring, she'll appear regularly as an expert in a still-to-be-named reality TV show premiering on Oxygen about women entrepreneurs. As someone who believes that women should “toot their own horns,” Goldman is not shy about the grit required to achieve these feats.

“She is just so tough,” said Dennis Kneale, Goldman’s colleague at Forbes and now a media consultant. “She eats roofing nails for breakfast ... yet at the same time, she's delightfully sardonic, she has such a sense of the absurd and she's driven for high performance.”

Kneale, who was Forbes' managing editor at the time Goldman worked there, recalls Goldman's decision to put rapper 50 Cent on the magazine's celebrity issue cover in 2004. Goldman recognized that the choice to feature him was edgy and captivating. "It scared the bejabbers out of our readers, but that was genius: taking something that was a culture story but realizing it was a finance story."

Aside from writing and editing, Goldman is constantly looking for partnerships, knowing that “in this media world we live in now ... you have to wear many hats.” In 2013, after Goldman’s profile of NFL lawyer Anastasia Danias was published, Goldman helped launch a partnership with the league that would include the magazine running a 16-page spread on women sports fans. "No other women’s magazines were talking about the fact that on Monday morning, women were gathering and talking about 'the game,'” she says. The league then added more clothing offerings for women and the magazine continued to devote more real estate to sports and fandom.

“What I love about Marie Claire, what speaks to me about the magazine, is that modern women can be as interested in fashion as they are about what’s happening in Europe right now, or the immigration crisis, or the presidential debates,” Goldman says. "For a long time, if you read women's magazines, there was that tacit assumption that you weren't reading The Wall Street Journal."

As a result of her resourcefulness and eye toward the modern woman, Goldman rarely reads of credit cards in ice blocks but frequently of women who have long broken through glass ceilings and are ready to “rule the world,” she says. "What I'm most fascinated with is that I get to chronicle a revolution."

To read some of Goldman's articles, including her award-winning piece on the breast cancer industry and a Spectator piece on the first Bacchanal, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Dick Wagner ’54 Takes Hands-on Approach to Maritime History

By Michael R. Shea SOA’10

Walking the shore of Seattle’s Lake Union in the late 1960s, Dick Wagner ’54 and his wife, Colleen, noticed a change on the waterfront. The fiberglass revolution had hit boat building, and longtime makers of classic wooden craft were closing up shop.

Back on their houseboat, with their own collection of a dozen small wooden sailboats tied to the stern, the couple decided to act. They hung a sign, “The Old Boat House,” on the dock, and began renting their little fleet to all comers. With that, a new kind of hands-on maritime museum was born.

"Before the summer was over, three newspapers and three TV stations interviewed me, and everyone and their pet pig knew this was a place to learn about sailing and to have a lot of fun," Wagner says.

Today, The Center for Wooden Boats (CWB) is an interactive museum and education center on Lake Union. A nonprofit since 1976, it has worked with more than 60 communities around the world to promote the art and history of sailing and of wooden boat building. St. Petersburg, Russia; Alexandria, Va.; Fogo Island, Newfoundland; Provo, Utah; Coos Bay, Ore.; Sausalito, Calif., and Kalispell, Mont., all have similar sailing education centers, started under the tutelage of the Wagners.
"We provide a direct, hands-on educational experience," Wagner says. "Learning to sail is like learning to ride a bike or learning to drive. It’s not an education by laptop or lectern. You learn naturally, by watching and doing."

An architect by training, Wagner studied history at the College and credits art and architecture professor George R. Collins for first exposing him to hands-on education. "His assignments were to go around New York, to look at buildings, to talk to architects," Wagner recalls. "I’d walk up and down the avenues, discovering art, talking with people about buildings, writing architects with questions."

While at the Yale School of Architecture, where he earned a master’s in 1958, Wagner interned one summer for a Seattle firm. The New Jersey native had never been west of the Delaware River. "I fell in love with Seattle," he says. After another summer internship, he moved to Lake Union, and fell in love again, with Colleen. Around that same time, Wagner’s work took him to Puget Sound. On the dock he watched a man struggling with the mast of an old wooden sailboat. Wagner offered to help, and in time learned to sail himself. "He was one of these guys who didn’t say much," Wagner recalls. "He had me watch, then pointed out a thing or two to do. I wish I remembered his name." The friendship was brief, but Wagner learned much and was soon studying books on sailing and boat building.

After Wagner’s marriage to Colleen, the couple traveled the world together by sea, hitching passage on a Dutch olive oil tanker and Grecian passenger ships, and worked for four months on an archeology dig in Masada, Israel.

On their return in 1968, the Wagners began teaching sailing and renting out wooden boats. They soon saw their future in community-based teaching. Wagner continued contract architect work, but dedicated much of his time to educating locals and tourists about catboats and Marconi rigged sloops.

"More work than you can imagine goes into a wooden boat, a boat that’s seaworthy and beautiful," Wagner says. "The steaming of wood and making of perfect joints, the bronze fastenings. These aren't craftsmen cutting pieces of soap, and in the late 1960s it was only being done in parts of Maine and on our little lake in Seattle."

The center’s sites — two on Lake Union, one on Camano Island in nearby Puget Sound — receive more than 100,000 visitors a year. CWB is poised to break ground on a fourth site on Lake Union in early 2016, the Wagner Education Center, which will provide learning opportunities for more than 5,000 children annually.

"Dick has this indefatigable imagination but what makes it special is it’s always in service of the community," says Caren Crandall, CWB’s first assistant director and now a professor at the University of Washington. "Before the center, South Lake Union was a rather stark industrial place, and now it’s home to museums, restaurants, a city park, public water access. In 30-plus years it’s been completely transformed, and Dick’s vision showed people how that was possible."

At CWB, preschoolers can listen to maritime tales aboard heritage vessels. Elementary school students can build toy boats with hand tools. Middle schoolers and high schoolers can construct replica boats and learn to sail them. There are programs for the physically disabled, including sailing instruction for the wheelchair-bound, the deaf and the blind. Many of CWB’s workshops and programs are focused on disadvantaged and underserved youth who wouldn’t otherwise have access to the waterfront.

“We’re thrilled to see people of all ages learning something," Wagner says. "It’s changed many lives, and I couldn’t be happier about it.”

Michael R. Shea SOA’10 is a freelance writer based in Ithaca, N.Y. His work regularly appears in Field & Stream and a variety of other outdoor publications. Visit michaelrshea.com or find him @michaelrshea.

Reading the Snowflakes, Judah Cohen ’85 Calls the Weather

By Kim Martineau JRN’97

Judah Cohen ’85, GSAS ’94 saw the return of the polar vortex before anyone else. Months before repeated snowstorms hit New York and Boston in 2014, he warned that the northeastern United States was in for an “active and interesting” winter.

A commercial weather and climate analyst in Boston, Cohen has called three of the last four winters correctly, and his long-range forecasts have hit the mark 75 percent of the time, an astoundingly good record in a field notorious for its bad calls.

“It’s incredibly satisfying to be right," he says. “It almost feels like having super powers.”

Cohen’s approach is unique. In mid-November, he looks at how much snow accumulated in Siberia the month before to predict how cold and snowy the eastern United States and Europe will be come January. By contrast, most of his peers look south to the tropics and use dynamical models to predict how the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and other dominant climate pat-
I Cohen shared an office with two other work-study students.

“He’s a master at sensing and feeling out special patterns, especially this one,” says his former Ph.D. adviser, David Rind GSAS’76, an emeritus researcher at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS).

As Cohen explains it, when snow cover in Siberia is heavier than usual, a dome of cold and dense air forms over the ground, forcing the jet stream north and sending strong atmospheric waves high into the stratosphere. The polar vortex breaks down, spilling frigid air over the Arctic into North America and westward into Europe.

Though his hypothesis has yet to be fully validated by dynamical models — considered the bible of modern forecasting — the media has embraced it. “Judah Cohen’s winter forecasts have a stellar track record,” says Jason Samenow, weather editor for The Washington Post. “His methodologies, while still needing to stand the test of time, show tremendous promise.”

Cohen grew up with his eyes on the weather. At the ocean’s edge, in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, he noticed thunderstorms were more common and coastal storms often brought more snow than to other parts of New York City. The eldest son of an ice cream distributor and computer programmer, he arrived at Columbia knowing he wanted to study the weather.

Though Columbia did not offer meteorology classes, it did provide access to some of the best minds in climate science, at GISS. Located above Tom’s Restaurant, where it remains, GISS ran its climate models on an IBM computer that filled an entire floor. Cohen shared an office with two other work-study students.

Meteorologist Marshall Shepherd (left) had Judah Cohen ‘85, GSAS’94 on his Weather Channel show, Weather Geeks, on November 3 to give his long-range winter forecast.

After graduating with a degree in geology, he set out for the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in meteorology but left after one semester. He wasn’t interested in his assigned master’s topic, fog in the Los Angeles basin. Snow was his passion. Back at Columbia, on his way toward a Ph.D. in atmospheric science, he first noticed that snow created problems when inserted into climate prediction models. Thick or thin, snow cover seemed to have no effect on the predicted weather.

To anyone familiar with real-world weather, including the professors evaluating Cohen’s master’s thesis, this seemed absurd. Splitting with his advisers at GISS, the observational scientists at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory flunked him. Mark Cane, the Lamont scientist who built the first model predicting an El Niño event, was called in to break the tie. “It was like the Roman Colosseum,” Cohen remembers. “Cane was going to decide — thumbs up or thumbs down.”

Spared from the lions that day, Cohen vowed to work harder and question the models. “It bred in him a need to rely more on observations,” says Rind.

On a cold day in December 1994, Cohen passed his Ph.D. defense, a mug of snow by his side for good luck. He was married by then to Sherri Rabinovitz BC’91, a psychology major he met on a bus ride home from a Washington, D.C., rally to support Jews trying to flee the Soviet Union. They moved to Boston, and Cohen started a postdoctoral fellowship at MIT.

At the encouragement of his adviser, he added snow cover on land to his climate models and came to favor Arctic snow over ENSO as the lead predictor of winter weather. “It was complete blasphemy,” he says. “I’d go on job interviews and people would lecture me on how wrong I was.”

Atmospheric and Environmental Research, a commercial weather firm in Lexington, Mass., hired him as a staff scientist in 1998 and promoted him to director of seasonal forecasting seven years later. Now living in Newton, he and his wife have a daughter, Gabriella BC’18, and twin 17-year-old sons, Jordan and Jonathon.

After a string of snowy winters, Cohen in late December 2010 penned an Op-Ed in The New York Times, “Bundle Up, It’s Global Warming.” He explained that the extreme cold in the United States and Europe was not at odds with human-caused global warming.

The rapid loss of Arctic sea ice in summer, he argued, exposed more open water to the atmosphere, with the added moisture feeding snow over Eurasia. A blizzard struck New York that day. The phone rang steadily after.

For the last four years, Cohen has provided the winter and summer outlooks on Boston’s ABC affiliate. After his prescience last year, when Boston was buried under a winter-season-record 110.6 inches of snow, The Boston Globe chose to feature him and his science under the headline, “The person happiest about all this snow.”

The validation still feels sweet after what he calls “the rollercoaster” of the last 20 years.

“I am very proud of all those correct forecasts,” he says.

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The validation still feels sweet after what he calls “the rollercoaster” of the last 20 years.

“I am very proud of all those correct forecasts,” he says.
New York has one thing that no other city in the world has, and that’s Broadway,” says Michael Riedel ’89, author of the gossip-rich Razzle Dazzle: The Battle for Broadway (Simon & Schuster, $27). Want to know about the hidden apartments above some of Times Square’s most desirable theaters? Or how a stuck curtain in rehearsals led to 42nd Street’s iconic opening tap number? Riedel reveals Broadway’s secrets in this behind-the-scenes history of theater and its impact on New York City.

Writer of the New York Post’s theater column since 1998, and with five years covering theater for The Daily News before that, Riedel is well positioned to take on his subject. He supplements his insider knowledge with thorough research, including interviews with some of Broadway’s biggest names — among them, The Shubert Organization chairman Philip J. Smith; choreographer, performer and director Tommy Tune; composer Andrew Lloyd Webber; and lyricist Tim Rice.

Riedel became immersed in the theater world shortly after graduation, when he was hired as the managing editor of TheaterWeek magazine. He enlisted critic, playwright and former Columbia theater professor Eric Bentley as a contributor, and soon after took Bentley up on his offer to rent a room in his Riverside Drive apartment. Riedel says that the next two years were “like going to graduate school with the most brilliant professor you can imagine. I’d have dinner with him two or three nights per week, and we’d talk about Brecht, Shaw, Shakespeare. He had a massive library, and everything he talked about I could go read.”

That specialist knowledge is peppered throughout Razzle Dazzle. The book traces the highs and lows of NYC theater, from the Great Depression to the golden age of musicals in the ’50s and ’60s, the financial crisis in the ’70s and ’80s, and Broadway’s modern rebirth into a billion-dollar industry. It also demonstrates how deeply Broadway’s and the city’s fortunes are intertwined, beginning with the story of how the Shubert brothers (Sam, Lee and J.J.) founded their theater empire at the turn of the 20th century.

“I didn’t want to write a book that was just a little theater book,” says Riedel. “I needed a broader stage. The book works because all these shenanigans, all the gossip, the friendships and betrayals, the back-stabbing and in-fighting, the triumphs and failures — all that is taking place in front of this much larger story of New York City collapsing, and how the city revitalized itself.”

Riedel gives special focus to Bernard Jacobs LAW’40 and Gerald Schoenfeld, the former heads of The Shubert Organization, and their work to revitalize the derelict Times Square area in the ’70s and ’80s. The pair, he reports, were brought into the company as attorneys for the Shubert brothers in the mid-’50s and in 1972 ousted Shubert heir Larry Shubert when his drinking and poor money management were driving the organization into bankruptcy. They then went on a mission to reinvigorate the company, moving from being just landlords of 17 Shubert-owned Times Square theaters to producing shows and seeking new works in which to invest.

The book has its share of juicy stories as well, such as how director and choreographer Michael Bennett (Dreamgirls) and his protégé Tune (Nine) feuded behind the scenes of the 1982 Tony Awards as their shows competed for the Best Musical prize. It describes how Cats went from being deemed, according to creator Webber, “a daft idea of doing a musical based on a book of poems about cats” that struggled to get funding to a global phenomenon. And it portrays producer David Merrick as a larger-than-life character, with one account detailing how he tricked investors into selling him back the rights to 42nd Street when he realized it would be a hit.

“I was blessed by the fact that it’s a book about theater people and they are, by nature, theatrical and intensely colorful, and they speak in dramatic and captivating ways,” says Riedel. “The joy of doing the book was that I got to spend a lot of time with these wonderful characters.”
Pure Act: The Uncommon Life of Robert Lax ‘38 by Michael N. McGregor SOD’97. Lax, an experimental poet, is known in the United States mainly as the best friend of Trappist monk Thomas Merton ‘38. But this singular man — whose life as an artist and spiritual seeker took him from the halls of *The New Yorker*, into the company of a traveling circus, to a remote Greek island — warrants attention in his own right (Fordham University Press, $34.95).


Down in Laos: Heroism & Inspiration During the Vietnam War by Francis J. Partel Jr. ‘63. This fictional action-thriller follows what happens when a downed Navy pilot becomes a prisoner of the Pathet Laos. The author, himself a Navy veteran, draws to the graduates of Kenyon College. In this book, scholars examine the late writer’s abiding concern for the importance of free choice, and other themes (Columbia University Press, $25).

Against Time: Letters from Nazi Germany, 1938–1939 by Francis W. Hober ’65. Johannes Hober left Nazi Germany for America on November 12, 1938; his wife and 9-year-old daughter followed the next September. This collection of 135 letters, discovered by their son — author Hober — chronicles the couple’s separation and acclimation to a new country (American Philosophical Society Press, $37).

Sinatra’s Century: One Hundred Notes on the Man and His World by David Lehman ’70. Rediscover “Old Blue Eyes” through the eyes of another — lifetime fan and prominent poet Lehman. In celebration of what would have been Sinatra’s 100th birthday this December, the author offers reflections on the entertainer’s career in music and movies; his relationships, both romantic and Rat Packian; and his signature style and influence (HarperCollins, $24.99).

Two Men Fighting in a Landscape by Bill Christopher ’71. An imagined debate with Robert Frost is among the entries in this poetry collection from the Pushcart Prize-nominated Christopher. The 50-plus works toggle between experimental sonnets, free verse and traditional forms (Aldrich Press, $17).

Heal Your Hips: How to Prevent Hip Surgery and What to Do if You Need It by Dr. Robert Klapper ’79 and Lynda Huey. Klapper, chief of orthopedic surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Group in Los Angeles, and his co-author offer this second edition of their 1999 health and fitness guide. This updated version includes fundamental concepts from the original as well as breakthroughs in the orthopedic field (Turner Publishing Co., $17.95).

Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E. B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of *The New Yorker* by Thomas Vinciguerra ’85. Founded in 1925, *The New Yorker* came into its own in the period between the Jazz Age and the end of WWII. Vinciguerra chronicles how the eponymous trio, described by founding editor Harold Ross as his staff “geniuses,” and their colleagues shaped the magazine’s unique style (W.W. Norton & Co., $27.95).

Spectacles of Themselves: Essays in Italian American Popular Culture and Literature by George Guida ’89. What can a study of the dialect in Martin Scorsese’s *GoodFellas* tell us about the characters and their world? How did singer Louis Prima’s swinging, multi-lingual style work to draw in audiences — and what message does it send about ethnicity? The author examines these and other questions (Bordighera Press, $18).


Strange Tools: Art and Human Nature by Alva Noë. How can creative works be used to understand what makes us human? Philosopher and neurologist Noë undertakes a wide-ranging investigation in pursuit of the answer. Insights come from sources as diverse as Cézanne, Bruce Springsteen and Rosemary’s Baby (Hill and Wang, $28).

With Animal by Carol Guicci ’90 and Kelly Magee. This short story collection conjures a world where human parents have animal offspring. From bees to sheep and squirrels, strange pregnancies give way to the practicalities and poignancies that come with raising any child. When you’re having a dragon, even extra-hot salsa tastes mild (Black Lawrence Press, $15.95).


— Alexis Tonti SOD’11
The third heat of a 1951 track meet on South Field.

1941
Robert Zucker
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Hello, CC’41. Please note my new email address, at the top of this column, and send me a note with your news.

My great-granddaughter graduated from NYU and is spending her time post-graduation traveling — she’s now up to roughly 50 countries. Of my other great-grandchildren, two are enrolled at High Point University and one is at Smith. My great-grandson, who is still in high school, is interested in attending Class Day with me in the spring for the Alumni Parade of Classes. I will carry our Class of 1941 banner and would be happy to have other classmates join me, as it will be the 75th anniversary of our graduation.

1942
Melvin Hershkowitz
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In July, I had a phone call from my old pal Arthur Wellington to tell me he had entered the Woodbrook Assisted Living Residence in Elmira, N.Y. Arthur, handicapped by progressive arthritis, was entirely lucid and in good spirits. His supportive family is nearby, and he is able to read and maintain his longtime interest in horse racing and other sports. Arthur can be reached at Woodbrook Assisted Living Residence, Unit 115, 1250 Maple Ave., Elmira, NY 14904.

Your correspondent was invited to attend, on October 10, the 90th birthday party of Avra Mark, widow of Herbert Mark. Herb, who died in 2006, Bob Kaufman and I roomed together in Livingston Hall in our sophomore year and remained lifelong friends. I keep in touch with Bob, who lives in Scarsdale, N.Y. Avra lives in Tuckahoe, N.Y. Her grandson, Christopher Mark ’02, rowed on the freshman crew team and lives in New York City.

As I write these notes in mid-September, my perpetual event calendar reminder that my old friend Gerald Klingon will celebrate his 95th birthday on September 22. Gerry lives in New York City and continues to pursue his interests in Columbia football, baseball, politics and American
This past summer, Dr. G.J. D’Angio ’43 and his family vacationed on Bermuda’s South Shore, making his great-granddaughter the fifth generation to visit the island.

is a strong team (the final score was 44-24, Fordham). Three Columbia games were scheduled to be televised this year: at Princeton on October 2 on NBCSN, at Yale on October 31 on Fox College Sports and at Brown on November 20 on NBCSN. Fourteen other Ivy League games will also be televised during the season, an extraordinary level of exposure for this conference. Apparently, the national

tional pull of those two institutions that put me in the orbit of academic pediatrics. And I met both my wives in those halls.

Fellow ’43ers: We’re supposed to be the greatest generation. Send me your great “What if?” please. What if your coach in high school hadn’t said what he did? Or you hadn’t seen that Paul Muni movie? Or you hadn’t heard that radio broadcast? Only faithful Bernie Weisberger and I have kept this column going for the last several issues. Let me hear from you!

I decided years ago that buying unwanted birthday, Christmas or other anniversary gifts for family members was foolish. A better idea was to provide an all-expenses-paid weekend get-together once a year. In those seven days would be wrapped all the usual annual gifts. This year our destination was Bermuda. I have been going there with my family for years off and on. We have always favored the South Shore (Pagar), so we returned there in August with my great-granddaughter, Maggie (2). She thus became the fifth generation D’Angio — in her case, D’Angio-White — who has walked those same coral sands I first saw 60 years ago that month. The week was a success.

My wife, Audrey, and I were reflecting recently on how chance events have very much governed the way we have lived our lives. In her case, it was a friendly neurosurgeon in Edinburgh who steered her to Boston for her postgraduate pediatric training as a Fulbright Scholar. The Scot had a close friend and colleague at Harvard: what if his friend had been in San Francisco? For me, what if Columbia had rejected my application? I had naively applied only there. Or what if I had chosen NYU (where my brother was already enrolled) for my medical training, rather than Harvard? Harvard Medical School and Boston Children’s Hospital abut on Longwood Avenue. It was the gravi-
1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

CCT sends CC'45 best wishes for the holiday season. We’re saddened not to have received any updates for this issue and hope you’ll consider sending us a note for the New Year. We, and your classmates, want to hear how you’ve been and what you’re planning to do in the first quarter of 2016. You can send news to either address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Be well and of good cheer!

Public Relations Office as a reporter and then as news chief. After being discharged, I was delighted to be accepted at P&S, where I met Al Starr PS’49, Paul Marks PS’49 and Steve Krane PS’51.

It is good to see the names of friends and acquaintances from that distant, hectic time in the ’46 Class Notes columns, such as Herb Hendin, Art Lazarus, Jake Israel, Pete Rogatz, Barney Zumoff, Arnie Zentner and distinguished historian Fritz Stern. I regret that I did not keep in touch with many friends and acquaintances at the College and P&S.

“My writing career was distinguished only by satirical poetry published in The Journal of the American Medical Association, Pediatries, The New England Journal of Medicine, and Look magazine. I also wrote three scientific papers, one of which gave me 15 minutes of fame when it was picked up by many lay medical columnists. My satirical Understanding Your Baby Doctor’s Behavior in Pediatries was enjoyed by Drs. Louise Aines and Frances Ilg, whose newspaper column I spoofed."

Scanning an issue of Northwest Mining & Timber magazine, which covers the mining industry in the far west of the United States, I came across a photo captioned “Extraordinary, Private First Class John S. McConnell a U.S. Army Private and Engineer.” The picture was taken from a published history of the 76th Infantry Division (WWII) and shows the moment after John had crossed the Rhine River during the war. After his first wife died, John married Pearl Colhoff and he proudly told me, “Together we have 25 kids and grandkids, plus or minus.”

Plus or minus? Come on John, a Columbia grad can count.

Here’s some grizzly bear trivia that I bet you didn’t know, from a Post Falls, Idaho, newspaper clipping sent by John: “Every year in July, cutworm moths migrate from the plains toward the alpine highlands … where the moths feed on late blooming alpine wildflowers. Grizzly bears follow. The moths provide grizzlies with the highest source of protein available — even higher than feeding on deer.”

1947

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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New York, NY 10025
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Only Dr. Nicholas Giosa got in touch for this issue. Here, one of his poems:

Vanity of Vanities

Keep me from anonymity!
Mark my having been
with exclamation
more substantial than some tilled stone
worn by wind and receptive rain;
that might bemoan —
als — a burdened Dane’s summation:

a short soliloquy.

Nor were the hour
with some master’s sweeping eulogy:

a fleeting swath of fire written
across evening’s timeless bulletin —
disquieting trajectory!

Instead,
if I could choose,
let it be but a word or phrase that
only I have said.

CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You can also send news online using the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season and 2016.

1946

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2-5, 2016
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Bernard Sunshine
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New York, NY 10023
bsuns1@gmail.com

Lawrence Ross PS’51 sent in the following reflections: “Because of my experience as associate editor of the Columbian in ’45, when I arrived in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ. Following reflections: “Because of my experience as associate editor of the Columbian in ’45, when I arrived in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ._in Japan during the occupation I 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1951

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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George Koplinka
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Greetings, CC‘51. Although there is no news to share this time, you are encouraged to send in a Class Note — your classmates want to hear from you, and no news is too small. Please send updates to the email address at the top of this column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Thank you for reading and be well!

1953

Lew Robins
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James Higginbottom sent the following: “Since graduation, I have read every CCT and happily have kept up with all those mentioned in each issue — a lot of my fraternity brothers and especially my fellow oarsmen from the freshman, JV and Varsity crews of 1949–53. The recently published book The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics has taken me back to my time on the crew. I’ll attempt to fill in a few of the gaps with a sketchy account my life. I could not qualify physically for any of the OC courses offered in 1953, so I volunteered for the draft and entered the Army in September 1953. In July 1955 I married a ray of sunshine named Patti Staat (from Seattle), whom I met in Colorado Springs while at Fort Carson. The Army made use of my liberal arts education and promoted me to sergeant (E5) to run the pay and allotments section of an infantry regiment. Upon separation from the Army, I began my career in September 1955 and have had a wonderful and happy life selling vital circuit wire and cable to U.S. railroad signal departments. After a career of constant travel and deep involvement in the railroad industry, the Olenoite Co. retired Patti and me unexpectedly in June 2013, and we have been occupied with our physicians, chemo and family ever since but only recently have we been able to have the time we wanted with the family. Our five children have blessed us with 17 grandchildren and we are expecting our first great-grandchild. “We lived most of our lives (though traveling constantly) in New Jersey but have been North Carolina residents since 1994 and we plan to stay here in retirement. The railroad industry has honored us in many ways since our departure and we manage to keep our contacts up as well as spend as much time with our family as we can. “I look forward to reading about classmates and encourage all to put a line in CCT whenever possible.” John Plate SIPA56 sent along the following: “[Here] is the obituary of Dave Edwards LAW’58, which recently appeared in the Hartford Courant. Dave and I were real friends for 65 years. We met at Columbia, and address are at the top of this column; you can also submit notes via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1954

Bernd Brecher
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brecherservices@aol.com

Thanks once again to many of you for keeping in touch. Our classmates want to hear from and about one another — keep it up. And remember, you can email me on a rolling basis, not just when you get an email blast about the forthcoming issue of CCT; you can always update or help me edit previous information before CCT goes to press four times a year.

Harold Stevelman PS58 completed 50 years of medical practice in Westchester, N.Y., as an internist and cardiologist. He is volunteer chair of the ethics committee at NewYork–

Larry Gartner ’54, Larry Scharer ’54 and Larry Kobrin ’54 are working to identify Korbin’s Columbia University photos, with plans to donate them to the Columbia University Archives.

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Bruce Donaldson '54 and Thomas Bowen '54 visited the retired U.S.S. Wisconsin, which had been their ship for their first NROTC cruise in 1951.

to a visit to their home in Paris by Joel Gerstl and his wife, Judy, who will be stopping off on their way to London.

Bruce Donaldson, professor emeritus at Maryland, College Park, and his wife, Lois, a retired registered nurse, live in Silver Spring, Md. They recently visited Thomas Bowen and his wife, Marlene, in Virginia Beach.

Tom retired from a career in the Navy and then from a second career in personnel management. Tom and Bruce together visited the equally retired U.S.S. Wisconsin (docked in Norfolk, Va.), which had been their ship for their first NROTC cruise in 1951.

Bruce says, “This last of the American battleships is still an awesome sight and engineering marvel.”

Richard Bernstein SEAS ’55, as noted in a prior column, published a series of 70 videos on YouTube, called “Dr. Bernstein’s Diabetes University.” It concerns basic problems associated with diabetes care that he believes are not adequately treated with conventional medical approaches. Dick, who invented blood sugar self-monitoring in 1969, has had type 1 diabetes for 70 years and enjoys good health because he insists that “diabetics are entitled to the same blood sugars as non-diabetics.” He worked out an engineering system to accomplish this, 13 years before he became a practicing physician at 49.

Dick has written nine books on the subject of blood sugar normalization, a concept that is still opposed by most professional diabetes associations. He has been criticized for opposing the currently advocated high carbohydrate diets covered by industrial doses of medications like insulin that cause wild blood sugar swings. He says these diets should be replaced with very low carbohydrate diets and small physiologic doses of medications.

Dr. B. says, “The elevated and wildly swinging blood sugar, encountered by most diabetics utilizing conventional therapy, is the major cause of heart failure, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, sexual dysfunction, non-traumatic amputations and newborn abnormalities throughout much of the world. Recent research now implicates blood sugar elevation as a major cause of dementia. The common approach to treatment has generated a huge complex of medications, companies and personnels that I can’t bring myself to discard,” says LK. The three Larrys look forward to a special nostalgia trip on a visit to campus. On that note, does anyone else have pictures or documents you can’t face parting with but that might be of interest to Columbia? After all, ours were the Bicentennial years.

Here’s an update on Bruce King, who writes that Columbia University Press will distribute his book From New National to World Literature, and that he’s editing the first draft of his autobiography, An Interesting Life. So far, Bruce and his wife, Adele, look forward to a visit to their home in Paris by Joel Gerstl and his wife, Judy, who will be stopping off on their way to London.

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A special alumni reception will take place in Boston before the Harvard/Columbia basketball game in late January. Classmates in this area who might want to get tickets are Eddie Goldberg, Ken Parker (Dick Kuhn's buddy), Sandy Autor, Ralph Wagner, Richard Kessler, Harold Kushner, Mike Vaughn, Bernnie Chasan, Jim Lagomarsino, David Sweet and Walt Flanagan.

What are Alfred Gollop, Don Laufer and Bill Epstein doing? Making plans for their periodic dinners in and around New York.

Dear wonderful classmates,
For those who attended the 60th, it was a pleasure to see you. For those who were unable to attend the good times, the clock is ticking for the next event. It gets better and better. No one brings more to the party than you guys. Keep it up.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2 – 5, 2016
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As I write this, I am preparing to leave for my fall 2015 visit to one of my favorite Mexican resorts in Puerto Peñasco, where my wife, Elke, and I will be playing at least 10 rounds of golf at its championship course and will extend our summer activity season into the fall. I will also enjoy dinner with Gloria Ben-Horin LAW’61 and his wife, Arlene. Gloria is one of my old neighborhood and Columbia College friends, and he writes:

"After graduation, I pushed my number up on the draft and served in the Army for two years, including 14 months on a base in France. Upon discharge, I entered the Law School. [After graduation,] I took a position with the Tax Division at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. In 1965, I was fortunate enough to marry Arlene Kane, a school teacher from Youngstown, Ohio, who was living in Washington.

"In 1967, I accepted a position in Phoenix, which I had visited a number of times while handling tax cases. I became a partner in two major Phoenix law firms. In 1982, I decided to leave the practice of law and formed Benross Corp. to engage in land investments and syndications in Arizona (which, as you might know, is probably the fastest growing state in the country). I have found this to be an enjoyable and rewarding enterprise in which I continue to engage with my son Michael. I have two other children, Lonnie and Hallie, and five grandchildren."

James Rubin was honored by Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital on May 28 for 50 years of service and 44 years as the division chief of clinical immunology and allergy. Jim and his wife, Phyllis, have retired to Cutchogue (on the North Fork of Long Island), N.Y., and he invites classmates who come out that way to give him a call. We have another addition to the ranks of authors in our class. That would be Taylor Thompson, who lives in Kingston, N.Y. He writes:

"Hello, friends. I’ve joined the ranks of other authors (like David McCullough) by writing and publishing my autobiography. It’s titled Are Entrepreneur Greases in a Capitalist Culture and it is available at most bookstores, primarily Barnes & Noble and Amazon. It’s hard covers, so if you get bored you can always use it as a coffee table book to rest your coffee cup, flower vases or snacks — you have to be practical. It is also available as an eBook on Kindle.

“I think my life illustrates the process that turns ordinary people into entrepreneurs. I reveal the straightforward ways to start a business and survive roadblocks like fires, lawsuits, union organizing and personnel problems. Contact me if you have questions (like, ‘Why did you waste your time when you could be relaxing in the sun’?)”

Also, for your information, there is a chapter in Taylor’s book that will bring out many Columbia memories. Robert Lauterborn writes: “This spring I got to fly literally around the world in 22 days — Toronto, Shanghai, Dallas, Beijing, Moscow, Warsaw, London and home again. I was speaking in several of those cities and playing in a couple of others. This summer I spent six weeks wandering around Europe — the Alps in Austria, Switzerland and Germany; then my family’s ancestral home (Trier, Germany) for a couple of weeks; then a week in Paris and another in England. My elder grandson is doing a semester abroad in London this fall and found a flat in Notting Hill. I don’t begrudge him the opportunity, but I am a little envious. I’ll be in the United States for much of the rest of the year, mostly in Chapel Hill, N.C., except for a couple of conferences I’m speaking at in Orlando and Atlanta. It’s nice to be home for a change."

“I’m taking singing lessons and singing in both a church choir and a community chorus. Incidentally, a small correction regarding the Ford Foundation scholar you mentioned in a recent column: I was one and I was 16, but I had, in fact, graduated from high school.

“Best wishes to all and I hope to see you before too long at one of the class lunches and or for a 60th reunion planning session.”

Jerry Breslow updated us on his activities: “The last time I wrote (in 2013), I had become chairman of the board of the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras, a Strathmore Hall Foundation partner that performs in the Music Center run by SHF in North Bethesda, Md. The MCYO is a 70-year-old organization that provides talented student musicians (from third grade to high school) opportunities to perform with their peers from the Washington, D.C., area. Our students perform throughout the U.S. and Europe; this year the kids performed at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

“This past summer the MCYO merged with the SHF; and pursuant to the merger agreement I returned to the SHF board, this time as an ex officio member. I thus have served in each of the three categories of directors represented on the board: as an appointee of the Montgomery County, Md., county executive (also a Columbia College grad); as director elected by the SHF board; and as an ex officio director. No one else seems to have accomplished this particular trifecta.

“I have been active in the men’s club of my synagogue for many years. In 2014, it honored me for my many years of service to the community by selecting me as ‘Man of the Year,’ and a booklet was published that included my biography. I took the opportunity to list my performing accomplishments, which included appearing on Broadway. I did not bother to clarify that it was Broadway and 116th Street.

“My wife, Harriet, and I continue on our way, playing tennis several times a week, entertaining our grandchild, Jayna, and taking a few trips a year. Destinations include the Big Apple for theater; SI, U.S. Virgin Islands, for snorkeling; and Hilton Head, S.C., for the beach. Harriet, having recently replaced her knees along with her older hip replacements, also skis in Colorado.

“I will be awaiting the reports on the 60th reunion to see who else plans to turn up, aside from the usual suspects who are always mentioned in each of these columns. Frank Neuberger told me he hopes to attend. The only other news about classmates of which I am aware is that Gordon Osmond, who resides in Brazil, married his partner.”

Phil Liebson, an active Chicago-based alumnus, writes: “My wife, Canle, and I celebrated our 50th anniversary in September by spending two weeks in the Languedoc region in southwestern France. I am retired from cardiology but still have a clinic in preventive medicine that I go to once a week. My current interests are piano, dance and the Chicago Literary Club. I am on the executive committee of the Class of 1956 held a luncheon at Faculty House to begin planning its 60th reunion, along with two staff members from the Alumni Office. Left to right, front row: Jerry Fine ’56, Danny Link ’56, Jillian Rodriguez M'Barki and Maurice Klein ’56; and back row, left to right: Mark Novick ’56, Al Franco SEAS ’56, Eric Shea, Stephen Easton ’56, Ron Kapon ’56 and Lou Hemmerdinger ’56.”
Class Notes

the local Columbia Alumni Club and also am a governing member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. My literary interest is medieval history, so that I can understand what is going on in current world politics.

For classmates who have expressed ideas for our 60th reunion, please be assured that although things are still in the planning stage, 1) there will be a location on campus for our class members to rest and relax at any time of the day during the weekend; 2) there will be tours available but also a time, probably on Friday after lunch, for individual presentations and for interacting with classmates; 3) there will be a class wine tasting presented by Ron Kapon (currently teaching wine courses at Fairleigh Dickinson and writing for travel/food magazines); and 4) there will be a Saturday dinner for our class, for which we are planning to have a special speaker, most likely related to the Core Curriculum.

The objective of the Reunion Committee’s planning will continue to be to allow time for classmates to meet, greet and spend time together in addition to hearing talks from well-known Columbia faculty members. The Committee will continue to sift through all suggestions to accommodate most of the comments we have received.

Lenny Wolfe, our class historian, writes: “For one of our early reunions, I researched and wrote an account of events that took place during the four-year period we spent at Columbia — from our freshman orientation, to the McCarthy era, to Moses Hadas’ delightful preparation-for-life advice at our Senior Dinner, where he told us to never fan our soup with our hat or pick our teeth with a ballpoint pen. Advice that helped me immeasurably and I’m sure worked just as well for others.

“Perhaps the most important contribution the presentation made was that it served as a springboard for classmates to offer their own reminiscences of our years together. As classmates reported on remembered events, others were spurred to talk of theirs. One recollection led to another and, before we knew it, the entire session became a fun-filled event. It might be fun to do again, even if only to prove that we can remember what happened some 60 years ago.”

We had our first fall 2015 class luncheon/60th reunion planning luncheon. In attendance were Maurice Klein, Danny Link, Jerry Fine, Al Franco SEAS’56, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Lou Hemmerdinger and me, and Eric Shea and Jillian Rodriguez MT’89 from the Alumni Office. We spent a good amount of time planning our 60th reunion activities, more of which you will hear about later. Please note the nearby photo, which illustrates that we still have an active group of class members who are interested in making sure we 1) meet regularly and 2) have the best 60th reunion we can have. Please contact me if you care to add your name to the group of luncheon participants.

The subject of fundraising has been mentioned by some of our classmates as a negative part of Alumni Reunion Weekend. I believe that fundraising has a place in our alumni connection to Columbia and I think that it is important for each of us to evaluate what he would like to contribute (or not contribute) of his finances to Columbia to further the objectives of the College. Irrespective of how large the University endowment is, in order to grow and improve there is always a need for alumni support. The Reunion Committee is exploring avenues of giving such as scholarships, endowments or teaching awards that would possibly be endorsed by most of our classmates. You will hear more about this later, but not in any way to the detriment of the camaraderie, fellowship, remembrances and fun we would all like to have at our 60th.

As we move forward, my go-to class members on reunion planning will be Buzz Paaswell, Danny Link, Bob Siroty and Jerry Fine. Please feel free to contact me or any of these men with your input.

Maurice Klein, Danny Link, Jerry Fine, Lenny Wolfe, Ed Alexander, Peter Caroline, Peter Klein, Danny Link, Jerry Fine, Al Franco SEAS’56, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Lou Hemmerdinger, and me, and Eric Shea and Jillian Rodriguez MT’89 from the Alumni Office. We spent a good amount of time planning our 60th reunion activities, more of which you will hear about later. Please note the nearby photo, which illustrates that we still have an active group of class members who are interested in making sure we 1) meet regularly and 2) have the best 60th reunion we can have. Please contact me if you care to add your name to the group of luncheon participants.

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Edward Alexander reports, “My book, Jews Against Themselves, was published in July,” and Robert Alter updates us on his latest news: “In the spring I received honorary doctorates from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and from the University of Haifa. My most recent book, Strong As Death Is Love: The Song of Songs, Ruth, Esther, Jonah, and Daniel. A translation with Commentary, was published in March.”

From Peter Caroline: “One of the items on my bucket list was a five-day defensive pistol course given by the

Alan Brown, Jerry Finkel PS’61, Ed Weinstein, Bob Klipstein LAW’60 and me to make up one table. The other was occupied by Carlos Muzico GSAS’61, who has no fewer than four international trips planned for the coming year (including Cuba and Vietnam); Bob Lipseye JRN’59, who does not seem to have gained a pound since our college years; Neil McLellan, actively rooting for the Cardinals; Dave Kinne, an active docent at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Ted Dywer PS’61, still looking in good enough shape to play half-court; and Ron Kushner (along with Stan, Sal and Mark).

“Mark purchased a condo in Aberdeen, Fla., only a mile or two (and several rungs up the ladder) from Boynton Beach, Fla., where my wife, Doris, and I hang out during the eight months per year we spend down there. I hope we can stimulate some intellectual activity, other than golf.

“That’s about it for another year, except someone calculated that September 18, 2015, was almost 62 years to the day from when our nervous freshman class gathered in the John Jay Lounge for our first Dean’s Reception. I hear that wood-paneled room has changed little in the ensuing years. Happy Holidays to all.”

Paul S. Frommer writes: “There is not much new here in Alexandria, off by the presentation of a leather-bound volume of letters collected by Ann (without my knowledge) from nearly 80 of my former graduate students, containing experiences, ups and downs, tears and glory in my seminars, both badges (like Ph.D.’s) and scars. It is a wonderful treasure. These are the real rewards of an academic career. On a lesser level in the past year, I was made an honorary fellow of Merton College, Oxford, which gives me dining privileges there for life (and the food is excellent). It’s not a bad way to enter my ninth decade.”

David Kaufman GSAPP’68:

“News... a little. But perhaps a bit of reminiscence as well. My last job was as the Manhattan region senior architect for Citibank, from which I parceled to retirement in 1993. My work there gave me considerable satisfaction, plus the anticipated, fascinating window it opened for me as an outsider into the alien world of byzantine corporate politics — shielded by my ‘exotic’ profession from the competitive acrobatics of the bankers.

“Among my previous interjections with Columbia, I was part of the team of young architects assembled by the firm of I.M. Pei & Partners to design the campus ‘Master Plan’ for the University. This was in the wake of the neighborhood furor stirred up by Columbia’s attempt to use a part of

Erich Gruen ’57 celebrated his 80th birthday on the UC Berkeley campus; the celebration featured speeches from some of his former graduate students.
SEAS’58, SEAS’59, I wonder: Who among the others the most seasoned performers often do. of the great human beings of my life, activity that has shadowed me since these years, through thick and thin. That, I experience the mix of excitement and trepidation that even in October, I practice today, recommended that I ing that immersion would bring me. But now, decades later, I’ve reached a point in my studies that persuades me that I might have been right. Singing is a pursuit that is thrilling and challenging at the same time. As I prepare for my next concert (I write this in October), I experience the mix of excitement and trepidation that even the most seasoned performers often do. I have lost touch with many Col¬leagues (and Architecture School) friends but have maintained a close tie with at least one of my ‘57 classmates. Often I wonder: Who among the others survives? To them I extend greetings from here in Greenwich Village.” Al Raab SEAS’58, SEAS’59 reports that he and his wife, Fran (Cornell ’61), recently returned home to Bethesda, Md., from Maine, where, for the eighth consecutive year, they hosted their three daughters and their families (altogether, 15 people) for a week in Harpswell. Lobsters for lunch (or dinner, or both), the beaches, the ocean and lobstering were the usual activities. Al and Fran are now preparing for a December cruise on the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. Al is a full-time senior program officer with the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., where he provides staff support to committees of volunteers reviewing and advising the Federal Highway Administration’s long-term pavement and bridge performance research programs. After graduating from the College, he remained on Morningside Heights to earn a bachelor’s and a master’s in civil engineering and then entered Cornell’s Ph.D. program, which he completed in 1963. After leaving Ithaca, Al taught briefly at Con¬necticut, then analyzed and designed structural components of space cameras, telescopes, radomes and wind turbines at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, IterCorp., Arthur D. Little, MITRE Corp., Electronic Space Systems and Kaman Sciences. He also worked an 11-year stint as a program manager with the Department of Transporta¬tion until he joined the National Academy of Sciences in 1999.

After all that schooling, Al acceded to a family preference for his middle name, Robert, and is now known as “A. Robert Raab.”

From John G. Scandalios:
“Following my ‘retirement’ from NC State as the Distinguished Univer¬sity Research Professor of Genetics, I continue to write, edit, review and give lectures around the world, and to participate in other scholarly activities. I particularly enjoy giving annual lectures to students at an international institution on the island of Creta in and South America, Japan and Russia. My pride and joy, however, is to spend as much time as I can with my six fantastic grandchildren: Will, Anna, Melsa, Cella, Daphne and Penelope. My wife, Penelope, and I thoroughly enjoy many beach retreats with our three daughters and sons-in-law, fishing, swimming, snorkeling and relaxing. Penny and I frequently travel, often meeting up with former students and colleagues. Some of the most rewarding times for me have always been the many opportuni¬ties to visit Nisyros, the Aegean island of my birth, with my family (especially my grandchildren) and to enjoy the sea and to visit and reminisce with the childhood friends I grew up with on that beautiful and serene little island.”

Elliott Schwartz writes that concerts of his music are being planned for 2016 to celebrate his 80th birthday. One will take place on April 1 at Bowdoin, where he taught for more than 40 years, and another at Symphony Space in New York on September 21. Elliott’s new string quartet will be premiered by the Kreutzer Quartet in England (Wilton’s Music Hall in Lon¬don and the University of Cambridge) this April.

Cari I. Margolis died on July 27. He was a resident of Rockville, MD. At the 2015 American Bar Associa¬tion annual meeting in Chicago on August 1, you’ll truly be inducted into the Public Contract Law Section. The Fellows is a society of former chairs of the section and others who have made a significant contribution to the field of public contract law.

1958

Barry Dickman 25 Main St. Court Plaza North, Ste 104 Hackensack, NJ 07601 bdickmanesq@gmail.com

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1959

Norman Gelfand c/o CCT Columbia Alumni Center 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530 New York, NY 10025 nmg59@gmail.com

Thanks to the response of classmates to my plaintive plea, I now have an over¬abundance of material for this issue, though I am limited to 2,000 words. I heard from Gene Appel, Eddie Boylan, Steve Buchman, Jerome Charyn, Richard Engelman, Mur¬ray Epstein, Allan Franklin, Alvin Halpern, Steve Kallis Jr., Paul Kan¬tor, Harvey Leffert, Bernie Pucker, Lewis Roth, Steve Trachtenberg and Ralph Wyndrum Jr. I apologize to those whose submissions I couldn’t use at this time or had to be edited.

It was great to see Allan and I greatly enjoyed the company and the dinner. Gene Appel is now a member of the zip club as a result of a success¬ful June 12 open heart surgery. He reports that he is 99.44 percent back to normal and as stubborn as ever, and that his wife, Linda, can now spend more time writing poetry!

Murray Epstein updates us on his activities since his last submission (he also sent some information about his professional activities, which will be included in the next issue). “I am not well. In March, my wife, Nina, and I visited South Africa in conjunction with my participating in the World Congress of Nephrology. We included in the next issue): “All is not Yet, we do get wanderlust. Still, we do get wanderlust. Carl I. Margolis died on July 27. He was a resident of Rockville, MD. At the 2015 American Bar Associa¬tion annual meeting in Chicago on August 1, you truly will be inducted into the Public Contract Law Section. The Fellows is a society of former chairs of the section and others who have made a significant contribution to the field of public contract law.

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Alvin Halpern writes: “My wife, Maruosa, and I continue to enjoy our life in San Diego. Going to concerts, plays and lectures when we are not taking long walks or enjoying Balboa Park (the Cen¬tral Park of San Diego), with its many small but excellent museums and, of course, the San Diego Zoo. We also get to enjoy a reasonably, very enjoyable, close and grandad time with our grandchildren, Luke and Zak, who live not too far away.

“Still, we do get wanderlust from time to time. Our most recent significant trip, from December 2014 through January 2015, was a cruise around South America (Santiago to Buenos Aires), with a few days of cruis¬ing Antarctica. It was all spectacular, especially the various penguin colonies. We were lucky and had calm seas across the Drake Passage and great weather while cruising the Palmer Archipelago. The Antarctic scenery is surreal, and we had some adventures as well, including picking up some stranded Polish sailors who were retraining one of Ernest Shackleton’s expeditions. Their adventure became all too real when their sailing vessel ran aground near the Polish Antarctic Station; they gave us some fascinating unscheduled talks about their adventures. We recommend this trip (South America/Antarctica, nor Shackleton)”

From Boulder, Colo., Allan Franklin lets us know: “On June 1 I retired after 48 years as professor of physics at the University of Colorado. My wife, Cyndi, and I are enjoying this more relaxing time, and she is continuing her interest in music. It is, however, retirement with a small ‘r’ — I continue my research on the history and philosophy of physics, and I will have a new book, What Makes a Good Experiment?: Reasons and Roles in Sci¬ence, available at the end of December 2015. This past summer, I gave talks at both Fermilab and the School of Architecture of the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. The highlight of the former visit was an excellent Italian dinner with our class secretary, Norman Gelfand. As befits our status as grumpy old men, we deplored the decline of liberal arts education and lauded alma mater for maintaining its Core Curriculum of humanities and contemporary civilization.”

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at the historic Victoria Falls Hotel, built more than a century ago by Cecil Rhodes. Victoria Falls truly deserves its designation as one of the Wonders of the World. Because we planned our trip at the height of the wet season, when the Zambezi River is flowing in full force, we were amazed and mesmerized by the power of the falls. As a history major, I found the Victoria Falls Hotel a delight, and we availed ourselves of an excellent historic tour of the hotel, complete with photos of all the 'towers and shakers' who were guests: the British Royal family, Henry Kissinger, the Clintons and a host of Nobel laureates.

"In July, Nina and I traveled to Sweden for a lovely two-week vacation in the province of Östergötland, with side trips to Stockholm and the beautiful Baltic Archipelago Sea (a sailor's dream). As I write, we are back home in Miami, and preparing to visit our children and grandchildren. I wish all classmates a healthy, fulfilling and enjoyable year."

Richard Engelman informs us: "I remain active in cardiovascular research at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass. I have also maintained an academic role, having published the guideline for temperature management during cardiopulmonary bypass, which [as I write] was to be adopted for cardiac surgery in October 2015 in three respected cardiovascular, anesthesia and perfusion journals simultaneously. My wife, Jane BC’51, is an active member of our local museum board."

"We have three children and seven grandchildren, two of whom will graduate this year from Penn and Syracuse. Our oldest son, Daniel, is a cardiac surgeon at Baystate Medical Center and chief of intensive care for cardiology. He has become a leader in the subject of how medical care is to be practiced in this era of globalization, with Medicare having an ever-greater role in financing how we are to practice in the future."

"My interests are discussing the ethics of medical research and how this has continued to be a difficult matter to regulate. We continue to see the publication of falsified research, which is difficult to detect, and we may go years without any indication that this has occurred. It has culminated in patients being treated inappropriately and, occasionally, has even prompted good care to be discredited because it was reported with discredited data. I have given talks on this subject in venues around the globe and in the United States; I begin I begin with film from the Nuremberg doctors’ trial from 1946 (which is in the public domain from the Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive)."

From Harvey Leifert we learn: "For the past couple of years, Morton Kleven and I have been meeting weekly for lunch. We wonder whether any other classmates see each other regularly (once every five years at reunion does not count)."

Harvey still loves to travel and has visited, in the past few years, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy, South Africa, Namibia, Ethiopia and Mexico, as well as parts of the U.S.

Lew Roth writes: "In retirement we all need to find activities that we can enjoy. In addition to golf and tennis, in both of which I am mediocre at best, bridge has become a passion. I am now a life master and a director. I love getting out to play at the local bridge clubs and at sectional and regional tournaments. I wonder if there are bridge players reading this who would be interested in playing online. There is a free website, Bridge Base Online (bridgebase.com), where players can play against live opponents from all over the world. My name on that website is 'Lew!'; contact me if you want to play as partners."

Ralph Wyndrum ’70-79 informs us he retired this past March after 10 years of teaching at Rutgers, 37 years at Bell Labs and four years of consulting in between. My wife, Meta, and I have begun to take part in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ active Life Member (LM) program. In May it sponsored a trip to industries in Europe, which took us to Germany, France and Switzerland.

"The trip was pleasant, informative and collegial, and I [again saw] several people I had met years earlier on patent licensing trips for AT&T. Meta and I had taken an LM trip to Japan where, in Tokyo, I was greeted by a co-author from the 1960s, who brought a signed copy of the original paper we published — what a pleasant surprise!

"This past August, Meta and I went on a pure vacation to Paris, met our daughter and her niece (our grand-daughters) for dinner in Paris on their way back to the U.S., then traveled to Burgundy, France, and down the Saone and Rhone Rivers to Avignon before going to Nice, then flew home. We’re looking forward to more in-depth, foreign travel."

Eddie Boylan writes: "My wife, Ruth, and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on September 19, Regards to my fellow Class of '59 alumni."

From Steve Kallis Jr.: "This year marks the 15th anniversary of the publication of my book, Radio’s Captain Midnight: The Wartime Biography. With holidays coming up, it’s a worthwhile gift for anyone interested in old-time radio, WWII and/or aviation."

Paul Kantor sent a wonderful contribution, which requires me to split it into two pieces. Here is the first: "It seems people take Class Notes to look back on a long way, and I will, too. In the fall after graduation, while rooming with Joe D’Atri (who left us too soon in the '90s), Jerry Goodisman introduced me to a Barnard physics major, Carole Kaplowitz BC’62. We clicked. I continued school for my Ph.D. in physics (at Princeton) and as soon as Carole graduated, we were wed at a big Brooklyn synagogue on Ocean Parkway (visible from her bedroom window). As is so often the case, the rabbi did not know us personally, but he grasped at the fact that we had both majored in physics, to offer the audience this gem: 'Usually opposites attract, but in this case we have two people who are exactly the same, marrying each other.' We kept straight faces while our friends and family chuckled. As we left the party, the cloakroom girl tipped, 'I never saw two people dance so much and have such a good time at their own wedding.' It was an omen of good things.

"The next few years were the academic meandering that too many physicists know well, even then (and more so now). I completed my thesis under Sam Treiman, whose brilliance I failed to recognize. Then we spent a couple of years at Brookhaven National Laboratory; I was a post-doc with Gian-Carlo Wick, and Carole was an editor at Physical Review Letters. Next we spent a couple of years at Stony Brook, and there we did a longer stint at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland. That was where I learned of our coastal provincialism, joking that friends at meetings of the American Physical Society would look at me from afar as if thinking, 'Isn’t that Kantor? I thought he died, or went to the Midwest, or something.'"

"Our sons, both born on ‘Lion Island’ (remember ‘... suddenly, the rat saw ... ’?), grew up in Cleveland and, when it came time to find another position or change fields, Carole and I felt that our sons growing up in a stable and sensible place was worth more than pursuing the chimeras of scientific fame. So we stayed."

More from Paul in the next issue. Steve Buchman writes, "I am sad to see that Irv DeKoff, Columbia’s fencing head coach from 1952 to 1967, passed away in July (Editor’s note: See column, columbia.edu/cc/fall15/roar_lion_roar_0.). For me (and for many others), Irv was a coach, mentor and friend. Many teammates were plucked from Irv’s physical education classes and given a chance to join the varsity team. Many, like me, had never fenced before coming to Columbia and had the opportunity to join that rarity of rarities then, a successful Columbia athletics team.

"He will be missed by so many of us whom he introduced to a whole new way of thinking about sports and themselves. He had a profound effect on my life, and added a dimension to my Columbia experience that continues to resonate.”

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September 10, the second Thursday of September, was the occasion of our class’ regular "first Thursday of the month class lunch." This change in schedule may have caused some confusion (undoubtedly it did).

Nevertheless, David Kirk, Art Delmhorst, Bob Berne and I met at the appointed time and engaged in spirited discussions about politics, the Trump phenomenon, the state of our culture and of our union, and a variety of other foibles and fancies.

As for other news, I’m sad to report that the mailbox has been empty. Here’s wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2016 and encouraging you to write. You can submit updates by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1960

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The first lunch meeting of the Washington, D.C., chapter of CC’61 was held on August 4; 13 classmates attended. They discussed what they had done since college, children, Columbia football (this year will be better), a little about politics (this year could be worse), books written (Mel Urofsky and Tom Lippman have books coming out soon) and stocks to buy. They hope other classmates in the area can join them next time, as well as any classmates
who happen to be in the area during a lunch. They recommend that the New York (and now D.C.) lunch model be adopted elsewhere; it’s a great way to stay in touch. Please contact Mickey Greenblatt (mickey@mgreenblatt.com) for more information if you are visiting D.C. and want to join.

In 1966, Arnold Abrams JR’N62 received an East Asian Journalism Fellowship from the Carnegie Foundation, which funded a year at Columbia’s Weatherhead East Asian Institute (where he learned Chinese and studied Asian political history) and another year in Hong Kong. Arnie and his family lived in Hong Kong from 1968 to 1976, where he was an Asian-based stringer, writing for Newsday and other newspapers, as well as several magazines. He returned to Newsday in 1976, where he subsequently was day editor, national correspondent, general assignment reporter and military affairs specialist before retiring in 2005.

Arnie returned to Vietnam for about three weeks this past fall. It is a place of memories, moments, friends and faces. It is where he came of age professionally, and it is forever embedded in his mind, he says.

He traveled with a friend who knows much about Vietnam, but had never been there. Their first stop was Hanoi, then he flew to Hanoi for the first time, then traveled on to Hue, Da Nang and Saigon/Ho Chi Minh City. During the trip he returned to My Lai, where he spent a day in 1970 with a Marine Corps patrol (Arnie says that the doctor who vaccinated him before the trip knew about Vietnam the way the Class of 1961 knows about WWII; the doctor had never heard of the My Lai massacre, which took place in 1968, several years before he was born).

The last leg of the trip was to the Me Kong Delta. Arnie says that the endless rice fields were the greenest green he ever saw. In that region is the village of Ben Tre, a battle site that became a legend of sorts in the late 1960s when an American officer said, “We had to destroy the village in order to save it.” Arnie was there during the war and, like everywhere else he visited in Vietnam, he looked forward to seeing in it its present-day version.

Stuart Newman’s grandson, Lucas Melendez — son of Stuart’s daughter Jennifer Newman Melendez ’00 and her husband, Lorenzo Melendez III ’00 — became quite a slugger in Little League this past spring and his reward was two weeks at Columbia’s Lions Baseball Camp. Stuart is proud of Lucas, who might be a third-generation Columbian in eight years.

Allen Lowrie retired from the Navy in October after 45 years of service. He has been a geologist for 53 years and lives in Mississippi.

Tom Lippman and his wife, Sidney, flew to Istanbul in September to resume his last-life gig as a cruise ship lecturer aboard the Crystal Serenity, traveling from Istanbul to Rome with stops in Crete, Malta, Santorini and Sicily. On a sad note, Robert Goldfield passed away on September 18. He earned a law degree from Harvard in 1964.

### 1962

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Hope all of you are well and will take a few minutes today to send me the latest about yourself.

After 47 years in the paper industry, Ed Pressman retired in 2009. For 38 years he was president and CEO of Malfaice Paper Corp. in New York. After “retiring,” Ed first worked part-time at the Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation as its summer camp coordinator, where he was responsible for providing free summer camps and after-school programs for inner-city New York City children. Since 2010, Ed has been a lecturer and seminar leader in the mainstream and collegium adult education programs at Westchester Community College. He continues to teach courses in classical and show music, American history and current events.

Having attended one of his classes, I enthusiastically attest to his knowledge and pedagogical talent. Ed has earned a large and devoted following; not a seat in the hall was empty. He is a paragon of the Columbia collegiate education. For the past three years he has also served on the board of the Collegium.

On July 21 The New York Times published a telling letter by Jeff Milstein, parts of which are excerpted below (read the full piece at nytimes.com/2015/07/21/opinion/invitation-to-dialogue-america-in-decline.html?_r=0).

"Children born in America today may expect to live to the year 2100.

What kind of life will our children and grandchildren experience?

Will it be the American dream of our ideals: ‘life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness’, ‘equal justice under law’, democracy; equal opportunity and respect; good education and training; a satisfying job and income; security; health and shelter in a sustainable environment with safe food, water and air? …

Americans need to counter the basic causes of decline that exist here now, as well as other indicators of decline, such as workers’ shrinking share of wealth, decaying infrastructure, inflating influence of money in politics, and plunging proficiency of our political institutions in benefiting the general welfare.

Abroad we need to reverse the declining effectiveness of our efforts to realize and sustain American security, economic and political goals, while avoiding wars, especially a catastrophic nuclear war.

“So what shall we do to regain and maintain the American dream for our children and grandchildren, to counter the decline of America and to avoid the disaster of war? Americans must address these questions now, before the next election. Candidates and citizens should specify and critically evaluate what they would do. After new policies are implemented, we need to continuously re-evaluate them. The stakes are high — how our children and grandchildren will live, and the continuation of the American dream.”

Jeff’s letter elicited many responses, which were published on July 26 on the editorial page of The New York Times Sunday Review. You may read them at nyti.ms/1KWsbfs. Jeff may be reached at Jeffrey_Milstein@msn.com.

I am deeply saddened to report the death on April 15 of Barry H. Leeds GSAS’63. The following obituary (ahnfernfuneralhome.com/conlodes/c/p=4153) is far finer than anything I might write:

“Barry was the CSU Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Central Connecticut State University in English and had taught at that institution for 47 years. His teaching career spanned 52 years, including appointments at colleges and universities in New York City; Athens, Ohio; and El Paso, Texas.

"Barry had long been despondent over the 1996 death of his beloved daughter Leslie Lion Leeds, and he was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer. He was the author of four books — including landmark studies of Norman Mailer (whom he counted among his friends) and Ken Kesey, along with his own autobiography, A Moveable Feast: Scenes from My Life — as well as over 200 articles published in scholarly and popular journals as well as anthologies.

"Barry was most proud of his career as a professor, which he considered himself first and foremost, and for which he received the distinguished service award in 1981 from CSU. He was editor-in-chief of Connecticut Review, an interdisciplinary scholarly journal, from 1989-1992, and a member of its editorial board for over a decade. Born in Brooklyn on December 6, 1940, Barry joined the U.S. Merchant Marine at the age of 16, and served as a seaman on five freighters and tankers between 1957 and 1960. He earned his M.A. in 1963 from Columbia and his Ph.D. from Ohio University in 1967.

A member of the wrestling team at Columbia, Barry also practiced weight lifting, karate, ballroom dancing and SCUBA diving. He was a trophy-winning competitive pistol shot, a certified range officer at Metacon Gun Club and had been the Connecticut director of training for CGC (Close Quarters Combat). He was listed in Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who in the East, Who’s Who in American Education, The Directory of American Scholars and other such reference works. Elected to the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1991, Barry held a lifetime appointment in the CSU system as CSU Distinguished Professor …

“He is survived by his daughter, Brett Ashley Leeds, Ph.D., and his grandchildren, Gavin Leeds Woods and Julia Leeds Woods, all of Houston, Texas, and his mate and best friend, Janice O’Brien of Clinton, Conn. He was predeceased by his daughter Leslie Lion Leeds, and will be buried next to her.”

Friends, former students and colleagues of Barry have established the Dr. Barry H. Leeds Award at CCSU in his memory. Donations may be made to the Barry H. Leeds Memorial Fund, c/o Farmington Bank, 1845 Farmington Ave., Unionville, CT 06085.

### 1963

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Doron Gopstein joined me at Convocation in late August to participate in the Alumni Procession. This newish tradition involves bringing alumni to campus to welcome the incoming first-years to the Columbia family, and kicks off the New Student Orientation Program. The welcoming speeches from the deans of the College and Engineering are always interesting, but it is the enthusiasm of the hundreds of cheering, color-coded-T-shirt-wearing orientation leaders at which I am amazed. Of course, we were much cooler than that (in buttoned-down, tweed sports-coat-wearing way) and certainly far less organized (as I remember, we had practically no coordination with the administration). All very strange for us old ‘63ers, but this is a very different generation.

In any case, the College would like to build on this tradition and involve more alumni. As co-chair of the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of
Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal address, a new phone number or even a new name. Click “Contact Us” at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Class Notes

Directors’ Celebrate Committee,” in charge of reengaging alumni, reinvigorating old traditions and creating new ones. I welcome all of you to remind me of the traditions you remember most fondly, and to suggest some new ones. Drop me an email anytime.

David Pinnisnky writes, “I am a full-time commercial litigator at 73, but this email is all about the trip of a lifetime my wife, Alecia, and I took on a safari in South Africa in early September. We went to the Singita Leshombo Lodge in Kruger National Park and the Singita Boulders Lodge in Sabi Sand. Among other amazing sights, from an open Land Rover we were only 20 ft. away from two lions mating for an hour; only 30 ft. from watching a mother and daughter cheetah stalk, chase at 70 miles per hour, kill and eat (yes, eat — this is, after all, the survival of the fittest); an impala; we were surrounded by elephants, including a newly born elephant, watching chinos and hippos; we trailed and then had a leopard walk right by our Land Rover; we watched several giraffes from 30 ft.; and we sat in the midst of a herd of 500 buffalos.

“It is impossible to summarize everything that occurred on our safari so I will send you my eight daily reports. (Note: I have posted all eight days of David’s journal to cc63ers.com.) My wife and I took more than 10,000 photos and several videos with excellent camera equipment, and she is in the process of culling the best from them. If anyone wants to know more about a Singita safari, he should contact me.”

Nick Zill is still up to his political shenanigans and has posted another short video on YouTube. It reveals a fantasy league.”

Barry Jay Reiss writes, “My grandmother (believe it or not) began a post-graduate program at Teachers College this fall. I had the pleasure of showing her around campus, top to bottom, and it brought back the usual fond memories. V&T is still open, and we had its great pizza for lunch along with a chat with our waiter, whose father was a waiter there in the 50s and remembered the center (which is no longer served). As I was a WKCR guy I also took her up to the station, which is as chaotic and messy as I remember it. The folks couldn’t have been nicer, and it was also good to hear the station is still very much a part of the University. We had coffee and a sods outside at the nice little café they now have in the corner of the Journalism School and enjoyed watching the passing people. Finally we shopped at the farmers market parade of everything from pizza and burgers to baguettes and cheese, set up on trucks and tables along Broadway near campus.”

Lee Lowenfish regularly posts blog entries about Columbia baseball along with his observations on MLB (leelowenfish.com/blog.htm). Well worth a read if you are a baseball (and Columbia) fan like me.

If I had another plug, for my former roommate Frank Partel’s latest book, Down in Laos. Kirkus Reviews says: “Military details and dialogue are impressive; giving palpable authenticity to the story and the characters’ interactions ... illuminates not just the war but the internal conflicts of those who had to fight it, from religious doubt to social upheaval. The result is a ripping, visceral read.”

If anyone would like me to plug their book (or anything else), just let me know!

I am sorry to report that I have just learned of the death of Bill Goebel. My initial research found that he died on October 23, 2013. If any of you have details or would like to share memories of Bill, please send them to me. I remember talking to him several times at our class lunches about his memories of his days as the basketball team manager. Requiescat in pace.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you’re in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches, which are scheduled for January 14, February 11 and March 10 — it’s always the second Thursday of the month. By the way, our class has been having lunches for 12 years now, more than 80 different classmates have attended and many schedule their trips to NYC so that they can join us. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

1964

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I am writing this column early in October, and the beautiful days of early fall have given way to hurricane warnings. But the Yankees have a playoff spot (for now) and while the Columbia football team lost its first two games, they are showing signs of promise. [Editor’s note: The Lions won their first game of the season on October 10.]

And the Class of ’64 rolls on. We have resumed our informal monthly lunches on the second Thursday of every month. So if you find yourself in Manhattan on that day, join us at the Columbia University Club of New York on West 43rd Street. In September, Steve Case, Allen Tobias, Beril Lapsong and Fred Kantor were there, as was Bernard Cattaliniotto (from California). Bernard, a mapmaker, explained over lunch that he had recently received a patent for a grid system that will enable rescue workers to more quickly locate people lost in the wild or in sparsely populated areas.

Allen Tobias forwarded to me a New York Times column published on November 25, 2014, by Jim Dwyer JRN’80 following the death of John Donaldson, father of Pete Donaldson. The elder Donaldson was a mailman by day and a writer of novels and poems at night. The column beautifully captures the character of Pete’s father, and the lasting impact of a father on his children. Pete is the Ford International Professor of Humanities and Professor of Literature at M.I.T. He is also the director of M.I.T.’s Global Shakespeare’s Video and Performance Archive, which provides online access to performances of Shakespeare from many parts of the world as well as essays and metadata from scholars and educators in the field.


Jeff Sol, who lives in Hawaii, and his wife, Simin, will return to America from a trip to Europe in time for Homecoming and the band reunion.

Donald Trump’s plan to “head off” ISIS leaders. Nick says, “Some may find it shocking, others, inspiring. Dick Cheney exclaimed: ‘It makes me proud to be an American again.’ You will find it at you.be/evtaAj8Lkdwz.”

Paul Gorlin promised a more “spirited” update, but until I receive it, here is a brief note he recently emailed me: “I closed my internal medicine/allergy practice in a small town in southern Delaware three years ago; I wrote some about it in Humanities in Medicine, an online publication from the Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine. I am still married to the still-lovely Ann Robinson, whom I met in Vermont when I was at UVM doing a post-doc in lung cancer immunology, which was my start in allergy medicine. We have four children, and a granddaughter due in a few days [as I write]. I am revising a play about the Roehling family (builders of the Brooklyn Bridge), am reading evolutionary biology and Jewish history, and am keeping an eye on English Premier League Soccer via a fantasy league.”

Robert Shlaer copied me on an invitation to a screening in San Francisco of Carvalho’s Journey, a documentary by Steve Rivo about Solomon Nunes Carvalho, the Sephardic Jewish daguerreotypist from Charleston, S.C., who accompanied John C. Frémont’s fifth westward expedition in 1853. Carvalho’s images were among the first to record the grandeur of the American West. The film’s website notes, “The film interweaves stunning HD digital and 16mm film landscape cinematography, rare 19th century photographs and artwork, Carvalho’s own surviving paintings and daguerreotypes, and interviews with scholars and artists, including modern daguerreotypist Robert Shlaer, who recreates Carvalho’s original daguerreotypes on location.”

Bob, I hope the film gets good distribution and we all have a chance to see it.

Rich Juro LAW’66 sent this update: “Since selling our business seven years ago, my wife, Fran, and I have been traveling more than ever. We’ve now been to about 170 nations: every country in the Western Hemisphere and Europe (including the breakaway republics of Transnistria and Nagorno-Karabakh), with one to go in Oceania; four in Asia; and about 20 in Africa. The best part is meeting local people and learning about their customs and culture.

“At home I’m pretty involved with grandkids and three nonprofits: ACLU-Nebraska, ADL Plains States Region and the Omaha Community Playhouse. Although my main job at the Playhouse is as volunteer VP of development, I recently appeared in the bit part of Sir Not Appearing in Spamalot. Hope to see many of you at the January class lunch, and next June in Omaha, where the Lions finally make it to the finals of the College World Series.”

Rich, if the Lions make it to the finals, save me a seat!

Friday, and the lasting impact of a father on his children. Pete is the Ford Inter- national Professor of Humanities and Professor of Literature at M.I.T. He is also the director of M.I.T.’s Global Shakespeare’s Video and Performance Archive, which provides online access to performances of Shakespeare from many parts of the world as well as essays and metadata from scholars and educators in the field. Read it here: nytimes.com/2014/11/26/nyregion/a-passion-for-writing-about-war-and-love-is-celebrated-decades-later.html.

Jeff Sol, who lives in Hawaii, and his wife, Simin, will return to America from a trip to Europe in time for Homecoming and the band reunion.
1965

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Our 50th reunion was so successful that I asked attendees to share their impressions with the respondents:

Michael Cook (Michael.Cook@rrz.com): “First, classmates told me reunion was a huge success. In the words of Lou Goodman, it represented the best of Columbia College: ‘smart and funny.’ We finally got it right after 50 years; having our accomplished classmates run three substantive programs made the difference. Bob Kronley’s deft moderating of the economist panel on Friday confirmed his superb charm and social skills. The Saturday lunch with the panel of our physicist classmates impressed all of us, including spouses and significant others. Alan Green’s report of his conversation with his 100-year-old uncle still resonates: we’re still kids. The panel’s confirmation that our forgetting names had ‘no medical significance’ also registered. Finally, the well-orchestrated Saturday dinner, with the trivia contest and the Kingsmen in the background, made the weekend. I vividly recall Leonard Pack’s juggling reunion directories into Casa Italiana, Dan Carlinsky’s masterful direction of the program and Steve Handzo’s awesome command of trivia (Who is he? What is his story?).”

Stan Feinsod (stanfeinsod@astound.net): “One of the remarkable things about reunion was the number of classmates, never before encountered (according to my 50-year-old memories), who were interesting and entertaining conversationists; it was an amazing few days of meeting and talking to strangers who were classmates 50 years ago — very enjoyable.

“I have one quick story about a person whom I was very interested in seeing and who had registered. I did not see him at all (and could not have recognized him if I did). But on the way to the Saturday dinner, sitting on a bus (the subway was closed), someone in a suit sat next to me. I asked, ‘What class?’ He said, ‘65.’ I introduced myself and, amazingly, it was the very person I had been eager to see — Howard Katzoff. SEAS ‘65. We had a great reunion.”

Gene Feldman (feldman@gene@gmail.com): “Our 50th reunion was a delightful time. Upon arriving, I was pleased to see that the neighborhood above West 121st Street has gentrified. I was nearly lost on the north part of campus with its new buildings, plazas and stairs but the south campus looked as it did then. We checked in with a barcode on our smartphones — that a contrast to 1965 tech, when we used slide rules! The highlight was catching up with some friends and talking with several less-familiar classmates. I was happy that most of the men at reunion were fit and working at careers they enjoy. A few, like me, have moved on to the next phase of their lives. It was a pleasure to see our correspondent, Leonard Pack; Don Bachman (fellow Bronx Science alum); and my former roommate Neil Smith LW 59 (patent lawyer extraordinaire). I missed Jay Roberts, Daniel Waitzman and Richard Taruskin, who shared my passion for music and physics.”

Pete Fudge (pf@steady.yahoo.com): “Although I was on the Reunion Committee, I was only able to attend a limited number of events. My wife, Kathy, and I enjoyed them very much and I am happy to say that I think the whole thing went off very well. One event that had special meaning to me was going to the Baker Athletics Complex. Wow! I felt like I was at some Big Ten school in the Midwest with all those impressive new (to me) athletics facilities. Columbia was always some-what of an underachiever in athletics (although we did try hard, I can assure you!), and it was nice to see that first-class facilities have sprung up. The old boathouse was better than it was in my day and the old locker room building was still pretty much intact — including the wooden plaques carved with the names of all my fellow oarsmen on the walls in the big room upstairs. Brought back great memories.”

Tom Quattler (gagsquatter@ncourtpsycho.com): “Reunion was bittersweet for me, and here’s why. It’s said that Youths is a wonderful thing, too bad it’s wasted on the young.” The reunion made me think of the friends I might have made, the good friends I haven’t seen in a long time, the things I might have learned and the things I’d do differently. I don’t think I realized that Columbia was as challenging to everyone else as it was to me. If I had, I’d have appreciated why we were all so uptight. It’s said college is the best years of your life. My best years are right now, but if I had a wish it would be to go back to September 1961, knowing half of what I know now. The things I learned at Columbia didn’t open me up, then. They just stayed with me and have opened my mind ever further with every passing year.”

Howard Matz (ahm@birdmarella.com): “Reunion was very enjoyable. For me, the highlight was not a particular event but more the gratifying general experience of learning about the interesting, accomplished and sometimes inspiring lives and careers of so many classmates whom I did not know (and unfortunately for me) did not make it my business to get to know more than 50 years ago.”

Noah Robbins (nrobbins@montefore.org): “Our 50th reunion was an extraordinary experience for me. The campus was eminently recognizable, with several additions and no obvious deletions. The Friday night panel on ‘Where Is the World Economy Headed and Can We Do Better?’ offered me insights into global economics and wealth disparity. I chatted briefly with Archie Roberts, for whom I was hilariously mistaken at McGill. Dean James J. Valentinis’s talk at the Saturday breakfast reassured me that the Core Curriculum is alive and well (and updated). Professor of many conversations with classmates, most of whom I had not seen for at least 15 years (and most for 50 years). The panel discussions were excellent (with bias, as I participated in one of them). But the most fun was being around the campus again with my wife, Polly, whom I met in May of our freshman year at a fraternity mixer (Delta Phi). The Saturday dinner was great. All in all, a lot of thoughtful conversations and warm camaraderie.”

Steve Steingin (steingin@1gab.columbia.edu): “The limited portions of reunion that I attended provided a satisfying introduction and reintroduction to classmates as well as an opportunity to catch up with a handful I see from time to time. But the biographies that classmates submitted did an even better job of that, walking through college memories of classmates and summarizing the 50 years since then, often in a highly reflective manner. I suggest that for our 75th anniversary we collect and distribute the biographies first and then have the reunion.”

Jay Woodworth (woody17620@sol.com): “[Former Columbia College

David Pittinsky ’63 took a South African safari, visiting the Singita Lebombo Lodge in Kruger National Park and the Singita Boulder Lodge in Sabi Sand.

Biological Sciences and Chemistry

Brenn Stockwell’s lecture on apoptosis reminded me of those uncertain days in freshman year when I sat in Professor Harry Gray’s chemistry class wondering why ligand field theory was a prerequisite for medical school. The lunch panel on the neuropsychiatric aspects of aging was both humbling and optimistic [Dennis Selkoe’s comments on research into the development of monoclonal antibodies directed against Alzheimer’s protein were particularly uplifting].

“At the Saturday cocktail party, I conversed with old friends (like Peter Sack, whom I introduced to his wife, Anne Nucci) and made new ones (Bob Pantell invited me to visit him in Hawaii). The trivia contest brought tears to my eyes. When it was all over, I introduced myself to someone I did not recognize sitting at my table. It was Joe Nalven, theencer who took several philosophy courses with me, Dan Carlinsky and David Denby a half-century ago. In summary, our 50th reunion was outstanding and quite unforgettable!”

Dennis Selkoe (dseikoe@rics.bwh.harvard.edu): “I had a wonderful time at the 50th and thoroughly enjoyed Fund staff member] Sydney Maisel, who should be made an honorary member of CC ’65 for her diligent work on our behalf, wrote the other day with a recap of how we’d done (by the way, Sydney has been promoted and has moved to the University Office of Alumni and Development). Former College dean Harry Coleman ’46 would be proud of us; the breadth and depth of our fundraising for the College was impressive.

“Our class reached $756,000 in unrestricted giving to the Columbia College Fund, slightly exceeding our goal of $750,000 in Fund A (College giving). Our previous best effort was in 2005 for our 40th reunion, when we raised $288,000. On the broader, comprehensive Fund B (overall giving), which includes gifts to athletics programs, endowed chairs and multi-year gifts, we blew through our lofty goal of $6 million by more than 2½ times! The class achieved a 35 percent giving participation rate, which is more than any of the last four 50th reunion classes. We also finished with 55 John Jay Associates-level gifts ($1,500 or more), which is significantly more than the 50th reunion results for the
Class of 1963 (40 John Jays) and 1962 (38 John Jays). This confirms our committee’s view that our giving effort was broad-based, rather than centered around one major donor: “I’m enormously proud of our classmates, who turned out in large numbers for reunion and followed through with generous gifts. Several classmates had never before supported the College but came through with gifts and then made supplemental gifts. I thank Larry Guido for his invaluable and generous support as my co-chair of the Class Gift Committee; I couldn’t have managed the task without him. Our regional and athletics chairs also did a great job, their leadership knew no bounds. But, at the end of May, it was the 200 members of CC’65 who delivered an outstanding gift for alma mater. I’m so proud of them!”

Robert Yuchin (ryhynich@gmail.com): “It was amazing to see my fraternity brother Tom Guaitieri, whom I had not seen since graduation. I didn’t realize that Tom had become so renowned in the branch of psychiatry in which he practices. It was like we never left the fraternity house; we exchanged email addresses and hope to keep in touch. During Thursday’s lunch in the tent on South Lawn, I stared at the façade of Furnald, looked where I thought my dorm room (932) was and could hardly believe that 50 years passed by so quickly.”

Owen Zurhellen (zurhellenlo@aol.com): “Seeing so many of our classmates again and having strong, positive recollections of our time at Columbia was tremendously enjoyable for me — as clearly it was to all of us. We were, indeed, a special class. Unexpectedly (to me at least), reunion provided a life’s juncture that fostered — even compelled — broad-reaching self-reflection for me. I’d be interested to know if anyone else experienced a similar phenomenon.”

Martin LeWinter (martin.lewinter@vmned.net) responded with this non-reunion report: “I am on the board of the Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival, a wonderful week-long, world-class event that anyone interested in chamber music should check out; it takes place at the end of August in the Burlington, VT, area. The festival welcomes to have young musicians and composers participate, and my wife, Barbara, and I always have two or three staying at our house. This year we had three: a violin-violato cello trio; the cellist is Sujin Lee ’13. ‘On a Monday during their stay, the trio was joined for dinner at our house by pianist Gilles Vonsattel ’03, who is getting pretty famous in the classical music world. After dinner we were treated to an unplanned, two-hour piano quartet concert, with my wife and I as the sole audience. It was a memorable musical evening thanks to these two wonderfully talented recent alumni and their colleagues.’”


1966

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2-5, 2016
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You have been receiving emails about our 50th reunion. Please plan to attend; it will be very special, mainly because the Reunion Committee would like to get you guys here while you are still mobile, and also because this will be one of the last and best times to reunite with old friends and acquaintances and relive the fun, stupidity, naiveté and idealism of 1966-62. As most of you must realize, that time was a stupendous era for not only us but also for the world.

From Ken Fox: ‘Fifty years later, Columbia still matters to me. In the ’90s I gave up teaching and went to law school. Then I pursued 20 years of law, mostly criminal defense. It actually didn’t involve much law; day-to-day it’s more like social work. Contrary to popular belief, the clients know they’re guilty; they just want a better deal before they plead. My motto: Avoid juries at all cost. Criminal defense lawyers call going to trial ‘tolling the dice,’ as at casinos, the odds always favor the house. ‘This year I retired and went back to history writing. I became interested in the sociology of the 1950s, which led me to Columbia’s Rare Book & Manuscript Library, in Butler, where I discovered the papers of [Professor] Robert K. Merton. He never taught undergraduate courses, although I think sociology majors were allowed in his graduate courses. This seems a strange policy, because a large number of his grad students were social workers only seeking a master’s. I would like to talk to any of you who took his classes or even got a sociology degree.’

‘Merton saved virtually every piece of correspondence from 1935 to 2002, and it fills many boxes. In 1948, he tried to analyze (and publish a study of) letters received by Dwight Eisenhower, then Columbia’s president, urging him to seek the Republican nomination after [TV and radio personality] Walter Winchell had encouraged people in a radio broadcast to write Ike. Hundreds of letters poured in and Eisenhower gave permission to analyze them and later publish a book, or so Merton thought. When the manuscript was ready he met with Eisenhower three times to summarize and explain the findings. Later Merton told his staff it had been like talking to a semi-sophisticated shoe salesman. Plans for publication were far advanced when one of Eisenhower’s aides announced the project was being canceled and that all materials would be returned, including the book manuscript. While he was University president, Eisenhower had two aides from the military with him every day; the military didn’t want to lose him and, sometime later in his Columbia presidency, he became head of NATO. Merton’s project appears to have been canceled because the aides convinced Eisenhower that he might seek the Republican nomination in 1952 and the letters project might prove detrimental four years on. Merton remained interested in this kind of sociology, and in 1952 contacted Adlai Stevenson, whom he favored for President quite ardently, about analyzing his letters. Stevenson was enthusiastic but no funding could be arranged and the project never got started. ‘Our class preceded the events of Spring ’68 but Dean David Truman was at the center of the storm. In the ’90s he wrote a memoir of the events, which his son later made available in mimeo. It is very interesting. Truman was on track to replace Grayson Kirk as University president. When some aides were solicited for Kirk’s replacement in summer 1968, Merton explained that he would have favored Truman but felt it would not work, and not because of any fault or incapacity of Truman’s. Truman says in the memoir that they feared rioters from Harlem might come on campus because of the controversy over the gym in Morningside Park and he met at one point with black political leaders in hopes of avoiding this. Truman is quite hard on Kirk, blaming him for leaving the ship to steer itself, saying that Kirk was on the boards of many corporations and spent a great deal of his time downtown at their meetings; Kirk told Truman he was making a large amount of money from this involvement that he relied on his Columbia salary to pay the income taxes on his corporate earnings. ‘Other stuff I’ve done: I dabbled in op-ed writing for my hometown paper, Connecticut’s New Haven Register. In one piece I proposed a new designation for a month: White Men’s History Month. It was to be January, which gets the most snow. I got to know the paper’s editorial page editor; once, after attending a ‘66 reunion — the 40th I think — I told him about it. He of course asked what college and year, after which he told me he was in our class. His name is Charles Kochian and I think he lived in Furnald. We didn’t know each other back then. I have been trying to get him to come to reunions but with no success so far. ‘My wife and I have a wonderful son, who of course returned home to live with us after college. Actually we enjoy having him and, since a couple of years later, his girlfriend. We don’t feel we can take credit for how he has turned out. When people tell me about their children’s travails I wonder: Did we do something wrong? WHICH OUR son that me not in charge? ‘Russ Donaldson writes:’Like most of us, I’m retired, but unlike many, I still live in the house my wife and I have shared since 1977. There must be something about this place — maybe the daunting aspect of packing up all our junk for a move — that keeps us here in a suburb of Rochester, N.Y., where I was for many years a legal editor. Even when our two children were born, instead of moving to a bigger house, we just made the house bigger. I suppose it’s too big for just the two of us now (three, counting the dog), but it’s become family after all the work we put into it.’

Edward Fink has been on the faculty at Maryland for 34 years, including a 10-year stint as department chair. He left Maryland this past summer to
join the faculty at Temple as professor of strategic communication. His wife, Deborah Cai, is a professor and senior associate dean of Temple’s School of Media and Communication; at long last they are now in the same city. Between them they have five daughters (just like ‘Tevye’) and two grandchildren. Ed’s daughters are in Maryland and complain about abandonment, but Ed’s view is that a 24-hour trip is not so terrible: “They can visit!”

Richard “Rick” Davis GSAS’74 writes: “I retired just this year from the anthropology department at Bryn Mawr after 37 years of teaching and doing prehistoric archaeology. I’ve spent time digging and probing in lots of places it’s hard to get to now — Iran, eastern Turkey, northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan — but also Siberia and many visits to the eastern Aleutians. It provided endless fascinat ion and dirty fingernails. The best thing, though, is having a large and growing family: four children (including son Alex Davis ’04) and five grandchildren. It really does keep my head spinning. No question my undergraduate years at Columbia were transformative and truly fun; I even stuck on for another few years to get a doctorate. I would do it all again in a New York minute.”

More from Michael Feingold:

“Since leaving The Village Voice, I’ve been teaching a course in theater history for undergrad theater majors at Fordham and a course in classic film performances for first-year acting students at the Atlantic Theater Studio. I’ve also managed to retain my chairmanship of the Village Voice Obie Awards.

“I’ve also been writing a monthly essay-column, ‘Thinking About Theater,’ for TheaterMania.com, for which, this year, I had the exceptional honor of receiving the Nathan Award for a second time. Among the five other double winners is Bob Brustein GSAS’57, my senior seminar professor at Columbia and under whose aegis I worked at Yale and at the American Repertory Theater — I owe him an incredible amount!

“I’ve recently finished translating a new French play, Méditerranée (Le Banquet d’Anteuii) by Jean-Marie Besset, which [was scheduled to have] a reading at the New York Theatre Workshop in November. Best of all, I’ve just learned that my other play, Ragtops or The Second Best Trick, will be getting a one-week workshop at Rattlestick Playwright’s Theatre sometime this fall. I would offer some reminiscences, but as you can see I’m far too busy keeping up to look back! See you at reunion if I’m not stuck in a rehearsal hall somewhere.”

Your correspondent had the serious pleasure of attending our season football opener at Fordham on September 19 with Harvey Kurzweil and several hundred other Lions fans. To say the team’s performance was amazingly different and better than what we’ve observed during the past few years is an understatement. Suffice to say, we expect a radically improved team as we go forward under a new administration and coaching staff. Goat Lions!

Finally, the Reunion Committee asks all of you to provide us with thoughts or suggestions regarding restaurant venues (i.e., types of cuisines) or other activities for reunion (possibly open-air, double-deck bus tours, boat tours around Manhattan, theater group activities, museum tours, etc.). You can email your ideas to me at rforzani13@optonline.net. We want this to be an incredible experience that you can share with your partner, your family and your old friends.

1967

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Mott Greene writes: “I retired as the John B.Magee Professor of Science and Values at the University of Puget Sound in July 2012, after 27 years. Since then I have been working and writing at home in Seattle while continuing my academic career as affiliate professor of earth and space sciences at Washington. My latest book, Alfred Wegener: Science, Exploration, and the Theory of Continental Drift, was scheduled to come out in October. My first book took me six years; my second book, 10 years; and this last one, 20 years. Unless I can figure out some way to reverse this trend, this may well be my last, as I will be 70 in December. I am also a dramaturge with ACT Theatre in Seattle working to develop a stage production of the Japanese warrior epic Heike Monogatari in 2017. I continue to enjoy life in the Pacific Northwest with my wife, Jo Leffingwell. My daughter, Annie Greene, is a Montessori teacher in Seattle and is planning to return to school for a Ph.D. in anthropology to follow up her master’s in Japanese from Washington.

“As I haven’t seen it noted in CCT, it is my sad task to report the July 2013 death of Robert G. Hickes P571 of an infection contracted while practicing medicine at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse, N.Y. Bob was a great athlete (All-Ivy second baseman for the Lions and later an excellent tennis player and golfer), an avid (and expert) fly fisherman and a bridge Grandmaster. He was also my brother-in-law, married for many years to my sister, Joyce Greene Н569. Bob was the son of John Hickes ’39, P842 and father of Katie Hickes Karpenstein ’97 and Emily Hickes Meyers (Welles College). Bob practiced medicine for many years in Ithaca, N.Y., in oncology and hematology before moving to Syracuse, and was well-known and loved in both of these towns simply as ‘Doc.’ He was extremely proud of his connection to Columbia and prized both the education and the friendships that came from it. He is much missed.”

Ed Yasuna, Richard Axel: “I’ve allowed weeks, months and decades to pass without responding to Al’s and CCT’s urgings to share with classmates something about my world since Columbia [Note: This was written originally in 1999, and has been updated for this issue of CCT]. I should open by saying that my time at Columbia was excellent and I have been proud of the College (and the University) all my life. How blessed I am that admissions in the early 60s was far more gracious than now; were it not, I’d be someone else!

“Life has been good to me, and I hope I have been good to life. Within a year, a while back, one of my high school classmates was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame (for sports writing) and a College classmate won the Nobel Prize in Medicine [Editor’s note: Richard Axelson]. My depression and diminishment lasted about seven minutes, until I consoled myself that neither was a champion-quality hall monitor as was I, nor could either get sophomores to write fairly decent haiku, and maybe could not even hit a one-handed topspin backhand.

“Fifteen years ago I had a transformative experience: I spent a wondrous year at a Fulbright scholarship, teaching English as a foreign language at a ‘regular’ high school in Helsinki. My application essay focused on restlessness and risk-taking; the former I know well, the latter sometimes surprises me. I recalled my first days at Columbia. New York seemed the right place for me, I managed to do well, and I certainly learned a lot, often in spite of myself.

“I did take advantage of NYC. I saw the Fugs somewhere in the Village, and might have seen Dylan. I went to the Met and the Guggenheim; ballet tickets were $2 for the nosebleed seats and Mets games were equally reasonable. I saw a couple of operas performed by the Metropolitan Opera. I had a part-time job taking care of ‘troubled’ children, one living in the East ‘60s, two in Riverdale. The latter kids were normal; their mother was the troubled one. I walked around all sorts of fascinating neighborhoods, once

Virginia Woolf, I’d like to imagine) is based on him. I wrote those books after leaving teaching in Los Angeles in 1984. I had started a ‘serious’ novel, and didn’t want to grow old without seeing if I could finish it. So I left L.A., moved to Cape Cod with my meager savings and wrote every day for four years while teaching part-time at the community college. And though my agent only ‘came really close’ to getting the books published — she has probably long since forgotten me! — I wouldn’t change the experience an iota. Maybe that — the challenge of new experiences — helps explain why I have always collected stamps, love foreign movies, suffer with the Red Sox, collect wine, play tennis (especially doubles), ski, and build goldfish and water gardens in my yard.

“After bucolic Groton I went to Columbia. New York seemed the right experience. I enjoyed classes with Lionel Trilling ’25, GSAS’33; Kenneth Koch; Howard Davis; Barbara Novak; and especially Carl Hovey ’50. My New York haiku, and probably shot — had career choices, all) was not easy. In those days, one simply did not study abroad. Things certainly have changed.

“I really liked Columbia. Through the years I’ve often wished I had spent more time wandering the Village, going to the Fillmore, perhaps hanging at Warhol’s Factory. But then I remind myself that I occasionally went to class, read an assignment, wrote an essay and studied for an exam. The readings were often overwhelming, in size if not in scope. One week to read Dickens’ Our Mutual Friend for Edward Said’s class? That wasn’t going to happen. But I think I managed to do well, and I certainly learned a lot, often in spite of myself.

“Did take advantage of NYC. I saw the Fugs somewhere in the Village, and might have seen Dylan. I went to the Met and the Guggenheim; ballet tickets were $2 for the nosebleed seats and Mets games were equally reasonable. I saw a couple of operas performed by the Metropolitan Opera. I had a part-time job taking care of ‘troubled’ children, one living in the East ‘60s, two in Riverdale. The latter kids were normal; their mother was the troubled one. I walked around all sorts of fascinating neighborhoods, once
discovering a Ukrainian or Slovenian area somewhere in the East 20s, I think. My junior year apartment-mate, Gil Kerlin, was a wonderful friend. And my time at Alpha Delta Phi was, quite simply, good. Sadly, I've lost touch with these folk.

"I obtained a master's from Michigan and a doctorate at Ohio State. Nineteenth-century American literature and painting became my focus. The field of American studies was inchoate, I struggled to convince the English and art history departments to accommodate my work. My adviser, sadly, died suddenly. And then a young 20th-century specialist and novelist, Ernest Lockridge, stepped forward and agreed to direct my work. 'I don't know much about 19th-century literature and painting,' Ernest informed me, 'but I'll know when you're being stupid. And think how much I'll learn.' Ernest is a lifelong friend. His faith in me, and in himself, has taught me to continue to take chances, to expand my vision. To be a risk-taker. How fortunate I have been in my influences and my heroes.

"I had a few university-level jobs when I completed my Ph.D. Life led me to teach at Phillips Academy (Andover) and the Westlake School (Los Angeles) after Ohio State. Andover was heaven, but too familiar; California was new. Then the writing beckoned. I taught high school English on the Cape, at Nauset, for 12 years, including five thankless years as department head, and shortly after the Fullbright took a job in Andover, Mass., at the public high school there. I designed Nauset's AP English course and allowed any student to take the class as long as she loved to read and was highly motivated. I did not care about earlier grades or scores. I also taught the lowest-level juniors, another challenge since so many of these kids were disenfranchised or discouraged, angry or troubled. I liked teaching high school; kids are 'new' readers, and one does not have to deal with theory just yet. And I love to teach writing. Thank you, Jim Waugh.

"Along the way, for about six years in the 70s, I met and lived with and then married a fine woman, Andy Gilchrist. By the end of the decade the relationship was no longer working, but such things happen, so I'm told. For many years (well over 30), there has been a special love, but she lives in Ohio and is either too foolish or too wise to marry me, though I would have loved it at the chance. Our togetherness would surely have been a replication of the phoenix: exciting and immolating and exciting again.

"I retired three years ago to my cottage on Cape Cod, a 1911 'camp' that I have winterized and expanded a bit. I am about five houses from the Nantucket Sound and I love living on the Cape. I revel in retirement. I walk three miles almost every day; no more tennis (the knees being shot), though, and minimal skating. I work in my garden; collect wine; continue to enjoy music, from Italian opera to classic rock; and admit to having seen the Grateful Dead more than 25 times. And Johannes Brahms' music is godly. I read — the books I should have read while in college, the ones that have accumulated on tabletops and on floors, books I've wanted to return to — lots of books about nature and the land, lots of classic fiction, some mysteries, occasional histories, some contemporary fiction. I write, mostly nonfiction. I have a modest collection of white-line woodcut prints and another of studio glass, some given to me by my kind parents, and about a dozen pieces bought in the last decade. I have no more wall space for the prints or other space for the glass. But that does not slow the collecting! I volunteer six hours a week at a nearby nursing home reading aloud to two or three residents, playing Scrabble with another, visiting two or three others and reading to the pre-school kids there (the pre-school being a perk for the staff). I've discovered that I am good at this, and just might be on the short-list for the Nobel in reading to 4-year-olds.

"As I approach 70 — and I do not like the idea of aging, not at all — I am frequently reminded how blessed my life is. I am healthy, bright, content. I wish I had had children; instead, there are nieces and nephews and a special, special goddaughter. I live in a gorgeous part of the world, have good friends and travel often. When one's largest frustration is the squirrels hanging from one's bird feeder, then one knows one's life is good.

"I have not been back for reunion but often think about the many fine people I knew at Columbia, and always with much joy. And I hope that the length of all this has not been well, too onerous. Peace to you all."

1968

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Hi, Class of 1968. It seems that I have been, for a variety of good reasons, distracted. But I remain deeply committed to reporting what I can of the good news about this special class. I have just a couple of items this time:

I hear regularly from former crew member and dear friend Ira McCown, who now resides in (as he regularly likes to note) sunny Miami. I am sure he would be pleased to see any of us when there. I intend to see him soon. We were in Cambridge at the same time (a long time ago) when he was at the Kennedy School and Harvard Law and I was at the Harvard Business School. Ira continues, as do I, to be a fan of Columbia football. I am so pleased with new coach Al Bagnoli and his team of coaches and am hopeful for the future.

Paul de Bary, his dad, Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary '41, GSAS '53, who surely holds the record for football attendance; Bob Costa '67; Bob's wife, Joan; and I were at the September 26 game against Georgetown. Although the Lions lost, they seemed well-coached and we have some real talent, for sure. As I write this in September, I hoped to see some of you at Homecoming on October 17. We played Penn. By the way, Paul has some good news, and I hope he will report it so I can then report it.

I am looking forward to basketball season, as I believe we will have the best roster in the Ivies and be capable of beating some great teams from across the country. Point guard Maado Lo '16 had a great summer playing for the German national team in EuroBasket before tens of thousands of fans and, before that, leading Germany to the silver medal at the World University Games in South Korea (losing to America in double overtime). I hope you get to see the team this year; coach Kyle Smith is great and he has some team.

I heard from Andy Herz — what a gem. He is doing well, working fewer hours and doing many good things elsewhere. I hope to get a report on those.

I also heard from Alan "Buzz" Zucker, who continues to work with verve and enthusiasm and who, as I may have reported, has a hobby (I wonder if that is the right word for going to seemingly every Broadway and Off-Broadway show for years?). We should get him to talk to us at the next reunion about the nature of this charming addiction/affection. I wonder if he has seen Hamilton?

In April, I finished 40 years in public finance, having started at Goldman Sachs in 1975 after my stint with the governor in Massachusetts. I have now decided to do some other things,
which I will report on in a future column. I am in great humor, having had a good 2015 (and seemingly a good run through the years), and I am in reasonably good health. I was on a roll this year; it was a wondrous opportunity to serve communities across the country for general obligation needs (health care; housing; transportation, including airports, mass transit; bridges and highways; economic development; water and wastewater; public power; and education finance) as well as many complex financings. Most importantly, I was able to get to know some great elected officials and some special public servants, and I got to work in nearly every part of the country. I did get to know a number of airports for sure! But I don’t miss the travel.

The few challenges through the years, like as a senior banker for the City of New York for former mayors Ed Koch, David Dinkins and Rudy Giuliani; doing the first financing post-9–11 as senior banker for the District of Columbia; and, most recently, challenging financings for the New York Jets in 2014 and 2015. There were a few $100 billion financings and many greater international deals with all dedicated to public finance. Now I have more time to get to my second home in Saratoga, Fla. I saw Turandot at the Met in early October. It seems like a long time ago (it was) when I was a first-year at Columbia and somehow was able to see Aida at the Met with my Hunter H.S. date.

Please send notes. My email address is the at the top of the column, or use the CCF or current college/columbia.edu/ cct/submit_class_note. I believe I have lost a couple in the last year (I apologize) and I will be more diligent and spirited in the pursuit of news. I hope to hear from you, and I hope you are healthy and enjoying these days with a few decades to go.

1969

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Andy Bronin has been practicing dermatology for 37 years and “still enjoys it as much as the first day.” He and his wife, Elaine, have lived in Greenwich, Conn., for 28 years, and Andy is on the town’s Board of Health. “We love watching our grandchildren (6, 4 and 18 months) grow up,” he says. Andy shared some news that is tricky to cover in a quarterly publication. When he wrote in May, he told me that his son Luke had left his job as general counsel to Gov. Dannel Malloy and is running for mayor of Hartford. As I file this column in September, I can see from various online sources that Luke won the September 15 democratic primary, defeating the incumbent mayor. By the time this column appears, the November election will be history so I can only tell you to check online to see the outcome. While Luke did not follow his father into medicine (becoming a lawyer), Andy (of course) was a master politician himself, becoming our freshman class president by edging out your class correspondent, who thereby became freshman class VP.

Another story in motion: Jerry Nadler has been much in the news, and has endured many attacks (some creating any line of acceptable conduct), in announcing his support for President Barack Obama ‘83’s Iran deal.

Joel Solkoff shared a link to the obituary he delivered in 1989 at the funeral of his father, Isadore Solkoff, ‘24; the text had been lost for many years. I recommend that you read about this impressive man: joelsolkoff.com/my-father-isadore-solkoff.

Bill Bonvillian reports: “I live in the Washington, D.C., area and direct MIT’s Washington office, working with federal research and development agencies in such areas as advanced manufacturing and online education. I teach technology policy courses at MIT, Georgetown and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. In September, my new book (written with Professor Charles Weiss of Georgetown), Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors, came out from Oxford University Press. It tackles what we believe is a major economic problem: While the United States can be good at creating new frontier technology sectors like IT, it is not good at bringing innovation into complex, established ‘legacy’ sectors, like energy or health care delivery. As technological innovation drives our growth, this breakdown significantly limits our growth rate and well-being. We propose policy strategies to get around these innovation barriers, reviewing some examples where these have worked.

“Meanwhile, both my sons are gainfully employed in the financial sector; Marcus ‘14 maintains that [College] link.” From Vassar Masaryski: “I authored The Adventures of Fletcher MacDonald: Stories, a collection of short stories about a detective from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and I produced 75 commercial plays and musicals, both in summer stock and in New York City. I was a judicial clerk for the Superior Court in San Francisco and I have been a serial entrepreneur and financier, starting no fewer than 10 businesses ranging from landmine removal technology, to arenic removal from drinking water, to newspaper publishing to copy centers.

“My special experiences on campus include spending massive amounts of hours at WCRK as a show producer and a newswoman; being in Edward Said’s freshman English class and arguing about cultural relevance (not knowing that Said was the lion of Palestinian scholarship and the independence movement, and one of the world’s leading literary scholars); making lifelong friendships with Wayne Guymon and Charles Cannon ‘67 (indeed, Charles and I have been in touch almost every week for 50 years, both for business and socially). Wayne and Charles are from Utah, so this was my first exposure to the U.S. West — I was a New Yorker (though born in Hoboken, N.J.), with not much interest in things west of NYC or the Northeast corridor. That was an education in itself.”

Jonathan Adelman GSAS’76 writes: “I remember the first thing I learned at orientation was how to survive on the streets of Morningside Heights late at night. We were told not to walk near buildings but close to the curb and, if someone was following, to go into the street and, if still followed, to start running. I remember being told that Columbia College was not a school to prepare us for a job but to learn the things that really mattered in life. That was truly wonderful.”

“I also remember, in fall 1967, taking a course on Russian and Chinese politics with Professor Seweryn Bialer GSAS’66. I had become discontented with being an economics major and, when I took this course, saw the light. I had Professor Bialer as my adviser for my last two years in college and then again for seven years until I earned my Ph.D. from Columbia in the area in which I still teach — Russian and Chinese politics. Having written or edited 12 books, I am working on a new one on the Soviet Union in WWII. In addition to being a full professor in the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at Denver, I have taken up writing op-eds on Russia, China and the Middle East. I have had 46 op-eds published in almost three years, mainly on the websites of The Huffington Post, Forbes, CNN and the like.

“I continue to be active in the pro-Israel cause and I work with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds and Jewish Federations of North America. I also am on the Board of Scholars for Peace in the Middle East and am very active in Israel, which I visit every year.”

Alan Mintz reports: “I returned to Morningside Heights in 2001 to teach at the Jewish Theological Seminary as the Chana Kest Professor of Jewish Literature. Last fall, I had the privilege of teaching a course at Columbia on the Holocaust and literary representation. In the spring, I was a fellow at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where I was finishing a book on the Nobel laureate S.Y. Agnon and the stories he wrote about Buczacz, the town in Galicia where he grew up before moving to Palestine at the beginning of the 20th century.”

At the end of June, Marc Rauch left his position as The American Ok, but didn’t make the Dean’s List. In spring 1968, I started feeling tired and depressed, yet didn’t know why. I spent most of my time in the small New York Public Library branch in the basement of Butler; by the time school was canceled on account of the chaos, I had read almost all of its sci-fi books. I was saved from flunking out by the anti-war protests that closed the College. When I got home, I still didn’t have any energy and my father sent me to the doctor. The diagnosis was mono-nucleosis. I took off the fall semester and didn’t expect to graduate with our class. Then, a few weeks before graduation, the registrar said that I needed only two credits to graduate. I remembered Calc 101, and the math department gave me three credits so I graduated with the class.

Postscript: My academic record was not very good, so I didn’t apply to medical school. I narrowly missed getting deferred and I joined Volunteers in Service to America, then for a year was a newspaper reporter before deciding to go back to school. After graduate school and medical school, I went into international public health and spent most of my career working on
HIV prevention and family planning at FHI 360. After retiring from paid employment, I co-founded a nonprofit, the Male Contraception Initiative (malecontraceptive.org), which focuses on developing a contraceptive pill for men. A few years ago I remarried Mary Lacomba Ph.D.; we retired in 2012, are in good health and enjoy staying active and traveling. We have one grandson, whom we enjoy challenging and spoiling."

From Hank Reichman: "For the past few years I’ve been first VP of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and chair of the Association’s Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. At this year’s meeting, which I attended, the topic of the place in a 500-word essay. I cemented my earliest friendships at Columbus that November night before Labor Day in 1965. I remember being nervous, apprehensive and uncertain, while at the same time excited to begin this huge new adventure. Navigating the bureaucratic shoals into my new home in Carman did little to dampen my enthusiasm and happily participated two or three new acquaintances on the way, including my roommate. We agreed it would be good to celebrate the occasion with a beer or two in one of the local bars. We wandered down Broadway to The Gold Rail (after the polls closed, as it was Primary Day). I cemented my earliest friendships at Columbia late into the night."

"I remember my first writing assignment in English Comp that fall. Our instructor was Michael Rosenthal GSAS67. (He was then just a graduate assistant, as he told me) when I saw him at a book party for his work ‘Nicholas Miraculous: The Amazing Career of the Redoubtable Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler,’ in 2006.) He sent me/ us to Brooks Brothers to capture the style of the place in a 500-word essay. My submission asserted the place had no style. His red-marked comment dripped with contempt: Are you kidding? The place reeks with style. Do it again!"

"Fast forward to the evening of November 9, a Tuesday (I looked it up), I was in an elevator with one or two friends from the higher floors of Carman. Inexplicably, the elevator stopped between floors and the doors appeared to be stuck shut. We yelled, rang bells and generally made a racket, but no one panicked. We quickly managed to pry the doors open and discovered we were almost exactly halfway between floors. We saw that the entire campus, as well as all of Morningside Heights, was dark. I don’t especially remember the conclusion of the blackout evening, just that it was so much like the rest of our first semester at Columbia that fall and early winter of 1965. We didn’t know much about what was going on or how it had come about, but it was an enormously exciting, adventurous and challenging experience. For the most part, it was more fun than I remember having had any time before. And before we knew it, both that November night and the first semester had passed into history. We were just a bit better educated, more experienced and perhaps even a tiny bit wiser for it."

"One other clear and sparkling recollection is our freshman orientation session, at which Dean David Truman and Professor Fritz Stern ’46, GSAS53 were speakers. They both made a tremendous impression on me, which — obviously — I did not forget."
graduation of our daughter, Deborah Sachare BC’14, the birth of three grand-nephews, and five more vacations at our timeshare home-away-from-home in Aruba, where we renewed our wedding vows in a beautiful sunset ceremony on the beach in March 2014.

Lori graduated from SUNY Buffalo State and was a professional journalist and publicist. She served for five years as the public information officer for the Town of New Castle in Westchester County, N.Y., and wrote for several local publications, including the Journal News in Westchester (N.Y.) County and Inside Chappaqua magazine, for which she authored an inspiring essay about her experience, “Finding the Can in Cancer.”

The good news is that after her long fight, Lori died quickly, without pain, and with her family by her side. Barely a week before her passing, she was able to experience a remarkable healing ceremony, organized by our rabbi, where more than 40 friends and relatives gathered in our home and described to Lori how much she had meant to them, and she was able to respond to each. This outpouring of love and support from family and friends continued following her passing, was of great comfort to Deborah and myself and served as lasting evidence of the many lives she touched.

Alex reports that Lori always looked forward to Alumni Reunion Weekend, and especially the camaraderie at the class dinners. We will miss Lori at our reunion as well as classmates and other loved ones who have passed. We want to see you there.

To me, music has always been an expression of emotion. You’ve heard Arno Hecht and his tenor saxophone everywhere, from Buster Poindexter’s “(I’m) Hot Hot Hot,” to the B-52’s “Love Shack,” both of which you can easily find on YouTube if you pick the official videos.

In some videos you can play your own version of “Where’s Waldo,” catching glimpses of Arno. Here are some YouTube searches you can make if you want to catch Arno playing with big names.

He did not participate in the music video shoot of “Love Shack” (although you hear is him playing) but that’s Arno front and center as Dion sings “The Wanderer,” with Paul Simon singing backup; to see Arno, search on YouTube “Dion Paul Simon Rock and Roll Hall of Fame 25th The Wanderer” (a good version to pick is the one that is 3:39 long).

As a member of Uptown Horns, Arno toured with the Rolling Stones on their Steel Wheels tour. The nearly 82-minute concert film Rolling Stones Live at the Max is on YouTube; the Uptown Horns are introduced at 1:00:29. Close your eyes and imagine being introduced to a stadium full of screaming fans by Mick Jagger.

If you search “legends of rock and roll all-star jam” on YouTube, you will see Arno and the Uptown Horns jamming with Ray Charles, B.B. King, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, James Brown, Fats Domino and Bo Diddley, all together.

Some other YouTube searches to see Arno in action are “J. Geils Band I Do” (select the official version), “Tom Waits Downtown Train Arno Hecht” for a New York-appropriate song, or, fittingly for Columbia, see Arno Benson on Broadway Arno Hecht.

You can also just search for “Arno Hecht” matched with famous names such as Joan Jett, Joe Cocker, Keith Richards and so on.

Among my favorite videos are blues numbers featuring Arno solos, in particular, “Way Over Yonder” with Hiram Bullock on guitar at the Chicago Blues Fest. To see it, search “Hiram Bullock Arno Hecht” on YouTube and select the 9:10-long version.

Now is the time to ramp up to reunion, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. The campus is the same, yet different. And so are we. Enjoy old friendships and make new ones. I have already heard from class members on other continents who plan to attend.

Remember back 49 Septembers and the feelings we had, “George Benson on Broadway Arno Hecht.”

In August, Bill Christophersen ’71 published his debut poetry collection, Two Men Fighting in a Landscape. He’s been writing since college.

Howard Gould moved to a solo law practice in early 2014, and has since added two other attorneys; their focus is on anything real-estate related. Howard’s son, Kevin ’12, works for a financial industry e-commerce analysis company in Manhattan. Their daughter, Robin, a Ph.D. in computational biology, works at MIT and works at a Bay Area biotech company. They often travel together; this year’s planned trip is to Costa Rica, with Antarctica next year’s choice.

Howard lives in Malibu, Calif., with his wife of 31 years, an infectious disease doctor whom he met in a sailing class. As the former president of the local alumni club, he enjoys contact from fellow Columbians.

Greg Gall is still involved in fencing; he is head fencing coach at the Hackley School in Tarrytown, N.Y. Greg also is a self-employed architect and his wife, Kim, is now retired after 35 years with IBM. Their daughter, Christine, graduated from Haverford in 2012 and completed her second (and final) year of service with FoodCorps in Maine. Greg is still wondering “why Eric H. Holder Jr. LAW’76 cut his hair.”

Drew Gerstle is a professor of Japanese studies at the University of London and was elected a fellow of the British Academy for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Joel Pfister is the Olin Professor of English and chair of the American Studies Department at Wesleyan. His sixth book, Surveyors of Customs: American Literature as Cultural Analysis, is dedicated to his wife, Lisa Wyant (a Stanford grad), to whom he is "very happily married."

And — to end with some comic relief — George Selzer wrote in to clarify that he'd dropped out (after starting as a 73'er), graduating from Wayne State and then Michigan Law; he spent 13 years representing labor unions. From 1998 on, he has been the international representative for the Teamsters in NYC. He looks forward to retiring soon and "playing lots of Madden NFL football with my godson."

That's all we wrote. Thanks, gents!

Share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/ctc/submit_class_note.

1974

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"Are Prestigious Private Colleges Worth the Cost?" asked a March 1 headline in The Wall Street Journal. Well, we all know the answer to that question! It is still gratifying to see the College in the top 10 in the "Best Returns on Investment, Liberal Arts Majors" category.

Based on the four-year cost (using 2013 tuition, room and board with no financial aid) of $236,500, the PayScale College ROI Report estimated students at the College would earn $614,300 across the following 20 years. They calculate that this gives a return on investment of 6.8 percent. To put that in perspective, it handily eclipsed the 5.8 percent return that was recently reported for the most recent fiscal year of the Harvard endowment! Not too shabby for an education that includes a hefty allocation of time to a Core Curriculum that includes the "great books," the history of political thought and all the other required courses.

The latest installment of the "List" series from Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, this one titled "The Women's List," premiered on PBS on September 25. It included interviews with 15 women as varied as actress Edie Falco to designer Betsey Johnson to Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). The mini-memoirs covered the pain of rejection, longing and loss, and the stress of living complex lives.

Carla Baranukus of Women's Voices for Change reviewed it saying, "If there were a way to take a film and bottle it so it could be sipped quietly in moments of frustration, fatigue, failure or fear for a little dose of courage, calmness or confidence, I would want the elixir to be The Women's List."

Will Willis, from Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., emailed after reading in a recent column that Tom Lucianti planned to retire in the near future. Will says that he sold his company (Global Technovations) last December but wonders, "I'm not sure if I'm retired or unemployed." He added, "Please let Tom know that once he retires and is traveling the country in his Winnebago with [his wife] Theresa, he always has free water and electric hookups at my place. Relative to the sewer, he's on his own!"

N.B.: This is the third or fourth official retirement claimed by Will. Stay tuned.

Last year we mistakenly reported that Brian Eskenazi had retired from being CEO of Riverside Books, a publisher of illustrated art books. Turns out he is only semi-retired and continues to sell down his inventories but found the economics of publishing new "cocktail table books" daunting. He has returned to selling foodstuffs and the imports of olives, processed vegetables and bulk spices.

It is amazing how the careers of classmates continue to morph in every direction!

We heard from Tom Sawicki (in Jerusalem) when his attendance at a Columbia Alumni event ticked his memories of his days on campus. "Without a doubt, all my wife, Susie, and I think and care about now is our granddaughter, Zohar, whom we call Zuzu." He tells us that son Ami recently finished 12 years in the Israeli air force and began med school last October. I emailed back that he will soon be able to use the famous New York phrase, "My son, the doctor."

Tom's younger son, Ariel, is considering a research position in the Israeli army. Susie is with the New Israel Fund, and Tom is director of programming at the Jerusalem office of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. A lengthy email came in from Roger Cohen, in Lancaster, Pa., who entered the College with the Class of '73 but graduated with us and now is "firmly committed as a member of the Class of '74." When we last heard from Roger, he was the founder of AutoKronous Marketing Solutions in NYC. Now he tells us, "After a lifetime in NYC and New Jersey, and faced with dramatic changes on all fronts, I moved to Lancaster in 2011 to be with the late-found love of my life, Patricia, a professor of English at Franklin and Marshall College."

Roger and Patricia were married last March, and in July Roger began a new career working for the governor as the director of policy in the Department of Transportation.

Roger concluded the email with thoughts on starting his new life (on many fronts): "This day I am relishing the prospect of returning after many years to public service, where I have enjoyed the most rewarding experiences of my professional life, and particularly so in this new home, where I came for love, and which I fell in love with."

An unusual story appeared in The New York Post in July that featured Arthur Schwartz. It blared, "A prominent Manhattan attorney is facing handcuffs and a night in Central Booking because he dared to dismantle hidden cameras he found trained on his 93-year-old client's apartment." Arthur believed it is with great sadness that we report the passing of Gary Atutes last February. The only details we know are from the Columbia alumni directory, which says he was the territory sales manager of Pittsburgh Seafoods, and from the obituary, which notes that he died "suddenly." If anyone knows more, please send it in.

There you have it. Much joy amid some sadness. Careers that are ending and some that are evolving. Keep sending in information on what is happening to you and with classmates. And try to stay out of handcuffs!

PBS debuted The Women's List, the latest installment of Timothy Greenfield-Sanders' "74s series The List; this episode featured interviews with 15 famous women.

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There you have it. Much joy amid some sadness. Careers that are ending and some that are evolving. Keep sending in information on what is happening to you and with classmates. And try to stay out of handcuffs!

1975

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Early Happy New Year, CC'75! No news this time, so please make sure to...
send in your updates. Your classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small, so make 2016 the year to send in a Class Note. You can send your news to me at the email address at the top of this column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/submit_class_note.

1976

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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Planning for the 40th reunion is moving along. The Reunion Committee has a core group, led by Steve Davis, with me playing Tonto to his Kemosabe, and we have (as usual) a good representation from the New York City area with Michael Sackler, Jim Bruno, Jon Margolis, Anthony Messina and John Connell. We also have representation nationwide with Dan Gottlieb calling in from Washington State, Dennis Goodrich from upstate New York and Joel Gedan anchored in Indiana.

The weekend is coming together and looking to be an enjoyable time. On Thursday evening we will have a joint event with Barnard ’76, and classmates will also have the option of enjoying downtown cultural offerings planned by the Alumni Office for all reunion classes. Friday will feature Mini-Core Classes, campus and neighborhood tours, an all-class lunch and then a class-specific evening event. Saturday begins with the Dean’s Breakfast, then the full slate of Dean’s Day events, an afternoon barbecue and then a class-specific dinner (with a speaker!). We have a few people on the short list and will let you know by email who is scheduled to speak.

For those planning to travel to NYC for the entire weekend, lodging will be available on campus. Just a cautionary tale from the 30th reunion: One classmate traveled to New York with his spouse, who had never been to New York City. He is a good friend of mine and I spent a good part of reunion with the couple. As I live in Hoboken, N.J., it was easy for my wife and me to stay at home. As our classmate was checking out on Sunday, he looked at me and said, “A lot has changed about Columbia, but one thing is still the same … Carman is still Carman.”

Homecoming, on October 17, was fun, and the improving football team gives us a lot of hope. [Editor’s note: The Lions won their first game of the season on October 10.] Columbia Giving Day was successful — thanks to all of you for your support!

It seems that Reunion Committee outreach and this new gig as class correspondent have put me in touch with a lot of classmates; that is very rewarding and enjoyable. All of us have a wealth of stories and experiences, and I look forward to reporting those. So send in those updates!

If any of you are in the New York area for Class Day and Commencement, I encourage you to participate in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day (which includes a breakfast in John Jay — mmmmm, memories …) and the academic procession for Commencement. Both ceremonies are very different from what our graduation was in 1976. The campus is beautiful and usually the weather cooperates; and, if the weather does not cooperate, the Class Day parade will feature the latest in Columbia College-branded rain gear (through the years, I have received rain ponchos and umbrellas). So look for emails announcing those events. If you get to campus on those days, we will have a pre-reunion lunch after the ceremonies.

More updates …

My junior year roommate, Rich Feldman, sent this note: "I enjoy the practice of law and visiting the children with my wife in Northern California. I’m growing older as gracefully as possible and riding my bike as often and for as many miles as time allows.”

He did not mention if he is still doing his Errol Flynn swashbuckler imitation with the epee.

My WKCR partner, Jon Kushner, sent this from Ohio: “My wife, Gail, and I celebrated our 30th anniversary in November; son Adam is a health administrator at Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati; son Ben is in his third year at Ohio State’s College of Dentistry. I’m using all of my Columbia knowledge to help some of these Buckeye alums the three times a year their team has a bad drive and has to punt.”

In addition to giving time to Reunion Committee efforts, Jim Bruno sent this: "I typically don’t like to talk about myself but Ken Howitt successfully asserted some pressure at our reunion meeting so here is what is going on with me. My real estate law practice continues to be strong, and my focus is on redevelopment projects in my native Jersey City as well as other northern New Jersey municipalities, including Harrison, Kearny, Madison and Clifton.”

“While I haven’t ventured far from my roots, my son, Matthew, decided to leave his job at a major financial firm in NYC to take a position with a start-up in San Francisco. I admire his spirit and hope it works out for him. My daughter, Jamie, will be getting married next year, so this is keeping me and my wife, Donna, busy (and working!). So with the reunion, 2016 will be an eventful year. It still is hard to grasp that it will be 40 years.

The current success of the Columbia baseball team brings back great memories of our championship season in 1976. I am confident that new football coach Al Bagnoli will bring to the football team the winning tradition that coach Brett Boretti has created with the baseball program.”

Keep those updates coming. I look forward to seeing all of you on Morning-side Heights in June! My offer still holds: If anyone ventures to NYC, shoot me an email and I will meet you in the city. It is a quick boat ride from Hoboken and then a subway from the spanking-new Hudson Yards 7 train station.

1977

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And we are back. I begin with updates from several classmates.

Jess Lederman is in Alaska, where he is 1) taking piano lessons 2) publishing books to help raise money for the ALS Therapy Development Institute of Cambridge, Mass., the foremost nonprofit biotech devoted to finding a cure for Lou Gehrig’s Disease and 3) helping to spread the words of George MacDonald, the great inspiration to C.S. Lewis, G.K. Chesterton and countless other Christians. Anyone interested in the latter two activities can contact Jess at jess@worksofmacdonald.com.

Bart Holland’s daughter, Alicia, started at Teachers College this fall, and he is confident that she will use her people skills and her language gifts to become “that” English teacher, the one who really makes an impact on students. His son, Charlie, will be using his great empathy and deep interest in psychology, the mind and helping others in a program at NYU he started this past fall to train to be a psychological counselor. Bart’s wife, Jean Donahue, is principal of Bronx Science and Bart himself, when not working in the Dean’s Office at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School as the director of educational assessment and research, is a tenured professor of biostatistics and epidemiology.

Art Old writes, “A couple of months ago I had the great privilege of seeing Bob Hebron ’76 while he was in town. I hadn’t seen him in 38 years, but we effectively just continued our conversations of long ago. While sitting in the Driskill Bar (right by where I work in downtown Austin) we were joined by a couple of my (often frighteningly) young colleagues, who were regaled with stories from an entirely different century.”

Until now, we’ve been long-time, no-heat from Tony Dardis; he sends news that at a swim meet in June, he swam the 100m backstroke and that he is currently ranked No. 38 in the nation in his age group for this year. This accomplishment is in addition to being professor of philosophy at Hofstra, where Tony has taught since 1992 (FYI, Tony has a master’s and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley). He published a book in 2008, *Mental Causation: The Mind-Body Problem,* and his latest article is “Modal Fictionalism and Modal Instrumentalism,” published in the *Organon* F journal.

Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/submit_class_note.

1978

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Sometimes this is a lonely job and I have to stop myself from crying out in the immortal words of the defining — though now forgotten — TV drama of our generation, *The Day After.* “Is anyone out there? Anyone at all?” I won’t even go into the impending crisis the Reagan-era “made for TV” movie was about; it seems too trivial today given our worries over Syria and the Fed raising interest rates.

My goal, once so proudly held, is no longer the dream of including some funny and touching triumph of human interest about each and every one of the 700-plus graduates of our class before we reach that sadly empty first column near the front of the back of the book. Each class bows out in a unique and equally unimpressive manner; something like, “I am writing in to tell you that my grandfather has...
forgotten which class he was in, so he will not be filing any future columns about which of his friends died for your magazine in the future. "No, after 37 years in this job, my quest seems to have a homogeneous and churning something — anything — between the covers of each edition of CCT and to keep our class represented near the midpoint of new life (CC'15) and impending death (the last members of CC'40).

But, lest you think I am discouraged, I am not. The football team has won a game and tomorrow is another column! Still, I do thank the stalwarts, those who love to share something (though occasionally the very same thing you told us last issue) with our curious but less-forthcoming classmates. This issue you came through again.

Seriously, folks, this remains a great gig and CCT only gets better each issue, so try to send more news.

Gary Pickholz frequently tells us what's what from either Israel or his perch at the Business School. He reports, "My youngest son, Yair, recently received his combat wings in the Israeli Air Force."

"My son is a junior at Reed College, Los Angeles, CA 90048 and he has written wonder¬ful and consistently for decades: "My" Phillips has always kept me up to date on the musical happenings in Providence, R.I., and his own exciting globetrotting travels. He reports, "Lots of traveling this past year, with guest conducting appearances in France, Macau and Argentina, and a wonderful family vacation in Iceland. Last year I led the Brown University Orchestra in concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Fisher Center at Bard College. Manhattan Intermezzo is the title of the new Navos CD that pianist Jeffrey Biegel and I recorded with the Brown Orchestra last fall. It features compositions for piano and orchestra by Neil Sedlak, Keith Emerson, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin, and will be released in January."" (I still listen to Suzanne Vega. She was in Purchase, N.Y., last year, and even took my song request during her concert! This past year, I attended the Varsity Show with Joel Landzberg and Ron Weich '80. One of the composers was Sam Balzac '17, son of Fred Balzac '80."

"My youngest daughter started college and my wife, Mary, and I now have a college freshman, sophomore and junior and a high school freshman. Few things are quite as terrifying or sleep-depriving for parents as having three teenage drivers. So, the day after the last day of school, we took the old Volvo, "Battlescar Gallatica," to be reclaimed at the local scrap yard.

"For Mary and me, it was the moment when terror and exhaustion turned to exhilaration and freedom. The teenage years are wonderful years as well, in particular, the spring semester of senior year in high school. The introspection, the maturation process, the inevitability — I was thrilled for each of my kids throughout this transition, for there is no greater knowledge than self-knowledge.

"This, of course, is true for rising 60-somethings as well. There is something about transitions that make life so alive, so vivid. I reread Dhartha and saw in it this time a light something about transitions that make life so alive, so vivid. I reread Dhartha and saw in it this time a light

Paul Phillips has always kept me up to date on the musical happenings in Providence, R.I., and his own exciting globetrotting travels. He reports, "Lots of traveling this past year, with guest conducting appearances in France, Macau and Argentina, and a wonderful family vacation in Iceland. Last year I led the Brown University Orchestra in concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Fisher Center at Bard College. Manhattan Intermezzo is the title of the new Navos CD that pianist Jeffrey Biegel and I recorded with the Brown Orchestra last fall. It features compositions for piano and orchestra by Neil Sedlak, Keith Emerson, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin, and will be released in January."

Marvin Ira Charles Siegfried closes our notes with an honest, "Nothing new to report; I'm a teacher in New York City but now stay because I want to, as I have reached retirement age (over 55) and years of service (over 30). My wife and I spent a lovely Christmas time in Aruba this past summer. We're expecting our first grandchild early next year — too early to say if the baby will be Columbia-bound (the baby's dad is a Cornell graduate)."

Our question of the month had to do with the numerous New Yorkers running for President of these United States. A few of the better comments: "The Donald is a moron, and we'll be better off with Bozo the Clown (although they do share one thing in common: bad hair);" "It's time for Hill¬ary as she's time for a woman;" "Bernie Sanders would do a much better job for this country than Trump, and he is a New Yorker in exile of course;" "Trump is somewhat less frightening than the other Republicans;" "Trump should not be president because he did not go to Columbia;" and "I'm stunned.

Please write soon, even with stories about being hounded to join AARP or your experiences investing your retire¬ment pensions.

1979

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Family news from Jeff McFarland: "I will become a grandfather when my daughter gives birth to her daughter in December in Hong Kong. She lives in Shenzhen, China, with her husband. My son is a junior at Reed College, majoring in mathematics. I live alone. As professional news, I am concluding two years as the regional adviser for accelerated disease control at the WHO South-East Asia Regional Office in New Delhi, leading the efforts in the 11 countries of the region to maintain a polio-free region, to verify a region free of maternal- neonatal tetanus and to make progress toward the 2020 goal of measles elimination and rubella and congenital rubella syndrome control. In October, I will move to Hanoi to lead U.S. CDC efforts in influenza in Vietnam." (Let us know if Jane Fonda gets the flat!)

Jack Lepri recently joined the law firm of Helner, Conley & Kassel, Inc. (850 New Rd., Somers Point, NJ 08244: (609-601-6100). He says, "I practice mostly in the area of criminal law, specializing in appeals and motion work, though the firm does all dif¬ferent types of work and has offices throughout the State of New Jersey."

(Hmmmm, criminal law in the state of New Jersey... I think you're going to need many new partners?)

Pediatrician Bill Lee has been at Scarsdale Pediatric Associates since 1987 and is now its president. He writes, "I have been married to Lara, Sargent, NRS'82 for 29 years. Our daughter, a teacher, will be married next year... I still listen to Suzanne Vega. She was in Purchase, N.Y., last year, and even took my song request during her concert! This past year, I attended the Varsity Show with Joel Landzberg and Ron Weich '80. One of the composers was Sam Balzac '17, son of Fred Balzac '80."

"When I asked what jobs were available, she replied, "There are none; they're all gone." My reply was, 'Really?' Isn't this the first day of the first semester? And they're already all gone?" She replied, 'What part of "all gone" did you not understand?"
“When I started to think of what off-campus jobs I would have to work, I asked her for a third and final time, ‘Are you sure there are no jobs available on campus?’ With smoke coming out of her ears she replied, ‘There is only one job that is available, and it has been available for five years, because it’s not fillable.’ I said, ‘What job is that?’ She replied, ‘We need a bowling alley repairman for the Ferris Booth Hall bowling alley.’

“She said this job had remained unfilled and one of the three bowling alleys has remained broken because no one has the skill set for this job. Like Groucho Marx, I replied, ‘I know how to fix a bowling alley.’ With her eyebrows as high as the ceiling she replied, ‘Then you have the job!’ I asked her for a third and final time, ‘Are you sure there are no jobs available on campus?’

“Then you have the job!”

One has the skill set for this job. Like George, a wrestler, George has been dubbed a four approved drugs and a technology platform designed to invent more. Always a humble guy, George hopes to be "an inspiration to kids who might otherwise become hedge fund managers," as he says in the August 17 article. [Editor’s note: See college.columbia.edu/cc/summer13/features3.]

I trust everyone is having a wonderful winter and I look forward to seeing you at a hoops game. Drop me a note at mcbsc80@yahoo.com or send updates via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cc/submit_class_note.

1981

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Winter greetings! It was nice to hear good news from so many of you.

Stephen Masler is happy to report that his eldest son, Michael, is engaged and planning a wedding for 2017. Michael recently relocated to Los Angeles, where he is a medical physician. Stephen’s second son, Chris, graduated from Fordham Law and is a compliance analyst at Citigroup. His youngest son, Brendan, is also recently engaged with plans for a wedding in Maryland, where he is a computer security specialist. Stephen’s daughter, Lauren, is in her second year of a graduate program in regional and city planning at Boston University. How did all this happen? Stephen and his wife, Tricia, celebrated their 34th anniversary this past August.

Congratulations, Stephen!

In NYC, Bill Carey announced his marriage to Jeong “Terry” O. Shin, and later married their son, Brendan, is also in his second year of a graduate program in regional and city planning at Boston University. How did all this happen? Stephen and his wife, Tricia, celebrated their 34th anniversary this past August.

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Congratulations, Stephen!
Class Notes

My diverse credits include producer of *Queenas*, a feature length documentary about Latino transsexuals, financed by Canal+ and The Danish Film Board; co-producer and editor of *Great Streets: Champs-Elysees*, starring Halle Berry for PBS; and co-writer, producer and editor of the feature documentary *Diadectes: The Movie*, starring Billy Bob Thornton. Shortly after I got out of USC, I got into reality television, starting with the second season of *The Real World* (Los Angeles). Through the years, I’ve worked on a lot of shows. The most well-known is *Survivor*. I worked on that for eight years and received six Emmy nominations (zero wins). I’ve spent the last five years working on *Shahs of Sunnate* for the Bravo network; I’m the show’s executive producer/showrunner. I was married, but my wife recently passed away. She had a short (50 days) battle with some aggressive cancer. We don’t have any children, other than two beautiful poodle mutts that we rescued two years ago — Jake and Elwood are brothers/littermates. I love to travel and have spent a lot of time in Europe and Mexico, where I’m building a retirement house on a beach in the middle of nowhere. I also collect wine, with particular interest in Champagne and Italian wine."

Carl Fallar: "Greetings from Columbus, Ohio. After leaving New York City in 1998, my New York City native daughter, Carolyn, returned this fall to the Bronx to attend Fordham. She is pleased to share that a high school classmate, Noah Goss ’19, is now at Columbus. My wife, Mary, and I reside in German Village, a historic neighborhood of Columbus, and she works for Mertter-Toldeo. Our twin sons, Bob and John, are sophomores at the Wellington School and maintain an interest in basketball. Given the recent success of Columbus’s team you described in CCT, it may be time for the team to schedule a return to the Schottenstein Center and play Ohio State. The same actually holds true for the Columbus tennis team, which last visited Columbus for a first-round match in the NCAA tournament."

Carl sent me a copy of *The Language* by Herman Wouk ’34 as a small gesture of thanks for my efforts in support of the class and Columbus through the years. He noted, "In the recent past, I thoroughly enjoyed reading the *Caine Mutiny* with its Columbus campus descriptions."

Carl, I am a huge Herman Wouk fan. Thanks for thinking of me.

In short updates, Dan Loeb hosted a $5,000-a-person East Hampton event in honor of Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.). *David Hershey-Webb* performed with several other musicians at Smyvesant Cove Park on July 20.

Steve Coleman has been named secretary of the Executive Board of the Columbia Alumni Association and I (Roy Pomerantz) have been named co-chair of the "Serve Committee" of the Executive Board of the Columbia College Alumni Association. Ed Joyce says, "I marched with our class in the Alumni Procession at Convocation in August as my daughter, Sarah ’19, entered the College."
Rothkop, and Obama's policy will be ABF—Anything But Bush.

From Peter Rapp: "I always enjoy the Alumni News section of CCT, and it was great to see some recognizable faces in the photo [on page 67 of the Summer 2015 issue]. My wife of 28 years and I have triplet daughters, two of whom play polo at Texas Tech. The other is in the College of Fine Arts at Texas. I am working on a second book. The athlete in me never dies; I still play tennis two to three times a week and I carry a football and a baseball glove in my bag."

Peter is a board-certified physician in physical medicine and rehabilitation in Dallas. A two-sport athlete at the college, he earned an M.D. from Texas Tech 1999 and completed a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, where he joined the attending staff in 1993. As medical director for rehabilitation at Baylor Medical Center at Garland, in affiliation with RehabCare, he ran a 12-bed inpatient unit that was awarded the Outstanding Rehab Unit award for the company. In 1995, Peter took an opportunity to grow an inpatient/outpatient practice with a special interest in brain and work injury as medical director at Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Irving, as well as serving The Centre for Neuro Skills Dallas. His career has encompassed appointments with Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation, The Center for Neuroskills and Integra Hospital Plano as well as national medical director for Centroere Healthcare Corp. in affiliation with Methodist Rehabilitation Hospital in Dallas, where he has been the medical director since 2009. Peter has appeared in D Magazine's "Best Doctors Dallas" in 2004, 2012, 2013 and 2014. He says in 1998 he began incorporating advanced principles of power inherent in spirit along with medicine and therapy as an adjunct to rehabilitation and recovery, within his traditional medical practice. A series of lectures that described his experiences eventually became his first book, Healing Heart to Soul: One Doctor's Journey of Health, Healing, and Life.

Andover, Mass., resident and attorney Andrew Botti has been appointed to the Massachusetts Economic Development Planning Council by Gov. Charlie Baker (St. Mass.). The council's mission is to develop a written, comprehensive economic development policy for Massachusetts and to construct a strategic plan for its implementation. The plan will then be submitted to the Legislature's Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies for public hearing prior to final approval by the governor.

Andrew is a director at McLane Middleton in Woburn, Mass., where he represents corporations, smaller businesses and family-owned and operated enterprises in complex business and employment-related disputes. He was chairman of the board of the Smaller Business Association of New England from 2009 to 2011 and is on the board of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts. He is also on the board of Lazarus House and is a member of the parish council of St. Augustine Parish in Andover.

Andrew sent me a breathtaking framed print of one of his oil paintings of a lighthouse. I focus on it when I am feeling stressed at work. Thank you, Andy.

Classmates: The Center for Career Education mentoring program (careereducation.columbia.edu/alumni/ opportunities) is a great way to assist students and recent graduates, and I encourage you to join the program. I recently received this message from Amy Park '13: "Back in 2012, we met at the Columbia internship program's mentor/mentee event. It's been two years since I graduated and now I am looking to relocate to L.A. I wanted to reach out to you and see if you know of great opportunities on the West Coast. I would love to reconnect with you."

Amy has experience in marketing, media and publishing. If any Columbians want to get in touch with her, let me know.

I look forward to seeing you at some Columbia football and basketball games. I have season tickets this year.

1984

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Daniel Berick has been named the 2016 Cleveland Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers, a longstanding and well-respected legal peer review publication. In each major legal market, a single lawyer in each discipline is honored as "Lawyer of the Year." Dan was honored in 2015 and 2013 as the Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law Lawyer of the Year, and was named Cleveland Securities/Capital Markets Law Lawyer of the Year in 2014 and 2011.

As Cleveland rocks for Dan, Chicago is Tom Dyja's kind of town. "My Chicago book, The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream, was recently selected by the Chicago Public Library as the focus of its yearlong One Book One Chicago program," he writes. "Last year was Michael Chabon's Adventures of Kavalier & Clay. Other authors the library has honored include Toni Wolf, Tony Morrison, Colin Tobin, Jumpha Lab and Neil Gaiman."

Beloved congratulations to Miami legal eagle Bernardo Burstein LAW '88 on his daughter Jessica BC '19's recent matriculation into Barnard.

Yossi Rabin and his wife, Kochava, get a double mazel tov on the births of their fifth and sixth Israeli grandchildren: Shiri-Tzion Bracha Rabin, born on March 7, and Tcheleth Bracha Eden, born on July 22.

Neel Lane was nominated by Texas Lawyer as "Lawyer of the Year" in recognition of his legal work for the cause of marriage equality. He also began a three-year term as chairman of Episcopal Relief & Development, the international relief and development agency of the Episcopal Church, headquartered in New York. During the last few years, while attending his son Shelby's basketball games at Claremont McKenna College in Southern California, Neel has met up with TV education guru Pete Lunenfeld. He also stays in touch with rugby teammate and esteemed former University senator El Gray. Neel says, "(Although) I don't see my classmates nearly enough . . . I love seeing everyone's updates on Facebook."

Tom Gilman, working in Maine in human resources at IDEXX Laboratories, is happy to report that his daughter, Julia, has started her freshman year at Carolina College. Tom and his wife, Sue BC '85, are adapting to their life as empty-nesters. He notes his former squash coach, Ken Torrey, recently retired and wishes him the best.

Jonathan Ditchcot announced: "I am excited to share the fantastic news of the September 7 wedding of my firstborn, Merav, to Moshe Jacobs. Merav is in her third year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and studies philosophy, politics and economics; her husband studies philosophy, also at Hebrew U. Teddy Weinberger '83 and his wife, Sarah Ross Weinberger 'BC 83, attended the wedding. A fun time was had by all!"

David Kung checks in for the first time in a long time, and here's why: "Three decades have brought about amazing change. I live in Bethesda, Md., with my lovely wife, Bonnie DM '89. We're the proud parents of two awesome future alumni: Nathan '16 and Justin '17. I am engaged in the practice of plastic surgery and recently completed work on a definitive two-volume textbook, Aesthetic Plastic Surgery in Asians: Principles & Techniques, published this summer. I am scheduled to go to Ecuador this coming year to operate on children with congenital deformities as a guest of the government. My 'free' time is spent coaching high school varsity basketball, Owando and upward, my brethren!"

Longtime reader, first-time contributor Daryl Neff SEAS '86 is a partner at Lerner David in Westfield, N.J., a 70-attorney firm specializing in intellectual property law. He spends most of his time helping clients obtain U.S. and international protection for their inventions in electronics, computer-related technologies, medical devices and financial services.

Former Connecticut Yankee and Columbia University Marching Band trumpet player Jeffrey Rashba reports: "After having been blessed with five daughters, I finally got a boy to join the clan when my eldest daughter, Orli, married Estan Chajmovic on July 30 in the Jerusalem area. Our home still feels like a Barnard dorm, but with an official rabbi.

Todd Sussman, who honed his writing skills at Spectator, Jester and the 1984 Columbia, melded his love for writing and entertainment by becoming a film critic, video reviewer and columnist, most prominently with "Todd's Corner" in the London-based international fan publication, All About Barbra (Streisand). In addition, he is a licensed mental health counselor and family therapist, and is an administrator specializing in privacy rights in the Broward County Public Schools. A great fan of Bette Midler, he visits New York and Columbia at least once yearly. Feel free to make contact at toddao@aol.com.

From John Albin: "I don't remember when last I updated, but I continue to toil away at the NYC Department of Finance, subverting city government from within. I get together regularly with Mike Melkonien and Rob Kahn '83 to play music, including the occasional live performance. We recently did a set at The West End (no, that is West End), on West End and West 107th. Nothing will ever quite match the glory of the Blue Rose, but it'll do."

David Adler GSA '87 has a new book out: The New Economics of Liquidity and Financial Frictions, published by the CFA Institute Research Foundation.

Scott Avidon: "I toured Ireland during the summer. Saw my share of the archaeological gems, religious shrines and national sites. Rode a camel, got soaked in the Jordan River and had a beer at Earth's lowest bar. I've been a workers' compensation judge in New York for 15 years. I chat with Harris Morgan '83 from time to time."
We both edited Course Guide many years ago when typewriters still existed and the Mets owned New York. With great joy, yours truly Dennis Kleinberg had the honor of attending the bat mitzvah of Rebecca Pomerantz, daughter of Roy Pomerantz ’83 (my fellow Class Notes correspondents). With Eddy Friedfeld ’83, Leon Friedfeld ’88, Marc Ripp ’80, Adam Bayroff ’83 and other luminaries present, this already impressive and heartfelt event reached new heights when Roy and his son David honored Rebecca and thrilled the crowd with an after-party juggling routine that included balls, apples, clubs and machetes.

For those of you not in the know, Roy is a world-class juggler who shared his talent on the field with the Marching Band in our day and, thereafter, was one of a select few entertainers (20, I seem to recall — it was on the new!) accepted in 1983 at the exclusive Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College (alumni and former instructors include Penn Jillette and Bill Irwin). Sadly (or perhaps prudently, as the Clown College is no more), he chose Harvard Law instead and joined his family business. A loving husband and father, and a dedicated fan of Columbia basketball, Roy works hard to keep the world’s children (and their parents) entertained and happy, albeit with his world-class selection of licensed baby products.

1985

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Here is the second installment of my Alumni Reunion Weekend report; thanks to so many of you for your updates. Some were in the Fall 2015 issue and some follow here. I welcome hearing from the rest of you (whether you made it to NYC for reunion or not) to let everyone know what’s up.

Reunion was a great chance to reconnect with old friends and to relive memories from 30 years ago. I have had a lifetime of great experiences but have trouble believing so much time has passed. Before the event, the Reunion Committee circulated a brief survey and received about 40 responses. We discussed the survey questions at the Saturday dinner, creating a great way for each table to reconnect.

The survey asked about family, education and professional accomplishments as well as open-ended questions about our “bucket lists,” if we would rather be on campus now or 30 years ago and what advice would we give to our younger selves. I put some of the initial survey results in the Fall 2015 issue. Here is a summary of the balance of the survey results:

A total of 39 percent of us reported “creative passion” as the reason for our career choices, with 26 percent reporting financial security/wealth and 24 percent reporting public service/philanthropic goals.

Several of us stated that they’d rather be at Columbia circa 1985 vs. 1985 for one reason: “girls.” Others reached the opposite conclusion based on the same reasoning, with one member voting for 1985 saying, “I wouldn’t want to be 21 again now,” while another classmate voted for 2015 “because it would mean I’m 30 years younger now!”

Our bucket list goals are varied. Many of us hope to travel, listing places like Japan, Russia, India, the Galapagos and Kazakhstan as places to see as well as a goal of cycling across the country. Others want to play golf in Scotland, some want to build a home, some want to run for elective office and one of us claims to want to visit a basket factory.

In advising our younger selves, there is a common thread regarding seeking happiness: “When confronted with major life choices, such as where to work, where to live and who to spend time with, always optimize for what makes you most happy, even if it takes you on an unusual career/life path or seems to be the less-safe course. It will always work out better in the long run,” a classmate advises. One of us succinctly says: “Relax — everything will turn out just fine.”

Greg Kinoian was only able to attend the Sunday brunch on Barnard’s campus, “but I saw a couple of friends and some familiar faces. It was a good time,” he reports. Greg is an attorney and says, “My practice is primarily in bankruptcy court (mostly in New Jersey, but also in New York) and primarily involves Chapter 11 cases, representing secured and unsecured creditors, equity holders in closely-held corporations, commercial landlords, parties that purchase assets or businesses out of bankruptcy and debtors. I earned a J.D. from Brooklyn Law in 1991 and practiced at two firms in NYC before joining my current firm in December 1998. “I have two wonderful daughters. Melissa (19) is a sophomore at the College of New Jersey and wants to major in biology and possibly pursue a pre-med track. She took an EMT course in Montgomery County, N.J. Natalie (15) is a sophomore in high school at the Academy of Holy Angels. She particularly enjoys her English, French and history classes and is interested in the arts, including drawing and guitar. I had a blast reviewing The Odyssey with her. “From our class, I primarily keep in touch with Michael Nagykerly and Brian Kirby as well as Amy Guis BC’85 (Amy and I were high school classmates). I occasionally run into former members of the Armenian Student Society of Columbia University. This past August, my firm relocated to Glenpointe Centre West, in Teaneck, NJ.”

Pace Cooper: “It’s kind of sad, but we went to reunion only late Saturday night (after a late Sabbath end) and we got there [for the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza]; it was not by class and we did not recognize a soul! My wife, Aileen Fe had a lovely cocktail party in BC’85, and I have six amazing kids. My eldest three, Jeremy ’17 (21), Dylan ’18 and Ethan ’18 (both 19), are costing us a not-so-small fortune but they love being there. I hope their brother, Elan, and sisters, Serena and Yael, will choose schools in Tennessee! “I’m busy with my hotel business (Cooper Hotels); we have 20 hotels, mostly in the various Hilton brands. I was recently appointed chairman of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority, am president of my synagogue and am a minority partner in the Memphis Grizzlies. So my extra-curricular passions keep me busy. Aileen has become an accomplished cyclist to add to her achievement list since MIT Sloan School of Management and a great business career.”

On Thursday night during reunion: we went to a private party in Midtown, courtesy of Brian Cousin. I ran into many classmates there, including Greg Viscusi (who works in Paris with Bloomberg, has an 11-year-old daughter and coordinated attending reunion with his dad, Anthony Viscusi ’55), Brian Margolis (who practices at Wilmer-Hale and whose oldest child is enrolled at Rochester), Tom Scotti (whose daughter Anne ’16 has loved so much of her College experience) and Farnam grocery maven Kevin Kelly, who posted some great campus pictures online.

After the cocktail party, some of us proceeded to the New York City Ballet for its evening performance; one of the members of the company was Unity Phelan, daughter of John Phelan. The ballet pieces were a great combination of traditional and jazz (including a Jerome Robbins precursor to West Side Story piece). After the performance, Unity and one of her fellow corps members gave us a private backstage tour, and we got to take a group photo right on the main stage. I was amazed how the performers use a new pair of ballet shoes every day, how they beat them up and how they juggle this with all of their school classes.

A really cool evening — thank you, John!

Throughout much of reunion, as always, Tom Carey was taking photos with his “real” camera. After many years in Montana, Tom has moved to Maumee, Ohio (a suburb of Toledo), where he is an associate pathologist for ProMedica. One of his children is applying to med school, while another is enrolled at Montana State.

Our Friday dinner was at V&T, where not too much has changed and I reconnected with (albeit too briefly), among others, Abe Thomas (who has moved to New York from Michigan with his teenagers), Alex Rodriguez (who was appropriately talking baseball), Andy Andriuk (who lives in Westport, Conn., with his three children and works in residential real estate development), Konrad Motyka (who’s working at Columbia), Joe Chu (who lives in Tenafly, N.J., with his two children) and Lydia Hsu SEAS’85 (representing a nice group from SEAS).

For me, the rest of Friday night and Saturday afternoon included reunion, and many formal and informal performances (some on campus and some in the wee hours of the morning on a Lower East Side rooftop) with the Columbia Kingsmen, who had coordinated an alumni event to coincide with reunion. More than 60 Kingsmen alums, some going back more than 50 years, attended. Joining me were David Zapolsky and Elliot Friedman. David (who recently celebrated his son Ian ’15’s graduation) works at Amazon and travels the world, while Ian works and lives in NYC. Elliot now teaches at Purdue after stints in Williamsstown, Mass., and Madison, Wis., he’s twin 17-year-old children.

Many of our contemporary Columbians came in from across the country just for the Kingsmen festivities, including Charles Lester ’84, Jon Abbott ’84, Phil Birnbam ’86, Paul Spindel ’86, Kieran Mahoney ’87, Kirk Woerner ’88 and Abe Glazer ’88. I can’t tell you how amazing it was to reconnect with this group (many of whom I had not seen in 30 years) after having spent countless hours as an undergrad creating so many wonderful memories with them.

While traversing campus on Saturday I ran into Ken Handelman, who works for the Department of Defense. He lives in Bethesda, Md., and three of his four children are in college (two at Maryland, one at the College of Charleston).

Unfortunately, I missed the Saturday dinner, as my youngest son was attending his junior prom. I was also sorry to miss the Glee Club mini-concert at the Sundial on Saturday.
I don't know how that got mixed up — sorry.

And finally, in case you missed it, congrats to Tom Cornacchia, James Hagan, Josh Hyman, Jinduk Han, Marty Moskovitz, Joe Titlebaum and Larry Slaughtner, who get to add the ‘P: 19’ designation to their Columbia moniker, as their children are all members of the Class of 2019. Best wishes for a happy holiday season, and all the best in 2016!

so much to sell books as it is to help people enjoy work more and gain access to more opportunities.*

Many classmates have never been featured in this column. Please take John’s lead and send an update on your doings since graduation; your classmates want to hear from you! You can write to me at the address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1986

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My apologies for the short column this time. But even though we don’t have the quantity, we do have the quality. Jay Dipasupil has been appointed VP for underwriting, errors and omissions for professional services and financial institutions at CNA, the eighth largest U.S. commercial property and casualty insurance company. Previously, he was VP of professional liability for the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co., where he was responsible for the company’s professional service and healthcare portfolios.

Congratulations, Jay!

Lee Iann writes: “It’s been wild settling my daughter into pre-K. We’ve spent years (hopefully) feeling smart and accomplished, and suddenly we’re supposed to be connoisseurs of early childhood education. Our family is pretty excited about this next chapter; while our kiddo has settled in happily, her parents are taking a bit longer to adjust. Otherwise, there is no shortage of contaminated sites to clean up in New York City, or of new development projects, so I’m busy at the Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation. I also recently got back from presenting (and live-tweeting) at the Brownfields 2015 conference in Chicago. You could be our 300th follower at @NYCOER.”

A birthday celebration update: Steve Abrahamson celebrated his 50th in Paris with his wife (and my dear friend from high school), Maritza Guzman SJP’90, and their daughter, Sofia. He says, “Since 2004 we have been living in Montclair, N.J., where Sofia is now in fifth grade. For the past five years I have been director of direct response fundraising at the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. On September 25, Maritza and I celebrated our 16th wedding anniversary.” You can help bring quantity along with quality. Please, please send me your contributions. I can’t do this alone, unless all you want to hear is me mesmerize you with tales of existential psychology. … I thought not. Please write to me at the address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1988

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Congratulations to Jonathan Roth BUS’04 in Pasadena, Calif., on his recent professional advancement: “Jonathan Roth has been named executive director of the advertising agency Ayzenberg’s sub-agency, ION,” according to the company’s press release. “He will work closely with ION’s management to continue development of its best-in-class influencer identification and engagement offering, helping to scale ION’s technology to build a leading platform play. Prior to joining ION, Mr. Roth spent 10 years at leading middle-market advisory firms in New York, Seattle, Los Angeles and Boston.”

Claudia Kraut Rimerman writes, “I recently started a relationship management job in Boston for telehealth firm American Well. That keeps me away from my youngest child (at home in Stamford, Conn.), but puts me near my sons, one at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., and the other at the White Mountain School in Bethlehem, N.H.” Claudia finds time to correspond with classmates: “I stay in touch with Diane Bauer Orlinsky, who recently celebrated the bat mitzvah of her fourth child and is preparing to send her second to college while maintaining a wildly successful dermatology practice in Baltimore. Recently visiting the United States was Jonny Roskes, who has moved back to Hong Kong to run the deal competition interest group for Bank of America. Laurence Holzman continues to write great musicals and raise his two sons with his wife, Lara.”

Tim Rood and Abe Glazer attended the Kingsmen reunion on campus in May, “along with many others from the revival of the Kingsmen in ’84 through ’90 and beyond,” Tim reports. “Events included the current ‘Smens’ annual reunion party, generously hosted by Jed Bradley ’06, a short performance in Alfred Lerner Hall as part of Alumni Reunion Weekend, and lots and lots of hanging out and singing. The Lerner stairwells and elevators...”
both turned out to have excellent acoustics with plenty of natural reverberation. Laura Eberstein Jacobs and her husband of 20 years, Erik Jacobs ’81, SIPA ’85, have drawn inspiration from the pop culture of Laura’s years on campus. Laura and Erik and their children, William (12) and Margo (8), “have converted their savings to a nest egg, bought a Winnebago and are making plans to celebrate turning 50 by getting ‘Lost in America’ in 2016,” according to Erik.

Keep us posted!

Everyone else, also please keep sending updates — and photos! I look forward to hearing from you. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webforms college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note for notes (comes directly to me) and college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo for photos (goes to CCT, or you can send photos to me via my email). Don’t forget caption info!

1989

Emily Miles Terry
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Hi, classmates! I hope 2015 was a great year for you and your families. I connected recently with Doug Cabot, who lives in Salem, Mass., with his wife, Carrie, and daughters (7 and 9). Doug writes, “In order to have more time with my family, six years ago I made the jump from working in documentary television to teaching film and animation at Salem H.S. I’m still playing drums in a rock ’n roll band, still making movies and recently I’ve taken up oil painting. Most days I’m amazed by the simple fact of life.”

I connected with David Odo, a visual anthropologist and the director of student programs and research curator of the University Collections Initiatives at Harvard Museums, who is keeping busy. David’s latest book, The Journey of a Good Type: From Artistry to Ethnography in Early Japanese Photography, was published this year. In A Good Type, David examines the Peabody Museum’s collection of Japanese photographs and explores their production, acquisition and circulation in the 19th century. David also mounted a related exhibition at the Harvard Center for Government and International Studies. “It’s been exciting to see both projects come to fruition since starting my current position at the Harvard Art Museums,” he writes. David was previously at the Yale University Art Gallery and began working at Harvard in April 2014.

If you of any get to see the Columbia woman’s swim and dive team, be sure to cheer for Seth Antiles’ daughter, Jessica Antiles ’19, a swimmer. Seth writes, “A flood of great memories rushed in as I moved Jessie into Carman. My wife, Janette BC’92, BUS’97, and I were thrilled that we will be going back to campus periodically to watch Jessie race. I have two other kids, boys aged 16 and 15. Both are heavily involved in sports; the 16-year-old is a swimmer and the 15-year-old plays hockey.”

Seth and his family live in South Orange, N.J., where he is a portfolio manager at Seix Investment Advisors in global sovereign debt, with a specialty in emerging markets and global currencies. I recently visited Columbia and loved discovering a great little coffee shop in Butler Library (which issues alumni cards easily). Donna Herlinsky MacPhee introduced me to a delicious “modern Mediterranean” restaurant, Tessa, on Amsterdam and West 76th Street, whose owner is Larry Bollene ‘77. I highly recommend it whenever you might be lucky enough to find yourself looking for something to eat on the Upper West Side.

Your classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
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A lot of stuff went down in August 2015 for CC’90. Carol “Kate” Guess’ 15th book, With Animal, was published in August. The magical realism short story collection highlights the bond between humans and animals. With Animal was co-written with Kelly Magee, her colleague at Western Washington University.

In August, Judy Shampiner ran into Lisa Cohen as they were leaving Hamilton, the hottest Broadway play of the summer. Lisa and Judy proudly discussed Hamilton’s several references to King’s College, and name-dropped the buildings on campus named for the historical figures mentioned in the show.

Anita Bose BUS’95, PIF’95 writes, “After nearly three decades in NYC, I finally made the leap to Chicago! I’ve started a gig as head of client and business development at W2O Group, a network of marketing communications companies. I’m loving the great Midwest and am having fun exploring my new home. I’ve already caught up with Sunhee Lee, who’s a longtime Chicago resident. I’d love to catch up with others who are living here or just passing through.”

In “Our Children Are Now in College” news, Betty Mar Tsang SEAS’90’s son, Tyler SEAS’19, lives at the Virginia Opera and Bach’s St. John Passion with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as well as a world premiere production of Embodied by composer Patrick Soluri at the Fort Worth Opera.” After 17 years with Hansberger Global Investors, Ron Holt launched PREMIS Capital Partners in October 2014. PREMIS is located in Fort Lauderdale and focuses on providing global equity investment management services to institutional clients and high net worth individuals and families. Their first fund was launched in April.

In case you haven’t heard (or lost count), Alumni Reunion Weekend, which celebrates the 25th anniversary of our graduation, is scheduled for Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5. Annie Giarratano Della Pietra is the Reunion Committee chair, and the committee is off to a great start. If you’d like to join the committee, please send me an email.

Until next time, cheers! Don’t forget, you can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1991

Margie Kim
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Greetings to all! I was fortunate to spend some quality time with Elise Scheck when we were both in Orlando this summer for conferences. She continues to amaze me by successfully juggling a family of seven, her legal career and countless hours of community service. Elise’s most recent project is the Women’s Impact Initiative, which she chairs through the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

Sam Helfrich sent this update: “In addition to continuing to direct opera at the Virginia Opera and Bach’s St. John Passion with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as well as a world premiere production of Embodied by composer Patrick Soluri at the Fort Worth Opera.” After 17 years with Hansberger Global Investors, Ron Holt launched PREMIS Capital Partners in October 2014. PREMIS is located in Fort Lauderdale and focuses on providing global equity investment management services to institutional clients and high net worth individuals and families. Their first fund was launched in April.

Carol “Kate” Guess’ 90 published With Animal, a magical realism short story collection highlighting the bond between humans and animals.
Brett has been married for 18 years; he and his wife, Kelly, have three boys: Matthew (14), Jake (8) and Ben (6). The family has lived several places (Washington, D.C.; Burlington, Vt.; Chicago, Ill.; N.Y.C.), before settling in Maplewood, N.J., where Brett plays soccer and coaches his kids.

David Webber moved with his wife and three children, from NYC to teach at Boston University. His work focuses on investment law, including shareholder activism, corporate governance and shareholder litigation.

"I was always interested in fraud, in financial regulation, in the fraught challenge of regulating a global market," he writes, and adds he spent several years litigating securities and deal cases in New York, which he enjoyed. "But I wanted to delve deeper into the underlying issues. I wanted to devote more time to learning and thinking about them. Issues of fraud, financial regulation and economic inequality force you to grapple with the same deep questions you wrestle with in the Core," he says.

If I missed any other law professors out there, please send in an update. Everyone else please send in updates, too; your classmates want to hear from you! You can send updates to either the email address at the top of this column or through the CCT webform college. columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1996

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016

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Ana S. Salper
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Hi everyone! Only a bit of news to report this time:

Ian Lendler published The Stratford Zoo Presents: Romeo and Juliet, the second volume in his series of graphic novels that translates Shakespeare for children. He spent this past year traveling around the United States and Britain talking to schoolkids about graphic novels, Shakespeare and his love of tacos.

Arman Rousta, one of our star soccer players who led the men’s team to an Ivy League championship, is in touch with several fellow ‘96ers (mostly guys from the soccer team) like Greg
and their daughters, Lena (7) and Caroline (4), moved this past summer to Hopewell, N.J., into Brian’s childhood home. They enjoy the slower pace of life and look forward to being there for a long time. Brian became director of operations at Impaqx Laboratory in Middlesex, N.J., where he enjoys his new and increased responsibilities and, after five years of commuting daily from Brooklyn to Long Island, also appreciates the shorter and more bucolic commute. Hannah is focusing a lot of energy on helping their girls transition this year but is also working part-time advising a charter school in Red Hook, Brooklyn; helping eighth-grade New Jersey students prepare their high school applications; and working remotely for Trinity School’s Office of College Guidance. They had the pleasure of attending the wedding of Gabriella Carolini to Tom Parent and are excited to welcome their son! Cindy Warner Kruger also attended the wedding. In addition to seeing many other friends from Columbia as often as they can, Hannah and Brian stay in close touch with married couple Daphna Gutman and Jon Schwartz, their girls’ godparents. Daphna recently became the principal of a public elementary school on the Lower East Side.

Keri Baunchover Stone lives in Miami with her husband, Josh, and son, Dylan, and was recently promoted to full professor of law at Florida International University College of Law. Don’t forget, you can send us updates to the email address at the top of this column or submit via the CCT online form college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

And remember, our 20th reunion is Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, on campus and throughout New York City. I hope to see many of you there. I leave you with this: “Why fit in when you were born to stand out.” — Oscar Wilde

1997

Sarah Katz
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Sarah Katz had a baby! Her and her husband, Michael, are happy to introduce their son, Tiphani White, born on July 29 weighing 6 lbs., 15 oz. I was lucky enough to visit Zoe a few weeks ago when she was 18. Except for a brief separation right after she finished law school, they dated for 23 years and were married at St. Paul’s Chapel on June 26. For the first years of their two-decade relationship, Michael could only visit Tiphani for Sunday family dinners at her home on Long Island. They went to her prom together in 1994, and during her freshman year at Columbia, he proposed with a diamond ring. It wasn’t the first time he’d asked her to marry him (the first time was a few months after they met, with a vanilla ice cream cone instead of a ring), nor would it be the last. When he proposed for the third time, it was with a considerably “larger, fancier ring,” according to The New York Times. Tiphani, a partner at Deloitte Tax, also splurged on a ring for Michael, who owns a barbershop in South Jamaica, Queens. Her Cartier ring is inscribed with their initials, their wedding date, and “est. 1992.” Congratulations, Tiphani and Michael!

Congratulations are also in order for Jeff Cohen, who married Tim Laurie on September 5. Jeff, a Los Angeles County public defender, and Tim, a television producer, were together for five years before their nuptials. Jeff described their wedding as “a beautiful outdoor ceremony on a sunny day in Santa Monica, followed by cocktails, dinner and dancing.” In attendance were Andy Tokpins, Kim Van Duzer, Leah Madoff ’98, and Nick Rynearson ’97. Congratulations, your engagement, James! In addition to raising two daughters (6 and 2), Carmen Van Kerkhove Sognonvi has been raising the quality of life for the residents of Dimas Park, Brooklyn. Seven years ago she and her husband started a karate and kickboxing school, Urbain Martial Arts (urbainjo.co.com). The school is thriving and Carmen has spunk that success further. She is now training and advising business owners on local marketing. She has been featured in Inc., Entrepreneur, Fox Business Network and Crain’s New York Business (carmensognonvi.com).
We reached out to many of you this time around but maybe you were enjoying your summer beach time. Now that we're back in the well-scheduled days of autumn, and just about into winter, send us your updates! And enjoy that sweater weather; maybe we'll even see you at a basketball game? Yeah, yeah ... Don't forget, you can submit updates by writing to either of us at the addresses at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college. columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2000

Prisca Bae
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Colin Harris writes, "I am leaving private practice in upstate New York to accept a position as an assistant professor in the department of orthopaedics, spine division, at Rutgers in Newark, N.J., at the first of the year. I have a 17-month-old son, Grayson, and am excited to be moving back to the New York metro area.

"I keep in contact with Paul Mullan and Ali Ahmad, both of whom are also practicing physicians (Ali in Hackettstown, N.J., and Paul in Norristown, Pa.) and are doing well." Thanks for the update, Colin! CC'00: Your classmates want to hear from you! Send updates to me at the address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college. columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2001

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I hope everyone enjoyed the fall. When I look back on my time as a student, it was my favorite season to be on campus.

Mary Herrington (née Lee) wrote in with an exciting update: "In early January, I welcomed my son, Lee, who joins his sister, Margot, in giving their parents chronic backaches. We live in beautiful Brooklyn Heights. I also launched a legal consultancy this year that focuses on the needs of creative entrepreneurs in the events and wedding industries. It combines my backgrounds in corporate law and events production and, while most of my clients are in New York, I also advise creative small businesses throughout the country." Congratulations to Mary and her family!

Matthew Rascoff and his wife, Emily Levine, welcomed a son, Jasper Hirsch Rascoff (CC'37!), on August 20 in Durham, N.C. Jaser is named in memory of Matthew's father, Dr. Joel H. Rascoff '63, PS'68.

Max Dickstein and his wife, Erin Brannum, welcomed Benjamin Brannum Dickstein on September 14.

Congratulations to Max and Erin! Seth Dadiani Morris and his wife, Giti, welcomed their second child (a boy, Shanan) on August 28.

Congratulations to Seth and Giti! I recently enjoyed a wonderful group dinner in Los Angeles with Dan Laidman and Miriam Haskell BC'02.

The cuisine was vegan and the discussion was lively. There were four lawyers at the table, but when they weren't talking about the law, we focused on great memories from Spectator. It was so nice to see them all!

I hope to see many of you at Alumni Reunion Weekend, which celebrates the 15th anniversary of our graduation, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Wow, time has flown!

Please write with updates on your adventures; you can write to me at the address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college. columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2002

Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani
2 Rolling Dr.
Old Westbury, NY 11568
soniah57@gmail.com

Hi CC'02. I'm happy to share some exciting news about our classmates. Please keep the updates coming to soniah57@gmail.com. Thanks!

Melissa Stewart (née Tominac) and her husband, Mike Stewart SEAS'03, are overjoyed to announce the arrival of William Martin (born August 1 at 1:52 p.m. (on Swiss National Day)). He was a happy and healthy 9 lbs., 1 oz., and 20.5 inches long, and is growing quickly.

Sarah Lundquist Norton married William Norton (Boston University Law '04) on September 13, 2014, in Sarah's hometown of Charleston, S.C. Sarah and Bill reside on Sullivan's Island, a tiny barrier island just off Charleston, with Sophie, their Calico. Sarah said she had the unexpected pleasure of running into Daryl Weber at the New Orleans airport's cab stand in March; they shared a taxi into the city and enjoyed catching up.

Andres Zuleta's luxury travel company recently marked its second anniversary. Boutique Japan (boutiquejapan.com) specializes in private culinary and cultural trips to Japan.

Sara Velasquez lives and works in the Philippines to assist those who were worst affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda, which made landfall in November 2013. She also works on projects in Pakistan and recently completed research on child abuse in Paraguay for a multi-country study commissioned by UNICEF.

Sara is also helping to expand the successful Special YOU Reading Club project in California. The project links community volunteers with children to help the children become comfortable reading and telling their own stories, using the book You Are a Very Special You (available in English, Spanish and Mandarin). The organization celebrates diversity and similarities, and is looking to expand the project to more multi-cultural communities in which children speak Spanish, Mandarin and English. Visit specialyoureadingclub.org, and if you have any ideas, she'd appreciate hearing them!

Zecki Dossal BUS'13 co-manages the private equity and venture business GCLG, a professional learning platform that helps organizations access targeted expertise. He joined the company soon after graduating from Columbia; when he started, the company had 35 employees and now it has more than 1,000.

Zecki also launched the company's social impact division and is working with the Global Partnerships Forum to build a platform and tools to drive transparency in the social sector, and to help accelerate achievement of the United Nations' Sustainable Development goals.

Evon Zeisel reminds us that David Epstein wrote a well-received book, The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance [Editor's note: See college.columbia.edu/cct/winter13/bookshelf1], which was on The New York Times bestseller list in 2013 when it was released.

David is at the forefront of investigative journalism; he works for ProPublica and recently published yet another pivotal piece on performance-enhancing drug use, this time focusing on the track and field communities.

Evon further reports that he had the pleasure of attending the summer wedding of David Epstein and Elizabeth Green, along with more CU alumni than I can list (or, really, remember what years they graduated).

Evon and his father, John Zeisel '65, GSAS'71, created (along with many others) Scripted-IMPROV, an Alzheimer's disease–centered drama program that was released worldwide in June. The dementia care training and drama activities program is based upon the National Institutes of Health and National Institute on Aging–funded clinical research study Evon was part of during the last five years. During the study, Evon helped write, test and perform plays specifically designed for people living with Alzheimer’s disease. Evon was also one of the lead consultants in designing training materials for the program.

2003

Michael Novelli
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I start this month's column by thanking those who have sent updates recently, and to ask for the help of those who have not recently done so. Many classmates tell me that they don't feel comfortable sending an update because they have not recently been promoted at work, gotten married or had kids. Please rest assured that we want to hear what's new in your life — even if that means just sharing news about a fun trip you took, a Columbia event you attended in your city or even an interesting book that you've recently read. So please, don't be a stranger.
I recently caught up with Shaun Ting, Kenneth Sim and Chee Gan '05 in Singapore. Shaun recently returned from his brother Yan Ting 'SEAS05's wedding to Emily Tsai 'SEAS05 in Los Angeles. A number of Columbians were in attendance, including Michael Sin '05, Jennifer Lee '05, Sandy Huang '05, Johnny Lan 'SEAS05, Jonathan Huang 'SEAS05, Erica Yen '05, Justin Wei 'SEAS05 and Yanzi Guo BC'06. Kenneth has been busy with his job at the Singapore Workforce Development Agency and took a business trip to Denmark, which he thoroughly enjoys, he says.

Adam Libove writes, "After close to three years at New York City's Department of Investigation, in early August I transitioned to the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office as a senior assistant district attorney in the Public Integrity Bureau. My unit investigates and prosecutes corruption and fraud committed by elected officials and public servants at all levels of government. It has been a great change so far."

Oscar Chow recently married Celeste Lok on the beach in Phuket, Thailand, in the presence of a number of Columbians including his brother Justin Chow '08, Jacob Boedding, Matthew Arrieta-Joy, Paul Chun '04, Connie Chui (nee Sheu), Ethan Farbman '02, Natalie Farbman BC'03 (nee Fung), Akram Zaman '01, Rohan Saikia '04, Eric Wallace '05 and Rajeev Emaray '05.

Anand Venkatesan married Bo Han at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia in September. Columbians in attendance were Daniel Dykema, Nikki Thompson BC'03, Shelly Mittal, Gaurav Shah and Peter Koechley.

Lisa Bearpark (nee Pettersson) "recently had a second child, a boy named Stella, born in mid-June. I also started medical school at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm — a late and exciting career shift."

Cyrus Habib is running for lieutenant governor of Washington State (cyrushabib.com). In other Washington news, Paul Morton '95A is a Ph.D. candidate in cinema studies at Washington, in Seattle.

In response to my email about favorite vacation destinations, Lien de Brouckère writes, "My favorite recent vacation was cycling the Karakoram Highway through the Hunza Valley in northern Pakistan, then through Xinjiang Province in China and ending in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Cycling on- and off-road was the best way to see and experience the stunning scenery; to enjoy the open air, orchards, tea, apples, dried apricots and challenging climbs; to meet people; to sleep in yurts; and so much more."

Jessica Chan adds, "My last trip was to Turkey for my wedding on September 5 to Anil Taneja. In attendance were Katherine Jordana, Shay Weiner and Yong Woo 'SEAS02. We were married in Iskenderun, Turkey, but my family and I traveled to Cappadocia afterward. I highly recommend a hot air balloon ride there at sunrise."

2004

Angela Georgopoulos 200 Water St., Apt. 171 New York, NY 10038 aeg90@columbia.edu

No news this time, but here's wishing you a happy holiday season and New Year! Speaking of 2016, why not make it a resolution to send in a Class Note? It could be about family, career, travels, everyday pastimes or special events. You never know what in your life will resonate with others and spark a connection (or reconnection!) with a classmate. Send your news to the email address at the top of this column or use the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Claire McDonnell 47 Malden Ln., 3rd Fl. San Francisco, CA 94108 claire.mcdonnell@gmail.com

Hi Class of 2005! Here are some updates:

Nate Bliss and his wife, Amira Bliss (nee Ibrahim) BC'05, SIPA'09 welcomed baby Miles on July 16. After some time off during the summer, the family is resettled in their home in strollerville Brooklyn.

Ben Harwood launched the website thatsoundscool.com, which he calls the Airbnb of activities. It's in beta testing in New Orleans, so check it out if you're in the Big Easy and want to get down like the locals.

Istolone Ohikhuare wrote, executive-produced and starred in her first short film, The Mermaid, which won the Best Film designation at the Canes Film Festival at the University of Miami and is touring the international festival circuit (themermaidfilm.com).

Elizabeth Claire Saylor is a visiting assistant professor of Arabic at Bard College, having earned a Ph.D. in Arabic literature from UC Berkeley earlier this year. Her dissertation, A Bridge Too Soon: The Life and Works of 'Afifa Karam, The First Arab Woman Novelist, brings to light a neglected pioneer of the Arabic novel, Lebanese immigrant writer and journalist Karam (1883-1924).

After nearly a decade living in the perpetual spring of the West Coast, Elizabeth says she is relishing the beautiful fall colors while revising her dissertation into a book manuscript and teaching Arabic language and literature to a brilliant and dedicated group of students.

Bella Belyavin' is in the Kyrgyz Republic through the end of 2015 doing fieldwork research toward her doctorate at Teachers College.

Rebeccah Breheaney (nee Warner) married Jesse Breheaney on July 26 at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Merry Book welcomed a son, Theo Biber (CC’37). He has already been showered with love and spoiled by his honorary uncles Jackson Shafer and Paul Wright and auntie Keri Watcher.

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Osman Ongun says: "I'm moving to Istanbul to work for Multi Corp. after 10 years in London and in banking."

Nathaniel Becker Chase writes: "My wife, Annelise BC'04, and I moved after seven years — two blocks away! Sign we might never leave Manhattan."

From Max Shertenigl '04: "It was great to see old friends at reunion this past summer. On August 16 I married the lovely Lena Kushoar at a sweaty outdoor wedding in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, just a few blocks from our apartment. Columbians who helped us celebrate were Sebastian Siadecki, Greg O'Keefe SEAS'05, Sunil Amin, Oleg Slilin, Ramya Angara SEAS'05, Natasha Tsouris, Jason Liang SEAS'05, Kate Glurberg '04 and Jane Rubinshteyn BC'07. If looking for a beautiful outdoor venue for a smallish wedding, consider Jungle Design NYC in Williamsburg."

Congratulations to everyone on the moves, babies, marriages and abiding friendships!

Write me at claire.mcdonnelle@gmail.com with your news.

2006

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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Dear Class of 2006, here are some updates from classmates:

Jeremy Kotin took a hiatus from media work to edit and co-produce the feature film Blood Stripe, which he looks forward to bringing to film festivals in 2016. He's extremely excited to spend the winter working with Baz Luhrmann.

This past August, Will Thomas defended his dissertation in philosophy, thus successfully bringing a close his combined J.D./Ph.D. program at Michigan.

College sweethearts Taibiah Newman SOA'13 and Uzo Ometu BUS'13 married in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on May 2, accompanied by friends, family, colleagues and various classmates from the College and the Business School. The couple resides in New York City and collaborated to create the comedic web series First Dates, which was released on July 27.

Carolyn Christine Schook (now Foster) and David Wesley Foster were married on April 11 by the bride's aunt, retired U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judge Christine O.C. Miller, at the University Club of Chicago. Carolyn earned her medical doctorate at Harvard Medical School and recently finished her year as chief pediatric resident at Seattle Children's Hospital and the University of Washington School of Medicine. David is a patent attorney, entrepreneur and founder of SnapDoc, a legal software company in Seattle. He pursued his undergraduate studies in computer science and mathematics and earned a law degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The couple met and reside in Seattle.

Rachael King and Ady Barkan were married on October 9 at the County Courthouse in Santa Barbara, Calif., where they moved in September 2014 for Rachael to be an assistant professor of English at UC Santa Barbara. In attendance at the wedding were Clel Hunter, Sim Kimmel, Davida Schiff SEAS'06, Jeremy Dell, Carlo Canepa and Jillian Wein Riley BC'05. Ady is senior staff attorney at the Center for Popular Democracy, where he directs the Local Progress and Fed Up campaigns (the latter of which recently received extensive coverage in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Huffington Post and other media). Rachael and Ady say they are settling into the SoCal lifestyle and would love to see any CCers passing through the area.

Congratulations to all the newlyweds! Happy holidays to all and wishing you the best in 2016!

2007

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I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable winter (and staying warm)!

Thanks to everyone who submitted notes for this issue. Remember, you can send along an update or note at any point, just email me at david.doner.chait@gmail.com or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Here are some exciting updates from classmates:

Abby Friedman writes, "A year ago, my husband and I moved to New Haven where I'm an assistant professor in the Yale School of Public Health's Department of Health Policy and Management. We're definitely enjoying it here, plus the proximity to NYC (and friends there) is a huge perk."

Zak Kostro shares, "Happy to say that after eight years of bartending since graduating (as well as pursuing voiceover and acting gigs in NYC and Los Angeles), I'm back at Columbia at the Journalism School. It's great to be back at alma mater, living the dream and doing what I love, writing."

Mariely Hernandez recently started at the clinical psychology doctoral program at City College.

Bryan Mochizuki married Hannah DeLotto on a Saturday in spring on the north shore of Long Island. In attendance were his best man, Jacob Olson '07, and his wife, Luciana Olson; groomsmen Matthew Barsamian and Ben Baker; Alana Weiss; Todd Abrams; Adrian Demko; Jordy Lifvers-Eaton '07, the groom, the bride, Todd Abrams '07 and Stephanie Davis '09; and front row: Andrew Walther '07 and Noah Cooper '08. Not pictured but in attendance was Ben Baker '07.

I am ecstatic to announce the birth of our beautiful son, Miles Sebastian. He was born on July 15 weighing 8 lbs, 9 oz. We are loving every minute."

2008

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Happy New Year, CC'08! The mailbox was empty this time, so please send news for future issues — your classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small: From travels to career changes, from relationships to hobbies, let your classmates know what's happening in your life. Send to the email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2009

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Valentina Castillo and Frederick Gaston Hall were married in Atlanta on August 29. The couple met in law school and will live in Washington, D.C. Tiffany Tang, Nora Sturm, Caleb van der Swaag, Saumil Kachhy, Andrew Proctor, Rich and Sarah Stack, along with their son, are settling into the SoCal lifestyle and would love to see any CCers passing through the area.

I was empty this time, so please send news for future issues — your classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small: From travels to career changes, from relationships to hobbies, let your classmates know what's happening in your life. Send to the email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.
Scheineson, Amari Hammond and Ricardo Saavedra SEAS’09 were on hand to celebrate the union and the close of their two years of long-distance dating. The Columbia College crowd was well represented on the dance floor, much to the bride’s delight.

On June 27, Spencer Silverstein surprised his girlfriend of three years, Ashley Zwoyer, by proposing to her in beautiful Santa Barbara, Calif., wine country at the D’Agnelli Estate in the Santa Ynez Valley. After enjoying a weekend of emotional euphoria with excellent food, wine and scenery, the couple returned to Los Angeles to celebrate their engagement with their immediate families. They will be married on October 31, 2016.

Stephanie Chou released her second full-length CD, Compass. It is the debut recording of the Octavia Romano and Stephanie Chou duo; the two perform folk songs and originals sung in English, Chinese, Spanish and Portuguese. Octavia is an Argentinian guitarist Stephanie met during graduate studies in music composition at City College. The CD release concert/party was at Rockwood Music Hall in NYC on October 24. Visit stephaniechoumusic.com to hear the new album.

Veronica Couzo married her law school sweetheart on July 25. After living in Memphis for a year during Veronica’s clerkship with the Honorable Julia Smith Gibbons, the couple recently moved to Chicago. They are excited to live in Chicago and Veronica is thrilled to have started in October as an associate at Jones Day.

Artist Isla Hansen shares, “Ryan Withall SEAS’10 and Katharine Abrams are engaged to be married next May. Their wedding ceremony will be performed by me — I earned an M.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon this year and recently became a minister for the Church Of The Flying Spaghetti Monster for the sole purpose of marry¬ing my many, many straight friends and passing these ceremonies off as art projects. Adam Lampell may be involved with these shenanigans (but he probably is, guesses this authority).”

Olivia Frazao recently moved back to NYC and is developing her life coaching and energy healing career. She’s excited to connect with other alumni who share similar interests.

Jorden Fraade writes, “I recently started a master’s in urban and regional planning at UCLA, where I’m studying public transportation and land-use policy. For my first year I’ll be navigating Los Angeles by bus and bike — wish me luck!”

Asher Grodman earned an M.F.A. in acting from the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. At the time of this writing, he was playing Wickham in a world premiere production of Pride and Prejudice at Center Stage in Baltimore. He also wrote and directed an award-winning short film, The Train, starring Academy Award winner Eli Wallach in his final perfor¬mance. The film has played at numerous film festivals this year, including The Vancouver International Film Festival.

Jing Li has been steadily making a career transition into investments research. Right after undergrad, she was a fundraiser to get by and took graduate-level accounting and finance classes. He also interned with a family office for the past few years. He’s in his second year at the Business School and looks to make a full career jump with his M.B.A. Any leads in credit or equity research-related roles would be much appreciated: ji16@gsb.columbia.edu.

And from Chris Yim: “I recently read some of the Class Notes in the Fall 2015 issue, and the most badass one that I’ve ever read is from Kasey Koopmans’11. She hiked thousands of miles on the Pacific Crest Trail and got our alive, giving me major POMO.”

“…what’s going on: “On married life: An older friend told me something poignant about marriage. It sounds like a no-brainer, but she said, ‘You’ve got to be able to tell each other anything. People have been asking me what’s different since I’ve gotten married (which I still can’t believe), and my response usually is, ‘The big difference now is that it’s for life.’ What those two things together mean is that I’m not able to have a fully healthy relationship with my wife, Grace (10 Parsons), if I can’t tell her the things that I’m feeling, and I have to be fiercely honest — though there’s a difference there from being brutally honest. You have to also be careful, because once you say something you can’t ever take it back, which happens a ton when you’re in the heat of the moment. In marriage, it’s good to have short-term memory loss, to be able to forget (and forgive) the things that happen. The fortunate thing about marriage is that you are forced to figure it out. I am lucky to have a person who is equally committed to the figuring it out part, even when I’m a total pain and acting like a child. I know I’m painting a very real version of marriage but it’s an awesome thing to find the person you want share your life with and having me or her involved in all the complexities and intricacies of it.”

“On the eternal search for truth: I know that I write some very apparent Christian stuff in my updates. I know a ton of people from CU are either arduous or anti-religious, and I probably sound like an athlete after they’ve won the championship who has to say, ‘I give it all up to the man upstairs, without whom this all wouldn’t be possible.’ I believe it’s true. But I also want to point out that I’m going through this summer to uncover what God, my purpose on this planet, humanity, etc. all mean. These questions have pretty big implications that could and should affect the rest of my life and my outlook on things, so I’m trying (and it’s tough in cities, where a young person’s life is so deeply secular) to confront them in an intentional way. For me, that experience looks like attending church, getting involved in a faith community and surrounding myself with people who will challenge me and keep me accountable. For the longest time (and even still), I have had this way of making up rules for myself, deciding what I thought was moral and immoral, right and wrong. It’s a very egocentric approach to how you live your life, and it starts to paint your lens on how you see people in the world — as equally selfish, greedy and self-seeking, I know that this isn’t the way I want to be and something has to change. Check in with me about this later. This effort has been a few years in the making now; it’s a tough one. David Foster Wallace says ‘We all worship something.’ We have to figure out for ourselves what that thing is.”

“On wanderlust: I grew up watching too many movies and spending a lot of time on the Internet. When you do this, you get this idea planted in your head of what your life should look like. If you’re an extroverted experience-seeker, and you’ve grown up somewhat privileged like I have, then you want to do so much. It’s hard...
to balance reality with the romantic idealism that you have in your dreams. After 2½ years in San Francisco, a big part of me is itching to travel and see the world. I’m not very different from anyone else our age. I know that I have to do it before I have a kid, and at the same time, there are professional aspirations that I want to fulfill. It’s hard to squeeze all your dreams into a mason jar with finite capacity. Also, you get used to having a certain type of lifestyle and it’s hard to not have that when you think about moving from place to place. I’m definitely seeking advice here. Feel free to share :)!

“On philosophizing: I’ve never considered myself ‘someone’ who is super sophisticated. I’m a country bumpkin from the sticks of Virginia who was fortunate enough to not grow up with a thick Southern accent. I was one of those kids who never talked in Lit classes, reading slowly, (only in Cleveland and Cincinnati) so that when you think about moving from place to place. I’m definitely seeking advice here. Feel free to share :)!

1. In September 1919, “Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West” was created as the first course in what became the Core Curriculum.
2. September 1937.
4. Homer’s Iliad, Aeschylus’ Oresteia and Dante’s Inferno.
5. Sophocles’ Oedipus the King.
6. A second year of CC, called “Introduction to Contemporary Problems in the United States,” was introduced in 1928; it became elective in 1961 and was dropped in 1968.
7. Jane Austen, whose Pride and Prejudice was added in 1985 and remains.
9. An Extended Core requirement was created in 1990; this evolved into Major Cultures and finally into what is now the Global Core.

Scott Maxfield and Carmen Rosenberg-Miller, who started dating as juniors, got engaged on July 2. Scott proposed under the George Washington Bridge during a run along the Hudson River. He is an associate in the Urban Investment Group at Goldman Sachs, where he has worked since graduation, and Carmen began a Ph.D. in art history at Princeton this past fall, focusing on 19th-century French art. Scott and Carmen recently moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn, after buying an apartment by McCarren Park, and thoroughly enjoy their neighborhood.

As you get engaged, married or make celibacy vows, keep your class correspondents notified! We love hearing from you, and we wish you a very Happy New Year.

2012

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As 2015 draws to a close, I wish the Class of 2012 a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year. I am sure many exciting things will happen during the holidays, so send in those updates afterward! Here’s the latest:

This past summer, Columbia soccer alum Nora Dooley and Mike Mazullo traveled to South Africa and Malawi to volunteer with Coaches Across Continents. CAC partners with local organizations across the globe to use soccer for positive social change. In an interview with Columbia Athletics published on August 20, Mike explained, “Coaches Across Continents has an unusual platform: using sport to teach about anything from gender equity to HIV to mathematics. It’s education through soccer. Sounded like a great idea to me!”

Mike returned to New York in the fall to resume teaching and coaching soccer at his alma mater, Fordham Prep in the Bronx, while Nora works full-time with CAC.

Paul Hsiao reports that he had the best summer ever, starting with the launch of his side project, Standard Shirt, a loungewear company focusing on— you guessed it —shirts. He collaborated with Michael Discenza ’13, GSAS’15 to create the visual aesthetic of the company. He says he also had a lovely time with Emily Ahn in Cape Cod during the July 4 weekend.

Congratulations are in order for newlyweds Michele Beth Levberg-Klein and Max Rayden! They were...
marriage and eagerly awaits her match.

Class Notes

After seven fantastic years in New York City, Stephanie, a trained chef, started a project to bring together friends of friends over the culinary and visual arts, Victory Club began as a way to bridge the gap between a liberal arts college experience and post-college life in a non-creative industry. Stephanie, a trained chef, started cooking for friends in her shoebox New York City apartment in late 2014. The boardroom for conversation at that time was the work on her walls — primarily her own paintings but also treasured gifts from artist friends. Now, with 50 subscribing members and hundreds of guests, the project has outgrown her apartment; events take place bimonthly around New York (with pop-ups in the Hamptons and London) in art venues like galleries, museums, artist’s studios, homes with private collections and restaurants with art collections. The project has been covered in Town & Country, Harper’s Bazaar, and hundreds of guests, the project has outgrown her apartment; events take place bimonthly around New York (with pop-ups in the Hamptons and London) in art venues like galleries, museums, artist’s studios, homes with private collections and restaurants with art collections. The project has been covered in Town & Country, Harper's Bazaar, and membership grows daily.

As always, I encourage everyone to submit updates so classmates can hear about your accomplishments and milestones. Feel free to email me directly or submit via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Happy Holidays!

2015

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Hello, Class of 2015! Let’s jump right into the news:

Maria Diaz was recently the set/costume designer for Einna: An English Comedy with a French Title for an American audience, a new comedy written and directed by Henrietta Stevenson ’18, which ran at the Theater for the New City August 30—September 6. The Dream Up Festival, at which the play debuted, describes the plot as: “A director faces ex-lovers, Method actors, a psychic assistant, horrible British accents and even fedora-phobia as she attempts to stage a 1920s British farce.”

The creative team also included Mike Kling GS’17 (lighting designer) as well as Alex Taylor BC’15 (assistant director/stage manager).

As always, your classmates want to hear from you! Write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2013

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Happy winter, Class of 2013! I hope everyone is gearing up for the holidays and enjoying a break from the heat! Thanks to those who submitted updates on their whereabouts this quarter.

Ryan Mandelbaum has moved back to New York after spending two years managing software implementations for Epic Systems in Verona, Wis. He is pursuing a master’s in journalism with an advanced certificate in science reporting at NYU’s Science, Health, and Environmental Reporting program with hopes of becoming a science journalist. You can see his pieces on scienceline.org.

Amanda Gutterman updates us on her work with Slant, a journalism platform that blends crowd-sourced content with professional editing. After 10 weeks in beta with a closed group of writers — who, she says, produced a wide range of stories from an interview with a 2016 presidential contender to a candid sit-down with AAG Rocky — the mobile-first news site has hard-launched and is fully open to the public. The site is receiving rave reviews in TechCrunch and Columbia Journalism Review as well as garnering server-busting traffic numbers. After more than 2.5 million page views and hundreds of posted articles, now anyone can log in and create stories on Slant, get professionally edited and get paid for his or her work. If you like to write, Amanda suggests you try out Slant’s easy-to-use creator tool, found on slantnews.com.

Stephanie Nass founded Victory Club, a project to bring together friends of friends over the culinary and visual arts, Victory Club began as a way to bridge the gap between a liberal arts college experience and post-college life in a non-creative industry. Stephanie, a trained chef, started cooking for friends in her shoebox New York City apartment in late 2014. The boardroom for conversation at that time was the work on her walls — primarily her own paintings but also treasured gifts from artist friends. Now, with 50 subscribing members and hundreds of guests, the project has outgrown her apartment; events take place bimonthly around New York (with pop-ups in the Hamptons and London) in art venues like galleries, museums, artist’s studios, homes with private collections and restaurants with art collections. The project has been covered in Town & Country, The Observer, Food & Wine and Harper’s Bazaar, and membership grows daily.

As always, I encourage everyone to submit updates so classmates can hear about your accomplishments and milestones. Feel free to email me directly or submit via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Happy Holidays!

2014

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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Calling all CC’14s! CCT needs a new Class Notes correspondent for this column. Being a class correspondent is a great way to stay in touch with friends and classmates and to share all the amazing things that the class is up to! Please reach out to us at cct@columbia.edu!
obituaries

1936

Venan J. Alessandroni, attorney, Old Greenwich, Conn., on November 20, 2014. Alessandroni earned a degree from the Law School in 1939. During World War II, he served in 1943–44 as a member of the Board of Economic Warfare, stationed at Leopoldville (Kinshasa) in the Belgian Congo. He remained in the Congo for 14 months and traveled extensively throughout Central Africa. From 1945 to 1946, as a first lieutenant in the Army, Alessandroni was appointed chief military judge in Seoul, Korea; he presided over the trial of approximately 50 members of the Communist Party. In recognition of this service, he was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. Throughout his law career, Alessandroni lectured and wrote extensively on estate planning. In 1974, he became an adjunct visiting professor at the University of Miami School of Law. He was the estate tax and gift tax editor of The Journal of Taxation and was published in The Banking Journal, Journal of Taxation; and Journal of the University of Miami Institute on Estate Planning. Alessandroni is survived by his wife of 35 years, the former Adelle Lincoln.

1940

Albon P. Man IV, editor, Palisades, N.Y., on October 22, 2014. Man earned a degree from GSAS as well as a degree from the Law School, both in 1950. He worked at Prentice Hall, where he became editor-in-chief of his division, and at the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Man was a community volunteer and activist for peace both early and late in his life. He was predeceased by his wife of 44 years, Yolanda Abruzzi Man, and is survived by his son, Anthony; daughter, Angela Pungello, and her husband, Steven; and one grandson.

1941

Bruce Wallace, retired professor, Blacksburg, Va., on January 12, 2015. Born and raised in McKean, Pa., Wallace earned a bachelor's in zoology in 1941. His Ph.D. study under Theodosius Dobzhansky at Columbia was interrupted by WWII. After four years in the Army, Wallace returned to Columbia and earned a Ph.D. in biological sciences from GSAS in 1949. He took a position at, and later was assistant director of, the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York. In 1958 Wallace joined Cornell, where he was a professor of genetics until 1981; he then joined the biology department at Virginia Tech, where he became University Distinguished Professor of Biology and was active until he retired in 1994. In 1970 Wallace was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and was president of the Genetics Society of America, the American Society of Naturalists, the Society for the Study of Evolution and the American Genetic Association, as well as an editor of Evolutionary Biology.

1942

James J. Byrnes, chemical engineer, St. Petersburg, Fla., on February 18, 2015. Born the son of Irish immigrants in New York City, Byrnes entered with the Class of 1942 and graduated from Engineering in 1943. He worked on the Manhattan Project, helping to develop the atomic bomb, and later worked for Burns & Roe as a project manager, building a number of power plants. He ended his career there as a VP. Byrnes enjoyed solving problems and fixing things. After retiring he volunteered for 20 years, fixing bicycles for young children, at the Christmas Toy Shop in St. Petersburg, Fla. Byrnes met his wife, Joan, at Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York; they married in 1951. She survives him, as do his daughters, Maureen, Eileen and Colleen; and two grandchildren.

1945

Benjamin R. Kaplan, retired attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on November 28, 2014. Kaplan was born in Brooklyn in 1925 and was in the first graduating class at Midwood H.S. He earned a degree in 1951 from the Law School and owned a storefront law office on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, on Avenue B, where he practiced for 50 years. Kaplan was an avid blues record collector and had a complete Bessie Smith collection on original 78s. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, whom he married in 1952.

1946

Paul C. Rotondi, business executive, Lakewood, N.J., and Pompano Beach, Fla., on January 28, 2015. Rotondi served in the Army Air Force during WWII. He was president of Dan Dee Belt & Bag Co., Hoboken; was chairman and CEO of Washington Savings Bank, Hoboken; and served on various boards, including Wearever–Proctor–Siles. Rotondi was president or chairman of nearly every group he joined, including the Cliffside Park Board of Education; the Port Hudson YMCA; the Hoboken Rotary Club (Walter Head Fellow); the Hoboken and Hudson County Chambers of Commerce; the Model Cities Program; the Hoboken Steering Committee for Redevelopment Projects; and the Hoboken Waterfront Advisory Committee, where he was instrumental in obtaining funds from the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, enabling Hoboken to purchase a portion of the waterfront for development. He also led homeowners associations in South Mantoloking, N.J., and Pompano Beach. Rotondi is survived by his wife of 69 years, Marie (née Senate); daughter, Mary–Frances Dougherty, and her husband, Robert; son, Charles; and his wife, Patricia; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1947

Sidney Gelber, university co-founder, administrator and professor, New York City, on November 13, 2014. Born in New York, Gelber graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. and served in Army counterintelligence during World War II. He earned an M.A. in 1950 and a Ph.D. in 1954, both from GSAS, and joined Columbia's philosophy department faculty. Gelber was on the editorial committee that rewrote the source book for Contemporary Civilization, and he taught classes with Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38 and Fred Dupee. Gelber helped to create and build SUNY Stony Brook and rose to academic VP and provost. In 2001 he published a book, Politics and Public Higher Education in New York State: Stony Brook—a Case History, a definitive history of the university. He also shared his expertise with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, where he was on the Board of Governors and received an honorary doctorate and a Lifetime Achievement Award. Gelber also was an accomplished pianist who

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the “Other Obituaries Reported” box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries, requests may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Contact “Contact Us” at columbia.edu/extend, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.
OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1936  Carl E. Schorske, retired university professor, East Windsor, N.J., on September 13, 2015.
1943  Michael S. Bruno, physician, New York City, on November 16, 2015.
1948  Sears E. Edwards, physician, Garden City, N.Y., on August 14, 2015.
1958  Richard W. Bossert, retired senior analyst, Queensbury, N.Y., on February 13, 2015.

Peter LaForté, ophthalmologist, Ridgefield, Conn., on August 24, 2014. LaForté was born in Frankfort, N.Y., on November 27, 1924. Moving to Brooklyn, N.Y., with his family at an early age, he graduated from NYU Medical School. In a career that spanned more than 60 years, LaForté initially practiced pediatric medicine and in later years returned to complete a medical residency, pursuing a career in ophthalmology. He maintained a private practice in ophthalmology in Stamford. A WWII Army veteran, LaForté was a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, Connecticut State Medical Society, Senior Men’s Club of New Canaan and the Country Club of Darien. He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church and its choir. In addition to his wife of 54 years, Jeannette LaForté (née Greico), LaForté is survived by his children, Peter and his wife, Judy Ratner, Elizabeth and Christopher; sister, Faye Reggio; and five grandchildren. LaForté was predeceased by his brothers, John, and Frank DiMostra, and sisters, Anna Alfano and Frances Messina. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance, 801 Roeder Rd., Suite 750, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or via tsalliance.org.

John H. Bottjer, retired mortgage broker, Eastchester, N.Y., on March 28, 2015. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Bottjer graduated from Erasmus Hall H.S. and earned a master’s at Haverford College. He was a 62-year resident of Eastchester and had a successful career in mortgage financing and real estate investments with his own company, retiring soon before his death. Bottjer’s passion was photography, mainly nature photography, for which he won many awards. He is survived by his wife, Anita, and valued the two years that he was president of the Mannes College of Music. He is survived by his children, Alexis, Stephen, and Valerie; sons- and daughter-in-law, Mark Whitaker, Abraham Yacob and Susan Luciano; and five grandchildren. He was predeceased in 2012 by his wife of 64 years.

Edgar M. Housepian, neurosurgeon and professor, Hackensack, N.J., on November 14, 2014. Affiliated with Columbia his entire life, Housepian attended its elementary school as well as medical school (PS'53) and residency. He was a Columbia University Medical Center faculty member, special adviser to the dean for international affiliations and ultimately professor emeritus of neurological surgery. A distinguished neurosurgeon, Housepian made early contributions to cerebrovascular and image-guided stereotactic surgery. Loyal to his Armenian heritage, he helped organize relief efforts after the major earthquake in Armenia in the 1990s, for which he received several honorary doctorates from its medical institutions, its Presidential Citation and the Humanitarian Award from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

Eugene D. McGahren Jr., retired attorney, arbitrator and judge, Yonkers, N.Y., on January 2, 2015. A graduate of Roosevelt H.S., McGahren earned a degree from the Law School in 1952 before serving as a lieutenant in the Navy and Merchant Marines. After returning from two tours around the world, including time in the Korean War, he had a lengthy and successful career as an attorney at Sperry Rand and later as an arbitrator and judge. His passion for the law was matched only by his enthusiasm for aviation (he was a private pilot), travel and family gatherings. He and his wife of 57 years, Elizabeth, enjoyed many vacations around the globe. She survives him, as do his children, Eugene D. III, Thomas, Kevin, Brian, Paul and Peter; 10 grandchildren; brothers, George, Richard and Kenneth; and several daughters- and sisters-in-law. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lancaster General Health Foundation, Attn.: Myles McGahren, 609 N. Cherry St., PO Box 3555, Lancaster, PA 17604-3555, or The UVA Children’s Hospital, Attn.: Eugene D. McGahren Jr., 1215 Lee St., Charlottesville, VA 22908 or childrens.uvahealth.com.

Robert J. Vellvé, retired educational equipment exporter, Paris, France, on March 20, 2015. Born April 8, 1925, and raised in New York City, the son of French and Spanish parents, Vellvé interrupted his collegiate track for the Army in WWII, serving as a light artillery sergeant in Patton’s army in the Battle of the Bulge. Recognizing his family roots, while returning from Germany following VE Day, Vellvé stayed on in Paris to serve a second tour, participating in the U.S. effort to stabilize Europe, to which he returned in retirement. After graduation, Vellvé entered his father’s exporting business on Beaver Street in lower Manhattan. He met his wife, Angelita, there shortly thereafter, and they enjoyed...
63 years of marriage, raising four children in Garden City, Long Island. Vellvé traveled extensively throughout the Southern Hemisphere, principally as a sales representative for American Seating Co. products. At retirement in 1984, Vellvé moved his family to Paris, where he toured widely. Before his health declined, Vellvé assisted with interviews and acceptance coaching of French applicants to the College. He is survived by his wife; two daughters; two sons; and six grandchildren.

1953

Julius "Jules" L. Ross, retired financial executive, New York City, on December 4, 2014. Born in the Bronx, Ross was a retired Air Force officer, avid sports fan and voracious reader. A 1954 alumnus of the Business School, Ross had a successful business career and then devoted his time to reading, playing bridge, attending Torah study and enjoying the company of his wife of 36 years, Carole; children Jennifer and her husband, Michael, Peter and his wife, Barbara, and David and his wife, Jessica; five grandchildren; brother, David Rosenweig; and friends.

1954

Richard J. Rudolph, engineer, Houston, on January 30, 2015. Born on October 3, 1932, in Long Island City, N.Y., Rudolph spent his childhood in Flushing, enjoying summers at Little Neck Bay fishing, clamming and exploring the bay on a boat he built. After graduating from Bayside H.S. in 1949, he studied chemical engineering at Columbia. He began his career with Mobil but spent most of it in metallurgy with Huntington Alloys. In 1960, Rudolph moved to Houston, where he began his family. As an adult, he learned to speak Spanish and Portuguese fluently, in addition to German, which he could speak from childhood. He enjoyed travel, and his love of Mayan ruins led to one of the biggest adventures of his life: a three-week canoe trip down the Usamacinta River between Mexico and Guatemala with four close friends in 1977. Rudolph is survived by his wife, Dianna; children, Kristen, Bill and Susan; and sister, Mary. He was predeceased by a son, Richard. Memorial contributions may be made to Border Collie Rescue Texas (bcrescuetejas.org).

1955

Richard B. Knapp, physician, New York City, on November 29, 2014. Knapp graduated from New York Medical College (NYMC) and completed a residency in anesthesia at Cornell—New York Hospital. His distinguished medical career included being professor and chairman of anesthesiology at West Virginia University Medicine. Knapp was a medical naval officer during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He and his wife of 61 years, Harriett, started and maintained for 13 years a medical program on the Caribbean island of Barbuda. Knapp authored The Gift of Surgery to Mankind: A History of Modern Anesthesiology. He enjoyed teaching medical students, residents and other physicians, for which he received the Distinguished Alumni Medal from NYMC. Knapp loved travel and was a sports enthusiast. His wife survives him, as do his daughters Carolyn Green and Pamela Townsend Jenkins; son, Benjamin; two grandchildren; and brother, Robert. He was predeceased by his daughter Laurie. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

1960

Stephen B. Brown, attorney, New York City, on December 27, 2014. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and a lifelong New Yorker, Brown played basketball at Columbia and attended NYU School. He earned a second bachelor's, a B.S. in 1961 from Engineering. For many years, Brown was general counsel at Champion International, and after retirement was town attorney for Southampton, N.Y. He claimed the "World Record for Grandparent Attendance" at baseball, basketball, lacrosse, tennis and golf events along the Eastern Seaboard, where his five grandchildren participated during the last decade. They survive him, as do his wife of 51 years, Linda Sirota; daughters, Ali Kotin and her husband, Alan, and Jen Simon and her husband, Neal; and brother, Harvey.

1962

Harvey J. Goldschmid, law professor, New York City, on February 12, 2015. Goldschmid was born on May 6, 1940, in the Bronx, N.Y., where his father was a furrier and a postal worker. Goldschmid said in an SEC Historical Society interview he knew he wanted to be a lawyer from the time he was 12. He earned a degree in 1964 from SIPA and another in 1965 from the Law School. Goldschmid joined the Law School faculty in 1970 and became the Dwight Professor of Law in 1984. He was general counsel of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 1990 to 1999 and a special senior advisor to the chairman, Arthur Levitt Jr., in 2000. Goldschmid, a Democrat, was named to the SEC by President George W. Bush in 2002, just after the President had signed one of the most sweeping federal securities laws ever enacted, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. He was a commissioner from 2002 to 2005. After he returned to the Law School to teach antitrust and corporate and securities law, Goldschmid was also a policymaking consultant. He is survived by his wife, Mary; and sons, Charles ’99, LAW’04; Paul BUS’06, LAW’06; and Joseph BUS’14, LAW’14. — Lisa Palladino
So you made it through Contemporary Civilization and can still quote from *The Odyssey*. But how much do you know about the Core Curriculum as an institution?

1. When was the Core Curriculum created?
2. When was Humanities A, or Literature Humanities as it is now called, added?
3. When did Art Humanities and Music Humanities become required, rather than optional?
4. What books have been on the Lit Hum syllabus from its inception to the present, without interruption?
5. This book had been on the Lit Hum syllabus since the course’s inception but was dropped this year.
6. Was Contemporary Civilization ever a two-year requirement?
7. Who was the first female author to be included as required reading on the Lit Hum syllabus?
8. Which two longtime faculty members were co-recipients, in 1993, of the first award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum?
9. When was the Core expanded to require courses in cultures not covered by Contemporary Civilization and Lit Hum?
10. Not counting the Bible, which has had 16 books on the Lit Hum syllabus, name the two authors who head the list with 12 of their works being required at one time or another.

*Sources:* Core Curriculum website (colleges.columbia.edu/core) and *An Oasis of Order: The Core Curriculum at Columbia College* by Timothy P. Cross GSAS’98.

*Answers:* page 75.
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CNN anchor and correspondent Poppy Harlow ’05 delves into the stories that matter
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CORE TO COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE
A Voice with Heart
CNN anchor and correspondent Poppy Harlow ’05 is driven by the search for truth.

By Lauren Steussy

A Culture of Creation
Launching businesses and joining startups are tantalizing career paths for Columbia College students.

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

Trials and Tribulations
Swimmer Katie Meili ’13 sets her sights on Rio’s Summer Olympics.

By Charlotte Murtishaw BC’15

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• Reporting by Poppy Harlow ’05
• Ashley Kahn ’83 Q&A post-Grammy win
• Poetry by Keith O’Shaughnessy ’94

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Within the Family

The Importance of Thinking Critically

When I was a writer/editor at *Spectator* thinking about going into journalism and more specifically sports writing, two of the people whose work I most admired were Robert Lipsyte ’57, JRN’59 and Leonard Koppett ’44. Lipsyte was then a sports columnist for *The New York Times* whose forte was placing sports in the context of the larger world, and Koppett, also writing at the *Times*, was known for his analytical approach to sports writing and his deft use of statistics to support his theses.

I was reminded of them because of our cover story on Poppy Harlow ’05, a news correspondent and weekend anchor at CNN. It’s no surprise that all are Columbians, and that all benefited from the cornerstone of the College classroom experience, the Core Curriculum.

What does the Core have to do with journalism? If there is a commonality that binds all branches of the Core, it is that it seeks to teach students how to think critically. As the Core website notes, “The habits of mind developed in the Core cultivate a critical and creative intellectual capacity that students employ long after college, in the pursuit and the fulfillment of meaningful lives.”

This certainly is true for the young entrepreneurs described in one of this issue’s feature stories, “A Culture of Creation” (page 26). It is equally true for journalists like Harlow, Lipsyte and Koppett, and the many others who studied at the College.

The ability to think critically, to not take everything at face value and not be afraid to question what you are being told, is a vital skill for journalists. Virtually anyone can conduct an interview, preparing questions, jotting them down on a notepad for easy recital at the appropriate time and then recording the subject’s responses. But the best answers, the ones that reveal and enlighten and make an interview come alive, rarely come in response to those kinds of questions. They come in response to the follow-ups, the questions good reporters ask when they hear something in a response that doesn’t quite ring true. Good follow-up questions are the ones that make headlines.

I don’t usually watch the cable news channels, but on a recent Saturday afternoon the temperature north of NYC was about 2 degrees and none of the 47 college basketball games littering my TV caught my fancy. So I turned to *CNN Newsroom Weekend*, with Harlow as anchor. Since I had never seen our cover subject on-air, I figured I’d check her out — and I was pleased that I did.

Harlow adroitly handled the anchoring duties, smoothly setting up stories and bantering with reporters to create a pleasant viewing experience. However, there are dozens of pretty faces with good hair (men and women) all around the dial who can do that. What grabbed my attention was an interview she conducted with an economist who was on tour plugging his latest book. She asked all the expected questions and he gave all the carefully rehearsed answers, sounding strikingly similar to what I had heard him say when he was interviewed elsewhere the day before. But every once in a while the interview went off the beaten path; Harlow asked a follow-up question that made it zig instead of zag, and the economist seemed surprised and somewhat unsettled. His answers became more genuine; Harlow had pushed him off script, and he was left to answer the questions directly, as one would in a normal conversation.

A good reporter has to be able to think on his or her feet, to react to what is heard and be able to take an interview in an unplanned direction. The “critical and creative intellectual capacity” developed in the Core Curriculum enables one to do just that. And even in this age of the 24-hour news cycle and the rush to “break” news without regard for context or confirmation, when everything is sound bites and snippets, there is still some good journalism to be found if you are willing to invest the time and effort to find and enjoy it.

Alex Tonti SOA’11, our managing editor for the past four years, left CCT in January to learn what it’s like to work in the commercial magazine field, becoming special projects editor at *The Week*. If you pick up a copy or go to its website (theweek.com), you’ll note that she is using her new married name, Alexis Boncy.

To say we miss Alexis is an understatement. Her imprint can be seen throughout CCT, from the quality of the articles (and the writers she brought on board to write them) to the recent redesign/reimagination of the magazine, for which she was a driving force. She helped plan this issue, assigning several of the articles and writing two of them. We hope she will continue to contribute as her time permits.

Alexis was a diligent editor who worked well with our writers to shape and polish their articles. She brought a creative vision to CCT, its content, its look and its feel. She was a tremendously hard worker who was a pleasure to work with, and she became a friend and very much a member of our family. We wish her all the best.

Alex Sachare ’71
Editor in Chief
The Joy of Looking

Wonderful portrait of Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS’81 (Winter 2015–16). He seems to embody the ideal College graduate, despite not having attended Columbia as an undergrad. Not only does his enthusiasm cross boundaries among art forms but he moves easily between Western and Eastern traditions.

When I was majoring in art history more than 30 years ago, I took a strong interest in traditional Chinese landscape painting. With no other options, I was forced to create my own independent study project on the topic under the tutelage of Richard Vinograd, Columbia’s Chinese art expert at the time. There was little dialogue between the Asian studies scholars and their Western counterparts.

I don’t know if it reflects a more open approach to cultural studies on the part of the University as a whole, or if it’s only Harrist’s idiosyncratic tastes, but this dual interest in our familiar Western canon with that of other cultures, particularly the Chinese, is timely and refreshing.

Mark Brennan ’82
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Feeling Adrift

In your Winter 2015–16 issue, Melissa Mark-Viverito ’91 states that she nearly abandoned Morningside Heights altogether, feeling adrift on a campus with few other Puerto Ricans and, she felt, with little support from the administration.

I was only one of two Ukrainian-Americans in my class, yet I did not feel “adrift.” There is more than one dimension to a human being. I enjoyed companionship and support from my fellow members in the Newman (Catholic) Club. Furthermore, I felt my primary goal at Columbia was to get a good education and to study hard — and not to dwell on my ethnic background or that of my fellow students. Most of my interactions with fellow Columbia students were positive and educational. I avoided the ones that were prejudiced.

Dr. Roman Kernitsky ’62
Colts Neck, N.J.

For Who/Whom the Bell Tolls

I enjoyed your article on my former WKCR colleague Michael Oren ’77, SIPA’78 (Winter 2015–16). But what’s this I see? A reference to “Oren’s children, whom he says are not right-wingers”? Whether this blunder was committed by author or editor or proofreader I know not, but whoever (whomever?) was responsible should be required to retake Freshman Seminar, or whatever they’re calling it these days.

Fred Kameny ’76
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Editors note: After a time as “Logic and Rhetoric,” that course is now called “University Writing.”

Postcrypt

Many sweet memories came to mind in reading that the Postcrypt in St. Paul’s Chapel is still going strong (“Around the Quads,” Winter 2015–16). Becoming quite the regular only a couple years after the Postcrypt opened, I vividly recall sitting by candlelight beside a classical guitarist playing Bach’s Bourrée in E-Minor and thinking, gosh, I wish I could do that! At the time, however, I was learning a somewhat different Bach on the Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ upstairs, which, amazingly, became my practice instrument after lessons. The Postcrypt below and its chapel above instilled a lifelong love of both coffeehouses and music, not to mention a passable rendition of that perky piece. I am truly glad that old storeroom still serves a cup and a note to the Columbia students of today.

Kurt J. Meyers ’70
Tucson, Ariz.

All That Jazz

It was great to read the profile of Associate Professor of Music Chris Washburne GSAS’99 (“Around the Quads,” Winter 2015–16) and to hear about the dedication and enthusiasm he brings to the Department of Music and to the jazz program in particular. One of his comments, however, could bear a slight correction. He discusses founding the Louis Armstrong
Jazz Performance Program because “having a university that abuts one of the most important neighborhoods in jazz history — Harlem — and not having an official jazz program was ridiculous.”

In fact, the College has had an official jazz program for more than 20 years. When I began my undergraduate studies in 1989, the College’s big band had only the status of a student activity; it was not formally associated with the Department of Music. I played in the big band for three years. During that period, I and several other band members, all College students, worked with the Department of Music in 1992 to secure official recognition for the big band, which became known as the Columbia University Jazz Orchestra. Most notably, from that point forward, big band members earned academic credit for their participation, at the same level as student classical musicians in the Columbia University Orchestra.

Throughout that time, the big band was led by Don Sickler, a prominent jazz instrumentalist, arranger, publisher and educator. We played concerts with some of the world’s best jazz musicians as our guest artists. Some of the student musicians went on to highly successful music careers, including bassists Gary Wang ’95 and Michael Bitz ’94. The impressive and diverse jazz performance program that Columbia offers today, under Washburne’s direction, is a direct descendant of the groundwork we laid in the 1990s.

Jeremy Matz ’93
Los Angeles

Spring ’68

Readers interested in the Columbia events of Spring ’68 should be alerted to the fact that available on the CCT website is the illustrated, book-length essay “Six Weeks That Shook Morningside” by then-CCT editor George Keller ’51, GSAS ’54, which filled the entire 96-page Spring 1968 issue (college.columbia.edu/cct/sites/cct/files/cct_spring_1968.pdf). Having read many accounts of the campus protests of nearly 50 years ago, it’s worth pointing out that Keller’s essay is a vital piece of literature for anyone seeking to understand those complex times.

Since 2007 I have been working on A Time to Stir, a documentary film about those campus protests. Thus far more than 500 interviews have been filmed. Many boxes of documents and photographs have also been located and deposited into the Columbia University Archives, and I am working on a book for Columbia University Press on the subject. Both book and film will be ready for the 50th anniversary in 2018. Readers with memories or reminiscences of those days, and/or with material relating to the protests (including the years leading up to those heady days), please get in touch: pauljcronin@gmail.com or 646-757-0793.

Paul J. Cronin JRN ’14
New York City

Double Discovery

As a counselor who served during the first summer of Double Discovery Center in 1965, I was pleased that this remarkable anniversary’s 50th anniversary was commemorated in the Fall 2015 issue (“Around the Quadrangle”). The DDC is now reaching out to all of its past participants and asking students, counselors and administrators with a prior affiliation to register with DDC Executive Director Joseph Ayala ’94 at 212-854-3897 or ja48@columbia.edu. Thank you very much.

Jim Siegel ’65, BUS ’68
New York City

Coach Bill Stowe

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Bill Stowe, who died on February 8, 2016, after a fall at his home in Lake Placid, NY.

Stowe was the stroke oar of the legendary Vesper Boat Club eight that won the gold medal for the United States in rowing’s premier event in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics — a feat, incidentally, that would not be repeated for 40 years!

In fall 1967, Stowe was hired as head coach of Columbia rowing. He assembled a stellar staff, including Stan Bergman as freshman heavyweight coach (who became Penn’s head coach for 22 years) and Larry Gluckman, who succeeded Stowe as head coach when Stowe moved on to found the Coast Guard Academy’s rowing program in 1971.

Stowe was an inspiration to his Columbia oarsmen to the day he died. Not long

CONTINUED ON PAGE 95
Come back to something new this summer.

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COLUMBIA SUMMER 2016

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Helping Columbia’s Entrepreneurs Succeed

In February, Bernice Tsai ’96, associate dean, alumni relations and communications, and I visited the Columbia Startup Lab, the co-working space at WeWork Soho West that provides spots for 71 Columbia alumni entrepreneurs, including 10 College alumni.

There we met with Carolyn Yim ’11, an English major whose company, Plyknits, gives shoppers direct access to her family’s knitwear line (plyknits.com); Cooper Pickett ’10, a philosophy major whose company, Longeck & Thunderfoot, optimizes digital content (landt.co); and John Mascari ’08, a political science major whose company, Bundle Organics, offers nutritional beverages for new and expectant mothers (bundleorganics.com).

Carolyn, Cooper and John are building upon the skills honed through their majors and the Core. They are tapping into networks formed at Columbia to get the resources and support they need and turning their passions into successful startups.

Entrepreneurship, in the broadest sense, results when an idea meets an opportunity and is built into a successful enterprise. The enterprise does not have to be “tech” and it does not need to be profit- or revenue-seeking. To be successful it only needs to create something of value.

I have experienced this in my own life. When I was a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory I attended a seminar where someone described a measurement challenge. I had an idea of how to solve it, and I was so excited that I stayed up for 36 straight hours working out a proposal for a solution. I secured funding to carry out experiments and developed the idea. No literal business was developed, but it did provide something of value. And although we didn’t hear the word “entrepreneur” much then, that is what I was, without thinking about it.

Columbia College students have no shortage of ideas, and the world offers no shortage of opportunities for those ideas to be developed. I want College students to recognize that entrepreneurship is something that any of them can do, so I am working closely with Columbia Entrepreneurship, the University’s entrepreneurship initiative headed by Richard Witten ’75, and the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), a popular student group, to create more opportunities and resources for our undergraduate entrepreneurs.

This year, in collaboration with Columbia Entrepreneurship and in response to student interest, the College is offering a new entrepreneurship course, “Venturing to Change the World,” taught by Damon Phillips, the Lambert Family Professor of Social Enterprise at the Business School, which you can read more about in this issue (see “A Culture of Creation,” page 26). We are now working to develop a second course to extend the entrepreneurship curriculum.

These courses build upon several other efforts that the College has undertaken in recent years, including launching the Startup Internship Program through the Center for Career Education, in collaboration with CORE, and establishing a Startup Internship Fund, also through CCE.

Last year, the College began sponsoring and funding the Undergraduate Challenge as part of Columbia Entrepreneurship’s Columbia Venture Competition (CVC; startupcolumbia.org/challenge). Three undergraduate student teams won a total of $50,000 to propel innovative and promising business proposals. Shriya Samavai ’15, an art history major with a concentration in business management, and Lauren Field BC’16, an English major and art history minor, won the overall competition with their endeavor Academy Of (now Studio Lucien), a company that makes apparel inspired by works of art.

The Undergraduate Challenge was exciting for me because it shows what entrepreneurship is all about, especially entrepreneurship at the College. It’s not only technology that allows students to build their futures and their success, but it’s also their creative ideas and the fact that, thanks to so much support at the College and in today’s world in general, they can use their creative thinking and analytical skills to turn an idea into reality. They can make a real difference in the world using that creativity, the interdisciplinary approaches offered by the College and their own problem-solving skills. I look forward to seeing what comes out of this spring’s CVC.

We are still thinking a lot about what entrepreneurship means to us as a college and we hope to continue building and expanding our programs to meet students’ interests and help them prepare for the future. Enthusiasm for entrepreneurship is very high right now — CORE has more than 4,000 people on its email list, including many College students. And the College is here to help facilitate their success, to help them drive their ideas, to help them take advantage of opportunities to grow their enterprises and to help them make their mark and become leaders of society.

James J. Valentini
Dean
Holland Greene Elected University Trustee

Wanda M. Holland Greene '89, TC'91, a nationally recognized leader in education and the head of The Hamlin School of San Francisco, has been elected to the University's Board of Trustees. Holland Greene succeeds William V. Campbell '62, TC'64, chair emeritus, who was on the board from 2003 to 2015.

A Brooklyn native, Holland Greene graduated from The Chapin School, then earned a B.A. in English literature with a concentration in psychology and an M.A. in curriculum design and instruction. She holds a permanent teaching license in New York State and has completed extensive coursework in private school leadership at The Klingenstein Center at Columbia.

"I'm delighted to welcome Wanda Holland Greene to our ranks," said Trustees Chairman Jonathan D. Schiller '69, LAW'73. "It seems especially appropriate that, like our good friend Bill Campbell, whom she succeeds, she is a graduate of both Columbia College and Teachers College. We know that her work as an educational leader will enhance our ability as a group to serve Columbia in the years ahead."

Prior to her leadership at Hamlin, Holland Greene was for 11 years a senior administrator and ex-officio trustee at The Park School in Brookline, Mass. She began her career in education at the Columbia Greenhouse Nursery School and continued at Chapin, where she was a teacher, adviser and the school's first director of student life. She is a former trustee of Concord Academy, Chapin, Cornerstone Literacy, Hamilton Family Center and Lick-Wilmerding H.S., and a past member of the College's Board of Visitors and the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors. Holland Greene currently is a trustee at Head-Royce School and the National Association of Independent Schools, and is an adviser to Common Sense Media and Carney Sandoe & Associates.

Holland Greene has focused on academic and ethical excellence, gender equity, performance, and sports law practices; and member, Executive Committee. Kessler focuses on all aspects of antitrust/competition, sports law, intellectual property, complex litigation, and government criminal and civil investigations. He has been lead counsel in some of the country's most complex antitrust, sports law and intellectual property law cases. He also is a lecturer at the Law School.

John Vaske '88, co-chairman, global mergers and acquisitions, Goldman Sachs & Co. Vaske's responsibilities include full-time client coverage and execution of significant transactions globally. Previously, he was co-chair of the Global Natural Resources Group. Vaske sits on the boards...
mance evaluation, diversity and inclusion, health and wellness, and global citizenship. As a faculty member of the National Association of Independent Schools’ Fellowship for Aspiring School Heads, she is an advocate and sponsor for women and people of color in educational leadership. In 2014 she was named one of San Francisco’s Most Influential Women and in 2015 was named a Women’s History Month honoree by the City & County of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women.

“As a proud Columbian, I’m honored to return to Morningside Heights to serve the University that gave me so much as a student,” said Holland Greene. “This is an important moment for all levels of education in our country and I’m looking forward to the opportunity to bring my experience in primary and secondary education to the conversation on issues and opportunities facing higher education at my alma mater.”

of the nonprofits PeacePlayers International and Bottom Line New York and chairs Columbia’s Basketball Alumni Committee.

Sheena Wright ’90, LAW’94, president and CEO, United Way of New York City. Wright is the first woman to lead UWNYC in its 75-year history. Prior, she was president and CEO of the Abyssinian Development Corp., responsible for leading and managing one of the nation’s premier community and economic development organizations and overseeing its extensive development projects in Harlem, including residential housing and community and commercial spaces.

View the event album: facebook.com/alumnicc.
Professor of Anthropology Rosalind Morris has spent years studying communities in South Africa and mainland Southeast Asia, especially Thailand, but her interests extend far beyond fieldwork. She is also a filmmaker, a poet and a writer of essays, ethnographies and experimental works. Her latest book, *Accounts and Drawings from Underground*, is an unconventional collaboration with artist William Kentridge in which she conjures the world of a South African mining company's laborers and leaders through a narrative based on its 1906 accounts ledger. A Columbia faculty member since 1994, Morris was director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender and associate director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society. She is on sabbatical for the spring semester but returned to campus one afternoon in January to talk about her career and projects.

She grew up in Canada, spending her early childhood in Kimberley, a small mining town in the Rockies, and Vancouver.

She dropped out of college during her third year. “I bought a one-way ticket to the furthest place that I could find, and that happened to be Sri Lanka. Off and on — then and after I’d gone back to school and graduated — I spent a few years roaming the world. I stayed in Nepal for quite some time but also India and Thailand.”

She earned a B.A. in anthropology and English from the University of British Columbia, Canada, in 1986; an M.A. in anthropology from York University, Canada, in 1989; and a Ph.D. in anthropology from Chicago in 1994: “Anthropology as I practice it is a discipline in which you can satisfy almost every intellectual curiosity.”

She describes anthropology as learning to learn with other people. “The great thing about it is that it teaches you that everybody everywhere does things differently, which means that nobody gets to claim that they are absolutely right. I find that hugely liberating and exciting. But to learn from that, you have to be with people for a long time.”

Her fieldwork in South Africa has been ongoing for 18 years. “I’ve gone back every year to the same community for several months, and I’ve watched it change from an apartheid modernist fantasy town — which is to say a white town surrounded by a black township — to a very different place in which land ownership is largely now in the hands of black South Africans, although there is still great inequality. Gold prices go up and down, as do the fortunes of the town. I’ve seen it through a terrible AIDS epidemic, economic disasters and political change, which is how you learn to learn with people.”

She says patience is a useful skill to be cultivated but so is a sense of when to move on. “Worlds don’t stop changing. You can never be finished; you can say ‘I don’t want to do it anymore,’ or I’m no longer able to, but it won’t be because an object — the world — has been exhausted or finally known. You may be exhausted, but the object won’t be.”

She teaches “The Ethnographic Imagination,” the last part of the sequence for the undergraduate major, among other courses.

She says the most valuable thing she can do for her students is to help them “recognize that it’s possible to do everything differently and therefore they must decide, always, how they wish to do things. I would hope, too, that I instill in them a hunger for learning how to be with people who are different from themselves.”

She is about to release a collection of essays, *War, I Have (Not) Seen;* a book on the history of the idea of fetishism; and a film adaptation of Gertrude Stein’s last novella, *Brewsie and Willie.* “I believe in writing in different forms in answer to different needs. I don’t think one should have one voice across all domains. It’s very exciting to be able to move from medium to medium, genre to genre, and to think about the possibilities that are specific to each medium.”

She is also working on an opera — her first — based on Abdelrahman Munif’s novel *Cities of Salt,* set at the time of the discovery of oil in the Gulf states. The opera had its first public workshop at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, last July. The composer, Zaid Jabri, is a Syrian now living in Poland and her co-librettist, Yvette Christianse, teaches at Barnard. “We had a story we felt was singular and urgent, and that it demanded this form. We reread it together and plotted it in terms of what would be essential to communicate it. Then we drafted the libretto together literally line by line, which is not a recipe that anyone else should follow, probably. But it worked for us.”

— Alexis Tonti SOA’11
Laughing Lion Inspired MGM Lion

Did you know that the iconic MGM lion was the brainchild of Howard Dietz (Class of 1917, JRN 1917), who drew inspiration from The Jester’s Laughing Lion?

Dietz, a noted lyricist and librettist, is a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the American Theatre Hall of Fame. After studying journalism at Columbia, he joined Goldwyn Pictures in 1919 as director of publicity and advertising and continued in that position after a merger created Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1924. But before that, while an undergraduate, Dietz worked part-time for the Philip Goodman advertising agency, and that’s where the saga of the lion logo began.

As Dietz explained in his 1974 autobiography, Dancing in the Dark, “Goodman met Samuel Goldwyn and he became Goodman’s client. Goldwyn needed a trademark for his film company and asked us to design one. He did his producing in Fort Lee, N.J., and his home office was on Fifth Avenue and 40th Street, opposite the library lions. One would think that the Goldwyn trademark stemmed from such an obvious influence, but Leo the Lion, with the Latin Ars Gratia Artis (Art for Art’s Sake) decorating his proud dome, was my idea, not Andrew Carnegie’s. I got the idea from the laughing lion decoration in the college comic, The Jester. The lion used in the magazine was a symbol of Columbia ... which in turn was taken from the lion on the crest of King’s College. That’s powerful lineage enough for a film company.”

Dietz went on to write the words to more than 500 songs, many of them with Arthur Schwartz, and collaborated on musicals with composers such as Jerome Kern and George Gershwin. He became MGM’s VP for publicity in 1940 and stayed in that role until his 1957 retirement. According to his 1983 obituary in The New York Times, “he was said to have been the man who made Greta Garbo’s line ‘I want to be alone’ world-famous.”

Johnson Honored by Black Alumni Council

Peter V. Johnson, director of enrollment group special projects and special assistant to the dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, was honored on February 17 as a recipient of the Black Alumni Council's 2016 Heritage Award. The award is given annually to Columbians who have “made significant contributions both to the University and the larger world, and [have] demonstrated a consistent dedication to the Black community.” In accepting the award, Johnson said, “My 33 years here have been ‘A Love Supreme.’ You have challenged me, taught me, supported me, proven to me that this is the best college in the world.”
Mini-Mini-Core:
Traveling Tales

Stories make sense of the world around us, organize our experience and teach us about worlds and perspectives far different from our own. Patricia Grieve, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor of the Humanities, explored how three stories did this in their time — and how they still resonate today — in her three-part Mini-Core Course “Traveling Tales: 1001 Nights, Boccaccio’s Decameron, and Cervantes’ Exemplary Tales.” Among the points of connection between the works is the powerful role of women. Herewith, some examples:

One Thousand and One Nights or Arabian Nights; author: Anonymous

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** The collection of stories includes many set in Baghdad during the reign of the caliph Harun al-Rashid (Aaron the Just; 786–809). It’s famous for the voice of its storyteller, Shahrazad, the daughter of the vizier to King Shahrayar and the king’s latest in a string of wives.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** The stories Shahrazad tells the king are an antidote to his rage. They serve to suspend rules and buy time; as long as she can keep him interested — she stops her tales most every night at a “cliffhanger moment” — he won’t execute her in the morning. Her storytelling is also therapeutic. It regulates the king’s desire until he is satisfied narratively (and also satisfied sexually, as he’s sleeping with her) and is ready both to rule the kingdom properly and be monogamous with her.

The Decameron; author: Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–75)

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** Composed ca. 1348–53, The Decameron is famously dedicated to “the Ladies” and — like its predecessor, Arabian Nights — it showcases women in a full range of behaviors. They often stand up for their right to possess sexual desire and to have it fulfilled.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** One notable character is Ghismonda, a young widow whose father refuses to find her a new husband. She then takes a virtuous young man, whom her father has praised in court, as her lover. Even so, when her father discovers the trysts, he has the young man killed. Ghismonda’s beautifully crafted, legalistic speech on codified law versus natural law — the right of a young widow to find sexual fulfillment after having known conjugal love — precedes her suicide in protest over her father’s actions.

Exemplary Tales; author: Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547–1616)

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** As in Don Quixote, Cervantes gives voice to the marginalized and the disenfranchised, and his Exemplary Tales (1613) show a variety of women as “redeemptive heroines” whose words and actions serve to correct or redeem the behavior of men.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** Preciosa is the heroine of the novella “The Little Gypsy Girl.” Kidnapped as a baby from her aristocratic mother and raised by gypsies, she astonishes everyone with her innate wisdom, wit, charm, poise and beauty. Her lessons to a besotted aristocratic suitor teach him (and the reader) about how women should be courted and treated, and about the philosophical elegance and beauty of poetry.

MINI-CORE COURSES are class series that offer College alumni the opportunity to revisit the Core in a lecture/seminar-like setting with a distinguished faculty member and other alumni. Topics relate to the Core Curriculum but explore new texts or ideas. For offerings and other information, go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore.

CCT Web Extras

Read recent articles about ISIS and its claims to the heritage of the legendary Caliph Harun al-Rashid (Aaron the Just): college.columbia.edu/cct.
WKCR Marks 75 Years

It was 75 years ago, at 8:30 p.m. on February 24, 1941, to be precise, that radio station CURC officially went on the air. Broadcasting from the Hamilton Hall Annex, a recording of “Roar, Lion, Roar” was heard by AM listeners in Hartley, Wallach (then called Livingston) and John Jay Halls. That was followed by light classical music, sports, jazz, campus news and symphonic music.

It was the maiden "official" broadcast of the Columbia University Radio Club — an unofficial debut had taken place on December 31, 1940, when there was a microphone line at the New Year’s Eve party in the John Jay dining hall. “Of course, everyone was at the party, so there is no record of a listener to that first transmission,” club president William Hutchins ’39, SEAS’41, told CCT for a WKCR retrospective published in 1986.

Granted its FCC license on October 10, 1941, CURC became WKCR (King’s Crown Radio) in 1946 when the FCC officially recognized college radio stations by giving them call letters. Since 1956, WKCR has been broadcasting to the metropolitan New York area in FM at its current signal, 89.9 megacycles. For more on WKCR then and now, go to cc-seas.columbia.edu/wkcr.

Dean’s Scholarship Reception

Nearly 450 scholarship donors and student recipients gathered in Alfred Lerner Hall’s Roone Arledge Auditorium on February 9 for the Dean’s Scholarship Reception, an annual event where donors and students can bond over shared College experiences. At right, from left: Amaris Hemmings ’19, a recipient of the Columbia University Club Foundation Scholarship Fund, speaks with Bernd Brecher ’54, JRN’55, a donor to that fund; donor Philip L. Milstein ’71 (far left) and Francois Anderson ’12 (second from left), a recipient of the Philip and Cheryl Milstein Scholarship, spoke on the importance of financial aid, while Dean James J. Valentini thanked donors and Catherine M.W. Jenkinson ’16 (second from right) shared how scholarships transformed her College experience.
Sara Sakowitz ’18 has turned kitchen counters in more than 40 states into makeshift labs through a science kit subscription service for kids that she runs from her single in Wallach. Each month, subscribers to Sakowitz’s Blue Moon Box — nearly 600 at press time — receive a kit with materials for conducting three or four experiments that revolve around one theme. Past themes have been material science and weather, with projects ranging from a cornstarch-based substance that mimics quicksand (“My favorite aspect of household science is getting your hands dirty,” Sakowitz says) to a DIY anemometer — a device used to measure wind speed. In each kit is a picture book/manual, written by Sakowitz, that features a cast of school-aged characters who use science to solve mysteries and answer questions.

“I wanted kids to see characters just like them having adventures and exploring scientific concepts,” says Sakowitz.

Sakowitz, who transferred to the College after a year in Engineering, developed the concept for Blue Moon Box during winter break 2014-15 while pondering ways to encourage a friend’s younger sister to explore science. To her astonishment, the company’s Facebook page surpassed 4,000 “Likes” within a few weeks, and in April 2015 she was invited to pitch her business idea to investor Kevin O’Leary from the reality show *Shark Tank* on *Good Morning America.* “It was all a bit of a shock,” she says.

A Kickstarter campaign that raised close to $16,000 allowed Sakowitz to ship the first boxes in June. Save for the artist who illustrates the picture books and freelancers she might hire for other tasks, Sakowitz runs Blue Moon Box singlehandedly, from curating each kit to keeping track of subscriptions to managing the company’s social media accounts. Sakowitz did enlist a fulfillment center to assemble the kits, which entails measuring and packaging ingredients, after she overran her family’s Manhattan apartment in the process of putting together the first 377 boxes herself.

Sakowitz also is involved with the startup Liongram, a student-run, Columbia-exclusive cookiegram/candygram service for campus residents that launched in December. She attributes her newfound business aptitude to her experience as a member of the student group Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs and as a participant in a business accelerator program run by the Business School called Innovation and Entrepreneurship @ Columbia. (In 2015, she was the first first-year accepted into the program.)

Blue Moon Box earned Sakowitz a spot on *Crain’s New York Business* “20 Under 20” list in November, just a few days after she took first place in Engineering’s annual Fast Pitch competition for entrepreneurs. For Sakowitz, one of the biggest thrills has been simply seeing photos and videos of children enjoying their science kits. “Figuring out how I’m going to teach kids how to do these experiments and what they mean is the most exciting part,” she says.

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website.
In Memoriam: Allan Silver, Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Professor Emeritus of Sociology Allan Silver died on November 14, 2015, in New York City. He was 85.

Silver was born in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, in 1930, and showed an intense devotion to intellectualism and culture even in high school. He earned a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D. in political sociology from Michigan in 1954, 1961 and 1963 respectively, taking a break from his undergraduate studies to serve with the Army in the Korean War in 1951.

While living in England from 1957 to 1960, Silver worked for a market research firm and, while there, developed a collaborative relationship with Robert McKenzie, a political sociology professor at The London School of Economics. They conducted a study of British working-class conservatives, which became the basis for Silver's dissertation-turned-book, Angels in Marble: Working Class Conservatives in Urban England, co-authored with McKenzie and published in 1968.

Silver joined the Columbia faculty in 1964, quickly becoming known for his commitment to and respect for his students. Having joined Columbia at a time of political and social turmoil, Silver nonetheless remained dedicated both to the students and to the institution, working to mediate relations between the administration and students during the demonstrations of Spring 1968. His teaching in the Core Curriculum included both Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities. More recently, in the context of the Global Core requirement, Silver worked with colleague Rachel Chung to develop a course on ideals and practices of friendship in East Asia and the West; they were scheduled to teach it again this spring.

Silver's work has been published in the American Journal of Sociology and in essay collections on a range of topics from political sociology of the Hebrew bible and studies of citizenship in the United States to a foundational text on the nature of friendship.

Silver also taught at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences in Paris, Meiji University in Tokyo, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Wisconsin. Even after his formal retirement in 2009, Silver continued to teach in the Core Curriculum and serve as a graduate mentor.

More recently, Silver pursued two other lines of research. One, reflecting the influence of his mentor Morris Janowitz, concerned the historically changing relationships among military institutions, war and democratic citizenship. Silver analyzed the implications of the decline of mass conscript armies in the post-WWII era for the practice of democratic citizenship. He led a lengthy campaign for the return of ROTC to Columbia and other elite universities from which it had been banned after 1968 and was gratified when — in the aftermath of the opening of the military to gay recruits — Columbia and other Ivy League campuses voted to allow the return of ROTC in recent years. The second line of research that preoccupied Silver late in life was the analysis of traditional Jewish texts in light of the concerns of modern political theory.

Silver is survived by his wife, Victoria Koroteyeva LAW'06, a professor at SIPA, and nieces, Marilyn Kravitz and Elaine Arena.

— Aiyana K. White '18 and Lisa Palladino

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- Keynote Speaker Robert Siegel ’68 of NPR’s All Things Considered
- Mini-Core Classes on Virgil’s Aeneid, the mysteries of the universe and more
Fencing Wins Ivies Again

Columbia fencing retained its position atop the Ivy League in 2016, but this time in a pair of three-way ties after the two-day Ivy League Round-Robins at Cornell February 6-7. The men's team earned its third consecutive title by finishing tied with Penn and Princeton at 4-1, while the women won their second straight crown, sharing it with Harvard and Princeton at 5-1.

It was the 37th time Columbia has either won or shared the men's Ivy League championship and the 10th time it has won or shared the women's crown.

"It just shows the depth and strength of fencing in the Ivy League," head coach Michael Aufrichtig told Spectator of the fact that three teams shared both Ivy titles. "It's really no surprise. There are so many strong teams and strong fencers, it's so close now.

"What I told the team today was, 'Winners win. And we're winners.' And they didn't forget that."

The Lions will try to defend their NCAA Championship at Brandeis March 24-27, after taking part in the NCAA Regionals at Vassar on March 13. Columbia won its 14th NCAA title a year ago, its first under Aufrichtig.

Eight Columbia fencers earned 2016 All-Ivy honors, with Calvin Liang '19, Michael Costin '17, Jackie Dubrovich '16 and Sara Taffel BC'17 making the First Team and Geoffrey Lose '16, Nolen Scroggs '19, Jake Hoyle '16 and Ilana Solomon '19 earning spots on the Second Team.

The men's team beat Princeton 15-12 and Yale 18-9 but lost to Penn 15-12 on Day One, then defeated Harvard 16-11 and Brown 21-6 on Day Two. The sabre team led the way with Liang (10-2), Costin (10-4) and Lose (9-4) finishing second, third and fourth behind Penn's Shaul Gordon '16 (14-1).

The women beat Cornell 21-6, Penn 18-9 and Yale 21-6 but dropped a 17-10 decision to Princeton on Day One. On Day Two, the Lions defeated Harvard 19-8 and Brown 21-6 to gain their share of the title. The foil team dominated the opposition, with Dubrovich posting an undefeated 18-0 record and Taffel going 14-1.

"Jackie was fantastic," Aufrichtig said of Dubrovich's weekend performance. "The crazy thing with our foil team is generally whoever we put in, we know that they're going to be able to do well."

Ten days later, Scroggs was crowned the Junior Olympic Champion in men's foil and Porter Hesslegrave '18 took home the silver medal in men's epee on February 17 in Cleveland. Scroggs won gold with a dominating 15-2 performance over William Upbin in the championship bout, posting a touch differential of +28 over his final three bouts. Hesslegrave lost a 15-12 decision to Jack Bradford in the epee championship bout.

And Jeff Spear '10, the 2008 NCAA champion in sabre, helped lead the U.S. men's team to a No. 1 world ranking for the first time since 2004 February 20-21 after winning its second World Cup title at the Warsaw World Cup.
SPRING PREVIEW: Baseball Goes for Four-Peat

Columbia's baseball team will be seeking a fourth consecutive Ivy League championship this spring after coming off what was arguably the finest season in program history. Last year, the Lions won a school-record 34 games, topped the Ivies for the third year in a row and won three games in the NCAA tournament. No team has won four straight titles since the Ivy League took over the baseball competition when Army and Navy left the Eastern Intercollegiate Baseball League in 1993.

Columbia, which has won four Ivy titles in 10 seasons under coach Brett Boretti, retains a solid core of veterans including All-Ivy First Team first baseman Nick Maguire '16 and outfielder Robb Paller '16, who each hit seven home runs last season, catcher/outfielder Logan Boyher '16 and pitchers George Thanopoulos '16, Kevin Roy '16, Ty Wiest '17 and Harrisen Egly SEAS'18. The Lions lost their top four hitters for average, however, including Ivy Co-Player of the Year Gus Craig SEAS'15, who was drafted by the Seattle Mariners and batted .322 in 34 games in the Arizona League last year.

Columbia's chief rival in the Lou Gehrig Division figures to be Penn, which lost to the Lions in a one-game playoff for the division crown a year ago. The Quakers expect to have a solid pitching staff led by Jake Cousins '17 and Mike Reitcheck '17, with shortstop Ryan Mincher '16 leading the offense. In the Red Rolfe Division, Brown, led by outfielder Rob Henry '17, who batted .363 and reached base in 37 of 39 games last season, may have the best chance to unseat Dartmouth, which has won the division title for eight consecutive years.

The Lions will begin their Ivy quest with doubleheaders against Yale on April 2 and Brown on April 3. Before that, however, they will play 18 non-league games — four at Jacksonville and 10 in California against Pepperdine, San Diego and Long Beach State before returning to the area for one game against Army and three against Connecticut. The Ivy season concludes with four games against Penn: doubleheaders at Philadelphia on April 30 and at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium on May 1.

Columbia men's tennis, which swept the Ivy League a year ago and reached the NCAA Round of 16, was ranked as high as 15th this winter by the ITA despite the loss of several key players, including four-time All-Ivy First Team selection Winston Lin '15. "We are excited to still be in the top 20, especially losing so many seniors," said head coach Bid Goswami, who welcomed a strong recruiting class and will be seeking the 11th Ivy title in his 34-year tenure.

Columbia, which will begin Ivy competition at Cornell on March 26, had two nationally ranked doubles teams as of late February: No. 15 Shawn Hadavi '17 and Richard Pham '17 and No. 20 Mike Vermeer '16 and Michal Rolski '18.

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit gocolumbialions.com.
P{}ppy Harlow ’05 was on a flight from Los Angeles to New York City last fall when terrorists bombed the streets of Paris, attacked restaurants and killed hostages inside a concert venue.

Before she even landed on November 13, her husband, Sinisa Babcic, had packed some of her winter clothes and arranged for a courier to bring the suitcase to the airport’s curb. She would join a team of about 100 other journalists from CNN to report on the terrorists, the victims and the survivors of Europe’s worst terrorist attack in 11 years.

Harlow’s first report came about 24 hours after the attacks, outside the Bataclan concert venue where 89 people were killed after ISIS extremists held members of the audience hostage for two hours. “All these other reporters were lined up like sardines, freezing. It was a blur. The information just kept coming in,” Harlow says.

In the 10 days that followed, Harlow interviewed the mother of a victim, a doctor who treated the wounded, a French senator grappling with the attack’s political repercussions and a survivor still trembling from the shock of the experience, among others. But amid the city’s frenzy of tragedy and survival, she had a personal concern: She was five months pregnant.

CNN anchor and correspondent Poppy Harlow ’05 is driven by the search for truth

BY LAUREN STEUSSY
"I thought, it's not just me [anymore]; I'm carrying another life. But I also thought, if I am scared and not going to cover something, then the terrorists win," she says.

It's with pragmatism and empathy for her subjects that Harlow does her job. The Minneapolis native and 2015 Emmy nominee for "Outstanding Business and Economic Reporting in a Regularly Scheduled Newscast" brings a voice to the broadcast world that is truth-seeking and tuned to the human experience. Whether she's parsing the details of the 2016 presidential election or interviewing the witness to a heart-wrenching crime, Harlow takes a step back to research thoroughly and listen carefully, showing every subject respect and understanding in her questions. This quality has carried throughout her career, says former CBS News president Andrew Heyward, who later became a mentor to Harlow.

"I'm always impressed by Poppy's thoughtfulness and fundamental decency — perhaps those are her heartland roots showing," Heyward says. "I've never known her to cut corners or fail to consider the responsibilities inherent in being a network journalist."

In other words, says one of her current co-workers, CNN Weekend Programming Manager Bryan Bell, "Poppy's signature is one made with human emotion. We are nothing without it."

When Harlow isn't traveling the world as a CNN correspondent, she's a weekend anchor for the network. On a day in early December, Harlow, 33, sits high behind a desk in CNN's Midtown newsroom. With 30 seconds until the end of a commercial break, she is composed and ready to begin as the newsroom buzzes around her. A producer arrives breathless to the set, and Harlow tells her, "Relax. You got time for a manicure and a pedicure." With the ease that laughter brings, the show begins.

Harlow's anchoring responsibilities extend far beyond what we see during CNN Newsroom Weekend. She and the show's executive producer plan out discussions, guests and features. When news breaks, Harlow's team pivots from planned material to the latest developments. In the week leading up to the shows, Harlow and her team are constantly identifying editorial opportunities and how the show will cover them.

Harlow recently spearheaded a regular series on her weekend show called "American Opportunity," in which she and other correspondents explored topics on income inequality. Her reasons for focusing on these inequalities have much to do with her own upbringing in a middle-class family.

"I just feel like I had this amazing shot," she says at a cafe across the street from CNN's newsroom after an anchoring shift. She quotes one of her favorite interviewees: "The way Warren Buffett puts it is, he won the ovarian lottery. He was born to parents in the right place in the right time in America to build his success. I feel like I won the ovarian lottery, and a lot of us did. We owe it to people who didn't win that lottery to figure out how they can achieve more."

It wasn't only the content of Harlow's reporting that her parents, Mary and James Harlow '69, influenced. Harlow says she inherited from them practices like taking copious notes, putting long hours into her work and instantly striking up a rapport with her subjects. Mary was a former ballerina and actress who went back to school to earn a doctorate in psychology while her two kids were young.

"Watching [my mom raise me while going to school full-time] had a very strong impact on me. I look to her as an example of someone who was ambitious..."
with her career and also focused on raising me to the best of her ability."

James was a trial attorney who never got a chance to show Poppy his old stomping grounds at the College. He was diagnosed with cancer when Poppy was 15 and died four months later.

Harlow—her given name is Katharine Julia; "Poppy" is a childhood nickname that stuck—doesn't recall hearing stories of her father's time at Columbia. But even without saying much about education and hard work, he instilled in her these values, along with a deep reverence for family, she says. She remembers the family's long drives to their Walker, Minn., cabin. When he would drive her to skating practice in the morning, the two would listen to "Prairie Home Companion" on the radio. Memories like these reflect the man she feels lucky to have had in her life for 15 years, she says.

When CNN asked Harlow to participate in a special last year, "The Person Who Changed My Life," she knew she wanted her father to be the focus of her segment. Through it, she learned her father was just as studious as she was, and spent more hours in the library than the student revolutionaries of that era. "While Jim was sympathetic, he was, like Poppy, focused on getting his work done, and frustrated that he couldn't get into the library when the school shut down," Mary says.

Attending Columbia was one way Harlow could remain connected to her father. "When he died, I think anything I could do to be close to him, I did," she says. "I know I took some of the same classes as he did because of the Core Curriculum, so he was definitely in my mind all the time."

As a political science major at the College, classes like "Game Theory" with Robert Jervis and extracurriculars like the Columbia Political Union fed her curiosity. She originally planned to go to law school but entertained the idea of journalism, interning at CBS MarketWatch for three years of her college career.

"I loved it—it was everything from the mundane transcribing of interviews to running physical tapes across the street to going on shoots," she says. "So I decided I was going to do this news thing. If it didn't work out, I knew law school would be there."

Harlow graduated magna cum laude from the College. Her first job was at CBS NewsPath, where she gathered video footage from the CBS archives, transcribed interviews, and helped producers and reporters on shoots and with research. This led to a broadcast reporting job at local television station NY1, covering Staten Island and New Jersey. Next it was Forbes.com, where she was a video correspondent. Along the way she built up expertise in financial reporting and a Rolodex full of valuable sources. It has helped set CNN Newsroom Weekend apart from other network shows, says Bell, CNN's weekend programming manager.

"She has deep contacts within that sector," he says. "The show is often able to shine a light on an issue that few other news programs can touch in the same way."

Getting to CNNMoney from Forbes.com required a set of qualities wholly her own. Harlow describes an interview she had with former CNNMoney Executive
Producer Caleb Silver as a test of persistence. When the interview with Silver was cut short, Harlow joined him on the elevator and followed him into the street. “I always think, what do I have to lose?” she says. “That’s what I think going into interviews or trying to get an interview.” It’s a quality she hopes to teach her daughter, due in April, from an early age, she says.

Silver saw something more than persistence, though, and he saw it before Harlow ever stepped into the elevator and onto the street with him. He was taken by her approachability: “She could talk to anyone and make it seem like the conversation they were having was the most important, yet most natural, conversation they could possibly have,” Silver says. “That is not a teachable skill. It comes from a person’s natural curiosity and presence.”

In 2008, Silver hired Harlow as a correspondent during the early stages of CNNMoney’s online video channel. At the time, producing engaging online videos for the personal finance and financial news website wasn’t as simple as publishing broadcast clips on the web. Segments that did well on air wouldn’t necessarily succeed online. Harlow describes it as a proximity issue: “When someone is staring at their computer screen or their phone, it’s a little more intimate. They maybe don’t want to see talking heads. They want you to take them there.”

Harlow knew this from her time at Forbes.com and CBS NewsPath. Silver recognized Harlow’s innate ability to connect both on-air and online, but had to convince the network’s senior executives that she would excel “despite her youth and relative lack of experience,” he says. “She proved me right within about 10 seconds” of her first televised report.

Harlow’s first 4½ years at CNNMoney were spent online, with many of the segments making it to air as well. She was promoted to CNN as a correspondent in April 2012 and then as an anchor in February 2015.

Upon her return from maternity leave, Harlow doesn’t expect to stop traveling and reporting. “I love my job and gain a lot personally from it,” she says. And she anticipates her husband, a senior manager at Ernst & Young, will play an important role in their balancing work and family life. But Harlow acknowledges motherhood may change the way she works — it was certainly on her mind in the early days of the Paris attacks, knowing she had another life to look after in what many other reporters described as a “war zone.” Harlow believes being a mother will give her reporting a deeper significance, whether it’s about policies, justice or the “unsung hero,” she says.

“I have these discussions now because I’m passionate about them. Those ambitions haven’t changed because
of [my daughter], but I think I will feel responsibility as a parent to tell the important stories I hope will help shape the world she grows up in,” she says.

In much of her reporting, it’s clear that Harlow is putting herself in the shoes of her subjects. This was apparent in her coverage of August’s shooting of reporter Alison Parker and photojournalist Adam Ward in Roanoke, Va., CNN’s Bell said.

“When the shooting occurred, the expected media swarm descended onto the mountain town, and with it, throngs of reporters and cameramen and bright lights,” Bell says. “Live shots were focused on the shooter, the madman behind the trigger who cut short these lives.”

But Harlow and her teammate in charge of arranging interviews, Jennifer Henderson, instead pivoted the story to Parker’s father, Andy, and CNN aired Harlow’s interview with him in a 30-minute special. “It’s because of that skill — of knowing that Andy Parker’s story is one that deserves to be heard — that Poppy was able to connect with him,” Bell says. “We spent 20 minutes listening to him, an eternity in television time. It is that devotion, that ability to capture conflict, emotion, joy and sadness, that makes Poppy so special.”

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A Culture of Creation

Entrepreneurship is flourishing at Columbia College

Launching businesses and joining startups have emerged as tantalizing routes and viable career paths for the Columbia College student eager to have an immediate impact on a cause, create a product or service, or enjoy a high level of input in the workplace.

Heralding this trend is a wave of initiatives that provide avenues for undergraduates to explore entrepreneurship. They include a College-sponsored, undergraduate-only challenge in the University-wide, annual Columbia Venture Competition (CVC), which now awards $250,000; a new academic course on the foundations of entrepreneurship; and internship programs focused on startups. Such initiatives are typically fostered in some way by Columbia Entrepreneurship, an administrative body launched in July 2013 at the direction of President Lee C. Bollinger for the purpose of supporting and cultivating entrepreneurial endeavors across the University. Columbia Entrepreneurship works with all schools, as well as with alumni and student clubs such as the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), an undergraduate entrepreneurship club that has grown exponentially in the last three years.

David Lerner, director of Columbia Entrepreneurship and an adjunct associate professor at the Business School who has been with the University for approximately a decade, notes that the last five or six years have “seen an incredible explosion of interest and enthusiasm around startups and entrepreneurship around the University, but especially at the College.” That surge, he adds, reflects a national trend attributable to resources made available by technology and the reduced cost of launching a business.

“It’s never been more accessible or affordable to start a company,” says Lerner. “The cost has plummeted and, with the information that’s available because of the Internet and blogs, it’s a perfect storm of opportunity for younger folks to get involved.”

Perhaps most indicative of the entrepreneurial milieu that has developed at the College is a recent crop of student-run businesses.

In January, Katherine Jin ’16, Kevin Tyan ’16 and Jason Kang SEAS’16 — the team behind the startup Kinnos — made Forbes’ “30 Under 30” in Healthcare list. The trio was recognized for inventing Highlight, a powder that turns bleach blue, making the otherwise colorless disinfectant visible and therefore more effective as a decontamination agent. [Editor’s note: See “Student Spotlight,” Winter 2015–16.] The news came a month or so after Sara Sakowitz ’18 took the $2,500 first prize in the Engineering School’s annual Fast Pitch competition and was included in Crain’s New York Business “20 Under 20” list for her own startup, Blue Moon Box, a science kit subscription service for kids. [Editor’s note: See “Student Spotlight,” this issue.]

Sakowitz and Jackie Luo T7, both of whom have leadership roles in CORE, also are among the eight undergraduates who run Liongram, a campus cookie and candy delivery service that launched in December. “We wanted to get more on-campus businesses going,” says Luo, who hopes Liongram’s presence will encourage other students to “have fun and get some experience running something on their own in a low-pressure environment.”

College students and recent graduates who have launched businesses or are on the verge of doing so can enter the CVC, a campuswide business plan competition that has engaged more than 1,000 students and alumni from all Columbia schools and from across the world since its inception in April 2009. In 2015, CVC expanded to five tracks, each sponsored by an individual school or other University entity. First place in the inaugural Undergraduate Challenge went to Shriya Samavai ’15 and Lauren Field BC’16, founders of Studio Lucien (formerly Academy Of), a clothing line that takes cues from famous works of art. Kinnos took third place.

Samavai believes her company has benefited not only from the $25,000 prize, which she and Fields are using to produce their first piece — a rain jacket inspired by Katsushika Hokusai’s Great Wave off Kanagawa — but also from their experience of creating a busi-

Illustrations by Choo Chung
ness plan and pitching their concept to potential investors. “We had an idea at the onset but we didn’t have the full vision,” Samavai says. “The contest helped us focus and think about what exactly it is we’re trying to do.”

Dean James J. Valentini notes that “enthusiasm for entrepreneurship is very high among our students” and believes that Samavai and Field’s win demonstrates “that students can build their own futures, build their own success, that they can use their creative thinking and analytical skills to turn an idea into reality. That’s essentially what we teach in the Core, and that’s what entrepreneurship is all about.”

College alumni who have graduated within the last five years can enter any of the other CVC challenges and apply to the Columbia Startup Lab, a co-working space subsidized by the University that opened in July 2014 at the WeWork building in SoHo West. Admitted startups can use the space for up to a year and have access to onsite workshops and mentors. Of 71 seats, the College has 10. Among the alumni who have worked or are working out of the Startup Lab are Carolyn Yim ’11, founder and CEO of Plyknits, which gives shoppers direct access to her family’s knitwear line; Sam Bodkin ’12, founder of Groupmuse, a social network that matches people who want to volunteer their home for a classical musical performance with musicians and guests; and Cooper Pickett ’10, CEO and co-founder of content creation service Longneck & Thunderfoot.

Richard Witten ’75, former vice-chair of the University Board of Trustees and special adviser on entrepreneurship to Bollinger, says that when it comes to the Startup Lab and other entrepreneurial initiatives, Columbia Entrepreneurship’s approach has been to “let folks shine, create leverage for them and provide resources for them to do their magic,” adding that he believes that as a result, “Columbia is getting a reputation for being a place where entrepreneurs can thrive.”

In response to the growing interest in entrepreneurship among undergraduates, this semester saw the debut of a course for College and General Studies students called “Venturing to Change the World.” The weekly, three-hour seminar seeks to expose students to the intellectual foundations and practical aspects of entrepreneurship. Sixty students are enrolled in the course, which is taught by Damon Phillips, the Lument Family Professor of Social Enterprise at the Business School, and Amol Sarva ’98, a prolific technology entrepreneur who co-founded Virgin Mobile USA and Peek. The syllabus is divided into three modules: thinking (Who is an entrepreneur?), creating (What are the elements of a successful startup?) and doing (How to pick a co-founder).

“Students have expressed interest in a course like this for several years, particularly students in CORE,” says Valentini. “This is a course that is very important for us to offer. I would like Columbia College students to recognize that entrepreneurship is something that any of them can do. Entrepreneurship is just an idea meeting an opportunity and turning into a successful enterprise. Columbia College students have no shortage of ideas, and the world offers no shortage of opportunities for those ideas to develop.”

Sarva, who calls entrepreneurship “a powerful force driving progress in our civilization,” believes that the course, a first at the College, was designed in the spirit of the Core Curriculum insofar as it equips students with fundamental knowledge. “Understanding [the] dynamics [of entrepreneurship] and how to harness them and put them to work for the right purposes is really important for young people,” he says.

Christopher McGarry, director for entrepreneurship in the University’s Office of Alumni and Development, notes that the participation of alumni such as Sarva, through mentorship, speaking engagements and other capacities, has been key to the growth of the entrepreneurship ecosystem at Columbia. “The startup community relies on other members
of the community itself for growth, nurturing, support, solution-finding and innovating," he says. "I look for help for young entrepreneurs and one of the best sources of help is the alumni community."

The excitement for entrepreneurship among College students has also been characterized by greater interest in careers at startups. Luo, a computer science major who aspires to start a tech company, took the Spring 2016 semester off from her academic studies to pursue an internship at Nylas, a San Francisco-based startup that develops email apps and platforms. "Tech is one of the most exciting things out there because people are constantly creating things and those things are fundamentally changing what the world is like," she says, adding that entrepreneurship and startups are appealing because they afford "personal empowerment and being able to have more of a say in what you do."

Jennifer Preis, a senior associate director at the Center for Career Education (CCE), notes that entrepreneurially-minded students often view work at existing startups as a precursor to launching their own ventures. "I've had students tell me that they look forward to seeing firsthand what it's like to execute an idea," she says.

The thirst for startup experience led CORE and CCE to launch the Startup Internship Program in 2014. Open to students in the College and several other schools, SIP places students in 12-week spring internships at startups in a range of fields and quickly has become the most popular of CCE's spring internship programs, according to Preis. In partnership with Columbia Entrepreneurship, CCE also administers the Columbia Undergraduate Startup Internship Fund, which launched in 2015. Funded by a gift from an anonymous College parent, SIP covers up to $5,000 in expenses for financial aid recipients in the College, Engineering and General Studies who are pursuing unpaid or low-paying summer internships at startups.

Last spring, through SIP, sociology major Fabio DeSouza '16 interned at Venture for America, a nonprofit that recruits recent college graduates to work at startups around the country. After graduation, he will work at one of those startups for at least two years as a Venture for America Fellow. DeSouza, who is interested in urban design and social entrepreneurship, applied to SIP after interning at a startup accelerator and finding that he preferred the work environment to other, more structured internships he had completed. "I can see the work I do directly translating into results," he says.

Preis has found that many other students also find "the distinctive culture of startups" appealing. "They are drawn to the idea of working hard, taking on a lot of responsibility and making change while ideally working on a cause important to them," she says.

Since the 2014–15 academic year, College students also have had the option of applying to be part of Res. Inc. — short for Residential Incubator — a residential community housed in the Living Learning Center. Res. Inc. occupies the eighth floor of Wallach Hall. Programming includes weekly seminar meetings, dinners and receptions with alumni entrepreneurs, visits to startups around New York City and events hosted by the LLC Faculty-in-Residence Ioannis Kynissis, associate professor of electrical engineering and an entrepreneur himself. Residents must be working toward launching their own ventures and are expected to enter both the Fast Pitch competition and the CVC.

Among the students currently living in Res. Inc. is Robert Netzorg '19, who along with Hamed Nilforoshan SEAS'19 and Eshan Agarwal SEAS'19 developed an app called Bites, which allows college students to connect with local cooks to purchase home-cooked meals. The trio took second place in the Fast Pitch competition in 2015. Netzorg applied to Res. Inc. because he wanted to be surrounded by "like-minded people," he says. "With regards to entrepreneurship, there's a culture of creation that's very interesting to me — how a group of people get together to turn their ideas into something that's feasible. It's about creating something for people to use and to make a living off of what you create."

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Fanning the entrepreneurial flame among Columbia undergraduates is CORE, which offers a robust lineup of initiatives that revolve around a three-prong mission to "inspire, educate, and launch." The group was founded in 1999, but it was not until the 2013–14 academic year that it became visibly active, to the point that it is now considered the largest secular, non-political organization on campus. That distinction is based on the group's email list, which according to president Simon Schwartz '17 reaches more than 7,000 current students and recent alumni.

Last semester, CORE launched one of its most ambitious initiatives to date: an intensive startup accelerator for New York City students called Almaworks. For nine weeks, teams from the inaugural 10 participating startups, each including at least one Columbia student or recent graduate, received free individualized advice from volunteer mentors. The fledgling companies included Swipes, an app launched by Julio Henriquez '18 and Helson Taveras '18 that allows College students to share dining hall meals. A second cohort of startups will participate in Almaworks this spring.

CORE also has partnered with Columbia Entrepreneurship on speaker events (guests have included Peter Thiel, co-founder of PayPal, and Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter and Square). CORE's other offerings include Women@CORE, a mentorship program that pairs female entrepreneurs at Columbia with female entrepreneurs in New York City. CORE also organizes Global Tech Treks — trips to tech startup hubs around the world — during Spring Break. In 2016, students visited Paris, Berlin, London and Rio de Janeiro. "I'm really proud of how much we've been able to push the student group label," says Schwartz, who has been involved with CORE since his first year at the College.

For CORE's executive board members and other student leaders, adds Schwartz, being involved with the group is akin to overseeing a small company: "We run it like a startup," he says. "We have to deal with problems and responsibilities but in a manner that isn't fiduciary or legally binding. We get this practicum and understanding of the mentality and some of the day-to-day challenges of running a startup."

Sakowitz, who sits on CORE's executive board, credits her involvement with the group for the success she has had with her startup. "I started Blue Moon Box because I thought it would be a cool way to get kids involved in science, which is something I've wanted to figure out how to do for a long time," she says. "Joining CORE and exploring some of the programs that Columbia offers flipped the switch and made me realize that this was something I could and would love to do."

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She writes "Student Spotlight" for CCT.
KATIE MEILI ’13 SETS HER SIGHTS ON RIO

BY CHARLOTTE MURTISHAW BC’15
Headed into the star-studded Duel in the Pool meet in December, Katie Meili ’13 was nervous, she told her coach David Marsh. She was fatigued from months of hard training, her limbs felt leaden and her muscles ached — not atypical complaints for an elite swimmer, but not a reassuring sensation going into a competitive meet. The American squad was gunning for its seventh consecutive victory at the biennial, trans-continental matchup, but as the meet unfolded, the European swimmers were keeping things close.

It was time for a pep talk. “I told Katie, ‘Here’s the truth of the matter: You’re training better right now than at any time last year,’” Marsh recalls. “’Last year, at your best, you weren’t able to do what you’re doing right now.’”

As it turns out, no one at their best could do what a tired Meili was about to do. Pushing exhaustion aside, she emerged from the meet with an American record in the 100-meter breaststroke, her prime event, and gave her world-record-setting 400m medley relay team the edge it needed to pull out the win.

Riding the wave of a breakthrough season that included a gold medal at the Pan Am Games, Meili cemented her standing as the United States’ top sprint breaststroke prospect at the Duel. Her standout summer had not been a fluke: Over the course of several months, Meili shot from a middle-of-the-pack, dark-horse candidate for the U.S. national team to a legitimate medal contender at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics, coming up in August.

But talking about medals is premature; first, she needs to make the U.S. Olympic team, a task said by some to be even harder than medaling at the Olympics. This summer, America’s most competitive swim meet will light up (perhaps literally — in 2012, it featured flames spurting from the deck) Omaha’s CenturyLink Center from June 26 to July 3, drawing Meili and more than 1,000 other swimmers, most of whom grew up dreaming of reaching that elite level.

Meili spent her childhood in Colleyville, a suburb of Fort Worth, Texas, where, at 8, she met her initial summer forays into competitive swimming with disinterest and consternation. Ribbons proved to be the key incentivizer, and, eye on the prize, Meili went from a non-finisher to third place in a single meet, and subsequently from summer league to a year-round club team.
She was a serious student and a dedicated swimmer throughout high school. It was at the 2008 Junior Nationals, the top annual meet for swimmers under 18, that she was first scouted by Diana Caskey, Columbia’s longtime head coach for women’s swimming. “She was good, but she wasn’t, ‘Oh my gosh, she’s going to blow the doors off at championships,’” Caskey says. “It was more like, ‘She’s a great match [for Columbia] — her personality, the commitment of her parents, all those things that go into recruiting the Ivy athlete.’” Though obviously talented, Meili’s focus didn’t really sharpen until halfway through her collegiate career. “She lived the college life for her freshman and sophomore years, and then she decided she wanted to turn up the heat and really make her mark [in swimming],” Caskey says. “College is tough. There’s so much to do and so many different ways to spend your time. It takes a lot of sacrifice to fully invest in yourself and your sport.”

From there, Meili’s swimming career took off as she posted school and Ivy League records, won “Swimmer of the Meet” honors at the 2013 Ivy championships and the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Award, awarded to the top graduating male and female Columbia athletes. She capped her college career on an even larger stage, snagging a bronze medal and All-American honors in the 100-yard breaststroke at the 2013 Division I NCAA Swimming Championships, a feat almost unheard of for an Ivy Leaguer, not to mention a swimmer who didn’t even make NCAAs until the year prior.

It’s impossible to touch on Meili’s success without mentioning Cristina Teuscher ’00, a larger-than-life presence in the annals of Columbia athletics and especially Columbia swimming. Teuscher — the last female Olympian swimmer from the Ivies — entered Columbia having already won gold at the Olympics and exited a multi-time NCAA champ and Honda Sports Award winner, with more pool, school, Ivy and NCAA records to her name than is reasonable to count.

“There is no one in the league like her, past or present, and there will most likely be no one like her in the near future,” a Spectator sports reporter wrote in November following Teuscher’s graduation, and indeed, her name dominated the Uris Pool record board for years after her departure. But less than a decade later came Meili, who started threatening the records that were supposed to stand for time immemorial, before making waves at NCAAs.

The podium finish at NCAAs would have made a storybook ending to an unlikely career, but Meili didn’t stop there. Instead, she moved on to Act II. Taking a gamble, she plunged into the world of professional swimming — hardly a secure career move for anyone not named Michael Phelps or Ryan Lochte — and moved to Charlotte, N.C., to join Marsh’s invitation-only swimming group SwimMAC Carolina Team Elite (which includes Lochte, an 11-time Olympic medalist).

“It’s a serious longshot,” says Caskey of the leap of faith it takes to pursue a pro career. “There are a lot of people gunning for that type of success, and it’s very challenging, very difficult, on many levels.”

“When I was coming to the end of my [college] career,” says Meili, “I had had so much fun that I wasn’t really ready to give it up.” Given the go-ahead to join Marsh’s post-grad group and a little logistical luck, “It was like, ‘OK, this is too perfect, I think the universe is trying to tell me something.’”

Marsh’s team set her up with a host family that allowed her to live with them rent-free, and through family connections she found a job flexible enough to accommodate her practice schedule.

When she finally arrived at SwimMAC Carolina’s loaded Team Elite — Marsh (above left, with Meili) won’t even take on a swimmer unless he believes he or she has a serious shot at an Olympic Trials final, and most are aiming for an Olympic medal — Meili had the unusual experience of feeling, for once, like a fish out of water.

“I thought, ‘Oh, I don’t really belong here, I’m not the best, I’ve never made the Olympics and I’ve never made a national team.’ I was walking around with this ‘I don’t belong’ attitude,” Meili says.

And, at least at the beginning, Marsh agrees that her talent didn’t set her apart. “Swimming-wise, I would say
she was very average, so she didn't stand out at all in the water," he says. "She just worked hard every day and came in with a smile."

The workload that goes into being a part of Marsh's elite group is daunting. As a professional swimmer, Meili can spend up to six hours a day in the pool and weight room during double-practice sessions. Marsh, who developed dozens of Olympians while coaching at Auburn, is famous for his demanding workouts, which can involve anything from Pilates to rope-climbing and always involve a "no pain, no gain" mindset. Because of Meili's laser focus and dedication, Marsh says he more frequently has to warn her to back off from training too hard than anything else.

As promised in Rocky montages, the grueling work began to pay off, and Meili started gaining momentum, both in the pool and out. Her rising profile brought in endorsement deals, which enabled her to leave her day job at Direct ChassisLink (the firm continues to support her through sponsorship). She also was able to get a place of her own, which she shares with teammate Cammile Adams and their one-eyed cat, Boo.

The international meet rosters for this summer were based on the results of the 2014 U.S. National Championships, where Meili finished fifth in the 100m breaststroke — not enough for an invitation to the FINA World Championships, but enough to earn her a bid to the Pan-American Games, to be held the week prior in Toronto.

There, Meili won the 100m breaststroke in an attention-grabbing 1:05.64, bettering her personal best by nearly a second and breaking the meet record by two seconds. It was the third-fastest time in the world last season and would have been enough to win the gold at the World Championships the next week.

"It made me feel like what I was doing was justifiable and it wasn't a delusion — it was a reality," she says. "That was more of a relief than anything, because I thought, OK, I'm here, I can do this, and now I can really focus on getting better instead of focusing on convincing other people I belong."

According to her friends, though, she's still trying to grow into the role of world-class swimmer rather than Ivy-educated underdog.

"Katie has had to remind herself that she has done the work, and she is as good as she is," says Adams, a 2012 Olympian. "Sometimes I have to say, 'Katie, come on, you're one of the fastest swimmers in the world — how cool is that?'"

Even now, having made a national team, Meili recognizes that she sticks out because of her unusual pedigree, but says she's proud to represent Columbia. "I love telling people if I hadn't have gone [to Columbia], I wouldn't be the person I am today and I don't think I'd still be swimming."
With arduous daily workouts, Meili is the first to admit that following her dream isn’t easy. And it’s not as if she’s never thought about what would have happened if she hadn’t traded her cap and gown for a swim cap and training suit.

“Of course, I can imagine it,” Meili says. “I miss the people I went to school with, and I really miss New York. This is hard. I get to do incredible things, but it is very stressful, physically and mentally. I am really happy I did what I did, but I also do miss the life that I probably would have had.”

In the end, the sacrifices Meili has made will hinge on a narrow window at the Olympic Trials — about a minute, give or take, the time it takes to swim two laps in a 50m pool. While Meili intends to swim a full program, the 100m breaststroke is her signature event and her best chance at a trip to the Olympics. Aside from that, an impressive performance at the Austin Grand Prix in January put her in contention for a 200m breaststroke berth, and she’ll also be vying for one of the 400m freestyle relay slots that are awarded to the top six finishers in the individual 100m free.

“You only have one certain day, and you either win or you don’t,” Adams says. “She has to show up on race day.”

As a make-or-break moment, the Olympic Trials are a perfect stage for upstarts, and it wouldn’t be the high-stakes meet it is without some upsets. The wise know to temper their expectations, especially in a sport where the difference between medalists and losers often lies in fractions of seconds. “It’s possible I’ll have the best swim of my life and still not make the Olympic team,” Meili says matter-of-factly.

What’s more, there’s always the unforeseen. At the 2012 Trials, Meili broke her hand while warming up and lost her chance to qualify for the London Olympics.

Regardless of the outcome in Omaha, Meili plans to continue competing on the professional circuit through the 2017 season, after which she’ll decide whether to keep swimming or go back to school — right now, she’s thinking about earning a law degree.

In any case, she has no regrets about her choice. “Most swimmers will tell you that the Olympics are the ultimate goal,” she says. “But I think it’s important to find ways to keep it valuable, even if you don’t consider the Olympics ... Every day I want to feel like I’m really invested in and learning as much from the process, and getting as much happiness out of every single day as I would making the Olympic team.

“If it weren’t to happen, of course I would be disappointed, but I wouldn’t leave feeling like I had just wasted two years of my life. I really think I’m at the point where I’m never going to say that. This journey has been incredible.”

Charlotte Murtishaw BC’15 is a Student Conservation Association intern in Nebraska, where she is a volunteer coordinator for the National Park Service.
Roger F. Pasquier ’69, whose Painting Central Park (Vendome Press, $60) is excerpted here, has also authored several books on birds, including Masterpieces of Bird Art: 700 Years of Ornithological Illustration (Abbeville Press, 1991). A longtime birder and conservationist, Pasquier spends hours in Central Park, the same park where he played as a child and a park that, as a recent Wall Street Journal profile of Pasquier notes, is many New Yorkers’ “real backyard.” Pasquier’s newest volume includes a range of artful depictions of this green refuge from sometime New Yorkers (or New York transients) such as Marc Chagall, Edward Hopper, Childe Hassam, Richard Estes, David Hockney, George Grosz and Helen Frankenthaler.

— Rose Kernochan BC’82

Julius Bien, after John Bachmann, Central Park (Summer), 1865; Color Lithograph on paper; Museum of the City of New York (pp. 36–37)
I have spent much of my life in Central Park, first as an infant in a perambulator, then as a child climbing on the rock outcrops and roller skating around the Conservatory Water, later exploring the Ramble when I was old enough to be allowed to go alone, and watching birds throughout the park ever since my early teens. Having studied art history in college and graduate school, I have long wanted to explore Central Park through the lens of art. But I first thought seriously of the possibilities during the few years I lived far from it, in Washington, D.C. There, nothing made me more homesick than looking at George Bellows’s Bethesda Fountain at the Hirshhorn Museum. When I finally found the time to take up the subject, I first wondered whether there were in fact enough really good paintings of the park, by enough artists, throughout the years since the park was created in the 1860s. To my happy amazement, I rapidly found more than eighty well-known painters who have depicted Central Park. (And what fun it was to discover their depictions of the stages of my own park life — as an infant with a nursemaid, as a child climbing the rocks and watching the model boats on the Conservatory Water, even as a birdwatcher.)

Not all of the painters I found are included here — some, in fact, did much better work elsewhere — and I have featured some less familiar artists whose paintings have historic value documenting the park’s evolving landscape and popular activities. I took photocopies of many paintings into Central Park, in the hope of finding precisely where the artists stood. I enjoyed thinking of myself as following, on a small scale, the advice of the author of The Oregon Trail, Francis Parkman, who said that the historian must always see firsthand the places in his narrative. I was surprised at how often I could quite literally put myself in the painter’s place. And I enjoyed discovering how some artists deliberately rearranged pieces of the landscape for their own expressive purposes.

The whole process of searching for the artists, their paintings, and the places they painted, and then looking for the broader patterns or historic interest the paintings may reveal, has given me a new appreciation for the park I thought I knew so well.

From Painting Central Park by Roger F. Pasquier (c) 2015. Used with permission of The Vendome Press.
George Bellows, *A Day in June*, 1913; Oil on canvas; Detroit Institute of Arts (pp. 146–147)

Richard Estes, *Sunday Afternoon in the Park*, 1989; Oil on canvas; Private collection (pp. 166–167)
Edward Hopper, Bridal Path, 1939; Oil on canvas; Private collection (pp. 118–119)

Alex Katz, Bicycle Rider (Bicycling in Central Park), 1982; Color lithograph; Metropolitan Museum of Art (p. 121)
The Great God Pan graces the lawn in front of Lewisohn Hall, but that hasn’t always been the Greek deity’s home. Alfred Corning Clark, the former head of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., ordered the piece from artist George Grey Barnard in the mid-1890s as a fountain for famed Upper West Side apartment building The Dakota, which then rejected it. The Clark family subsequently offered the sculpture to the City of New York for Central Park. The city also turned it down, and it eventually found a place at Columbia.

The statue’s first home on campus was in the northeast corner where Mudd Hall is now; it was installed in 1907 as a working fountain and sitting area. To make room for construction on the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the statue was moved in 1959 to the square in front of Schermerhorn. Construction, this time on Avery, once again forced Pan to move. He finally came to rest in front of Lewisohn in 1975.
Reunions Provide Perspective on Who You Are, Who You Were

By Douglas R. Wolf ’88

The word “reunion” can have many associations, depending on with what or with whom you are reuniting. A reunion between a parent and a child can be heartwarming. A high school reunion often includes awkward moments. But what about a college reunion? And what about a college reunion at a school not known for its school spirit but rather for a student community that is varied and diverse and often distracted by the urban metropolis steps away from its campus’ gates? As Reunion Weekend 2016 approaches (Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5), I thought about the meaning of a reunion at a school whose alumni are known as independent-minded, urbane and sometimes more socially conscious than socially unified.

Reunions at Columbia College have been happening for some time now. I have attended five for my Class of ’88, and four for my wife, Sherri Pancer Wolf ’90. I have found reunions are an informal and fun way to see old friends and classmates while being reminded of a place that was formative in my development. When I return to campus for reunion and see the Greek names running across the top of Butler Library or leisurely walk up the Low Steps — instead of racing across to make it to wrestling practice — memories of who I was as a student wash over me, even 25 years later. And when attending a cultural event as part of reunion — taking in a Broadway show or attending a ballet at the Metropolitan Opera — I’m reminded of my Core class outings while a student.

I have realized that Columbia College reunions are more than just an opportunity to see old friends and classmates — though it always amazes me how great the CC ’88 turnout is and how well everyone is doing — but they are also a rare chance to reconnect with your 20-year-old self. I assure you that as reunions go, the one between you and your younger self is quite satisfying. It is eye-opening to reflect on who you were before you read the Core Curriculum, or panicked over that final paper or heard your graduation day speaker while sitting in a sea of Columbia Blue gowns. Passing Koronet Pizza makes me smile every time, as I think of the many late nights spent there either on the way to or back from a social adventure. Standing in front of Carman Hall reminds me of freshman move-in day, a time when I still relied on my parents to help me. A reunion is as much about oneself as it is about reconnecting with a place or with others. That’s not to say, though, that it’s not also a great time to show your family the pool where you took the infamous swim test or the Butler stacks where scenes from Ghostbusters were filmed.

Since my 25th reunion in 2013, I have longed for more ways to connect to my younger self (don’t we all?) and to my Columbia friends as well as to current students and some of the College’s terrific current faculty. Waiting five years seemed too long, like I might lose momentum. Fortunately, opportunities to attend a Columbia reunion have become more frequent for me. I returned last year for my “27th reunion” while Sherri celebrated her 25th. Though I was out of my five-year cycle, I saw many familiar faces from my residence hall, from classes and from intramural teams. Surprisingly, I saw several other CC ’88ers, too. In some ways, being back with friends made through non-class connections was just as fulfilling an experience as reunion was with my own class. I was seeing myself through other lenses, beyond just my graduation year and through my interests and passions. The chance to take Mini-Core Classes and have a glass of wine on the Steps — legally — was a nice bonus.

The opportunity to reconnect with the College, with friends of all affiliations and, of course, with Koronet, is now a more regular occasion for everyone, not just for those with a spouse in another class. The Saturday of Reunion Weekend 2016 (June 4) has been renamed All-Class Reunion. Formerly known as Dean’s Day, it is an annual event for all College alumni to return to campus for Mini-Core Classes, lectures, the Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception on Low Plaza, and for mingling with alumni from your own and other classes. Whenever you want to look back in time to gain perspective on who you are today — by meeting up with old friends or former teammates, by visiting campus spots that had meaning to your student experience or by sitting in a classroom with intelligent people — I encourage you to view Reunion Weekend as something to which to look forward to. I know I do.

So please mark your calendar for Reunion Weekend 2016. If your year ends in 1 or 6, you have a four-day milestone celebration ahead of you. If you’re like me, in an “off” year, let’s make the most of our one special day at All-Class Reunion. I’ll see you then!

ROAR!
On February 26, The Legal Foundation of Washington presented Don Horowitz ’56 with the 2016 Charles A. Goldmark Distinguished Service Award, which is given annually to an individual or organization “that has assisted in providing deep and meaningful access to the justice system.” In addition to his current work as a senior adviser at the University of Washington’s Information School, Horowitz previously served as a Washington Superior Court judge and as chief counsel for the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.

Ommeed Sathe ’00 was named in The Chronicle of Philanthropy’s first 40 list of young leaders who have dedicated their careers to social change. Sathe is VP of impact investments at Prudential Financial in Newark, N.J., and oversees a $500 million portfolio of investments designed to produce both financial and social returns.

Making a Murderer, the hit documentary series co-directed by Moira Demos ’96, SOA’08, was called “Netflix’s most significant show ever” by Forbes in a January 3 article. Demos has been interviewed about the documentary — which was filmed over 10 years and follows the story of Steven Avery, currently in prison for murder — in multiple media outlets, including The New York Times and TODAY. As a result of the series, more than 507,000 people have signed online petitions in an effort to release Avery from prison. The New York Times wrote on January 11: “Really, our goal was to start a dialogue about what we viewed as important issues in our criminal justice system,’ Demos told Women in the World. ‘It was always our goal, but I think this far exceeds what we expected, and we’re thrilled that so many people — and so many different people — all over the world are watching, and responding, and having different responses.”

Eight College alumni presented at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival in January: Josh Fox ’95, director of How to Let Go of the World (And Love All the Things Climate Can’t Change); Lodge Kerrigan ’85, director, screenwriter and executive producer of The Girlfriend Experience; Katharina Otto-Bernstein ’86, SOA’92, producer of Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures; Andrew Neel ’01, director of Goat; Julia Bloch ’99, film editor of Green Room; Yana Gorskaya ’96, editor of Hunt for the Wilderpeople; Miguel Batista ’93, BUS’99, production accountant for O.J.: Made in America; and Carly Hugo ’06, producer of Suited.

Columbians made a big splash on Forbes’ 30 Under 30 list, with eight College alumni being recognized for excelling in their respective fields: Amanda Guterman ’13, founder of the online media company Slant (Media Category); Shana Knizhnik ’10, author of the popular blog Notorious R.B.G. and co-author of the book of the same name (Media Category) [Editor’s Note: See Bookshelf]; Heben Nigatu ’14, co-host of BuzzFeed’s “Another Round” podcast (Media Category); Michael Tannenbaum ’10, who helped negotiate the largest FinTech investment through his work with SoFi’s $1 billion investment in SoftBank (Finance Category); Jerelyn Rodriguez ’11, founder of The Knowledge House, a STEM education-to-jobs pipeline in underserved neighborhoods (Education Category); Christopher Lorn ’10, the consumer journey and analytics lead for tobacco company Philip Morris (Marketing and Advertising Category); and Katherine Jin ’16 and Kevin Tyan ’16, co-creators (with Jason Kang SEAS’16) of Highlight, a brightly colored disinfectant that helps doctors fight Ebola (Healthcare Category) [Editor’s Note: See “Student Spotlight,” Winter 2015–16.].

Dave Obelkevich ’65 holds the record for longest streak of finished consecutive New York City Marathons, having run his 39th in November. The accomplishment was covered by Runner’s World and Canadian Running Magazine; Obelkevich finished with a time of 4:57:01.

On January 5, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the appointment of Lisette Camilo ’98 as commissioner for the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. In a press release, Camilo was quoted, “I am excited by the prospects of continuing efforts to create a green city, support City Agency workforce needs and also maintain the historic city buildings that have become a staple in New York.”

Nico Muhly ’03 composed the musical score for The New Yorker’s first animated cover, which was drawn by Chris Ware and premiered on November 30. Listen to the audio and see the video: newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/covers-story-2015-12-07.

The September 2015 issue of Interior Design magazine featured the work of Erik Maran ’86 and Ira Smith ’86, co-founders of SmithMaran Architecture + Interiors. The duo’s design for Insight Venture Partners’ new space, on the 36th floor of midtown New York’s W. R. Grace Building, was covered with an article and slideshow of the finished space.

— Anne-Ryan Hewatoule JRN’09
Known on-air as “The Cincinnati Kid” in his WKCR days, Ashley Kahn ’83 has gone from WKCR to the Grammy Awards. With three Grammy nods and a 2015 win for the third nomination under his belt, Kahn has mastered an art that may not immediately come to mind when thinking about music: album notes.

Album notes — also called liner notes — are historical, social, political and/or personal writings that are released with an album to help the listener better understand the context of the work. “My words are attached to this piece of music that’s being brought into the world for the first time — I better get it right,” says Kahn with a laugh while explaining his approach to writing album notes, adding that he looks at the process as creating a frame for readers to reference the music.

In addition to writing album notes, Kahn is a prolific music journalist and an adjunct instructor in NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts’ Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, teaching music history and criticism. Kahn’s 2015 Best Album Notes Grammy was for his writing on John Coltrane’s two-disc archival release Offering: Live at Temple University, while his previous nominations were for 2004’s Four Women: The Nina Simone Philips Recordings and 2011’s Side Steps, another Coltrane release.

Jamie Katz ’72, BUS’80, editor-at-large at Smithsonian Magazine (and former editor of CCT), has worked with Kahn at both People and Vibe magazines. “Ashley does the hard work,” Katz says. “He’s really a historian on the front lines of digging up information that is out there in crates, in people’s memories and in recorded fragments. Whatever it may be, he will take the time and effort not only to find it but also to understand it and piece it together.”

Kahn was born in the Bronx and grew up in Cincinnati. While at the College, where he majored in English, he developed a popular WKCR Tuesday night blues and jazz show. “WKCR kind of became more of my major than my major did,” Kahn says. “I was putting a lot of energy into it and, as such, I found there was a kind of self-teaching that was going on.”
Kahn got his start writing album notes while still at WKCR; his first notes were on blues guitarist Roy Buchanan's career revival album *When a Guitar Plays the Blues* for a small Chicago label, Alligator. Kahn says the opportunity came to him because someone at Alligator heard his blues/jazz radio show and invited him to Chicago to sit in on Buchanan's recording sessions and to then write up the notes explaining the album and Buchanan's musical history.

After graduation, Kahn moved to New Orleans, where he immersed himself in the jazz and blues scene: working for three radio stations, writing for *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* and, most influentially, for his work, working with the world-renowned New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. That experience propelled him back to New York a few years later, where he worked with the NYC SummerStage program in its infancy, meeting artists like Paul Simon, Peter Gabriel and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, a Zulu choir for which he became the manager and traveled the world with for the next four years.

"Seeing the world through the eyes of musicians — people who are making their living being on the stage, being in studios, creating recordings ... It's incredibly informative and incredibly revealing on how to think about music in a way that I never would have done just coming out of a classroom, or as a journalist or DJ," Kahn says.

After being a band manager and producer for several years, Kahn returned to writing with 1998's *Rolling Stone: The Seventies*, a book of essays chosen to capture the essence of the '70s with both new and republished *Rolling Stone* articles and photographs. From there, his writing career took off again, with eight books and dozens of articles in publications like *Rolling Stone, The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. His most recent book is a collaboration with guitarist Carlos Santana for the musician's 2014 memoir, *The Universal Tone: Bringing My Story To Light*. It won the 2015 American Book Award and was voted one of NPR’s “Best Books of 2014“; Kahn says the writing process took 81 interviews over the course of 1½ years.

Katz says that Kahn’s passion and respect for music shines through his writing, giving listeners an enhanced experience. “There’s a certain amount of understatement in his writing,” Katz says. “It’s like radio — a lot of it takes place in your own mind when you’re listening; it’s not beating you over the head. His writing has the same quality that great radio has — he opens the door and you come to [experience] it next to him.”

Fencer and Business Owner Bob Cottingham Jr. ’88 Leads in Both Roles

*By Caroline Rothstein JRN’10*

Bob Cottingham Jr. ’88 says his fencing career, which peaked when he was a member of the 1988 and 1992 U.S. Olympic teams, has directly informed how he manages his rapidly growing global consulting business, Sabre88. And his longtime philanthropic work, both with Columbia’s fencing team and with the Peter Westbrook Foundation, is helping to develop a new generation of fencers.

Cottingham, a history major with a 1994 law degree from Rutgers, came to fencing after his older sister promised her high school fencing coach at Montclair (N.J.) Kimberley Academy that her brother would try the sport. “I took on the challenge,” says the effervescent Cottingham. “And fencing made Sabre88.”

Founded by Cottingham in 2008 as a one-man bedroom operation in Newark, N.J., Sabre88 — named for his weapon and for an important year in his life: his College class year, his first Olympics and the year he won the NCAA individuals — was named the 16th fastest-growing inner city business last year in *Forbes’s “Inner City 100.” Sabre88 works with both commercial and federal government clients, among them the Navy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the General Services Administration. With nearly 50 employees based on government and client sites, and $2.5 million in revenue in 2014, Sabre88 has experienced 672 percent growth since 2012. Last year, *Inc.*’s annual “Inc. 5000” list of the nation’s fastest growing private companies ranked Sabre88 671st, and among the top 10 fastest-growing companies led by an African-American CEO.

For Cottingham, who was named by The U.S Small Business Administration as “New Jersey’s 2015 Minority Small Business Person of the Year,” customer service is Sabre88’s backbone. He tailors the execution of each contract to each client, a skill he honed in prior jobs: serving as a district director for former Rep. Donald Payne (D-N.J.) from 1996 to 2004 and helping grow Phacil, a technology services government contractor, from a company with five employees in 2004 to 850 in 2008.
But even more than those experiences, Cottingham credits fencing for his ability to respond quickly and effectively to challenges.

“Fencing helped me think strategically,” says Cottingham, who as a College student navigated schoolwork while being on both the Columbia and U.S. fencing teams. He competed nationally and internationally, was team captain junior and senior years, and was NCAA Fencer of the Year in 1988 after winning individuals and helping lead Columbia to an NCAA Championship for the second consecutive year. In 2010, he was inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Each time Sabre88 wins a contract, because of its work with the federal government on a multi-state level with separate rules and regulations in each state, Cottingham has to ensure that everything—from benefits to compensation to time off and sick days—is in compliance with the law. For example, during January’s massive East Coast snowstorm, some of Cottingham’s employees were permitted to telecommute while others were not, given the strictly regulated nature of the material with which they work.

“The recovery is what is so critical,” Cottingham says, noting how this vital fencing skill informs his ability to respond daily at work. “That’s what really drives me — the fight.”

When he’s not traveling to meet with each employee quarterly, Cottingham arrives at Sabre88 headquarters, at New Jersey Institute of Technology’s Enterprise Development Center, between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Because every day brings on different challenges, he’s always prepared to connect with customers, and eager for good reviews. These feel to him like winning a fencing tournament, as all contracts thus far have been referrals, he says.

Columbia fencing teammate Marc Oshima ’91 calls Cottingham a fierce, passionate competitor. “Bob has always been the consummate role model and leader, setting an example around the championship mentality,” says Oshima. “He challenged all of us to be competing against the world, not just the University … What he helped foster was a culture of winning.”

Oshima has relished watching his friend give back by his support of the Columbia alumni fencing club and current team, both financially and by mentoring current, past and incoming fencing students.

Bob Cottingham Jr. ’88 uses skills from his fencing career in his business, aptly named Sabre88.

Many of the fencers Cottingham mentors began their careers as kids at the Peter Westbrook Foundation, which Cottingham has been a part of since its inception 25 years ago, as a founder, and for which he now is chairman of the board. The foundation, based in New York City, teaches fencing to youth from underserved communities. “Each Saturday, I get into the weeds by coaching the beginner sabre class with Akhi Spencer-El, a Columbia assistant coach and former foundation student,” says Cottingham, who wears Columbia blue on those days.

Even Cottingham’s children — Bobby (17) and Alison (14) — fence with the foundation as well as for Montclair Kimberley Academy, where Cottingham met his wife, also named Alison, in ninth grade.

Cottingham says his employees know how important fencing is to him, and how passionate he is about the foundation. “I get to serve in leadership in two different capacities, and each one informs the other,” he says.
tacks just as Constabile joined his office. The problem would be approached from the bottom up.

In March 2014, Constabile and the climate team began to meet weekly with a group of 10 organizations, from Bloomberg Philanthropies to The World Bank. Their goal: to talk cities and companies into cutting emissions and investing in clean energy solutions, prodding national governments to act. "Cities, CEOs and citizens — these are the levers to make national governments more ambitious," says Constabile.

The momentum shifted at the UN Climate Summit in New York that September. Several coalitions that Constabile and her team helped bring about were announced, among them the Compact of Mayors, a forum for cities to pledge to reduce emissions. A group of institutional investors promised to decarbonize $100 billion in assets. And the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance was announced to help governments line up financing to adapt to rising seas and warmer temperatures, and to lower emissions by improving energy efficiency in buildings, expanding public transit and investing in renewable energy, among other tactics.

The summit paved the way for the critical United States-China climate deal two months later, along with pledges from a growing number of cities (now up to 420) to cut emissions. Much of what Constabile and the climate team did behind the scenes is confidential, but she is able to say that they wrote speeches, traveled extensively to meet officials and organized calls, emails and events to advance the cause.

Her persistence has impressed those who have worked with her. "Kerry is smart, determined, pragmatic and not least, charming," says John Tidmarsh, CIO for R20 Regions of Climate Action, a public-private consortium founded by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to accelerate the shift to a low-carbon economy. "She manages to get what she wants while making others think it was their idea."

Constabile carries a small camera with her to document historic moments, a hobby she picked up at Columbia in Thomas Roma’s “Intro to Photography” class. Her photos of Bloomberg and Ban have run in news outlets across the globe.

Raised in suburban Larchmont, N.Y., Constabile is equally at home in rural and urban settings. She spent a year at Reed College in Oregon before New York’s arts and culture scene called her back.

Transferring to Columbia as a sophomore, she worked part-time at the Whitney Museum of American Art while studying political science and art history. She co-founded a student group, Urban Roots, to expose city kids to the outdoors, and in a work-study job with UNESCO helped organize the first global conference on biodiversity in cities.

Constabile’s studies at SIPA convinced her that economic incentives work best to change behavior.

Constabile spent a year in Costa Rica studying the effects of deforestation on climate before joining Grist, a startup environmental news magazine in Seattle. There, she researched answers for “Ask Umbra,” an Ann Landers-style column for environmentalists that she still reads.

Returning to New York in 2004 to study at SIPA, Constabile analyzed the success of fisheries quotas in Namibia and Chile. It convinced her that economic incentives work best to change behavior. Not long after the European Union launched a carbon market to address climate change, she moved to London to work in sustainable investing.

While Constabile was away, a charismatic senator emerged on the national stage. She volunteered for Barack Obama ‘83’s campaign from abroad and when he clinched the Presidential nomination, she moved to New Hampshire to help campaign leadership there.

After Obama was elected, Constabile became lead adviser on urban planning for UNICEF, where she dove deeply into country-specific data on water quality, sanitation, health care and education. Separating city indicators from rural ones, she was able to show that relatively little aid was going to the urban poor. Her analysis opened a debate that continues today on shifting aid to slums, home to an anticipated 1.6 billion people by 2050. “Data makes the invisible visible,” she says.

Most of the world’s great cities sit beside water, and rich and poor alike are at risk of being swamped by rising seas. A warmer climate also spells trouble for agriculture, biodiversity, human health and attempts to reduce poverty and inequality. “It’s the most pressing issue of our time,” Constabile says. “If we don’t get this right we don’t get anything right. The key now is to capitalize on the momentum and do more, quickly, at the most local of levels.”

Kim Martineau JRN’97 leads communications at Columbia’s Data Science Institute.
If there were a fan club for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg LAW’59, the most senior member of the U.S. Supreme Court’s liberal wing, it’s a good bet that Shana Knizhnik ’10 would be a candidate for its presidency.

Two years ago, Knizhnik created the Notorious R.B.G. blog (notoriousrbg.tumblr.com), which celebrates the almost-83-year-old justice with photos, memes, fan art, quotes and links to recent articles involving Ginsburg. The blog — whose name is a tongue-in-cheek nod to The Notorious B.I.G., the rapper who died in 1997 — took off, with a quarter of a million visitors in its first year.

Now the blog is the starting point of a new biography of the justice, Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg (Dey Street/William Morrow Publishers, $19.99), co-authored by Knizhnik and MSNBC reporter Irin Carmon.

Knizhnik says the goal was to create a book that has the album-like feel of the blog and the substance of a biography. The finished product takes readers through Ginsburg’s life, from growing up in Brooklyn to her work on the Supreme Court. It includes annotated excerpts of important opinions she has written as well as professional and personal photos (including one in which she’s white-water rafting), images of papers from her archives and even her workout, which includes the elliptical, planks and one-legged squats.

“The hope is that people take the message — the inspiring story of Justice Ginsburg’s life — and are able to bring that to their own lives in some way,” Knizhnik says.

Knizhnik’s road to authorship began in summer 2013. A political science major at the College, she had just finished her first year of law school at NYU and was paying attention to the news out of the Supreme Court, which finishes its term in June.

She says she was disappointed with a number of the court’s decisions from the end of that term, particularly Shelby County v. Holder, which struck down a portion of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, a law enacted to combat discrimination in voting. The only bright spot, Knizhnik says, was the outrage of Ginsburg, who wrote that throwing out that portion of the Voting Rights Act was like “throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet.” On Facebook, a friend of Knizhnik’s jokingly called the justice “Notorious R.B.G.” Inspired, Knizhnik decided to start a Tumblr blog with that name.

“I felt like there needed to be a space to celebrate this amazing person who has done so much for us as a nation,” Knizhnik says.

In 2014, the blog earned Knizhnik an invitation to Washington, D.C., to meet Ginsburg, who has said her grandchildren love the blog and that she tries “to keep abreast” of its posts. When Knizhnik met Ginsburg in her chambers, the justice was recovering from surgery but said she had a message for the blog’s followers: “I’ll be back doing push-ups next week.”

Around the same time, in the fall of her third and final year of law school, Knizhnik was approached by a HarperCollins editor, Julia Cheiffetz BC’00, about using the blog as a jumping-off point for a book. Although she says she never envisioned herself as a book author, Knizhnik was excited by the prospect and asked if she could be paired with a co-author. Cheiffetz suggested Carmon, who, it turns out, lived a few blocks away from Knizhnik in Brooklyn.

The two have described their pairing as an “arranged marriage” that became a “happy partnership.”

It took about a year for the two to finish the book, which came out the same day in October that Knizhnik learned she had passed the New York bar.

As of January 31, the book had been on The New York Times’ best-seller list for seven weeks. Knizhnik and Carmon have been interviewed about the book for the Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, NPR and MSNBC, where they did Ginsburg’s workout with her personal trainer (while wearing Notorious R.B.G. T-shirts, of course).

Knizhnik has been juggling appearances and interviews for the book with her day job as a law clerk for a federal appeals court judge in her hometown, Philadelphia, and hopes to become a public defender. As for future writing projects for the co-authors, Carmon says many exciting opportunities have come about as a result of the book, but it’s too soon to talk specifics. “We are just now starting to catch our breath and think about what’s next,” she says.

Jessica Gresko ’05 works in Washington, D.C.
Jews Against Themselves by Edward Alexander ’57. How has history shaped renderings of modern Jewish political and societal issues in the media? Alexander’s essays dissect Holocaust denial, boycotts of Israel, blindness to antisemitism and other topics, striving to illuminate why some Jewish intellectuals seem to be ashamed of where they come from (Transaction Publishers, $24.95).

Toward a More Perfect University by Jonathan R. Cole ’64. As good as the American system of higher learning has become, there is still much to do to maximize its potential — so writes Cole, the University, provost emeritus and dean. More than inspired by the English author, Hauser’s story channels his voice and the causes he championed with an infant girl Eving in deplorable circumstances. Get educated about environments. Get educated about the biggest challenges facing the modern university (PublicAffairs, $29.99).

The Baker’s Tale: Ruby Spriggs and the Legacy of Charles Dickens by Thomas Hauser ’67. Dickens’ encounter with an infant girl living in deplorable conditions in 1836 London provides the launch point for this novel that imagines what happened to her afterward. More than inspired by the English author, Hauser’s story channels his voice and the causes he championed (Counterpoint Press, $25).

Liberating Aesthetics for the Aspiring Artist and the Inspired Audience by Wayne Wild ’58. Wild’s book grew out of a course he teaches at the Berklee College of Music and aims to remedy what he calls the “stifling effect of a search for ‘meaning’ in works of art.” His prescription: Be instinctive. How does the art make you feel (Kendall Hunt Publishing Co., $74.95)?

Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors by William B. Bonvillian ’89 and Charlene Weis. “Legacy” here means established economic sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, defense, healthcare delivery and higher education. The authors contend these industries are suffering from a deficit of innovation and job creation, and they analyze the obstacles and offer solutions (Oxford University Press, $55).

Painting Central Park by Roger F. Piauqier ’89. See how this beloved landmark has inspired artists from Homer Winslow to Edward Hopper and Christo. The accompanying narrative — about the featured painters and the evolution of the park — adds another dimension to this volume, which seems destined for the coffee tables of New Yorkers and nature lovers alike (Editor’s note: See “Forum,” Winter 2015-16.) (Verdone Press, $60).

The Porch of Common Prayer: A Meditation upon Happiness by Peter Turtel ’71. The author ruminates on how he stumbled upon the privilege of being happy. More than a series of autobiographical musings, this book is a reflection on life and how happiness can be found in the simplest of places, without being purposefully chased or even sought (Black Shore Press, $19.95).

The Uncollected David Rakoff by David Rakoff ’86. Rakoff’s sharp, funny voice shines in this collection featuring essays, short fiction and a novel in verse. From discussions of the faded fame of Frank Sinatra to comedic rants about inconsiderate dog owners, this book gives readers the opportunity to discover the talents of the writer, who died in 2012 (Anchor, $15.95).

Dream Cities: Seven Urban Ideas That Shape the World by Wade Graham ’89. Graham offers a cultural history of some of the architects and ideas that have influenced our built environments. Get educated about malls, monuments and the so-called castles in our midst — then go for a walk. You’re bound to see things in a new light (Harper, $29.99).

War in the Shallows: U.S. Navy Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam, 1965–1968 by John Darrell Sherwood ’89. Get “a glimpse of the humanity behind the hardware” in this rigorous work of history. By interweaving an account of the Navy’s involvement in Vietnam with interviews with veterans, Sherwood honors the soldiers’ sacrifice and highlights their impact on the conflict (Naval History and Heritage Command, $75).

Every Song Ever: Twenty Ways to Listen in an Age of Musical Plenty by Ben Ratliff ’90. Listen for pleasure and a reflection on Efe and how happiness and suspicion, how far will Gallow go for glory (Minotaur Books, $25.99)?

The Stratford Zoo Midnight Revue Presents Romeo and Juliet by Ian Lendler ’96, with art by Zack Gladstone. Surprise casting takes on new meaning in this graphic novel featuring a bear as Juliet and a rooster as Romeo. Bits of hilarity are paired with poignant realism as the animal characters act out a fresh version of Shakespeare’s tragedy (First Second, $12.99).

What Men Should Know About Women by Erica M. Loberg ’99. An early entry in this poetry collection declares: “Yeah, I’m a person / Ready to live / To tell / To think / To be.” Loberg makes good on her promise, writing with frankness and feeling about what it is to be a woman braving the terrain of love and sexuality (Chipmunka Publishing, $15).

The Ruined Elegance: Poems by Fiona Sze-Lorrain ’03. The author, who has lived in Europe, America and Asia, draws from every aspect of her broad perspective in this poetry collection. Lyricism and wisdom intertwine as she urges acute observation rather than an impossible search for exact truth: “Believe me, / answers are small” (Princeton University Press, $14.95).

—Aiyana K. White ’18
Boarding a special nonstop 1 train to Lower Manhattan/Trinity Church (Columbia's first home) to celebrate the Charter Day Bicentennial on April 10, 1987. Charter Day is April 13.

1941

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Had a call from Ray Robinson to advise that he had experienced, with difficulty, his 95th birthday. Ray started at the Law School after graduation and, as did many classmates, went into the army. When he was released he went back to law school. In the middle of his third year, he decided it was not for him and he quit. He became a sportswriter, was an editor at Sports Illustrated and several other magazines, and wrote many articles for The New York Times, particularly about Lou Gehrig '23. Ray's wife, Phyllis, was Junior Phi Beta at Vassar and is in her seventh year of severe Alzheimer's.

I was the sixth youngest in the class, which keeps getting smaller. I would love to hear from you. Please send news to the addresses at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
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I was sorry to note the obituary for William Carey BUS'42 in the Winter 2015–16 issue. I knew Bill casually from our meetings at Homecomings through the years. We often sat together and enjoyed our reminiscences, including our 50th reunion gathering in Harriman, N.Y., in 1992, at which Bill entertained us with his snappy jazz piano riffs. In the last years of his life, when Bill's cognitive status began to decline, he still came to Homecoming, sat silently under the tent with us and seemed to enjoy the occasion. Farewell to a loyal friend and classmate.

On October 10, this correspondent attended the 90th birthday party for Avra Mark at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in White Plains, N.Y. Avra, widow of Dr. Herbert Mark, Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of CCT prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of CCT, its class correspondents, the College or the University.
Jan

uary 2006. In our sophomore year, we roomed together in Livingston and acted much younger than our friend until his death in January 2006. In our sophomore year, we roomed together in Livingston

looked and acted much younger than our friend until his unfortunate death in January 2006. In our sophomore year, we roomed together in Livingston

Hall with Robert Kaufman, who at 94 is alive and well in Scarsdale, N.Y. I'm looking forward to Avra's 91st birthday this year.

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The New York Times reported the November 16, 2015, death of Dr. Michael Bruno '43, PS'45 at 93. Mike graduated from P&S on an accelerated wartime schedule and in 1956 became director of the Department of Medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan, serving in that position for 35 years as a dynamic leader and visionary in medical education.

I write about Mike because I knew him well. We served together in the Army in occupied Japan in 1946-47 as medical officers with the 27th Infantry Regiment. Our regiment was full of young West Point officers on overseas duty and when Columbia, led by quarterback Gene Rossides '49, LAW’52; halfback Lou Kusserow ’49; and spectacular end Bill Swiacki BUS’48,49, upset a great Army team 21–20 in 1947, our West Point colleagues did not appreciate our celebration. Rossides and Kusserow were known as the Goal Dust Twins, and could score from anywhere on the field. Swiacki and Kusserow played professional football after Columbia, and Rossides, an attorney, became assistant secretary of the Treasury during the Kennedy administration.

A brief analysis of coach Al Bagnoli’s first Columbia football season reveals some interesting statistics. We allowed the fewest points of any Ivy League team during the season (143) and also scored the fewest points in the League on our total schedule (198). We had a significant Ivy League win over Yule (17–7) and won one other game, against Wagner (26–3). Our defense was one of the best in the league but our offense was ineffective, despite the efforts of our great running back Cameron Molina ’16, who was elected to the All-Ivy team. Coach Bagnoli is off to a good start and I look forward to much success in the near future.

As I write these comments, Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas and 2016 are around the corner. I send good wishes to all classmates and their families.

1943

G.J. D’Angio

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There was a nice profile on our football-playing classmate Dr. Felix Demartini PS’46 in the Fall 2015 issue, page 33. It also mentioned All-American quarterback Paul Governali. A photo of those two, plus coach Lou Little — all Italian Americans — accompanied the profile. That constellation must have given our intolerance president, Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882), some pause. And they were not the only ones; Mike Bruno PS’45 was also a member of the squad. He, too, became an outstanding physician and later became the director of the Department of Medicine and a trustee of the Lenox Hill Hospital.

Dr. Gerald Klingon ’42 celebrated his 95th birthday in his New York City apartment on September 22.

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Philadelphia— in fact, to the world — and therefore fits the criterion. She is the 13th person to receive this award since it was instituted in 1957. It was a nice evening with dinner at the posh Philadelphia Club. It was enlivened for me when I was greeted by an old friend, Dr. George Hill. He is a pediatric surgeon and fellow-combatant in the battle against childhood cancer. We hadn’t met before in the intervening +40 years.

We had two Thanksgiving Day dinners. The first was on Monday of Thanksgiving week at St. James School, which my wife co-founded; there were 25 staff members present. The second meal was at home. Some real friends cooked the dinner in their home and brought it into town for us to share. We had nothing to do for either meal except open bottles of Prosecco. We certainly gave thanks for having friends like that!

Faithful Bernie Weisberger reports: “It has been a reasonably interesting fall season for me in a number of ways. First of all, I was busy completing an article written in collaboration with a young economist friend, slated to appear in the journal Democracy in the spring. I publish this ‘advertisement for myself’ only because I am tickled to be able to continue writing as I commence my 94th year of life. The article’s subject matter is Richard Ely (Class of 1876), a progressive economist with a long and distinguished academic career. He was a pioneer of modern social science, one of the founders of the American Economic Association in 1885 and a member of the Class of 1876. I have never thought of myself as an especially dedicated alumnus and have not taken part in alumni affairs, but somehow my ears always perk up when I discover that some historic notable is a fellow alum, even though the Columbia he attended may have been a far different place than the one I knew.

I have to confess, however, that my scholarly project had to compete for attention throughout September and early October (often unsuccessfully) with a less weighty matter in the scale of history — to wit, the baseball season. As a Chicago Cubs adddict, I was glued to the television set almost nightly during the team’s amazingly successful season after long years of drought — compiling the third best won-lost record in both leagues and advancing to the National League Championship Series where, alas, they were beaten by the New York Mets. The latter were my heroes in the days when my home was New York before my permanent migration to Chicago in 1990.

“When I wasn’t watching baseball, I was talking about it with friends, hearing and reading about it in the media and, now and then, dreaming about it. Ely had a hard time breaking in. But I claim some respectability; it was Walt Whitman (according to his biographer Horace Traubel) who said that baseball ‘belongs as much to our institutions, constitutions, laws, is just as important in the sum total of our historic life.’ And, I would add, is a very consoling distraction from the travails of our present public life.

“Returning, then, to other matters — including encounters with Columbia graduates — for the second time this year I heard Jeremy Bob ’00 (my step-grandson-in-law) deliver a talk in Chicago as part of a lecture tour. He shared with us his thoughts as a legal reporter for the Jerusalem Post. And for a final reminder to me of the Columbia connection, I sadly noted the passing of another old friend — too frequent an occurrence at this time of life — Kenneth Milford ’50.

“I end here with a brief account of my trip to New York (December 2—4) during which I was, as always, overwhelmed by the great city’s traffic, bustling crowds, infinite variety of cityscapes and general air of being one of the world’s classic examples of urban civilization. I managed to see an intriguing exhibition of Egyptian art of the Middle Kingdom at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and also got a look at the new World Trade Center and the memorial pools at its foot. I gather they are where the foundations of the Twin Towers had lain — a powerful and moving memorial to a never-to-be-forgotten tragedy. I didn’t have occasion to visit campus this time to check for changes.

“Now, back home, I am caught up in the usual end-of-year celebrating (as I write it is December). To all and sundry, have a prosperous and healthy 2016.”

**1944**

Bill Friedman
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Greetings, classmates. Although there is no news this time, we all would love to hear from you! Updates about family, summer plans, hobbies and anything else you would like to share are welcome. Please send news to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**1945**

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

cct@columbia.edu

Winifred Rothenberg BC’47, GSAS’49 shares this remembrance of her husband, Jerome Rothenberg GSAS’54, who passed away last summer:

“I welcome the opportunity to tell the Class of 1945 about their classmate Jerry (who would have preferred to be a poet) majored in economics and went on to get his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Columbia. He then taught at Amherst, UC Riverside, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Chicago, Northwestern, Oxford (Nuffield College) and The London School of Economics before settling down for the long haul at MIT in 1966. Along the way he was engaged in China, health economics, resource economics, arms control, public sector economics, housing and urban studies. He married me, then Winifred Barr, in 1948; we have three children and two grandchildren.

The arc of his life ended on August 10, 2015. His life was a blessing.”

**CCT** encourages all ’45-ers to send an update. Write about family or friends, retirement, travel or hobbies — it’s a wonderful way to connect with classmates. You can send news to the addresses at the top of the column or use the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Be well and enjoy the spring!

**1946**

Bernard Sunshine
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Our class will celebrate its 70th anniversary on Tuesday, May 17, at Class Day. Your Class Committee members (Herbert Hendin, Ira Millstein, Leonard Moss, Irwin Nydick, Don Summa and Bernard Sunshine) are working to make it a memorable day. This is the day when graduating seniors receive diplomas, and CC’46 will march (walk) with our class banner as part of the ceremony. The graduates’ enthusiastic greeting and response will stay with us long after the moment. A reunion luncheon on campus with wives and friends will follow, with appropriate accoutrements, music and good fellowship. A
I was immersed in the most intellectually stimulating environment it has ever been my pleasure to be in. Five of the members of the faculty were or would eventually become Nobel laureates. Eventually seven of my classmates also won Nobel prizes — not a bad ratio considering that only 20 members of my class eventually received their doctorates.

“I was supported by the GI Bill; in order to ease my financial burdens, I took a job as a technician in Professor Isidor Rabi GSAS’57’s laboratory where, under his direction, I helped with the building of what would one day become the world’s first atomic clock. The device is now on display in the Smithsonian.

“At the time, Dwight Eisenhower was Columbia’s president. One morning, while hunched over equipment, I looked up and realized that George Pegram (dean of the physics department), Professor Rabi and Gen. Eisenhower had entered my laboratory. Eisenhower asked me, ‘What are you working on?’ I gave a stumbling explanation. He smiled and asked, ‘Who is paying for this equipment?’ When I replied that the Navy was supporting the project he scowled, ‘Why? What military value can it possibly have?’ Before I could respond, Professor Rabi interjected, ‘This is pure research. It has no military value. It has no foreseeable military value.’

“How wrong they both were! Through the next 65–70 years, the performance and precision of atomic clocks (time standards) were improved immensely. Both military and civilian applications followed — GPS, satellite communications, high-speed digital computers, lasers, precision guided munitions, air traffic control systems ... the list goes on and on. The civil and military worlds are remarkably different as a result of Professor Rabi’s initial concept.”

Alan’s recollections brought to mind one of my own. While a student, I was photographer for Columbia Alumni News. Professor Rabi had been awarded the Nobel Prize but could not travel to Sweden to receive it during WWII, and the medal was sent to New York. I photographed the ceremony when President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) made the presentation; the photo is displayed in Pupin Hall. Years later I had occasion to meet Mrs. Rabi and I recounted the ceremony at [then-named] Columbia’s Faculty Club. She grimaced and said, “When he made the presentation, Butler called him Dr. Fermi."

From Arnold Zentner PS’48: “After practicing psychiatry in NYC and Hartford, Conn., for about 50 years, I retired in 1996 and in 1998 I moved to Sarasota, Fla., which I enjoy very much. My four children (two men, two women) are in their 50s and I have three grandchildren, all males in their teens.

“Unfortunately, my wife of 54 years died three years ago. For the past year I have been going out with a very charming Ph.D. clinical psychologist who works full-time despite my entreaties that she retire. I have had enjoyable dinners with a few classmates who have visited me here — Ilan Shein, Arnie Ritterband ’45 and Chester Semel ’45. I maintain a home in Brookfield, Conn., where I spend time during the summer. I still travel a bit and enjoy the cultural activities in Sarasota.”

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Your classmates want to hear from you.

[Editor’s note: While the Class of 46 will celebrate its official reunion at Class Day, Tuesday, May 17, please know that all College alumni are welcome to attend All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) on Saturday, June 4. For more information, contact Eric Shea, director, alumni relations: cs4348@columbia.edu or 212-851-7469.]
still vital and active and willing to share with us all. You can send your news to the email or mailing address at the top of this column or via the CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Your classmates want to hear from you and look forward to seeing you at reunion.

1950

Mario Palmieri
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Class of '50, these notes depend on you! Please share your news — from travels to family updates to even just writing in about an interesting book or article you’ve recently read, Class Notes is the place to stay connected with classmates. You can send updates to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Have a happy spring and summer, and let's stay connected.

1951

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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A wonderful time is approaching: Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. This celebration of the 65th anniversary of our graduation will allow us to see old friends and reconnect with the College while enjoying class lunches and dinners, academic lectures from noted Columbia faculty as part of All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) and special events throughout the weekend. Stay tuned for more information from the College in your mailbox and your email inbox.

Please send updates for future Class Notes columns to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1952

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
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Pete Vayda
GSAS’56 is a team leader in a NASA-funded research project in the Indonesian province of Central Kalimantan. His subject:peat fires and the carbon emissions from them. The fires, he adds, were especially severe in 2015.

Howard Hansen writes: “We lost a great classmate and champion wrestler in Bob Hartman. He and his wife, Nancy, were loyal attendees of our Long Weekend Athletic Group, which met 11 times in the south since 1985.

“The following death notice speaks loudly about Bob’s significant accomplishments in life. Sadly, Nancy passed away shortly after he did.”

Bob Wallace ’53, Bob Hartman ’52 (deceased), Tom Federowicz ’52 (deceased) and, in back, Dan Seemann ’52.

This undated photo was taken at Litchfield By The Sea Resort in South Carolina at a meetup of former Columbia athletes. Left to right: Bob Wallace ’53, Bob Hartman ’52 (deceased), Tom Federowicz ’52 (deceased) and, in back, Dan Seemann ’52.

1953

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While we were undergraduates, I met an amazing, charismatic, talented member of the Class of 1954 who during the last 62 years has lived a remarkably colorful life: William F. Hadad ’54. I'll remember Bill because he wrote the first New York Post article about Dean Harry Carman's efforts to convince the Navy that Professor Fred Keller's discovery of the principles of operant conditioning could reduce the time it took enlisted men to master touch typing and Morse code. Bill's headline for the story appeared on page 2 of The New York Post and was titled "Sailor Adrift on Sea of Red Tape!"

In 1958 and 1959, Bill and The New York Post were awarded a George Polk Award for his resourceful investigative reporting. During the 1960 presidential campaign, he was the liaison between John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy and in a picture that was taken on the morning of the election, Bill was photographed sitting between the brothers at their Hyannis Port, Mass., home.

After the election, Robert Kennedy telephoned Bill with the news that he was going to be nominated to head the Peace Corps. Alas, it never happened because several days later the Kennedys instead chose Sargent Shriver to lead the Peace Corps and appointed Bill as its first inspector general.

In January 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson proposed legislation to create the Office of Economic Opportunity. Sometime after Bill was appointed inspector general of the OEO, he asked me to visit him at his office in Washington, D.C. To my amazement he had an impressive corner office with panels of windows on two sides of an enormous room.
This office was originally assigned to Mrs. Johnson," he confessed. "However, she didn’t really need it so they gave it to me."

After ending his successful journalistic and government careers, Bill founded the Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Association and served as its chairman/president for more than 10 years. We can all be grateful for his efforts to initiate and negotiate the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act (known informally as the Hatch-Waxman Act). He is also responsible for the very early days; we interacted with him from the beginning. We stayed in close contact in our life. Suffice to say those of us who have been privileged to know him are grateful for the experience.

Keep up the good work!

On December 17, I received the following from David Richman, along with Barry Schweid's obituary, which had appeared in The Washington Post on December 11. David says, "I went to Washington, D.C., in late 1958 and Barry, already with the Associated Press, came some months later in 1959. We stayed in close contact in our very early days; we interacted with Jerry Landauer, who was with The Wall Street Journal. One of Barry’s and my first activities was to find a kosher restaurant in D.C. We succeeded! Then, as each of us became more involved professionally and socially with our colleagues at work — I was new to the Atomic Energy Commission — our social lives went in different directions."

The following is an abridged version of Barry’s Washington Post obituary: "Among career highlights for President Jimmy Carter brokered to reach a historic peace treaty in 1979 between Egypt’s Anwar Sadat and Israel’s Menachem Begin. As a reporter, he was known for taking complex situations, especially in the Middle East, and explaining them in simple direct sentences, weaving in context and color."

"On overseas flights, Henry Kissinger repeatedly went back to the press section of his plane to chat with reporters on background, at least on long trips. After one such flight with repeated briefings, Kissinger returned to his suite at the front of the plane. Mr. Schweid shouted "Close the door! Don’t let him back here."

"In an interview with AP’s oral history program in 2009, Mr. Schweid reflected on his career saying, 'My ambition was to be a journalist and tell people what was going on, to tell the truth, to meet people, to understand what was going on in the world. This meant seeing history being made, traveling nonstop around the world, covering big stories, going to places I never thought I’d see and meeting people I never thought I’d meet."

Barry’s distinctive radio voice and his knowledgeable commentary will be missed. May God bless our modest, wonderful classmate!

1954

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Once again, gents, welcome to “This Is Your Life,” brought to you by special snail mail and a redesigned, snappy, fun-to-read CCT. Those of you getting in touch are not only doing your own thing, in which I am delighted to partner, but in a way you are shaping the world we see the Class of ’54 were, are and will be made of. In this crazy type of 2016 journalism, anything goes as long as it’s true, from the heart, personal, made up, universal, fascinating, historical, risqué, unique or fit to print. It’s your job to deliver the raw material; it’s mine to make it legible, literate and for the ages. Here goes another round:

Richard Werksman writes that there is not much new on his end but shares that his son, Jacob Werksman ’86, was a spokesman for the European Commission delegation at the UN Climate Change Conference, held in Paris in December. Dad notes that, “the odds of him sending that to the Class of ’86 Class Notes reporter are as good as reversing climate change in our lifetimes!”

Tell you what, Richard, you and I will split the PR fee. Where do I send the bill?

Fred Schlereth SEAS’56 reports from Syracuse, N.Y., that “research and running are still going well,” and he enjoys tackling difficult problems. His wife, Heidi, has started painting again after 40 years and Fred says, “I had forgotten that she was so talented.” Not to be undone, he adds, “I’m enjoying my position as ‘last chair’ in the second violin section of our Onondaga Civic Symphony Orchestra.”

Will our classmates’ accomplishments never cease?

Saul Turteltaub is looking forward to conquering the Great White Way: He has in hand the script, music and lyrics for the musical My Marvillo (based on his screenplay, For Roseanne) and finds it “very exciting. If all goes well it should be on Broadway in a year.”

“Break a leg” and all that, Saul. If you can guarantee a financial return equal to Fiddler on the Roof, for which we were investor angels more than 50 years ago, we might even send you a couple of bucks.

Saul, I and others have spoken with Howard Falberg, who sends best wishes to all and reports that he and his wife, Debby, are enjoying retirement in California, seeing family and keeping in touch with CC’54 and Columbia activities.

Peter Skomorowski, former star photographer for Spectator and retired from a career in law and accounting, is now our own “walker in the city” and has taken extraordinary pictures all over New York City. He says: “What I do is walk the subway lines (above ground). I used to do three miles a day but now can manage no more than 1½. The greatest invention on my camera is the delete button.”

Pete has a slide show of several of his recent photographs, which he would be delighted to share with interested classmates. I have encouraged him to submit samples of his work to CCT for us all to share. He and his wife, Phyllis, are well and send their regards to all.

An update from Bruce King, who is recovering from a recent stroke and tells us he “was at home during the terrorist events in Paris and listened to the police cars and ambulances virtually outside my door … I am getting around with two canes and still dancing, although not as much.” He and his wife, Adele, will therefore not be in New Orleans this April, as usual, but expect to return to Croatia during the summer.

When you do get back to N.O., Bruce, my grandson Ethan — finishing his freshman year at Tulane — looks forward to meeting you.

Ed Cowan, ever the exuberant reporter, sends the following interesting update about David Rubin LAW’56: "My wife, Ann Louise, and I drove from Washington, D.C., to Reston, Va., to have lunch with David and his wife, Betty Ann. As one word led to another, David reminded us that he had argued a case before the Supreme Court and had won with a unanimous decision," Ed writes. "That was in 1979, but I suspect that these Class Notes have never recorded David’s signature achievement. David worked then for the National Education Association (NEA), the largest teachers’ union in the country. He was representing Bessie Givhan, a Mississippi public school teacher. She had lost her job because in private conversation with her principal she had criticized practices and policies that she thought sustained school segregation. In writing for a unanimous court, Justice William Rehnquist delivered an opinion that upheld the free-speech rights of public employees."

Before joining the legal staff of the NEA, David had worked in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Earlier, he clerked for a judge on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. David and Betty Ann have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Welcome, David, to the roster of unsung heroes who are members of “The Class of Destiny.”

Jay Seeman LAW’56 was in the Fall 2015 issue’s "Other Deaths Reported" box, and his widow, Marsha, has since asked me to share some personal thoughts about her husband.

"Jay died in June; he had a heart attack after a bike ride in Millerton, N.Y., and died three days later at Mount Sinai Hospital. It was unexpected because he had no previous heart condition. We — his children, grandchildren and large extended family — are all still devastated. Jay was Phi Beta Kappa at the College, editor of the Columbia Law Review and a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar at the Law School. He practiced law for more than 60 years, was a former chairman of the legal network Mackrell International and was president of the William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis & Psychology."
We all share in your loss, Marsha. By the time you read this, my wife, Helen, and I will have seen — on our 57th anniversary — the hottest new Broadway musical of this century, Hamilton, about our fellow alum, who was a member of the Class of 1778. The issue of his having been able to be President despite not having been born on American soil, as discussed in the previous issue of CCT [Editor’s Note: See page 88, Fall 2015.], appears to have been resolved (also) in his favor constitutionally. In any case, here is a picture of alma mater (then called King’s College) just before the American revolution, as described in historian Ron Chernow’s Alexander Hamilton, the source for the play: “Set on an enormous tract of land that Trinity Church had received from Queen Anne early in the century, King’s College stood on the northern fringe of the city, housed in a three-story building with a cupola that commanded a superb view of the Hudson River across a low, rambling meadow … a spot that one British visitor rhapsodized as ‘the most beautiful site for a college in the world.’”

There’s lots more about Columbia around page 50; read the whole book. Be well, all, do good in the world, Be well, all, do good in the world.

1955

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A few months ago it was that time of year again — the holiday party hosted by President Lee C. Bolinger and his wife, Jean, in Low Library and the College staff gathering with Dean James J. Valentini were among the many festivities on the Columbia campus this past winter season. The Tree Lighting and Winter Celebration, as well as the yule log ceremony, were magnificent.

Professor Susan Pedersen, the James P. Shenton Professor of the Core Curriculum, received the 2015 Cundill Prize in historical literature for her book The Guardians: The League of Nations and the Crisis of Empire. The international prize is given annually to a book of nonfiction that has a “profound literary, social and academic impact.” Shenton would have been proud.

The Baker Athletics Complex received the Professional Grounds Management Society’s Grand Award, saying it has “great looking turf” and “flawless maintenance of landscape.”

The Dean’s Scholarship Reception in February featured the usual huge turnout of donors (like our class) and scholarship recipients. The event was held in Alfred Lerner Hall and came before the other popular spring event — the John Jay Awards Dinner, which is held off-campus. Other dinner events were held monthly in the greater New York area for our class and, as usual, were put together by Don Lauffer and Alfred Gollomp. We thought we might see Herb Cohen, Stanley Zinberg, Aaron Hamburger, Anthony Visconti, Tony DiSanto, Bob Loring and others such as Harvey Greenberg, John Nelson and Bob Schoenfeld (from Long Island); Ezra Levin, Joe Savino, Lew Mendelson, Sven Johnson, Michael Schwartz and Bob Kushner (from Westchester); and Ed Siegel.


Another round of applause should be given to Stanley Lubman and Richard Ravitch for their magnificent speeches at our unforgettable 60th reunion. Even though our football team was 2–8, our guys (Nell Odpyke, Bob Mercer, Dick Carr, Jim Larson and John Nelson) would be proud of the “new” Columbia football program, which is slowly turning the corner, similar to our baseball brethren (Jack Freeman, Ron McPhee, Tom Brennan and Tony Palladino).

Christine and Jim Berick: The plaque with your dedication is shining brightly on the advising floor of Alfred Lerner Hall.

Gentlemen of the Class of 1955.

Stay well. Do your exercises. Follow your diet.

Be the envy of other College/Engineering alumni.

Support one another.

The 65th will appear shortly on the horizon.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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This, classmates, will be the last Class Notes column before we gather to celebrate our 60th reunion.

Naturally, there are a number of items to mention regarding reunion.

First, I am excited about the enthusiasm and input I have received from classmates regarding their intentions to attend the 60th. I and Buzz Paaswell (in addition to many others) are coordinating to make this the best and most memorable reunion for all classmate.

The highlight of reunion, for me, will be the Friday program, which will involve, among other things, a tour of campus, a class luncheon and an afternoon program involving four or five classmaters discussing topics on subjects they have been involved in during their personal and professional lives. In addition, this time will be used for reminiscences and will be followed by an evening lecture by Ron Kapon on “the best wine for the time.” Included will be a wine tasting, which will give us the opportunity to evaluate some of the wines Ron will be discussing.

On Saturday, we will have All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) activities but the day will be highlighted by a class luncheon. Saturday class dinner will be an intimate venue and the committee is in the process of arranging for a speaker. Also, if possible, we will have Saturday’s discussion include one of the subjects currently taught in the Core Curriculum. As I write this, we are still in the process of determining who the speaker will be. It should be noted that we will have a room in Alfred Lerner Hall available to us throughout the weekend for rest and relaxation.

As for class happenings, I note the following: I will be relocating to North Carolina sometime toward the end of 2016. The community, the St. James Plantation in Southport, N.C., happens to be where my brother, Maurice Easton, has already been retired and living for 1 1/2 years. This is an exciting time in my life, where, at the tender age of 80, I will be building my first house, with the help of my wife, Elke, who will be building her fourth house (the first with me).

All of you who have experienced the joys and trials of “downsizing” can share in the emotions I am now going through.

Al Broadwin SEAS’57 notes that he and his wife, Naomi, have moved to White Plains, N.Y. He informs, “We are on the top floor and next to the ‘City Center’ in the heart of White Plains.”

Bob Siroty shares with us that he and his wife, Margo, recently returned from a trip to Cuba. He states: “Lots of ’66 Chevys. Small Jewish communities are still left,” and that the Cubans believe they will have a better relationships with the United States in the years to come.

Good luck.

This reminds me of when Joel Pinsleur and I, after graduating from Columbia, managed to hitchhike to Key West, Fla., and then take a ferry to Cuba before Fidel Castro took control of the country. It was a time of great change, and Joel wrote an article on his return for the New Republic, predicting that Castro would take over Cuba. Joel has gone on to an illustrious career as a reporter and editor with the San Francisco Chronicle. As they say, what goes around does come around.

Nevet Frohlich writes: “My book The Shakespeare Mask was named the 2015 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award Gold Winner for historical fiction. In addition to distribution in the United States and Canada, it’s been published in Bombay for distribution throughout the Indian subcontinent on a list that includes...”
Stephen Hawking and the Dalai Lama. I feel honored. The Shakespeare Mask is the product of 15 years of research and writing.

"Also, my historical novel, 1492: Christopher Columbus, the Spanish Inquisition, and a World at the Turning Point, will be reissued with an updated preface in the fall."

I have read both The Shakespeare Mask and 1492 and have found them to be thought-provoking and interesting reading. I hope Newt will share some of this information with us at the 60th reunion.

Alan Press, our itinerant traveler who has now visited more than 59 countries in his effort to "kick the bricks of knowledge" of these various locations, has established his own website, meetthealanpress.com. I recommend you check it out. I particularly liked the article "What's a Smart Jewish Boy from Brooklyn Doing in a Place Like Saudi Arabia (?)?"

Alan has shared a number of his travel experiences with us at class lunches and I look forward to him continuing to do so.

Socrates Nicholas notes that his travel for the Christmas/New Year's holiday included visits to Amsterdam for opera and then on to Salvador, Brazil.

Jordan Richin's holiday travel included a visit to England, where his son and his family have relocated.

Elke's and my holiday travel usually takes us to either Mexico or Seattle to be with family but this year we stayed in New Jersey and benefited from the extra-mild winter weather.

Don Horowitz, our Seattle connection, writes: "The Legal Foundation of Washington and the Equal Justice Coalition have announced that I will receive the 2016 Charles A. Goldmark Distinguished Service Award, the highest in Washington State for service related to equal and quality justice for all.

"In 2010 I received the Award of Merit from the Washington State Bar Association, its highest award, given to me for long-term service to the Bar and the public. I've been told I'm only the second person to have received both of these awards."

"One of the many things that our late class president, Alan Miller (who will be fondly remembered), valued was his love of the continuing education courses offered by Columbia. Thus, I was particularly impressed with Ralph Kaslick's musings as to what keeps him active and busy after retirement. He writes: "After retirement in 2003, memory of my college years provided me with a desire once again to pursue my nonprofessional academic interests. I was looking for a formal program at Columbia and in January 2007 the Columbia College Alumni Association implemented the first Mini-Core Courses. They have met with great success, as noted on page 8 of the Winter 2015-16 issue of CCT." The article describes the most recent course I took, which was on the biodiversity crisis and was taught by Professor Don Melnick. I suggest everyone go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore to explore future courses and new ideas.

"During the past few years, I have also attended many of the class luncheons organized by Stephen Easton and found them to be informative about present College life, intellectually stimulating and just plain fun. [In February 2015,] I attended the Dean's Scholarship Reception and spoke with our class scholarship recipients, who explained in great detail what it is like to be a Columbia College student today. Surprisingly, a picture of me talking to a student was published on page 6 of the Spring 2015 CCT."

I am sad to report the death of William W. Garretson in August 2015. Bill was a typical "good guy." He loved baseball and continued to play through his later years and was an accomplished speaker in economic development, where he spent many years in that department at Citibank. Condolences to his widow, Jan, and the whole family.

A short word on fundraising: Contribute, if you so desire (college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate).

A shorter word on class lunches: Join us!

1957

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"Marty Fisher recalls that arrangements had to be made during August, when everyone vacates NYC. Mark is moving to Boynton Beach, Fla., and his current phone number is 732-735-1595. He will be a couple of miles from my residence (4764A Greentree Crescent, Boynton Beach, FL 33435). My phone number in Florida is 561-292-3116 and my email address is dodger1937@aol.com. Please visit.

Good news: Columbia football beat Yale 17-7, our first Ivy League victory since 2012. Congratulations to coach Al Bagnoli (he coached Penn for 23 years), whose new regime was covered in an entertaining season-long podcast on NPR. [Editor's note: You can listen to "The Season," which followed the Lions through their first season under Bagnoli, at wnyc.org/shows/theseason.]

Bad news: Neil McLellan died on October 28. His widow, Doris, can be reached at their home: 173 N. Brookside Ave., Freeport, NY 11520 or 516-370-4093.

On October 11, David Kaufman (bass), Sean Mahony (tenor) and accompanist Joan Barton de Caro gave a recital at Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel on East 90th Street in Manhattan. David sang "Amazing Grace" together. David sang, among other arias and songs, the baritone solos "Draw Near All Ye People, Come to Me" from Mendelssohn's "Elijah," and "Deep River" and "Libera Me" from Faure's "Requiem." He says that as a bass he enjoys the challenge of singing the baritone numbers.

Joan, whom David characterizes as "an accomplished contralto and my vocal teacher," is the widow of Ugo de Caro, coach to a number of well-known opera singers including Zinka Milanov and Renata Tebaldi. David describes Ugo as "the great soul of my experience, and the man who devised the technique I practice."

Further, David recalls that it was Ugo's belief "that the voice is properly coordinated it never ages, and never fails (think of the tragedies of so many gifted singers forced to exit their careers after the strength of youth, usually by their mid-40s, could no longer substitute for a healthy true coordination). In 1993 Joan called upon David to deliver the eulogy at Ugo's funeral. David concluded, "The lasting lesson that Ugo provided: He taught me how to listen."

From Gene Wagner: "On October 17 the Southern California Class of '57 group continued our traditional luncheons, which we have [been having] for five-plus years.

"We do this four times a year in Long Beach, Calif. Our group is made up of eight members of our class who have bonded throughout the years. We enjoy each other's company and always have something of mutual interest to discuss. This luncheon consisted of John Ahouse, Michael Gold, Bernard Lynch SEAS '57, Lew Schainuck (who recently moved to San Diego and drove two hours to join), John Taussig, Gene Wagner and Gerald Werkman. It was good seeing Lew, especially since he was part of our original group. He is a retired and renowned nephrologist who served in Vietnam.

"Last but not least is John Ahouse. John is one of the leading authorities on the history of the Cold War. He is also a renowned scholar on Upton Sinclair. Throughout the years he has amassed more than 400 books and related archives regarding Sinclair and donated them to California State University Dominguez Hills, where they are currently on display. John adds: "I worked briefly at the University of Texas El Paso in the Special Collections, then spent a dozen years as archivist/special collections librarian at CSU Long Beach. I retired in 2005 after 15 years at the Special Collections at University of Southern California."

Yours truly attended his 55th class reunion at Yale Law School on October 23-25.

[Editor's note: In the editing process for the Winter 2015-16 issue, a portion of this column was inadvertently deleted. The full text, as it should have appeared: "At the 2015 American Bar Association Annual Meeting in Chicago on August 1, yours truly [Herman Levy] was inducted into the Fellows of the Section of Public Contract Law. The Fellows is a society of former chairs of the Section and others who have made a significant contribution to the field of public contract law." Also, in David Kaufman's note..."
1958

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We are sorry to report the death of Dr. Bernard Kosowsky on November 19, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (née Steg) BC ’60; children, Jeffrey, Joshua, Jennifer Michaelson and Daniel; and 13 grandchildren. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude from the College, Bernie attended Harvard Medical School. He was a practicing cardiologist for his entire career; at his death he was chief of cardiology emeritus at St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Boston, medical director of St. Elizabeth’s cardiac rehab program and professor of medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine.

The annual Homecoming party, festive as always and morphing, was held at the home of Ruthie and Samuel Rosenberg. [corporation’s] major economic development projects — the Hotel Commodore, the South Street Seaport, the Portman Hotel, the Archibald Building and the [Hotel] St. George.

At the time, he headed what he described as the largest real estate department of any major law firm in the city. (Along the way he also represented Donald Trump for a while.) As for his work with the Commission for Art Recovery, it began with a chance meeting with Ronald S. Lauder, of the Lauder cosmetics family, on the Concorde.

Lauder was so impressed with Charles that he hired him and, when he formed the commission, named him counsel. The commission estimates that it has recovered or helped recover more than $160 million worth of stolen art since it was established in 1997 by Lauder, who has called Charles “the unsung hero of art restitution.”

Charles was involved in negotiations for the return of Gustave Courbet’s ‘Femme nue couchee’ (Reclining Nude), which was stolen in 1944 from its Hungarian owner. Charles was surprised that the dealer who ultimately held the painting was more cooperative in its return than the involved governments he confronted. Incidentally, possibly the commission’s best known recovery was Gustav Klimt’s ‘Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I.’ Lauder bought it for $135 million from the owner’s heir, who had successfully sued for its return. It now hangs in the Neue Galerie in NYC and was the subject of the recent movie ‘Woman in Gold,’ starring Helen Mirren.

Peter Gruenberger wants us to know that the long running Class of ’58 poker game is going strong, despite the loss of David Londoner and Ted Lynn. In addition to Peter, the current group comprises Ernie Brod, Peter Cohn, Mike Geiger, Bernard Nussbaum and Bob Waldstaub.

We are also sorry to report the death of Mike Lesch’s wife, Judith Willis Lesch TC ’85, on July 23, 2015, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. She is survived by Mike; her children, Sara ’89, LAW ’93 and Ben; and five grandchildren. An Indiana native, Judy was a graduate of Juilliard and became a choreographer with her own dance company; her best-known piece, Songs for Young Lovers, was performed by the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. After earning a Ed.D. from Teachers College, Judy taught and mentored educators of learning-disabled students. She progressed from a pre-K teacher in Mamaroneck, N.Y., to a post-graduate teacher at Bank Street College of Education. Judy was a thoroughly delightful person who left us too soon.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month, in The Grill at the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com. And don’t forget to send your news to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s webform college. columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1959

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We will have to wait until the next issue for the update on Murray Epstein PS ’63’s professional successes.

Steve Buchman updates us on the late coach Irv DeKoff’s activities after he stopped coaching the Columbia fencing team: “Coach DeKoff was inducted into the US Fencing Hall of Fame in 1967 and into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008. The Ivy League Fencing Championship began during his era, and Columbia claimed 11 of 12 conference titles during his tenure. Irv’s teams posted a 141-25 record (.843 winning percentage), including four NCAA Championships, making him one of the greatest collegiate fencing coaches of all time. He was responsible for the development of numerous talented fencers, including 18 All-Americans, eight NCAA individual champions and two Olympians. After concluding his Columbia coaching career in 1967, Irv was briefly an assistant dean at
Columbia before being appointed dean of Eisenhower College in upstate New York."

Paul Kantor continues his note, the first half of which appeared in the Winter 2015-16 issue: "My wife, Carole, and I developed a shared 'second career,' which grew to be very important in our lives: studying, teaching and performing traditional (folk) dances from Eastern Europe and the Middle East (mostly). We found a home at the Mandel Jewish Community Center of Cleveland, which permitted us to move the activity beyond 'checking the box that says we teach Israeli dance' to attempt a serious artistic endeavor. Through the years we secured support from the State Council on the Arts and the State Council on the Humanities, and even from the National Endowment for the Arts. We estimated that by the time we left our company (named Shalhevet, which means campfire) we had between us three 40-hour-a-week jobs hers, mine and ours. You can see our company performing the famous Old City Quadrille by Igor Moiseyev; here (Part 1): youtube.com/watch?v=PL8e6BGK2Gk. You Tube will segue you into the second and third clips. We also worked several times with a wonderful Catholic dance company, the Duquesne University Tamburitza's, but we could not find online versions of our dances, alas.

"Our stay in Cleveland lasted until 1990, during which time I held one kind of position or another in the departments of physics, library science, systems engineering and operations research ('... and master of none'). The best part of it was probably some time spent studying complex systems — we set up a little center to look at cross-disciplinary problems, and I had a chance to work with a wonderful philosopher/mathematician, Ray Nelson. From 1976 to 1991 I did business as a library management consultant, applying powerful techniques to help clients who had (and still do have) very little money to spend. As Bob Nozick, who left us too soon, rephrased it when I told him what I do for a living: '...it's like in the movies, but instead of a gun, you're a hired brain.' Sometime in the '80s I reconected with Chicago-based Bill Zangwill and we did an NSF-funded project together. You could look it up: 1.usa.gov/1hvNghf.

"In the late '80s I joined AARP, and Carole suggested that it was time I get a 'real job.' A friend and collaborator from my Case-Western Reserve days, Tetho Saracevic, suggested I move to Rutgers, in New Jersey. As he put it, 'You don't even have to buy your own computer — they buy it for you and someone comes to the office to plug it in!' Who can resist that?

"At Rutgers I had the good fortune to begin near the top of the ladder. I seriously doubt that I could color within the lines long enough to get tenure those days. With a base in library science, I found friends and collaborators in operations research, computer science and the DIMACS (Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science). I also had the good fortune to have some wonderful doctoral students. Somewhere along the line I learned how to get external funding, which makes life at a research university much more pleasant. At the same time (early '90s), the calm waters of library science were being churned by the invention of the World Wide Web. I found myself studying these problems and that was where my research headed for the next umpteen years. I had, at the same time, a knack for not making money at it. As an example, when we could only afford to develop for Netscape or for Microsoft Internet Explorer, I picked Netscape! Once a theorist, always a theorist!

"After the attacks of 9-11, I became heavily involved in issues related to security, both national and homeland. It turns out, not surprisingly, that many of the concepts that make it possible to index the billions of pages on the World Wide Web also play a role in finding the bad apples in a basket with seven billion apples in it. These are difficult issues, both technically and philosophically, and for a time I headed up a center for interdisciplinary studies in information privacy and security. Doing this kind of work does have its amusing moments. For example, a colleague and I co-authored a paper that was subsequently classified (what is now called the 'Hillary Excuse'), so we could not read it. For the last few years most of my time has been devoted to CCICADA (Command, Control, and Interoperability Center for Advanced Data Analysis), based at Rutgers. On campus, we do not do any secret stuff but we try to help the parts of the Department of Homeland Security make the most of the information that it does have."

Sorry Paul, but I have to continue this in the next issue.

Jim Kniskern writes: "Since Columbia’s founding in 1754, thousands of graduates have passed through our hallowed halls and found their niches of success, materially or academically. I have had some measure of success in the area of progeny. I have six great-grandchildren: Taylor (15), Nicholas (13), Deven (13), Maddie (12), Kaela (10) and Katie (6)."

Allan Franklin ’59 was awarded the 2016 Abraham Pais Prize for History of Physics by the American Physical Society.
partners and associates. I have been a fairly regular attendee at Columbia reunions and it is very nice to renew old acquaintances from those days. So, as I said, all in all, things are pretty good here and if you are down our way in Tampa, Fla., give us a call — we can be found through a Google search. Thank you!

Allan Franklin reports, “I recently returned from a visit to New York, where I had lunch with Ira Jolles and his wife, Andrea; Joseph Krieger and his wife, Rose; and Isser Woloch and his wife, Nancy GSAS’62. The food was excellent and the company even better. Another bit of news — I have been awarded the 2016 Abraham Pais Prize for History of Physics by the American Physical Society.”

Joel Peter Rosenfeld GSAS’61 reports, “My wife, Carmen, and I and daughter Tati (née Maria Alicia) spent Christmas/New Year’s 2014 in Valparaiso, Chile, where it was midsummer. In 2016, we plan to visit with Frank Wilson [and his family] in Havana, Cuba, where I am on the program committee and maybe Frank will do a keynote for the International Organization of Psychophysiology.”

Space limitations mean that contributions from Bernie Pucker and Steve Trachtenberg will need to wait until the next issue. Those on my mailing list will receive all the news I have received. Contributions are needed and welcome.

1960

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Peter Schweitzer enjoyed the recap of the 55th reunion in our fall Class Notes and remarks, “V&T again contributed a marvelous lagniappe to the festivities that ensued over the weekend. I will plan to attend the 2020 60th reunion and trust Bob Abrams, Rene Plessner, Larry Rubinstein and John Pegram will join me. But,” Peter ponders, “will V&T be around in 2020 for our 60th reunion?”

Peter, I respond: “Will Alma Mater still be sitting on the steps in front of Low Library? The answer to both questions is: absolutely.”

Bill Tanenbaum writes: “This past summer, we sold our main real estate businesses and now are entering a new phase of real estate ownership. Through all this work (which I enjoy), I can say that while I know the definition of the word ‘boredom,’ I have never experienced it. My wife and I brought three of our grandchildren, ages 7, 9 and 11, to the Colorado Rocky Mountains, where we spent July. The primary activity was hiking, and all of us hiked Vail Mountain from an elevation of 8,100 ft. to 10,200 ft. along a 4.6-mile switchback trail. Hiking mountains offers an excellent metaphor; that is, when asked how one hikes to such elevations, the answer is ‘one step at a time.’ It applies well to many facets of life.”

For the past 25 years, Harris Markhoff LAW’63, managing partner at Danziger & Markhoff in Westchester County, N.Y., has been selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America in the areas of corporate law and trusts and estates law. Harris has a broad business and tax practice that includes counseling individuals, professional corporations and closely held and family-owned businesses on a range of corporate, tax and estate planning issues. Now Harris can take pride in the fact that his son and law partner, Michael Markhoff ’87, has been selected by a peer-review survey as “2016 Trusts & Estates Lawyer of the Year” for White Plains, N.Y., and for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America in that field of practice.

Bob Berne brought to my attention a moving remembrance of Richard Friedlander that appeared in the Metropolitan Diary column of The New York Times on November 25.

“Dear Diary: I met my late husband, Richard, 50 years ago on Oct. 12 on West 72nd Street between Broadway and West End Avenue. He picked me up on the street at 10 p.m. in front of the Famous Dairy restaurant. His opening line: ‘A friend of mine has the summer version of that jacket.’ It was a balmy autumn evening, and I felt like buying ice cream, so I had left my nearby apartment, and threw on some clothes, including the aforementioned wool Army jacket. It was the swinging ’60s, after all. I turned around and saw a tall, handsome guy with salt-and-pepper hair carrying a dainty racquet. He had just finished playing squash,
and was carrying roast chicken in a brown paper bag. His next remark was: "What school did you go to?" I recognized a distinctive pinky ring he was wearing from a Columbia College honor society, Nacoms. A graduate of the sister school, Barnard College, I coyly replied: "The same school you did." We got to the corner. I lived at 70th and West End, he lived at West 74th and Riverside Drive. "Would you like to come to my place for coffee?" he asked. Instead I invited him to my apartment (safer, I thought). He ate his chicken; I ate my vanilla ice cream. There was one problem. I had on no underwear and my wool pants were becoming itchy! I sent him on his way. We subsequently had proper dates, married, and stayed together for 46 great years. I walk past that spot on 72nd Street every day. Iris Friedlander [BC'63]."

...When she interrupted her reading...
his shop with a view and is making some Maloof-style furniture. John welcomes contact from classmates who visit Hawaii (he travels often to D.C., but seldom to New York); his contact webpage is www.phys.hawaii.edu/~jgl/

Bob Salman LAW’64 is an active member of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee and is active in Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign. He will teach a sequel to his “Great Trials” course this spring at Brookdale Community College. The trials he will cover are the Lindbergh kidnapping, the Army-McCarthy hearings, Adolf Eichmann and Casey Anthony.

This spring Bob’s granddaugh¬ter, Mackenzie Page Werther, will have her bat mitzvah. For her gift, Bob and his wife, Reva, will take Mackenzie on a Tauck tour of Ireland, including a side trip to JFK’s ancestral home. This will coincide with their 53rd anniversary but also unfortunately will cut into their Reunion Weekend 2016 attendance.

Maureen and Phil Cotton’s granddaughter, Megan, had a son, Matthew James, who makes them great-grandparents. He will be CC’37.

Gene Milone attended the International Astronomical Union meeting in Honolulu, presenting two oral papers and a poster on his work.

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Gene Milone attended the International Astronomical Union meeting in Honolulu in August and presented two oral papers and a poster on his eclipsing modeling work of the past year. That work, which involves a more precise and accurate distance determination for these special binary star systems than previous study allowed, is continuing to determine accurate distances to star clusters in which some of them are found. Last year, Gene presented results on a binary in the Hyades. This year the target was a binary in the farther and older galactic cluster NGC 752 in Andromeda. After the meeting, Gene took his grandson on a cruise around the islands.

He notes for those who hate hot and muggy weather: Do not visit Hawaii in the summer!

In the Winter 2015–16 issue, Arnie Abrams JRN’62 wrote about his journalism career in Southeast Asia and mentioned his recent trip to Vietnam. After covering a losing war that marked a turning point in American history and had a profound impact on his life, Arnie returned in October to Vietnam after an absence of four decades. He found a country greatly changed in physical features like skylines, highways and housing. Unexpected for him was the seemingly positive Vietnamese attitude toward the United States. Remarkably, there is no animus there toward us, Arnie reports. Arnie doubts that if our country had been invaded and devastated by a foreign army and if ordinary American citizens had been treated as contemptuously by those invaders — who callously declared large stretches of land to be “free-fire” zones and routinely called local inhabitants “gooks” and “dinks” — we would be as forgiving.

The Vietnamese have been battling foreign invaders for centuries; the “American War” ended in 1975 and many of the people, particularly those he met, had not yet been born when the fighting raged. They probably never saw magazine articles, newspaper stories and official reports about what we did to them. But there was word-of-mouth, years of it, unfettered. They know, yet they still seem to like us, he says.

“You former president are here,” one resident said to Arnie outside a noodle shop in Saigon, the former South Vietnamese capital, now officially named Ho Chi Minh City. “What an honor.”

That blew his mind, as did the changed look of places like Da Nang, which he remembered as a big, scrunched down town and now is a real city with modern office buildings, tall apartment houses, neat stores, clean streets and long stretches of beach resorts under construction.

Arnie had no trouble recognizing a once-familiar part of Saigon. HCMC, as government bureaucrats call it, also has expanded upward and outward. It still has the original, 10-story Caravelle Hotel (which housed most of the press corps during the war, and now is an adjunct of the towering, 25-story Caravelle built alongside it) and the nearby Hotel Continental.

He spent much time at both.

The Hotel Continental was a gathering spot for a motley mix of journalists, spies and spooks who, in late afternoon, would sip citrus press, exchange gossip and ogle young Vietnamese women wearing ao dari, a spectacular outfit with flowing tunic and tight pantaloons. That outfit now seems to be worn mostly by female flight attendants, hotel receptionists and waitresses in fancy restaurants.

Also familiar, but greatly changed, is the village of My Lai. About 350 miles north of Saigon, it was known by GIs, many of whom were injured there by booby traps or snipers, as “Pinkville.” This was the 1968 site of the war’s most infamous massacre — members of the Army’s Americal Division murdered hundreds of elderly men, women and children there.

The village has been Disneyfied, reports Arnie. Its tiny bamboo huts (called “hootches” by GIs) have been rebuilt and enlarged; its narrow paths, once a morass of mud, were upgraded; a central plaza was created and tiled; a formal entrance was constructed and a museum — showcasing weapons and artifacts, with lecture rooms, a small auditorium and equipment for visual presentations — was built. However, the site seemingly has few visitors. Nobody was there the day he arrived and stayed several hours. “Some people come here,” his guide said, “but it’s not a big tourist attraction.”

Physical change is not a major factor in the Mekong Delta, a rice-rich and fruit-filled region whose northern tip is a several-hour drive from Saigon. Still, what used to be a tense trip into hostile territory, rife with ambush sites and potential danger, now is little more than a slow trip along a traffic-clogged but widened four-lane road.

An atmosphere of calm pervades the delta, where life seemingly is good for farmers, fishermen and merchants. Business is booming in the town of Ben Tre, which gained notoriety during the Tet Offensive of 1968, when Viet Cong forces overran it. After U.S. artillery and air strikes had leveled much of the town but allowed the government to retake control, a U.S. officer was widely quoted as saying, “It became necessary to destroy the town in order to save it.” That judgment, for many, summed up much about the war.

A fish seller Arnie met in the busy central marketplace vividly remembered Tet. “I was 19,” she said. “Everybody else in my family was killed by the American attacks — parents, brothers, sisters.” Yet she bears no grudge toward Americans. “They blew everything up,” she explained, “but it was the Viet Cong who made us stay.” She blamed them, not the Americans.

The woman, now in her mid-’60s, insisted on anonymity. Ben Tre and the entire delta was (and still is) filled with Viet Cong supporters. In the center of town stands a statue of a famous female resident, long dead of natural causes, who was a local Viet Cong leader. Residents who visit her statue to leave flowers and honor her legacy probably outnumber the tourists who visit My Lai.

Sadly, Bob Goldfield died on September 17 after a long battle with acute myeloid leukemia. He was fortunate to have a remission that lasted almost two years.

1962

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By the time this column reaches you, spring will be arriving. Hoping all of us had easy and relaxed winters.

Roman Kernitsky, of Colts Neck, N.J., wrote the following response to Jeff Milstein’s April 16, 2015, letter to The New York Times, which appeared in the Fall 2015 column: ‘Jeff stated that the United States has been imposing ‘diplomatic isolation’ on Russian President Vladimir Putin for his invasion of Ukraine. He stated that Obama should have been present in Moscow for Victory Day, because ‘the Soviet people paid a terrible price for that victory,’ and Obama should have paid due respect to honor that great sacrifice.”

‘[I disagree.] The Soviet Union consisted of 15 republics — only one of which was Russian. Four million
Ukrainians fought in the Red Army against the Germans. The Germans took 3.8 million Soviet military prisoners, of which 1.3 million were Ukrainians. The Nazis killed hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian POWs by starvation, gassing and other methods. It was the Soviet 1st Ukrainian Front division that liberated Auschwitz on January 27, 1945. An estimated 6.8 million Ukrainians were killed during the war, including most of the Ukrainian Jewish population. For every one village that was destroyed and its inhabitants executed in France and Czechoslovakia, 250 villages and inhabitants suffered such a fate in Ukraine at the hands of the Nazis. My wife’s father was in the Red Army and her uncle was a colonel in the Red Army. To honor the sacrifice of the Ukrainian people in their fight against the Nazis and to emphasize the diplomatic isolation of the fascist Putin for his invasion of Ukraine, Obama was absolutely right to stay away from Moscow on Victory Day.”

I asked Jeff whether he’d like to reply, and he did: “Roman is correct that the Soviet Union consisted of 15 republics, including Ukraine as well as Russia and 13 others. In addition, indeed, the Red Army consisted of troops from all of the Soviet Union’s republics, including Ukraine. However, I think he misses the main point of my letter.

“The 70th anniversary of the 1945 surrender of Nazi Germany and the Allied victory in Europe in WWII was commemorated in Moscow on May 9, ’Victory Day.’ All of the Soviet people paid a terrible price for that victory: more than 20 million total deaths, including more than 8 million military deaths — a majority of all American and Allied deaths in the European theater of war.

“In my letter, which the Times published more than three weeks before Victory Day, I suggested that to pay due respect to the few surviving war veterans, and to honor that great sacrifice to our shared historic cause, Obama himself should be present in Moscow on Victory Day, but not attend the parade’s show of military force. Instead, I suggested that he lay a commemorative wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“I reasoned that by showing such respect, the diplomatic ice jam over the Ukrainian crisis might be broken. As it turned out, Obama did not go to Moscow on May 9. What he did do, however, was to send Secretary of State John Kerry on May 12 to meet in Sochi, Russia, with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and with Putin. One of the main purposes of these first high-level meetings in more than two years since the start of the Ukrainian crisis was to restart diplomatic discussions about the conflict and crisis in Ukraine. While in Sochi (before meeting with Putin) and with Lavrov at his side, Kerry did indeed join Lavrov in laying a wreath of flowers at the Zakharovskiy War Memorial for soldiers killed in WWII. Kerry, in his remarks later that same day, called that wreath-laying ceremony ‘a powerful reminder of the sacrifices that we shared to bring about a safer world and what our nations can accomplish when our peoples are working together toward a same goal.’

“I hope Roman and Jeff will share their further thoughts on this matter in time to make the Summer 2016 issue.

Leo Swergold and Michael Stone both wrote to express their sadness at the death of David M. Richter. Leo and David were roommates at the College. David passed away at home on October 19, 2015, in The Villages, Fla. He was 74.

David was born in the Bronx and graduated from Bronx Science in 1958. He earned an M.D. at Johns Hopkins and from 1972 to 1974 served in the Air Force at MacDill AFB, near Tampa, Fla. He then practiced general surgery in Broward County, Fla., for 25 years.

David had many other interests: flying model planes, sculpting bonsai trees, bass fishing and photography, and he was an avid golfer. Leo recalled that he and David, along with their third roommate, Steve Bell, traveled through Europe during summer 1961 “on the proverbial $5-a-day routine. Rough but a hoot.”

Leo also remembered having dinner at David’s parents’ home in the Bronx on the night of the New York blackout. “Quite an experience getting there in a taxi [with a driver] that was convinced we were the source of the power outage. David rowed lightweight crew for a while and was a kind and gentle fellow. I will miss him.”

David is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Miriam; daughter, Amy Griffin of Bowie, Md.; son, Michael of Las Vegas; and grandsons, Myles Griffin and Kamron Richter. The family writes: “David lived his life with humor, kindness and honesty, and, although the world seems a little less bright right now, it is with great joy that the family celebrates a life well lived.”

Online condolences may be left at beyersfuneralhome.com. Memorial contributions may be made to American Brain Tumor Association, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Ste 550, Chicago, IL 60631.

Please let us know how you and your family are, and share news you’d like us to know.

1963

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Homecoming found many of my classmates gathered from near and far in the hopes of seeing the football team return to the form we remember from our undergraduate years (actually, we are the last Columbia class to have enjoyed three winning seasons out of our four — something we all hope to see repeated soon).

I saw Henry Black, Paul Gorlin, Mary Ellen and Frank Partel, Jane GS’86 and Jerry Dwyer, Phil Satow, Tom O’Connor, Steve Barcan, Lee Lowenfish, and Larry Neuman and his son Andreas Neuman ‘98. Sadly, the game was lost and this season, though showing signs of great promise, has not brought back winning times. Your classmates will continue to cheer the Lions on; please join us this fall.

Our Second Thursday Class Lunches have entered their 12th consecutive year at the Columbia University Club of New York Grill. Attendance during the last few months of 2015 included an impressive number of you: Doug Anderson, Steve Barcan, Henry Black, Peter Brolido, Ed Coiler, Jerry Dwyer, Doron Gopstein, Bob Heller, Bruce Kaplan, Lee Lowenfish, Don Margolis, Paul Neshamkin, Frank Partel, Gary Rachelefsky, Barry Reiss, Phil Satow, Harvey Schneller and Jeff Thompson.

Please join us! Send me an email, and I will add you to the monthly reminder.

In late November, the College held an elegant breakfast in the Low Rotunda to celebrate the launch of Core to Commencement, the first fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to Columbia College. I joined Henry Black and Don Margolis, and spied Eric Foner in attendance. I’m sure you will be hearing a great deal more about this $400 million commitment to the future of the Core Curriculum at Columbia and I hope that you will join me in supporting it (columbia.edu/campaign/donate). To many of us, the Core remains the defining element of our Columbia education and I hope it remains so for another 100 years.

I got a follow-up from Bob Sluiter about the film Caravelle’s Journey (see the Winter 2015–16 Class Notes), in which Bob writes, “I am the primo talking head (if I may be so boastful). [The film] is finally being distributed. I went to its world premiere last summer at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival and had my 15 minutes (actually it lasted two days, but that is ‘another story’) of fame at two theaters, one in San Francisco and one in Palo Alto. For the Q&A I donned exactly the garb that I wear in the film. Quite a number of women in the audience picked it up, but hardly any men.”

Bob sent a schedule of screenings around the country. Many preceded this issue of CCT, but you might be able to catch it at the Princeton University Art Museum (Princeton, N.J., April 17).

Nick Zill has posted yet another of his political comments in an animated video on YouTube: “Hillary Tells A Joke!” (youtube.com/watch?v=sojy7KjQw). Nick says, "She may be building momentum, but she's still humor-impaired.” On a completely different note, Nick had his research findings on adopted children documented in an article by Ruth Graham in the December 2 edition of The Atlantic (theatlantic.com; search by keywords “Nick Zill”).

Frank Sypher has published another book about New York colonial history, Liber A of the Collegiate Churches of New York, Part 2, which he edited and translated.

Says Frank: “Liber A of the Collegiate Churches of New York, Part 2 contains 17th-century records of the Reformed Dutch Church
of the City of New York, including baptisms from 1639 to 1697, with names of parents, children and witnesses; names of members from 1649 to 1701; and names of brides and grooms in marriage intentions and marriages from 1639 to 1701.

“This volume is a companion to Liber A (2009), which contains texts of official Church documents, including the royal charter granted by King William III, dated May 11, 1696, establishing the church as an independent corporation. The present publication covers the subsequent portion of the original manuscript, pp. 247–714. The records were written down by Domine Hendricus Selijns, minister from 1682 until 1701.

“The records portray the life of the church at this period and provide details about thousands of individuals and their families in New Amsterdam and British Colonial New York. The publication will be welcomed by descendants interested in family members who belonged to the church. But genealogical interest is only part of the story. From a social and historical point of view, the records offer a census-like survey of the demographics of the early colonial city, with data for statistics on births, marriages and remarriages. Liber A is a major document of American colonial heritage.”

Paul Gorrin followed up with details on his grandchild’s birth: “Our first grandchild, a girl named Bailey Samantha, smiled the day she was born — or the day after.”

Paul, a great start, but one I would expect from a Gorrin. Congrats!

Paul also reported that Paul Zimet, whose theater group, Talking Band, celebrated its 40th anniversary last year and presented its new play, Barmished by Grief, by Ellen Maddow, at La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in the East Village from January 22 to February 7.

Paul, I’m sorry that this issue will be published after your run. Drop me a note and give your classmates a heads-up in advance of your next production.

Classmates, check out talking band.org to learn about the wonderful work the group has created.

Charles Miller writes, “As of November, I joined the partnership of the law firm of Eaton & Van Winkle in the firm’s Midtown office. Established in New York in 1820, Eaton & Van Winkle is one of the oldest general practice law firms in New York City, with a growing contingent of intellectual property practitioners of patent, trade secrets, trademark and copyright law. I look forward to continuing my involvement in the Class of ’63’s activities, including monthly luncheons.”

Remember, our regular class lunches are a great place to reconnect. If you’re in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches, scheduled for April 14, May 12 and June 9 — it’s always the second Thursday. Check c63jen.com for details.

1964

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I am writing a few days before Christmas. As Bing Crosby dreams on the radio of a white Christmas, the weatherman is predicting it will be 72 that day here in New York City!

By the time this arrives in your mailbox we will be well into 2016. I wish you and those dear to you a year filled with good health, peace, joy and prosperity.

Michael Sklaroff received the Harris Ominsky Award from the Real Property Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The award recognizes the legal talents and achievements, the integrity and the contributions to the public interest made by a Philadelphia attorney.

In response to an article on the Holocaust film Son of Saul, the Financial Times published a letter from Allen Tobias on the meaning of the Holocaust in Hungary.

I have been attending home basketball games, where I see stalwarts Howard Jacobson, Ivan Weissman, Doron Gopstein ’63 and Lee Lowenfish ’63. The team started with an 11–6 non-conference record, but the real test came in the middle of January when the Ivy League season began.

Ken Prager was awarded a Columbia University Presidential Teaching Award last spring. He is professor of medicine, director of medical ethics and chairman of the Medical Ethics Committee at Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Ken writes: “I was very pleased and honored to be a recipient of the Columbia University Presidential Teaching Award last May at Commencement. As I sat on Low Steps gazing at thousands of graduating students and their families on a perfect spring day, I finally experienced the graduation ceremony I missed 51 years ago.

“There are many parallels between the arts of medicine and teaching. In both, the ability to connect effectively with someone else — in one case a patient, in the other a student — is critical. As a pulmonologist I encountered and became fascinated with difficult end-of-life ethical issues while rounding in the ICU in the 1970s and ’80s when the discipline of medical ethics was emerging. This spawned a career as bioethicist at what was then called Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. It led to many teaching responsibilities involving medical students, house staff, nurses, social workers and the lay public.

“I will forever be grateful for the outstanding liberal arts education I received at Columbia. Its broad scope was a perfect preparation for a career in medicine and bioethics, which demands sensitivity, empathy and the ability to think and reason analytically and clearly.

“Even as I write this note, I think of my first-semester English professor, Steven Marcus ’48, GSAS ’61, who, by mercilessly dissecting my writing assignments and patiently reviewing them with me in his office, taught me how to write.

“The Columbia tradition has continued in my family. Three of my four children have attended either the College, GS, Barnard or the Nursing School. And equally important, many of the songs I learned from director Bailey Harvey in the Glee Club I passed on to my children around the dinner table — harmony and all.“What if tomorrow brings …”

“Congratulations, Ken, and thank you for your heartfelt tribute to the College.


I hope to see more of you in 2016. And send in a Class Note — your classmates want to hear from you. You can use either of the addresses at the top of this column or the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1965

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Reflections and reminiscences on our 50th reunion continue to come in as well as new submissions from generous classmates.

“James Carifio (James.Carifio @uml.edu) commented on an item I ran in the Summer 2015 Class Notes on Niles Eldredge GSAS’69. “Your little piece on Eldredge … you really underplayed that one; I didn’t know that he was in our class. He may be in the top 10 contributors of our generation, that is how much of a big deal his work is — those two guys [Eldredge and Stephen Jay Gould] really changed the paradigm big time on what [evolutionary] change is exactly and how it occurs. Can’t believe that I’ve been reading and appreciating a guy’s work for 40 years and didn’t even know he was a classmate …”

I told Jim that I had roomed with Niles at Columbia. He responded: “You were blessed, Leonard, and you can tell Niles I said so. Such incredibly good work; when I learned he was in our class I was sad that I missed the opportunity right under my nose to know him. But such is university life …”

“However, I accidentally made good friends with Dick Morley about 15 years ago (the legend of MIT who literally put us on the moon and a million other things …). We email all the time and I spend an afternoon at The Barn (his farm/think place in New Hampshire) every few months, just hanging out and discussing stuff. What an education. He has immensely..."
Barry Levine

great-grandson.

winter. My hobbies are golf, reading

afterglow, I received a submission

two sons, five grandchildren and one

not view this as charitable work but

the Israeli Defense Forces, and I do

an ardent worker and supporter of

Eagle One Consulting. We work in

technical arena related to my educa¬

for 42 years an executive for Merck

degrees in chemistry and chemical

appear’... and I did!”

Arthur Klink

four degrees in chemistry and chemical

ENRICHED MY THINKING ON NUMEROUS THINGS, INCLUDING EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE (ANOTHER ONE OF MY INTERESTS). [HIS IS] ONE OF THE MOST ORIGINAL AND CREATIVE MINDS I HAVE INTERACTED WITH, WHICH IS WHERE THE REAL EDUCATION IS WHEN YOU ARE READY FOR IT, OR AS DICK ONCE SAID, ‘WHEN THE TEACHER IS READY, THE STUDENT WILL APPEAR’... AND I DID!”

Arthur Klink SEAS73 (arthur klink@aol.com) says: “I received four degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering from Columbia. I was for 42 years an executive for Merck (pharmaceuticals), ExxonMobil (oil, gas, petrochemicals) and lastly for the intelligence community in Washington, D.C., (several defense-related contractors). I always worked in the technical arena related to my education, so my career was enjoyable.

“I have been retired for seven years and consult with my company, Eagle One Consulting. We work in the three main areas related to my experience just mentioned. I am a snowbird and live on a golf course community in southern Pennsylvania for six months in the summer and on the Gulf and a golf course in Naples, Fl., for six months in the winter. My hobbies are golf, reading and computer/technical work. I am an ardent worker and supporter of the Israeli Defense Forces, and I do not view this as charitable work but as a supportive commitment. I have two sons, five grandchildren and one great-grandson.”

With help from the reunion afterglow, I received a submission from Barry Levine (barry@queso.com): “My wife, Shirley, and I had an enjoyable time at reunion. It was surprisingly nostalgic to be able to speak to not only the classmates whom I see with some regularity in the city (like you Leonard, Mike Cook, Steve Hoffman and the Ed Goodgold/San Carlinsky duo) but also those whom I have not seen in decades. It’s funny how memories you thought were buried resurface when such encounters happen. It has been years since I saw Ed Merlis, Jeff Kriulwich, Lou Goodman and Alan Green. Catching up was great!

“Shirley and I spent our ‘working life’ in academic medicine (Shirley in hematology and I in surgery), taking care of patients, teaching, running basic science research labs and climbing the academic ladder. That life took us from the University of Chicago, to the University of California, to the University of Texas and finally back to New York City at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

“We had three kids during our residences in San Diego, and raised them all in San Antonio, where I was sent as an Army ‘Berry Plan’ defense until I finished my residency, and then joined Shirley on the faculty at UT. However, we did make sure that the kids were pointed east for college. Luckily they agreed with that plan and went to Dartmouth and Columbia as undergraduates; all three got their graduate degrees at Columbia as well. Even though they have prospered in their professions (law, medicine and entrepreneurship), the best part about them is that, in total, they have given us eight grandchildren, who have become a central part of our lives. Six live just across Central Park from us and the other two are a short trip away in D.C. It makes it easy for us to snatch them up, take them on adventures in the city and then have them sleep over at our apartment.

“Shirley and I have both been retired for several years and enjoy it immensely. I have been involved with the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years and also am on the board of the Goddard Riverside Community Center, which is one of the 37 settlement houses that help form a safety net for the poor and underserved in the city. Mike Cook got me interested in Goddard and I am very glad he did. Through them I have become involved in early child learning and homeless projects. It has been very fulfilling.

“I also have taken advantage of the educational opportunities that New York offers. I am part of a peer learning group sponsored by The New School, where I have taken and taught courses. I have also enjoyed taking seminars sponsored by the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia, which are taught by emeritus professors from the College.

“My wife has immersed herself in the art world. She takes drawing and painting courses and has a group of friends with whom she goes on sketching and painting forays around the city. There is not a museum or gallery show in town where she and her friends cannot be seen propping against a wall sketching some of the offerings.

“Finally, we go on the occasional trip to Europe and love to attend theater, music and dance performances in the city. All in all, NYC is a very good place to retire, and I can truly say that all the things that I love to do now were piqued, and then deepened, by my education at the College. I owe Columbia a lot.”

Andy Fisher (andrewfisher@gmail.com) sent an obituary for Lee Dunn, who died in October 2013. I sent the obituary to those of us who shared a rental house with Lee when we had internships in Washington, D.C., in summer 1964. One of them, James Levy L'AW'68 (jlevyesq@myfairpoint.net), sent a particularly noteworthy response: “I was saddened to learn of Lee's death. The last time that I spoke with him was probably about four or five years ago. Since then I had tried unsuccessfully to reach him, finally giving up when the numbers were disconnected. I considered Lee a good friend and [he was] occasional co-counsel with me on medical malpractice cases arising in Vermont. He always was attentive to detail, enjoyed meeting new folks on my home turf and relished the opportunity to engage in rather extended (extensive and expensive as well) litigations, no matter the venue. While I often considered the 'process' to be the 'punishment,' Lee in contrast believed it to be the ultimate form of personal and professional fulfillment.

"In the 1980s and 1990s we often met in Hanover, N.H., to attend the Columbia–Dartmouth football game, welcoming the chance to revitalize our own Lion connections while enduring the seemingly inevitable bloodbath on the gridiron. The Columbia University Marching Band's traditional fourth quarter chant (you may be winning but we get to leave') provided a most fitting note for our departure but we always vowed to return for yet another bout of gridiron folly in a couple of years. Lee's own linguistic gem ('up your giggy [sic] with a wire brush') will forever resonate in my memory, and his insightful wit will be missed. Alas, the memory of memory is that it allows us to keep that which we have lost.”

Chris Morren (morrerchris christopher@gmail.com) commented on reunion: "Our reunion was great, and seeing classmates 50 years later was magical. Reuniting with glee clubbers and singing in a Dan Carlinsky trivia production at the class dinner also was Italiana ... well, just can't top that. Since reunion I have fully retired from medical practice.

"I had a delightful dinner with Joe Beckmann in Somerville, Mass; Jeff Kriulwich and Bill Wertheim and their spouses joined me and my wife for dinner and singing of old Columbia songs; Pete Smith invited us to hear him sing Beethoven's Ode to Joy with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus ... reunion was the catalyst for all these wonderful meetings.”

Dave Obelkevich (obelkevich @aol.com) completed his 40th New York City Marathon in November, finishing in 4:57. His amazing record was featured in The New York Times, Agence France Presse and Runner's World.

The College's Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner was held on November 19, honoring Eric H.
Robert Yunich (rhyunich@gmail.com) sent this: "I enjoyed our 50th reunion very much. It was great that so many classmates participated. It was great fun and a chance to briefly reconnect. During the past two years, I have become very involved as a volunteer for two New York based not-for-profits.

"Most people know about the Fresh Air Fund's programs for enabling inner-city kids to spend a portion of their summer vacation either in the home of a host family outside New York City or as a camper at one of the five FAF-run camps. Less well-known are the programs during the remainder of the year. I have tutored three students, ranging from 7th to 10th grades, needing help in English language arts (this was English when we were in school), chemistry, algebra and geometry (can anyone remember the formula for sulfuric acid or the Pythagorean theorem?). Fortunately, FAF has resources for tutoring the tutor and I had the ability to read the relevant sections of textbooks faster than the students. I also surprised myself with the information, long dormant, retrieved from my memory bank.

"The Community Service Society has been helping disadvantaged New Yorkers for more than a century. I was accepted into its Financial Coaching Corps, which required completion of a 30-hour orientation program and a final exam. As a financial coach, I have been helping people pro bono in one-on-one meetings to deal with problems most of us have been lucky enough to avoid: adverse credit reports, stifling credit card obligations and the quagmire around crippling amounts of outstanding student loans. I also guide my 'clients' through preparing monthly budgets and managing their cash flow. The large majority only have one session, which I suspect is the result of lacking the self-discipline to address and resolve their financial problems. The most gratifying are those who come back multiple times to allow me to review their progress and, more importantly, to see that hope and optimism from having a plan has replaced initial despair and hopelessness.

"My wife Joanne's and my travels this year have been curtailed, as Joanne's brother is battling cancer and she is an assistant living (she calls me when she wants something). Our most recent excursion was a one-week trip to London in 2014 for a little R&R. We stayed at Claridge's and saw some wonderful museum exhibits. We also spent a weekend at The Manor House Hotel in Castle Combe, Chippenham. (Castle Combe, being one of the oldest villages in England, was the venue Steven Spielberg used for filming War Horse. The brick streets were covered with dirt for the movie.) Two of London's best theater shows (The Audience and Skylight) had already moved to NYC so we saw them here and liked them very much. King Charles III had rave reviews in London; we saw it and dis liked it. It opened recently in NYC to critical acclaim. We look forward to resuming our travels in 2016. I work part-time as a financial adviser at MetLife."

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1966

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2-5, 2016
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Classmates and friends, before we get to our column, consider what is happening in June. I'm talking about history and mortality and the passage of our lives. I don't know how many of you attended or thought about your 50th high school reunion, but I'm guessing it was a fair number and that this milestone had some effect on you. Well, this is CCF's 60th reunion, commemorating the most significant four-year experience in our lives. Time is passing, guys, ever faster.

A large and diverse group of classmates have put in almost a year of intense work to make this event memorable and different. For those coming back to New York after many years, there are incredible experiences to help you enjoy the city and see its changes. There will be tours of campus and the neighborhood; amazing, informative and enjoyable speakers; and some classic NYC experiences.

Bob Gurland is hosting a relaxed, yet elegant, complimentary cocktail party in his expansive TriBeCa loft; a classnote who wishes to remain anonymous has substantially subsidized a luxury cocktail/buffet Manhattan cruise (information will be coming on how those who sign up first can attend for free); and we have impressive venues for our campus events. The idea is to provide an enjoyable College-centric menu of events for you to choose among, so whether you come in for the weekend or the full week, you will have options both on-campus or Manhattan-wide. The experience of a few days in Manhattan is its own justification; enjoying your 50th reunion makes it doubly enticing. Please join us; you'll see old friends and make new ones. It may not be the last hurrah, but it will be a big one.

Pride of place: This edition goes to Stuart Berkman BUS'68, in Terespolis, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, my predecessor as Class Notes correspondent, who put in many years faithfully recording our history. Thanks for your efforts, Stuart.

From Stuart: "My wife, Gilda, and I live in a mountain town outside Rio de Janeiro, and are somewhat apprehensive about the effects of the Olympic Games coming in August. We celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary in February 2016, and plan to go somewhere in the Americas to commemorate, although as of this writing no decision has been made as to where. We had an excellent trip to Austria, Bavaria and northern Italy in October, and planned to visit our daughter, Sacha Berkman '05, in New York over the year-end holidays. We hope to be able to participate in the 50th reunion in June."

Steve Leichter: "My wife, Sydney, and I already have our hotel reservations for the 50th reunion. Through the years she has gotten to know some of our wonderful classmates, including Mark Amsterdam, Herb Hochman and Mike Garrett. We are excited about reunion. We ended up in Columbus, Ga., with five grown children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. My retirement is running the largest diabetes/endocrine center in the western half of Georgia; it serves most of the southwest quarter of the state. I always loved endocrinology, especially diabetes care, and still do."

Calvin Johnson: "I write a lot about taxation issues (utexas.edu/law/faculty/cvs/chj7107_cv.pdf). I care intensely about taxes but I have learned, with the help of my wife, not to raise [the topic] in social situations. I recently [was appointed] the John T. Kipp Chair in Corporate and Business Law at UT Law School. The dean called me 'a committed and hard-thinking colleague' and 'a man of ideas,' and said that he was presenting the chair 'with esteem' and 'with much admiration.' I do not know whether to praise the dean as a man of great perception, or just to pay no attention to the man behind the curtain."

Dan Sullivan: "When you are over 70, life becomes less active, less interesting and there is less to talk about. Keep well and see you in June."

Joe Steinberger LAW'72: "I am semi-retired from my law practice and very much employed in raising my child, Takoma (8). His mother, Keiko, is busy at her restaurant, Suzuki's Sushi Bar, here in Rockland, Maine. I live in awe of my beautiful Japanese wife, who has created one of the finest restaurants in the world using ingredients from local fishermen, farmers and foragers. I hope to bring Tak with me to the 50th so he can meet other aging Colombians and imagine what college might be like. I have a request of my classmates: Has anyone heard any news of Bob Schapiro? He was my roommate for two years."

[Editor's note: Columbia University records show that Bob passed away in the early 2000s. Anyone who wishes to share memories, please write in.]

Roger G. Keppel: "I entered the Army in 1967 and served as an infantry lieutenant in the 9th Infantry Division (Vietnam). Wounded in action in 1969 and discharged in 1970. Received an M.A. in aquatic biology from SUNY Binghamton and retired in 2010 from a career as an environmental biologist working for various companies in the area of power plant impact on fish populations. I'm married to Deborah, a registered nurse, and have three..."
On January 21, several members of the Class of ‘66 met for dinner at The Back Room at One57. Clockwise from top left: Eric Gould, Herbert Hochman, Joel Klein ’67, Arthur Reynolds, Paul Ehrlich and Barry Collier.

children and six grandchildren. I stay in contact with Tom Kappner and his wife, Gussie BC’66, SW’84. I enjoy visiting family, gardening, landscaping and reading."

Richard “Rick” Davis GSAS’74: “I retired in 2015 from the anthropology department at Bryn Mawr College — 37 years of teaching and doing prehistoric archaeology. Digging and probing in lots of places it’s hard to get to now — Iran, eastern Turkey, northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan — but also Siberia and many visits to the eastern Alcetians. The best thing, though, is having a large and growing family — four children, including Alex ’04, and five grandchildren. It really does keep my head spinning. No question my undergraduate years at Columbia were transformative and truly fun, I even stayed on to get a doctorate. And I would do it all again.”

Albert Bruns: “My wife, Prudence Farrow Bruns (who attended GS in the early ’80s) and who later earned a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley in Sanskrit, published her memoir, Dear Prudence: The Story Behind The Song, this spring. It was well-received. My daughter graduated from FSU College of Medicine last spring and is doing residencies in Portland, Ore., in internal medicine. I recently spent time with Bill Wise, Mike Melia ’68, Dick Melia and Michael Shannon. They all seem well and we had a wonderful time talking about the old days. Bill has moved from California to North Carolina for the time being. I would like to go to the 50th reunion but I am waiting to see if anybody I know is attending.”

Pete Wernick: “In 2015 the bluegrass band I’m in, Hot Rize, toured most of the United States, playing 30 festivals and hitting the top of the Billboard Bluegrass Albums chart with the album When I’m Free (drbanjo.com).”

Harvey Jay: “I am fortunately doing very well. I am blessed with a wonderful wife, Phyllis; four wonderful children, Dave, Laura, Rachel and Becky; and two wonderful grandchildren, Ellis and Ben.

“I appreciate the excellent education that I received at Columbia College. The interactions with many fellow students, and several faculty members such as Dr. Gary McDowell GSAS’65, were truly life-changing experiences. At a time like this I wonder about classmates who are much less fortunate and probably really need our assistance even more than our college. I cannot be certain that needy classmates exist, but feel that our class and school should make an effort to reach those classmates who require assistance. Opening our reunion and our hearts to classmates in need will demonstrate that our values and actions reflect the higher ideals of our College education. A more democratic and less elitist 50th reunion will be one that I hope many of you will feel is more fitting for the Class of ’66. If you agree with this suggestion, please contact our class representatives and let’s see if we can again make a positive difference.”

David Kelston practices law in Boston.

Joseph Albeck: “This year I will celebrate my 70th birthday here in the Boston suburbs, a few months before [reunion]. As a member of the Reunion Committee I have been pleased with how the planning is going. I hope to be part of a poetry group at reunion, where classmates may contemplate our musings. The September 2015 Double Discovery Center 50th Anniversary Gala, which celebrated Joel Klein ’67 and Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS74’s contributions to Columbia, was a delightful experience, and happy precursor to our 50th.

“I have a part-time private practice of psychiatry affiliated with Harvard’s McLean Hospital. Time spent with family is the most enjoyable activity: three children, four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and one step-great-grandchild all live nearby, so our dining room table is no longer large enough for some of our gatherings.

“As a charter member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a founder of the New England Holocaust Memorial, the terrorist threats and increasingly disturbing similarities to the politics of the 1930s in Europe and America are of great concern. My own efforts to recover tide to some of my family’s property in Warsaw, Poland (seized by the Nazis and then by the Russians) is proceeding against the many obstacles the Polish government has put in place, but even if we are unsuccessful, it feels right to make the effort, even after all these years.

“As a physician, I have found it stressful to make the transition to being a patient for the increasing number of (so far non-fatal) conditions that require the expenditure of time and energy. I am no longer the 20-year-old who graduated from college so long ago but I still often feel like I should be as energetic and enthusiastic as I was then. So ‘Doctor, heal thyself’ is good advice and I look forward to sharing others’ views on the subject when we meet in June.”

Tom Chorba and his wife, Celeste, reconnected with Kathy and Bill Corcoran last summer on Fire Island. A prime discussion point was how much longer are alumni willing to support the Stalinists (“We would not let our enemies have guns. Why would we let them have ideas?”) who have imposed restrictions on free speech at Columbia? A two-question job interview stratagem was also devised: Have you ever been ‘triggered’ by an idea? Do you remember how to leave the building?

Tom is waiting to hear from CC’66 poets who wish to read one of their published poems at our 50th (tachorba@aol.com).

Ken Benoit PS’70: “I’m beginning my 10th year of retirement and enjoying every bit of it. Considering how poorly my hands now work with my putter, I’m quite happy that I retired my scalpel when I did after 37 years of surgery. My wife, Mary, and I retired on a bass-filled lake in Bristol, Conn., where we enjoy teaching our four grandchildren the joys of water life. We spend the winter months in Florida but the rest of the year at the lake. A minor setback this past summer included a total hip replacement, which went well. I’m hoping it will restore the length on my tee shots. Hope springs eternal for us ‘old golfers.’ I’m looking forward to reunion to rekindle old friendships.”

Roger Dennis: “After being proud to be an American for my first 18 years, I came to Columbia, visited diverse areas around the city, met people from all kinds of backgrounds and learned new, interesting and sometimes disturbing things from ‘Sundial speeches’ and so on. My newfound knowledge led to a lot of inner confusion and anger, and so in the middle of my sophomore year I quit school and hitchhiked up and down the Eastern seaboard. During that year off I realized that my mission in life was and is to help create a better world. Since then I have been working to fight injustices, increase intercultural harmony and transform education. I believe that mainstream education is instrumental in creating many of the wrongs in our world, and I also believe — ironically — that it has the potential to fix this.

“I am passionate about transforming our justice system (including our prisons), creating a fair economic system, improving the voting process, protecting nature’s resources, grassroots problem-solving and identifying and alleviating the root causes of crime, war and the many other forms of violence (including the more subtle forms, such as not listening).”

“i have two sons: Christopher (43) lives in South Dakota and
David (39) lives in the Philippines. My wife, Yvonne Wakim Dennis, is an award-winning author, social worker and activist, particularly within her American Indian community. Her son, Jiman, is studying in Colombia and is a finance consultant. As of 1999 I live in the Columbia area — West 107th, near Amsterdam.

"Would love to hear from others at itistime.nyc@gmail.com. Anyone interested in learning more about my work can check out itistime2.blogspot.com/p/about.html."

Bruce La Carrubba: After my retirement from law in 2009 because of health issues, I've been teaching Tai Chi, Qigong and meditation at nursing homes, cancer clinics and senior centers in Palm Beach County, Fla., where I spend the winters, and North Jersey (yes, at the old farm many of you visited) during the summer. This has returned me to full and robust health, so I am taking full advantage of enjoying time with my six grandchildren (ages 2-16), and my children, Kevin (49), who introduced me to the martial and healing arts in 1988 and is a musician in Vail, and Christopher (40) and Lauren (38), who are dedicated educators with a passion to teach their students how to think for themselves. Wife Josephine and I also enjoy visiting friends and family in exotic places. My cell is 862-268-6867 for any of you geezers who’d like to reconnect.

Ahmet Evin GSAS’73: “After serving as founding dean of arts and social sciences and professor of political science at Sabanci University, a private foundation university in Istanbul, I’m now professor emeritus but continue to teach. I also am senior scholar at IPC, an independent think tank associated with Sabanci, and am a member of the Columbia Global Centers advisory board. My wife, Zehra, a professor of molecular biology and bioengineering at Sabanci, is also director of Sabanci’s core curriculum. During the founding phase of the university, I played a significant role in designing the core curriculum, for which I used the College’s Core as a model. It was a major innovation in Turkey’s higher education system, which was previously based on the French model. I am happy to see Sabanci ranked 13th among all institutions of higher learning less than 50 years old worldwide. My wife and I also try to spend time in our house in Hamburg, Germany.”

1967

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Sadly, the mailbox is empty this issue! Class of ’67, please share your news. Career, retirement, family updates, travels, hobbies — your classmates want to know about you. Class Notes are a great way to stay connected to the College and to your classmates, so send news to the email or mailing address at the top of the column or use CCT’s webform.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1968

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Greetings to the wondrous Class of 1968! Tonight (December 12) I am off to the Columbia basketball game. I believe this is a great team; we shall see (and a superb coach tool). I am looking forward to the New Year and I hope you are all well and in good cheer and had a great holiday season. I know Reid Feldman from Paris was to be in NYC for New Year’s and I hoped to see him and his wife, Claudia. I reached out to him after the Paris tragedy and he, of course, reported how the challenges before France and other countries in Europe were enormous.

I expect to see John Roy, who called to say he planned to be in the city for Christmas and that he is busy teaching and enjoying the warm Naples, Fl., weather. I didn’t get a report on Gregg Winn or Neil Anderson, also in Naples.

Wayne Wild wrote the following to me (I had Professor Arthur Danto GSAS’53 for my aesthetics class, too. It was my favorite class at Columbia!), I need to get Wayne’s book …

“I recently published a book based on my Berklee College of Music liberal arts course on aesthetics, ‘Liberating Aesthetics: For the Aspiring Artist and the Inspired Audience.’ The main concern of this most accessible short book is to have students of the arts, and lovers of all art, recover their instinctual, direct, sensuous and experiential response to art over ‘meaning,’ which scatters off and distances all too many high school and college students (as well as adult audiences) from the true enjoyment and fulfillment that art provides. I agree with Professor Danto, who advised we recognize the ‘embodied meaning’ of a work of art, separate from its intellectual interpretation.

The second idea of the book is to argue that the relationship of form and spontaneity in art has changed over time, and that whereas creative spontaneity previously fit into established forms, the trend is evermore for spontaneity to engender form.

"On a personal note, my wife, Faye, died in 2011 but I am now very happy with a woman, Eunice Flanders, who teaches at Berklee School of Music in liberal arts as well as teaching middle school in Needham, Mass. Full days! I also work part-time at Tufts Health Plan with my physician hat. Last year, I was invited to Berlin to give a talk, ‘The Origins of a Modern Medical Ethics in Enlightenment Scotland,’ part of my medical-literature interest. My son, Nicholas, and I go frequently to Boston Symphony orchestra concerts and greatly enjoy the new conductor. Nicholas is a music teacher in Danvers, Mass., but he is also involved with the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, which uses specialized ways of teaching music to young children.

‘Eunice and I visited my daughter, Zoe, in her home in Sedona, Ariz., and we were blown away by the scenery and her lifestyle there. Zoe works in life coaching and yoga. The three of us visited the Navajo reservation there and it was life-changing experience. I now teach some Native American literature — Sherman Alexie and Leslie Marmon Silko. From there we went on to Carmel, Calif., and Sausalito, Calif. And a word: I appreciate our Columbia experience, and especially the Core Curriculum, more with each day I read and teach. Thanks!”

So I do get these great notes periodically — it seems that many of our classmates are active and others are enjoying some of the peace that they have earned.

I correspond with Bob Brandt — mainly about politics — and with Ira McCown. Bob went to China recently and I hope to get a report about that. Ira continues to appreciate South Florida and keeps busy. Paul Brosnan has me on his email list to receive his humorous and serious thoughts; I should publish some of these sometime.

I had the pleasure of sitting with Art Kaufman at a Columbia basketball game; he is in great humor, teaches at the Law School, is on the College’s Board of Visitors and happily has three grandchildren. I expected to see Paul de Bary at the basketball game I attended on the 12th and I am hoping to get to my place in Saratoga, N.Y., for a few days (I hope there will be some snow). The place is now enhanced with a new kitchen.

I planned to spend a week in Miami Beach around New Year’s Eve and in December my wife, Halle, and I planned to do dinner and dancing at the Rainbow Room — a big band orchestra, sounds like fun — and also planned to go Lincoln Center to hear the Juilliard Orchestra, conducted by Izrak Perlman, perform. I bet the performance will be stunningly good and there will probably be a College student in the orchestra.

Well, that’s about it from here. I hope to hear from more of you and I will reach out.

All the best to you and your family for 2016. It will be springtime when this issue comes out, and I hope the forsythia in Central Park and in the country are in full bloom. Don’t forget to send in updates to either of the addresses at the top of this column or use the CCT webform.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1969

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It is hard to report breaking news in a quarterly column, so sometimes it takes an update to complete a piece of news. The item on Andy Bronin in the Winter 2015–16 issue mentioned that his son, Luke,
had (as of press time) just won the Democratic nomination to run for mayor of Hartford, Conn. Luke won the general election in November, and, as I write this, is scheduled to be inaugurated on January 1. By the time this column is published, Luke should officially be "Mayor Bronin."

It is special to watch the achievements of our classmates' children when I have — in many cases — written columns reporting on the births of those children.

I have one more follow-up. The Summer 2013 column had an item

reunion of our class at George W. Hewlett H.S.; John and I went to high school and college together and then did not see each other for four decades. Even with the crowd noise and the confusion of being among unfamiliar-looking people with very familiar names (one of many frights of a 50th school reunion), John's robust enthusiasm for his academic work was quite apparent, as was his enjoyment of life in Australia.

Peter Behr was awarded a 35-year pin by the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of British Columbia. He is the first RMT to practice in Powell River.

Peter Behr '69 was awarded the 35-year pin by the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of British Columbia. He is the first RMT to practice in Powell River.

on John Schuster, who at that time had relatively recently retired as head of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of New South Wales and had just published a major work on Descartes in the context of the Scientific Revolution. Now comes the news that John has been elected as a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Going to the Australian Academy's website: (humanities.org.au/Fellowship/NewFellows#Schuster), I found this description of John in the announcement of his election: "A leading authority on the seventeenth-century scientific revolution, Schuster's work has led to new understanding of the importance and work of René Descartes, and to the relation of intellectual and institutional change in the history of science. His research has shaped historians' perceptions of the period in fundamental ways, including the central place of natural philosophy in both the scientific revolution and in the work of Descartes."

John shared this reaction with a group of friends: "Because you know me well, you will correctly predict that I must have certain qualms about this. I do not like to feel constrained by good old Aussie academic PC-ness when speaking out in public about things. We shall see if this is indeed the club for me. Of course, I hope for the best."

I had a chance to visit with John on the occasion of the 50th Massage Therapists' Association of British Columbia. Peter was the first RMT to practice in Powell River, a city on the coast of British Columbia, Canada. Peter first practiced out of his home, then at a spa and finally at his own clinic. Since 1982, he has been in practice with his wife, Margaret. When Peter began, there were only 130 RMTs in the entire province; now there are some 3,300.

Peter was president of the board of the Massage Therapists' Association in the 1980s, during the time that an effort was being made to eliminate health care coverage for massage therapy; that effort was defeated, and massage therapy remains part of Canada's provincial health care system. Peter has also taught clinical treatments at West Coast College of Massage Therapy in New Westminster, Canada. He started on the path to massage therapy as a child, massaging his father's feet to help with health issues. After moving to Powell River, Peter suffered from severe back pain and had to go all the way to Vancouver for massage therapy. Based on the positive results he experienced, Peter went for RMT training in the United States (none was available in Western Canada at the time), which led him to become the first RMT in Powell River. Peter plans to continue in practice as long as possible.

Ron Rosenblatt TC'74 reports that after 10 years of teaching at a university and 25 years as an executive in the mortgage industry, he has become the managing partner of Fortress Wealth Management in Iowa, where he has "hired about 15 really smart people who work very hard making me look good." The firm is a one-stop shop for wealth management, with "every kind of insurance available," and commercial and residential mortgages. Ron's family golf, skis and travels "as often as possible and tries to visit the east often."

Richard Rosenstein "relocated to sunny Florida two years ago, took the Florida Bar and opened a solo legal practice in Boca Raton on June 1, 2014. My top memory of the first couple of weeks at the College was the upperclassmen (only men then) trying to get our Class of 1969 beanies."

Bruce Gillers also had a 50th high school reunion, with Brooklyn Tech, last year, but did not attend. However, Ron Alexander, with whom Bruce attended both high school and college, did attend the reunion and shared news with Bruce. He adds that he and Ron were "roommates for our four years at the College, all in Carnan! He was also the best man at my wedding. We have seen each other at the brit milah of two of my Washington, D.C.-born grandsons, ages 2 and 4. I practice ophthalmology in suburban Boston and live in Newton, Mass. My wife, Mina, is a pediatrician in Dorchester, Mass. Our children are all over the country."

Bill Stark has shared some more memories of the College, including the following: "There were four levels of physics at the College, which went from 'Poet's Physics' up to advanced. Thinking I was smart, I signed up for advanced, taught by Melvin Schwartz. Professor Schwartz did these derivations; there was a long blackboard, and he would write a long equation, then walk back and forth, striking out one little bit and changing it. It is very hard to take notes when the professor uses proof by erasure. The graduate student teaching assistant had just gotten his B.A. but was about to get his Ph.D. (He was advanced — in graduate school for just one year.) In a problem session, the smartest kid in the class said, 'In one line of the derivation, the professor said "obviously" — it wasn't so obvious to me.' I thought 'me either.' So the TA solved from before the 'obviously' to after the 'obviously,' using tensors to the third order (something like triple integrals of vectors). It took about 45 minutes. This was my second week in college. I went directly to the registrar's office and dropped the course."

In contrast to the last few columns, I have not used my allotted space this time, meaning I need classmates to send news or memories of the College. And let me make a further request. At our last reunion, some classmates spoke of wishing to stay in touch between reunions. If you would like to participate in some type of Internet class-specific exchange, let me know; also let me know if you have thoughts on how to set up such a channel. If you have interest in occasional gatherings in New York City, let me know; some classes have periodic lunches. Gatherings could also occur in other cities if there is enough interest and a willingness on someone's part to do the coordination.

1970

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In response to my request for notes, I was inundated with news, mostly happy reports but also some sad news. Victor Hertz and Dan Feldman informed me of the death of Paul Kropp, whom they fondly remembered. I am briefly excerpting their notes and celebrating some of Paul's accomplishments during his all-too-brief life: "Paul Stephen Kropp, author and publisher, Toronto, Canada, died August 22, 2015 ... Memories of Paul revolve around late-night Scrabble games made all the more creative by festive toasts and audacious puns; attending concerts in Manhattan; amateur theater productions on Morningside Heights; and eating notoriously unhealthy pizzas at local restaurants. During and after college, in his annual holiday 'Kropp Cards,' Paul created a multi-decade history of our times and the shifting kaleidoscope of politics and life."

"Following graduation he relocated to Canada and completed his master's in 17th-century English poetry at the University of Western Ontario before securing his teacher's
certification at Althouse College. For many years Paul taught high school in Burlington, Hamilton and Oakville ... In 1994 he left the teaching profession to become a full-time author and publisher of his own and others' works. Many of his works garnered critical acclaim: 12 of Paul's books have been selected for the Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice lists; Ellen/Elena/Luna was a finalist for the Toronto Book Awards and a nominee for the Silver Quill Awards. Paul also wrote and lectured extensively for parents, including his nonfiction book How to Make Your Child a Reader for Life. Paul also ventured into adult fiction with his recently completed art history thriller, The Lost Botticelli [under the pen name Paul Stephano].

If you read the Winter 2014-15 CCT then you are familiar with the good works of Eric Eisner LAW'73. Eric started the YES program to help less-privileged kids in Los Angeles get into high school; the program then follows and assists the participants through college and professional school. The program has spread to other cities, including Chicago, and it has had a beneficial effect on the lives of many participants.

I received the following note from José Contreras SEAS'14, a graduate of Eric's program: "My parents always instilled upon [me and my] siblings the importance of education, but since my parents came to this country only a couple of years before we were born they didn't really have a complete grasp of how the American education system worked. I excelled in elementary school but I never even thought about the idea of going to a more competitive school with a diverse curriculum because my family did not have many resources. When I met Mr. Eisner in the sixth grade, he and his program helped me learn more about opportunities that were available and eventually helped me apply to various schools so that I could be challenged."

"Being mentored by Mr. Eisner and the YES program at such an early age provided me with a boost of confidence in regards to my intellectual ability and helped further develop my passion for learning and problem solving. In high school, he provided YES Scholars with advice regarding the college application process and helped us create goals. YES also helped me (and other YES Scholars) to prepare for the SAT with SAT prep classes at Lenox Middle School. Engagement from institutions like Columbia only painted a clearer picture of what college life would be like and the educational opportunities that would be available at such schools. YES helps students see that their educational goals are attainable and that there are plenty of opportunities out there - YES students coming to Columbia Law School every Saturday is a great example. Thanks to the work of YES mentors and supporters, students across four states are learning that they can realize their dreams both as students and as professionals. Being part of YES, I had the privilege to learn about the educational opportunities available early on and to find a network of like-minded students from similar backgrounds."

Chuck Silberman reports: "Our second grandchild was born in October. Alexa 'Lexi' Coral Goldstein joins her brother, Max, as the youngest members of our family."

Professor Michael Aeschliman GSAS'91 informed me of several recent articles he authored. The one that intrigued me the most was his spirited defense of Columbia College’s most famous alumnus, Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). Michael's article, "Hamilton and Jefferson: The Deserving and the Deserter," appeared in the October 31, 2015, edition of the National Review.

Lewis Siegelbaum sent this note on his recent publication: "I am still pursuing Russian history after all these years. Last year, Cornell University Press published Broad Is My Native Land: Repertoires and Regimes of Migration in Russia’s Twentieth Century, a big book that I wrote with Leslie Page Moch (my wife). Sami, my older son, is pursuing a career as an art historian, hampered by the catastrophic decline of the humanities in the academy and certain demographic disadvantages; my son Sasa is working in Manhattan for Great Big Story, a Turner-financed provider of 2-3-minute videos for social media."

Len Levine reported: "I work for the Department of Defense, Defense Information Systems Agency. I could retire now but am looking to keep going until 70 — January 2018. I'm doing a three-day-a-week, 110-mile (round-trip) trek from the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C., to just south of Baltimore. The van pool is essential, two days a week of telework helps and the work on setting IT standards at the Object Management Group is fun. Absent any of those factors, I'd probably retire tomorrow."

Dan Feldman modestly noted: "I don't know whether this is 'pressworthy,' but I have a new book out, which I predict will not be of interest to our classmates, maybe with the exception of [Leo Kallas]: Administrative Law: The Sources and Limits of Government Agency Power. It's short (244 pages), and book jacket praise from Peter L. Strauss, the Law School's preeminent administrative law scholar, says my writing style is 'informal and clear, almost as if he were having a conversation with his readers,' with 'vivid examples' that are 'engaging.'"

I was happy to receive a report from Jack Probolus on the whereabouts of former members of the crew team: "The stalwart Class of 1970 heavyweight crew members who, as seniors, represented Columbia at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association National Championship on Lake Onondaga in Syracuse, N.Y., will once again take to the water, this time in the form of a new, four-oared shell they are gifting in the name of the Class of 1970. The shell was christened on College Walk late in the afternoon of December 5. This was followed by Columbia’s Annual Rowing Banquet. Bob Kidd, Bill Longa, Jack Probolus and John Seney, although spread across the country, also plan to make an appearance this spring and dip their oars while in the new shell at one of the varsity rowing events. The cox for their event was at that time a junior, Andy Dunn '71. Andy also contributed to the donation and will guide the lads on the water once again. We are all delighted that we can contribute and give back to the College in tribute to all those who have rowed and those who continue to represent Columbia in the great tradition of rowing."

My dear friend Frank Motley LAW'74 reports on having failed at retirement: "On July 1, after 34 years of loyal service to Indiana and the Maurer School of Law, Frank Motley retired to spend time with his wife and 19 grandchildren (!). Barely three months later, he went back to work at (of all places) the University of Kentucky College of Law. Given the
strored history/rivalry of these two schools, it will be interesting to see where he sits when they meet on the basketball court.”

Mark Prazansky sent this proud note: “My son, Jason Prazansky ’04, is a talented surgeon in my hand surgery practice. Very exciting and a game changer for a guy like me, who has practiced solo for so long. My daughter, Julie Hug ’07, is happily married and practicing adolescent and adult psychotherapy in Reno.”

David Lehman reported on his amazing publication: “Sinatra’s Century: One Hundred Notes on the Man and His World, my new nonfiction book, appeared on October 27. The Washington Post reviewed it on October 28, with critic Sibbie O’Sullivan writing: ‘David Lehman’s Sinatra’s Century is a much shorter but more intimate portrait [than James Kaplan’s doorstep biography]. Many of the same anecdotes used by Kaplan can be found here, too, but Lehman, an established poet, widens the frame of reference, thereby expanding the emotional resonance of the songs. He compares Sinatra’s version of “One for My Baby” to both Humphrey Bogart in Casablanca and to Ernest Hemingway’s famous story “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place.”

“Whereas Kaplan accumulates facts, Lehman tells us what those facts mean. For example: ‘There are two reasons that male resistance to Sinatra turned completely around. ... His voice deepened ... and he was able to sing so convincingly of loss, failure and despair unto death.’”

“Now is the time to ramp up Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Mark your calendars, plan and arrange. The campus is the same, but different. And so are we. Enjoy old friendships and make new ones. I have already heard from classmates on other continents who plan to attend. The Reunion Committee, headed by Peter Herbert and Jeff Knowles, is hard at work planning special events to make this the best reunion yet! Keep in mind that Reunion Weekend 2016 includes All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) on Saturday, June 4, a day of lectures and classroom discussions with some of Columbia’s leading faculty. Other highlights of the program, which is still being finalized, include an all-class Wine Tasting and the gala Starlight Reception on Saturday — desserts and dancing under a large tent on Low Plaza. More details to follow by mail and email but mark your calendars now!”

“Retirement seems very remote as long as health hangs in. My wife and I are taking great pleasure in our four grandsons and in seeing our son, Robert Gutmann ’05, and his family, which makes us think ‘A Clean, Well-Lighted Place.’”

Alan Flashman: “I have let go of university teaching after adjunctioning nearly everywhere in Israel for three decades. What a relief, no more papers and university procedures. My practice (in Be’er Sheba, Israel) remains active in adult child and family psychiatry. In addition to therapies, I write a lot of court reports on disabilities, damages and family disputes. I specialize in protecting families from State incursions; most of my colleagues work for the State in some way. I have become something of a gadfly in the medical marijuana procedures here, advocating for liberalization and taking note of the tremendous beneficial effects of cannabis on people suffering from PTSD (which is huge in Israel).”

“My distress and alarm at the direction psychiatry is taking led me to self-publish a professional autobiography, Losing It: Six Decades in Psychiatry, in March 2015. It involves imaginary dialogues with social critic Michel Foucault, whose work became too familiar to me after Columbia. The chapter on my Columbia years may be of interest to the few of you who can remember who I am (or was). It is out as a rather inexpensive ebook.”

“After publishing the new Hebrew translation of Martin Buber’s I and Thou in 2013, I have been pulled (to my delight) into some academic conferences on Buber. The last one was at Buber’s residence in Heppenheim, Germany (near Frankfurt). I have completed a Hebrew translation of Buber’s earlier work called Daniel: Dialogues in Realization, which I hope will be published within the year. Now it is time to learn German properly.”

“Music: after ‘majoring’ in WKCR, I moved to Boulder, following four years in Arlington, Va., where I was assistant director of the National Science Foundation and head of NSF’s Directorate for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. Since coming to Boulder I’ve taken a job as professor of history and director of the Institute of Behavioral Science at Colorado. Boulder is the perfect place for combining time outdoors (mostly hiking in our case) with a serious work environment.”

“Before NSF I worked for eight years at Michigan and 25 years at UT Austin. It’s hard to believe that this is my 40th year of academic life! I’ve had the luxury of a varied career in terms of interests, too, digging into the history of Europe and the U.S. from the 17th century to the present, and studying economic and environmental change and the ways that they shape people’s lives in the past, on top of nearly two decades leading broad-based social science organizations.”

“We get to New York fairly often to see our son, Robert Gutmann ’05, and his family, which makes us think a lot about our time at Columbia.”

Francis G. Lu: “I retired from UC Davis, as the Luke & Grace Kim Endowed Professor in Cultural Psychiatry, Emeritus. I live in Cupertino, Calif., with my wife, Phuong-Thuy Le, a psychiatrist in private practice in San Jose. My stepdaughter is Uyen-Khanh Quang-Dang, who is completing a geriatric psychiatry fellowship at UCSF.”

“I have co-led 32 film seminars at Esalen Institute in Big Sur, Calif., described at gratefulness.org (search ‘films’), and will co-lead two seminars in July with Br. David Steindl-Rast, a Benedictine monk from Austria.”

Mark Seiden: “Chronologically, I’m just on the edge of geezerdom/cashing in those senior citizen discounts and am still trying to be as immature as possible under the circumstances. Professionally, I’ve had several careers, in words, music and their intersections with technology.”

“Words: working in magazines (computer industry trades through Wired) and editing a handful of books, recently John Markoff’s book about robots and people (Machines of Loving Grace: The Quest for Common Ground Between Humans and Robots),”

“Music: after ‘majoring’ in WKCR, I was a recording engineer for some years, recording great playing at the Aspen and Marlboro Music Festivals, then at Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique and Lucasfilm programming infrastructure for digital audio.”

“Technology: working at startups and big companies in Silicon Valley, trying to solve gnarly networking and information security problems. Someone recently called me the ‘Zelig of Computer Science,’ because
I've worked everywhere important but nobody knows what I had to do with any of it, though I have good stories to tell. Now I have clients in San Francisco and New York, and do much work for lawyers (often involving persons of interest to law enforcement, figuring out who dunit and whadidydo), which adds even more stories to the trove. There’s a book in here, somewhere.

"A recollection: In my sophomore year, I was almost expelled for a prank involving history Professor Morton Smith, who taught ancient history/religion from 1957 to 1990. WKCR taped his class, and I was sentenced to edit it (with a razor blade and sticky tape) for broadcast some days later.

"Problem was, Professor Smith had a rather distinctive throat condition involving clearing phlegm loudly every few minutes, which caused several of us to refer to him as ‘Professor Lurgy,’ and I dutifully edited out these episodes (rather than inflicting them on the radio audience). Instead of tossing these out, I saved the juicier bits for no intended purpose, accumulating about 20 minutes by the last class, and (possessed by some demon) edited them into the middle of the last class’s broadcast.

"The phones lit up with people worried about Professor Smith’s health, whom the shift engineer (which adds even more stories to the trove. There’s a book in here, somewhere.

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Last October Jonathan married Leora Falk BC’07. Among our classmates who traveled to Boston for the wedding were Elliot Falk LAW’77 (no relation to the bride), a partner at the Phillips Nizer law firm in Midtown, and Meir Shinnar, director of heart failure at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan.

Ed retired from Bell Labs more than 13 years ago and has since been working for the provost at Yeshiva University in upper Manhattan. “It’s a great second gig,” he writes. It should be noted that every year Ed sponsors a Kiddush for the Columbia Yavneh (orthodox Jewish) students in memory of his dad. He writes, “He was very proud I went to Columbia and the students always appreciate free food!”

An email packed with info came in from Mark Mogul (in Port Washington, N.Y.). Foremost is news of his first grandchild: Emerie “Emmie” Brooke Holt. She is the daughter of Mark’s eldest daughter, Perri Holt, marketing director at The Wall Street Journal. “She got married about three years ago,” writes Mark. “Didn’t wait 10 years to have their first kid as we did.”

His middle daughter, Alexandra, is in her last year of Fordham Law and already has a job lined up at Debevoise & Plimpton in Midtown. Mark’s youngest daughter, Hilary Hill, a base in England. He says he has now turned to writing and his first novel is out: The Return of the Bad Penny (A Sea Story). It is available through Amazon and as an ebook through Smashwords. Les tells us his daughter, Rachel, is a practice development manager for Bupa Health Care (specializing in end-of-life care) and that she was married last November. His son, Colin, lives in Massachusetts and “has given us our first grandchild, Grace.”

A Christmas card from Kevin Ward (in Glen Rock, N.J.) included news that his second son, Jamie, graduated last spring from Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. His fourth son, Matt, is engaged. Kevin is a financial adviser at Merrill Lynch in New Jersey.

It might appear that David Melnick PS’78 (in Manhattan) can’t keep a job, at least recently. After 34 years working in Wilmington, Del., for the British drug company AstraZeneca, David’s business card changed to “Actavis” as he accepted a position testing infectious disease cures for the New Jersey-based company. Soon after, he had to toss out those business cards for new ones reading “Allergan” after Actavis acquired Allergan and also took its name. Soon you will find David working at Pfizer, as Ireland’s Allergan is scheduled to close on its purchase of Pfizer (and take its name) in the largest healthcare industry merger. That will mean that David has worked for four drug companies in less than two years!

We have learned that portrait photographer and videographer Timothy Greenfield-Sanders (in lower Manhattan) received a 2015 Legends Award from Brooklyn’s Pratt Institute. For those outside the art world, Pratt is ranked the leading arts and studio program by US News and Today and others. It gives annual awards to art and design professionals. Timothy posted on Facebook, “I’m now officially a Legend!”

It has been a long time since word has come in from Al Rabbat BUS’76 (in Holmdel, N.J.). He tells us that after 20 years on Wall Street, he retired … in 1997! Do the math — he has been retired nearly as long as he was working! Since abandoning his wingtips and suspenders, Al says he has been doing volunteer work, primarily as a fundraiser. He also says, “Lately I find myself doing something I really enjoy, which is teaching bible study.” He and his wife, Ellen, have been married for 30 years and have two children.

Daughter Nicole is a real estate broker in New Jersey and son Paul is a computer engineer.

Fascinating details about the children of Bryan Berry (in Joliét, Ill.) were included in his annual Christmas letter. He wrote, “Our daughter, Mother Aeeeitophorus [whom you once knew as Joanna], made her final, perpetual vows to the Lord as a nun in the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara in a Mass on September 14 in the crypt of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.” Bryan adds, “The Mass of Perpetual Vows is very much a wedding between each nun and Jesus Christ.”

Bryan’s son, John, is a lieutenant in the Navy and flies E-6 Mercury 707 planes out of Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City. All that was included about daughter Adrienne is that she plays clarinet in the U.S. Army Ceremonial Band (we’ll get more for a future column). Bryan’s wife, Jill, is a school librarian and Bryan is a writer and journalist. He says he enjoys the monthly meetings of the local Columbia (University) Book Group.

There you have it. Some classmates are retiring, while others continue to achieve in their chosen careers. Novels are being written and dollhouses built. But most of all, it seems that the children and grandchildren of our classmates are becoming the central interests of many in the class. Continue to send in news about you and your family. It is especially interesting to learn what retirement plans (if any) you have and what you look forward to doing in that new phase of your life!

1975

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CC’75 Class Notes took a brief hiatus, but rest assured the column will return in the Summer issue! Use this time to gather your notes and send them to either of the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/ccct/submit_class_note.

Wishing you a healthy and pleasant spring.

1976

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2-5, 2016

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With the 40th reunion right around the corner, the Reunion Committee has made some exciting event choices. Here is the update on what to expect:

Reunion Weekend 2016 (Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5) will kick off on Thursday with a reception at Heartland Brewery in Midtown. Our class will have a private room with passed hors d’oeuvres and a beer and wine open bar. This will be a joint event with Barnard’s Class of 1976 and is scheduled in the early evening so that attendees can take advantage of the cultural event offerings and/or enjoy a dinner with friends on their own.

On Friday evening, we will repeat our event from five years ago, when we had more than 100 people in the back room of V&T. There will be family-style pizzas, pasta and dessert with a beer and wine open bar. There is also an interesting pre-dinner activity — a walking tour of Morningside Heights that will emphasize the changes in the neighborhood, east of Morningside Park in particular, and end at V&T for dinner. This will be a joint event with Engineering’s Class of 1976.

The on-campus reception and dinner will be on Saturday and will feature a TBD dinner speaker of note. There will also be a pre-dinner Wine Tasting.

This weekend is shaping up to be an enjoyable step back into the past as well as a look at the current and future status of the College. Hope all of you can make it.

Just a couple of updates (c’mon folks, let’s get some news in about
careers, retirement, hobbies, children, grandchildren and so on!)

Burton F. Dickey, from Houston: “My daughter, Ariana ’16, will graduate with a degree in art history. She’s loved [being at Columbia] and I’ve enjoyed reliving my Columbia College experience vicariously. I’ll need an excuse to continue to visit Morningside Heights on a regular basis (it’s a bit of a distance from Houston).”

From upstate New York, Dennis Goodrich: “I’m the senior partner at a small (11 attorneys) law office in Syracuse, N.Y., specializing in representing employers and carriers in workers’ compensation matters. I will celebrate my 40th wedding anniversary with my high school sweetheart, Linda, in May — just before our reunion at Columbia of the same number of years. Linda is retired after 30 years of service for the New York State Insurance Fund, where she was a claims supervisor. We spend our vacations visiting the Southwest United States and Europe, where we explore new food and wines. My son, Kristopher, is a college professor (Ph.D. from Syracuse) at New Mexico, where last year he received tenure and published a textbook he co-wrote, Group Counseling with LGBTQI Persons, which may be purchased on Amazon. My daughter, Katy, a master’s graduate in the field of international political economy from The London School of Economics, lives and works in the technology field in London.”

Let’s get a few more updates for future issues! Send news to either of the addresses at the top of the column or through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1977

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A few brief notes: I heard from Donald Olson that, after nearly two decades as a pediatric neurologist at Stanford University Medical Center, he has retired and moved to Ashland, in southern Oregon. Don is keeping his hand in medicine by working part-time in the area as a child neurologist. In December I saw Jon Lukomnik quoted in Business Wire in his capacity as executive director of the Investor Responsibility Research Center Institute, concerning the winners of the institute’s annual investor research competition. Congratulations to Jim Shapiro, who published The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606, with Simon & Schuster last fall, to very good reviews indeed; it’s a kind of companion volume to A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare: 1599 (2006). As an English professor myself, I am of course partial. [Editor’s note: See “Forum,” Winter 2015–16.]

My daughter, Caitlin, will graduate from Illinois this year. At Thanksgiving she and well over 300 other Marching Illini were in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York (marching right before Santal!), bringing back to her dad many fond memories of the holiday season in Manhattan.

I, and your classmates, want to hear from you! Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1978

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Having been in the magazine business for a few years in the 1980s I know how challenging and exhilarating it is to commit yourself to a complete remake of the format and look of a journal, so congratulations to CCT Editor-in-Chief Alex Sachare ’71 and his team for the wonderful job they have done. Also, good for everyone at Hamilton Hall and the Alumni Center for cajoling enough to make the magazine a great read and something that always makes me proud to be a Lion. (Even if Wkcr never gets the ink it deserves.)

I asked the question this issue about who you expect to see running for President later this year. Based on your classmates’ intuition, it will be Hillary Clinton against either The Donald or Marco Rubio. Interesting that no one thought Chris Christie or Ted Cruz would be there at the end.

Thomas Reuter SEAS’99, who works at GE in Schenectady, N.Y., writes, “My wife, Grace, and I are very proud of our youngest son, Tim, who was published (and paid!) in The American Conservative magazine for his piece comparing the Syrian and Spanish Civil Wars. The New York Times columnist Ross Douthat’s piece on the same subject came out 10 days later. Coincidence? I think not.”

Tom’s favorite football moment: “My wife had one of Columbia’s current linemen in her fourth-grade basketball team years back. During the Homecoming game, she actually stopped talking with her girlfriend to ask, ‘Where is Granmarsco Rea [17] playing?’ As I pointed him out, at that exact moment he tackled, clobbered and stuffed a monster Penn running back short of the first down. Wow! Someone really taught that young man how to tackle. I honestly feel that Columbia has turned the corner in football.”

“All is pretty well with the Ferguson family,” notes Ed Ferguson, “though of course less so with the state of the world and American politics. Ordinarily my concerns about such things would be alleviated by confidence in the expected contributions of generations to come, but judging from the current crop of entitled whiners passing for college students on the campuses of elite colleges (regrettably, in this instance, including Columbia), terrorism, global warming and the like are probably not our most serious problems.

“The kids are great! My oldest is out of college and gainfully employed, and I hope my two younger ones, once they get to college, will also emerge with a healthy sense of what the world does and does not owe them.”

We asked people to compare the current crop of candidates using the techniques of our CC classes and a few people took the bait. Ed wrote, “Our unit on two-bit philosophers and snake-oil salesman was very short, and I’m not sure I ever did the reading. I guess Ted Cruz might be Machiavelli in his (Machiavelli’s) most unguarded moments but of course the whole point of Machiavelli is that there are not supposed to be any of those. Trump is just some monster that Odysseus slew but that unfortunately came back to life with orange hair and knowledge of the bankruptcy code!”

Michael Glanzer, who lives in Brooklyn, writes, “My family is looking forward to my daughter Rebecca Glanzer ’16’s graduation. We have one other student who finished his first semester elsewhere.”

Carl Brandon Strehlke leads an enviable life of ideas and travel based in Florence, Italy. He writes: “I just spent the week in London at the home of Don Guttenplan and family. In London there were a series of events in honor of the publication of my book, edited in tandem with Macheltt Brüggen Israels, The Bernard and Mary Berenson Collection of European Paintings at Tinti. The most fun was signing copies of it at Hatchards bookstore on Piccadilly.”

Frank Basile: “I wrote and produced a nine-part documentary mini-series on The Three Stooges, Hey Moe! Hey Dad!, available at Amazon and major retail outlets.

Paul Phillips shares that the CD Manhattan Intermezzo, which I recorded last year with the Brown University Orchestra and pianist Jeffrey Biegel, was released on January 8. Search for it on Amazon.”

Steven Bargonetti always sends us his latest press kit worthy of the Broadway star that he has become: “The show for which I am onstage performer/music director/music arranger, Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3), continues to receive great accolades. I am scheduled to reprise my role at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles in April/May. In September/October the show will be in London at The Royal Court Theatre and we have hopes of later coming to
Alvin Powell ’78 (right) and Eric Granderson ’80 met in New Orleans in July.

Broadway. In the meantime, I will be starting a Broadway show, Disaster! (a comedy that parodies ’70s disaster movies with a jukebox score of ’70s songs); previews began in February.”

Alvin Powell sent a picture and note: “I met Eric Granderson ’80 in New Orleans in July, 35 years after graduation.”

Eric is director of Local Government Affairs for New Orleans. Sounds like someone I need to reach out to in order to get some pointers.

Alec Bodkin, at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., has reason to be proud: “Check out groupmuse.com, the creation of my son, Sam Bodkin ’12 (like me, a WKCR grad), who has become a full-time proselytizer of classical music via a social networking website that brings people together at house parties (mostly in NYC and Boston, but growing elsewhere) featuring chamber music, as was common in Europe until the mid-20th century. Sam’s effort is to save classical music from extinction by connecting people online who’d like to party with classical musicians who’d like to perform at such parties. 30,000 members so far, and more than 1,000 musical house parties. Though designed to convert younger generation to the music of the ages, it’s suitable for young and old alike.”

“Regarding Sam’s father: I still study — and provide treatment with — novel medical remedies for depressive illness and related problems (one of which I had published in 1995 and is finally making its way through the FDA under the ‘fast-track’ designation; rather ironic, not the slightest effort to discern anything about the lighted world outside. He chats up the cave dwellers, inflaming their annoyance about the troubles of life in the dark.”

Jeff Canfield SIPA’82 works for the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and was only authorized to give us this declasified information for the column: “Enjoying life with our grandchildren.”

Bob Crochelt lives in Glasgow, but not the one you may be thinking of: “My wife, Donna Smith (an ob/gyn), and I have relocated to very rural Glasgow in northeast Montana. We are looking to close out our careers providing quality surgical and obstetrical care to a culturally diverse and somewhat underserved population. We enjoy good health and fulfillment in our work. I am grateful every day for my Columbia education. It was exciting to see Columbia’s football team almost beat Princeton in the rain, and I got to watch it on TV. But, no, I do not think the program has turned around yet.”

He adds, “Isn’t Donald Trump a version of Machiavelli?”

Francis J. Collini, of Shavertown, Pa., says, “I am a solo practitioner (plastic surgeon) just outside of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton trying to eke out a living in the disastrous world of Obamacare. I own and operate the only solo-owned ambulatory surgery center in the state of Pennsylvania. I see my Columbia roommate (Jaime Morhaim) several times a year and he remains my best friend. My daughter does aesthetic tattooing and works in my office. My wife is my office manager. My mother-in-law is a full-time secretary and my son is my future accountant. So as you can see, I keep it all in the family!”

“I consider either Trump or Cruz better than Obama or Clinton but they do not remind me of any famous ancient philosopher or statesman.”

John Ohman, LAW’92 reports, “A year of positive changes for my wife, Kara, and I. She started a consulting practice focused on sales training in the digital media space and I recently changed law firms, joining the New York City office of McGlinchey Stafford, a dynamic and growing national firm based in Louisiana.”

“Throughout my career, Columbia has never been far from my thoughts. I recall my first day at the Law School, when I ran into Professor Karl-Ludwig Seigl on College Walk. When I told him that I was going to be a lawyer, he seemed pleased. He told me, ‘You will see, as you already learned at Columbia College, so much in life is about the close and careful reading of texts.’ Then he sauntered off, God knows where. He was so right.”

“My kids are doing great. My younger daughter, Lauren, is in Arizona in Tucson. And my older daughter, Caroline, having earned a B.A. at Oberlin, is finally following the family’s Columbia tradition, studying for a master’s at TC.”

“Donald Trump seems to me neither a statesman nor a philosopher, but his candidacy brings me to mind Nietzsche’s criticism of 19th-century Europe, especially the German Empire, when he wrote, ‘In declining cultures, wherever the decision comes to rest with the masses, authenticity becomes a liability, superfluous and disadvantaged. There, only the actor arouses great enthusiasm.’ (Nietzsche contra Wagner, Section 11).”

We close with Joe Schachner, who enjoyed hearing about Columbia football on public radio (wnyc.org/shows/thesemester) and notes, “My older daughter, a Ph.D. in psychology, has been hired by UCSD and is doing great.”

My family is well, and I enjoy my role as top administrator for the wonderful mayor of New Haven, Conn., Toni Harp, whom I hope will break onto the national stage soon. I handle the departments that do economic development, small business, city planning, transportation and fan things like permitting (seriously, very cool stuff). I just love the challenges of government and politics and advise everyone to apply all your years of wisdom and patience to this sort of endeavor wherever you might be (it is in some small or large way) while you can. We can help make a difference.”

My wife, Marline Chertow BC’77, continues her global leadership as a Yale professor in the area of industrial ecology. She travels around the world when not teaching here in New Haven, working in India, China and Singapore a lot of the time. I’m tagging along on a trip to Japan in the springtime. Daughter Elana (25) is graduating from her master’s program in library science and archiving at Simmons, and Joy (21) is graduating from American University’s School of International Service with a specialty in China policy. I’m sure job offers and connections are welcome!

1979

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Jonathan Rubin writes, “I am continuing my tenant advocacy as a legal professional with the designation of NYC Civil Court Housing Part Guardian Ad Litem and NYCHA Guardian Ad Litem. My wife, Cathy GSAS’90, is starting a special products clothing company. Our daughter, Zoe, will graduate from Yale College with a degree in history in May and was the editor-in-chief of the Yale Globalist in the 2014–15 school year.”
Zoe won an Aspin Fellowship last year and applied for three fellowships this year, including a Fulbright Fellowship and a Luce Fellowship.

Robert C. Klapper: “Through my work at ESPN, I am heavily involved with the world of sports in America — especially my beloved Los Angeles Lakers. Having Kobe Bryant do the promo for my radio show has been a true highlight of this second career of mine.

People ask me what has been the greatest sporting feat that I have seen over the years (after five NBA championships) and my answer still harkens back to my junior year at the College.

“I lived in John Jay at the time with Jack Garden, Robert Darnell, Liz Clarke BC’79 and Carl Forsythe, to name a few. A guy two doors down (I forget his name) introduced me to the greatest Puerto Rican salsa music and a song I think is called ‘Elle Fue,’ which still makes my legs start moving just by hearing the beat. But it was our classmate who lived right next door that is the source of this memory. His name is Steve McKenna, and he wrestled for Columbia.

“One day he said to me, ‘You should come and watch one of our matches, and see what real sports are like.’ On this particular day they were wrestling Harvard. Needless to say this was not a sold-out event, but to champion his cause I obliged. I felt compelled because he told me he was from Yakima, Wash., and I constantly confused it by saying he was from Yarmulke, Wash., which upset him to no end (I don’t think a Jew has ever come close to that part of Washington State).

“I had never been to a wrestling match and was quite excited to sit on the Columbia side of the bleachers and root for my friend. The first match began with the heavyweights. There was our gladiator in blue and white with muscles bulging like watermelons. The Harvard wrestler, dressed in crimson, needed to be wrestled for Columbia and touch his arm so that he could feel his opponent as they faced each other.

“I found myself standing andswaying rather than sitting, as though ‘Elle Fue’ was playing in my head. The match started and I (and everyone else in the stands) feared for his life. What I witnessed, however, was quite the opposite. His strength was so overwhelming that the Columbia wrestler resembled a Mr. Potato Head assembled on LSD, with arms where legs should be and ears where kneescaps should be. I found myself screaming in joy for this upset victory. It was at this point I realized the Columbia wrestling team (including my friend) was now staring into the stands, regretting that I had been invited to the match. It remains one of the most impressive sporting feats I have ever witnessed, and in many ways has inspired me throughout my life. Roar, lion, roar!”

1980

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Spring is in the air and it must be baseball season. Eric Blattman and I had the honor of attending the Metropolitan Area College Baseball awards ceremony, where Columbia baseball coach Brett Boretti was given the Metropolitan Area College Coach of the Year Award from the New York Professional Baseball Hot Stove League. This is truly a crowning achievement for coach B and our program, one of the best baseball programs in the East.

Leo Wolinsky was appointed acting chief of neuroradiology and professor of radiology at Case Western Reserve’s School of Medicine. He is an Alumni Representative Committee interviewer for Columbia. Leo and his wife, Maria, have four sons, the youngest of whom, Ivan ‘20, recently was accepted to the College.

For those of us who graduated from high school in the year of America’s bicentennial, 1976, it has been 40 years since the days of Funtown Comes Alive! Best wishes to all, as we have come a long way!

Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your classmates want to hear from you — no news is too big or too small.

1981

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I’m writing this in December, so belated holiday greetings to all and thanks for keeping in touch! It was nice to hear good news from so many of you.

Mark Gordon is happy to report he is president and dean of William Mitchell Hamline College of Law in St. Paul, Minn.

James Katsky reports the arrival of a grandson, Samuel, in November. We wish Samuel the best and hope to see him in Columbia blue one day!

Michael Horowitz has been a busy man. He is in his sixth year leading TCS Education System, known as the community solution in higher education. Michael is the founding president of TCS Ed, which is only the second private nonprofit higher-education system in the United States, enrolling more than 6,000 students across five colleges (tceduhistory.com). He celebrated his 27th anniversary with his wife, Jeanne Gutierrez Ph.D., in 2015. Their son, Eli, completed Teach For America two years ago and is a college readiness teacher and basketball coach at Achievement First in Brooklyn.

Michael states: “To understand our millennial children better you’ll enjoy Eli’s blog/podcast with Emma Gase (medium-talk.com).”

Michael’s daughter, Maya, graduated from Cornell College of the Arts in 2015 and continues her dance studies with Vertigo Dance Company in Jerusalem. Michael lives in Chicago’s Bucktown neighborhood or, as he states, “the closest analogue to NYC in Chicago.”

Ed Klees L’84 joined the firm of Hirschler Fleischer and will be resident partner of its Charlotteville, Va., office. Ed represents universities, foundations and money managers in the areas of alternative investments, venture capital, bank custody, biotech and academic/industry collaborations. He will continue to be an adjunct professor at the UVA School of Law, where he teaches a class on private equity and hedge funds, and chair of the American Bar Association’s Institutional Investors Committee.

Congratulations, Ed!

Seth Haberman sold his latest company, Visible World, to Comcast; he says it was with great thanks to Tom Glover, who both helped him start and finish it.

In addition to his preventive cardiology/clinical lipiddology practice, Seth Baum PS’85 is chief medical officer of MB Clinical Research, incoming president of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology and secretary/treasurer of the FH (Familial Hypercholesterolemia) Foundation.

Please keep me updated on your events, achievements and travels. I look forward to hearing from you! You can send updates to the addresses at the top of this column, or you can use CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

And don’t forget that our 35th reunion is Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. John Tsanas and John Luisi co-chair our Reunion Committee, which has planned a fantastic weekend for us. There will be lots of great events like class-specific dinners, live music and dancing in front of Low during the Starlight Reception and fascinating lectures as part of All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day).

1982

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Greetings gents! As I sit down to write, 2016 has just begun. The stock market rang in the New Year by “plotzing.” For those of you who opted-out of a career on Wall Street (where the key to success is to dress British and to speak Yiddish), I will translate: to collapse or faint, as from surprise, excitement or exhaustion.

Checking in this quarter is my good friend Wallace Wentink. He's
Still busy working for the Central Park Conservancy ensuring that it continues to be a wonderful resource for all New York City residents. Wally divides his time between New York and Stuart, Fla.

Nice life!

As luck would have it, Wally and I managed to grab a drink in NYC during my last trip to the city. I am not above buying drinks in exchange for Class Notes. Keep that in mind!

On a personal note, yours truly recently co-authored a paper that will be published in the Winter 2016 edition of The Journal of Portfolio Management, "Forced Liquidations, Fire Sales and the Cost of Illiquidity." In October I presented it at the Institute for Quantitative Research in Finance (QGroup) and it ended up being the highest rated paper/presentation. Apparently it helps to tell a few off-color jokes when presenting a technical paper.

Keep those notes coming in! You can send them to the addresses at the top of the column or through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your classmates want to hear from you!

Executive Board and has co-chaired every CC’63 reunion. Both Paul and Bob have been campus leaders for more than 50 years. I also spent time with Thomas Vinciguerra ’85, JRN’86, GSA’90.


Kevin Chapman and his wife, Sharon Chapman BC’83, also were at Homecoming. Kevin and Sharon celebrated their 32nd anniversary with a party at the Party City Park at Citi Field for a Mets game with 18 friends. Unfortunately, the Mets did not win, but they said everyone had a great time.

David and I attended the Harvard–Columbia football game with his middle school classmate, Rhys, and Rhys’ father, Eric Talley, the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law at the Law School (and husband of Law School dean Jillian Lester). It is truly a pleasure to see Columbia competitive on the gridiron.

I also attended the 2015 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, which honored Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73 LAW ‘76. I sat with Steve Coleman and his daughter, Sarah Coleman ’15. From Steve: "The progress the football team has made this year is remarkable. Losing by 8 points to Harvard. Losing 13–9 to Dartmouth and we had the ball with a minute to go but couldn’t make the big play. Lost to Princeton 10–5 and blocked a punt, which Princeton recovered in its endzone for a Columbia safety — if Columbia had recovered for a touchdown, it could have been 10–10."

I also sat with Mike Satow ’88 (son of Phil Satow ’63) at the dinner. Thanks to Phil’s generosity, Satow Stadium is one of the best college baseball facilities in the Ivy League. Phil was last year’s Alexander Hamilton Medal recipient. Mike is president and CEO of JDS Thera-peutics and Nutrition 21.

Barry Rashkover was also at the dinner. Barry is partner and global leader of Sidley Austin’s Securities & Derivatives Enforcement and Regulatory Group and a partner in the New York Litigation Group. Barry is a frequent speaker and writer on SEC enforcement and related issues. Prior to joining Sidley, he was co-head of enforcement and associated regional director for the SEC’s northeast regional office.

In 1999, Barry received the SEC’s Stanley Sporkin Award for outstanding contributions to the agency’s enforcement program. Barry mentioned to me he had been following Eddy Friedfield’s career. Barry was particularly impressed by the close relationship Eddy had with Sid Caesar. Eddy co-wrote Caesar’s creative biography, Caesar’s Hours: My Life in Comedy, With Love and Laughter.


I am senior co-chair of CCAA’s Serve Committee. Eric Epstein, Gary McCready, George Wilson and Kevin Chapman have graciously agreed to be on the committee.

From Gary McCready: "Recently, I was asked to serve on a new committee (thanks, Roy!) whose goal is to create opportunities to give back to Columbia and to the community. Part of the goal is to get alumni involved using their time and talents, and I can’t help thinking of involving one of our most famous alumni — President Barack Obama. The projects that the committee will focus on are still under development, but I do know one thing the President could do from his bully pulpit that would benefit all prospective students (not just Columbia’s), and that is enlarging more exposure to college-level courses [for students still] in high school. The optimal method is to have courses such as AP and International Baccalaureate programs available in schools themselves, but with technology options present even in the lowest performing schools, the courses can come to areas where they were. What the President must enable through advocacy and focused funding are the resources to prepare students for those courses and support while they are taking them. Now, you don’t have to be President to have talents or time to contribute, so stay tuned for the launch of the online portal for the Serve Commit-tee — you may be surprised at what you can do!"

Jim Reinish SEAS ’82 played the trumpet for the Columbia University Marching Band when I was the band’s juggler. His daughter Ariel Reinish SEAS ’10 is a fellow alum. Jim notes: "I got to go to a few football games during these years. It always brought back fond memories."

Jim and his family sent the following holiday note: "As we begin the holiday season, [my wife] Lisa, [children] Daniel, Ariel and I would like to extend an early greeting to you and your family. As some of you may know, Lisa and I have relocated to Rochester, N.Y., to be closer to Ariel.

Karl Citek ’84 earned Diplomate status in the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry.
Class Notes

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Greetings to all from Miami, where yours truly was working nonstop schlepping million-dollar boxes at Art Basel Miami Beach and its satellite fairs for more than two weeks in December. I made time during the craziness to dine with Miami legal heavyweight (and guitar store impresario) Bernardo Burstein (whose daughter, Jessica Burstein BC'19, is a first-year).

Chase Welles is set to wed! He reports, "Getting married to Annette Graumann at Grace Church on Broadway, where my grandparents were married. We met three years ago the new-fashioned way — on Match.com — and we split our time among our apartment on West 69th and Central Park West, my suburban paradise on the Hudson River in Piermont, N.Y., and our house on the coast of Maine. I still negotiate commercial real estate deals for tenants and landlords. I'm working on the redevelopment of Industry City on the Brooklyn waterfront, which at six million sq. ft. may be the largest redevelopment project in the country — it certainly is in the city and Tri-State area."

Karl Critel, a professor of optometry at the Pacific University College of Optometry, says: "In addition to recently celebrating my 21st(!) anniversary as a faculty member here, in October I earned Diplomate status in the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry (only about 7 percent of fellows are diplomates in the various sections of the academy)."

Eldridge Gray was recently elected a Regent At-Large for the California Tribal College.

Carlton Wessel practices law at DLA Piper in Washington, D.C. He writes, "My wife, Sarah Morgenstau BC'85, LAW'91, and I live in the Washington, D.C., neighborhood of Cleveland Park with two of our three wonderful kids, Henry and Mizra. Our third, Teddy, went off to Colby College this year.

"Sarah and I attended the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner at Columbia in November. It was a fun evening and it was great to reconnect with Lanny Breuer '80, Joe Greenaway Jr. '78 and Steven JRN'86, Tom Vinciguerraner with DLA Piper in Washington, D.C. He writes, "My wife, Sarah Morgenstau BC'85, LAW’91, and I live in the Washington, D.C., neighborhood of Cleveland Park with two of our three wonderful kids, Henry and Mizra. Our third, Teddy, went off to Colby College this year.

"Sarah and I attended the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner at Columbia in November. It was a fun evening and it was great to reconnect with Lanny Breuer ’80, Joe Greenaway Jr. ’78 and Steven Reich ’83, all of whom I have gotten to know in my post-Columbia life but with whom I still feel a connection. The dinner was capped off by a moving speech from honoree Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, LAW’76, who ended with these lines from Ten-nyson: ‘Tho’ much is taken, much abides; and tho’! We are not now that strength which in old days/ Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are/ One equal temper of heroic hearts/Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will/To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.'

"Kind of sums it up about where I am in my life as well," Carlton adds.

Proud papa Michael Feldman is levelling: ‘My daughter Cloe was featured on Nickelodeon’s Halloween Special and hosts her own YouTube channel, CloeCouture, which has more than 1.6 million subscribers.’ Back to work!

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT website, cct@webform.college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1985

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After reunion last summer, things have gotten a bit quieter on the Class Notes front, so please send in updates as we progress through 2016! Just a few updates for everyone — most of them are congratulatory.

I had the pleasure of having dinner with Tom Vinciguerra JRN’86, GSAS’90 in Port Washington, N.Y., in December. Tom was speaking at my local public library about his latest book, Cast of Characters: Waltcott Gibbs, E.B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker, a group biography of the magazine’s early years and the key figures who led to the publication’s success. (Tom edited a 2011 collection of Gibbs’ New Yorker writings, Backward Ran Sentences: The Best of Waltcott Gibbs from The New Yorker.) According to the terrific review in The New York Times, "Waltcott Gibbs..."
York Times, “Loosely organized and pleasantly digressive, Cast of Characters is swift and enjoyable reading.” Having read through the book (and having known very little about this great contributor to the New York literary scene), [I can say] it was chock full of interesting details and I heartily recommend The Times recommendation.

Congratulations to John Phelan’s daughter Unity, whom our class had the pleasure of seeing as part of the main company of the New York City Ballet during reunion. The day after Christmas, Unity danced the lead role of Sugarplum in The Nutcracker.

Way to go, Unity and John! John’s wife, Kimberly, has also been featured on radio commercials for her accounting firm.

Hard to believe that the Class of 2020 is on the way, but here they come! Congratulations to our classmates whose children will arrive on campus this fall.

Time for an update from me. My and my wife Allison’s oldest son, Isaac White ’14, enjoys his employment at The New York Times as a software engineer. He is a part of several teams helping the Times transform its digital platform both aesthetically and functionally so it can maintain its preeminent position in the world of journalism. Our middle son, Noah, is a sophomore at Duke; having spent last semester trekking the wilds of Patagonia he continues his studies in environmental science and was not planning on “tenting” outside for six weeks in order to secure prime tickets to the Duke-North Carolina game. Speaking of excelling college basketball, our youngest son, Josh, joined me for multiple Lions basketball games this season. It is wonderful to see our team so competitive in the Ivies. He and I also had the great pleasure of watching our beloved Mets in person for each playoff game last fall. Truly a special experience, even if the results fell just short. Josh is a senior in high school and by the end of this summer our house will be eerily quiet on a regular basis. A big transition for sure. Allison, who is extraordinary, continues to amaze in her educational advocacy. She has worked on such issues as digital privacy, excessive standardized testing and Common Core, and has been regularly cited online and in print as one of Long Island’s most active educational advocates. I’m very proud and very fortunate on all fronts.

Don’t forget to send in an update! You can send updates to the addresses at the top of this column, or you can use CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/ctct/submit_class_note.

1986

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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Our 30th reunion approaches, so get ready for Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. The weekend will feature great events like the Starlight Reception’s dancing and drinks on Low Plaza, class-specific dinners and special events with faculty. Don’t miss it! We had a few first-time updates for this issue. Here’s news from Goran Puljic: “After working at several sell-side investment banks (Morgan Stanley, Lehman, Goldman Sachs — in that order) in various roles involving interest rate and credit derivatives, I moved to the buy-side and joined Lehman Brothers Private Equity in 2002 and went through its bankruptcy. Since October 2008, I have been at Oak Hill Advisors and am currently a partner, in charge of structured credit investing and collateralized loan obligation issuance businesses. I was married in 1995 to a wonderful woman, Melinda, and we have two teenage boys, Nick SEAS’19 and Tucker. Nick is studying computer engineering. Tucker is in his senior year of high school at Greens Farms Academy in Westport, Conn, and will be attend Tulane on his way to becoming a veterinarian (hopefully). “We live in Darien, Conn. Since Nick started at Columbia, I have reengaged with the place, after not being involved since our 10th reunion. I joined the Alumni Representative Committee and have starting interviewing prospective Engineering students in Fairfield County, Conn. (one of my kids got in early and one was waitlisted). I also joined the Engineering School’s Parents Association and my wife and I are taking a Lit Hum Mini-Core Class with a Columbia professor.” Peter Muniz wrote from Atlanta: “After 20 years with GE Capital in numerous executive roles, I joined The Home Depot in August 2015 as VP and deputy general counsel responsible for corporate securities and governance, commercial transaction, tax, privacy and interline brands. My wife, Ivette Feliciano-Muniz SEAS’86, and I relocated to Atlanta and we are adjusting to life as empty-nesters. Our youngest, Kelsey, is a freshman at Michigan; our middle child, Jonah, is a sophomore at Johns Hopkins majoring in mechanical engineering and a member of the varsity soccer team; and our oldest, Joshua SEAS’14, is in his second year of medical school at the University of Illinois at Chicago.”

Congrats to Tom Marrinson in Chicago! His son, Nathaniel ‘20, was accepted early decision. Hope he gets housed in John Jay! As we prepare for our 30th reunion, it’s the perfect time to send your news to either of the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/ctct/submit_class_note. Your classmates want to hear from you!

1987

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October was a wondrous month for CC’87 get-togethers, both formal and informal. Between Homecoming and a Columbia College Women (CCW) event, many of us had a chance to visit before our next reunion (only a little more than a year away — can you believe it?). I’m so grateful to Michelle Estilo Kaiser, who spearheaded the Homecoming section of this column, gathering reports from many of our class’ attendees. Michelle wrote: “It has been wonderful to reconnect with so many old friends via Facebook. Knowing a glimpse of what classmates have been doing during the past 30 years allows an easy catch-up when given the rare and special opportunity to bond in person. When we found out that Laura Adams — just about the coolest psychology professor ever — was making the trip from Texas for Homecoming this year, we organized a mini-cheerleading reunion. Who better to hang with at Robert K. Kraft Field than some great women who share so many memories there? I reminisced with Christine Jamgochian Koobatian, Susie Wu Dare BC’90 and her beautiful family, and Bonnie Host ’89. Our awesome and indefatigable CC’87 leader Kyra Tirana Barry organized a rockin’ tailgate, where we caught up with many ‘80s friends.”

Michelle added, “It’s always great to see Ron Burton (the nicest person ever) of 1987 WKCR fame, and many ’80s football players: Greg Fondran, Bill Flick, Greg Gonzalez, Rob Flaherty, Jason Pitkin, George Stone and Joe Policastro. Laura Adams said that not only was it great to spend time with her fellow cheerleaders but it was also fun to tailgate with these former Lions.”

Ron Burton added: “Just great seeing everyone. Fun to be back in the booth after almost 30 years. The good news is that although we got crushed by Penn that day, it looks like coach Al Bagnoli has truly set the wheels of a turnaround into motion.” I wish I hadn’t had to teach! I’m so sorry I missed it.

But at least I didn’t miss the event at the end of the month — a CCW get-together at Stephanie Katz Rothman ’88’s apartment featuring Jodi Kantor ’96, speaking about her experiences at her other alma mater,” The New York Times. Most special of all was spending time with Michelle Estilo Kaiser, Suzanne Waltman and Gerri Gold as well as seeing Stephanie, my dear friend from our raucous teenage, pre-Columbia years! If you haven’t been to a CCW event in a while, consider coming back — it’s changing, growing and evolving! And as the first fully coeducational class, we continue to pave the way.

In other sports-related news, Bruce Furukawa met up with Greg Gonzalez at a Cal vs. USC football game, as both of Greg’s daughters are at UC Berkeley. Bruce also got together with Doug Cifu, who is
part owner of the Florida Panthers, at a San Jose Sharks game with their families. John Sun, who lives in the East Bay, joined them at the game.

Garnet Heraman recently launched a startup accelerator and investment group (with $25 million in initial commitments), along with several NYC and Silicon Valley partners. He said he would love to hear from any and all Columbia entrepreneurs and investors: arvivp.com.

Remember, time is flying and Reunion Weekend 2017 is not too far away; Thursday, June 8–Sunday, June 11, 2017. What better time to write me and give me all the latest info? Send updates to the email address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1988

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Congratulations to banker John Vaske, who has been promoted to a leadership position in Goldman Sachs’ mergers and acquisitions division. John, who is currently co-chairman of the natural resources group, will become co-chairman of global mergers and acquisitions.

My former roommate Lee Hadad FaceTimed me from Jerusalem, where he has lived for nine years. The recent surge in terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens has made their life more difficult lately but people continue to go about their business, he says. Lee reported that our former floormate Philip “Shraga” Levy, also a Jerusalem resident, is now a father-in-law, having married off a son, one of his seven children. I don’t know if that’s a first for the Class of ’88, but Shraga is definitely the first classmate whom I know personally to reach this milestone. And I think we all know what comes next.

It was great to get a first-time update from Dr. Diane Ridley PS’92: “I completed my residency in anesthesiology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center (before the merger with New York Hospital) in 1996 and a fellowship in obstetric anesthesia in 1997 (you guessed it — at Columbia). I worked at Elmhurst Hospital Center (Queens) but came back home to New Jersey in 2005. I’ve worked in Jersey City, East Orange and New Brunswick, and recently started working in Teaneck. I live in Newark, NJ.

“I maintain close ties to Columbia College through participation in Sachems events,” Diane continues, “as well as supporting events hosted by Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. Incidentally, I was among the 12 Columbia women (six from the College, five from Barnard and one from SEAS) who established Rho chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. Incidentally, I was among the 12 Columbia women (six from the College, five from Barnard and one from SEAS) who established Rho in 1986.”

Keep your updates coming! I look forward to hearing from all of you. All news is welcome, and can be sent to either address at the top of this column or submitted through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1989

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From her home in the Boston area, Lisa Elmes Weinstock, who is married to Peter Weinstock, writes, “Peter and I are officially empty-nesters! Our daughter, Hannah ’16, is majoring in psychology. She has had an amazing experience at Columbia and has especially enjoyed the work she is doing as a research fellow in Professor Valerie Purdie-Vaughns ’93’s lab. Our son, Noah, is a freshman at Northeastern studying engineering. It’s nice to have him close to home.

“I work for Framingham Public Schools. After 18 years in the classroom, I recently moved into the role of literacy coach, working with teachers and administrators around literacy curriculum and instruction. Peter is a pediatric critical care doctor and director of Boston Children’s Hospital Simulator Program. He travels the world helping other hospitals establish medical simulation programs.”

Congratulations to the Weinstock family, who will be at Hannah’s graduation.

A few Columbians have recently relocated. Jody Collins Fidler and her family left the Washington, D.C., area for Denver to pursue new adventures — professionally as well as on the ski slopes. Jody’s husband, Dr. Phil Fidler, accepted a position as director of a new burn unit at the Swedish Medical Center. Jody left her role as area director for the American Lung Association in D.C. prior to the move. Once they arrived in Denver, she focused on getting their three kids settled while volunteering for the Denver Peanut Butter Plan, a nonprofit assisting homeless people in Denver. Jody says, “We all have been enjoying the outdoor lifestyle and have adjusted to the effects of high altitude on the ball of every sport. We were thrilled to go skiing on Thanksgiving!”

Elisabeth Socolow, who has lived in Asia for 15 years (most recently in
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), arrived in Washington, D.C., where she and her family will reside for the next year. Elisabeth joined the State Department several years ago as an economic officer and will move with her family to Seoul, South Korea, this coming summer to work in the U.S. Embassy there. Her sons, Marko (12) and Nicolas (9), are enjoying their time in the United States and have visited Columbia a couple of times.

My husband, Dave Terry '90, and I attended the Alexander Hamilton Award dinner last November, which honored Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76, former U.S. attorney general. While there we had the pleasure of dining with Josh Krevitt and his wife, Mady Krevit (née Nislow) BC'90, LAW'76, former U.S. attorney general. Their sons, Marko (12) and Victor (9), are enjoying their time in Beijing, where he has been working in public affairs and communications for 22 years. He says he will move with his family in the United States and have visited Columbia a couple of times.

The morning following the dinner began with an exciting breakfast in Low Rotunda for the launch of the College’s Core to Commencement campaign. I visited with Victor are interviewed and mentioned, including John Allen. "The Season" starts out as a turnaround story but gives Columbia's rich, complicated, and at times harrowing football history, it becomes much more.

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1990

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Kudos to Andrew Cohen, a Scruggs Scholar and associate professor of history at Syracuse. Andrew’s latest book is Contraband Smuggling and the Birth of the American Century. It is available at your nearest bookstore. He says, “One of my great thrills was getting a blurb from Eric Foner '63, like he’s the man about town.

Christopher Millward wrote from Beijing, where he has been working in public affairs and communications for 22 years. He says he will move with his family in the United States and have visited Columbia a couple of times.

In August 2014, Jon Earle became the dean of Louisiana State University's Roger Hadfield Ogden Honors College. Moving from Lawrence, Kan., to Baton Rouge meant not only adjusting to the weather but also adjusting his spelling. Is it “go” or “geaux?”

Jon says, “The Ogden Honors College curriculum owes a lot to CC’s (another way Columbia led in higher ed). Our college’s classroom building, the French House, is a Huey Long-era fake Norman castle which, when renovations are complete, will house some of the finest seminar classrooms on the planet! I use my CC education every day, trying to replicate it for bright undergraduates in the SEC. Geaux Tigers, and Lions!”

Dean Sonderegger EN'90 is VP/GM of legal markets for Wolters Kluwer, a global provider of legal information solutions to law firms and corporate counsel. Dean lives in Reston, Va., and works in NYC. His oldest son, Crawford, is a sophomore studying political science at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Frederic Schultz writes his first Class Note: “What I’ve been up to the last several years is a long story. In brief, I started a rabbinical school, the Academy for Jewish Religion, CA (ajrc.edu) by donating money many years ago, and intend to go there some day to become a rabbi, but I’m currently a lawyer and running for President! My classes at Columbia and Barnard (including those with the incredible professor Dennis Dalton, and many others!) and our activism then inspired me so much, and I look forward to working with college and university students and grads to help bring freedom and prosperity back to our nation and world! Sending my Columbia friends lots of love.”

Fred is running as a Democrat and Lijilana Stanojevic Penuela EN'90 is heading his campaign committee. If he does not secure the nomination, he will run as a candidate of the Love Party, which he is forming. At the time of submission, Fred did not have a URL to give me, so google him and learn more about his campaign.

Greetings to all! I hope 2016 is treating you well so far. This update is going to be short and sweet, with a small reunion request thrown in.

Ted Stern married Judith Wallner in Washington, D.C., last May. The wedding took place at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Ted’s son, Teddy, was the best man and Mil- ton Villanueva was in attendance.

Apologies to Ted for the delay in including this in Class Notes.

As a reminder, the 25th anniversary of our graduation from the College will be celebrated at Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Annie Giarratano Della Pietra is our Reunion Committee program chair and Bob Cooper is our fundraising chair. The committee has had several conference calls to plan a memorable weekend with special celebrations, activities and speakers. Part of the fun will include a slide show of memories from our time at Columbia and beyond, and here is where I need your help. Please email me any pictures of you and our classmates that you would like to share. It will be fun to dig out the old photo albums and show our kids how we used to document our lives before Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Don’t wait until June … SEND THEM NOW!

We have a Facebook page (Columbia College Class of 1991) to keep you up to date on all of our activities. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 25th reunion!
1992

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Greetings, classmates. I am writing this a couple of days after New Year’s, having spent a week with my brother, Christophe Knox ’95, and his family. There are potentially three Lions in the making, if my boy and both of his cousins make a play for Morning Side Heights.

I got a nice note from Robert Carey, who moved in October from Long Island to Peoria, Ariz., a suburb of Phoenix. “No more miserable winters for me!” he says. But he’s not done with (potentially miserable) New York summers, as he’ll be back to see his extended family.

Robert was a writer and editor for VNU/Nielsen Business Media from 1992 to 2007, then went out on his own. During the past eight years, he says, “I’ve been writing for various B-to-B media outlets and creating content-marketing campaigns for hotels and resorts.”

Robert says he’s had to acclimate to his new surroundings, what with never having lived west of Hoboken, N.J. “I’ve already toned down my friggin’ accent so that it’s barely perceptible,” he says. “Any Columbians in the valley who want to play a round of golf or take a motorcycle ride can look me up,” he adds.

If you’re reading this but have never contributed, please email a little life update to the address at the top of this column! You can also send in a note through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. This column only works when you chime in!

1993

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Greetings, classmates! This column is courtesy of Patti Lee, who writes:

I had a whirlwind trip through the northeast corridor in December — I was in Boston visiting my brother and his family and was lucky to spend a few days in New York City as well, where I picked up a number of updates from old friends about a number of our classmates.

We’ll start with Andrew Ceresney, who is the director of the Division of Enforcement of the Securities and Exchange Commission and has been all over the news. Our former class president has been busy explaining recent actions taken against J.P. Morgan and putting the spotlight on Martin Shkreli. Who is Shkreli? Exactly! He’s the kind of guy you don’t want to get to know.

Thad Sheely is the new CFO and EVP, real estate, for the Atlanta Hawks. Friends in New York are sad to see Thad leave the city but the new job is a great opportunity for him.

Congratulations to Kevin Connolly, entrepreneur, husband and father of two, spent a good part of the holiday season working to procure Christmas trees for disadvantaged families in his hometown of Garden City, N.Y., working with a charity he started to honor his late father. Kevin tells me he didn’t have enough on his plate he decided to embark on a massive renovation of his childhood home.

That’s our Kevin — always reaching for the stars while keeping his feet firmly on the ground!

WKCR alumni are also making their mark. Brad Stone, the unofficial expert on everything Amazon, was promoted to senior executive editor at Bloomberg in San Francisco.

Meantime, after getting married earlier this year (the wedding was profiled in The New York Times), Jon Bonne ’94 (with whom I co-produced an excellent show back in the day), relocated from San Francisco to New York, where he is working on a new book.

While catching up with Sandra Fahy in New York, I learned that she and Jen Larrabee are triathlon training partners and can be found competing on weekends. However, if you ask Sandra about it, she will downplay her athleticism. She will also downplay the fact that her innovative course on eugenics at Packer Collegiate Institute is becoming quite renowned. Earlier this month, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy dropped into her class and told her students they were lucky to be able to take such a cool course!

I also saw my favorite filmmaker and writer, Neil Turitz, whom I credit with editing this column. Neil has projects in the works that I am not at liberty to discuss. However, I can tell you that he and Rachel Mintz are already hard at work planning our 25th reunion, now a little more than two years away. See you then, but stay in touch in the meantime! Thank you to Betsy Gomperz, who graciously invited me to pen this edition of Class Notes. You can find me on Facebook and LinkedIn under pattijlee. Aloha.

Please continue to send in updates or reach out to me (Betsy) at betsy.gomperz@gmail about submitting your own “guest column” update. You can also submit notes via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Thanks!

1995

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I hope this column finds everyone well and inspired to send in an update. If you attended reunion last spring and have never sent an update, please consider this an invitation — you can write to either of the addresses at the top of this column or you can submit through CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Thanks to Simon Butler for letting us know what he’s been up to for the last two decades. He and his wife, Trudi, recently celebrated their fourth anniversary and moved from Forest...
Shivali Shah ’97 was elected to City Council of Mount Rainier, Md., having worked for the past 10 years as an activist and a self-employed attorney.

Randall, the man behind the Honey Badger web series.
Simon keeps in touch with his former Carman 9 floormate Aram Ciamician. “Sadly, my two other best friends from Columbia, Mike Hauben and Ed Buhrman, are no longer with us,” he writes. “I’d like to give a shout-out to them — they were part of what makes Columbia great.”

Please keep the news coming!

### 1996

**REUNION WEEKEND**
**JUNE 2–5, 2016**

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Greetings, classmates!  
Chris Harris has enjoyed two big life changes in 2015—a move and a baby! He writes: "Last year was an exciting one for the Harris family. Last summer we moved from an apartment in Brooklyn Heights to a house in Pelham, N.Y., and we recently welcomed our second child, Jack Lachlan, into the world. Our first, Abigail Whitney, is a dotting big sister and great helper to her mother, Sarah Whitney TC ’06.

In other moving news, we were delighted to hear that Alex Charters Zubko has returned to the New York area. After being away for 10 years, she has returned not to "a cubby in the West Village" but to Westchester along with her husband and their three children. Alex has hopped on the commuter line for a new job: "I've decided not to act my age and have joined 20-somethings at a travel start-up in the Flatiron area." Other than that she's "generally just trying to survive life with very energetic toddlers!"

Welcome back, Alex! And good luck!

We also heard from Ramzi Kassem LAW ’04, associate professor at the CUNY School of Law, where he directs the Immigrant and Non-Citizen Rights Clinic. Ramzi's scholarship, teaching and clinical practice focus on the intersection of law and security as well as immigration. He has, along with his students, representing inmates at the Guantánamo Bay detention camp for much of the last decade and has published pieces in The New York Times, Vice and The Nation. He keeps close ties with Omar Farah, Nina Bond (née Lee), Vikram Kumar SEAS ’99, Nithya Ramanan SEAS ’99 and Nirmalan Navaratnam SEAS ’99.

Nina Tannenbaum also sent in an update involving fellow Columbians. She writes: "Guillermo Silberman and I recently spent the year selecting candidates for Venture for America, a fellowship program for college graduates to launch their careers as entrepreneurs, focused on fueling job growth in U.S. cities that need it most. Venture for America was founded by Andrew Yang LAW ’99, Robin Chan and Jay Adya ’98 are longtime supporters."

November saw a crew of CC ’99ers make the trek to Robert K. Kraft (née Baker) Field for the Columbia-Harvard game. Adrienne Carter, Martin Mraz, Jenna Johnson, Joshua Meyers ’97, Dylan Highetower SEAS ’99, Jane Hwang ’98, Jonathan Speier SEAS ’97, Matt Nociti ’01, Naomi Altschul (née Fraenkel) BC ’97, SEAS ’98 (and her daughters Jeannie and Amelia), Maya Arison BUS ’01, Isaac Oh BUS ’13, Alessandro Pirenio BUS ’13 and Jennifer Aniz BC ’00 gathered at the picnic tables for some pregame catch-up with kids and partners and spouses. An astonishing array of pickles, mustards and bratwursts were provided by Jane and her husband, Gus, though the real feast was a last-minute transfer from forbidden glass jars to stadium-approved plates—a cautionary tale for future tailgaters! It was a great way to draw in Columbians from other classes; we made a lot of new friends that day. Join us next time!

As you may have gathered from the recent WNYC podcast "The Season," the football team made an improved showing this year under coach Al Bagnoli. We were also happy to see the Columbia University Marching Band is as spirited as ever. We rewarded their energy with some pretty exceptional marzipan created by Martin.

Thanks to everyone for the excellent updates. We hope to hear from more of you in the coming months (either email your updates to us at adeliz@gmail.com or jennajohnson@gmail.com, or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) and that the winter was good to each and every one of you.

2001

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Natalia Petrzela (née Mehlman), along with Nicole Hemmer GSAS’10 and Neil Young GSAS’08, launched a podcast (pastpresentpodcast.com) that you should all subscribe to on iTunes. "We are three historians who 'turn hindsight into foresight' and take on topics from the refugee crisis to Planned Parenthood to SoulCycle," says Natalia. "Three months in and we have more than 7,000 listeners! I also have a new 'fitness history' column I've launched at Well + Good, and I went to London over the holidays to hang with Adelaide Scardino."

Congrats to Ommeed Sathe, who was named in The Chronicle of Philanthropy's first 40 Under 40 list of extraordinary young leaders around the globe who have dedicated their careers to social change. Ommeed is VP of impact investments at Prudential Financial in Newark, N.J., and oversees a $500 million portfolio of investments designed to produce both financial and social returns, with Prudential aiming to increase the amount invested to $1 billion by 2020.

Support Tchaiko Omawale's Indiegogo campaign and support her film, Solar, which explores "disordered eating in the black community through a fun coming-of-age narrative that was inspired by [her] own struggles with an eating disorder and self-harm." View the trailer and learn how to donate: vimeo.com/143481270.

Class of '00, share what's going on with you! You can email me at pb134@columbia.edu or send news through CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2000

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I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and caught up on rest, like I did (though this issue reaches you in spring, these notes are written in December). It's hard to believe but this is the last Class Notes update you will read before our 15-year reunion in June.

Congratulations to Dr. Miles Berger on receiving the Dennis W. Jahniagen Career Development Award from the American Geriatrics Society and the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research. Miles' work focuses on understanding what causes postoperative delirium and cognitive dysfunction...
tion, and whether these disorders are accompanied by changes in Alzheimer’s disease pathways.

Amazing stuff, Miles! Everyone else, write in to either of the addresses at the top of the column or use CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/ctt submit_class_note.

So, I didn’t have much news to report this go-round, which can only mean one thing — I’m ready to collect lots of great updates in person at Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. My wife, Jamie Rubin BC’01, and I are excited to see you all there!

2002

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Genevieve Thornton Baker and her husband, Grey Baker BUS’16, announce the two newest additions to their family: Fleur Thornton Jepsen Baker and Brittin Thornton Burnett Baker, identical twin girls born on October 28.

Joyce Anderson (née Chang) writes, “From Napa Valley, Calif., where she had a Columbia tennis mini-reunion with Iiene Weintraub, Leena Rao (née Krishnaswamy) ’03, Shelly Mittal ’03 and Melissa Nguyen BC’04. Joyce lives in Evanston, Ill., with her husband, Chris, and sons, Henry, James and Gus. She is the head girls’ tennis coach and the college-bound student-athlete adviser at Evanston Township H.S. and works with AP recruitment and retention logistics. Before moving to Evanston, she practiced securities litigation in Chicago at Sidley Austin for three years. Joyce visited Lillian de Gournay (née Davies) in Paris last spring, where Lillian is an art history professor and where she lives with her husband and two children.

Advertising photographer and conceptual artist Mike Mellia’s work has recently been commissioned by Vegav, Brooks Brothers, Harry Winston and one of the architects responsible for 4 World Trade Center. He appeared on CNN to discuss his work, and has also been featured by MoMA, The Huffington Post, BuzzFeed and Fast Company.

Daniel Abelon is happy to be back in NYC after six years in the Bay Area, where he earned an M.B.A. and started an online dating company, SpeedDate. Now he is a VC investing in startups related to artificial intelligence, robotics, data science and other areas of advanced tech. Daniel is always happy to chat with other Columbia tech/startup people! He is married and having fun learning the ropes of parenting from his wife’s two little boys, he says.

Jacqueline Karp and her husband, Dave Spencer Karp ’99, are thrilled to announce that they had another son. Alexander Gabriel arrived November 3 at 10:36 a.m.

On October 3, Albert Lee SEAS’02, BUS’07 married the girl of his dreams, Cara Killackey, at Chicago’s Holy Name Cathedral, with groomsman Kendrick Bates ’01 and usher Elvis Rodriguez SEAS’02 in the wedding party. The reception was held at the Waldorf Astoria. Chicago and they were joined by Purdy Tran Bailer, Lindsay Jurist-Rosner, Rachel Nichols Kehnaw ’03, Franklin Amoo, Edward Choi SEAS’98, BUS’07, Jenny Lee ’99, Kate Chaltain BC’01 and Matthew Wang ’97, BUS’05. Purdy moved to Philadelphia and has been reacclimating to the northeast — especially the winters! Last July she gave birth to a son, Miles Lincoln, who joins brother Max Hudson.

Michelle Leavy and her husband, Charlie Katz-Leavy, are excited to announce the birth of Benjamin Edward on November 2. He is named after Charlie’s late father, Edward N. Leavy ’64. Charlie writes: “He is a big, healthy and good-natured baby. Like his sister, Emily Rose, he is looking forward to his years on Morningside Heights. His Columbia parents are excited to have Ben join the Columbia community and send their regards to the Class of ’02 from the northeast outpost in Portland, Maine.”

2003

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I hope 2016 is off to a good start for you! For those who follow the lunar calendar, I wish you a happy Year of the Monkey! Now let’s start off the year on a high note by celebrating the good news of our classmates.

Moses Ahn has been working at the New York City Law Department for 2½ years and was recently promoted to a management position as an assistant unit chief in his division. He oversees a team of attorneys and investigators who defend against claims aimed at NYC’s law enforcement personnel.

Maureen Falcone (née Powers) writes, “My husband, Tony, and I welcomed our second son, William, in June. We live in my hometown, Allen-town, PA, with William and James (3). I work part-time as an in-house attorney for St. Luke’s University Health Network and enjoy the extra time at home with our sons. Tony is also an attorney and does licensing work for Avago Technologies.”

Jaime Oliver writes, “The last few months of 2015 were a whirlwind! I graduated from Villanova’s M.B.A. program, started a role as a product manager, got married, visited my 40th country and ran the NYC Marathon. All good things, but I’m looking forward to a less eventful 2016!”

David F.C. Wong is happy to share that his second daughter was born in October.

Ben Casselman is the chief economics writer at FiveThirtyEight. His recent articles explore topics ranging from job growth to No Child Left Behind to religious views and how they impact the upcoming presidential election.

In addition to running his spirits brand, VEEV Spirits, Carter Reum is also a regular contributor to Inc. Magazine.
In other job updates, Nadim El Gabbani is a managing director at Blackstone, Mary Rozenman is SVP of corporate and commercial development at Amimmune Therapeutics in San Francisco and Miriam Stone runs Brand Plume, a brand and messaging consultancy she founded in 2014. She is based in the San Francisco Bay Area and her clients have included the likes of Adobe, Google, Honeywell and Intel.

Everyone else, your classmates want to hear from you! Please send any news, big or small, to mjm296@columbia.edu or submit notes via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**2004**

**Columbia College Today**
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Attention, CC’04ers! CCT needs a new class correspondent for this column. This is a great way to stay in touch with friends and classmates and to share all the amazing things that the Class of 2004 is up to! Please reach out to us at ctt@columbia.edu if you — or you and a classmate; team correspondents are fine — are interested in or have questions about the role.

CCT thanks Angela Georgopoulos for her work during the last six years. Until CCT has a new correspondent, please send updates directly to us at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

**2005**

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Happy 2016, Class of 2005! Here’s the latest on your classmates:

I recently caught up with my freshman and sophomore roommate, Jennifer Legum Weber (oh hey, Carman and Ruggles!), when she was visiting San Francisco with her beautiful son, Avis, and her husband, Daryl Weber ’02. They were visiting from Atlanta, where Jenn works in wealth management at Morgan Stanley. All you marketers and entrepreneurs out there, check out Daryl’s upcoming book, *Brand Seduction: How Neuroscience Can Help Marketers Build Memorable Brands*, which is due out this spring.

Jenn and Darryl were visiting Inna Fabrikkant and her husband, Mehul Patel, and their new baby. Inna is a senior client development manager at Socialcast, which was acquired by VMWare. Jenn and Darryl also had a chance to see recent San Francisco transplants Anya Chernoff and Bennett Cohen on their visit. Anya and Bennett moved here after a long sojourn in the Netherlands. Anya is the executive director of Empower Generation, which helps women in Nepal become clean energy entrepreneurs, and Bennett works in future energy technology at Royal Dutch Shell and is a Kauffman Fellow.

Ife Babatunde lives in New York and works for LinkedIn.

Erica Yen shares, “My husband, Phuong, and I welcomed our first daughter, Zoey, on October 13.”

In January, Evita Morin (née Mendola) SW’09 became executive director of San Antonio’s Rise Recovery, a nonprofit addressing youth and family recovery from the impact of drug and alcohol addiction. She was selected by the National Association of Social Work’s Texas Alamo Area Branch as “Social Worker of the Year.” Evita says that she continues to be grateful for her Columbia education and felt honored by the opportunity and responsibility to serve her community.

Dan Binder writes: “Last year was a great year for me — I started it off on 1/1/15 by proposing marriage to Alyssa Farmer (a Louisiana girl by way of Texas A&M) and closed the year celebrating in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, with my wife and partner (married 5/9/15).”

Some of our classmates humored my request to share how their New Year’s resolutions from 2015 turned out. Thank you all for sharing.

Gemma Steff says, “I wanted to start writing seriously and I did.”

Jonathan Treitel wanted to have a second daughter and he succeeded with the help of his wife, Stephanie Feldman BC’05, who also wanted to launch the paperback version of her novel *The Angel of Losses* through HarperCollins — she did.

**Ben Harwood** reports on how a resolution turned out: “I made the resolution to have 80 percent of the relationships in my life be healthy. In 2013, my life was full of unhealthy relationships that were quietly making my life miserable (and I thought 100 percent was unrealistic). So in 2014, I stepped down from the dysfunctional board of a charity I started, parted ways with a delusional business partner and started a new business with grounded, caring people, and ended a two-year romance with a woman who was truly unavailable. Now I’m six months into a reciprocal relationship with an affectionate girl who is a promising young surgeon.”

Italome Ohikhuare says, “My goals for 2015 were to finish my short film and get it into a prominent film festival — and I accomplished both! *The Mermaid* was accepted into the Mental Health Channel’s film festival and won the Jury Award for Best Film. It’s currently playing on the channel: mentalhealthchannel.tv/film-festival/the-mermaid.”

Kunal Gupta responds, “I set out in 2015 to create a community coordination app and freelance marketplace for work that is motivated by social impact, with the idea that it will help more mission-driven communities succeed and grow [*their* impact (it’s called Better, you can check it out at better.space). It’s motivated partly by thinking about what I wish I had when I founded [music venue and art gallery] Silent Barn and [video game creation collective] Babycastles.

*This seemed important, so alongside the initiative I took on a whole bunch of [other] New Year’s resolutions: no sugar, meat or alcohol, and lots of meditation. Of course, I didn’t keep that up. On that note, my app isn’t fully out yet. Either. But during 2015 I came within sight of realizing those initiatives, so it was a monumental year.” Congratulations to everyone, and here’s to 2016!”

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Carolyn Schook Foster ’06 married David Wesley Foster on April 11 at the University Club of Chicago. Left to right: Eliza Horstman SEAS ’06, the bride, Kate Crawford ’06, Denise Warner ’06 and Susan Altman ’04.

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**2006**

**REUNION WEEKEND**
JUNE 2–5, 2016

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Here are some updates from our classmates:

Andrew Stinger made the leap from behind a desk at Google to on top of the SoulCycle podium as an instructor. Though Andrew will miss seeing Nick Cain on a near-daily basis (their desks were only a few feet apart), he loved getting to see fellow Columbians in NYC during training camp, he says. Andrew can now be
Mike Groopman may be living your dream. He shares, “I won a World Series as part of the Kansas City Royals front office.” Mike is the Royals’ director of baseball operations/analytics.

Rina Haverty opened a bar in Ridgewood, Queens, called The Bad Old Days. She says it was a labor of love and has been a long road, but there’s now a neighborhood bar with a warm living room feel that is worth the trip if you’re in the city. The address is 1684 Woodbine St.

John Schneider shares, “My wife, Stephanie Pahler BC’06, and I are excited to announce the birth of our second daughter, Emily Anne, in Houston.”

Tera Erer was featured in an October 27 article in Farriety, “Hollywood’s New Leaders: Film,” for her position as SVP in international sales for Filmmation Entertainment. The article states, “The Istanbul native rose quickly through the ranks from assistant at the Weinstein Co. to her current position, in which she’s played a significant role in the company’s record-breaking deals (The Imitation Game to Weinstein for $7 million, Story of Your Life and Top Free to Paramount for $20 million and $12.5 million, respectively). She’s responsible for more than $50 million in international sales in the first half of 2015 alone. Upcoming: Denis Villeneuve’s Story of Your Life, John Lee Hancock’s The Founder, and Toronto [Film Festival] winner Room. I’m driven by the idea of great filmmaking.” Her motto: “Follow the film, follow the filmmaker.”

Ed Hambleton has opened the world’s first drag queen chili food truck, the Texas Chili Queens, in Austin, serving delicious food all over town. Check out the truck on Facebook by searching “Texas Chili Queens” and find it on Instagram and Twitter @TxChiliQueens.

Simeon Seigel proudly shares that his family recently celebrated his younger son Asher’s first birthday!

Kasia Nihkamina shares, “My husband Ilya Nihkamin’s and my shop, Redbeard Bikes in DUMBO, Brooklyn, recently celebrated three years in business! We make awesome bikes and we make your bikes awesome. If you experience pain or discomfort on the bike — whether you’re competing or just riding for fun — we can help! We have big plans for the coming year.” You can find a great interview with Redbeard Bikes on bike.nyc or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

Scott Sugimoto writes, “I’m happy to send the update that I married Christine Liang SEAS’09 at the Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel in Dana Point, Calif., on September 5. Five years earlier we were both working at Accenture in New York and met at a company Columbia alumni event. We had an awesome time celebrating with old friends at the wedding!”

Melissa Flores Caban married Cleo Caban on August 8. Melissa is responsible for more than $50 million in international sales in the first half of 2015 alone. Upcoming: Denis Villeneuve’s Story of Your Life, John Lee Hancock’s The Founder, and Toronto [Film Festival] winner Room. I’m driven by the idea of great filmmaking.” Her motto: “Follow the film, follow the filmmaker.”

Alex Verbuch SEAS’07, Alexandra Bolognese’07, the bride, and Garrett Leahy ‘07.

On August 8, Melissa Flores Caban ’07 married Cleo Caban at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset, N.J. The ceremony was held in the redwoods at the front of the property. The reception was held in the redwoods at the front of the property. The reception was held in the redwoods at the front of the property. The reception was held in the redwoods at the front of the property. The reception was held in the redwoods at the front of the property. The reception was held in the redwoods at the front of the property.

Alexandra Cerutti ’07 married James Bolognese at Lake George, N.Y., on September 5. Left to right: Michael Margello ’07, Andy Sama SEAS’07, Whitney Windmiller ’07, Alex Verbuch SEAS’07, Alexandra Bolognese’07, the bride, Michael Fishel ’07, Jeremy Maletz ‘07, the groom and Garrett Leahy ‘07.

Not much news this time but there are a few happy announcements! Maxwell Cohen married Antonio Savorelli at City Hall in Cambridge, Mass., on October 26. It was a small but lovely ceremony and they look forward to having proper celebrations in both the United States and Italy this year.

On June 26, upon hearing the Supreme Court’s decision to recognize a constitutional right to same-sex marriage, Rodrigo Zamora GSAPP’11 and B. Ashby Hardesty Jr. were married at the Marriage Bureau in New York. In attendance were classmates and family and friends from around the country. The ceremony was followed by a celebration at the home of B. and Ashby’s parents in Queens, N.Y., where guests were treated to cake and champagne. The couple plans to continue their travels around the world, sharing their love and commitment with family and friends.”
friends from undergrad and grad school, including Cristina Handal BC’07, Greg Bugel, GSAPP’11; Dionysios Kaltis, GSAPP’11; Julia Stroud BC’07, GSAPP’11; Greg Bugel, BC’07, GSAPP’11; and Hannah Goldfield ’09.

Charlotte Hall has a great recommendation for Lions supporters: a podcast from WNYC called “The Season,” which followed the Columbia football team during the 2015 season after a 21-game losing streak (it may even bring back memories of CC’08’s struggle to keep the tailgating tradition alive for generations of Lions to enjoy): wnyc.org/story/welcome-to-the-season.

Justin Yi moved to Southampton, N.Y., last year and “had an octopus summer!” If you want to know what that means, reach out to Justin—he would love to reconnect with classmates!

Casey Acierno recently celebrated an important anniversary: “My husband, Jack, and I got married on November 22, 2010, at City Hall in Manhattan, accompanied by some close family and friends (including Mairead Murray; Max Foxman CC’07, JRN’15; and John Painting SEAS’08). For our fifth anniversary, we had a big wedding in Brooklyn with a ceremony at Congregation Beth Elohim and a reception at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. Back row, left to right: Mairead Murray ’08, Gabe Rodriguez ’08, Chris Harris SEAS’08, John Painting SEAS’08, Morgan Rhodes SEAS’08, Nate Morgante ’09, Lucas Martin ’08 and Joe Hall SEAS’08. Front row, left to right: Kai Twanmoh ’08, Madeline McDavid ’08, Irina Ikonowsky ’08, Kate Simon SEAS’08, Laura Cole ’08, Rachel Lowdermilk BC’08, Laura Brunts ’08, Sam Roberts ’08 and Max Martin ’08 and Joe Hall SEAS’08. Front row, left to right: Kai Twanmoh ’08, Madeline McDavid ’08, Irina Ikonowsky ’08, Kate Simon SEAS’08, Laura Cole ’08, Rachel Lowdermilk BC’08, Laura Brunts ’08, Sam Roberts ’08 and Max Martin ’08 and Joe Hall SEAS’08. Holding banner: the groom and the bride.

and recently returned to Boston, where Marissa attends law school and Amir is completing a medical residency program in internal medicine. Marissa and Amir were thrilled to celebrate their wedding with friends Nathan Morgante, Mary Catherine Bullock, Maria Abascal, Jennifer Salant, Dan Chinoy, Shannon Ding ’08, Sam Ashworth GS’10 and Sarah Besnoff BC’09. CC’09ers, let’s hear from you! All news is welcome. Email it to me at damooei@gmail.com or use CCT’s webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2010

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Lauren “Casey” Hayes-Deats recently started a job as the education manager of the Brooklyn Arts Exchange. She is also working on completing her master’s thesis in applied theater, which explores creating original theater with adults with dementia and memory loss.

Veronica Kamenjarin (née Couzo) married her law school sweetheart last July. She and her husband reside in Chicago, where he is an NFL agent and she is a labor and employment attorney at Jones Day. Veronica is happy that Ritu Arya also lives in Chicago, because Ritu teaches her the proper way to do leg day.

As always, here is the latest from Chris Yim: “I went camping a few months ago in Yosemite National Park. I needed to get away from the busyness of city life and had a few life questions that I wanted to think on, so I called the camp ranger early one Friday morning and told him that I would be making my way.

“I drove nearly four hours to reach the park entrance before I realized that I had forgotten my tent. It wasn’t an ideal situation, and I was already sort of unnerved after having listened to the podcast Serial on my way up. Now, I was wondering if Adnan had actually killed Hae, so I added this to the list of questions that I would answer for myself over the weekend.

“For those that are reading this, I don’t know if many of you have ever had the distinct pleasure of visiting Yosemite, but you should do it, like, now! It’s probably my favorite place in California, where I fell in love with the mountains and have splashed around in pools at the top of a ginormous waterfall.

“After parking my Prius, I made my way into the forest and the unknown. I left my cell phone and wallet in the car and relied solely on my map and five senses to guide my wandering soul. Nearly three miles into the trail, I heard a wild screech. It sounded like it was less than a mile away. I imagined an animal being backed into a dark alley and being slaughtered by...
a wildebeest; this did not put me at ease. I started hiking faster, deeper and deeper into the black forest.

“Fifteen miles in and nearly five hours later, I set up camp. At this point, it was just past midnight, and I was starving. I pulled out the Lunchables that I had picked up at a gas station in San Francisco and started making myself personal pizzas. It wasn’t until I got to the Butterfinger bar that I noticed the stump across from my campfire was actually moving. Not only was it moving, it was starting to roll around. This stump was no stump — it was a baby brown bear.

“Freaked out, I lept to my feet and tried to remember what Survival 101 taught me: Get big and start making loud noises. In a frenetic panic, I got into a praying mantis kung fu position and started hissing. The bear was not amused and started advancing. Then, I started screaming at the top of my lungs. I refused to turn and run because I knew it would just hawk me down. I growled and made a multitude of animal sounds — wolf, cow, moun¬tain lion and grizzly bear.

“None of this was working. To make a bad situation worse, the bear had siblings who were hungry for human meat. I kept my eyes on the bears and started rummaging in my bag for the knife that my dad had given me as a child. I wish I were lying when I said this, but he had actually gotten into a fight with a fox in South Korea as a teenager. He had a scar on his back to show for it, but he let the blood of the fox speak for itself. He let the blood dry on the knife and gave it to me years later. How ironic that I’d be using it to defend myself from the Berenstain bears here and now.

“When I got it out, the bears could smell the aggression and they marched forward. I had heard of deaths by bear attacks in Yosemite and Denali, but never thought that it would happen to me. I liked bears, but I didn’t have it in me to run. My legs were dead from the 15-miler that I had just done. I cocked my hand back and threatened them, ‘Don’t come one more step, or else!’

“If I could understand bear, they must’ve been saying, ‘Or else what?’ because they kept inching forward. I jumped forward, and we were eye to eye. If you’re reading this, you’re probably thinking this is all a farce, but ask my roommate, Varun Gulati, because I told him this story as soon as I got home. Anyway, in that moment, a man came shrieking out of the shrubbery behind me. He looked like the scary homeless beggar/prisoner who took Aladdin to the cave to get the genie’s lamp. He came running and started spraying the bears with what I assumed was bear spray.

“The bears took one look at him and freaked out. They ran, I screamed, this guy was screaming. It was all a mess. He saved my life. I would later find out that his name was Deneal, and he was in Yosemite because his wife had left him a few months earlier. He decided to live in Yosemite until she came and found him. He was certainly weird, but we climbed Half Dome together, made fires the next two nights together and ate his homemade brownies.

“When I left Yosemite, I had a newfound appreciation for my life. I came home and told my wife how much I loved her, and she told me that I needed to go camping by myself more often. Next stop: Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon and Coyote Buttes.”

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.
On August 29, Sam Reider '11 married Claire Turner in Nicassio, Calif. Back row, left to right: Avi Allison '11, Ruben Doetsch '14, Javier Plascencia '11, Trevis Joyner '11, Sean Udeel '11. Front row, starting second from left, left to right: Joanna Ferley '11, Roxanne Unger '11, the bride, Freddie Tunnard '11, Sarah Deutsch '11 and Sarah Steele '11.

ness Magazine’s “20 in Their 20s,” a list of young business leaders in Utah. Please enjoy the article at utubbusiness.com/articles/view/ twenty_in_their_20s_1. You can also check out a Utah Business Magazine video featuring Nelson at youtube.com/watch?v=bWFxCBSPJNQ.

Amanda Olivo started a master’s at Rutgers, where she is studying drug development and discovery in the master’s of business and science program. Amanda recently launched Rise Up Women Leaders, an organization for women to develop their leadership skills in order to achieve their career aspirations (riseupwomenleaders.com). Amanda has been busy but received a promotion at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, where she has worked for the past couple of years.

Alex Ivey works at Brunswick Group but moonlights on his father’s (Glenn Ivey) campaign for Congress. If anyone lives in Maryland’s fourth congressional district, vote for him! Also check out the campaign announcement in The Washington Post: washingtonpost.com; search by keywords “Glenn Ivey kicks off.”

Finally, it wouldn’t be a CC’11 update without some mundane nonsense from Dhruv Vasishtha (he really gets a kick out of seeing his name in print). Dhruv is excited for his India vacation, where he will travel, relax, visit family and show his girlfriend, Molly Spector BC’11, his hometown. However, his parents keep insisting he take “much needed” supplies back for his aunts and uncles. While he insists that Centrum A-Z has made it to New Delhi, his parents just respond that he needs to stop being so difficult and watch the “Parents” episode from Master of None.

2012

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Happy spring, CC’12! As new and exciting things happen in your lives, please continue to send your updates my way.

Last October, Pat Blute was featured in a Wall Street Journal article about his awesome app-controlled, tech-savvy San Francisco home: wsj.com/articles/the-house-that-google-built-1445522039.

Last year, Aditya Mukerjee joined Stripe, a startup that enables businesses to accept and manage online payments. He is excited to work on a team with Dan Weinstein, Nathan Bailey, Pierre Gergis and Gabrielle Marx.

Aditya writes that Dan was back in New York for a three-month retreat at the Recurse Center (founded by Nicholas Bergson-Shilkock SEAS’08 and David Albert SEAS’09). The center, based in SoHo, is “a free, self-directed, educational retreat for people who want to get better at programming, whether they’ve been coding for three decades or three months.”

Aditya also ran into Nida Viculitis last December. Nida recently graduated from law school and works at the ACLU.

Congrats and hey to our classmates in the Bay Area! Nettra Pan writes from Lausanne, Switzerland: “I’m at EPFL, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, doing my thesis on investor decision-making. In addition to research, I recently delivered my first guest lecture on crossing the chasm to reach the base of the pyramid. We closed the first edition of our Massive Open Online Course on high-tech new venture strategy and are working on translating it into French and Mandarin. We will launch it on Coursera again in September with $2,500 in prize money to be awarded to the top performing teams.

“Outside of work, I’m helping to build a community of young creatives with heart. I joined Sandbox when I was at Columbia, but left after the main VC backing the startup implemented some odd strategies. Actually, most of us left and have regrouped under a newly formed, independent nonprofit, Thousand Network. I’m restarting the Lausanne/Geneva-based hub and looking for introductions to young founders, authors, policymakers, artists, singers, hackers and researchers interested in applying. Basically, we welcome anyone who wants to make a positive dent in the universe and is open to sharing and experiencing life with our global community of 1,000 people (jointhousand@gmail.com). Would be happy to share more with interested alumni!”

Claudia Sosa sends an update from Myanmar: “Claudia Sosa extends an open invitation to anyone coming through Myanmar to reach out; she’ll take you for a beer and some tea-leaf salad at her favorite Burmese tea shop. Claudia has been based in Yangon since April 2014. There, she works with a rural-focused social enterprise called Proximity Designs as a design project lead. She spends about 30 percent of her time speaking with farmers all over the country as part of a project with iedoo.org to design agricultural sensors for Myanmar smallholders.”

As for the rest of you out there — hope to hear from you soon!

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/ct/submit_class_note.

2013

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Eva Suarez was ordained to the transitional diaconate in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C., on November 21. Bishop Mariann Budde presided. Eva will serve as a deacon until her graduation from Union Theological Seminary and Hunter College’s joint M.Div/ M.S.W program in 2017, when she will be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church. You can find her on Sundays on staff at Trinity Wall Street in lower Manhattan.

Isabel Losada is back in the United States after leaving her job...
and graduate school plans last year to move to the Dominican Republic. She lived in the capital, Santo Domingo, for a year at an archdiocean retreat house where she worked alongside six other American volunteers and 60 Dominican women. She served in the kitchen and also as a translator for guests visiting the retreat house. It was definitely not easy, she says, but it was an experience she is extremely grateful to have lived. Upon her return in August, she traveled to Florida to visit family and attended the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis in Philadelphia. If you visit The Frick Collection, stop by and say hello; Isabel works in development as the membership assistant.

Don’t forget, you can send updates to my email address at the top of the column or through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your classmates want to hear from you, and no news is too big or too small!

2014

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Thank you to the class members who sent updates to CCT:

Inspired by Elon Musk’s space aspirations, Jennifer Lee recently moved to Southern California to work at SpaceX. She loves her new role and the L.A. life, she says. Alumni in the area, please feel free to connect: je2580@gmail.com!

Danielle Morenike Benson, a student at the Law School and president of its Black Law Students Association, was interviewed by WNYC on December 10 on Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia’s comments on race as a factor in college admissions. Listen and read more: wnycto/scalia-affirmative-action-comments-reverberate-campuses.

Kate Eberstadt says she is thrilled to be a visiting artist in the American Academy in Berlin this spring, where she will form a children’s choir in an emergency Syrian refugee camp. During this residency, Kate will compose an original choral piece the new choir will premiere in downtown Berlin in April. She will also create a documentary (with French filmmaker Brune Charvin) about the process. To supplement the research phase of this project, Kate was a resident artist at Robert Wilson’s Watermill Center in Long Island in January. She says she greatly looks forward to sharing the product with the Columbia community and beyond.

And now, a note Rebecca Fattell:

“Hi Class of 2014. I’m happy to be your new class correspondent (thank you, Emily Dreibelbis, for two years of hard work!). I’ll write this column four times a year with updates on what our class has been up to since graduation, almost two (!) years ago.

“The content depends on your submissions. When you get the chance, please email me with updates. These could include where you work, places to which you’re traveling, projects you’re excited about, experiences you’ve had with other Columbians (including, like our predecessors, some Columbia marriages). Or, anything else you wish to share.

“Email updates to me at rsf2121@columbia.edu or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

“Can’t wait to hear from you!”

2015

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016
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I hope the first few months of 2016 have been treating you well! It’s hard to believe that it’s already spring. What’s even more unbelievable is that in June, we be reunited in Morningside Heights for our one-year reunion! During the past few months, we’ve all gone off in different directions, whether it’s a new job, graduate school or something completely different. Time has really flown by and I cannot wait to catch up with you all. Our Reunion Committee has been hard at work crafting an amazing schedule of events including Mini-Core Classes, a Class of 2015 happy hour, the Columbia College Young Alumni Party and (possibly) the ultimate throwback event — a Lerner Pub!

Over the coming weeks, you’ll hear from me and other members of the committee with details and I encourage you to join us as we reminisce, relive and reunite with our class and alma mater during the weekend of Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Until then, here are two updates from our class:

Faith Williams writes, “Greetings from England! During my senior year at Columbia, I decided I wasn’t finished with biological anthropology, so now I’m studying toward a master’s at the University of Cambridge. This term I’ve been settling in and exploring the town by touring all the different colleges, going punting on the river and walking through some of the surrounding countryside. The rest of the time, I’m in the (beautiful, 19th-century Gothic) Pembroke College library or in the lab researching ancient parasites.”

Talya Presser shares that she is a 1L at Yale Law School!

Please submit updates by writing to me at the address at the top of the column, emailing me at kdc2122@columbia.edu or submitting via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

See you Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, at Reunion Weekend 2016!

Classified Ad Information

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1946

Ira E. Shein, retired commodities trader, Teaneck, N.J., on October 28, 2015. After serving in the Navy, Shein earned a degree in 1948 from GSAS and taught at Bronx Science and Forest Hills H.S. He then became a commodities trader, first dealing with foodstuffs and later with precious metals. He and his wife, Myra, had three children: Faith, Jon and David; and five grandchildren.

1947

Ernest Kinoy, screenwriter and playwright, Williamsville, Vt., on November 10, 2014. Kinoy was born on April 1, 1925. He graduated from the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in the Bronx and was drafted into the Army during WWII. He served in the 106th Infantry Division and was taken prisoner after the Battle of the Bulge. He threw away his dog tags, which identified him as Jewish, but the Germans still sent him to a slave labor camp with other Jewish POWs. He later wrote a television play based on the experience, Walk Down the Hill (1957). After the war, Kinoy graduated from the College, where he wrote stage plays, and soon landed a job with NBC. He was president of the Writers Guild of America East, 1967–69. During his career he wrote Broadway musicals, Hollywood screenplays and Emmy Award-winning episodes of The Defenders and Roots. Among his many notable scripts are: Stokie (1981) and Lincoln (1988). Kinoy’s wife of 58 years, the former Barbara Powers, died in 2007. He is survived by a son, Daniel; daughter, Judith; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1948

Edward P. DeBlasio, television writer and producer, Studio City, Calif., on February 1, 2015. DeBlasio was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. He graduated from the H.S. of Music and Art at 16 and attended the College for two years before enlisting in the Navy. After his service he returned to the College and then in 1950 earned a degree from the Journalism School, where he was president of his class. DeBlasio’s first job was as a copy boy at the Hartford Courant. He traveled to Italy in search of an interview with Lucky Luciano, which he did not get, but sold a few articles to Inside Detective magazine; he eventually became its editor. Later DeBlasio worked for Modern Screen and Photoplay magazines. His first teleplay for East Side/West Side became its premiere episode and launched his career. He also wrote for The Defenders, Marcus Welby, M.D., Ironside, Strange Report and many other shows. DeBlasio and his family moved to Los Angeles in 1971. After freelancing for several years he became executive script consultant for Police Woman and wrote several episodes. DeBlasio was Dynasty’s writer-producer for its first eight years and wrote 94 episodes. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Irene; daughter Gioia Cristina; brother, Peter; two grandchildren; and two nieces. He was predeceased by daughter Michelle Maria in 2012.

Sears E. Edwards, retired physician, Garden City, N.Y., on August 14, 2015. Edwards was born on October 8, 1928, in Brooklyn, N.Y. After playing freshman football as a Lion, Edwards performed in the Varsity Show, foreshadowing a lifelong interest in theater. He decided to be a doctor at 9, after a hospitalization for septicemia. After graduation in 1952 from New York Medical College, he trained in urology while in the Navy and later at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. While practicing in Garden City, Edwards was elected to lead the county medical society. He married Hope McKean and they had four children: Leslie Wood, Christopher, Jennifer and Craig (deceased). In retirement Edwards maintained his devotion to

Dr. Michael S. Bruno ’43, PS’45, Physician, College Alumni Leader

Dr. Michael S. Bruno ’43, PS’45, a physician and administrator at Lenox Hill Hospital and a member of the Columbia College Board of Visitors from 1996 to 2002, died on November 16, 2015, in New York City, where he was born and raised. He was 93. In 2002, Bruno became an emeritus member of the BOV and served in that role until his death. He also served on the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1988 to 1992.

After graduating from P&SS, Bruno remained in New York City, interning at Bellevue Hospital before joining the Army and serving in Japan. He was discharged in 1948 as a captain and was appointed chief resident at Bellevue, with additional teaching and administrative responsibilities. In 1956, he became director of the Department of Medicine at Knickerbocker Hospital in Harlem, serving as president of its Medical Board and as a member of the Medical Board Executive Committee.

Bruno joined Lenox Hill Hospital in 1966 and was dedicated to developing its potential as an educational resource. He was associate dean for medical education for the affiliated NYU Medical Center and worked to craft a successful graduate medical program. What once was considered a community hospital is now held in regard as a teaching hospital and tertiary care center, improvements that Bruno helped push.

Director of the Department of Medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital for 35 years, and a member of the Board of Trustees and Joint Conference Committee for 24, Bruno was elected to four terms as president of the Medical Board and was a member of the Lenox Hill Corp.

In addition to his teaching and administrative practices, Bruno was regarded as a highly skilled internist, diagnostician and mentor. In 1978, he approved Dr. Simon Stertzer performing what was then the first balloon angioplasty in the United States. Bruno gave Stertzer the support, encouragement and resources to develop the program, which revolutionized the care of patients with heart disease throughout the world.

Predeceased by his wife, Ida Marion Bruno, in 2002, and by his brother, Gregory, and sister, Lilian, Bruno is survived by his partner, Maria Goode Schwartz; children, Lauretta Bruno BU’70, Pamela Williams and her husband, Charlie, and Michael Bruno BU’82 and his wife, Meg; grandchildren, Geoff Williams ’03, Mike Bruno ’11, Russell Bruno and Price Bruno; and one great-grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michael S. Bruno, M.D. Scholarship Fund at Columbia College via Jim McMenamin, senior development and senior director of principal gifts (212-851-7965 or jtm2@columbia.edu), Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., New York, N.Y. 10025; or to the Michael S. Bruno, M.D. Memorial Fund, Lenox Hill Hospital, Attn.: Development Office, 100 E. 77th St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

—Aiyana K. White ’18

and Lisa Palladino
Columbia sports. He supported the golf team and welcomed generations of Columbia alumni who became physicians into his beloved New York City Physicians Golfing Association.

1950

Stephen L. Wythe, retired manager and consultant, Maryville, Tenn., on November 13, 2015. Wythe was born in Queens and was a longtime resident of Westfield, NJ; Pickens, S.C.; and Knoxville. He was a WWII Army veteran, serving from 1944 to 1946, and a Bronze Star recipient. Wythe was his College class' valedictorian. He went to study at Michigan and returned to Columbia, earning a Ph.D. in 1954 in organic chemistry from GSAS. From 1953 to 1982, Wythe was employed by Exxon Corp., where in the 1960s he managed the domestic plastics and lube additives business. He participated in creating and managing Exxon’s corporate research program in the 1970s. After retirement from Exxon, Wythe had his own consulting business from 1983 to 1997. Wythe was predeceased by his wife, Patricia, and is survived by a daughter, Shirley W. Beasley, and her husband, Rod, Lisa Noel Gentleman and her husband, Arthur Hogg, and Kathryn Edith Hartle and her husband, Jesse; and three grandchildren. Smith was preceded in death by his sister, Anne Sidaris Reeves. Memorial contributions may be directed to the American Heart Association, 2722 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231. Memorial messages may be directed to his daughter Kathryn: kathrynhartle@hotmail.com.

1949

Thomas F. Buckley Sr., retired casualty insurance manager, Bridgewater, Mass., on May 3, 2015. Buckley was born in Greenfield, Mass., on July 26, 1922. He served in the Navy; attaining the rank of lieutenant during WWII. Buckley lettered in varsity baseball in 1947 at Columbia. He served on the Windsor, Conn., Board of Education and was a committee member of the Capitol West Regional Community College, which facilitated the formation of the Greater Hartford (Conn.) Community College. Buckley was a Boy Scout committee member and bowled for many years in the Windsor Locks Bradley Bowl bowling league. He also was an avid Yankees fan. Buckley retired to High Pond Estates in Bridgewater and played in its shuffleboard and bocce leagues. He had lived in Windsor, Conn., for 40 years. Buckley’s career spanned 40 years in the insurance business; he retired from Aetna Life and Casualty Co. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Theresa (née Colletti); son, Thomas, and his wife, Donna; daughter, Susan Okolita, and her husband, James; four grandchildren; and a brother.

1952

Thomas C. Keating, retired SVP of commercial leasing, Plandome, N.Y., on October 6, 2015. Keating retired from Rudin Management Co. He was predeceased by his wife of 56 years, Deirdre, and is survived by a son, Thomas, and his wife, Ann Marie; a daughter, Amy; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The New York Foundling Hospital or Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

1955

Burnell D. Stripling, physician, Menominee, Mich., on December 19, 2014. Stripling was born on July 13, 1934, in the Bronx. He attended Fordham Prep and New York Medical College. Stripling’s internship was at Los Angeles County Hospital, where he completed his residency in internal medicine. He and his medical school friend Dr. Harry Locke then set up a practice in Colorado Springs. Two years later, Stripling was drafted into the Navy and stationed at Great Lakes NH in Illinois. Stripling soon joined the Marinette Medical Clinic, beginning a 33-year career in local medicine. Stripling was an active member of the Menominee Rotary Club, supported the DAR Boys and Girls Club and worked with the elementary students at Lincoln School. He also loved to sail, play tennis, run, watch his kids play sports and watch Menominee football from the sidelines as team doctor. He was an avid supporter of the Green Bay Packers and enjoyed hunting camp. Stripling is survived by his wife, the former Jane L. Gribble; children, Burnell, Wesley, and Wendy Gandy; seven grandchildren; brothers-in-law, Robert Pileggi and Jack Gribble; sister-in-law, Carol Gribble; and nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Bay Cliff Health Camp, PO Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808, or to the Grace Episcopal Church, 922 10th Ave, Menominee, MI 49858.

1956

Alfred M. Smith, retired insurance executive, Mount Dora, Fla., on November 30, 2015. Raised in
Forest Hills, Queens, Smith summered in Patchogue, L.I., with his widowed father, Alfred R. Smith (Class of 1921, SEAS 1923). The family was of a direct line from Richard "Bill" Smith, founder of Smithtown, L.I. After the College, Smith was called into the Army while working on his M.A. thesis. He married his first wife, Adrienne Angst, while in Germany, and they had three children during their 18-year marriage. On returning to the United States, Smith joined Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. and then Great American Insurance Co., which became American Financial Group. Upon his retirement as VP of commercial claims, Smith moved from the company headquarters in Cincinnati to Sarasota, Fla. He was always very proud of his Columbia background. Smith is survived by his wife, Marie "Mimi"; daughters, Tracey and Claudia; son, Richard; and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 317 South Mary St., Eustis, FL 32726.

**1957**

**John Wellington**, retired university and foundation executive, Montclair, N.J., on September 29, 2015. Wellington began his career as a teacher at Montclair Academy from 1957 to 1959. He then was Columbia's director of admissions from 1959 to 1967 and director of alumni relations from 1967 to 1977. Wellington moved to Bucknell and was VP of university relations to 1979, then Fordham's VP of institutional advancement from 1979 to 1986. From 1986 to 1988, he was VP of American Colleges and from 1988 to 1991 was a fundraising consultant to Fox Chase Cancer Center. From 1991 to his 1999 retirement, Wellington was director of the Mountainside Hospital Foundation. Wellington loved reading, crossword puzzles and playing sports. In high school, he played football, basketball and baseball; he was a four-year member of the Lions football team under Lou Little. Wellington was a founder of the Old Blue Rugby Football Club of NYC and helped create the Old Blue Rugby Foundation, a nonprofit that helps sustain OBRFC financially.

**OTHER DEATHS REPORTED**

*Columbia College Today* also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1941 Walter C. Elchaker, retired physician, Heathsville, Va., on November 18, 2015.
1942 Henry W. Decker, professor emeritus of French, Riverside, Calif., on March 6, 2015.
1943 Thomas C. Catalano, physician, Syosset, N.Y., on June 24, 2014.
Edward H. Callahan, corporate manager, Davenport, Iowa, on March 17, 2014.
Rudolf E. Henning, engineer, Belleair, Fla., on July 9, 2013.
David Higgins, engineer, Seaville, N.J., on May 8, 2014.
Vincent J. Viggiano, Port Charlotte, on August 9, 2014.
1945 Daniel H. Robbins, retired engineer, Pittsford, N.Y., on November 2, 2015.
1947 Stanley H. Milberg, stock analyst, Brooklyn, N.Y., on December 13, 2015.
1948 Anthony S. Arace, Fullerton, Calif., on October 10, 2015.
Jesse Schomer, psychiatrist, Westport, Conn., on November 6, 2015.

1952 Thomas F.S. Buckley, reporter and columnist, New York City, on November 1, 2015.
John W. Oplinger, marketing consultant, Greenwich, Conn., on December 2, 2015.
1955 Michael Holland, professor of architecture, New York City, on November 11, 2015.
Richard Jennings, advertising executive, New York City, on August 13, 2015.
Robert M. Spivack, tax executive, Las Vegas, on December 30, 2015.
1957 Richard M. Marks, psychiatrist, New York City, on January 14, 2016.
Burtt R. Ehrlich, Investment banker, Greenwich, Conn., on December 21, 2015.
1999 Peter B. Carroll, hospital employee, blogger, New York City, on September 28, 2015.
2008 Elena K. Parker, writer, producer and creative technologist, Pomona, N.J., on December 26, 2015.
he was a foundation trustee and past president. He is survived by his wife, Katie; children, Carole Cox and her husband, Julian, and John; stepchildren, Peter Reinhardt and his wife, Jenny, and Elizabeth Bredahl and her husband, Tom; and 13 grandchildren.

1959

Shelby T. Brewer, engineer, Alexandria, Va., on March 19, 2015. Brewer was born on February 19, 1937. Following the completion of two degrees at Columbia (a B.A. from the College and a B.S. in 1960 from Engineering), Brewer served as a commissioned officer in the Navy from 1961 to 1964. He completed an M.S. and a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering at MIT before joining the Atomic Energy Commission in 1971. Brewer was the top nuclear official in the Reagan administration from 1981 to 1984, serving as assistant secretary of energy. After leaving government service, Brewer became president of ABB-Combustion Engineering Nuclear Power, one of the world's leading energy companies. He was also an accomplished tennis player, securing a degree in 1960 from Engineering), and an accomplished tennis player, securing a modicum of success that would not be duplicated for many a year. His family and friends heard many stories from his time at Columbia in the fall but was omitted from the Fall 2015 issue’s "Alumni Sons and Daughters" listing on page 71.

1961

Sheldon G. Weinstein, retired attorney, Westfield, N.J., on February 8, 2016. Weinstein earned a degree in 1961 from the Law School and entered private practice in New Jersey. Thereafter, he transitioned to the public sector, and was very proud to be engaged in public service. Weinstein was a skilled and avid tennis player and found friends in amicable games over many years. He enjoyed ping pong, movies, reading and watching professional sports, particularly his beloved Mets. Weinstein also was devoted to youth sports and coached in many New Jersey youth leagues. He was proud of Columbia and was a frequent visitor to Morningside Heights (he loved V&T) and followed alma mater’s doings throughout his life. His family and friends heard many of his fond stories from his time there. He remained a devoted fan of Columbia athletics through years lean and successful and attended many games across a variety of sports. Weinstein is survived by his children, Adam, David, Janet Weinstein-Zanger BC’92 and Stephen ‘91; four grandchildren; sister, Marcia BC’66; and brother-in-law Richard Stern LAW’64. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia College Fund (please earmark for financial aid), the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org/join_the_cause_donate.asp) or Friends for Preservation of Middlesex County Jewish Cemeteries (friendsofwjcemeteries.org).

1969

Samuel P. Sprotzer, ophthalmologist, Woodbridge, Conn., on April 3, 2015. Born in a displaced persons camp in Germany after WWII, Sprotzer was raised in Rochester. At the College, he participated actively in the campus events of that time. He spent his entire career there. McIntosh worked tirelessly to improve the lives of thousands of low-income Massachusetts families who faced exigent legal challenges regarding healthcare, disability, nutritional assistance, housing and unemployment. While at LSCCI, he twice served as acting director. In 1993, McIntosh received the Massachusetts Bar Association’s Legal Services Award honoring his dedication and contribution to civil legal aid. He is survived by his wife, sons, Andrew, and his wife, Jessica Simon, and Daniel and his wife, Jesse; and brother, Stephen, and his wife, Qi.

1970

Thomas R. “Rick” McIntosh, attorney, East Falmouth, Mass., on October 12, 2015. Born in 1948 in Boston, McIntosh grew up in Weymouth, Mass. While at Columbia, he participated actively in the campus events of that time. McIntosh was a devoted fan of Columbia athletics through years lean and successful and attended many games across a variety of sports. Weinstein is survived by his children, Adam, David, Janet Weinstein-Zanger BC’92 and Stephen ‘91; four grandchildren; sister, Marcia BC’66; and brother-in-law Richard Stern LAW’64. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia College Fund (please earmark for financial aid), the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org/join_the_cause_donate.asp) or Friends for Preservation of Middlesex County Jewish Cemeteries (friendsofwjcemeteries.org).

1978

Jonathan N. Aranoff, anesthesiologist, Bronx, N.Y., on April 27, 2015. Aranoff earned a degree from P&S in 1982 and worked in cardiac bypass surgery at the Manhattan V.A. for more than 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Susana Krausz Aranoff; sons, Akiva, Ben and Daniel; mother, Freda Appleman Aranoff; and three sisters, Shera Aranoff Tuchman and Gaya Aranoff Bernstein; brothers-in-law, Lewis Bernstein and Alan Tuchman; and nieces and nephews.

Addendum

Jonathan Yee SEAS’17, son of John Yee ’82, DM’87, transferred to Columbia in the fall but was omitted from the Fall 2015 issue’s “Alumni Sons and Daughters” listing on page 71.
Il Mio Tesoretto

By Keith O’Shaughnessy ’94

Had it not been for Columbia, I might never have become a poet — or at least not a published one. In fact, it took the most unlikely combination of already improbable “leonine” coincidences to bring about the publication of my first poem and, subsequently, my first book. The same goes for my second book, and soon enough, my third and fourth.

It all began one Thursday night in April 2007 — Maundy Thursday, to be exact, the eve of Good Friday on the liturgical calendar and occasion for a recitation of Dante’s Inferno, given annually and entire, at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine by a collection of prominent local literati.

That year I attended with my then mentor and now dear friend Rachel Hadas, daughter of Moses Hadas GSAS’30, celebrated Columbia classicist. There was something in the wisps of incense lingering in the air from the censer swung not two hours prior that recalled the haunted atmosphere at the first poetry reading I attended, at 15, in a stuffy old library at The Lawrenceville School, fittingly enough by Rachel’s mentor, James Merrill, an alumnus of the same.

Together we listened as the cantor reached the legendary passage in which Dante encounters his own mentor, Ser Brunetto, who enjoins his former pupil to remember him through his book II Tesoretto (Little Treasure). I found myself glancing under Rachel’s chair at the shopping bag I would later learn contained a tiny portrait of Sr. Alighieri, itself a little treasure, which Merrill had owned and that she would that very night pass along, in turn, to me, on whose desk it continues to rest. To complete the circle, I would go on to write a poem, my first published, about the experience, titled, naturally, II Mio Tesoretto, which would appear later that year, just as naturally, in Columbia Magazine.

As literary fate would have it, Ifeanyi Menkiti JRN’65, a poet himself and longtime professor of philosophy at Wellesley, chanced upon the poem while leafing through his copy of the magazine. As it turns out, he was also the proprietor of the Grolier Poetry Book Shop, a veritable literary landmark on Harvard Square where the likes of T.S. Eliot, Robert Lowell, e.e. cummings and Elizabeth Bishop have consorted over the years. In an act wholly uncharacteristic of him, he sat down and penned a “fan letter” then and there.

Unsurprisingly, it is the only one I’ve ever received. But as Aesop’s lion once retorts to the vixen who mocks her for yielding a litter of just a single cub, “Only one, but a lion.” Better still, a year later it would lead to his calling me out of the blue to inform me that not only had he finally gotten around to reading the manuscript I’d handed him at lunch one day in Boston on a lark but also that he had decided to found a prize under the auspices of the store and my book Incommunicado would be its inaugural winner. Roar, Lion, Roar!

Today Il Mio Tesoretto can be found on the first page of another little treasure, my second book, Last Call for Ganymede, published by Menkiti and dedicated to Rachel. Due to the kind intervention of our mutual friend and fellow poet Moira Egan SOA’92, a copy currently resides on a writing table at The James Merrill House in Stonington, Conn., just as his Dante portrait does on one of mine. Best of all, in the mentee equivalent of being ushered by Beatrice unto Paradiso, Rachel recently helped secure me an invitation to join the infernal reading roster at St. John’s this March. I can only pray I get Canto XV.

Looking back, it seems almost prophetic that the first gift Rachel gave me, some five years before that night, was a copy of her book Pass It On, a title now literalized many times over in our friendship, like the simultaneously progressive and cyclical spiralings of Dante’s epic journey itself. Together they provide a vivid illustration of the kind of interactions between literary tradition and contemporary writers, between teachers and students, that lie at the very core of the Core Curriculum.

Wouldn’t you know it, but in one final stroke of poetic justice, by a contrapasso worthy of Dante himself, the ne’er-do-well who spent two weeks of his undergraduate career not reading the Inferno has gone on to spend the “lion’s share” of his professional career writing about it and teaching it in his community college’s equivalent of Literature Humanities, where, in a way, this all began.

Keith O’Shaughnessy ’94 teaches English at Camden County College in southern New Jersey, to which he commutes from his native Princeton (keithoshaughnessy@hotmail.com).
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— Dean James J. Valentini

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March 5, 1968, was one of my happiest days at Columbia, and I largely have Jim McMillian '70 to thank for it.

That was the day of the one-game playoff for the 1968 Ivy League men's basketball championship between Princeton and Columbia, which had finished the season tied atop the league standings at 12-2. The Ivy League powers-that-be did Columbia a favor and in their infinite wisdom chose Alumni Hall (now Carnesecca Arena) on the St. John's campus in Queens as the supposedly neutral site for the showdown, and Lions fans made up the vast majority of the announced crowd of 6,005.

As a first-year sports reporter at Spectator, I didn't get to cover the game; that plum assignment was reasonably enough kept by one of the paper's two sports editors. That was fine by me. I could then go as a fan, and scream my head off cheering the Lions on to victory.

I donned my Columbia sweatshirt (I hope it was Pantone 292; I know it was light blue) and boarded one of the many buses that made the 18.7-mile trip from Morningside Heights to Jamaica. I remember there were metal barricades that separated the spectators from the immediate court area and the team benches, and as I was on one of the early buses, I was lucky enough to snag a front row seat behind the barricade opposite the Columbia bench.

The game itself is a blur. I recall that Columbia started quickly, turned back several Princeton rallies in the first half and pulled away in the second half. I went to the Spec archives, and the start of the story by David Rosen '69, LAW '72 says all you really need to know: "Columbia trampled Princeton 92-74 ..."

Leading the Lions was McMillian, the team's star sophomore who had been a highly recruited schoolboy at Brooklyn's Thomas Jefferson H.S. and had chosen Columbia over many schools with more prominent basketball programs, including St. John's. The 6-foot-5 McMillian posted team highs of 37 points and 10 rebounds and also played solid defense against Princeton's star forward, John Hummer, who had a 3-in. height advantage.

I remember celebrating at St. John's, then riding with a happy busload of fans back to a campus, where a larger celebration was in full swing. Who could know that less than two months later the euphoric campus and indeed the entire Columbia community would be torn apart by the demonstrations of Spring '68 and their aftermath?

That playoff win was the signature game of McMillian's outstanding Columbia career, during which he led the Lions to a combined record of 63-14 record and scored more points — 1,758 — than any other player in Columbia history. His mark has since been surpassed by Buck Jenkins '93, but it took Jenkins four years to do it compared to McMillian's three (freshmen were not eligible to play varsity ball during McMillian's era). For those three years, I probably spent more time watching McMillian play basketball and writing about his exploits than I did in Butler Library, and I can’t say I regret it.

McMillian went on to play nine seasons in the NBA, winning a championship with the Los Angeles Lakers. I went on to become a sports writer for the Associated Press and was happy to catch up with McMillian during the Lakers' title-winning season and later when he played for the New York Knicks.

McMillian, who was described by teammate Jonathan Schiller '69, LAW '73, now chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees, as “a quiet and powerful leader ... a supportive and close friend to each of his teammates,” died on May 16, 2016. May he rest in peace. (See Obituaries.)

We are pleased to welcome Jill Shomer as our new managing editor. Jill, who began her Columbia career on June 1, comes to us from Bonnier Corp., where she had overseen print, web and digital production for Popular Science since 2010. Her editorial experience also includes work at Women's Health and Scholastic as well as a previous stint with Popular Science.

A graduate of George Washington University, Jill will be involved in all phases of CCT as we continue to build our brand, develop a more interactive online presence and explore editorial opportunities to engage and inspire our community.
An Honorable Act

In the Spring 2016 issue, Lauren Steussy writes [in “A Voice with Heart,” a profile of CNN anchor and correspondent Poppy Harlow’05] that [her father,] James Harlow’69, “spent more hours in the library than the student revolutionaries of that era.” As one of those “revolutionaries” who nonetheless took his studies very seriously, I found myself resenting this statement. The statement is followed by a quote from Poppy’s mother, Mary: “While Jim was sympathetic, he was, like Poppy, focused on getting his work done, and frustrated that he couldn’t get into the library when the school shut down.” What I would have said to Jim then — and in fact recall telling some of my fellow students — is that engaging in acts of civil disobedience against the war in Vietnam was more honorable than getting one’s own work done, even if it meant giving up some time in the library. I would argue the same today.

Lewis Siegelbaum ’70
East Lansing, Mich.

Painting Central Park

Perhaps this is a simple typographical error, but it seems a bit more poetic: In the Spring 2016 issue, the “Columbia Forum” piece on Painting Central Park includes a work by Edward Hopper titled Bridle Path. However, the caption gives the work a new name: Bridal Path.

I like to think that this is an indication of just how far New York City has come from the days of the horse on city streets. The carriages are disappearing from Central Park, and even the College’s alumni magazine is changing the meaning of what was once a park passageway for the horse — named after one of the most common pieces of horse tack — into something completely

Contact Us
CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not CCT, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and CCT style. Please direct letters for publication “to the editor” via mail or online: college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.
different. It's probably true! This is likely used more often as a “bridal” than “bridle” path, not even 100 years after the painting.

Miriam Hartman Krauss '99
Los Angeles

As a longtime New Yorker (and as a visual artist who has often photographed Central Park), I enjoyed very much the excerpts from the fine book Painting Central Park by Roger F. Pasquer '69. Not least of the pleasures was seeing an “action painting” by Edward Hopper, who isn't known for such subject matter. But its caption, which called it Bridal Path, jumped right out at me. Surely you meant Bridle Path. I am no horseman and have never been a bride, but I don't think I'd have let this mistake escape me.

Allen Schill '73
Turin, Italy

Branding

I spent my career in consumer magazine publishing. Rather than editorial product, the majority of my effort was the business side, making sure we were profitable and connected to our readers. The way we did that was to produce an engaging, entertaining and I hope important magazine that readers would purchase on the newsstand or, if a subscriber, would open as soon as it came into the home. The way to do that was to give the publication a clear identity.

Columbia College Today is a very good magazine that touches all the right buttons for its readers. Just as Fortune is about wealth and business and People is about people and Sports Illustrated is about sports, the identity of Columbia College Today is about Columbia College, today.

So I am mystified as to why in the world you have decided to complicate this simple and successful equation and confuse the reader by changing the name of the magazine. I realize it remains in smaller type next to the big “CCT,” but suspect that whatever art director or committee decided this change was needed probably has a plan to let that original name disappear at some point. In any case, “CCT” has meaning to staff, but not to audience.

Brands are valuable and the connection between a publication and its readers is critical. I strongly urge you to rethink this change. Redesign and change can be wonderful. Columbia College Today constantly refines itself and at this time is the best, most interesting it has ever been. It is only the name change that so confuses me and causes me to feel the need to write this note and recommendation.

Jim Fishman '62
Falls Church, Va.

Editor's note: The name of the magazine has not changed. However, as it's a long name, we introduced a new logo as a design element that takes advantage of our initials. We have no plans to drop the name Columbia College Today.
The Value of Beginner’s Mind

At Class Day on May 17, I spoke about “Beginner’s Mind,” the idea that one can approach new people, interactions and ideas with an attitude of openness and eagerness and a lack of preconceptions. What follows is an abridged version of my speech.

To our recent graduates, who are now receiving Columbia College today, congratulations again and welcome to the community of more than 50,000 Columbia College alumni. May all of your experiences be enhanced by the “Beginner’s Mind” that you cultivated at the College.

The first time we were all together — the only previous time we were all together — was August 27, 2012, on this very spot, for Convocation. Perhaps the only thing I said that day that you remember is that Columbia Blue is Pantone 292. If you don’t remember anything else I said, that’s OK, because more or less I am going to say the same thing again today.

That Convocation day I was wearing the same academic regalia I am wearing today, but you were not. On that day you were Columbia College beginners, you recognized yourselves as beginners, and to advise you, as beginners, about how to be Columbia College students, I noted the Buddhist maxim, “There is no way to happiness, happiness is the way.” I was encouraging you to see that everything you would experience during your time at Columbia College would be of value, rather than just seeing the conclusion — your graduation — as the source of your satisfaction.

You have achieved that outcome, as your academic regalia signifies; you are now Columbia College graduates. You have gained much value from each of your experiences here. But now, as you commence your life after graduation, you are still beginners.

As such, the best advice I can give you as you leave Columbia College is the same as I gave when you had just arrived, to always keep in mind that “There is no way to happiness, happiness is the way.”

What evidence can I offer to justify saying that yet again? Well, I offer [Class Day keynote speaker] Dean Baquet.

After his sophomore year in Columbia College, Dean got a summer internship at the New Orleans daily newspaper, the States Item. He liked the job so much that he eventually dropped out of Columbia to work there full-time. Dean is quoted as saying, “Journalism was just an accident. It just happened and I fell in love with it.”

In its coverage about Dean’s selection as Class Day speaker, Spectator commented on that remark, noting that Dean said it, “as the rest of us [current students] micro-manage our schedules and frantically search for the ‘perfect’ major. If only we could be as lucky.”

But is Dean Baquet only lucky?

No. When Dean decided to leave Columbia College to pursue a full-time job in journalism, he had something other than luck going for him, and he probably still does. He had Beginner’s Mind.

In Zen Mind, Beginner’s Mind, Shunryu Suzuki defines Beginner’s Mind by saying: “In the beginner’s mind there are many possibilities; in the expert’s mind there are few.” Beginner’s Mind warns us that others can limit our perceptions, our judgments, our understandings and our imaginations. Beginner’s Mind is what allows someone like Dean Baquet to see an opportunity in doing something that others might say one should not do: drop out of an elite college to take a low-paying job as a reporter at a not-so-big city newspaper.

The first lecture in all my chemistry classes describes Beginner’s Mind as the most important thinking in science; it is what drives scientific curiosity. And it is really the essence of the Core Curriculum — learning to question and analyze what we know and how we know it, what we believe and why we believe it, to imagine new knowledge and to entertain new ideas. Beginner’s Mind is the way to happiness, because it focuses our attention on the happiness of the way — not the happiness of the outcome. It certainly has for me.

When I was growing up in a little southeastern Ohio town, if someone had said to me “One day, you’ll be dean of an Ivy League school,” I would have asked, “What’s a dean? What’s an Ivy League school?” Even after five years of actually being Dean of the College, I still ask that question every day, but now consciously with Beginner’s Mind; that is, with a conscious effort to imagine the possibilities of what one particular Ivy League school — Columbia College — can be, what it can do, how it can be better, thinking of every possibility we may not have considered before, and most importantly, asking others about the possibilities that they see.

You can do the same, no matter what you are embarking on, particularly if what you are embarking on doesn’t seem to be quite the “perfect career,” the “perfect graduate school,” the “perfect job.” Look for the possibilities in whatever you are doing. Everything you do is part of the happiness of the way. I hope you will take this with you in the future — that you will have a life filled with new explorations enhanced by your Beginner’s Mind.

Tomorrow, at Commencement, you will relinquish your title of “current student” and take on the title of “former student,” as members of the Columbia College Alumni Association, which we hope will become an essential part of your life. Through the alumni association, we hope you will continue to profit from and contribute to the Columbia College experience, to contribute to the lives of other Columbians — your own classmates, other alumni whose paths you have followed, the students who will follow you in your footsteps.

Yes, your Columbia College road goes on forever, and every stop along the route will be influenced by your experience here. And every sign along the way will be painted in Pantone 292.

James J. Valentini
Dean
Double Discovery Center Renamed in Honor of Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS’74

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09

Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS’74’s work as a student has come full circle, as the Double Discovery Center (DDC), a College program that works to foster college matriculation for low-income and first-generation middle and high school students in New York City, was renamed The Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center in a ceremony on May 11.

The renaming is thanks to a $2 million gift from an anonymous donor, which will be given in $400,000-a-year increments for five years in hopes of inspiring others to give to the center. “I am honored and humbled by this recognition,” said Lehecka, a member of DDC’s Board of Friends. “Double Discovery has helped thousands of deserving but needy New York City high school students since 1965, and I hope this donation will inspire others to help us change even more lives.”

The gift will serve two main purposes: funding the renovation of DDC’s tutoring and office space on the third floor of Alfred Lerner Hall and endowing DDC’s Freedom and Citizenship Program, a summer humanities program for DDC students. This endowment will also allow DDC to focus on solidifying its science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) initiative, The Science Discovery Program.

Lehecka is known for his long dedication to Columbia. He was dean of students from 1979 to 1998 and then director of alumni programs and special adviser to the dean. He later was executive director of the Columbia250 celebration before retiring in 2005. Lehecka was one of the founders of Project Double Discovery in 1965; that pilot program, which focused on engaging Columbia students with the local community and helping the youth of those neighborhoods, grew into DDC, which now serves approximately 1,000 students each year through its core services, including after-school tutoring, Saturday enrichment classes, and college application and financial aid assistance.

Annually, 90 percent of high school seniors participating in DDC programs graduate from high school on time and enter college the following fall semester. DDC has successfully served more than 15,000 young people in its history.

Dean James J. Valentini said, “This gift ... will help support DDC’s programs and opportunities for years to come. We are so glad to be able to recognize Roger and his commitment to DDC and to Columbia College in this way.”

Hollibaugh Appointed Dean of Academic Planning and Administration

Lisa Hollibaugh GSAS’05 will join the College as the dean of academic planning and administration, effective July 1. Hollibaugh, who since June 2014 was Barnard’s dean for international and global strategy in the Office of the Provost, previously spent seven years as Barnard’s first-year class dean in the Office of the Dean of Studies and has also taught both Literature Humanities and Logic and Rhetoric. In this new role, Hollibaugh will oversee College academic administration and the Core Curriculum as well as the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising. Noted Dean James J. Valentini, “Lisa has 15 years of experience as an instructor, adviser and administrator within the Columbia community and is committed to providing faculty and students with the support and resources they need to have the greatest undergraduate experience. We are looking forward to welcoming her to Hamilton this summer.”
Students and Alumni Presented Awards

Congratulations are in order for the College students and recent alumni who have been awarded prestigious fellowships, scholarships and awards.

Gabrielle De Haan '16, Jing Hao Liong '16 and Sasha Benincasa '16 have been named 2016 Yenching Academy Scholars, which provides honorees with full fellowships for one-year, interdisciplinary master's in China Studies at Yenching Academy of Peking University in Beijing.

Three College students were awarded 2016 U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships; they will receive 8–10 weeks of fully-funded, group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences. James Davis '18 will study Chinese in Dalian, China; Juan Fernandez-Herzberg '18 will study Arabic in Ibri, Oman; and Alan Beard '16 will study Hindi in Jaipur, India.

Lauren Chadwick '15 was presented the Herbert Scoville Jr. Peace Fellowship, which provides funding for recent college and graduate school graduates to work in Washington, D.C., on issues related to peace and security.

Bianca Guerrero '17 received a Truman Scholarship, which provides winners (chosen on the basis of their likelihood of becoming public service leaders) with up to $30,000 for graduate study, as well as other educational benefits.

Max Lawton '16 received the Clarendon Scholarship from the University of Oxford to pursue an M.Phil. in modern languages. The scholarship will cover all of Lawton's tuition and college fees as well as a grant for living expenses. Lawton will focus on Russian literature.

Elana Shanti Sulakshana '17 was honored with a Udall Undergraduate Scholarship, awarded to college sophomores and juniors in recognition of their leadership, public service and commitment to issues related to American Indian nations or to the environment (recipients get up to $7,000 for eligible academic expenses).

Shreyas Vissapragada '17, an astrophysics and computer science double major, was selected for a Goldwater Scholarship, the premier undergraduate award in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. The program provides up to $7,500 per year in scholarship support for recipients.

Sophie Wilkowske '17 was awarded a Beinecke Scholarship, which is designed to encourage and enable highly motivated students to pursue graduate study in the arts, humanities and social sciences by providing them with $34,000 to support their pursuit of graduate study.

Bollinger’s Term Extended

The University’s Board of Trustees and President Lee C. Bollinger have agreed to continue his service for four additional years beyond 2018, to 2022. In the past few years, Bollinger has taken steps to build diversity across the University and toward expansion of the campus. In the March 21 announcement, Bollinger said, “It is, for me, the highest privilege to be able to play a role in one of the great eras in Columbia’s long and distinguished history. Above all, however, what captures my complete dedication is the still-to-be-realized potential of this extraordinary institution to benefit humanity ... through the core mission of advancing knowledge and understanding.”

Gift Establishes Curriculum Innovation Fund for Entrepreneurship

Stephen S. Trevor ’86 and Ronnie D. Planalp BUS’86 donated a total of $2.5 million to the University, which will be used to support the Entrepreneurship Curriculum at the College, the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at the Business School and Columbia Fencing. Part of the gift also will support financial aid through the Columbia College Fund. Trevor, a member of the Board of Visitors, is CEO, president, secretary and director of Boulevard Acquisition Group II; was a three-time NCAA Fencing All-American; and competed on the 1984 and 1988 U.S. Olympic fencing teams. Planalp is the founder of Clear Eye Productions, a feature film production company, and a theater producer for Broadway and London’s West End.
Did You Know?

Columbia’s CIA Connection

Did you know that the “Father of American Intelligence” was William “Wild Bill” Donovan (Class of 1905, LAW 1908)? Donovan (1883–1959), a quarterback for the Lions — where he earned the nickname “Wild Bill” on the field — headed the Office of Strategic Services during WWII. OSS was the forerunner to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Donovan was a prominent New York City attorney and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Purple Heart in WWI. A close friend of President Franklin D. Roosevelt (LAW 1907), Donovan was named Coordinator of Information (COI) for the American intelligence community in 1941; previously, organizations such as the armed services, the FBI and the Department of State ran their own intelligence operations. As COI, Donovan laid the groundwork for a centralized intelligence program by coordinating information across agencies and, in 1942, OSS was founded to do just that.

Donovan led OSS during WWII but after President Harry S. Truman disbanded it in October 1945, Donovan returned to civilian life. However, the need for a centralized peacetime intelligence agency quickly became clear and the CIA was formed in 1947 from various OSS departments that survived its dissolution.

Faculty Honored

In April, President Lee C. Bollinger named Ruth DeFries and Jeffrey Sachs as University Professors, the highest rank Columbia bestows on faculty. Bollinger noted that DeFries, the Denning Family Professor of Sustainable Development and co-director of the Undergraduate Program in Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute, focuses on “understanding the changes experienced by the planet over the course of human existence” while Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development and professor of health policy and management, “is a peerless economist who has dedicated his life to building a sustainable future and reducing global poverty.”

Eight faculty members won Columbia Distinguished Faculty Awards, known as the Lenfest Awards. Established in 2005 with a $12 million gift from then-Trustee Gerry Lenfest LAW’58, Lenfest Awards honors exceptional instruction and scholarship; winners each receive a $25,000 stipend for three years. The 2016 recipients are Marcel Agieros ’96 (assistant professor of astronomy), Gil Anidjar (professor in the Departments of Religion and Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies), Susan Boynton (professor and chair of the Department of Music), Terence D’Altroy (the Loubat Professor of American Archaeology in the Department of Anthropology), Timothy Donnelly SOA’98 (associate professor and chair of the writing division in the School of the Arts), Michael Golston (associate professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature), Bärbel Hönisch (associate professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science) and Dana Pe’er (associate professor of biological sciences).

Peter Bearman, the Jonathan R. Cole Professor of the Social Sciences, and Adam Kirsch, a poet and literary critic who directs Columbia’s master’s program in Jewish studies and is the program coordinator of the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, received Guggenheim Fellowships, awarded to mid-career scholars and scientists whose work demonstrates both prior achievement and exceptional promise.

Board of Visitors Leadership Transition

Left to right, Thomas Comacchia ’85, Alex Naveb ’87, Dean James J. Valentini and Victor Mendelson ’89 on May 19 at the Board of Visitors’ last meeting of the 2015–16 year, at which several members were recognized for their service, including outgoing chair Naveb. Currently the longest-serving BOV member, Naveb has served on the BOV since 2011 and has been chair since 2014. He passes the torch to incoming chair Mendelson and incoming vice-chair Comacchia. New emeritus members are Yale Fergang ’87, SEAS’88 and Frank Lopez-Balboa ’82. Departing members are Andrew Borrok ’93, BUS’01, Eli Bryk ’78, PS’82; Brian Krisberg ’81, LAW’84, Benjamin Lopata ’72; and Tracy Maitland ’82.
Laura Kaufman '97

Professor of Chemistry Laura Kaufman ‘97 knows her department from all sides. While a student, she was selected for the I.I. Rabi Scholars Program, which recognizes incoming first-years with promise in the sciences and gives them research opportunities throughout their undergraduate careers. (Among the labs she worked in was Dean James J. Valentini’s.) She earned a Ph.D. in chemistry in 2002 from UC Berkeley and did post-doctoral work in chemistry and physics at Harvard. Kaufman returned to Columbia to teach in August 2004, and has been the director of undergraduate studies in the chemistry department since 2012. She also oversees an interdisciplinary research group that brings together undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral students. Kaufman reflected one evening this spring on her path from College student to professor.

SHE GREW UP in Bergen County, N.J. Her father was a postal clerk in New Jersey and her mother was a public school teacher in New York City.

HER EXPERIENCES AS A RABI SCHOLAR were a pivotal influence. “I came in not knowing for sure if I was a science student, but that encouraged me to be more serious about science. Without it, I probably would not have jumped into trying research so early.”

SHE ALSO TOOK art history, religion, and English and comparative literature classes, and was on the fence between applying to graduate school in chemistry or in English. “As a junior, I was feeling more certain that I was an academic than that I was any particular type of academic. I really liked school and liked the idea that you could think about things and write about things for your job. One thing that finally drew me to chemistry was the idea of doing research and answering questions that no one had touched.”

SHE SPECIALIZES in physical chemistry. Her lab focuses on three main subjects. One set of researchers studies how molecules move in supercooled liquids (“think a really viscous liquid or a really fast-flowing glass”). Another studies molecules that can form the basis of organic solar cells. The third explores cells and gels: “We put mini-tumors into the gels that act as ‘mini-tissue’ and try to learn about early invasive events in cancer as it transitions from something contained to something that can metastasize to distant sites.”

SHE SAYS HER PRIMARY ROLE as an undergraduate research mentor is to expose students to what science is like outside the classroom. “I remember I found it confusing, how a research lab worked. ‘Oh, so all these people are here and they’re different ages, they’re working on the same problems and they all have their own projects, but it’s collaborative.’ I didn’t understand the landscape of how science was done until I had that experience myself.”

THE KEY LESSON she wants undergraduates in her lab to learn is how research functions in an academic setting: “... how we design the questions we ask and the experiments to answer those questions; how we think about doing controls; how analyzing the data might take more time than collecting the data. That way they can see if they actually like it. You don’t want people to enter Ph.D. programs because they feel propelled forward by inertia.”

HER HUSBAND is David Reichman, the Centennial Professor of Chemistry at Columbia. “Sometimes he teaches freshman chemistry in the fall and I teach the spring semester; we walk down the street and it can seem like everyone is looking at us, going, ‘There’s my chemistry professor!’ They have two children, ages 8 and 4.

SHE NOTES THAT FRESHMAN CHEMISTRY is often the first science class that students take in college. “The most valuable thing I can do for them is empower them to realize they can do it. A few of them will find it really easy. But then there’s a whole section of the class that is intimidated or isn’t as well prepared or just isn’t sure it’s for them or hasn’t had a class that is that fast-moving and rigorous and mathematical. I want to give them the tools to feel confident that they can both understand the theory and apply the theory.”

HER FAVORITE PLACES TO BE are running around the Central Park reservoir and spending time on the grounds of The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine. “I live right across from it, and it functions as my back yard or front yard. There are all these different little corners of quiet that you can find there.”

SHE IS READING The Brothers Karamazov — “very slowly. Before that I read A Little Life, which is similarly long. I have to start picking up shorter books because it takes me forever.”

— Alexis Bency SOA’11
Professors Honored with Trilling, Van Doren Awards

The Academic Awards Committee of Columbia College honored the 2016 recipients of the Lionel Trilling Book Award and Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching at a ceremony on May 4 in Low Library. Susan Pedersen, the Gouverneur Morris Professor of History, was honored with the 41st annual Lionel Trilling Book Award for her recent book, *The Guardians: The League of Nations and the Crisis of Empire,* and Liza Knapp, associate professor of Slavic languages, was honored with the 55th annual Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching, for her unparalleled dedication to both the Department of Slavic Languages and the Core Curriculum.

The Lionel Trilling Book Award is awarded annually to a member of the faculty whose book was published in the previous year and upholds a level of excellence commensurate with the work of Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38. The award was established in 1976 in honor of Trilling, a gifted and dedicated Columbia professor who was committed to undergraduate education as well as a public intellectual known for his scholarship and literary criticism, which appealed to a wide audience.

The Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching was established in honor of Mark Van Doren GSAS'20, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, novelist, playwright, critic, editor and biographer as well as a renowned scholar and legendary Columbia faculty member. It has been awarded annually since 1962 in recognition of a faculty member's humanity, devotion to truth and inspiring leadership.

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Men's basketball capped its winningest season ever by defeating UC Irvine 73–67 at Levien Gym on March 29 to win the 2016 CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament Championship. It was the first postseason tournament title in Columbia history and only the second for any Ivy League school; Princeton won the NIT Championship in 1975.

Columbia compiled a 25–10 record including a 10–4 mark in Ivy League play, good for third place behind Yale (13–1) and Princeton (12–2). The 25 victories broke the school record for most wins in a season, which had been 23 in 1967–68.

The Lions beat Norfolk State, Ball State and NJIT to advance to the CIT finals, where they scored 12 consecutive points late in the second half to overcome a seven-point deficit and then held on to win behind 20 points by Grant Mullins ’16, who made six of his seven shot attempts, including three from 3-point range.

One day after the Lions celebrated the tournament victory by cutting down the nets in Levien Gym, coach Kyle Smith, who compiled a 101–83 record in six seasons at Columbia, announced his resignation to become coach at the University of San Francisco. Smith said the chance to return to the Bay Area, where he spent 18 years before coming to Columbia, was too good to pass up.

“You hope you can leave the place better than you found it, and I’d like to think we did that,” Smith wrote in a farewell column published in Spectator. “Winning the CIT championship was a great way to close this chapter, especially with this group of seniors, though we didn’t achieve the ultimate goal of winning an Ivy League championship.”

That challenge now falls to Jim Engles, the former NJIT head coach and Lions assistant coach who was named to succeed Smith. “I am humbled and beyond excited to become the next head basketball coach at Columbia,” Engles said. “My first experience here was tremendous. I look forward to reconnecting with some of my former colleagues who are still here, and I cannot wait to get to work.”

One of Engles’ major tasks will be replacing Maodo Lo ’16, who led the Lions by averaging 16.9 points per game, was a unanimous selection for the All-Ivy First Team and was the Most Valuable Player of the CIT. The Berlin, Germany, native finished third on the career scoring list with 1,756 points, behind Buck Jenkins ’93 (1,767) and Jim McMillian 70 (1,758; see Obituaries). His 96 3-point field goals set a school record and he became the Columbia career leader with 277 3-pointers. He also set a school record with 78 steals, his average of 2.2 per game leading the Ivy League and ranking 11th nationally.

Supporting Lo were Mullins and Alex Rosenberg ’16, both of whom missed the 2014–15 season due to injury but enjoyed solid bounce-back campaigns. Mullins started all 35 games, and also averaged 13.3 points per game. He also led the Lions with 116 assists and was named to the All-Ivy Second Team. Rosenberg averaged 13.5 points per game and was named All-Ivy Honorable Mention. Luke Petrasek ’17 was another key contributor, averaging 10.2 points and 4.5 rebounds per game and delivering 41 blocked shots, while Jeff Coby ’17 led the team with 163 rebounds, 4.7 per game. Isaac Cohen ’16 was perhaps the team’s most versatile player, ranking among the Lions’ leaders in several categories.

Mullins reportedly will play next season at UC Berkeley after being granted a fifth year of eligibility because he missed nearly two full seasons due to injury. League rules prohibit players from playing a fifth year in the Ivy League, so Mullins was required to transfer.
Fencing Wins 15th National Title

Jake Hoyle ‘16 successfully defended his national epee title and led Columbia’s fencing team to its second consecutive NCAA championship at Waltham, Mass., March 24–27. It was the 15th NCAA Division I crown in program history and the fourth since the championship changed to the current format in 1990, combining the men’s and women’s competitions.

Columbia finished with 174 points, 7 ahead of second-place Ohio State, with Princeton third at 161. The title capped another outstanding season for the Lions, who finished in a three-way tie for both the men’s and women’s Ivy League titles.

“Our goal every year is to be the best fencers we can be, the best teammates we can be and the best individuals we can be,” said coach Michael Aufrichtig. “In doing this, we have built a championship program and with that comes titles, both conference and national. Everyone is so proud of everything we have accomplished this season.”

Hoyle defeated Marc-Antoine Blais Belanger of Ohio State 15–9 in the championship bout of the men’s epee competition after edging another Buckeye fencer, Lewis Weiss, 15–14 in the semifinals. “I just pushed myself to win as many bouts for the team as I could,” Hoyle said. “It was my last college bout so I just wanted to have fun and fence my best.”

“What Jake has accomplished in his career is a feat that not many others have done,” Aufrichtig said. “He came into Columbia with hopes of being an All-American and he ends up graduating with one is so proud of everything we have accomplished this season.”

Men’s Tennis Wins Third Straight Ivy Crown

Men’s tennis, led by Shawn Hadavi ‘17 and Mike Vermeer GS’16, swept all seven dual meets against Ivy League opponents for the third consecutive year before bowing to Penn State 4–3 in the first round of the NCAA Championships on May 14. Columbia compiled a 17–6 overall record and finished the season ranked 25th nationally after having been as high as No. 15 early in the season.

“In 34 years of coaching, I have never won three in a row,” coach Bid Goswami said. “I am so proud of what this team was able to accomplish, and how they were able to accomplish it.”

In singles play, Vermeer was 20–2 in the spring season and swept all seven Ivy League opponents, Hadavi compiled a 15–6 record playing at No. 1 singles and defeated six of seven Ivy foes, and Eric Rubin ‘16 was 13–4 and won five of six Ivy matches, with one uncompleted. In doubles competition, the top team of Vermeer and Mike Rolski ‘18 went 15–5, while Hadavi and Richard Pham ‘17 were 9–6.

Hadavi was a unanimous choice for Ivy League Player of the Year and was named to the All-Ivy First Team in singles and Second Team in doubles. Vermeer was named to the All-Ivy First Team in doubles and Second Team in singles, where he was joined by Rubin and Victor Pham ‘19. Hadavi was joined by Michal Rolski ‘18 on the Second Team in doubles.

It was supposed to be a rebuilding year for the Lions, following the loss of an outstanding senior class topped by Winston Lin ‘15, who had led Columbia to the NCAA Sweet 16 in consecutive years.

But the Lions wouldn’t hear of it.

Despite losing to all three opponents at the ITA Team Indoor Championships and then being shut out by third-ranked TCU at the end of spring break, they regrouped in time for Ivy play and beat Cornell 4–1 in the league opener. The Lions’ closest call in the Ivies came on April 3 against Harvard when, after splitting their first six matches, the team’s fate lay in the hands of Victor Pham ‘19. Pham dropped the first set of his match against Sebastian Beltrame 3–6 but rallied to win the second set 6–4. The third set went all the way to a tiebreaker, which Pham won 8–6.

The Lions closed out the Ivy season impressively, sweeping Princeton at home 4–0 on April 17 before traveling to Philadelphia and beating Penn 5–1 two days later. They would not fare as well at the NCAA Championships in Charlottesville, Va., where they split their first six matches against Penn State before the Nittany Lions’ Marc Collado defeated Timothy Wang ‘19 6–1, 4–6, 6–1.
The Scholarly Artist

The works of renowned sculptor Greg Wyatt '71 grace spaces from Morningside Heights to Florence

By Shira Boss '93, JRN'97, SIPA'98
Portraits by Jörg Meyer
As visitors to The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine approach the massive bronze Peace Fountain on the cathedral grounds at West 111th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, they naturally are drawn around the sculpture. They might not even realize they are on a mission of discovery. The work’s creator, renowned sculptor Greg Wyatt ’71, TC’74, placed the work’s central figure, St. Michael, rotated 90 degrees away from the viewer as he or she enters the cathedral close from Amsterdam.

“It sets up a question, very much as in Shakespeare’s Hamlet: ‘Who’s there?’” Wyatt says. “There’s a lot of psychological curiosity about what the sculpture is about. It draws people in.”

Wyatt, sculptor-in-residence at the cathedral since 1982 and known for his public works throughout the United States and Europe, has for his whole career been inspired and guided by what he learned as a student of the Core Curriculum and art history. His knowledge of poetry, classicism, Shakespeare, Italian Renaissance masters and even architecture all inform his work. For example, Wyatt’s orientation of Peace Fountain was taken directly from lessons learned about the Parthenon in the first semester of Art Humanities his freshman year.

“If you were about to climb the Acropolis, the temple is rotated from the viewer,” he says. “You want to see more; it piques your curiosity. This curiosity in perpetuity motivates most people to go to the top.” Likewise, it motivates most visitors to Peace Fountain to walk around it to discover its depiction of the ongoing victory of good over evil.
Simultaneously, they are drawn into Wyatt's artistic world of classicism meets realism. As described by Walter Liedtke, then the curator of European paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in a catalogue of Wyatt's work, "His forms are seen immediately as coming from another age, and perhaps from another world, in which human figures, natural forms and natural or even cosmic forces flow together, as they might in dreams, in floods, or cascades of water, or in poetry (to which Wyatt has long been devoted)."

Wyatt grew up in Grand View-on-Hudson, less than an hour north of Manhattan. The Hudson Valley area was home to the mid-19th-century Hudson River School of landscape painters, whose work became a major influence on Wyatt's art.

His mother, Alice, was a homemaker and gardener; his father, Stanley '43, GSAS'47, was a painter and fine arts professor at Columbia and CUNY's City College — he taught Columbia's Meyer Schapiro Professor Emeritus of Art History David Rosand '59, GSAS'65 (now deceased), who became Greg's adviser and mentor.

Greg learned master techniques in drawing from his father when he was 4 or 5. By the time he was 12 or 13, Wyatt knew he wanted to pursue a career in the arts. What form that would take was determined on a family trip to Mexico in the early '60s. "The first epiphany I experienced in art was the three-dimensional architecture of the Mayans," he says, referring to the family's visit to the Mayan ruins at Palenque. He was especially intrigued by the bas-relief forms on the faces of the temple executed in what he calls "two and a half dimensions." From then on, he turned his artistic attention to sculpture, starting by working in terra cotta through his teens and at Columbia.

While an undergraduate, Wyatt taught drawing and then ceramics at Riverside Church's arts and crafts program, a popular community program for adults. "The studio on the 14th floor became my studio for the next four years, while being paid to be an instructor," he says. At the same time, he discovered what he calls the incredible ceramics department at Teachers College, where he says the facilities are among the best in the country.

An art history major, Wyatt says he was heavily influenced by the Core Curriculum. "The Core exposed me to the art historical concepts, scholarship and poetry of humanities and literature," he says. "A lot of my career has been visualizing concepts found in Dante and Shakespeare and Yeats and Dylan Thomas."

Wyatt has nine bronze Shakespeare works installed at the Great Garden at New Place, Shakespeare's home in Stratford-upon-Avon. (Several versions are at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.) Two of them were unveiled in 2007 by then-Dean of the College Austin E. Quigley.

"These images are not like still-life portraits or posed photographs," Quigley wrote of the works in the catalogue of "Two Rivers," a 2009 retrospective of Wyatt's work in Florence. "They depict life in motion, but motion arrested at an emblematic point, like that of a runner breaking a tape."

Wyatt's art history education at Columbia also taught him how to view art and absorb its lessons. He says he regularly spends an hour or two in front of a single work, in various museums: "Paintings, crafts, sculpture — everything. I analyze the inner composition, and how the story is being told. What are the elements of discovery?"

After graduating from the College, Wyatt earned an M.A. in ceramic arts from TC while studying sculpture for three years at the then-named National Academy of Design's School of Fine Arts. He continued at TC, pursuing a doctorate in arts education, but a second career epiphany led to his discontinuing in 1976.

The revelation occurred during a weekend trip to Florence — his first time there — during the summer as he was teaching ceramics in San Marino. He was inspired.
The Scholarly ARTIST

KING LEAR
Bronze, 8.5 ft. high, 2001
Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Shakespeare's Great Garden at New Place, Stratford-upon-Avon, United Kingdom

"Inspired by interdisciplinary notions of sculptural transformation of poetic words and three-dimensional forms, Professor Stanley Wells, CBE, was the academic adviser to create the Sculpture Trail, nine interpretive permanent bronzes in Shakespeare's Great Garden at New Place."

Wyatt achieved early success. His first public work, unveiled in 1978, was the result of winning a competition to create a 10-ft. high by 10-ft. wide rendition of the logo — the American bank note eagle — of the American Bureau of Shipping for its headquarters on lower Broadway. His Art Hum education with Professors Howard McP. Davis and Everard Upjohn was probably to thank. "Notable in my memory is Professor Upjohn's analysis of classicism as it relates to architecture and especially embellishments and the underlying ideal geometry of sculptures," Wyatt says. Upjohn revealed, for example, that the friezes on the Parthenon were thicker at the top and thinner at the bottom to compensate for their being viewed from below. Wyatt incorporated that knowledge into his plans for the eagle.

"When I interviewed with the architect of the American Bureau of Shipping, I recognized that the placement would be 200 ft. above Broadway," Wyatt says. "So I explained that as with the Parthenon friezes, I would have to sculpt with the compensating distortion, but that as the crane pulled the work up higher and higher, it would become recognizable."

He won the job.

Not long after, Wyatt received his first grant from the newly formed Newington-Cropsey Foundation, which would become the modern-day equivalent of his patron, and remains so to this day. The foundation was created in 1977 by Barbara Newington, great-granddaughter of Hudson River School painter Jasper Cropsey, to preserve his studio, home and work, and support present-day artists. Wyatt has received numerous commissions from the foundation through the decades, most recently for Angel and the Dying Unknown at Dover AFB in Dover, Del., unveiled in 2013, and a series of bronze sculpture portraits in homage to the Hudson River School painters being permanently installed at Boscobel House and Gardens in Garrison, N.Y. That first grant was for Fantasy Fountain, a 53-inch model for the main elements in Peace Fountain. Wyatt won a city-wide competition sponsored by the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and the East 96th Street Association to create the sculpture. It was unveiled at the East 96th Street playground in Central Park on October 31, 1982, but was ultimately installed, on long-term loan, in Gramercy Park, where it resided for more than 30 years before being acquired for a private collection. The artist proof will be placed permanently in the garden of the Peace Fountain later this year.

While Wyatt was working on Fantasy Fountain, he was introduced to the then-dean of Saint John the Divine, James Parks Morton, who wanted to learn more about his work. What resulted was Wyatt's appointment as the cathedral's third sculptor-in-residence, a position that comes with studio space, public recognition and the opportunity to be involved in cathedral arts education programs — but no actual requirements.

The sculptor promptly made his professional home in the crypt studio below the cathedral's St. James Chapel, where he created his models for the next 28 years, until
PEACE FOUNTAIN (MODEL)
Bronze, 44.5 in. high, 1983
Newington-Cropsey Foundation,
Academy of Art, Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y.

"In late December 1983, a unanimous Board
of Trustees' decision was announced by the
dean of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine,
James Parks Morton, approving the Peace
Fountain bronze monument for permanent
placement on the close of the Cathedral.
The proposed bronze model was present
and referred to during the Board of Trustees' 
meeting within St. John's Diocesan House."
Wyatt became a prolific sculptor in bronze, with works displayed in gardens, museums and other public spaces, and also in corporate and private collections, across the U.S. and in the United Kingdom, France and Italy, the last of which has become somewhat of a second (artistic) home for him.

“Greg is a combination of many influences in art,” says Robin Salmon, VP and curator of sculpture at Brookgreen Gardens, a sculpture garden in Murrells Inlet, S.C., that has three of Wyatt’s works in its collection. “He’s a fine art historian and quite a scholar of American art history and also of the casting process — his technical side is highly developed and his art work shows that. Sculptors who look at his work recognize the various techniques he has used and the sometimes-daring decisions he’s made.”

Wyatt casts in bronze with the lost-wax method, usually at the Modern Art Foundry or the Fonderie de Coubertin — fiery worlds of furnaces, molten metal and blowtorches.

he had to uproot for an ongoing renovation (in the meantime, he works mainly out of a prestigious duplex studio awarded him at the National Arts Club in Gramercy and at the Newington-Cropsey Foundation in Hastings-on-Hudson).

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Wyatt casts in bronze with the lost-wax method, usually at the Modern Art Foundry or the Fonderie de Coubertin — fiery worlds of furnaces, molten metal and blowtorches.
Wyatt works 6½ days a week in his Upper West Side home, rising at 5:30 a.m. to start each day with a five-hour block of creative work. At a minimum, even when traveling (he takes four or five business trips to Europe each year), he keeps a journal in watercolor, part of his dedication to daily practice. Around 2 p.m. he turns to the administrative side of his enterprise. “Artists have to learn to be good administrators, especially if they’re doing several model-to-monument commissions at a time,” Wyatt says. He works on three to five projects at any one time, which include meetings to models to casting to unveiling. At the moment those include the homage sculpture portraits of the Hudson River School painters, one or more sculptures of French literary geniuses for the Institute for American Universities in Aix-en-Provence, and Don Quixote/King Lear, being installed outside of Madrid.

Creation of his sculptures starts with 9-12-inch models in terra cotta or Plasticine modeling clay. He revises and progresses to larger models, plaster cast, then beeswax, in his studio. “His modeling directly in wax, an old technique that has never gone away, allows him to have exquisite textures,” Salmon says. “The surfaces of his sculptures are so finely detailed, and that’s only possible by working in wax.”

Wyatt then casts in bronze with the lost-wax method, usually at the Modern Art Foundry in Queens or the Fonderie de Coubertin near Paris — fiery worlds of furnaces, molten metal and blowtorches. Wyatt says he is very interested in processes and materials, and started experimenting early in his career at a foundry in Yonkers with metal alloys. “The type of alloy is important because it influences the patina — oxides of copper and ferric nitrate absorb in a different way,” he says. He applies a permanent patina, or “studio patina,” to his works using various techniques with a blowtorch to interpret nature’s oxidation.

In 2013, the artist’s Angel and the Dying Unknown was unveiled at Dover AFB on the grounds of the Center for the Families of the Fallen, a private campus that hosts families of service members who have died in combat zones and whose bodies are being returned home. Family members arrive at Dover AFB shortly after the deaths occur, and the sculpture has become a focal point that seems to help them process their various emotions, according to Brig. Gen. Rick Moore. “It is specifically for the families, and became part of the service we provide. Greg Wyatt brought that all together,” Moore says.

Much like he did with Peace Fountain, Wyatt placed the sculpture so that it draws the families to it and reveals itself in stages. As one walks from the center’s chapel, it is first seen from behind, where it looks like an eagle. Coming around, the viewer sees the side profile of an angel and a person’s head being held. Continuing to the
front, the angel is seen cradling a full body. “It was intended to elicit emotion,” Moore says. “What was impressive to me was [that Wyatt’s involvement] went far beyond the work of art. It was the way the art relates to the surroundings: the placement, the pavers, the landscaping — all were designed by Mr. Wyatt to have an emotional impact on the families. It made a powerful emotional impact on me, and part of that was Mr. Wyatt and the care he took.”

Although he gave up teaching as a career path, Wyatt has always dedicated one day per week to education. At the cathedral, for instance, he oversaw a program for schoolchildren to create 120 miniature sculptures that are installed around Peace Fountain, itself dedicated to the creativity of the world’s children. He also runs a 10-week children’s art apprenticeship, a free program, at the Modern Art Foundry. He runs the Model to Monument program at The Art Students League of New York, where he mentors emerging artists and assists them in creating large public sculptures that are exhibited in Riverside South and Van Cortlandt parks. He also runs a summer workshop for fine arts students in the South of France and teaches “The Public Square: From Concepts — to Models — to Monuments” each fall at NYU’s Gallatin school.

Kathleen Jansyn is one of the artists Wyatt mentored in the Model to Monument program last year. “While giving advice, he tried very hard not to influence the individual artistic choices,” she says. “His point was always to help us get clear about our own intentions and the artwork we envisioned.” Although she had worked in intimate scale sculpture, Jansyn says as a result of the program and her experience working with Wyatt, she is interested in exploring public art as a medium.

Wyatt is also very engaged with Columbia, through his class reunions (he celebrated his 45th anniversary reunion in early June) and the Department of Art History and Archaeology. Through his own Fantasy Fountain Fund, and his connections as a member of the Royal Academy of Arts in London, he supports a summer research fellowship at the Royal Academy of Arts for a Columbia Ph.D. student that covers a stipend plus studio/office space at the academy and access to its library. Through his position as director of the Academy of Art at the Newington-Cropsey Foundation, he arranges fellowships for undergraduate fine arts and art history students to travel to Italy for an art immersion program.

**SCHOLAR’S LION**
Bronze, 9 ft. high, 2004
Columbia University in the City of New York

“The unveiling of the permanent work celebrated the 250th anniversary of Columbia University. Imbued in its Lion design and expression is an overarching courageous theme mirroring the University’s deep respect and institutional vigilance for academic freedoms, research and publishing.”
“He’s interested in helping in a selfless manner,” says Holger Klein, former chair of the Department of Art History and Archaeology. “He’s dedicating proceeds from his own work [to give] back to the College for the benefit of the campus and the students.” For Class of 1971 reunions, Wyatt has hosted events at his cathedral studio and Bloomberg and arranged for a private tour of The American Wing of the Met. “He’s a committed Columbian and is very committed to our class,” says Trustee Emeritus Philip L. Milstein ’71. “He’s been a wonderful person to work with on reunions. He’s opened a lot of doors in the nicest way.”

Probably Wyatt’s most enduring contribution to the Columbia campus is his larger-than-life Scholar’s Lion, which stands near Mathematics, Havemeyer and the campus entrance to Levien Gym. It was donated by the Class of 1971 and several individual alumni for the University’s 250th anniversary in 2004. Wyatt mentions it as a high point of his career. In 2009, Wyatt was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement.

He says he looks forward to returning to his crypt studio at Saint John the Divine when renovations are complete. He was introduced by friends to his wife, Fay, a painter, in that studio 14 years ago.

Peace Fountain's water feature was turned off about five years after its unveiling because the water was blowing as far as across Amsterdam Avenue. Since then, the pool surrounding it has featured a garden. An engineer has been recruited to solve the issue, however, and next year the cathedral will hold a rededication of the sculpture and a celebration of the return of the fountain waters.

Wyatt says he has two dream projects he is working on fulfilling: One is to have a permanent studio in Europe where he would work half the year, with the other half being home in New York City. The other, which has been in discussions for years, is the creation of a large-scale monument on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery. Two versions of his The Price of Freedom are already on permanent display at Arlington, a 6-ft. sculpture at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a 12-ft. sculpture at the welcome center. “They’ve always envisioned a Peace Fountain-scale monument,” he says, which would soar more like 40 ft. high.

“What was impressive to me was that Wyatt’s involvement went far beyond the work of art. It was the way the art relates to the surroundings: the placement, the pavers, the landscaping — all were designed to have an emotional impact.”

CCT Web Extras
To view photos of and read Wyatt’s thoughts on some of the great works that influenced him, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Shira Boss ’93, JRN ’97, SIPA ’98 is an author, contributing writer to CCT and writer of Zero Cost Kids, a website with tips and support for living simply with children. She lives with her husband, two sons and two whippets on the Upper West Side in less than 650 sq. ft.
Blending Tradition & Innovation

By Kathryn B. Yatrakis GSAS'81

Tradition and Innovation is the title of a short report authored by Professors Robert Belknap SIPA'57, GSAS'59 and Richard Kuhns GSAS'55 in 1977 that captures a theme that has defined the College for many years — if not since its inception — including my 27 years as academic dean.

A few years before my arrival in Hamilton Hall, the College underwent two significant institutional transformations: first, it became fully residential, and second, it was the last of the Ivy League schools to admit women. By 1989, when I started my tenure as academic dean, the College was just beginning to reap the benefits of these fundamental changes. Since then, the physical changes of the campus are obvious and easily recognized: Ferris Booth Hall replaced by Alfred Lerner Hall; the new Northwest Corner Building for science; an inviting glass atrium entrance to the Admissions Office off College Walk; helpful signage and the grace of landscaping throughout.

Other important changes that took place as the years rolled by were not as easily observed. There was growth in administrative staff in admissions, student advising and alumni affairs in order to enhance the College’s support to students, faculty and alumni. At the time there was little formalized academic administrative structure. For example, in 1989 a part-time student in a fourth-floor office in Hamilton Hall was the Core Curriculum’s sole administrator; now its administrative support is based in the Witten Center for the Core Curriculum on the second floor, which includes offices, a conference room and library, and a staff that supports the faculty chairs of the various courses, facilitates preceptor training, plans and schedules courses according to student need, organizes a range of co-curricular programs and much more. Throughout these years there were also academic changes in concert with enduring values that can be seen in the reshaping of the curriculum, the makeup of the faculty and the profile of the College’s students. I will start with the curriculum.

The mark of a strong and vibrant curriculum is an intellectual stability that is yoked to intellectual change. This is the inevitable result of groundbreaking research and the discovery of worlds of knowledge. It should come as no surprise to CCT readers that the best example of this intellectual stability
is found in the Core Curriculum. The basic structure of the Core has remained the same through the years. The four central courses — Contemporary Civilization, Literature Humanities, Music Humanities and Art Humanities — are still taught as small seminars in which informed discussion is central. They are defined by careful reading of texts, listening to music and seeing art. The Core has been stable through these many years but this stability is marked by constant change, and not only changes in syllabi but changes in every class in which a student interrogates texts and teachers with a new voice. The vast majority of alumni likely will remember the common intellectual journey offered in CC, Lit Hum, Music Hum and Art Hum; now jazz has been added to Music Hum, museum tours are a regular feature of Art Hum and several texts have disappeared, reappeared and disappeared again on the CC and Lit Hum syllabi.

Core syllabi are reviewed every two years. I well remember an intense discussion among the CC staff considering whether the revised syllabus should include Mary Wollstonecraft’s *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* or John Stuart Mill’s *On Liberty and the Subjection of Women*. Passions ran high and the debate raged as the Wollstonecraft supporters insisted that there should be a woman writing about women while those advocating Mills insisted that he was a much better writer and even though not a woman, made the clearer, cogent and more thoughtful argument on behalf of women. Though I did not remain to the bitter end of the debate, I believe that the Mills’ supporters prevailed but the outcome was less important than the fact that a strong and informed argument was made on both sides. And that, for me, is the essence of our Core Curriculum.

In addition to CC, Lit Hum, Music Hum and Art Hum, all College students are still required to reach an intermediate-level proficiency of a language other than English, must take a first-year writing course and must complete two semesters of physical education. From time to time, the faculty review and discuss all Core requirements so that this traditional curriculum — this constant and stable curriculum — is also innovative.

For example, in 1988, the faculty was asked to consider the recommendations contained in a report issued by a faculty committee charged with evaluating the two-semester science requirement. The Columbia College Committee to Review the Science Requirement, chaired by George Flynn GS’64, GSAS’66, a chemistry professor devoted to teaching undergraduates, recommended that the science requirement, which in the 1970s had been reduced from four to two semesters, be returned to four semesters. However, there were not enough courses offered for non-science students and not enough faculty to teach courses necessary for the full four-semester requirement, so it was increased only from two to three courses.

A decade later, not satisfied that there was any coherence to the science requirement, some science faculty, led by David Helfand, a legendary professor of astronomy, started to discuss the need to develop a science Core course that would be taken by all College students. While this was considered to be a radical idea, it was something that College faculty actually had discussed in 1933, and a pilot course was offered for a few years. The issues then were the same issues that defined the discussions more than 60 years later: What would be the substance and structure of a Core science course? Would it be a course required of all students, science students and non-scientists alike? Unlike faculty of the past, however, today’s faculty were not deterred, and in 2004 a new course, “Frontiers of Science,” was added to the Core on an experimental basis. Frontiers of Science, a bold curricular experiment, is meant to introduce science to all students — from methodology to important theories and groundbreaking research — so as to excite students about this human endeavor that is central to our lives both collectively and personally. Just like our earlier Core courses, however, this course is undergoing review by another faculty committee that will recommend whether the current format is to be continued or if another format would be a pedagogical improvement. That science will have a place in the Core, however, has already been decided.

In December 1988, another faculty committee, this time chaired by Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41, GSAS’53, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, provost emeritus, special service professor and indomitable College and Core enthusiast, was asked to chair a faculty committee to review the Core and especially recommend the replacement for what was called the Remoteness Requirement, remembered only by older alumni (and me): a two-semester requirement meant to broaden a student’s academic work and thus prevent students from “overspecializing” by requiring that every student take at least two courses “remote” from the student’s major. The faculty decided to replace the remoteness requirement with the two-semester “extended Core,” which later became the Major Cultures requirement and is now known as the Global Core requirement, which insists that students “engage directly with the variety of civilizations and the diversity of traditions that, along with the West, have formed the world and continue to interact in it today.” The faculty of the Committee on the Global Core continues to review and refine this requirement, but there is no question that it will remain a Core requirement for many years to come — or until the faculty decide otherwise.

Even the swim requirement has not been exempt from faculty scrutiny. More than 20 years ago there was a proposal made by a number of faculty that students should have the choice of either passing the swim requirement or passing a CPR course. The argument was rather simple: knowing CPR might be even more valuable than
Faculty love teaching College students because they can be counted upon to ask provocative questions that can spark thinking by both parties.

Art Humanities. Rosand, who died in 2014, was not sanguine about the faculty agreeing to create a major in visual arts. As he told Spectator, the College’s Committee on Instruction will present the biggest challenge to the committee’s proposals because of the members’ adherence to a traditional curriculum: “the most challenging issue — how to introduce studio work into a [liberal arts] curriculum.” While his skepticism was not unwarranted, Rosand was delighted when the faculty on the Committee on Instruction — after many interviews with colleagues in the arts and related departments, careful deliberations and substantive discussions among themselves — agreed that what was a program in painting and sculpture would be now be shaped into a major in Visual Arts that would include courses in printmaking, lithography and drawing.

Even within established programs and majors, the curriculum is reviewed and reshaped as necessary. Urban Studies, the program with which I have been involved both as a faculty member and academic administrator since the mid-1970s, is a multidisciplinary program that has been offered to students as a major since the early 70s. The major has a required junior-level seminar that I had taught for years as “Contemporary Urban Problems”. We focused mostly on New York City with perhaps a nod to Chicago — think the famous Steinberg illustration — and we always examined “problems,” which abounded in cities throughout the 70s, 80s and early 90s. Slowly the urban condition changed and we started analyzing other cities and in the early 2000s the name of the course was changed to “Contemporary Urban Issues.” Today we are as likely to examine housing in Paris, the waterscape of Amsterdam or the exploding population of Lagos.

The faculty who teach College undergraduates are still some of the best and brightest minds in the nation, as they were in years past. When asked by a consultant many years ago what I thought the faculty thought about College students, I responded that they loved teaching them. He said that this had been confirmed by their surveys and added that this was not the case in one of our peer institutions that his firm recently had analyzed. Good teachers are good students; faculty love teaching College students because they can be counted upon to ask provocative questions that can spark thinking by both parties. While faculty continue to expand the boundaries of knowledge with their research, they also enjoy teaching undergraduates who will shape our future. In this vital respect, the faculty is the same as it was 27 years ago — exceptional scholars and teachers. But in some important ways, the faculty also has also changed.

In 1989 there were approximately 400 Arts and Sciences faculty; 18 percent were women, and an imperceptible number were faculty of color. Today, with an Arts and Sciences faculty of about 550, 35 percent are women and 8 percent are underrepresented minorities.
New voices and new intellectual perspectives come with new faculty, again keeping our educational mission alive and alert to new landscapes of thought. But there is still much work to do and our faculty are working hard to improve the pipeline via our NSF-funded Bridge to Ph.D. Program in the Natural Sciences, overseen by Professor Marcel Agüeros '96; our Andrew Mellon Foundation-funded Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program, led by Professor Carl Hart; and our Kluge Scholars Program as well as diligent searches for underrepresented faculty.

Of course, as the faculty have changed during the past 27 years, so too have our students.

In my early days, it was not unusual to meet students who were unaware that they were coming to a college in the middle of a major city or that they would be expected to complete the Core. In the early '90s publications meant to attract applicants to the College (no website and virtual campus tours then!), students were pictured sitting on the campus lawns, trees in full bloom and shrubs marking an idyllic, rather rustic scene. It did not look as if Columbia were located in the center of a bustling city. A consultant strongly suggested that either we embrace the fact that we are in New York City or move the campus to Westchester. Also in those days, I well remember one student recalling that she assumed that she was admitted to the College because of her excellent high school experience in theater and that would be her major. It was not until she arrived on campus that she realized not only that Columbia did not have an undergraduate theater program but it did have a required Core Curriculum. She described herself as a very "unhappy camper" sitting in Literature Humanities. But miraculously (according to her), she found herself growing to love literature as she had never experienced it in this way before. This was the start to her eventual undergraduate study of medieval literature, and she went on to a Ph.D. program after graduation.

Today, the vast majority of students use the Internet to thoroughly research all of the colleges they are seriously considering attending. They take virtual as well as on-campus tours where they bombard tour leaders and admissions staff with questions and in many cases, families are also involved in the admissions process. Our admissions numbers look very different from when I arrived at Columbia. In the early '90s, our admissions pool hovered around 7,000 and our entering class was around 900. I remember thinking that it would be excellent if we could double the number of applicants. Today, with almost 30,000 applicants, we have more than surpassed that goal and we admit a class of about 1,100 with an admit rate around 6 percent. We are attracting some of the best and brightest students in the world but also rejecting many talented students.

It has long been said that the mark of a College student is that when the response to a question asked is "no," the student assumes that you have misunderstood the question. I might interject here that I finally realized that this was a key to my understanding of my own husband, Peter Yatrakis '62. I think that this attitude has not changed through the years. Students today expect more services and support than students of the past but this probably can be said of every succeeding student generation.

Ed Rickert '36, at one of his reunions in the early 1990s, told me about an experience of his that gave an account of the relationship of College students to the president of the University, at least in those days. Rickert, who hailed from Indiana, explained that the one suit he owned had burn holes in it after he participated in a demonstration in front of President’s House. He told me students were complaining about an increase in tuition — I don’t remember the amount, but it was probably something like $10 — and students marched in front of the house one night with torches for light. Some sparks escaped and burned a few holes in Rickert’s suit. "You mean that students wore
suits to a protest demonstration?" I asked. "Oh, yes," he responded.
"We would never think of marching in front of President [Nicholas Murray] Butler [Class of 1882]'s home not wearing a suit!"

Students today have very different attitudes toward presidents and deans — and vice versa. President Lee C. Bollinger's activities with students — his fireside chats, annual Fun Run, countless student group meetings and individual conversations with students — present a world unfamiliar to Butler and presidents of the past. When George Ames '37, a generous benefactor of the College both by his leadership and treasure, was chair of the Board of Visitors, he recalled that there was no truth to the story that Butler never spoke to an undergraduate. Ames went on to explain that after a particularly heavy snowstorm there was a narrow path shoveled through the snow, barely wide enough for one person to get by. Ames the undergraduate was walking one way when, to his horror, he saw Butler walking down the same path in the opposite direction. "Step aside son," Butler said gruffly to Ames. Years later, Ames told this story with a sparkle in his eye to remind us that we should be careful not to believe everything we hear. You see, he would say, he was proof that Butler did indeed speak to undergraduates.

If today's students expect more of administrators, faculty and deans, they also expect more of themselves — and at times that can be challenging. An April 14 article in Spectator headlined, "Are Columbia Students the Most Stressed in the Ivy League?", argued in the affirmative and cited as a reason for this stress students' heavy academic workload. I was rather perplexed by this argument, in part because graduation requirements have not significantly changed in the past 30 years. So why do today's students complain of academic stress? In the 27 years I have been the academic dean it has become more likely that students pursue more than one major or concentration, which adds to their workload. Our research has also shown that students think their classmates are taking five or six classes a semester, so they should as well. But we also know that these trends are not unique to Columbia, and this generation of students is particularly anxious about post-college prospects.

Faculty have long been concerned that students must take an average of five courses per semester to reach the 124 credits needed to graduate, as opposed to the four courses required at a number of peer institutions. As a result, the Educational Policy and Planning Committee has worked diligently the past few years to increase the number of credits for those lecture courses with mandatory discussion sections in an effort to help reduce the number of courses that students must take each semester. The College's Committee on Instruction also recently voted to reduce the maximum number of credits a student can take per semester before approval must be received. Both these changes are meant to allow students to delve a bit more deeply into their course work and reduce their academic stress.

Class Day and Commencement for the Class of 2016 concluded in mid-May and as I participated in these ceremonies, I thought again about how much the College has changed through the years and yet how much has endured; how much the evolution of academis at the College is a combination of tradition and innovation, and a balance of stability and change.

One constant throughout Columbia College's history is its strong commitment to the teaching of the liberal arts. In 1754, prospective students learned about a new college, King's College, from a newspaper advertisement that announced the establishment of this school for students who wished to study the "learned languages, the liberal arts, and the sciences." This was a College that was created with the "good design of promoting liberal education," that is, an education not to prepare students for the practice of any particular vocation but an education that would teach students to "reason exactly; write correctly and speak eloquently." King's College would offer an education "instructing students in the arts of numbering and measuring; the ancient languages, mathematics, commerce, history, and government" — strongly resonant with the academic mission of Columbia College today.

I think it is quite remarkable that the basic academic commitment of the College to the teaching of the liberal arts has remained steadfast, and was enhanced in 1919 when Contemporary Civilization, the first Core class, was required of all College students. What I think is also quite extraordinary is that while the academic center of Columbia College has remained constant, so much else has changed, even in my tenure as academic dean.

The curriculum is still anchored by the Core, but the Core itself has responded to new areas of study and ways of thinking. Some departments and academic programs have come and gone, and there are new courses that interrogate our world today, yet the College curriculum would be familiar to even the most senior of our alumni. Faculty continue to be some of the best and brightest scholars in the world and as in past years, they are challenged by teaching College students who can be counted upon to question basic disciplinary assumptions and theoretical conclusions. And our students? Perhaps a bit more competitive, focused and interested in a more global education but they remain extremely well trained in critical thinking.

Participating in this year's Class Day, I was reminded that my first Class Day, in 1990, was held in the gym, and family members had to make their way, sometimes slowly and unsteadily, up the bleacher stairs to their seats. We may not have had to worry about inclement weather but it was clear that the gym was not the best venue for this celebration. Soon after, because of the growing number of students, Class Day exercises were moved to South Lawn, and that was a much better site, as long as it didn't rain. In those days, few faculty attended Class Day and there were no receptions to celebrate students' accomplishments with their families and guests. How different it is today with tents, jumbo screens, faculty in attendance, the Alumni Parade of Classes, presenting graduates with their class pins, and numerous receptions.

Yet in some ways, Class Day this year was not so different from 27 years ago; today, as then, each graduate who crosses the stage has been the beneficiary of a rich and enduring academic tradition that has held fast to its center in the Core Curriculum and devotion to the liberal arts while at the same time reflecting innovations in fields of knowledge and ways of knowing. I know that as our graduates become wiser — life has a habit of making them so — they will appreciate even more the importance of this tension between tradition and innovation that has marked academics at Columbia through the years.
Dean Baquet, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and executive editor of The New York Times, urged Columbia College’s graduating seniors at Class Day not to be blinded by ambition.

"Don't have your eyes so focused on the goal that you fail to enjoy the journey," Baquet said. "Don't be so ambitious for one thing that you fail to see when something better comes along. Don't let ambition warp your sense of self or your principles. Pay attention when everyone you encounter tells you their ambition is causing them pain, because they're probably right."

Baquet entered with the Class of 1978 and majored in English but left school shortly before graduation when he was offered a reporter’s job at his hometown newspaper in New Orleans. "If I would have known graduation was this fun, I would have stuck around and graduated," he joked.

He recalled coming to Columbia at 17 "aimless and scared" before his world gradually expanded during his time on campus. "It was at Columbia that I learned two valuable lessons," he said. "Listen and listen hard. And while you shouldn't question your own ethics, you should question your certainty about everything else."

Baquet’s speech highlighted two days of pomp and circumstance for the Class of 2016, with Class Day on May 17, which included remarks by Dean James J. Valentini (see page 6) and the 13th annual Alumni Parade of Classes, with the University-wide Commencement the following day. The 50th-anniversary Class of 1966 led the parade, which included alumni marchers from almost every class from the Class of 1946 — which held its 70th-anniversary reunion celebration following the ceremonies — through the Class of 2015.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was among seven honorary degree recipients and spoke along with President Lee C. Bollinger at Commencement. Also at Commencement, three College alumni were among 10 recipients of Alumni Medals for distinguished service of 10 or more years to Columbia: Dr. Paul J. Madden '81, GSAS'88, PS'89; Rita Pietropinto-Kitt '93, SOA'96; and Mozelle W. Thompson '76, SIPA'79, LAW'81.

Bollinger drew one of the biggest responses at Class Day when he said, after telling the audience that he did not want his statement to be taken politically, that after watching the lengthy presidential campaign, his admiration and appreciation for Columbia College and the Core Curriculum have gone "up and up and up."

"Imagine what our world would look like if it were mandatory for anyone running for office, especially higher office, to spend a gap year taking the Core Curriculum," Bollinger said. "And pass."

CCT Web Extras
To view a video of Baquet’s speech, as well as an album of Class Day and the Alumni Parade of Classes, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.
“Don’t be so ambitious for one thing that you fail to see when something better comes along. Don’t let ambition warp your sense of self or your principles.”

— Dean Baquet, Class Day speaker
ACADEMIC AWARDS AND PRIZES

Dean James J. Valentini and Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn B. Yatrakis were on hand to congratulate the students at the 2016 Academic Awards and Prizes Ceremony, held on May 17 in Faculty House. Not all of the following awards were announced at the ceremony, but all were given.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS
Presented by Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis

Harry J. Carman Fellowship
Nicholas Lyon ’16

Class of 1939 Summer Research Fellowship
Jordan Berkeley Brewington ’17
Dorothy Dan Fang ’17
Emmalina Ginskis ’17
Alexandra Jeanne White ’17
Jonathan Brandon Young ’17
Julian Nebreda-Bello ’18
Xavier Pádeva ’18
Peter Payssoux Richards ’18
Ankita Saxena ’18

Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Fellowship
Zoey Poll ’16

Henry Evans Prize
Reva Aisha Do Espirito Santo ’16
Dennis Zhou ’16

Solomon and Seymour Fisher Civil Liberties Fellowship
Mennaallah Elsayed ’17
Anna Jessurun ’17

Albert Asher Green Memorial Prize
Alexander Remec ’16

Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship
Elay B. Grossman ’16
Brian Trippe ’16

Richard Lewis Kohn Travelling Fellowship
Alexa Economacos ’18

David B. Truman Alumni Award
Gabriella Zacarias ’16

Salutatorian
Zoey Poll ’16

Valedictorian
Felix Jin ’16

PRIZES IN THE CORE CURRICULUM
Presented by Professor Julie Crawford, Department of English and Comparative Literature

Joshua A. Feigenbaum Prize in Literature Humanities
Emily Yeh ’18

Wallace A. Gray Prize in Literature Humanities
Bryan Kim ’18
Amy Wang ’18

Dean Hawkes Memorial Prize in the Humanities
Akiko Uemura ’17

Jonathan Throne Kopit Prize in Logic and Rhetoric
Etise Gout ’18

James P. Shenton Prize in Contemporary Civilization
Jingwei Xu ’17

PRIZES IN THE CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
Presented by Professor Julie Crawford, Department of English and Comparative Literature

Academy of American Poets Poetry Prize
Smita Sen ’16

Karen Osney Brownstein Writing Prize
Michael Abrams ’16
Emma Miller ’16
Smita Sen ’16

George William Curtis Prize in Oration
Danny Amir Haidar ’18
- Informative
Riley Jones IV ’18
- Persuasive
Roy Donahue Peebles III ’18
- Persuasive

Phileolexian Prize Fund
Bindu Bansinath ’18
Serena Solin ’16

Austin E. Quigley Prize
Emilia Lirman ’16

Richard and Brooke Kamin Rapaport Summer Music Performance Fellowship
Jeremy David Corren ’17
Samuel Norman Klein-Markman ’17
Sophie Laruelle ’17
Young Abraham Murray ’17
Anne Monique Pace ’17
 Alec Hon ’18
Olivia Kapell ’18
David Acevedo ’19
Jessica Rose Edgar ’19

Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts
Ella Maria Coon ’16
Reva Aisha Do Espirito Santo ’16

Mariana Griswold Van Rensselaer Prize
Emily Burns ’17

Seymour Brick Memorial Prize
Bryant Kong Yao Chan ’16
Kalman Victor ’16

Richmond B. Williams Travelling Fellowship
Michael Abolafia ’17
Guilino Malina ’17
Anneliese Mesa-Jonassen ’17

PRIZES IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
Presented by Professor John Parsons, Department of Physics

Richard Bersohn Prize in Mathematics
Samuel Nicoll ’16

PRIZES IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
Presented by Professor Shamus Khan, Department of Sociology

Charles A. Beard Prize in Political Science
Nicholas Lyon ’16

Charles A. Beard Prize in History
Stanislaus Conze ’16

Carl B. Boyer Memorial Prize
Nicolas Sambor ’16

Chanler Historical Prize
Abigail Chew ’16

Taraknath Das Foundation Award
Meghan Hartman BC’16
Jinwei Xu ’16
CELEBRATION AT THE SENIOR DINNER

The Class of 2016, the College’s 258th graduating class, celebrated its transition from students to alumni on May 3 at the annual Columbia College Senior Dinner. Approximately 900 CC’16ers gathered under a tent on South Lawn for the popular event. Columbia College Senior Fund Co-Chairs Aneesha Baliga ’16 and Ellie Deresiewicz ’16 drummed up support for the Senior Fund, which at pretime had raised $11,275.37 from 332 donors. Senior Dinner Co-Chairs Lorenzo Gibson ’16 and Anne Scotti ’16 led the class in a toast following remarks from Student Council members, Dean James J. Valentini and outgoing Columbia College Young Alumni Board President Zila Acosta-Grimes ’11, LAW’15. To cap off the evening, the Clefhangar serenaded the attendees withSans Souci and Roar, Lion, Roar.
SENIOR SNAPSHOTS

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Charles

Karina

Benjamin
FROM STARTING medical school on Manhattan’s Upper East Side to teaching English in South Korea, the 1,168 members of the Class of 2016 have left the Gates to pursue their passions and embrace new challenges, in places near and far. And while the College afforded them a shared set of experiences — Core classes, all-nighters in Butler and sunny days on the Steps — no two of their journeys are the same. In celebration of all they have achieved, we offer a glimpse into the diverse talents and interests of the College’s newest alumni — which range from music to science to advocacy — through seven of their stories.

Photographs by Jörg Meyer
AT THE OUTSET of his undergraduate career, Lorenzo Gibson '16 pictured one day earning a Ph.D. in educational leadership and later returning to his hometown of Camden, N.J., to pursue the position of superintendent of public schools. Four years later, his goals are no longer so clearly defined, but his desire to go on to doctoral study remains, cemented by a positive experience in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program.

Each spring, MMUF accepts as many as five sophomores from underrepresented groups who have shown potential for doctoral study. For the remainder of their time at the College, fellows receive support for academic research in the form of stipends and faculty mentors and guidance on applying to graduate school.

Gibson, who cites "U.S. Intellectual History from 1865 to the Present" with Casey Blake, the Mendelson Family Professor of American Studies, as having shaped his interests, used his time in MMUF to explore a variety of subjects, ranging from hip-hop culture to the relationship between the research university model that originated in Germany and its American counterpart. He credits MMUF with giving him "a concrete sense of what life as a professor and a researcher could be." Adds Gibson, "That's all incredibly exciting to me."

Gibson ranks MMUF as one of the most important components of his time at the College. He feels similarly about his involvement with the Men of Color Alliance (MCA), an initiative of the Office of Multicultural Affairs that he co-founded in 2013. After helping to get the program off the ground, Gibson became one of its coordinators. In that role, he worked on mentorship initiatives that connect undergraduate and graduate male students of color. His responsibilities also included facilitating MCA's weekly meetings and other events, which typically have been attended by 10-12 members and have ranged from group discussions to speaker presentations to movie screenings. Under Gibson's leadership, MCA collaborated with other student groups and the offices of Financial Aid and Admissions to give campus tours to groups of middle school and high school students.

Thanks to MCA, says Gibson, he has learned "how to lead an organization and how to work with peers to get things done." He also has appreciated the group's culture of openness and mutual understanding: "It was really great to be able to ask all kinds of questions," he says.

Snapshot

MAJOR: American studies
HOMETOWN: Camden, N.J.
CLUBS: Men of Color Alliance, Barnard + Columbia Design for America, Multicultural Recruitment Committee
RESEARCH INTERESTS: American intellectual history
AS AN UNDERGRADUATE, Karina Jouglia ’16 devoted much of her time and energy to championing girls’ and women’s rights.

Jouglia has been cognizant of gender inequality issues since she was 5, when she became a member of Girls Inc., a national nonprofit that works to empower young girls. In 2010, Girls Inc. nominated Jouglia to be a National Teen Advisor with Girl Up, a United Nations Foundation campaign to create awareness about the plight of underserved teenage girls around the world. She has since held various volunteer positions with Girl Up.

In June 2013, Jouglia traveled to Moscow to represent Girl Up at the annual G(irls)20 Summit — an event that parallels the G20 Summit and mobilizes women and girls to increase global economic growth — where she led a workshop about child marriage. In September 2014, media entrepreneur Ted Turner, founder and chairman of the UN Foundation, ceded his speaking time to Jouglia at a Millennium Development Goals Advocacy Group event attended by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon; the prime minister of Norway, Erna Solberg; and the president of Rwanda, Paul Kagame. Ahead of the UN’s Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015, she used the time to “highlight how securing girls’ and women’s rights depends on ensuring a sustainable future by addressing climate change.”

“It was humbling to be on stage with all those world leaders,” says Jouglia.

A John Jay Scholar, Jouglia spent last summer interning with the Clinton Foundation’s No Ceilings: The Full Participation Project, an effort to gather and study data to gauge progress since the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. The previous summer, she was an intern at the Convergences World Forum in Paris, which brings together public, private and civil society actors who are committed to developing environmentally sustainable ways of ending poverty.

Jouglia also was involved with Columbia Divest for Climate Justice, a coalition of students, faculty and community members dedicated to divesting the University’s endowments from the fossil fuel industry. From her sophomore year onward, Jouglia, who fondly recalls her father reading The Iliad and The Odyssey to her as bedtime stories, also was an RA, a role she relished because it allowed her to “contribute to the feeling of a campus community.”

This summer, Jouglia will be a Residential Teaching Counselor with the Girls Leadership program at Mount Holyoke College — a camp for middle and high school girls — as she continues to explore “long-term opportunities in the nonprofit girls’ and women’s rights space.”

Snapshot

MAJOR: Comparative literature and society
HOMETOWN: Carpinteria, Calif.
AWARDS: King’s Crown Leadership Excellence Award - Civic Responsibility (2016), Alumni Association Achievement Award (2016)
CLUBS: Columbia Divest for Climate Justice, Columbia Artist Society, Columbia Art of Living Club, French Cultural Society
A FASCINATION with the human body inspired many of Sarah Kellner '16's endeavors as an undergraduate, from her choice of major — dance — to her decision to become a certified doula and pursue a career in women's healthcare.

A dancer since she was 3, Keller took up modern dance seriously at 13. She chose the College in part because she was drawn to Columbia's interdisciplinary dance program, which allowed her to take both technique and liberal arts courses. Kellner says, “How people move tells you a lot about them. From the way people move their shoulders, for example, you can get insight into what they are thinking or feeling.”

Kellner once aspired to become a professional dancer, but at the College she completed a pre-med curriculum and has plans to attend medical school. Though she has research experience, she would rather “work directly with people” and help make healthcare “more compassionate and patient-focused.” That’s precisely what she’s done for the past year as a doula — a woman trained to assist other women, physically and emotionally, before, during and after childbirth.

Kellner, who “grew up in a family that was really passionate about reproductive justice” and witnessed the home birth of one of her sisters at 7, volunteers as a birth and abortion doula. She also has worked with private clients. “I think women should be supported in any decision they make regarding their pregnancies,” says Kellner.

An ethos of understanding and acceptance also has guided Kellner in her co-curricular activities, including her approach as an RA and a community adviser. She likens those responsibilities to those of a doula, insofar as both roles entail “supporting people and being a non-judgmental person who provides resources.”

Also active in the campus’ Jewish community, Kellner is proud of her work with JQ, a Jewish LGBTQ and ally group, of which she is a founding board member. JQ began during the Fall 2014 semester with small dinners in Kellner’s room in Hartley Hall. During the past year, she says, around 40 Columbia students have attended each of the group’s two to three monthly events, which have expanded to include larger group meals and speaker panels. “I thought it was important for there to be a space in which Jewish LGBTQ students could feel comfortable,” she says.
LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE defined Sharon Liao ’16’s time at the College, and she wasted no time making her mark.

Days after arriving, Liao became a volunteer ESL tutor with Community Impact (CI), a Columbia-based organization whose programs serve the communities around the University. She also participated in the Community Impact Leadership Program, which prepares first-years to take on leadership roles on campus, and was the lead coordinator for CILP as a sophomore. Most recently, she led field trips for low-income kids with CI’s Columbia Youth Adventurers.

“I’ve been passionate about education and youth development, and Community Impact has helped me sustain and expand that passion,” says Liao, who for two years also volunteered with Let’s Get Ready, a national nonprofit that provides free SAT prep for low-income high school students.

Liao traces those interests to her experience with Breakthrough Collaborative, a national organization that offers academic enrichment programs for underserved middle school students. Through Breakthrough Collaborative, she spent two summers teaching a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) curriculum in Cincinnati and came away feeling “curious about the operational side” of educational programming.

During summer 2014, Liao sated that curiosity through the Kenneth Cole Community Engagement Program, a partnership among the College and Engineering and fashion designer Kenneth Cole P: 10 that offers fellowships at community-based organizations in New York City. As a Kenneth Cole Fellow, Liao interned at YWCA, a nonprofit dedicated to ending racism and empowering women. There she helped create a framework for a STEM program for high school girls. “That was an awesome opportunity to see what it’s like to work at a nonprofit and work on a project that resonates with me,” says Liao.

On campus, Liao worked with Columbia College Student Ambassadors and Columbia College Women to strengthen ties between students and alumni and also volunteered with the Columbia College Fund and the 2016 Columbia College Senior Fund.

Last summer, Liao interned with the NBA because she was “excited about the prospect of working at the intersection of business, sports and social impact.” This fall, she will rejoin the NBA via its Associate Program. She’ll work in four departments before being given a permanent position. Says Liao, “[The NBA] is an organization I’ve admired for a long time because of how it does its business and how it makes social impact an integral part of its mission.”

Sharon LIAO ’16

Snapshot

MAJORS: History and economics
HOMETOWN: Cincinnati
CLUBS: Community Impact, Columbia College Senior Fund, Columbia College Student Ambassadors, Columbia College Women
FAVORITE STUDY SPOT ON CAMPUS: The Gottesman Libraries at Teachers College
THIS JULY, Karleta Peterson ’16 will head to South Korea to embark on the yearlong Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship program, an exchange initiative that places native English-speaking college graduates from the United States in grade schools around the world.

Just a few years ago, it would have seemed like an improbable route for Peterson, whose love affair with Korean language and culture began “by accident” when she registered for “First-Year Korean 1” her freshman year because it was one of the few language courses that was still open and accommodated her schedule. That experience “made me want to be engaged, not just with learning the language and the grammar but also with cultural elements,” says Peterson.

Peterson spent the first semester of her junior year studying abroad through the Council on International Educational Exchange Seoul Arts and Sciences Program. There she took courses on Korean history and North Korean politics at Yonsei University and mentored kids 8–13 at a care center for disadvantaged children, where her responsibilities included leading art and craft activities and workshops on the English language and American culture. She fondly recalls bonding with the children by teaching them how to play the hand-clapping rhyme game “Quack Diddly Oso.” “It was cultural exchange in the moment,” she says.

Peterson, who grew up in East Harlem, was a Thompson-Munoz Scholar — an honor for need-based scholarship recipients in the College and Engineering who come from schools and communities that surround the University. Having grown increasingly aware of inequality and class differences in New York City, she majored in sociology to learn more about those issues. For her senior thesis, she explored different ways in which people use the term “ghetto.”

On campus, Peterson was involved with the Visitors Center and the Undergraduate Recruitment Committee, which in both cases entailed leading and coordinating tours. With the URC, she also helped organize Days on Campus, two days of events and programs for admitted students and their families.

During her first two years in the College, Peterson also was a coordinator for the GED program run by the Columbia-based nonprofit Community Impact. In that role, she met a few participants who lived near her family’s home. “Being able to make a difference in my own neighborhood was something I really enjoyed,” she says.

Snapshot
MAJOR: Sociology
HOMETOWN: New York City
AWARDS: Community Impact Exceptional Leadership in Service Award
CLUBS: Liberty in North Korea – Columbia University Chapter, Undergraduate Recruitment Committee, Community Impact
FAVORITE COURSE: “Introduction to Cultural Psychology”
FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS: JJ’s Place
BY THE TIME he enrolled at the College, jazz pianist and composer Benjamin Rosenblum '16 had already performed at music festivals throughout the Northeast and one in New Delhi, written a commissioned jazz piece for the XIBUS World Orchestra in Boston and received the ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award, which recognizes composers under 30.

As an undergraduate, Rosenblum continued to hone his skills and bolster his credentials as a pianist. He was accepted into the Columbia-Juilliard Exchange as a junior, which allowed him to receive weekly jazz piano instruction at Juilliard in addition to his lessons at Columbia, and in 2015 and 2016, respectively, he was a finalist at the American Jazz Pianist Competition in Melbourne, Fla., and the Jacksonville Jazz Piano Competition.

A John Jay Scholar, Rosenblum, who has been playing the piano since he was 5, was introduced to jazz when he was around 10 and became enthralled by the musical freedom and flexibility it allows. “I’d always enjoyed sitting at the piano with no music and playing, and I found out that that was what jazz was all about — making stuff up and improvising,” says Rosenblum, who draws inspiration from an array of musical genres.

Eager to promote jazz at Columbia, in 2014 Rosenblum founded Jazz House, a Special Interest Community that occupies half of the first floor of River Hall. Jazz House residents put on concerts, jam sessions and other programming for the Columbia community and also benefit from the camaraderie that comes with living with fellow musicians. “It’s really cool to see that people know what Jazz House is and to have Jazz House become a presence on campus,” says Rosenblum.

After graduation, Rosenblum plans to devote himself to teaching piano while continuing to perform. His first teaching experience came at The Child School/Legacy H.S. on Roosevelt Island, a charter school for children with learning disabilities, where he taught weekly from 2011 to 2014. He currently teaches private students and volunteers with Musical Mentors Collaborative, a New York City-based nonprofit that offers one-on-one music lessons at public elementary schools.

For Rosenblum, one of the most rewarding parts of being a jazz musician is interacting with other artists, established and aspiring. “Getting to know someone through music is a very deep bond,” he says. “Jazz has allowed me to make connections with people I would have never met otherwise — people from different backgrounds, cultures and countries, and different ages.”
THOUGH HE HAS LONG ASPIRED to a career in medicine, Charles Sanky ’16 chose the College because he sought a “wide variety of experiences” as an undergraduate. For that same reason, in 2014, he applied successfully to the Icahn Medical School at Mount Sinai’s FlexMed program, which offers early acceptance to college sophomores from any major and does not require an MCAT.

Having thus secured a spot in medical school early on, Sanky went on to fulfill his vision of an eclectic undergraduate experience. In addition to enjoying academic flexibility, he had time for an array of co-curricular activities, including the performing arts. During all four years, he played the euphonium with the CU Wind Ensemble, of which he was president as a sophomore and junior. In March, he performed with the group in its first appearance at Carnegie Hall since 1965. “I’m very proud of the group,” says Sanky, who also was part of the cast for the 122nd Varsity Show. “We’ve grown a lot over the years and have become one of the premier college wind ensembles.”

A Kluge Scholar, Sanky also pursued a number of leadership roles on campus, serving on the Columbia College Student Council as student services representative his junior year and on the Class of 2016 Council as VP his senior year. He also was the CC/SEAS student chair for the 2014 New Student Orientation Program.

Although he did not follow a traditional pre-med curriculum, Sanky explored his passion for healthcare in other ways. A New York State certified EMT, he volunteered with the Columbia University Emergency Medical Service for two years. During summer and fall 2015, he interned at New York City Department of Health, in the Division of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Data Use within the First Deputy Commissioner's Office. And, from June 2015 until he graduated, he conducted research for the School of Social Work’s Project ICI — a three-year study that examines changes in the ways New York City’s health and social service agencies work together to meet the needs of constituents.

Confident that having studied psychology as an undergraduate will allow him to better “understand where [his] patients are coming from,” Sanky will begin his M.D. studies this fall. “Medicine combines all the things that are important to me — advocacy, education, community service and science,” he says. “It’s the perfect field for me.”

**Snapshot**

**MAJOR:** Psychology; special concentration in business management

**HOMETOWN:** Valley Stream, N.Y.

**AWARDS:** National Residence Hall Honorary – King’s Crown Chapter Member, King’s Crown Leadership Award – Columbia Spirit (2014), Indelible Mark (2015, 2016); Milch Prize (2015), Frederick A.P. Barnard Award (2015), Richard H. Fox Memorial Prize (2016)

**CLUBS:** Columbia Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Columbia University Wind Ensemble, Multicultural Business Association at Columbia University, American Medical Students Association at Columbia - Public Health Committee

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website. She writes “Student Spotlight” for CCT.
CLASS DAY’S RICH HISTORY

University Archivist Jocelyn Wilk recently shared some Class Day history with CCT: Class Days in the 19th century included class orations, songs, a presentation of the class’ history, the smoking of the class pipe, reading of a Class Day poem and dancing. In later years the class pipe element was dropped but a class prophecy and music by the Glee Club were added as well as a roll call of class members. By 1899, the program for Class Day included the president’s address, a roll call by the class secretary, the class’ history, a class poem, Phi Beta Kappa election announcements, the class prophecy, an oration, the valedictory address, a “Yew Tree Oration” (an end-of-year tree-planting ceremony) and the singing of the class song.

It wasn’t until 1930 that graduates were presented by the dean of the College to the president of the University and given individual recognition onstage in a ceremony that resembles what we now know as Class Day. The above photo from this year’s Class Day on May 17, showing Dean James J. Valentini and President Lee C. Bollinger shaking hands with new graduates (with Class Day speaker Dean Baquet visible to the left of Bollinger), shows the tradition is still going strong.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
Message from the CCAA President

CCYA Supports Young Alumni With Skill-Sharing, Social Activities, Mentoring

In honor of our newest graduates — the Class of 2016 — I invited the outgoing and incoming presidents of Columbia College Young Alumni, Zila Acosta-Grimes ’11, LAW’15, and Gairy Hall ’11, BUS’16, respectively, to be guest columnists. — Douglas R. Wolf ’88

As we celebrate the Class of 2016, think back to your own graduation and what it felt like to leave Columbia after a life-changing experience. At an alumni event in early May, some of these newest alumni — still seniors then — expressed how they were feeling about their upcoming graduation. We’re sure you’ll be able to relate to a few of these responses!

“Bittersweet.”
“I’m excited! ... But nervous.”
“I’m not ready to leave yet.”
“I’m really ready to leave.”
“I’m really going to miss my friends. And the waffles.”
“I can’t wait. I want to see what the world holds for me.”

We have all felt the emotional tumult and uncertainty of leaving the safe, familiar nest of Columbia College to go out into “the real world,” where we no longer would have teachers and advisors to guide us, or the somewhat-straightforward responsibility of learning and proving what was learned. Many prior generations of alumni ventured toward their futures without a well-established alumni network or other alumni resources to ease that transition. Their subsequent feedback helped the College realize it could provide a different type of support and guidance during this period of change that would help ease that anxiety and sustain this newest group of Columbians for at least a bit longer. And so, Columbia College Young Alumni was born.

We are proud that CCYA has existed for more than 15 years. For those not familiar with CCYA, it is the programming and engagement arm of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA) for graduates of the last 10 years. CCYA focuses on helping our global community of young alumni flourish through career-oriented networking, professional workshops, athletic and social events, community service and opportunities to engage with alumni from all class years.

It’s hard for us to believe that CCYA has existed for not even two decades. That alone makes this community’s accomplishments even more impressive. CCYA has become an active and robust group, expanding from five dedicated alumni founders to a vibrant board of more than 30 members with more than 40 volunteers across the country. CCYA has become a way for young alumni to stay connected to the College and to develop leadership skills. We also have taken a more active role in the CCAA to ensure that the voice of young alumni is present in this broader alumni community, which sets the long-term vision and trajectory for the College’s community of almost 50,000 alumni.

CCYA is a connector. We have grown in leaps and bounds and are poised to have an even greater impact on the alumni community during the next few years. In addition to current programming, we are increasing our emphasis on bridging the gap between students and alumni as well as between young alumni and those from older classes. Never before has it been so fruitful — and necessary — for alumni leaders to have open forums for conversation and opportunities to share ideas, teach and learn skills, and discuss plans. Pairing young alumni, as active members of the technology era, with the wisdom, business acumen, intelligence and connections of more experienced alumni benefits both groups by fostering an open exchange of ideas that can advance CCYA and CCAAs’ shared goal of providing value and meaningful experiences to all alumni.

We invite you to engage with CCYA. Help us build an even stronger community of lifelong Columbians who will inspire, support, guide and learn from one another with a focus on welcoming new graduates and younger alumni into the community. Check out college.columbia.edu/alumni/serve/ccya, and Like and follow us on facebook.com/ccyoungalumni to learn about upcoming events.

ROAR, LION, ROAR!
The American College of Bankruptcy Foundation announced it has established its first extraordinary grant in honor of Michael L. Cook ’65, a partner in the law firm of Schulte, Roth & Zabel. Cook was chair and president of the college and chair of its Board of Regents from 2010 to 2016 and chair of the Pro Bono Committee from 2008 to 2010. The foundation’s primary mission is to provide financial support through grants to legal aid programs providing pro bono bankruptcy services for indigent consumer debtors across the country.

Sasha DiGiulian ’16 was named one of Glamour magazine’s 2016 College Women of the Year. DiGiulian, a three-time U.S. Nationals rock climbing champion, was the first woman to free climb the Magic Mushroom route of the North Face of the Eiger Mountain in the Swiss Alps, nicknamed “Murder Wall.”

Stephen Ollendorff ’60, LAW’63, along with director Jakov Sedlar, was a guest on PBS’ Caucus: New Jersey on April 16 to discuss the documentary Anne Frank: Then and Now; Ollendorff was representing The Ollendorff Center for Human & Religious Understanding. The film features Palestinian girls reading portions of The Diary of Anne Frank out loud and exploring how Frank’s diary relates to their lives and experiences.

Amelia Moore ’03, an assistant professor of sustainable and coastal tourism and recreation in the Department of Marine Affairs at Rhode Island, is the first American to receive a Fulbright to conduct research and teach in the Bahamas in more than a decade. Moore’s research includes an investigation of tourism development, destination design, sustainable tourism practices and the travel branding of small islands.

The New-York Historical Society awarded its annual American History Book Prize to Eric Foner ’63, GSAS’69, the Dewitt Clinton Professor of History, for his book Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad.

Alex Navab ’87, a former chair of the College’s Board of Visitors (he stepped down in May), received a 2016 Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations. The awards are presented each year on Ellis Island to American citizens who exemplify the values of the American way of life while honoring their ethnic heritage. Navab is head of the Americas Private Equity business at Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co.

Joshua Robinson ’08, a reporter with The Wall Street Journal, is a recipient of one of the Newspaper Association of America’s inaugural “Top 30 Under 30” Awards, designed to honor young industry leaders in every aspect of the newspaper business.

Tony nominee Brandon Victor Dixon ’07 (for The Color Purple) joined the cast of Shuffle Along, or, The Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed, which follows the creation of a 1921 blockbuster show. And Sarah Steele ’11, who had a recurring role on CBS’ The Good Wife, is performing in The Humans, which The New York Times deemed a Critics Pick in its February 19 review, calling it the “finest new play of the Broadway season so far.”

David J. Johns ’04, TC’06 was presented the Teachers College Early Career Award on May 2 for his work in advocating for minority and low-income students. Johns is executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans. He is a former senior education policy adviser to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

—Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09
Turning a room into a work of art takes thousands of decisions, some of them premised on cost and other constraints. For interior designer Gideon Mendelson ’96, that’s the best part.

“It has to be beautiful, functional and safe,” he says. “But when we finish a project it’s the problem-solving that’s most satisfying.”

On a recent afternoon, Mendelson and his design team gathered in the conference room of his Third Avenue office for their weekly check-in. They scrolled down a seemingly endless list of tasks projected on the wall with subject lines like “Fix sofa base,” and “Look for barn door hardware alternatives.”

As an hour ticked away, each item crossed off the list seemed to spawn a new one in its place. “Can you also add ‘Dining Room: Think about scenic wallpapers’” Mendelson asked. On any given day, the Mendelson Group is juggling 5–10 projects, each with a unique set of specifications, down to the style of wallpaper.

Though Mendelson played tennis competitively from sixth-grade through college, he was eventually called to the creative life. Growing up in Scarsdale, N.Y., his mother, Mimi Mendelson, ran her own design firm. Amid the paint cards and fabric swatches, he remembers the excitement of watching her develop furniture layouts.

A better tennis player than student, Mendelson had no intention of applying to Columbia until tennis coach Bid Goswami sent him a note inviting him to visit. The coach and the campus, with its classical buildings towering over College Walk, left a strong impression. So did the expression on his father’s face. A Jew who
fled Kazakhstan with his grandparents at 11, Michael Mendelson was ecstatic at the idea of an Ivy Leaguer son. "He gave me that Russian look, 'You're going here,'" Mendelson recalls.

Mendelson majored in architecture, and fondly remembers Robert A.M. Stern '60's graduate-level course on American architecture. He regularly snuck his mother into class, and they sat in back happily munching on tuna-sandwich bagels. He was a standout on the varsity tennis team, ranked nationally as a junior and elected co-captain as a senior.

After graduation, his interest in architecture fading, Mendelson joined the two-year training program at William Morris Endeavor, a talent agency. It was there, after his boss asked him to rearrange her office while she was traveling, that he discovered his knack for design. Her delight at his efforts inspired him to enroll at the New York School of Interior Design.

Mendelson had worked for West Village-based designer Steven Gambrel for a year when the opportunity arose to design a house for friends of his parents. In 2003, he launched the Mendelson Group and asked his mother to come out of retirement to be his partner. "Of course I said yes!" she says. "What fun!"

The firm has grown and evolved, but the basic design process has stayed the same. Mendelson starts each project by learning his clients' living habits and tastes, down to their favorite music and colors. His team catalogs each item in the house before any work begins. "We're creating environments for efficient living," he said. "We are accounting for every shoe and thigh-high patent leather boot. And providing room for the shoe collection to grow."

If he has one secret weapon, he says, it's layered lighting — chandeliers, pendants, flush mounts, sconces, standing lamps, table lamps and picture lights. "And, everything has to be on dimmers!" he adds.

Clients find him through referral, news stories (his work has appeared in The Wall Street Journal and House Beautiful, among other publications) and visits to "show houses" in Manhattan and the Hamptons that designers have extravagantly outfitted for public view.

Mendelson and his husband, Tom, also throw an annual paella party at their weekend place on Long Island's East End to bring in new business. A shingle-style house designed before they had kids, it features Mendelson's mix of vintage furniture and modern design, offset by what he calls a "very beachy palette." He hopes to remodel their 1929 co-op in Park Slope when their kids — Owen (5), and twins Isabella and Leo (3) — are older.

Design, like many other creative professions, has been democratized in the last decade as Pinterest, Etsy and other online forums have made it easier for anyone to design a house fit for Architectural Digest. Mendelson says he has stayed relevant by focusing on the details. "It's my job to listen, put the pieces of the puzzle together and tell my clients' stories through my designs," he says.

This personal touch has endeared him to clients. Brad Gross BUS'90 and his wife hired Mendelson to give their Upper West Side prewar apartment a modern but comfortable feel. In a series of shopping trips, they settled on just the right combination of colors, textures and patterns. The project was finished years ago but they remain close friends. "He makes you feel like you're his most important client," Gross says.

Kim Martineau JRN'97 leads communications at Columbia's Data Science Institute.

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Dress To Impress with Kelsey Doorey '07

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09

Kelsey Doorey '07, a seven-time bridesmaid, knows all too well that the excitement of celebrating a friend's wedding often comes with a high financial cost. But the wedding industry entrepreneur is trying to change that — one bridal party at a time — with Vow To Be Chic, the online bridesmaid dress rental company she founded to make the bridesmaid experience easier and less expensive.

"You're usually a bridesmaid when you're in your 20s, right out of college — you don't have a lot of disposable income," says Doorey. "You really want to be there for your friends but it's a very expensive process." In fact, the entire wedding process is becoming more expensive each year. From 2014 to 2015 the average wedding cost jumped from $31,213 to $32,641, according to The Knot's annual Real Weddings survey. And in November 2015, PR Newswire reported that bridesmaids spend an average of $1,695 to be in a wedding, with $234 of that going to the dress. Vow To Be Chic's rentals start at $50.

To use the site, a bride picks out a dress or a selection of dresses she wants her bridesmaids to wear. The bridesmaids send in their measurements and Vow To Be Chic mails the bridesmaid two sizes of the bride's chosen dress to try on. After the wedding, bridesmaids mail back
the dresses in a prepaid return package, and they are cleaned and then shipped to the next batch of bridesmaids. Says Doorey, “I’m a millennial; I’m used to online shopping; I like things that are super easy. That hasn’t really been an option in the bridal industry, so for me it was important to take this industry that was, for the most part, offline, and bring it online.”

Doorey says the idea for the dress rental site came to her after seeing the ease and affordability of the tuxedo rental process. “Look at the men’s side,” she says. “They’ve been renting tuxes for decades and saving all this money, while women have been wasting hundreds of dollars on a dress they’ll never wear again.”

A psychology major with a concentration in behavioral economics, Doorey went on to study at UCLA’s Anderson School of Management. She earned an M.B.A. in 2013 soon after winning the $15,000 top prize in the school’s prestigious Knapp Venture Competition for her business plan for Vow To Be Chic. After that win, she decided to devote herself to making the business real.

The Santa Monica-based company houses thousands of dresses in a range of sizes and is searchable by designer, fabric, color, cut and price. Doorey says she works extensively with designers to stock their most-popular dresses (what she calls “a curated collection of the best of the best”) so that brides can select dresses that are for sale in traditional bridal stores as well as several dresses that aren’t, like a dusty blue Jenny Yoo number that Doorey says the designer created specifically for the site.

Sophia Lin ‘07, an angel investor in the company who has known Doorey since they shared economics classes at the College, says, “It’s an industry that’s continuing to grow, and Kelsey’s on top of all the fast-moving trends that go along with it. You know that when you rent a dress from her it’s going to be completely on-trend.”

Adds Lin, “For me, investing was a no-brainer because the business has great management, it has a great team and it’s filling a hole in the market.”

The market has responded positively: Doorey reports the site has grown 45 percent month over month for the past year (the company officially opened to the public in January 2015). When the site soft-launched in March 2015, it was featured on Yahoo!’s front page on March 14, which drove 25,000 users to sign up in one day. By the end of that week, 40,000 new users had joined, while Doorey was still a staff of one (the team has since grown to 15 full-time employees). The site has also expanded its offerings beyond bridesmaid dresses and now rents white dresses for brides and sells wedding accessories.

Doorey, who interned with a wedding planner while at the College, says that she had always wanted to start a business, but that being a part of the bridal industry is especially gratifying. “We’re so lucky because we work with weddings,” she says. “It’s just such a fun part of someone’s life to be involved with.”

Chilton Williamson Jr. ’69 Defends Western Culture as Editor, Evokes American West as Writer

By Laura Butchy SOA’04

While writing and editing are sometimes seen as competing tasks, Chilton Williamson Jr. ’69 balances the two sides of publishing with finesse. His latest novel will be released this summer, joining a collection of more than a dozen books written by Williamson. He also became editor of the monthly Chronicles: A Magazine of American Culture in June 2015 after being its senior editor for books since 1989.

Chronicles, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, features articles and reviews from a conservative perspective on issues in American and Western culture, including history, philosophy, politics and the arts. As editor, Williamson writes the “In Our Time” column while shepherding contributing writers through the editorial process.

“I’ve learned a lot from him,” says James O. Tate GSAS’75, a regular contributor to Chronicles who has worked with Williamson for more than 30 years. “He gave me opportunities to write by throwing curveballs at me. I got more practice under my belt and enjoyed writing more and more, and I got it from him.”
Williamson immerses himself in his writing, living in remote communities around the country and taking copious notes about everything he observes. The resulting works blend fiction and nonfiction to create vivid characters based on real locations. In *The Hundredth Meridian: Seasons and Travels in the New Old West* (2005), a book of columns he wrote for *Chronicles*, the vast, detailed Western landscape becomes a character in itself.

Williamson began the series in 1994, five years after joining *Chronicles* as senior editor for books. Whether composing novels or nonfiction, he considers himself primarily a narrative writer. “I like to make experiences I have had live again,” he says. “For me, an experience is not real until it is transmuted as literature.”

These experiences are given vibrant life in his popular book *Roughneeking It: Or, Life in the Overthrust* (1982), an account of his work on a drilling rig in the gas fields of Wyoming in 1979. “Imagine an Ivy League, prep-school boy working on an oil rig,” Williamson says with a laugh. “It was the best year of my life, and I made lasting friends.” After completing the book in New York, two years later Williamson moved permanently to Kemmerer, Wyo., where he learned to ride and tame horses, hunt and butcher his own meat, and camp and survive in the mountains.

Though Williamson was born in New York City, he grew up with an appreciation for the outdoors from summers spent on his family’s farm in Vermont. His father, former Barnard history professor Chilton Williamson ’38, GSAS’48, still resides in Vermont. After graduating from Trinity School, Williamson attended college in Maine for a year before transferring to Columbia, following in the footsteps of his father, two uncles and a cousin.

Williamson majored in European history and performed with the Gilbert and Sullivan Society as an opera lover and trained singer. He studied American history at GSAS before leaving in 1973 to become history editor for St. Martin’s Press, where he worked for three years while writing essays and book reviews for publications including *National Review*, *New Republic*, *Commonweal*, *Harper’s Magazine*, and *The Nation*.

Williamson moved to *National Review* full time in 1976 as literary editor. The following year, he began commuting to New York biweekly to work at the magazine while living off the coast of Rhode Island to gather material for his first book, *Saltbound: A Block Island Winter* (1980). When he moved to Kemmerer, he arranged with *National Review* to continue working remotely on his section of the magazine via phone and mail and traveled to New York every month or two while compiling material for *Roughneeking It*.

“He’s very disciplined,” says Tate. “He wanted to be a Westerner, and the next thing I knew, he had two horses and we were camping out West. It’s not a problem for him to relate to anybody in any walk of life in any location. I’ve always admired that.”

Williamson has traveled throughout the American Southwest and Mexico, using the locations as settings for his books, including his most acclaimed novel, *Mexico Way* (2008). He now lives with his wife in Laramie, Wyo., where he is a cantor at Mass and enjoys outdoor sports that range from hiking to hunting to skiing.

With hundreds of articles and reviews to his credit, Williamson is finalizing *Jerusalem, Jerusalem!*, his third novel in a trilogy preceded by *Desert Light* (1987) and *The Homestead* (1990). While he identifies first as a novelist, Williamson also loves his role as editor. “I want the magazine to be more immediately topical, and with a reinforced political edge added to the cultural one,” he says.

“We are not a political magazine,” he emphasizes, “let alone a partisan one. My interest in day-to-day politics and political strategy is small. Having been trained as an historian, I tend to regard contemporary politics as history in its present moment. *Chronicles* has always been dedicated to the proposition that political solutions for social, cultural and moral ills are not the answer to most human troubles... Cultural efforts can improve and save the country, but partisan politics cannot.”

Laura Burchy SOA’04 is a professor of humanities at Plaza College and a freelance dramaturg and writer based in Queens.

CCT Web Extras
To read Williamson’s articles in *Chronicles* as well as to learn more about his fiction, go to [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).
Ben Ratliff ’90’s How-to Guide for the Empowered Listener

By Lauren Steussy

In the Thelonious Monk song “Thelonious,” there’s an eight-bar solo that can get a little uncomfortable because Monk insists upon a single note, over and over, grabbing his listeners by the ears. This same insistence appears in the Ramones’ “I Wanna Be Sedated,” Neil Young’s one-note guitar solo in “Cinnamon Girl” and a b-note-only rap in Drake’s “Furthest Thing.”

Each of these tracks has that stubborn, repeated note reminding the listener: “Wake up, get free of your momentum, you have somewhere to be right now,” writes New York Times music critic Ben Ratliff ’90 in his music appreciation book Every Song Ever: Twenty Ways to Listen in an Age of Musical Plenty (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $26).

That bossy “stubborn note” is one of 20 categories Ratliff suggests to serve as a framework for creative listening. His suggestions come in the era of Spotify and Pandora, when algorithms enable us to be “fed our favorite meal repeatedly,” he writes. While each chapter includes a playlist, Every Song Ever doesn’t tell you what to listen to. It tells you what to listen for, whether it’s a slow tempo, that “perfect moment” or a sense of place. By turning away from genres and toward specific qualities in songs, Ratliff enables his readers to understand what qualities they’re looking for when they listen to music.

Ratliff has written about music for the Times for 20 years. He has listened to much music, and intently so. Before the Times and the smaller publications he wrote for prior, his musical identity began to form as a teenager growing up in Rockland County, N.Y. There, he would take a bus to the East Village for a matinee punk show at CBGB and be back home in time for dinner. “I was aware of how much music was going on [in New York City], and that there was a real, endless world I could dive into,” he says.

This fascination led him to Columbia, where, in 1985, he first experienced the overwhelming feeling many of us now get opening Spotify or Apple Music. He was a substitute DJ on several WKCR shows before becoming the station’s program manager. He remembers lockers of jazz records — 100 years of complex history towering over his mere 17 years. By connecting songs for sets, he started to understand music’s emotional power beyond its technical qualities. His later work with the Times solidified that concept; there, he didn’t limit himself to specializations. Instead, he chose to “roll the microscope back” and look at how the vocal delivery of an artist like Beyoncé might relate to a country singer like Hank Williams.

Having the opportunity to cover such a broad range of music for the Times meant Ratliff could make connections that spanned genres, he says. “I started thinking about things like slow tempos. They occur in all kinds of music. So what’s the power in them? What are they doing? And what does it mean to be listening to a slow tempo?”

Ratliff explored jazz criticism and history in his previous books: The Jazz Ear: Conversations over Music (2009), Coltrane: The Story of a Sound (2008) and Jazz: A Critic’s Guide to the 100 Most Important Recordings (2002). But writing a music appreciation book about genres from samba to gospel to southern rap was his response to what he calls a transformative moment in music’s history, resembling the advent of the record player.

Now, streamable radio tuned to listener preferences might start with a Chet Baker track, followed by Sonny Rollins, Billie Holiday, Art Tatum. Employing one of Ratliff’s own categories — quietness — moves the listener from Baker to R&B singer Aaliyah to bossa nova pioneer João Gilberto to, surprisingly, a track by rock band Metallica. If it’s quietness the listener is after, these tracks provide intimacy, gulps of air before outbursts, suspense; in other words, our own actions and feelings, not genres.

“I wanted to suggest a spirit of listening such that we might be able to encounter things that are unfamiliar to us. And be able to recognize them on some level and say, ‘Oh yeah, that is about me too. That has something to do with me.’”

To be clear, Ratliff isn’t opposed to streaming services. But he doubts these services’ algorithms will ever correlate with human emotions — the soothing repetition of a James Brown rant, the commanding loudness of The Who, the sense of sadness in a Nick Drake song.

“Through listening, you figure out who you are, you build your identity and you learn about the world and your emotions and sensibilities. That’s too important a job to leave to robots.”

Lauren Steussy is an arts and culture reporter on Staten Island. Her last profile for CCT was on CNN anchor and correspondent Poppy Harlow ’05 (Spring 2016). Steussy’s work has also appeared in The Staten Island Advance, on Cosmopolitan.com and in The Orange County Register.

CCT Web Extras
To watch an interview on PBS that Ben Ratliff ’90 did with Tavis Smiley, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.
Sailor and Fiddler: Reflections of a 100-Year-Old Author by Herman Wouk ’34. Wouk, a Pulitzer Prize-winner, explores the intricacies of a life well-lived. From his time in the Navy to the craft of writing, Wouk bares all in his work and confides, “With this book I am free” (Simon & Schuster, $20).

The State of Our Disunion: The Obama Years by Eugene Goodheart ’53. How has division become such a pervasive problem in the American government? Focusing on President Barack Obama’s terms, Goodheart proposes solutions, urging politicians to “loosen the grip of ideology” in order to reach a much-needed common ground (Transaction Publishers, $34.95).

Kvetching and Shpritzing: Jewish Humor in American Popular Culture by Joseph Dorinson 58. Personal, political and piquant, this work of analysis paints humor as a reaction to oppression and marginality. Dorinson dissects the symbiotic relationship between Jewish humor and American pop culture, observing the connections between social positioning and comedic style (Machelt Briiggen & Strehlke ’78).

Afternoon of a Faun: How Debussy Created a New Music for the Modern World by Harvey Lee Snyder ’60. In this rich biography of Debussy’s life and influence, Snyder illuminates the essence and craft of the passionate man who pushed the boundaries of classical music, one who could hear melodies in “the sound of the sea, the outline of a horizon, the wind in the leaves, the cry of a bird” (Amadeus Press, $29.99).

Lit Up: One Reporter. Three Schools. Twenty-four Books That Can Change Lives by David Denby ’65. Denby hails teachers and books as kindred spirits, both entities gifted with the ability to engage and inspire the lives they touch. Returning to high school classrooms to study how literature should be taught, Denby writes of the effective ways to use pages to enrapture a generation obsessed with screens (Henry Holt and Co., $30).

Mindfulness: A Practical Guide to Awakening by Joseph Goldstein ’65. Adapted from a series of lectures, this book explores the power of mindfulness “to awaken us from the dreamlike patterns of our lives.” Goldstein relies on core Buddhist teachings to help readers pave the way to happiness and peace (Sounds True, $25.95).

The Bernard and Mary Berenson Collection of European Paintings at I Tatti edited by Carl Brandon Strehlke ’78 and Machtelt Brüggen Israels. This volume catalogs the many works of art cultivated by the Berensons from the late 19th century into the 20th. Paintings, photographs and essays converge to honor the works and the connoisseurs’ enchantment with them (Officina Libraria, $145).

Combat-Ready Kitchen: How the U.S. Military Shapes the Way You Eat by Anastacia Marx de Salcedo ’88. A kitchen-oriented mother once dedicated to cooking from scratch, the author comes to understand not only the impact and advantages of food technologies but also the necessity of using those technologies wisely and cautiously, advocating for increased inspection of what we put into our bodies (Current, $27.95).

Last Call for Ganymede by Keith O’Shaughnessy ’94. In this collection of more than 30 poems, Grolier Discovery Award-winner O’Shaughnessy writes with a passion for the past. By reviving old voices and characters ranging from Shakespeare to Medea, he pays tribute to a rich literary history (Iliora Press, $16).

Affordable Housing in New York: The People, Places, and Policies That Transformed a City edited by Matthew Gordon Lainer ’96 and Nicholas Dagen Bloom. This comprehensive look at affordable housing in the United States’ most populous city includes content from essays and interviews to archival photographs. The authors brand New York as a “reflection of the American way” that should be kept livable for everyone (Princeton University Press, $39.95).

Age in America: The Colonial Era to the Present edited by Nicholas L. Syrett ’97 and Cornelle T. Field GSAS ’90. This volume of essays explores the number that determines the rights of American citizens: their age. As a measure of maturity and wisdom — from getting married to buying a drink — why has this seemingly arbitrary construct been granted such power (NYU Press, $28)?

The Wheel: Inventions & Reinventions by Richard W. Bulliet, professor emeritus of history. When it comes to that legendary circle heralded as the invention of all mankind, is there more than meets the eye? Bulliet traces the wheel’s form from its conception to its modern and multifaceted use, noting that “invention is seldom a simple matter of who thought of something first” (Columbia University Press, $27.95).

Failure: Why Science Is So Successful by Stuart Firestein, professor of biological sciences. What do scientists actually do every day? Firestein unveils the lives of those working in a field that is built on constant failure. Meant for the scientist, the student or just the curious, this book aims to educate and entertain, and to urge its readers to perhaps make a few mistakes of their own (Oxford University Press, $21.95).

—Aiyana K. White ’18
Alumni Return to Campus to Reminisce, Relive, Reunite

REUNION WEEKEND 2016 and All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) drew more than 2,000 alumni and guests to Morningside Heights June 2–5 for a celebration of Lion pride. Alumni of all ages, many with guests and family members, returned to campus for class lunches, receptions, dinners and panels; Mini-Core Classes and lectures; campus and neighborhood tours; affinity receptions; and the always-popular Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception. The Class of 1966 celebrated its 50th reunion with a special Varsity Show revue during its Saturday dinner, while Friday’s Young Alumni Party (for graduates of the last 10 years plus the Class of 2016) brought 1,500 alumni from the College, SEAS, GS and Barnard to Guastavino’s, a New York City landmarked event space under the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge. A highlight of this year’s festivities was the reunion of Sha Na Na, a band that was started by former Kingsmen and that performed at Woodstock as well as in the movie Grease. The group, which brought back many original members for this special performance, packed Alfred Lerner Hall's Roone Arledge Auditorium on Friday night.

CCT Web Extras
To view photos from Reunion Weekend 2016, including class photos, as well as the list of Dean's Pin recipients, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.
1. The Starlight Reception spilled out from the tent onto Low Plaza.

2. Live music at the Starlight Reception got attendees on the dance floor.

3. The 50th-anniversary Class of 1966 had an elegant dinner in Low Rotunda.

4. Reunion attendees walk through the Gates at West 116th Street.

5. Alumni and guests of all ages soaked up the Starlight Reception’s lively atmosphere.

6. Robert Siegel ’68, senior host of NPR’s All Things Considered, commanded attention at his All-Class Reunion keynote speech.

7. A Class of ’66 attendee still has his freshman beanie!

Photos by David Dini SIPA’14 and Scott Rudd
1. Sha Na Na rocked Roone Arledge Auditorium in a special reunion concert.

2. Attendees checked out Spectator articles from the '60s at the Dean’s Breakfast.


4. The Young Alumni Party brought CC, SEAS, GS and Barnard friends together at Guastavino’s.

5. Just a few of the 1,500 guests at the Young Alumni Party.

6. The dance floor was a popular place to be at the Young Alumni Party.

7. Professor of Astronomy David Helfand led an engaging “Frontiers of Science” Mini-Core Class, “What We Know About the Universe (and What We Don’t).”

8. Camp Columbia ensures that the youngest reunion attendees have a great time too.
Chopin was absolutely obsessed with vocal qualities of music ... so although we have no singer in this nocturne, the top line — the melody — is analogous to singing.

— Magdalena Stern-Baczewska, director, Music Performance Program, at “Music Humanities: Piano Miniatures”

Our ability to explain why [an event] is a human rights concern is remarkably fragile. Until we can define in a clear way what a human right is, we can’t really be sure that what we’re doing really does advance the cause of human rights.

— Luke MacInnis GSAS’14, the Schapiro Lecturer in Contemporary Civilization, at “Contemporary Civilization: Nonsense on Stilts? Human Rights and Their Critics”

You’re seeing 2 percent of all the information the universe sends us in this beautiful, varied, colorful world you see. It’s really pretty pathetic.

— David Helfand, chair, Department of Astronomy, at “Frontiers of Science: What We Know About the Universe (and What We Don’t)”

Reunion and All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) are not only great ways to reconnect with classmates and friends but also offer the chance to relive your College experience through Mini-Core Classes and lectures. Here, excerpts from three of the weekend’s talks.
The Class of 1966 celebrated Class Day 50 years ago in front of Hamilton Hall

1941

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No news this time, Class of '41. Please reach out to me at either of the addresses above to let your classmates know how you are and what you are doing. Be well, and have a safe and happy summer.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
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The New York Times of January 14, 2016, had a brief memorial tribute to Franklin Gerald “Jerry” Bishop, written by his widow, Evelyn. Jerry died on January 14, 1996, after a long illness. Shortly before his death, he came in a wheelchair to our Homecoming football game, where I met him in the enclosed area above the field. He was loyal to Columbia, a brilliant engineer, mathematician and management consultant, and a good friend of this correspondent from the day we met as freshmen in 1938 until his death 58 years later.

Farewell once again, Jerry.

I am pleased to report that I have had many telephone conversations with Dr. Gerald Klingon in Manhattan, Robert J. Kaufman in Scarsdale, N.Y., and Dr. William Robbins in Mount Dora, Fla. All are lucid and adjusting to the various physical problems that are part of membership in the Nonagenarian Club. I have also had written correspondence with Stewart McIlvannan in Lakewood, Colo., whose wife, Marie BC’47 (91), teaches foreign languages in Lakeview public schools.

All of us continue to follow the fortunes of Columbia football, basketball, baseball and track and field teams, with plenty of good news on all fronts.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the deaths of two of our most distinguished classmates: Dr. Herbert Mark and Gerald Green.

Herb was my sophomore year roommate in Livingston Hall and became a lifelong friend. He was a distinguished physician and cardiologist, and a regional VP of the American Heart Association. Gerry was a famous novelist and NBC television producer. His novel The Last Angry Man was made in to a film with Paul Muni in the lead role. His novel and TV script Holocaust, shown on NBC, attracted worldwide attention. I met Gerry in a freshman chemistry lab in Havemeyer Hall, when we were near each other’s work stations. He bemoaned his lack
of skills as a prospective chemist, but this did not hinder his brilliant future as a journalist, novelist and television executive at NBC.

Farewell once again to two wonderful classmates.

On a personal note, I am pleased to report that my grandson Benjamin Hathaway ’10 was married on April 16 in Boston to Karina Picache, Tufts ’07. Ben entered Columbia with the Class of 2007 but was delayed by illness. He holds an M.B.A. from Suffolk University, which he received in 2015 with high honors. Waiting behind Ben are my two great-grandchildren, Olivia Stefanick (2½) in Hyattsville, Md., and Charlie Farkas (1½) in Cold Spring, N.Y. They are children of my grandchildren, Ann and Mary, who both hold advanced degrees and have produced what I hope will be a third generation of Columbia alumni.

Kind regards and good wishes to all surviving classmates. Please send your news and comments to me at the addresses at the top of this column or call me: 413-586-1517.

1943

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My wife, Audrey, and I decided to spend Christmas 2015 at home. The hassle of air travel — two preliminary hours at the airport plus long lines, belt removal (not shoes; seniors are exempted in Philadelphia), toiletries in plastic bags and so on — outweigh the pleasure of visiting family members after only an hour’s flight.

Last year ended with a bang: My great-grandson, Charles, was born on December 29. The new year started with another bang: My 90.9-year-old wife developed appendicitis. She recovered rapidly after laparoscopic removal. Appendicitis in a 90.9-year-old is as rare as someone in that age group running a 4-minute mile. She creates headlines on her own; I could see it, “Famed aged kiddie doc gets ‘teenage disease.’”

It didn’t stop her eight days post-op from traveling several miles to receive the Martin Luther King Award of a local African American (AA) Baptist Church, Salem Baptist Church of Jenkinson. It meant more to her than her many other honors. Recognition by the AA community caps her work of the last seven or eight years in co-founding a school to help in the education of AA youth in North Philadelphia.

The force of nature El Niño produced what I hope will be a third form of education for these communities, which I have been editing and writing. It has reached the wrap-up phase in March. Publication is expected in the fall.

And writing, reached the wrap-up phase in March. Publication is expected in the fall.

Any ’43er remember meeting any of these luminaries, or have an anecdote or two to enliven our pages?

Correction: In the Winter 2015–16 issue, I noted that Theodore Roosevelt received the Nobel Peace Prize. His Columbia connection was entered as “LAW 1882,” implying he graduated from the Law School. Arthur Thomas ’50, in a letter to me, correctly pointed out that he never graduated from the Law School. He dropped out after having enrolled in 1880. In so doing, he pre-dated his cousin, FDR, who also dropped out of the Law School. I looked into the matter in a little greater depth, and found that each had received a posthumous J.D. in 2008. Conferring these degrees made them official members of the Classes of 1882 and 1907, respectively.

The multi-authored History of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology, which I have been editing and writing, reached the wrap-up phase in March. Publication is expected in the fall.

Audrey and I are planning a trip to Panama in the spring. A longtime friend, an exceptional woman, had been the director of the Panama Canal years ago. With her as our guide, we should have a memorable visit to that country, whose great importance belies its size.

After that, there should be a trip to the United Kingdom in the fall combining two visits. The first, in the Scottish Highlands, will be to admire the first-born of my wife’s great-goddaughter. The other event, near Cambridge, will be the wedding of one of her great-nephews.

John Zullo writes: “Been ‘retired’ for 29 years. Have four children,
four grands and three adorable great-grands (3 months, 8 months and 2 years, one of whom is named Giovanni, after me). I’m busy all the time in Rotary and the local food pantry, and I interviewed many Columbia applicants from 1987 until early 2004. I also spent more than 25 years running the IRS-supervised income taxes at the senior center here in Flemington, N.J. I did more than 1,000 returns from 1987 to 2014.

“My wife, Betty, and I have been married for 66 years; she is 92 and I’m 94. We drive our own cars and both are fortunate to be in relatively stable condition. Our granddaughter is Dana Morgan Zullo ’03. She played varsity field hockey for four years, and her parents attended all her games (roughly 50). We are fortunate our three children settled locally; they are a big factor in our ability to live in our own home. We never expected to retire in Flemington, where I worked for Tencote Chemical for five years. My last 13 years in business were with Amchem Products (herbicides), where I was the manufacturing VP. Then Union Carbide bought them out and, from 1978 on, I had the best job in all my career. I became a sought-after ‘expert’ in chlorinated organic chemicals, especially herbicides. My job was building and operating, especially as a manufacturing professional. I was a production plant manager in Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Joliet, Ill.; Long Beach, Calif.; and Painesville, Ohio. Settled in Research Triangle Park, N.C., the last place to which I reported. That’s enough for now, except I note that Bernie Weisberger and I graduated from Stuyvesant together. Class of 1939! Regards to all, Johnnie (AKA Giovanni) Zullo, a happy person.”

And here is Bernie Weisberger himself: “Hello, fellow members of CC’43: And so on we roll along into 2016, a 73rd anniversary of our graduation year, and the racket and uproar of another election year resounding in our hearing. I don’t believe that the Class Notes section is a place for political commentary and discussion, but I recommend to all of us that while the issues are weighty and fateful, it pays to keep a sense of humor.

“There were pleasant developments in my personal life this past winter. I am trying to avoid self-advertisement, but I collaborated on an article for Democracy, a journal of ideas, with a young economist who, like me, has a Ph.D. from Chicago, with a mere 64 years difference in our graduation dates. He’s also a family friend whom I’ve known since his infancy, which lent a special note of enjoyment to the labors of composition. And in addition, becoming an official ‘public intellectual’ at this late date somehow amuses me because it’s a label I’ve always avoided wearing, but it at least proves that there’s some fuel left in the gas tank. "Other than that, like all of us at this stage, I take great joy in the progress of my grandchildren but observe an informal ‘so-bragging rule.’ Nonetheless, I can’t resist jumping ahead to what should be the next issue’s letter to say that in May I planned to attend the Yale Law School graduation of my oldest granddaughter. In a word, ‘whoopie!’ ”

“I greatly enjoy CCT’s occasional reminiscences by alumni of the look and feel of the campus during their years there. My own include a fond memory of two long-gone cheap restaurants at which I often ate lunch during my hour-long commutes to and from my home in Queens. There was a Chock full o’ Nuts on the SW corner of 116th and Broadway, where for 15 cents you could acquire a ‘nutted (sic) cream cheese’ sandwich; to wit, on date- and nut bread, among other comparably priced eats. It was just the descriptive title that caught my fancy but the sandwich itself was tasty. A step up was Katz’s restaurant on the NE corner of 112th and Broadway. For 35 cents you could actually tuck into a three-course meal — ‘appetizer’ on the order of a small tomato juice, a main dish of something like meatloaf and potatoes, and a canned pear or a scoop of ice cream to top it off. I wouldn’t say that either of these meals really satisfied hungry male adolescents, but they were accommodations to the fact that in those lingering days of the Great Depression, especially in 1939, expectations were not set too high. This is the kind of memory that causes the eyes of younger readers to glaze over, but in this spot I feel free to get away with it. Does anyone else in the class remember either of those joints? Come on, guys, join us happy few in swapping notes here.”

G.J. D’Angio remembers The Gold Rail’s delicious matzoh ball chicken soup and The New Asia Restaurant and its almond chicken gai ding.

Sad news: Dr. Michael S. Bruno PS’45 died November 16, 2015. Mike was on the football team in the Lou Little days. After medical school, he went on to a distinguished career in medicine at the Lenox Hill Hospital for many years. He held several important positions there, including four terms as president of the medical board. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries, Spring 2016.]

Orin Keepnews, a record executive and producer, in El Cerro, Calif., died on March 1, 2015.

1944

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

cct@columbia.edu

CCT is sorry to report that your most recent class correspondent, S.W. “Bill” Friedman, passed away on September 12, 2015. If you would like to share memories of Bill or of other classmates, or share news in this space, please write to CCT at cct@columbia.edu or mail a letter to the address at the top of this column. We wish you a pleasant summer.

1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

CCT@columbia.edu

Class of 1945, your classmates want to hear from you! Please reach out to CCT at cct@columbia.edu or mail a letter to the address at the top of this column to have your news featured in the Fall 2016 issue. We look forward to hearing from you.
A Winter Fugue

Now, at the winter of my journey, as I plod the paths at Mill Woods on a late chilly afternoon, a nonagenarian, somewhat bent and hale, best "with catarrh, I weigh the meter of attending thoughts that accompanies this promenade, while I listen to the thump of my walking stick, this baton whose tempo is finite — a cadence in keeping with the spirit of this rustic sanctuary.

To the east, the trees are straight, tall, sides of trunk, with branches completely bare, whose height and spread affirm their age, speak to man's more modest size and ephemeral stay. These branches that twist and turn, averting proximity — declaring their own space — what do they write on this slate of sky, proclaim to these ageing eyes that look up and yearn for meaning in this brief journey, this maze of awareness... dreaming of a distant eternity?

West of the winding path, a wide lake abides, more silent to gravity's constraint with its flat expanse, than the soaring trees that would invade the firmament's tapestry. Indeed, that lake is more curbed in its discourse, for it can only reflect the sky's allotment:

And so, as I trudge with my leading baton, rambling on the paths between inner thoughts and what these fading eyes gaze upon, I look for a quiet place, a refrain from forever seeking — a canticle of tranquility. I dream of verities, beyond the bonds of bias; understanding, free from fetishes and rituals; of purpose, in this enterprise of being — this journey — as it nears its final season... before the music dies.

Nicholas Giosa
February-March 2016

CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you.

Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — by sending a note to either the email or postal address at the top of the column.

The Humanities in Music

1946

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I received a West Coast email from Irving Ackerman, in Los Angeles. Irv writes that his granddaughter, Mariam G. Gulati '16, graduated in May and at the time of writing he hoped to be here.

It is great to have another generation, 70 years later, with the Columbia link.

Lawrence Ross in Boynton Beach, Fla., responded to '46 news about our recent reunion. Larry regrets his absence because of medical circumstances, which prevented traveling. His note (reflecting his courage and humor) includes: "I am a very lucky man."

Albert Starr '46: "It is hard to believe that 70 years have gone by. I work full-time at Oregon Health and Science University."

1947

Columbia College Today
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From Dr. Nicholas Giosa: "To the few remaining classmates of 1947, a brief meditation on the journey."

A Winter Fugue

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Nicholas Giosa
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The Humanities in Music

1948

Columbia College Today
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Dr. Arthur S. Kunin writes: "I am pleased to report that I'm still alive at 90. And 'expecting' more. Spent this past winter as a snowbird from Vermont in Nice, France, where to my surprise there was a hidden nugget of language learned in part at Columbia. Would like to read about my fellow classmates, survivors."

Dr. James Griffith shared: "Here it is — 68 years since graduation. Memories flood back. Last year I was in New York City and once more visited The Frick Collection. In Humanities II, each of us had to select a work of art in New York City and write a paper about it at the end of the term. My subject was The Polish Rider by Rembrandt, which the Frick acquired in 1910. I developed a very personal relationship with that painting and have returned to it many times. The course itself was a whirlwind tour of art history. It stimulated an interest in art that has enhanced my life.

"Then too, the Humanities course in music — which introduced me to Beethoven's Symphony No. 5, Richard Strauss' Till Eulenspiegel and Mozart's Eine kleine Nachtmusik — added a delightful dimension to my life.

"I continued on for an M.D. at SUNY Downstate and after 40 years of primary care practice in Norwalk, Conn., I am retired in Sarasota, Fla. I work at a local medical clinic (for 17 years now) that serves the underinsured and the homeless."

Prolific book author Dr. Alvin Eden notes, "My latest childcare book, tentatively titled Obesity Prevention in Children: From Toddlers to Preschoolers, is scheduled for publication this fall. My very best to all my 1948 classmates."

Jim Nugent writes: "I recently thought of something that happened to me on the Columbia campus a number of years after graduation. I thought it might interest my classmates and give them a laugh.

"It happened many years ago, I think around the time I was working at Columbia as an assistant treasurer and manager of the non-academic
properties. I had a meeting on campus and, when finished, I decided to take a swim in the pool, which as an old Columbia swimming captain, I did often.

“As you might remember, the pool, three flights down, was unique and we also swam ‘bare-ass.’ There were a few guys at the pool, including the team coach, and only one guy in the water when I jumped in. After a few laps, it happened! All the power in the city went out and I could not see my hands in front of me or where I was in the pool. I knew the coach and a few others were in the pool area. I finally got out of the pool and by yelling to one another we were able to come together in one area with the others in the dark — unbelievable. At one point, one of the guys found a piece of paper on the concrete deck and put a match to it and that was our first light.

“Eventually we got some light and I was able to find my clothes. I forget how long it took to get back to daylight, but it seemed forever. I am happy to report that my experience in the dark that evening many years ago has not kept me from swimming on a regular basis.”

Thank you to the gentlemen who got in touch! CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from favorite memories from Columbia. Have a wonderful summer!

1950

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Our dear friend and longtime class correspondent, Mario Palmieri, is on a brief leave of absence. Mario has been a loyal Columbian, especially to our class. Until he returns, I will hold down the fort to the best of my ability. Any help will be greatly appreciated; you can send your updates to me at coachpmb@gmail.com.

Mario retired from Irving Trust after a long and distinguished career. He and his wife, Trudy, to whom he has been married for more than 60 years, are now sharing a good housekeeper. We call upon our classmates and anyone else who can help for assistance.

When Dr. Dudley Rochester “retired” from the UVA School of Medicine 20 years ago, he shifted his focus to issues such as the health effects of air pollution; the availability of clean, fresh water locally and globally; and, most recently, extinction of species, including humans.

In the last decade, Dudley and his wife have moved to a healthcare facility where he has become an advocate for the fragile, frail elderly and an educator on end-of-life planning. As a retiree, Dudley has accomplished more than most workers in their prime of life; this comes as no surprise to those of us who knew him as an undergraduate.

Jack Noonan ’53 was selected for a special honor in October 2015. Reflecting his honorable service in the famed 11th Airborne in WWII, Jack, recently retired as a chief federal judge, was chosen as part of a group of 150 veterans to pay their respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He was accompanied by Martin Baskin, his son-in-law.

Bob Dole, former Kansas senator and presidential and vice presidential candidate, was also an honored guest on this trip. Dole, who earned the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts in WWII, sat next to Jack at the ceremony.

Jack enjoyed a distinguished legal career, highlighted by his success (while in private practice) as a leader in freeing Rubin “Hurricane” Carter from a long prison term. As a chief federal judge, Jack was universally revered. I had the privilege of attending a ceremony at which Jackie was elected New York State Federal Judge of the Year. My dear wife and I were so pleased to see the love and respect his fellow jurists had for him. Jack and his wife, Eileen, have earned the right to a happy retirement as “snowbirds,” and they make the most of it.

Art Westing, a loyal marine, recently completed two booklets and would be pleased to send classmates gratis PDFs of either or both for their personal use: Woodland Secrets for Southeastern Vermont and a Bit Beyond (68 pages) and Notes on Nature for Mount Desert Island, Maine (62 pages). If interested, contact him at westing@sover.net.

1951

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Warm wishes for the summer months, Class of ’51. As we welcome the sun and longer days, please take a moment to send in a word or two. You can send in your notes to either of the addresses at the top of this column and your news will appear in a future issue. CCT and your classmates look forward to hearing from you!

1952

REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 8–11, 2017
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Columbia College Today
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Happy summer, Class of 1952! Max Frankel GSAS’53 is enjoying retirement in mid-Manhattan after
a 50-year career at The New York Times and a few years teaching, most recently two CC classes at the College. He wishes more tenured faculty would teach the Core, as in his day. He also wishes the salaries paid to leading officials at the University and its medical facilities were not contributing so heavily to inequality in American society. And as much as the Times and other media need advertising, he deplores the costly but shameless and meaningless advertising by Columbia University Medical Center/NewYork Presbyterian Hospital and its rivals.

From John Laszlo: “Slowing down but still playing tennis. It is interesting to get updates on the Columbia tennis team, which seems to rule the Ivies these days — much stronger than when I played. We had a very nice team and I wish I knew what happened to my teammates after college.

“For my 85th, my wife, Pat, and I are planning to take a Danube cruise with our four children and six grandchildren; I want to tell them that my father, who was born in Hungary, used to row in the Danube when he was young. All the best to classmates.”

From Roy Brown PS ’56: “My wife, Maria, and I recently returned from my 60th reunion at the College of Physicians and Surgeons and it’s hard to believe that so many years have passed. Maria recently came back from spending a few weeks in Norway visiting with our daughter Laura Evensen ’03, PhD ’05 and Laura’s third child, Ellis. [As of this writing], in a couple of weeks we are going to Providence, R.I., to attend our eldest grandson’s (Albert) graduation from Brown. He will be working for a tech firm in San Francisco that makes wrist devices to record pulse and other things during daily activities.

“My traveling elder granddaughters, Anna, is stopping off in Norway to see Laura on Anna’s return from Berlin and on her way to the Brown graduation, after which she will be doing graduate work at M.I.T.; Laura is planning to do her Ph.D. in public health in Norway. All this is to say that a lot of my family are involved in scholastic undertakings.

“When I turned 77, I retired from clinical pediatric/academic practice at Columbia but still teach a graduate course in international maternal and child health at Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health and continue to be involved in promoting global health activities among the PB&G med students.

“My son Jeff recently finished an eight-year project, which resulted in a feature film that he shot in Nepal and India dealing with the global problem of child sex trafficking. You can see a trailer of his film at soldthemicroweb.com; the film is adapted from a book by Patricia McCormick titled Sold.

“Maria and I live with our rescue dog, Stella, in Cold Spring, N.Y., up in the Hudson Valley about 60 miles from New York City, where we maintain a small apartment for our visits to the city.

“I play weekly tennis (doubles, as that is what my group can manage), but have given up squash and other sports. Our Norwegian family is very much involved in outdoor activities, with skiing in the winter and soccer and tennis when the snow clears.

“My son-in-law, Morten Evensen ’80, who is a sports ‘fanatic,’ has a Columbia master’s in sports management and recently changed jobs from Norwegian national gymnastics to Norwegian national cricket. I asked Laura what interest did Norway have in cricket and she reminded me that there are lots of people there from Pakistan and India, hence the interest. I think Laura is one of a very few people who is trilingual in English, Mandarin and Norwegian. Her kids speak English in their house and Norwegian at school and with their friends.

“In summary, there is lots of activity around, but aside from cutting the grass, I remain content to be quiet and read, although our house has a small workout room I visit daily. I would be happy to hear from CC ’52 classmates at reb8@columbia.edu.”

From Howard Hansen: “My wife, Dianne, and I had a most enjoyable lunch in Orlando, Fla., on April 22 with football teammate Mel Sautter and his wife, Jane.

“Mel was attending an annual meeting of the Golden Eagles, an elite, pioneer Naval/Marine aviators association that he was elected to — membership is restricted to 200. Mel is a retired 30-year Marine colonel and some of his impressive military accomplishments are as follows: He survived 360 combat missions piloting an F-8 fighter jet — 73 of which were carrier-based. Mel was commanding officer of The Red Devils Air Wing in Vietnam, where he received the Distinguished Flying Cross with Bronze Star. He is one of only two Marine aviators to log in more than 2,000 F-8 Crusader hours.

“He was awarded ‘Top Gun’ in 1962 and achieved the highest score ever recorded for air-to-air gunnery in an F8 Crusader at 20- and 30-thousand feet during competitive exercises.

“Mel’s final tour of duty was as commanding officer of MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, in charge of 6,000 personnel, including families, from 1978 to 1981. He was awarded the Legion of Merit by the secretary of the Navy for his services at Kaneohe.

“Mel’s skills and leadership were impressive, and we are proud of his active duty accomplishments.”

Please take the time to send a note to cct@columbia.edu or to the mailing address at the top of the column; your classmates want to hear from you! Wishing you a pleasant summer and reminding you that your 65th reunion is just around the corner, Thursday, June 8–Sunday, June 11, 2017.

1953

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In a fascinating email, Dan S. Greenberg included a memorable tidbit. “With five daughters having produced 18 grandchildren, I’m still waiting to establish a family tradition at Columbia. So far the college-age offspring have all opted for elsewhere, despite my urgings. Thus, the only family connection is via my brother, Jack Greenberg ’45, LAW ’48, the renowned civil rights lawyer who was director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund for many years and then dean of Columbia College from 1989 to 1993. Jack retired last year from a chair at the Law School, where he was formerly vice-dean.”

Until I read Dan’s note, I had no idea he was related to Jack.

Dan also included the following seagling note: “My first surface crossing of the Atlantic took place in 1954 when, fresh out of NROTC, I was aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Randolph (CVA 15) bound for the Mediterranean. My bunkroom was directly under the catapults that helped propel planes into the air. The din of engine and launch machinery was akin to an express subway roaring past the platform.

“Last year my wife, Wanda, and I crossed the big pond aboard the Queen Mary 2 — considerably smoother and quieter than the old warship. Then we visited old friends in London, where I was based 1968–70 as European correspondent of Science magazine.”

Dan is the published author of a number of influential, well-received books. For example, in 2001 Scientific American described his book Science, Money, and Politics as “profoundly important” while The Economist deemed it “masterly.”

Dan further reports, “My book Science for Sale, which was published by the University of Chicago Press in 2007 and discusses the hot topic of commercialization of research in academic laboratories, is destined for a rebirth in a Chinese-language edition.”

When asked whether he would want to check the accuracy of the translation, Dan politely declined.

Gordon Henderson, the popular president of Sigma Chi, sent the following anecdote about an unusual 1962 event in Jackson, Miss., where he had just accepted a job at Millsaps College. Jackson was the hometown of Gordon’s wife, Mary Ann Henderson ’53, and Gordon had promised her not to do anything that might embarrass her parents. However, according to Gordon, here’s what happened: “The first Sunday there we attended a lecture by William Simmons, a leader in the Citizens’ Council — a segregation organization. His topic was segregation in the Bible. In the question and answer session that followed, Mary Ann took the floor and told him he was talking rubbish. So much for trusting carefully around controversy.”

Gordon writes, “... from 1965 until 2000 (when I retired), I testified on behalf of minority plaintiffs — African-Americans, Chicanos and American-Indians — in 14 states, usually in a suit brought against counties and cities. My greatest involvement was in Alabama, where about 35 of the counties the minority plaintiffs I worked for were located.”
Despite all the exciting civil rights fights he was involved in, Gordon best remembers the humorous fights he was involved in, Gordon gerrymander that could explain the Democratic successes in a recent election. Gordon is reported to have paused for a second or two and then replied, "Perhaps they had better candidates." The courtroom erupted in prolonged laughter. After lunch, an elderly man outside the hearing room was heard to say, "I don't know where they found that baldheaded man but they sure did find a winner."

Congratulations, Gordon and Mary Ann, for enabling the Class of 1953 to participate in the historic achievements of the Civil Rights Movement!

1954

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Gents, here we go again, asking you to share with classmates your doings, accomplishments, plans and fantasies. Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09, our CCT Class Notes editor and partner in crime, informs me that roughly 200 of our brethren have email addresses in Columbia's alumni database. If you use email, please be sure that we have your address. [Editor's note: You can update your information with Columbia: college.columbia.edu/alumni/ connect.] Others are reached less expeditiously by phone or snail mail, or through this Class Notes column.

As an avid follower of these Class Notes, Saul Turteltaub tells me that he is "amazed at the accomplishments of our classmates. What you are doing is important for us all to read, and to realize how well we have lived and contributed."

Hint: I love getting fan letters. Joe Arleo brings us up to date on family and related doings. Joe writes, "I've resumed violin lessons after a silence of almost 70 years. [Wife] Lillian and I are still seeing patients two half-days a week. I have all my teeth and most of my senses (I believe, but who knows). At this age it's mostly about children and their children. Daughter Elizabeth is an associate professor of radiology at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital - Cornell; she's also the mother of two terrific girls, Sophia (7) and Michaela (4). In her spare time she trains for and has completed six NYC Marathons. Son Michael is a quality control engineer at United Technologies in California. Son Ted GSAPP'95 is an architect in private practice with his wife, Michelle Krielb.

I joined in 1969 as a founding professor at its new medical school in La Jolla (UCSD). In 1986 I moved to its San Francisco campus (UCSF), where I first was chair of psychiatry and then founder and director of the Center for Neurobiology and Psychiatry. During my long career, my main goal was to use and promote the increasingly powerful tools of genetics, molecular biology and neuroscience to identify the factors that increase individual risk of mental disorders, a goal I described to the public in my 1993 book, Molecules and Mental Illness, published by Scientific American Library. I subsequently published other books along these lines (Mood Genes: Hunting for Origins of Mania and Depression, 1998; Better Than Prazac: Creating the Next Generation of Psychiatric Drugs, 2003; Making Sense of People: Decoding the Mysteries of Personality, 2011, second edition 2016) and have served, for half a century, on national and international committees and foundations that promote and support this goal.

"In 2014 I published a children's poetry book (Before I Sleep: Poems for Children Who Think) that contains recent examples of the silly verses I first managed to get into print as poetry editor of Jester of Columbia, our thriving college humor magazine. I hope to continue these activities in retirement in my home in Sausalito, Calif., while spending more time with my wife, Louann Brizendine; my daughters, Elizabeth and Jessica; my grandchildren, Jonah, Ellen and Asher; and my many wonderful colleagues and friends."

Thank you, Sam. Well deserved.

You guys were champions. Stan Fine and his family, six in all (including two teenagers), spent eight days last December on safari in Tanzania. He says, "We saw all the animals, even a rhino close up in a crater, but no leopard."

My wife, Helen, and I safaried there six years ago and did see a leopard in a tree, just like the travelogues of Africa. We highly recommend an African safari; much depends on the tour guide, and we can put you in touch with ours. Nothing compares to seeing a lion family up close, roar and all.

Those of us who get The New York Times woke up on February 20 to three prominently displayed photographs of our very own Judge Al Hellerstein, first on the page 2 "Inside the Times" news summary, followed by an above-the-fold photo and story on the first page of the "New York" section. One caption begins, "A judge and three rabbis ..."

40. No, this was not the start of an old joke nor was it a constitutional crisis. The article, which even jumped to a second page, bore the headline "For Rabbis and Judge, Friendships Forged (sic) in the Back-and-Forth," with the subhead "Weekly Tennis Court Battles Are Waged for Over 45 Years." The article is clever, funny and even insightful, and I urge you all to google it.

Helen and I wish you all a pleasant summer, and I look forward to receiving much new information about everyone's adventures for our Fall 2016 column. Also, let's do some gaming, such as:

1. Number of (none is a number) grandkids at or off to college. Grad school? Professional sports? Broadway? Name your subject.
2. Who was your choice and/or expected winner for each party's presidential nomination? Who will win in November? (Replies in the Fall column.)
3. What is greatest about Columbia today? Not so great? What do you want to see at alma mater?

Thank you for getting this far. To all: Be well, do good in the world, keep in touch — email, call, snail mail, FedEx, text, oh, you know by now. Excelsior!

1955

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Some interesting campus news: The University's Board of Trustees and President Lee C. Bollinger have agreed to continue his service for four additional years beyond 2018 to 2022. The board made the decision to extend the Bollinger's term as president with enthusiasm and conviction. The much-anticipated John Jay Awards Dinner was held on March 10, featuring awardees Jonathan Abbott '84; Julius Genachowski '85; Jeffrey Kessler '75, LAW'77; John Vaske '88; and Sheena Wright '90, LAW'94. It was truly an all-star cast.

We heard from Jack Stuppin, who could not make the reunion last year because of a bad back. Jack had a showing of his artwork at the downtown Manhattan ACA Galleries called "Homage to the Hudson River School."
Reunions are better than ever as our class can attest with our 60th. We can give good pointers based on our weekend.

We keep bumping into Peter Pressman, who lives on the Upper East Side. A short while ago, he made a trip to Japan. Bill Langston is still toiling away on the West Coast. I espied Bob Bernot with his grandson at a Columbia basketball game. The Lions won and eventually got into a tournament (the CollegeInsider.com Tournament) — they went pretty far after the season. [Editor’s note: The Lions won the CIT championship game against UC Irvine 71–68]. Allen Hyman reports that Kiplinger Magazine lists Columbia as one of the top colleges in the top tier and adds that his grandson Jacob Hyman ’19 attends the College.

Alfred Gollomp made his annual appearance in Florida before returning to his tennis game on Long Island. What a life! Don Lauffer has been doing heavy-duty work in setting up the monthly or bimonthly dinners for the class. Attendees have been Ron Spitz, Bill Epstein (who finally was able to download Lew Sternfeld ’56’s photos from the reunion), Henry Weinstein, Herb Cohen, Larry Balfus, Berish Strauch, Elliot Gross, Bob Brown, Anthony Viscusi, Jesse Roth (from Queens), Chuck Solomon (participating in alumni work at the Dental School), Al Martz (taking care of his cars in New Jersey), Bob Kushner, Roland Plottel (our patent expert) and Dick Ascher (the author).

In case you haven’t heard, our baseball team is looking for its fourth straight Ivy League title. We haven’t seen Walt Deputalo or Tony Palladino at any games. Jack Free¬man has been representing the class. Occasionally we run into our poet laureate, Bob Sparrow. A treat!

Speaking of sports, the men’s basketball team has won the most games since 1967–68. Ron McPhee (our captain), John Naley, Dan Hovey (also crew) and Dave Sweet would stand up and cheer.

My brethren of the Class of ’55.
Keep your spirits soaring.
Think pleasant thoughts.
We will start to see and hear rumbles of our 65th shortly.
Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

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Our class has been very active since our last Class Notes. On February 9, Ron Kapon, Ralph Kaslick and Al Franco SEAS ’56 attended the Dean’s Scholarship Reception to meet the Class of ’56 Scholarship and Alan N. Miller Scholarship recipients. This dinner, held in Alfred Lerner Hall’s Roone Arledge Auditorium, was open to all of our class to meet one or more of our class scholarship recipients. Our recipients run from Marilyn Minton ’17, from Fairfax, Va., majoring in film studies, to Greg Rempe ’16, from Albuquerque, N.M., majoring in biology/business management. We currently have seven Class of ’56 Scholarship recipients and one Alan N. Miller Scholarship recipient. Ron, Ralph and Al reported they are always amazed at the quality of our scholarship students and the variety of interests promoted through their attendance at Columbia.

A question we often raise at our class lunches is whether members of our class could today get into Columbia College, where the acceptance rate is 6 percent. Most of our Ford Scholars say “Yes, we could get in,” whereas others (some of whom goofed off at college) are, best, undecided. This is a topic I’m sure will be discussed at our 60th reunion.

Our most significant event during the last three months was our annual Florida Class of ’56 luncheon. This was attended by 26 class members, wives and significant others. Lou Hemmerding, who, with Danny Link, has organized this every year for the past 10 years, has made this an event that all classmates in the south Florida area should look forward to. Many classmates, including Don Roth and Michael Spett, have retired to Florida, while others remain snowbirds, still connected to New York City.

Leo Glass, who is active in the Monticello, N.Y., community, recalls some of his memories from Columbia, which includes a Vanities C for cross-country track in his sophomore year. His present activities, in addition to being a part-time judge, include travel and athletic activities like skiing and running. Leo’s family includes three daughters and four grandchildren but, as he observes, he’s losing old friends at an increasingly alarming rate. Sad but true for many of us as we reach and go past our 80th year. I value all classmates who attended our 60th reunion.

Our class luncheon on March 29 included regulars Ralph Kaslick, Mark Novick, Al Franco SEAS ’56, Buz Paaswell, Jerry Fine, Al Broadwin, Ron Kapon and Ed Botwinick, who was visiting from North Carolina. Among the subjects discussed was Ed’s idea of presenting a sculpture (of a lion) as a class gift for our 60th reunion. Ed is following up with the various committees at Columbia that would have to approve such gift. If accepted, it would probably be placed in the lobby of Hamilton Hall.

Two items I always conclude my column with are: 1) attendance at our monthly (or bimonthly) class lunches — all CC’56 alumni, whether living in a metropolitan area or visiting, are welcome at these lunches; and 2) contributing to the Columbia College Fund or other Columbia programs. Class members who would like to explore the ways to contribute should contact Sara Eidelman, assistant director of class giving, at sc2346@columbia.edu or 212-851-7452; or give a gift online via college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate.

As we look forward to the summer, let us all reflect on our experiences at Columbia and our 60th reunion. If you attended reunion, please send a note telling us about your experiences.

1957

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 8–11, 2017
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Ward Armstrong, of Ogden, Utah, died on February 22, 2016. Born and raised in Ogden, Ward won a scholarship to Columbia. He married Geniel, also born and raised in Ogden, in 1955; they raised their five children there. Ward’s passion for sports easily led him to enter the family-owned Armstrong Sporting Goods Store, where he honed his sales skills. He retired from sporting goods retailing in 1997.

Following his retirement he was a docent at the Ogden Gun Museum. Among many other honors, he received the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation; he previously was its president. An avid hunter, some of his fondest memories were of two safaris on which he and Geniel went in South Africa.
Memorial donations may be made to the IAFF Local 1654 (Amy Armstrong Fund) care of Edward Jones, 2685 North 1000 West, Ste 102, Pleasant View, UT 84414; or the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation, 3421 East Creek Rd., Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121, 801-944-2379.

Ken Bodenstein SEAS ’58, BUS ’60 died in his home in Marina del Rey, Calif., on March 20, 2016. The following is excerpted from his obituary: “Born in 1937 in New York City, [he was] son of the late William and Sylvia Bodenstein. Ken is survived by his wife of 53 years, Diane Lerner, his children with his wife of 30 years, the late Susan Sims Bodenstein, son Todd Bodenstein and daughter Leslie Bodenstein, stepson Guy DeFeo, stepdaughter Jan DeFeo, grandchildren Willem Pickleman, Jake DeFeo, and Sylvia Bodenstein. Ken is survived by his children with his wife of 30 years, Heidi Weinstein, Alyssa Polack, Ellen Maness, and as well as practical tips to the women’s and grandchildren’s pursuits and celebrated every family event. He is also survived by his sister, Roberta Rosenfeld, of Orange County, Calif.

“Don grew up in Elizabeth, N.J., was a graduate of Columbia College and earned a law degree at [West Virginia School of Law]. Don practiced law and then held an array of business positions that showcased his people skills, deal-making abilities, keen intellect and wit. He was devoted to Judaism (a legendary Seder leader), ever-curious about American history and engaged in politics since his days aiding the Kennedy campaign in New Jersey. His relentless optimism, generosity and humor (and kibitzing) left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him. We always will love and miss him dearly.”

From Gene Wagner: “A [southern California contingent] luncheon was held on February 27 in Long Beach. Jerry Werksman and Ken Bodenstein, regular attendees, were unable to attend but we had John Ahouse, Lew Schainuck, Herb Sturman, Mike Gold, John Taussig, Gene Wagner and Bernie Lynch. Note that Lew drove five hours round trip to join us. He either likes us or he likes food.”

Yours truly attended "a conversation on ‘Immigration as a Campaign Issue: From John Adams to Donald Trump,” with Tyler Anbinder GSAS ’90, professor of history at GW, and reception thereafter, in Washington, D.C.

Anbinder focused on 12 presidential campaigns: those of John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison (Alien and Sedition Laws), James Buchanan and Abraham Lincoln (sharp increase in Irish Catholic immigration in the wake of the potato famine, giving rise to the Know-Nothings), Rutherford Hayes (Catholics), Grover Cleveland "A vote for Cleveland is a vote for run, Romanism, and rebellion’ from a Protestant minister), Theodore Roosevelt LAW 1882 (reaction against Italians, East European Jews and Slavs), Woodrow Wilson (opposition to U.S. entry into WWI from Irish and Germans), Calvin Coolidge (ban on Asian immigration), and John F. Kennedy/Lyndon B. Johnson (Hart-Celler Act eliminated quotas but placed a 20,000 annual cap on immigrants). In answer to my question, Professor Anbinder said that he did not know what would happen with Donald Trump, but predicted that the issue of immigrants will be with us for a long time.

**1958**

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Bob Sebald, who hastily checked in with this column in a long time, writes from Charlotte, N.C: “Barry, you say no news is too small [Barry says: ‘Agreed.’], so I thought I’d send you a note. I’m sure you don’t remember but we were acquainted at Columbia. The few classmates that I had more or less kept up with have passed. I guess the big news is that we are either in or fast approaching octogenarian status — myself in just 12 days [at the time of writing]. If I had known I would live this long... In any event it’s better than the alternative.

“I’ve often thought that it was a shame that I didn’t get to know my classmates better. I spent most of my time in those days working in a professional show band and anything else I could get my hands on to pay for tuition (and, of course, trying to study). As a result I had to leave Columbia ... without my diploma. I finally received it at 35 after living in Atlanta and Tulsa and then back again in Atlanta. It took that long to negotiate with the dean(s) of students about my final 20 some-odd credits ... There was no way I could move back to New York, having married in 57 with four offspring in the meantime.

“Finally achieved my M.B.A. at 45 and my doctorate at 60 — a lifelong learner I am. I left NYC in the middle of a brutal snowstorm in February ’60 (and I’m sorry to say I was very happy to do so). I was a pharmaceutical salesman for about 10 years, traveling in Georgia, Oklahoma and Texas. I came in from the cold and took an indoor accounting desk job in Atlanta. In those days, many accountants were moving into data processing and I was one of them. I moved through the ranks and eventually became VP of administration at an American Exchange [-listed] but family-owned business. Once I got there, there was nowhere else to go — I was working for the president, who was the son-in-law of the founder. In 1970 I started a consulting firm specializing in strategic and project management for Fortune 1000 companies. I stayed with that for 40 years.

“I imagine you could say I’m still working, as I have been trading the foreign exchange market since retiring. I lost my wife to lung cancer last March and it has been a tough year. I have been an active member of the Charlotte, N.C.-based Columbia Alumni Association of the Carolinas and always look forward to its monthly meetings. As you might guess, I am the oldest in the group and am always being asked ‘What was it like in the old days?’ Too bad the
Bill Claire sent me a copy of a CC'58 newsletter dated September 1962, along with the following note: "Dear Barry: I thought you might get a kick out of my time as the first Acting Class President of the Class of '58, taking over for Pete Barth [which was mentioned in one of the 1962 articles, along with praise for the Herculean efforts of Marsh Front and Dave Londoner on behalf of our participation in the annual College Fund drive]. I haven't been all that active in CU matters other than a lifetime involvement with Professor Mark Van Doren GSAS 1921 and his work. I was one of two people (the other [being Professor Carl Hovde '50]) picked to finally convince former University President William McGill to continue the Columbia Forum when I served on the board. We failed.

"I keep somewhat involved with Columbia Alumni Association of Southwest Florida and my former roommate Ron Szczykowski, and I ran into Bernie Nussbaum and others during my long career in Washington, D.C. My email is voyagesbbs@aol.com and I live in Lewes, Del., and Naples, Fla. All the best."

Lenny Zivitz sent us his nomination for a lead story on Jerry Keusch, summarizing Jerry’s career as follows: "He went from Columbia to Harvard Medical School to Mount Sinai to professor of infectious disease at Tufts to the head of The Fogarty [International Center] at NIH, which runs international research. Jerry resigned that esteemed position because GW wanted political rather than scientific works. He is now a provost at BU; having overcome lymphoma, he is still working hard in international infectious disease programs. The National Academy of Medicine recently appointed him co-chairman of a committee to review clinical trials done during the Ebola outbreak. He is truly one of our outstanding alumni."

No argument here; but he’s not this column’s lead because when Jerry left the Bush administration he sent me a long diatribe about his disgust with the politicization of its science programs, which ran in Class Notes pretty much in full, augmented by excerpts from a contemporaneous New Yorker article in which he was interviewed, and I wanted to start with a couple of classmates who haven’t been heard from in a long time.

David Peck ’59 let us know that Sylvia Glazer, widow of Fred Glazer, died recently, and to pass along some reminders of Fred’s accomplishments. As we reported after Fred’s death in 1997, as director of the West Virginia Library Commission, he had been one of the most influential and admired librarians in the United States. The materials David gathered, which he brought to Sylvia’s funeral to share with their son, Hoyt Glazer ’89, and daughter, Hillary, included a letter to the then-governor of West Virginia from Thomas R. Pickering, praising Fred’s work in opening American libraries from 96 to 176. David’s submission also included testimonials to Fred’s influence on library systems around the country and on digitization and computer cataloging.

Steve Jonas writes: “I recently received my 20-year pin from the Professional Ski Instructors of America, by which I have been certified as a ski instructor for that period of time. I recently retired as editor in chief of the American Medical Athletic Association Journal after a term of 13 years. Turning 80 this year, I have now become a member of the USA Triathlon 80-84 age group and started my 34th season in triathlon racing this spring, with 247 races under my belt. My next book, Ending the Drug War; Solving the Drug Problem, will be published by Punto Press, of Brewster, N.Y., this spring. And yes, you can report that I have completely failed retirement.”

We heard again from Henry Solomon, who writes: “I’ve recently been to London, Shanghai and Beijing, on behalf of the American College of Cardiology. On my last trip to Beijing (my 18th trip to China) I gave a lecture at the 301 Military Hospital, the hospital where most government officials get their medical care, and had a meeting with the cardiologist who takes care of many Chinese leaders. My daughter was in China at the same time on a business trip, and we spent a day together at the Great Wall, followed by dinner with a Chinese friend who lives in Beijing. I also took on a new role this year, that of chief CME reviewer for MedPage Today, a rapidly growing website for physicians.”

Henry added that on his next trip to Beijing he would visit hospitals in Wuhan, which is in southcentral China, west of Shanghai.

Morris Amitay reminds us that there are three ages of man: 1) youth, 2) middle age and 3) you’re looking good. As if our classmates need reminding ...

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

1959

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It is with great sadness that I inform you of the deaths of Shelby Brewer, Larry McCormack and Art Newman.

We continue with the final installment of the contribution of Paul Kantor: “About two years ago we (my wife, Carole, was also working at Rutgers, as an administrator at an exciting center that invents bio-materials) decided to retire. As usual, Carole did a better job of it, and was retired by August 1, 2015. In anticipation of this we had bought a house in Madison, Wis. (everyone goes south, north, but our grandchildren all live in Madison with their parents and it is the first or second most livable city in the United States). I, on the other hand, had messed things up and was not entirely retired — I had only agreed to give up my office at the Rutgers School of Communication & Information. But on July 31, 2014, we saw everything we own packed into a moving van and we drove west to meet it.

“This past year we have been learning to handle the really cold weather (come visit; it is really cold). I was telecommuting about one week a month on-site at Rutgers and I put down some tendrils in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Wisconsin.

Interestingly, airfares from Madison to the places I have to go seem to be creeping up at an alarming rate. Along with this, I am continuing an exciting project with some brilliant younger people from Cornell and Columbia, which seeks to make information finding more collaborative and less about selling shoes.

“Other than this work stuff, Carole and I are learning to behave like retirees. With some encouragement from Lowell Goldsmith I am trying my hand at blogging and at writing some speculative (can we call it science?) fiction. It’s at pascallator.wordpress.com.

“But what to do with the available time, however much that may turn out to be? It is a difficult transition to make. I have a notebook with some 50 or so ideas that never quite made it all the way to being published, so perhaps I will chew on those for a while. The prime candidate is a paper I submitted in about 1972, commenting on a paradox that philosopher [Robert] Nozick discussed. The editors asked that I cite some ‘good reference about Quantum Mechanics, for philosophers.’

Every few years I looked for one; but by now I think philosophers have read enough about Quantum Weirdness that the reviewers will be ashamed to admit they don’t understand it. Besides, who can resist submitting a paper that has been with the author for revisions for 43 years? I also still dream of adding an instrument rating to my private pilot’s license (single engine land, for those who wonder). And I have kind of agreed to write a book about the roots of information retrieval, ignoring [Samuel] Johnson’s famous dictum, ‘No man but a blockhead ever wrote except for money.’

“So while we decide what to do, we’ve done a little traveling; we tacked a trip to Machu Picchu onto
our first visit to South America. This was our first experience of a tour where ‘handlers’ passed us from one guide to another and introduced us to drivers and all that good stuff. That Machu Picchu was built at all, in such an inaccessible place, truly tells us something about human beings. But what? The setting is breathtakingly grand.

“I have mentioned, in some earlier Class Notes, the pleasant Alternate Reunion that Ed Wolpow initiated some 35 years ago. It has been a beacon event for us. A few couples have been getting together, and in some cases adding the second and even the third generations as well, meeting in late summer or early fall, most recently in the Berkshires. If you are curious, get in touch with us (paul.kantor@rutgers.edu; when you are emeritus they let you keep your email account) or Ed. Be prepared for an astonishing and refreshing absence of bluster and pretense.

“I will resist the urge to natter on about politics. But I will recall a joke from our college days: that Tru- and even the third generations and in some cases adding the second and even the third generations as well, meeting in late summer or early fall, most recently in the Berkshires. If you are curious, get in touch with us (paul.kantor@rutgers.edu; when you are emeritus they let you keep your email account) or Ed. Be prepared for an astonishing and refreshing absence of bluster and pretense.

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of an excellent historic tour of the hotel, complete with photos of all the ‘movers and shakers’ who were guests: the British royal family, Henry Kissinger, the Clintons and a host of Nobel Laureates. “In July, Nina and I traveled to Sweden for a lovely two-week vacation in the province of Östergötland, with side trips to Stockholm and the beautiful Baltic Archipelago (a sailors’ dream). We are back home in Miami and preparing to visit our children and grandchildren.”

At this point the cookie jar is empty and I am asking you for contributions. You read them because you are interested in what your classmates are doing and have done. Well, they are interested in what is going on in your lives. Please contribute something, long or short. If you do not get emails from me that means that I don’t have your current email address; I will not reveal it to anyone without your permission. You can share news with me at nmgc59@gmail.com. [Editor’s note: You can also update your information with Columbia: college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.]

1960

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I had the pleasure of running into and chatting with Bob Abrams. Bob continues to be active in the practice of law and with his appointments for service in a variety of capacities on government matters. Bob and his wife, Diane LAW’65, take pride in their daughters, Rachel, an academic, author and teacher, and Becky, a lawyer; their sons-in-law, Ian and Dan; and five grandchildren, who range from 2 to 17. Bob’s long and illustrious career in public office as a member of the New York State Assembly, as borough president of the Bronx and as New York State attorney general (in which office he served for 14 years, winning three elections) have now been commemo-

It is occupied by the New York State Appellate Division for the Third Judicial Department and the New York State Court of Claims. In 2009 the building was renamed the Robert Abrams Building for Law and Justice: a most fitting tribute to a man who served with such devotion, distinction and integrity. Paul Nagano had a recent showing of his watercolors of Bali and Hawai’i at L’Arche Galerie in Honolulu. He was also a participant in the 27th Annual Shizuoka Friendship Postcard Art Competition in Hawaii. Paul’s entry, Parinirvana Before the Morning, was awarded the Hawaii Silver Award. In 2004, Paul was awarded the grand prize for a previous entry. His creative juices keep flowing and his recent work continues to be captivating and exquisite.

Following the journeys that classmates have traveled in careers and pursuits, having reached and passed the three-quarter century mark, and reflecting on his own life’s journey, Allan Chernoff wonders whether the concept of “retirement” that we grew up with is a concept as antiquated and unrelated to the lives we lead today as the dial telephone. Allan relates his personal journey and his thoughts on the matter: “Each issue of CCT brings information about my classmates that I eagerly follow to see what they’re doing and what they’ve achieved in their long, industrious and accomplished lives. I’d begun to see some patterns that got me thinking about how people describe themselves in terms of ‘retirement.’ That, in turn led me to suggest that we might now be able to change the nomenclature a little bit to be more accurate about what seems to be going on. I’m thinking that many of us never really did ‘retire’ in the common use of the word. What we really did, in today’s terms is ‘reboot’ ourselves.

“All this is what I mean ... as I look back over my life it seems clear that after graduation I began a 15-year period that, in retrospect, could be described as the ‘big corporate version of my life. I lived in New York City and had a satisfying career for companies like Procter & Gamble and Saatchi & Saatchi. I married, had a son and loved my Mad Men existence. Then, at 35, I ‘rebooted’ to Allan 2.0 and began a 15-year journey as an entrepreneur. I worked happening. I’m also bringing up this subject because it seems to apply to some of my classmates. While some of them continue in their chosen fields of endeavor, others have rebooted at least once and continue to actively and passionately pursue other sides of their personalities via such things as art, music, politics, travel, sports and philanthropy. I’d be interested in how classmates relate to these musings and to read their responses: retire or reboot.”

Congratulations to Bill Tenenbaum, who has been designated an Advisor of the American Board of Accredited Certifications, the only independent quality board in the United States and worldwide in confirming the safety and quality of goods and manufacturing.

1961

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Phil Cottone’s first great-grandchild, Matthew James Fishman, turned 1 in February. Phil believes he is the first in the class to have a great-grandchild, as he and his wife, Maureen, were the first to have three children at the time he graduated from the College: their oldest (Anthony ’80 and twins (one of whom, Jay, is the grandfather of Matthew and father of Ryan Cottone ’15).

On December 17, Bob Salmon was appointed by Gov. Chris Christie to New Jersey’s nine-member Council on Local Mandates. The counsel deals with challenges to alleged unfunded legislative mandates. By law, the governor had to appoint at least one Democrat and he chose Bob from a list of six submitted by the New Jersey Democratic State Chair.

Bob is a member of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee. He is also acting as a surrogate speaker for Hillary Clinton’s cam-
year. In the autumn term he will be a fellow at the Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in Uppsala, Sweden, and in the spring term he will be a fellow at the Institut d'Études Avancées de Paris. He will work on classical Greek and Roman ideas of gratitude and loyalty.

Andy Levine recently marked two milestones: his 75th birthday and the completion of a five-month winter stay at his and wife Toby’s recently-purchased condo in the Naples, Fla., area. Combined with late spring through early fall in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, Andy and Toby are fortunate to have the best of both worlds. Andy became involved with the Columbia University Club of Southwest Florida and met alums from other classes.

Sadly, two classmates’ deaths were reported recently. Burtt Ehrlich passed away on December 21, 2015, after an illness of several months. He was at home, surrounded by his loving family. Burtt’s lifelong commitment to Columbia College began when he received a full scholarship courtesy of General Motors. To honor him, his family started a scholarship fund in his honor at Columbia. Donations can be made to the Burtt R. Ehrlich Memorial Fund at Columbia College, Attn.: Sydney Maisel, Office of Alumni and Development, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4520, New York, NY 10025.

Sheldon Weinstein LAW’64 passed away on February 8, 2016, after a long illness. He was proud of Columbia, cherished his time there and followed alma mater’s doings throughout his life. His family and friends heard many of his fond stories from his time at Morningside Heights. He remained a devoted fan of Columbia athletics through years lean and successful and attended many games across a variety of sports. He practiced law in New Jersey, then transitioned into local government; he was proud to be in public service. He is survived by his children, Adam, David, Janet and Stephen; and grandchildren, Henry, Jonah, Charlotte and Sarah.

Burtt Ehrlich is a fellow at the Institut d’Etudes Avancées de Paris. He will work on classical Greek and Roman ideas of gratitude and loyalty.

John Freidin 654 E. Munger St. Middlebury, VT 05753 jf@bicyclvelt.com

Hal Watson (halprof39@aol.com) writes: “My wife, Jackie, and I are both retired college professors and live in East Texas near where I grew up. We enjoy a lake view, fishing and boating, and feeding the local birds and critters.

“We also enjoy movies and recently saw Trumbo. This film renewed memories of my freshman year in Livingston Hall. Next door were Crawford Kilian, Michael Butler and the now-deceased Christopher Trumbo ’64. All were Californians. Butler and Trumbo’s fathers had been punished by the House Un-American Activities Committee with jail time and blacklisting. I got quite an education from listening to their stories of their families’ difficulties during the Red Scare of the ’50s.

“Chris let me read his copy of his father’s successful book Johnny Got His Gun, about the horrors of war. He even let me read one or two of his father’s lengthy letters to him about the politics and injustices of the time. Imagine writing Oscar-winning screenplays under a pseudonym and not being able to get credit for it! Chris emulated his father by being a writer and working behind the scenes in the movie industry. After his death, his book about his father and the Hollywood Ten was the basis of Trumbo.

“There were many more experiences outside the classroom that I benefitted from. We all had special backgrounds, ambitions and talents, and we learned a great deal from one another. It was a good time to go to an extraordinary university.”

Steve Stein (sslbs@optonline.net) acknowledges that this is his first time contributing to our notes. If you haven’t yet done so, I hope you will follow Steve’s lead.

Steve writes, “I’ll just throw out some random thoughts.” He has been married to Linda Stein for 52 years and says, “She was the gal who went with me to every dance and prom in the four years I was at Columbia. We saw Carol Channing at one of them, and Brother Theodore at another. After senior prom we wound up on a triple date with Bart Nisonson and Bob Lefkowitz, driving in the fog to someone’s home in New Jersey.”

The Steins have five children and nine grandchildren. Their youngest daughter, Sara ’02, is married to Noah Lichtman ’01, and the couple lives in Morningside Heights. Noah works at Columbia as associate director of strategic communications of facilities and Sam is a science teacher in a local middle school. Their other children went to Lehigh, Union, Hartford and Harvard and, in Steve’s words, “include a doctor, lawyer, Indian chief and STEM teacher.”

Steve and Linda have lived in Westport, Conn., for 43 years and often see Leo Swergold “getting in his morning constitutionals at Compo Beach. We have dinner with Betty and Art Levy frequently — Art and I got our M.D.s together at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Art, Frank Strauss and I are on the organizing committee for our 50th Einstein reunion! Time flies when you’re having a good time! We’re looking forward to seeing Harvey Chertoff and Stu Silverman there.”

“I was an interventional radiologist most of my medical career and for the past seven years I’ve participated in the radiology teaching program at Bridgeport Hospital, the local Yale-affiliated health center. I work there three days a week with the residents. I always like to add: No more nights or weekends after a lifetime on-call every third night and third weekend!”

“So with that said I’m off to meet Linda, daughter Rebecca, and grandchildren Jessie and Lizzie for dinner. By the way — no joke — at bedtime I always sang to my kids (and continue to sing to my grandkids) ‘Roar, Lion, Roar!'”

On March 10, Bill Campbell wrote: “Still living in Palo Alto, Calif., and recently retired from Intuit. Remarried. And very happy.” As you surely know by now, Bill passed away on April 18. Nearly every national news and business publication bemoaned his loss and extolled his influence, generosity, modesty and character. He was a leader and friend to all of us. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries.]

Steve Larsen (stephen@stonemountaincenter.com) recently turned 75 and realized he will never stop working. You can best see what he and his wife, Robin, do on two interesting websites: stonemountaincenter.com and symbolicstudies.org, the not-for-profit Robin founded.

Recently Steve finished a book on dreams that he’s been working on for several years. It will be published in 2017. He has written on a variety of other subjects; in his words: “clearly establishing what I do with my attention deficit disorder.” These subjects vary from mythology, to his first love, to early work with Joseph Campbell ’25, to shamanism, to brain science or neuro-feedback (which is what Steve does for a living) to a book on Fundamentalism (The Fundamentalist Mind, which he wrote because, “I thought — still think — certain habits of thought are destroying the world.”) He adds, “I still think fondly of Columbia College and the time I spent with some very good people.”

Writing from St. Petersburg, Fla., Geza Feketekuty (geza@ AOL.com) says: “I am mostly retired, living in St. Pete Beach during the winter and in the D.C. area in the summer. I do an occasional teaching assignment in locations around the world, and recently taught a course on trade negotiating skills to officials of the government of Laos. A few years ago I wrote a textbook, Policy Development and Negotiations in International Trade. I planned to
return to Laos in May to help Lao officials develop courses."

Geza has spent his career writing, lecturing and consulting on a range of trade topics. He has taught courses on trade negotiating techniques in China, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, India, Barbados, Trinidad, Egypt, South Africa, Vienna, Barcelona and Geneva. He has written numerous articles and books, including a path-breaking book on trade in services, International Trade in Services: An Overview and Blueprint for Negotiations. For 21 years Geza served with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in senior positions related to trade and international negotiations. Prior to that, he served as an economist in the Office of Management and Budget, as a senior economist with the Council of Economic Advisers and on the Economic Council in the White House. He also taught at Johns Hopkins, Cornell and Princeton. Subsequently he founded and was president of the Institute for Trade and Commercial Diplomacy, a nonprofit devoted to the development of training materials in commercial diplomacy.

Gerry Sorin (gerald.sorin70@gmail.com) is completing his 50th consecutive year at SUNY New Paltz as a Distinguished Professor of American and Jewish Studies, and his 26th year at the university as director of the Louis and Mildred Resnick Institute for the Study of Modern Jewish Life. His tenure was interrupted only by service as an exchange professor at Utrecht University in 1992 and as Fulbright’s John Adams Distinguished Chair of American Studies at the Radboud University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands in 1998. His golden anniversary will be marked by panel presentations by his friend and colleague Deborah Dash Moore, the director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies and a Frederick G.L. Huetwell Professor of History at Michigan; Mark Lapping, his former student and professor emeritus and provost at the University of Southern Maine and Gerry's friend, William Strongin, director of Jewish Studies at New Paltz and rabbi of the Reconstructionist New Paltz Jewish Congregation.

Joe Nozzolio (nozzolio@adl.com) writes, addressed to me: "Thinking of you watching your senator, Bernie Sanders, making it a contest against Hillary. Wouldn't it be great to have a New Yorker elected this year? Will let you figure out which New Yorker I'm talking about."

Joe manages the books as treasurer for two homeowner associations, one in Augusta, Ga., the other in Margate, N.J., where he and his wife have a summer home. He plays golf a couple of times a week, as does his wife, and they play together in a couples' group once a month.

As of this writing they were looking forward to the May graduation of their oldest grandson from the Watson School of Engineering & Applied Science at Binghamton. Their middle grandson was accepted early decision at Cornell for this September's class. Joe claims he tried to get him to enroll at Columbia but, living on Long Island, the young man wanted to go "away" to school. His mother, Joe's daughter, also went to Cornell as did his two brothers and son. Joe wonders: "How did I go to Columbia?"

His only granddaughter is a freshman at UC Berkeley, where she plays basketball — not for Gene Auriemma's basketball dynasty, but for the school's club team. Although she was a star in high school, earning "Most Valuable" on her team and all-conference, "UC's b-ball is in another universe."

Joe keeps in touch with his "roomie" John Golembie, "not enough, but sporadically, via email. We are trying to plan a get-together before our next class reunion."

Anthony Veliero (avalerio@wesleyan.edu) sends a "general salute to my classmates," and reports that he's "recovering from knee joint replacement which, for me, has been barbaric. Rehab each and every day. Holding on to humor and spirit. Just a fool playing so much golf after working all day; could be I just used them up. I'm in Connecticut, slowed afoot but not of heart. Any classmates nearby, please stop by."

Writing from New York, Fred Modell continues his important work to help children with Primary Immunodeficiency disease. He writes: "One milestone that may be of interest is taking place this June in Beverly Hills. Vicki, my wife, and I will be celebrating 30 years of the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, a public charity dedicated to children with Primary Immunodeficiency disease. This condition took our son's life in 1986. The 30-year 'summit' symposium will include Jeffrey Modell directors from 250 academic institutions in 84 countries, spanning six continents. The meeting will open and close with presentations by Nobel Laureates.

"At that time, we hope to announce that as a result of our efforts during the past six years, every newborn in the United States will be screened for Severe Combined Immunodeficiency, sometimes referred to as 'Bubble Boy Disease,' a life-threatening condition that is curable. We have implemented newborn screening in 49 states, D.C. and Navajo Nation. We just have to convince Missouri. Anyone have an idea?"

"We are still active and gratified by foundation activities as we try to help families and their physicians around the world. We collaborate with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization and many governments. If any of you are in airports or shopping malls, you can spot JMF's public service advertising campaign, 'When I Grow Up.' Snap a selfie, let us know where you took it, and send it to fmodell@jnfworklong. That way, we'll only see our ads, but we'll also find out whether any of us really 'grow up.'"

Fred, your class thanks and honors you and Vicki for this critical work and your unceasing devotion to it.

John Garman BUS'67 (john@garman.net) writes: "Five years ago, my wife, Nancy, and I moved from Anderson, S.C., to Durham, N.C. We really enjoy the Triangle. Two grandchildren make it even better! Here we sit among three major universities, two renowned medical schools, the center of state government, a major research park, athletics teams that attract fans from around the nation and 70-85 degree weather in March! This summer I will take a two-week train ride beginning in Moscow, traveling through Siberia down into Mongolia, and ending in Beijing. Looking forward especially to seeing Lake Baikal and the Mongolian countryside. It will be my fifth trip to Russia and third to China. Should be a lot of fun, and I hope to meet a number of interesting people."

Dan Fife (d_fife@verizon.net) practices aikido, is an epidemiologist for Johnson & Johnson, and walks and bicycles with his wife of more than 40 years. Their three grown children and two small grandchildren are thriving. "Briefly," in his words, "a very good situation."

1963

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I hope this issue finds you reading CCT on a beach under the shade of an umbrella and enjoying the warm ocean breeze. At least that is my dream as I write these notes on a too-cool early spring day. You will find that they are shorter than usual. That is because you have not written. Please write.

This season has been the best in 50 years for Columbia basketball. I have only been able to follow it on WKCR and when games have been televised on cable, but at least three of our intrepid classmaters have made it to Levien Gym for the home games (or at least most of them). A toast to Henry Black, Doron Gopstein and Lee Lowenfish for keeping me up to date on the exploits of Maodo Lo '16, Alex Rosenberg '16, Grant Mullins '16 and the rest.

Ben Tua recently published an article on the likely implications of the July 14 nuclear agreement with Iran. It is available at sipri.org/how-the-iran-deal-could-reshape-the-middle-east.

Ben reports that this is the most recent of a number of occasional analytical pieces on foreign policy issues, primarily related to the former Soviet Union and its successor states and the Middle East. His work has appeared in the Foreign Service Journal as well as on sites such as the Institute for Policy Studies, Foreign Policy in Focus, and Middle East Online. Ben also has been invited to speak on TV and radio programs with a foreign policy orientation. He draws on a career in the United States diplomatic service, which included six years in various parts of the former Soviet Union, as well as tours in Brazil, Israel, Italy, Japan and southern Africa.

Ben and his wife, Pat, have been married for 46 years. They live in McLean, Va., and have two children. His son, Jonathan Tua '98, lives in New York with his wife, Premilla.

Lee Lowenfish was recently interviewed in the Ken Burns PBS documentary Jackie Robinson. He continues to write about all things baseball and has missed the latest class lunches, as he follows the Tampa Bay Rays and the Cuban National Team in Havana in March, Lee sent this link to me about his article on Cuban baseball: thenationalpastimuseum.com/article/baseball-loving-cubans-look-forward-improved-american-relations.

Nick Zill keeps me filled in on his family studies blog. He writes, “You may be interested in reading my recent blog post, ‘Does the ‘Marriage of Equals’ Exacerbate Educational Inequality?’ You can find it here: family-studies.org/does-the-marriage-of-equals-exacerbate-educational-inequality. It challenges the shibboleth that family income is key to student achievement.”

Larry Neuman has continued to develop large-scale solar projects in New Jersey and his company, EffiSolar, will have nearly 100 megawatts in operation by the end of the year. Seeking opportunities in renewable energy, he has recently set up branch operations in Israel, where he is developing both solar and wind projects with a focus on the Golan Heights. His son, Andreas Neuman ’98, left active duty as a major in the Air Force. After graduating with an M.B.A. from the Anderson School at UCLA in 2013, Andreas founded UAV-IQ, a company dedicated to using unmanned aircraft for precision agriculture, with planned activities in California, Chile and Israel. Larry's wife, Ursula Ise-Neuman, recently left the Museum of Arts and Design after 22 years as curator of contemporary jewelry and continues to curate exhibitions and write on that subject.

Don Margolis writes, “From March 24 to 27, my brother Jim Margolis ’58 and I spent four days following and watching the Columbia men’s and women’s team compete to defend their National Collegiate Fencing Championship at Brandeis. This was my first visit to the NCAAs since 1963, when Jay Lustig, Steve Cetrulo and I won the National Championship at the Air Force Academy. Much has changed since then, foremost that the title combines both men and women now.

“It is also more difficult to stand for eight hours a day for four days than to fence for two days. The event was very competitive, with the women leading the way after the first two days, but only by two wins ahead of Notre Dame. The men then took over and while they increased the lead to 13 after the first day, it got much closer with Columbia winning by seven over Ohio State. In addition, Columbia had tremendous support from teammates and fans who joined us at Brandeis.”

Congratulations to the fencing team for keeping the National Championship at Columbia!

Zev bar-Lev (né Rob Lefkovitz) writes, “My new book, Tune Up Your Brain...with the Global Alphabet has recently been published by Cognella Academic Publishing. This book is based on my growing workshops of this name for seniors, given in San Diego and beyond. “The global alphabet” is my theory of language universals (after four decades of research and teaching, especially of Hebrew), such as L meaning 'Lift.' Examples of this are present in Hebrew (Lè-Lè and L’Gaud’); in English (Lift, Loft, Ladle, eLever, eLavant, aLps, eLyium, Lip, Leg, Limb, eLbow and even oLd); in Spanish (Leva la Lengua); and even Chinese (Laozhe ‘oLi one,’ the author of Daoism). Attendees decipher words and verses of classic literature in a dozen languages via the global alphabet.”

And, last but not least, Richard Tuerk, professor emeritus at Texas A&M University-Commerce writes, “On April 10, I was honored with an inscribed brick in Authors Park in Commerce, Texas. At a very pleasant ceremony, I was presented with a brick to take home and with another brick in Author’s Park Walkway. The bricks were all salvaged from streets in downtown Commerce.”

Richard, this sounds like something Columbia should do with the old bricks in College Walk.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you’re in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches — the last one before summer break is scheduled for July 14. We will start again in the fall on September 8 and then meet again on October 13 — it’s always the second Thursday. Check ccf3ers.com for details (if you’re lucky, I will have updated it).

1964

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The Columbia basketball season came to a great conclusion: The team had the winningest season in College history (25-10) and, for the first time, a Columbia team won a post-season tournament, the CollegeInsider.com Tournament.

Cheering the team on at home games was a contingent of CC’64 stalwarts: Kevin DeMarrais, Howard Jacobson, Gil Kahn and Ivan Weissman, together with Lee Lowenfish ’63, Doron Gopstein ’63, Henry Black ’63 and Ernie Brod ’58. When next season comes around, stop by for a few games.

Tony David and Peter Thall joined a group of San Francisco litigators for a jazz cruise to the Caribbean. While on the cruise, Peter put the finishing touches on what will be the third edition of What They’ll Never Tell You About the Music Business, which will come out in August. The book has been called “the industry bible.”

In March 2015, to celebrate their 25th anniversary, Jerry Oster and his wife, Trisha, took a trip to Ireland and Scotland. The first stop in Ireland was Newgrange, a megalithic passage tomb more than 5,000 years old. Jerry filled out an entry form to be among 100 people who would be permitted in the tomb as the sun rose during the winter solstice — the shortest day and the longest night of the year. There were 30,475 applications; Jerry won and on December 20, 2015, he was among the 20 people in the tomb at 8:58 a.m. (10 people that day, with their guests).

He says, “We saw a golden bracelet of light on the floor of the chamber. It grew wider and longer until the chamber was bright enough that we could see one another’s faces. Some of us, at the invitation of our guide, placed objects in the beam of light. Someone put down a ring, someone else a bracelet. I put down my 24-year Alcoholics Anonymous medallion. The exact 2015 December solstice was on December 22 at 04:48 GMT. It rained or was overcast on all but one of the observation days — December 20. There were no cheers from those of us fortunate to be inside the chamber on that day. We were all in tears.”

Gary Schonwald, in from London, joined classmates at the March informal class lunch in New York, and Beril Lapon announced he was about to make his 90th business trip to Mexico.

Ephraim Cohen has become a grandfather — young Benjamin Cohen lives in Los Angeles with his parents, Gabriel and Tasha.

Michael Kerbel has been at Yale since 1990, where he is the director of the Film Study Center.

Two personal notes: First, in an interesting and important case addressing patient rights, I persuaded the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, to reinstate a claim that a hospital and a surgeon violated physician-patient confidentiality when they permitted a television camera crew to film the diagnosis and treatment of a patient in the operating room of the hospital's emergency room without the consent of the patient or the patient's family.

Second, my son Alexander has opened a movie theater on the Lower East Side, The Metograph. It has two screens, a restaurant and a bookstore, and shows an assortment of classics, premieres and documentarians.
James Cariffo (James_Cariffo@um.edu): “Mike and Len: I just finished a quick scan of all of the class bios you sent. You guys should be really proud of yourselves; it is an impressive job and great piece of work that we all should be very proud of! I also think that there is an incredible ‘narrative’ in there that might be worth teasing out (and I am sure that there will be more than one person interested in doing that narrative), if it has not already been done. I will try to do a slower read when the semester is over, but the flash scan of the words and stories of my classmates gave me a better sense of my life and those times and from then until today in terms of peers I knew and mostly loved — it even excited the old novelist itch in me, as we were/are a unique group who flowed down the major tributaries of very interesting times. Again, a job well done and a big thank you for a challenging work well done — you’ve got me looking forward to the 75-year chronicles’ now.

“But I must confess to you that I shed a few tears reading the list of classmates who are no longer with us, many of whom I knew but particularly Kim Ziegler, who was my roommate. I had not seen him since graduation, but he drove from Cincinnati and found me in Boston and spent three days with me about a month before he passed to say goodbye and reflect about two poor kids who lived together in Hamilton Hall, helping each other get through each day to graduation. It was when Kim drove off that last day that I really knew the value of my Columbia education and all he had contributed to my life. As I said, it was a unique class with many unique people in it. And again thank you guys for a really good time through those sagas.”

Steve Danenberg (mdandenberg@comcast.net): “Wow! Thank you, thank you, thank you for pulling all that stuff together into a monumental work. I know I’ll have many fascinating hours, days, weeks and years reading over and savoring the adventures, the lives and the thoughts of my classmates … Again, thank you both.”

Andy Fisher (andrewsfisheriv@gmail.com) added some news to his appreciation: “Thank you, Michael, and thank you, Len, for your hard work in compiling the stories of our lives. It was a phenomenal undertaking, and you did it well. I shall be back at Columbia for a Korean musical event I brought back from Korea to Glasgow in 1988, and I’ll play in Seoul at the festival. I began as a birthday present for my late music teacher. She had intended to learn to play it after she retired; as you [may] know she never got the chance to retire, so I gave the gayageum to the Center for Ethnic Musicology at Columbia. As is the case with the concert harp I gave to St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Columbia did not have a gayageum in its collection and now it does. A talented student of the center’s director is expected to play the gayageum at the event next month. She and her teacher supervised its restoration, which, among other things, involved the removal of a deep layer of crud that had accumulated during the years it sat in our attic. I continue to look for ways to give to Columbia that do not involve the spending of precious retirement resources. Thanks again for your marvelous work.”

Andy wrote again after receiving the Spring 2016 issue: “Your most considerate inclusion of my email address in Class Notes gave me my first contact in 50 years with Phil Abramowitz ’66, my Fumadal roommate for 1½ years. Phil is an attorney living in the Buffalo area, retired from full-time practice. It was a delightful surprise to hear from him, and I have you to thank for it.”

So by all means take advantage of the email addresses included in this column and get in touch with your classmates. (Then, of course, be sure to tell me about it for the next Class Notes!)

Joel Berger (mazberger@gmail.com), who represents plaintiffs in suits against the New York City Police Department, has been in the news several times lately, both the Village Voice on November 3, 2015 (search “Joel Berger gravity knife” on villagevoice.com), and the New York Daily News on August 28, 2015 (search “Joel Berger gravity knife” on nytimes.com). The Village Voice pointed out that New York City has paid out at least $347,500 across the last five years for false arrest and malicious prosecution claims relating to the police department’s enforcement of New York’s “gravity knife” statute. The Village Voice quoted Joel as saying, “There have been so many reports of people who possess ordinary utility knives, often for use in their jobs, and police officers literally just make up a claim that it really is a gravity knife.” Joel said that the police officers’ goal is to “get an extra collar on their record.”

Joel was also quoted in a New York Times article on February 29 about the New York Civilian Complaint Review Board’s analysis of unlawful police searches of people’s homes (search “Joel Berger civil complaint” on nytimes.com). The board report, based on a review of hundreds of police cases, found scores of incidents in which police officers misapplied or misunderstood the legal standards of one of the most invasive law enforcement tactics: entering a person’s home. The article states: “A search of a person’s home is at the heart of the Fourth Amendment and one of the most frequently litigated areas of criminal procedure,” said Joel Berger, a former executive in the city’s Law Department who now represents plaintiffs in suits against the police department. The police must have a warrant approved by a judge to enter a home, and the burden is on law enforcement to prove that an exception is justified, such as when a person inside might be in danger. Such ‘exigent circumstances’ are often cited by the police when they enter without a warrant, but Mr. Berger said the evidence frequently fell short.

1965

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After many months of hard work, both before and after our class’ 50th reunion in June 2015, our “Class of 1965 50th Reunion Book” was distributed by email in March to all classmates for whom we have email addresses. If you are reading this and did not receive a copy, please let me know and I will arrange to have a copy emailed to you. Thanks are due to each of the more than 100 classmates who submitted their thoughtful, witty and often profound remarks on their time at Columbia, their lives after graduation and their thoughts about our world. While the Reunion Book has been a collaborative effort, special thanks must go to Michael Schlanger, who, with his assistant, Nicole Jackson, labored tirelessly to encourage classmates to fill out and submit their questionnaires, then edited and collated the responses, added current and vintage 1965 photographs and published and distributed the compilation. Our class’ experience has been immeasurably enriched by these bountiful labors.

In the Fall 2015 issue, the online version of my column included an “In Memoriam” list of classmates. I am happy to let you know that we have since had a Mark Twain moment with respect to that list: The passing of Frank Rosenthal turns out to have been greatly exaggerated.

A number of classmates wrote to express their appreciation for the Reunion Book. Here are two examples:

James Cariffo (James_Cariffo@um.edu): “Mike and Len: I just finished a quick scan of all of the class bios you sent. You guys should be really proud of yourselves; it is an impressive job and great piece of work that we all should be very proud of! I also think that there is an incredible ‘narrative’ in there that might be worth teasing out (and I am sure that there will be more than one person interested in doing that narrative), if it has not already been done. I will try to do a slower read when the semester is over, but the flash scan of the words and stories of my classmates gave me a better sense of my life and those times and from then until today in terms of peers I knew and mostly loved — it even excited the old novelist itch in me, as we were/are a unique group who flowed down the major tributaries of very interesting times. Again, a job well done and a big thank you for a challenging work well done — you’ve got me looking forward to the 75-year chronicles’ now.

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So by all means take advantage of the email addresses included in this column and get in touch with your classmates. (Then, of course, be sure to tell me about it for the next Class Notes!)

Joel Berger (mazberger@gmail.com), who represents plaintiffs in suits against the New York City Police Department, has been in the news several times lately, both the Village Voice on November 3, 2015 (search “Joel Berger gravity knife” on villagevoice.com), and the New York Daily News on August 28, 2015 (search “Joel Berger gravity knife” on nytimes.com). The Daily News reported in the citizen’s voice.com), and the Village Voice quoted Joel as saying, “There have been so many reports of people who possess ordinary utility knives, often for use in their jobs, and police officers literally just make up a claim that it really is a gravity knife.” Joel said that the police officers’ goal is to “get an extra collar on their record.”

Joel was also quoted in a New York Times article on February 29 about the New York Civilian Complaint Review Board’s analysis of unlawful police searches of people’s homes (search “Joel Berger civil complaint” on nytimes.com). The board report, based on a review of hundreds of police cases, found scores of incidents in which police officers misapplied or misunderstood the legal standards of one of the most invasive law enforcement tactics: entering a person’s home. The article states: “A search of a person’s home is at the heart of the Fourth Amendment and one of the most frequently litigated areas of criminal procedure,” said Joel Berger, a former executive in the city’s Law Department who now represents plaintiffs in suits against the police department. The police must have a warrant approved by a judge to enter a home, and the burden is on law enforcement to prove that an exception is justified, such as when a person inside might be in danger. Such ‘exigent circumstances’ are often cited by the police when they enter without a warrant, but Mr. Berger said the evidence frequently fell short.
Bill Goring (home@nutmegbooks.com) was featured in an article in the Torrington, Conn., Republican American on December 2, 2015 (rep-am.com/articles/2015/12/27/news/local/929683.ct). Bill sustained several injuries while operating the West Side Ju-Jitsu Club in New York in his late 20s. This has caused him to decide to sell about 15,000 books to balance his inventory at his shop, Nutmeg Books in Connecticut. Bill has about 10,000 books in his personal library and another 5,000 in storage. Dan Waitzman (danwaitz@sprynet.com) writes, "I was touched to find my name mentioned in Gene Feldman's piece in Class Notes in the Winter 2015–16 issue, along with other classmates. Unfortunately, a total knee replacement (from which I am still recovering) prevented me from attending our reunion. Gene's generosity of spirit, which I remember well, comes through clearly in his letter. Also worthy of note are the letters of Stan Feinsood and Tom Guattieri — and indeed, of all of the other contributors to the column. The problem with college, as I see it, is that it was, in some measure, wasted on the young. "I did not appreciate until much later many of the teachings to which I was exposed as a callow youth — indeed, I am still struggling to absorb some of them. Likewise, I had too little life experience to appreciate fully the wisdom of my classmates. As an example of the former, Plato's metaphor of the cave is, I believe, central to the practice of music, of many other arts, and of many other disciplines as well (from the most commonplace to the most elevate), but I did not see it then. Perhaps one should postpone college until the fifth decade of one's life.”

1966

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Well, gentlemen, although I write this in anticipation of the event, you are reaching it afterward. I refer of course to our 50th reunion. I compliment the classmates who gave so much of their time and treasure to make this happen — the members of the 50th Reunion Committee. Not only were a great many hours expended by these guys in the planning, but also personal and significant financial contributions were made by many of them in order to defray the individual costs for everyone else. These were not class gifts, but direct contributions to the actual events. Cases of excellent wines, liquors and money for the cocktail party and the cruise all came from the committee.


We will describe more of the activities and attendees in our next column.

From Michael Harrison: "I enjoy hearing about the adventures and experiences of fellow alumni, including many whom I did not know during college. I recently shared some experiences with Ken Fox, who had a letter in the Winter 2015–16 CCT about his work on Robert Merton and early sociology. I am still doing something sociological, to use Ken's expression, but I rarely use that label. I am in my 13th year at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, a small agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services that conducts and funds research on the care delivery and related topics. I investigate ways to improve care organization and workflow and figure out how to implement recommended changes. As one of the few people in the agency with background in management/organization studies and in qualitative social research, I serve as an internal resource person in these areas. I find this second career very stimulating and rewarding. My wife, JoAnn Harrison BC'66, has been volunteering for the Office of Consumer Protection of Montgomery, Md.

"We have three granddaughters who live nearby and with whom we often spend parts of weekends and school vacations. I am active in our local synagogue and sing with the American University Chorus." John Nossel writes: "It's good to be alive! While that may sound trite, I have survived nine near-death experiences. My first "Homecoming" occurred in June 1979, when I had brain surgery at Columbia's medical school. The reunion in June promised to be more joyful. "I've been an architect in The Palm Beaches, Fla., since 1972 — at one time I was a project architect for a firm on Worth Avenue for 10 years and at another time I was chief architect with the largest developer in the area for nearly five years. I was laid off in 1991, but soon afterward built our family home while unemployed. Construction appealed to me and I also became a general contractor, incorporating as Creative Custom Designs in 1998. I married my ideal woman, Janet, on June 1, 1968, exactly two years after graduating from Columbia, and have been blessed by our children, Julie, Laura and Peter, as well as by being the caregiver for my 102-year-old mom. God has given me a remarkable life and I've recently published my story, Walking Time Bomb: How God Rescued Me From Death Nine Times, it's available at Barnes & Noble and on Amazon. After total silence for CCT since graduation, I thought it's getting to be my last chance to update. Forgive the length, but it's been more than 50 years. My narrative begins with me an hour from the end of Commencement, when I opened the blue envelope to find not my diploma but a bill for a library fine (actually one I had paid). Rather than argue, my dad came up with the cash to ransom the diploma."

From Franklin Merin: "After 10 weeks of hitchhiking around Europe after graduation, I surrendered myself to Harvard's Department of Chemistry to start a Ph.D., 1966 being the last year of guaranteed graduate student deferments. Since I was a chemistry major at the College, that's what I was going to study and I was going to finish or else deal with the draft. In between synthesizing and hydrolyzing cyclic phosphate esters (allegedly RNA models), I had time for the Dow recruiter blockade at Mallinckrodt Hall, the sanctuary at the MIT Student Center (where I met my
wife, Jeanne, who was a law student legal observer), the March 4 science research strike (which launched a science and social issues general education course), the 1969 Harvard strike and the 1970 national student strike against the Cambodian invasion and the killings of students at Jackson State and Kent State. Maybe Harvard accepted my thesis in 1972 to get rid of me.

"I post doc'd in toxicology at [what is now called] the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, changing my focus from pesticides to occupational health. While I was searching for an academic job, the United Automobile Workers (UAW) labor union called me and gave me an opportunity as an industrial hygienist in 1975. So I started 31 years in Detroit, all living below Eight Mile Road. My Columbia education prepared me for sleeping on the floor in the General Motors Building, a feature of contract negotiations. As the labor guy with a Ph.D., I got pulled into all kinds of scientific and policy processes at the national level, including a couple of National Academy of Sciences committees. The UAW got a lot done in occupational safety and health while I was there. It's hard to summarize 31 years without it sounding like a job application, but I want to put something in this paragraph to balance the 10 years in Cambridge. There were about a dozen OSHA standards, multiple congressional testimonies and a part in building a model health and safety program with the car companies.

"Along the way, my son Michael Miler '02, who also lived in New (Carman) Hall for a time, was editor of Spectator, was a journalist and is now near a Ph.D. in communications at Wisconsin. My daughter, Elisabeth, has a master's in library science and is associate director of campaigns for Wayne State School of Medicine. In 2006, approaching retirement age at UAW, I got myself hired as professor of environmental and occupational health at Hunter, and now the CUNY School of Public Health. I live in Brooklyn, about three blocks from where I started in 1946. Jeanne practices employment law and is active in international human rights. I've been hanging out with the Columbia University Marching Band some. My motto is 'If I can't stay young, at least I can act immature.'

David Tilman: "I had a very eventful year! First and foremost, our son, Rabbi Howard Jonah Tilman, was married to Naomi Karp on December 13 at the Jacksonville Jewish Center, a large Conservative congregation where Howard is Second Rabbi. In my own cantorial career, I always told brides and grooms that the most important component of the wedding was the music — the right band makes the celebration memorable! My wife, Ellen, and I brought down to Jacksonville the best wedding band we know, Nafshenu Orchestra, from Lawrence, N.Y. What dancing and what a party we had!"

"The last year was eventful for me professionally. On November 15, I conducted the New York premiere of Sacred Rights, Sacred Song, a 55-minute cantata on issues of concern in Israel. I conducted 20 professional Philadelphia-based singers and students of the H.L. Miller Cantorial School of the Jewish Theological Seminary (accompanied by an-11 member chamber orchestra) at Congregation Anshe Chesed. The performance was reviewed by Lilith magazine (lilith.org/blog/2015/11/sacred-rights-in-a-time-of-terror)."

"On January 31, I conducted a large (80 singers) community chorus and instrumental ensemble in a Leonard Bernstein centennial concert — featuring a full performance of the Chichester Psalms, short works of Jewish content and selections from MASS, Peter Pan, Candide and West Side Story — at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, Pa., where I am choral director."

"On May 15, I was scheduled to receive an honorary doctorate from Gratz College in Philadelphia. "At this writing I am looking forward to seeing many of our classmates at our 50th reunion!"

From Jim O'Brien: "All these years I have kept the Columbia College Bulletin for the academic year 1965–66. On page 182 are the average expenses for the academic year: 1. Tuition and fees for a full program: $1,934; 2. Board in a University dining room: $465; 3. Board in a University dining room: $600; and 4. Books and supplies: $110. Total costs were about $3,100 plus some other modest expenses. I understand the total is now about $6,600!"

"Occasionally I look at the courses that were offered. Many of the professors I had were superb, including Peter B. Kenen '54, economics; Joseph Rothschild '52, GSAS '52, communist politics in Eastern Europe; Alan F. Westin, the Supreme Court and the Constitution; James Young, seminar in political leadership; and Nicholas Oxenov GSAS '58, Russian language. One day Professor Kenen had to travel to Washington, D.C., and our substitute teacher was Milton Friedman! Rock star!"

Jenik Radon '67 (left) was awarded Estonia's Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana by Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76 on February 23. The award is for service to the Republic of Estonia.
I reclaimed the premises of the U.S. Embassy by expelling Kommomol (the Soviet Youth League) from the embassy. Before that I organized the first private, school-to-school exchange with the then-Soviet Union, which took place in occupied Estonia with boys and girls basketball teams from Dalton H.S. in New York going to Estonia and Estonian high school teams coming to New York. This was followed by several high school academic exchanges.

"After independence I established the Eesti Fellowship program at the College, which has sent more than 100 students to intern in Estonia, including with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Estonian Privatization Office, other government offices and the media. Several interns worked on the Estonian application to the European Union as well as other projects. Many of these College students won Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright and other prestigious fellowships.

"I also organized a program to bring Estonian students to the United States for college and university education, including Kristel Kalissaa-Hunt ’94, PS98, who entered the College as a student from the Soviet Union and graduated as an Estonian citizen. Another Estonian student was Erki Virand ’97. Several students were enrolled at the Journalism School, Barnard, Penn, the Rhode Island School of Design, Harvard, Middlebury and other schools. All received full scholarships.

"I co-authored a number of Estonian laws, including the foreign investment, mortgage/pledge, privatization and corporate laws. I was one of the architects of Estonia’s privatization, which is the most successful privatization in the world, and I am very proud of my contribution to the Estonian privatization law. I was awarded the Medal of Distinction of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and now Estonia’s Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana. The above is only part of what I did, as Estonia has been part of my life since 1988 during its struggle for independence, of which I am proud of playing a part."

Josh Leinsdorf writes: "Ed Yasuna inspired me to write. I arrived at Columbia as a physics major but, after two spats with the department, switched to English. My plan for taking all required courses in the first two years, with an idyllic last two years taking nothing but electives, was ruined by the intrusion of the Vietnam War. My only extracurricular was as a member of the Citizenship Council, tutoring a high school student from Harlem.

"I left graduate school one month before the riots to go to Wisconsin, where I filled a vacuum and became national travel coordinator in press advance for Eugene McCarthy’s campaign. I was in Indianapolis when Martin Luther King Jr. was killed and in Santa Monica, Calif., when Kennedy was shot. After a summer in D.C., I went to Chicago for the convention. I returned to New York to await my draft notice and, after being rejected, I worked for New York City and on NYC Mayor John Lindsay’s reelection campaign. In 1970, I was elected to Community School District No. 3 Board in the first decentralization contest.

"During the Lindsay campaign, I met my mentor, Robert B. Brady ’42, LAW’48, who taught me most of what I know about the mechanics of elections, like how to get candidates on and off the ballot. We reappor tioned the Brooklyn City Council districts under a federal court order to achieve a better racial balance. Just before Brady died of an aneurysm, I learned he had been a hero, rescuing people from the 1942 Cocoanut Grove fire disaster in Boston while he was at Harvard training for submarine service in the Navy.

"I have applied my physics training to political science and become a psephologist, learning how democratic elections affect government policy. I have spent my life trying to answer the question, ‘How could the people vote overwhelmingly for [Lyndon B.] Johnson, the peace candidate in 1964, and then get the war policy of his opponent?’

"Since moving to Atlantic Highlands, N.J., in the late 70s, I have been running independent, issue-oriented campaigns that succeeded in bringing cable television to Monmouth County seven years before New York’s outer boroughs, getting a ferry to New York, getting rid of an asbestos ceiling in the local county library, raising high school graduation standards, building sidewalks and turning the amusement, abandoned railroad right-of-way into a bike path (which took 31 years). After becoming a victim of a local SLAPP suit (strategic lawsuit against public participation), we were forced to move to Princeton, where I was elected to three terms on the local school board and taught in Trenton.

"My three proudest failures are: writing a letter to Mike Dukakis in March 1987 telling him not to run for President because he could not win, suggesting a negotiated settlement to Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait that was considered by the National Security Council but rejected in favor of war (although the basic outline of my settlement is now happening on the ground thanks to the invasion of Iraq and ISIS) and telling several people during the fight over the outcome of the 2000 election ‘If Bush is selected, we’ll be at war in six months.’

"My most satisfying personal accomplishment is that I do two full splits every morning, one on each side, and have been doing so for 34 years.

"My relationship with Columbia has been somewhat ambivalent. Bob Brady’s son, Chris Brady ’73, LAW’75, was the law partner of one of our classmates who had belonged to a fraternity. Chris told me one day, ‘I can’t believe that you two went to the same college.’

"I am sorry not to be 50 years younger because the quality of scholarship and knowledge is so much higher than it was when we were in school. I’m hoping for another decade or two of reading and working for fair elections and peace.”

1968

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Greetings to the Class of 1968. I received a note from Ross Ain noting the large list of CC’68 contributors to the College; I thank Ross for his efforts. I am sure the list will grow.

Our 50th reunion is around the corner and I have spoken to the Alumni Office about food for our class dinner; food is always a good topic. I have an idea that we have international cuisine in Low Library instead of beef or chicken.

Before I go on, I think I have misplaced a couple of Class Notes from you. I need to be a bit more disciplined. If I have missed an update, which I believe I have, I apologize.

I saw Art Kaufman a couple of times this year — I gather he is spending more time in California with his family — when we were at Columbia basketball games, in particular when the team won the CollegeInsider.com Tournament. That was an incredible performance, lead by Maodo Lo ’16, the MVP (from Germany), Grant Mullins ’16 (from Canada), Alex Rosenberg ’16 (from New Jersey) and Isaac Cohen ’16 (from Florida). Lo and Mullins arc, I am sure, the best back court in the league; earlier in the season Rosenberg hit the winning bucket with the clock down to less than a second to beat Harvard at the buzzer; and Isaac was an incredible rebounder and assist star. Great basketball, as Art would agree. Paul de Bary was there for many of the games, as were Bob Costa ’67 and Jenik Radon ’67.

Buzz Zucker was at some of the games as well. I predict next year will be a very good year too.

A couple years ago, John Chee joined me at a game against Harvard and we marveled at how talented this group was (particularly Lo, who holds the school’s 3-point record and scored most of the points in the Ivy this year) when we beat Harvard at home. John was in New York from Hong Kong, visiting his family. If you have a chance, read The New York Times’ February 25 article about Lo and his mother; she is a renowned artist. Lo’s dad is from Senegal.

The basketball team won 25 games this year — a school record. And for the tennis players in the class, this year Columbia won its third Ivy Championship in a row! Enough of sports, but I hope you all get to a football game this year — what an improved team with a great coach!

Before I forget, I thank David Shapiro for his advice and counsel on abstract art. I am hoping to see him sometime soon.

On the news front, Andy Herz received the New York Bar Association Real Property Law Section Professionalism Award "for his exceptional contributions of time and talent to the New York real estate lawyers," including for mentoring younger attorneys. I have always found Andy generous with his time and good counsel.

I continue to get Paul Brosnan’s emails with good humor. I am wondering if he missed his calling;
I do think the Boston Red Sox should have drafted him.

Bob Carlson sends me amazing pictures from Sitka, Alaska. Bob, I am wondering if you can send them to our classmates.

I hear regularly from Bob Brandt by email; we go back and forth on the state of politics, a worthy topic for two former roommates and philosophy majors. He sounds like he is busy and traveling — and he better show up at our next reunion.

Paul de Barry and I talk regularly, and at this writing he was scheduled to go to France for a vacation. I suspect he will be reviewing wine candidates for his next book. He will have news for the next column, I believe.

I believe I missed putting this note in a previous column; although it is a little dated, it was just wonderful to hear from Jon Kotch. Jon told me that he is retiring this June, so all the best to him. He writes: "December 14, 2014, was the 50th anniversary of Katzenbach v. McClung, the landmark 1964 decision that restaurants had to desegregate. Ollie's was a barbecue restaurant in Birmingham, Ala. (the home of Clifton Latting). Clif and I tried to connect when he was planning to accompany his son, an All-American soccer player for Davidson, on a trip to Chapel Hill to face UNC. Those plans did not materialize, but when I heard the reference to Birmingham on NPR, I googled 'Clifton Latting M.D.' and discovered the following from Alabama Local News. The story noted, 'Birmingham couple sees two kids take home Ivy League medical degrees' (both from Columbia) and the news story cites Clif's last 30 years as a physician serving indigent patients and residents. It was a glorious reunion 50 years as a physician serving indigent patients and residents, for the news story cites Clifton's last 30 years as a physician serving indigent patients and residents, for my February 22 blast email; the response was robust, meaning some items will appear in the Fall or Winter issues. Bill Bonvillian was first to respond, unaware that he was joining in the first-time grandparent news: "The big news on my front is the birth in October 2015 of my first grandson, my granddaughter, Eden, to my son Rafe and his wife, Leah, who has returned to live in NYC after four years in Geneva. Meanwhile, I've been speaking to many friends and family about my new book on innovation policy (written with Chuck Weiss of Georgetown University), Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors; including at the American Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, federal agencies, universities and the annual Atlantic Conference on Science and Innovation Policy. I direct MIT's Washington office, working with the R&D agencies and teaching at MIT and Georgetown."

From Chris Jensen (another new grandfather): "I have stepped back as chairman of my firm and have assumed the position of counsel. I continue to have an active litigation practice, mostly in the intellectual property field. My wife and I have moved back permanently to the Upper West Side and are really enjoying all that New York City has to offer. I became a grandfather in June of last year when my daughter Meredith gave birth to my first granddaughter, Daria. Meredith and her husband bought an apartment near ours so we see our granddaughter every day. She has become the light of our life."  

Rich Rosenstein writes: "After 34 years practicing law at various large and mid-sized law firms in Boston, my wife and I relocated to Delray Beach, Fla. I wish I could say I am ensconced in the retirement lifestyle in south Florida, but not so. I took the bar and have opened a law office in Boca Raton, doing mostly business law. That said, I am enjoying the weather and hate the drivers. One of my special memories from Columbia was winning a raffle in my sophomore year for a Harley (scooter) and keeping it in my dorm room with Mark Leeds. I never rode it or registered it but sold it for an electric typewriter — much more useful."

From Jory Berkvits: "After a long and exciting career in financial services in New England, I recently retired to Sarasota, Fl. I am as busy as ever, involved in service work with several local nonprofits, along with saltwater fishing, tennis, golf and so on. Sarasota is a vibrant center of culture and arts (I ask that New Yorkers refrain from smirking), and as I am not working 70 hours a week, I can take advantage of it. I also look forward to sharing the sunshine with my children and grandchildren. I finally made good on a lifelong threat to write a book, and I was gratified to complete My Bittersweet Homecoming about six months ago. It is really two stories in one — a memoir of my childhood in Allentown, Pa., and a look at what happened to that city since I left the area at 15 and went back for the first time 40 years later. It's part reminiscence, part history and part nostalgia. And, in my humble opinion, very good. Even if you didn't grow up in Allentown, you may well have grown up in an industrial city like it — or at least know someone who did — so you should be able to identify with my experiences. Sarasota has an active chapter of the Columbia Alumni Association, with well more than 100 members and frequent meetings. It has been terrific to connect with so many people from the Columbia community."

Steve Conway recalls: "A stark memory from my freshman year was the swimming test. It was rumored that the test started at Harvard, as a condition for the Widener family funding of the Harvard library named after Harry Elkins Widener, who drowned with the Titanic (the rumor was untrue, and we wondered whether swimming three lengths of a college pool would have saved young Harry in the North Atlantic). The test did come in handy in a way. It took place, you'll remember, deep in the bowels of the old athletics building and let us better picture hell as we read Dante's Inferno: people prodding exhausted swimmers away from the comforting sides of the pool. I was happy to pass the test but..."
then (no connection) developed bronchitis, which kept me from classes for a few weeks. By the time I returned, the only gym activity left was water polo . . . back into the pool. The next year, my work-study job was in the Registrar’s Office and one day a nicely suited, broady smiling 70-year-old man came to ask for his diploma. He said he finally passed the swimming test (he had been a successful New York attorney in the meantime)."

Hoffer Kaback reports: “On February 20, George Reithoffer ’61 and I went to the Columbia-Dartmouth basketball game. I had never seen the new gym; what I remembered — last time I saw a Columbia basketball game (we won’t count, or indeed mention, the NCAA tournament game against Davidson) — are the massive pillars (in the then-gym) that, among other things, disrupted sight lines. All the narrowness and brightness at West 120th Street verged on being injurious to the corna. The team was having a good year but it seems to me that our team (James McMillian ’70, Haywood Dotson ’70, David Newmark, Roger Wiaszek et al.) was palpably superior. Still not used to female Columbia cheerleaders.”

Steve Valensteln writes: “I recently went to Longmont, Colo., to visit with Richard Pearl and his wife, Cathy, and their fraternal twins, Meredith and Harrison (16). I enjoyed skiing on Mt. Eldora, a local mountain serving Boulder and the surrounding area. Rich and I got caught up on recent life developments and watched the Super Bowl, political debates and primary coverage. We ate and shopped on the Pearl Street Mall (no relation) in Boulder and gossiped about the Class of 69.”

From Bob Kahan: “A lot has changed for me this past year. After living in the Bay area for 33 years, my wife, Jane, and I moved to Indian Wells, Calif., in December, mostly to be nearer our youngest son and our grandson (5). We have two granddaughters in New Jersey; I received a great thrill and honor last year when I was awarded an Alumni Medal at Commencement.”

Pal Maleter writes: “I joined the Marine Corps Reserve in March 1965, partly to get my U.S. citizenship and partly to be nearer our youngest son and our grandson (5). We have two granddaughters in New Jersey. I received a great thrill and honor last year when I was awarded an Alumni Medal at Commencement.”

Henry Jackson writes: “In the immortal words of Dr. Pangloss, it is now time for us to cultivate our gardens and listen to the sounds of Anna Domini creeping up on us, though I do recall being advised, during freshman orientation, not to do much gardening in Spanish Harlem, for through there were many lovely flowers in that neighborhood, they were surrounded by some very nasty thorns. If memory serves, Dean Irv DeKoff (the fencing coach) gave us all that advice [Editor’s note: See ‘Roar, Lion, Roar’ in the Fall 2015 issue for a short obituary for DeKoff]. Happy gardening.”

And from Michael Braudy: “For the past year, I have been active in both my professions: violinist/musician/teacher and computer science teacher/trainer. I recently embarked on training providers — medical doctors, surgeons, residents and PAs — in Epic electronic health records at Montefiore Hospital. Earlier last year, I taught computer science classes again at Pace. On my music side, I recently helped inaugurate a space for the East-West School of Music at Andana Ashram. Stirrast Roop Verma, who once lived there, directed this school and was my first teacher of Indian violin. He gave an emotional introduction, after which I played violin. On the walls of the room are photos of his teachers: Ravi Shankar, Ali Akbar Khan and Swami Brahmananda Saraswati. In April, I was scheduled to begin offering a monthly class in Western violin. I feel blessed having the violin in my life. A doctor I trained said this to me: ‘I am a religious man. When I saw Izhak Perlman playing recently, I thought that there must be a God, to have given this gift of being able to give joy to others.’

“I currently have one violin student, who plays Western music and is learning Indian violin from me. Her goal is to accompany her friend who is learning Indian dance. I also give a workshop, ‘Sound and Health through Music,’ in which participants vocalize Indian ragas and listen to Indian and Celtic music and solo Bach on the violin, with periods of silence. My website is michaelbraudy.com.”

Two final items: First, check out the profile of Chilton Williamson on page 50. Second, in this year’s Alumni Parade of Classes (see page 32), I once again carried the Class of 1969 banner. I was joined by Tom Huseby SEAS ’70, whose daughter Kathryn-Alexis Magee-Husey ’16 graduated. Each year I find myself closer to the front, but fortunately the 70th anniversary Class of 1946 marchers provided some comfort.”

1970

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I heard from a small group of classmates, but it is quality that matters. Robert Launay was eagerly awaiting the arrival of his third grandchild in May. Robert, a classmate at Bronx Science, has been a professor of anthropology at Northwestern for many years. At the time of this writing he was waiting for the proofs of a volume he is editing on Islamic education in Africa with Indiana University Press. He is also working on a book, Scrooge, Despots, and Romans: The Urge to Compare and the Origins of Anthropology, tracing the ways in which “modern Europeans” came to define themselves with reference to non-moderns (ancient Greeks and Romans in particular) and non-Europeans from the 14th to 18th centuries.

Martin Newhouse reports that his wife, Nancy J. Scott, who teaches art history at Brandeis, has recently had her biographical study of Georgia O’Keeffe published. It is part of the “Critical Lives Series” published by the Reaktion Books in London, and is available through the University of Chicago on Amazon and in bookstores. It is reasonably priced and terrific (if Martin says so himself). Other than that, his younger daughter, Rebecca, who is a sculptor, graduated last May with an M.F.A. from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. MassArt was the country’s first independent public college of art and design. Martin’s older daughter, Katherine, is pursuing a Ph.D. at Teachers College, and his son, Samuel, is a reporter/editor with Metro newspaper in Philadelphia.

Martin is president of the New England Legal Foundation, teaches professional responsibility at Suffolk Law School and is the treasurer of...
the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's Clients' Security Board, whose function is to reimburse clients who have had their money stolen by their lawyers. The CSB's funding for its awards comes exclusively from the registration fees paid by lawyers in the state; there is no government funding involved. So it is a case of lawyers helping those who have been damaged by the bad apples in our profession. Thankfully, there are only a tiny number of bad apples. Also, Martin is re-reading War and Peace and is blown away all over again by Tolstoy's genius.

Fred Kushner sent the following: The American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association Guidelines for the Management of Heart Attacks (of which Fred was vice-chair) recently published its focused update. After finishing his term on the FDA Science Board, Fred served as a member of the subcommittee that drafted the position statement on the agency's future needs, "Mission Possible: How FDA Can Move at the Speed of Science."

Fred was scheduled to be an adjunct professor of medicine at Bellevue Hospital/NYU this May. He recently represented Columbia at the inauguration of the new president of Xavier University, C. Reynold Verret '76. Fred continues in his practice of cardiology and his avocation for painting. Son Adam B. Kushner '03 was promoted to editor of the "Outlook" and "Post Everything" sections of The Washington Post, recently married and moved into a new house in Washington, D.C. Son Jared S. Kushner '06, PS'12 is a cardiology and research fellow at Columbia University Medical Center/NewYork Presbyterian Hospital. Fred's wife, Ivy, is busy with civic responsibilities, volunteer work and tennis.

Steven Lamm, who was in my freshman week Carman Hall suite, sent this brief report: "I am the director of the Preston Robert Tisch Center for Men's Health and I am a clinical professor of medicine at NYU."

Larry Rosenwald sent a complete report: "1) Two new grandchildren, both boys, one to each of our twin daughters: Jasper Shawn Hogan, born last November, and Matthew Alan Schwan-Rosenwald, born this past February. 2) My anthology of American antiwar writing, War No More, will be published by the Library of America this June. 3) I was scheduled to be one of the keynote speakers at a conference in Israel this May, marking the 100th anniversary of the death of Sholom Aleichem."

Finally, Charles Goldstein notes: "I've retired from a career in radiology. There is plenty to keep me busy with three grown sons and three grandchildren. Life is good."

1971

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Tom Barson: "It brought back old times to read of Mark Seiden's subversion-by-broadcast of Professor Morton Smith's ancient history class (Spring 2016 issue). I think I took the same class -- which for some unimaginable reason was not taped -- the following year. Smith was dour, formal, dry on the surface, and at the same time deeply funny. He gave the sometimes-racy habits of the ancients an absolutely deadpan exposition and he could slip outrageously anachronistic judgments into his lectures without missing a beat. I loved the class. I still have his little The Ancient Greeks volume and, when I reread it, I go right back to an overheated Hamilton Hall classroom with clanking radiators and Smith's dry rattle of a voice.

"Two years after we graduated, Smith published a controversial book in which he claimed to have discovered a reference to a 'secret' Gospel of Mark -- one of whose portrayals of Jesus contained libertine touches -- in a remote monastery near Mt. Sinai. "Such a 'discovery' was no surprise to those of us who had heard Smith's rather startling reconstruction of Jesus in introductory Ancient History. That the secret gospel depicted Jesus in a rather Smithian way raised eyebrows and suspicions at the time, and at least two books have been published since Smith's death that claimed to show that it was all a sly academic hoax. I'm not qualified to judge the evidence, but that Smith might have enjoyed enlivening the worlds of papyrology and biblical scholarship with a spicy counterfeit -- that doesn't seem out of character at all. And that's not a criticism; Smith's jokes were always intended to provoke thought. Forty-five years later I'm still thinking about them."

"I doubt that Mark Seiden has often been accused of being too early on a story, but in this case WKCR taped Smith just before things got really, really good."

Bill Christophersen TC'78: "My translation of the Anglo-Saxon poem The Seafarer appears in the 2016 issue of the poetry annual Rhîno. The speaker of this elegy from the headwaters of English literature is an exile who, after surviving a wintry sea voyage and finding a new dwelling place, can't stay settled. His soul, loath to play it safe and wither, elects to follow the 'whale-road.'" At 45, I left an associate editor's position at Newsweek to return to teaching, a job that had never added up to a livelihood but still felt like a calling. Hired part-time by Fordham, I found myself teaching a class in medieval lit. That meant revisiting The Seafarer, which spoke to me in college and then, in middle age, proved itself on my pulses. I discovered, though, that the Norton Anthology of English Literature served up a prose translation. That's the rough equivalent of an art history text that offers a black and white photo illustration of a stained-glass window. I looked for a verse translation and found several, but each disappointed. Compulsively, and presumably, I got hold of the Anglo-Saxon version and a dictionary and began translating.

"The Anglo-Saxons weren't fools. Professor Howard Schless, whose course on medieval lit I'd taken at Columbia, had shown us photos of an elaborately wrought helmet and sword unearthed from Sutton Hoo, a sixth- and seventh-century burial site in Suffolk, England, to make the point. In translating the elegy, I tried to respect its craftsmanship, using, for example, words derived from Old English wherever possible, and honoring the patterns of alliteration and rhyme and Ourselves. That the secret gospel depicted Jesus in a rather Smithian way raised eyebrows and suspicions at the time, and at least two books have been published since Smith's death that claimed to show that it was all a sly academic hoax."

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Josh Rubenstein: "Some of you may know that I was laid off from Amnestly International USA (AIUSA) in 2012 after 37 years as an organizer and northeast regional director. Happy to report that I have landed well. Since March 2015, I have been a major gifts officer for Harvard Law. I also continue to write.

"After leaving AIUSA, I wrote and edited an ebook for the Brookline-based group Facing History and Ourselves. Shot by shot: the Holocaust in German-Occupied Soviet Territory is a collection of firsthand materials about the open-air Nazi massacres of Jews in Soviet territory during WWII, with a substantial introduction and commentary I provided. You have to go to the Facing History website to download the ebook. You will also find two videos (which include interviews with me) and other materials connected to the project, which are easy to download.

"My new book, The Last Days of Stalin, came out this spring from Yale University Press — it is the 10th book I have either written or edited. As of today, I have sold the rights in Estonia, Greece and Poland, and there will be an audio-book as well."

Steve Boss: "Last year, I donated my collection of 20th-century American humor magazines to Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library. The collection is considered the best of its kind anywhere. The collection includes Mad Magazine (issues 1-150); Sick; Cracked; Crazy; and all Mad imitators, offshore and forerunners, as well as every humor magazine imaginable. Of course, there is a complete 100-issue run of Ballyhoo (1931-39), one of the first publications of George Delacorte (Class of 1913).

"I work closely with Karen Green GSA'57, the librarian for ancient and medieval history as well as the graphic novels librarian. I continue to collect and then donate to the collection to fill holes in some of the titles. I am thrilled that Columbia, right in the birthplace of comic books..."
I am thrilled (and proud) that my building a world-class collection and overgrown collection has found a home at Mad American humor magazines, is a professor of Yiddish literature and language at Penn; she's been on sabbatical this year with David in Cambridge but next year they'll start commuting. Their daughter, Rebecca Wenger, has been doing development for Columbia/Barnard Hillil — "she may even have hit some of you up!" — but she and her husband will move back to Philly this summer where her husband, a lawyer, has several federal clerkships for the coming years. David and Kathryn's son, Jonah, is a filmmaker and visual artist whose work can be seen at spoxsoftight.com.

Also is motion is Jeff Weber, who has returned to NYC after an absence of 30 years to be deputy director of the Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center and a professor of medicine at NYU Langone Medical Center. His career, he writes, has been "a bit of a journey."

After nine years as a fellow in medical oncology and a staff member at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md., Jeff spent 13 years at USC's Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in Los Angeles as an associate director for clinical research, rising to full professor with an endowed chair. For the next eight years, Jeff worked at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Fla., as head of the Donald A. Adam Comprehensive Melanoma Research Center and principal investigator of its Specialized Programs of Research Excellence (SPORE) Grant in melanoma. What's it like being back in the city? "When my friends ask me what my reaction is to returning to NYC after 30 years, I will say, 'I am certainly eating better.'"

Gene Ross, another of our physicians, received a great tribute this past winter. "I am thrilled to report that the Brooklyn Nets held a ceremony honoring me at the Barclays Center (during a Nets game on February 1) for my service (colored, U.S. Army Medical Corps) as commander of U.S. Armed Forces Head and Neck Surgery Team in Baghdad, Iraq 10 years ago. I donned my battle uniform for the occasion."

Gene is a partner and ENT surgery practitioner at the WESTMED Medical Group in White Plains and Rye, N.Y., "seeing more patients than ever, though doing less surgery than earlier in my career. I divide my homes: weekdays in Westchester County, weekends at an apartment next to Columbia Prep on 94th Street by Central Park West, and a new home on the beach in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in nebulous anticipation of retiring or slowing down one of these days. I am engaged to the beautiful Maria Cardonas, whose father still owns the coffee plantation in Yauco, Puerto Rico, she left for NYC as a teenager in 1986. We have been together four years. Finally, I am proud that I have learned to play Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 19 and would love to find an orchestra with whom to perform it in public."

Gene's three sons are in NYC and doing well, and he's looking forward to our 45th reunion next year — as I hope you are, too (dates at the top of the column).

Speaking of tributes, Armen Donelian's concert this spring at The New School celebrated a career spanning four decades and 30 years of teaching at that institution. The announcement offered a superb encapsulation of his contributions: "Since his 1975 recording debut as a member of Mongo Santamaria's vibrant Afro-Cuban jazz octet (including the hit 'Mambo Mongo') and the Grammy-nominated album Sofrito with three of his compositions), Armen Donelian has enjoyed an internationally celebrated career in 23 countries as a pianist, composer, producer, educator and author, performing with jazz legends Sonny Rollins, Chet Baker, Paquito D'Rivera, Billy Harper and Sheila Jordan among others... As a Fulbright Senior Scholar, Armen Donelian has taught in residence in Armenia, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland and Greece. He is the author of Training the Ear Vol. 1 & 2 and Whole Note. Donelian was invited by founding director Arnie Lawrence to join the New School jazz faculty in 1986, and since then he has been a frequent clinician and lecturer in major international conservatories. With saxophonist Marc Mommassa, Donelian co-founded the Hudson Jazz Workshop that celebrates its 10th anniversary" this year.

Finally, I'm delighted to announce the birth of our granddaughter, Noa Chaya, to our daughter Avigail BC05 and her husband, Aharon Charnow. If you haven't tried grandkids yet, I recommend them wholeheartedly.

1973

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Spring has sprung, summer is here and it's hot... as usual. Jumping ahead is normal in Notelad, as we write before we publish.

Steve Malski, aka Steve Malski Niles, writes that his "career as a jazz pianist is moving along nicely"; he has recordings planned for this summer. He's also written a book that he plans to self-publish, The Healing Quality of Art, based on his M.F.A. thesis.

James Minter was gently coerced into doing some reading for the Admissions Office (he's retired) and read (only) a few hundred applications, which were a solid reminder of "how sought-after and esteemed Columbia remains." He also spent some time reading applications for The Point Foundation, a scholarship fund for LGBTQ youth, many of whom triumphed over estrangement from their loved ones.

Jeff Weber '72 has returned to New York City after a 30-year absence to be the deputy director of the Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center.

James' husband, David, retires next year, and James is looking forward to being united in retirement! He sends "leisurely regards" to all.

Tom Mott is alive and well, living in upstate New York; he's a semi-retired manufacturing guy who "became an SAP geek along the way." He still consults but mostly plays with the grandkids and golf. He and his wife, Molly, were married 40 years in April, the only thing better (he says) than "that CC experience."

There you have it. Takes more to write more. Disclose. Inform! You
Jeremy, has been working with Winter 1985 issue of CCT with '84 — not the Columbia College class, but rather the progeny of our classmates, born in that year. While it doesn't seem possible, these "kids" are now almost exactly half our age!

The origin of this project came about when I happened upon the Winter 1985 issue of CCT and saw that my column included the names of 13 classmates who had recently had children. At first I thought that the legend that a forthcoming class reunion is a apophthisis was finally being proven, but I soon realized the Reunion Committee had probably sent out a questionnaire that revealed the recent births (somehow I still kind of believe in the legend!). While some email addresses were no longer functional and some classmates were not responsive, nine of the 13 listed gave updates on what they and their now-32-year-old children are up to.

From Philadelphia came a response from Dr. Julian Allen (chief of pulmonary medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia): “In 1985, Eli was just learning to put two Legos together. He subsequently decided to combine all the bad hours of medicine with the fun of Legos and is now an architect here in Philly.”

Jules adds that his younger son, Jeremy, has been working with children with special needs and is now applying to grad school in psychology. He adds, “Although South Philly has no shortage of great Italian restaurants, I still miss V&T!”

Another classmate mentioned in the column also has a son who is an eternal student, Dewey Cole (partner at the Wall Street law firm Newman Myers Kremer Gross Harris) has a son, Tom Cole GSAS'08, who graduated from Franklin and Marshall and then earned a master's in classics from Columbia. He then completed law school at Drexel and was practicing law ... but is now at Duke working on a Ph.D! Writes Dewey, “They never stop going to school!” Tom is married to Liz Cole (née Koch) '08, who is finishing her residency at the UNC hospital. Dewey tells us that Dr. Steve DeCherney PH'89 was one of her attendings a few months ago. Small world!

Jules and Dewey are not the only ones continuing to write out tuition checks. Frank Bruno (partner at the Sidley Austin law firm in midtown NYC) tells us that his daughter, Avery, has been married for seven years and is a trust and estates attorney at Day Pitney in Greenwich, Conn. He says, "Importantly, Avery is the proud mother of Bennett Francis 'Beau' Armas, who is almost 2 — our first grandchild."

Frank's younger daughter, Emily, is getting an M.B.A. at Fordham after working for a few years at Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia and the Meredith Corp. Although he claims he has no immediate retirement plans, he says he sees it on the horizon, "if somewhat distantly!"

John Ruocco (living in Hillsdale, N.J.) has retired after 38 years at the Federal Reserve (most of them spent in bank supervision). He writes, "I took guitar and Italian lessons, and then got elected to the Hillsdale Borough Council. I now serve as chairman of the finance committee, [and am] police commissioner, senior citizen liaison and member of the negotiations committee. Retirement, though a misnomer, is good!" He adds that his older son, Matthew, lives in Texas and works for American Airlines. His younger son, Christopher, recently married a doctor and is an aide at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: "Beau"Armas, who is almost 2 — our first grandchild.

Another classmate breaking free of the shackles of the 9-to-5 world is Dr. Robert Katz (formerly director of anesthesiology at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System in Gainesville, Fla.). Bob retired at the beginning of 2016 and lives in Hilton Head, S.C., "enjoying the beaches, weather and golf." He's also working on a novel, letting us know that his previous four are available on Amazon: Edward Maret: A Novel of the Future (science fiction) plus three novels of the Kurtz and Barent mystery series (Surgical Risk, The Anatomy Lesson, and Seizure).

Bob says that it was son Steven Katz (VP and general manager of Laser Kingdom in Farmingdale, N.Y.) who was mentioned in the 1985 column. Bob's daughter Erica Katz '04 is an emergency room physician on Long Island and his younger son, Jeffrey Katz, recently returned to school with the intention of becoming either a physician or physicist's assistant.

After 35 years in the securities business, George Bartos (in Chatham, N.J.) retired at the end of 2013. He says he keeps connected to the financial world by doing volunteer work as a FINRA dispute resolution arbitrator. But the big news in George's life came last spring when his daughter, Natalie, gave him his first grandchild, Maxwell Miklos Landry. Natalie works at NBCUniversal and her husband, Corey Landry, is at Apple.

Rob Knapp's (partner of the Mulholland & Knapp law firm in midtown Manhattan) son Henry was part of the cohort mentioned in the 1985 column. Henry has left his position at Facebook ("against his father's advice") and is working for a start-up in San Francisco that Rob says has a name "that sounds like Xanax." Daughter Ester is married, lives in Memphis and is doing a fellowship at St. Jude Children's Hospital, and son Aaron lives in Brooklyn and is a graphics designer.

Two classmates with children born some three decades ago now claim to be semi-retired. Bob Adler (enjoying life in bucolic Belfast, Maine) says, "I've begun to move closer to actual retirement by shifting half of my ongoing Essex County Legal Aid Association duties to others in New Jersey." He is using his new free time to do "artistic" photography, reading for pleasure, and doing "calm water kayaking during warmer weather." His daughter Rachael started a two-year master's program in occupational therapy at Temple. Bob calculates that she will likely get her degree about the same time as son Jacob completes his six-year program at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. Notes Bob, "Summer 2018 will be intriguing as our kids seek employment. Their decisions will likely make us assess where we want to live."

Also moving to semi-retirement is Mike Silverman (in Westchester, N.Y.). His career started with work in corporate and international lending. He got a master's in accounting and became a CPA. Now he is in private practice, working with small businesses and nonprofits. Mike writes that a big part of his lifestyle centers around fitness and training — with the hopes of being able to compete in age group competitions in track. Mike's daughter, Jessica, graduated from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music with a degree in voice performance. After doing fundraising at Carnegie Hall for seven years, this year she took a position as the manager of fundraising at Code for America in San Francisco.

Moving on from updates of the "children of 1984," there is a news on classmates. Last March The Wall Street Journal had an article on the (then-) new exhibit "Edgar Degas: A Strange New Beauty." The show presented more than 120 of Degas' rarely seen monotypes and related works. Attached to the article was a photo featuring Karl Buchberg who, as long-time senior conservator at the Museum of Modern Art with a specialty in paper, had a central role in designing the exhibit.

You may have seen Arthur Schwartz's name in the press for the past year due to his position as the New York counsel to Sen. Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign. Now we hear from Arthur, "I have decided to run for the New York State Assembly in a district that encompasses most of Greenwich Village, SoHo and TriBeCa in Manhattan. It is a neighborhood I have been active in for 25 years and where I presently serve as District Leader."

At the beginning of this year there was a posting on Facebook from Chris Hansen (in London): "...I was installed as Supreme Ruler of my Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor of David and Jonathan. Some of you may know I am a Freemason."

Yes, this order does exist — google it!

Arthur included a picture of himself in flowing purple and yellow robes and added, "The regalia is quite camp!"

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Armenian studies at Harvard, had accepted a three-year appointment as Distinguished Visiting Professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He will remain full-time at Harvard and make periodic trips to Israel. Of Israel he wrote, “This is where I belong, where my life has texture and color and meaning. I need to be here the way the birds need to be in the ancient stones of the Western Wall.”

We got a note from Joel Almquist (partner at the K&L Gates law firm in Boston): “I’m completely smitten by my grandson, Charlie, who is almost 2. Grand-parenting is unbeatable!” He tells us that Charlie’s father is Joel’s older son, David, who graduated from Colgate and is a financial adviser at UBS in Fairfield, Conn.

It has been several decades since we have caught up with Bill Duggan GSA ’86. In that same 1985 CCT column, I wrote that Bill had recently completed his Ph.D. in African studies at Columbia and was working as an agricultural development consultant for such notable organizations as the World Bank, The Ford Foundation, and most recently, The Rockefeller Foundation. Now we learn Bill has returned to Columbia, this time as a professor at the Business School. He teaches innovation and won the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence in 2014. He has written at least three books on innovation, the latest being The Seventh Sense: How Flashes of Insight Change Your Life, published last year. Bill is married with a teenage daughter.

It is with great sadness that I relate news of the passing of Michael Evans on March 13, 2016. Many will remember that Mike was co-captain of the 1973 varsity football team and was All-Ivy and All-ECAC (Eastern College Athletic Conference) defensive end. Mike hailed from Springfield, Mass., and most recently was a consultant in the Atlanta area. I will try to get details and include them in a future column.

There you have it. Updates on classmates and their children who are now “all grown up.” Plenty of grandchildren are starting to appear as our classmates gradually retire and have the time to enjoy being with them. As more of us turn 64, it is important to remember that eight is the luckiest number in the Asian world and 64 is eight times eight! Please take a moment to send in news of some good fortune that comes your way!

1975

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Time flies! By the time you read this, a whole year will have passed since our 40th reunion. Looking back, I still think “We done good.” Thanks again to all who worked hard to make it happen and to all who participated.

Because the Sam Steinberg 2015 exhibit was such a central part of what we did, I’m providing one final update on what’s happened since the majority of the donated works went to the trash instead of being returned to their owners. Many owners received custom reproductions of their donated works (although pictures were not found of each piece exhibited). Through the generosity of Frank Sciacca ’72, two Sams are now at the Columbia University Archives and one is part of the permanent collection of the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore. I brokered the AVAM donation and personally presented the Sam ("Birdman in Jockey Cap") to AVAM’s Rebecca Alban Hoffberger, founder and director, and Mary Dwan, registrar. Finally, a small plaque remembering Sam has been installed in front of Hamilton Hall, one of Sam’s favorite and most well-known hangouts. It reads, “In Memory of Sam Steinberg — Artist and Friend of Columbia University — 1896-1982.” See pictures of the AVAM presentation and the plaque at facebook.com/Steinberg2015.

Presenting a compelling and exciting exhibit for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2015, getting some kind of permanent recognition of Sam at Columbia and getting a Sam show, or a piece of Sam’s work, in a major art museum (and AVAM was top of that list) were three of the goals that David Gawarecki SIPA’91 and I dreamed of when we conceived of and proposed the Sam exhibit. And, once again, I have to say, “We done real good.”

On July 23, 2015, David Gawarecki and his longtime partner, Martha Hayes, were married in a civil ceremony in New Haven, Conn. It was the 10th anniversary of their first date. Attending were her three children, two daughters-in-law and five (almost six) grandchildren. Martha and David spent spring break in Ecuador because David said they are “just too old for Fort Lauderdale.”

Manuel Bu reports that another original ‘75er, Yungman “Francis” Lee ’78, is running for Congress in the 7th Congressional District of New York (yungmanleeforcongress.com). He and David Gawarecki were great friends from freshman year and Elmo Doig is one of Yungman’s campaign managers.

Charlotte: A City of International Success, a regular feature of WTVI, Charlotte, N.C.’s PBS affiliate, recently devoted an entire segment to an interview with Moses Luski, who discussed his family’s immigration and settlement in Cuba and their flight from Cuba in the early 1960s. Moses arrived in Miami knowing little English and, a decade-and-a-half later, graduated from the College with a major in English. The week of President Barack Obama’s visit to Cuba, Moses said, “Watching the baseball game in Cuba the other day and seeing Obama walk Old Havana made me very homesick because I still view Cuba as my home. Politically it’s a no-brainer to mend relations with Cuba. The United States will benefit mightily and Cuba will become a social democracy.”

He added, “the ballpark … was like an estranged couple getting together many years later with all the love intact. There is a strong connection emotionally between Cuba and the U.S. I’ll leave it to the professors to assign moral blame and analyze the paternalism and colonialism, but it inevitably created a bond that goes beyond assigning fault.” View the interview at http://m.slk-law.com/NewsEvents/Events-and-Presentations/Featured-Guest-on-Charlotte-A-City-of-International-Success.

Randy Nichols (that’s me) had a well-earned, weekend vacation in Cancún in the spring. While there, I visited and was amazed by the complex at Chichen Itza. Otherwise, it was sun, sand, seas, Scotch, sunsets and simply being senseless some days.

Bob Schneider and his wife, Regina Mullaly BC’75, welcomed their second granddaughter, Emily Ann Schneider, on September 22. Shortly after her birth, they traveled to Houston to welcome her in person and to visit her parents, their son John Schneider ’07 and his wife, Stephanie Palier BC’06, and also their daughter, Meg, a graduate student at Rice. This spring, Bob and Regina traveled again to Houston to attend Emily Ann’s christening. It was a real family reunion as well, as their son James and his wife, Claudia, were to be godparents.

Many of us knew and loved Rick Shur and were so happy so see him at the Sam exhibit last year. We were all saddened to learn of his passing (January 6). At my request, Dan Deneen wrote the following in Rick’s memory: “For 35 years I’d think now and then of Rick: missing him; his wry, understated wit; his sneaky wisdom; and his friendship. I’d vow to get in touch and never did. We met up briefly at the Sam show last spring — and then just like that, he’s gone.”

“In the weeks following his passing in early January, I learned something of how much he meant to generations of his students, to a generation of gay New Yorkers in the 1980s — he was the infamous (and beloved) ‘Rick X’ of The Closet Case Show — and how much he’d meant to me. I went to see him one cold winter day. I was broke, desperate and scared to death — I’d just learned I was going to be a father, I was paralyzed with self-doubt. I don’t think I can do it,” I said. He said, ‘You’re an idiot.’ Which was how he talked when he meant to say, ‘You’ll do fine,’ and which was what
I needed to hear, and to believe. It’s a little late, but here it is anyway — thanks, buddy.”

1976

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Reunion this year was a little bit — sweet for me. Karen Kelly, my wife of 28 years, who had accompanied me to many Columbia events from our Hoboken, N.J., home during the last 35 years, passed away after a four-year battle with breast cancer on January 23, 2016. After a very meaningful and joyous holiday season (the first one ways — athletics season ticket holder, was also meaningful. Through the survival of breast cancer on January 11, 2014 in Hoboken, N.J., home during the last marriage and our three children have lived in Hoboken for almost our entire marriage and our three children were all born and raised here. The support from Hoboken was amazing for the entire family.

For me, the support that I received from the Columbia community was also meaningful. Through the years, I have stayed involved with the College and University in many ways — athletics season ticket holder, admissions interviewer with the Alumni Representative Committee for prospective students, Class Agent for development and, recently, as your class correspondent. I have made and kept many friends through the years, and all of them reached out in significant ways to me and my daughter, Katherine Howitt ’13, for which we are very grateful.

We are season ticket holders to every varsity basketball game and the season was very exciting, culminating in the post-season CollegeInsider.com Tournament championship game at Levien Gym. My wife’s funeral was on January 28, and Katherine left for Boston the following day to watch the Lions defeat Harvard in a win that signified that this season was going to be a good distraction for us. The following Friday, she and I went to New Haven to see Columbia gallantly lose to Yale; after the game we stopped at Debbie and Mike Yeager’s home for a great dinner.

The Reunion Committee was also supportive and I thank Steve Davis, Jim Bruno, Joel Gedan, Joe Graif, Dan Baker, Vince Briccetti and Dennis Goodrich for their caring. In April, Dennis and his wife, Linda, had me go to Syracuse for a Friday dinner, which was very enjoyable. I always knew that I was lucky to go to Columbia, having admired my classmates through the years; without the Columbia community, I am sure that my life would have been much more difficult during the spring.

The 40th reunion was enjoyable, look for news in the Fall issue. I was accompanied by Katherine so that she could practice for her Reunion, coming up in 2018. The combination of class-specific events, All-Class Reunion (Dean’s Day) lectures and tours made for an enjoyable weekend. On behalf of the Reunion Committee, I thank our Alumni Office staff liaisons, Suzie Alpert from Alumni Relations and Carly Welter from the Columbia College Fund. They did a great job shepherding the committee and keeping us on track.

While I have only mentioned the support that I received from the esteemed bicentennial class, I also received quite a bit of support from other classes. Will Weaver ’77 decided to take some of the class correspondent burden off me for this issue and sent in the following:

“Mary and Paul Chev’s daughter, Allyson, lives in Manhattan so he visits often from San Francisco. When he does he always stops at Barbara and Brian Smith’s home in South Jersey and invites all of us over. Yes, to Brian’s house. Barbara is the ultimate hostess. Last summer’s get-together included Larry Mumm and his wife, Debbie; Myles Astor and his wife, Heidi; and Ferenc Deniflee.

“Larry and Debbie’s son, Andy, was married last May. Larry planned to attend reunion. Myles and Heidi were married in 2014 at Battery Park. He is the best-educated personal trainer in the city and is still quite involved in the audio world. He was trying to decide between an audio convention and the reunion — [at this writing] I think reunion is winning.

“Mike Yeager called me after a few years of silence. His sons, Matt and Luke, graduated from colleges far apart this past year. I understand that trying to get to both was quite an adventure. They succeeded, though. Daughter Sarah is in Copenhagen but spends quite a bit of time in Spain for her shipping company. Wife Debbie is with the Westport Public School System.

“Barbara and Brian Smith’s younger son, Dave, is at Penn. Son Chris is married and following in Dad’s footsteps — I heard there was some confusion about which Dr. Smith was on call one night.

“Paul Chev’s twin sons, Jon and Ben, are freshmen at Boston University. They seem to be having a ball. Daughter Allyson works at a startup and is living the New York single life. Paul was planning to attend reunion.

“Ronald Kaley’s lovely wife, Maxine Loseff, passed away in June 2014. Her life was a blessing. Their daughter Marin gave birth to grandson Max a month or so later. Their youngest, Holly, is at Vanderbilt and their middle daughter, Sarah, is a nurse at NYU. She graduated from Cornell and Columbia. I think he said he would be at the reunion.

Will, thanks a million for bailing me out on this column!

So, the 40th is out of the way, and Steve Davis and I are already discussing the 45th. I do believe that after two consecutive Friday night reunion events at V&T that we will plan to anchor the 45th around that event once again.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and please keep those updates coming. Thanks, one more time, for being a great class with great class!”

1978

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It’s been a slow season for notes, CC’78, but please regale your classmates with tales of your summer adventures for inclusion in the Fall issue! Travel plans, job changes, favorite Columbia memories, family updates — all news is welcome in CCT. Please email your updates to me at matthewnemerson@gmail.com or use CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I look forward to hearing from you.

1979

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Andrey Shaw has accepted a position as senior staff scientist at Genentech in San Francisco after 25 years at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, the last eight as head of immunobiology. He reports: “I will focus entirely on basic research and will not have administrative responsibilities. Genentech is an amazing place and I’m excited about my new job but also sad to leave my many friends and colleagues in St. Louis. My wife, Cynthia Florin PS’84, is closing her solo psychiatric/psychotherapy practice and jumping into the unknown. We are moving farther from our two kids, who are both in New York. Our daughter, Emily, was recently promoted to associate editor at Marvel Comics and our son, Alex ’11, is in his third year of graduate school (acting) at Juilliard.”

Jeff Tolkin writes, “This summer promises to be a special one for Laurie Tolkin BC’79 and me. We are celebrating our 38th wedding anniversary on July 15 and our
daughter Michelle Tolkin BUS'09 is getting married a week later to Adam Miller BUS’11, son of Robin Miller (née Blinder) BC'79. They met independent of the parental connection but both went to Business School and, given their parents’ undergraduate connection, what else is there to say but Roar, Lion, Roar!”

Robert C. Klapper: “Today’s Columbia memory comes from the world of architecture. I’ve truly been blessed to practice orthopedic surgery at Cedars-Sinai for almost 30 years. Recently, the medical center spent $800 million to build a pavilion where all of our joint replacements are done. Going to work in the architectural equivalent of the Taj Mahal has really been a joy for me. In the operating room that I work in three days a week, we have gigantic windows with a panoramic view of Los Angeles, from the Hollywood sign to the mountains to the sea. It’s spectacular, which immediately reminds me of the worst antidote to the cold, un nurturing, hostile concrete mass that we lived in charge: the great Doc Deming. If you remember your Carman days or interactions with Doc Deming, let me know. Until then, send me a cake with a hack saw in it. Roar, Lion, Roar!”

Greg has had a long career in public finance with Roosevelt & Cross in NYC. He is the EVP and underwriting manager of the firm and lives with his family in Darien, Conn.

Pat is a serial entrepreneur who runs the Plain Site Group, a technology holding company centered at Yale. He has his fingers on the pulse of companies in finance, music, water technology and private equity. His son will be on campus this fall as a member of CC’20. Pat also lives in Darien, Conn., with his wife and children.

For those of us who knew him, Bill Campbell ’62, TC’64 will always have a special place in our hearts. Coach recruited me and many of my teammates personally, and he truly changed our lives. As Stan Lazusky put it, “If [he] didn’t see something in me, I never would have imagined Columbia in my future.” Bill, a former captain of and coach to the Lions football team and a leader in Silicon Valley, was a true legend and will be greatly missed. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries.]

Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com or use CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.
of ‘85) for six years. I have been a literary agent for most of those 21 years, specializing mostly in television. Since 2008 I’ve been with the Kaplan Stahler Agency, a 33-year-old institution that has survived the slew of mergers and/or bankruptcies of fellow mid-sized agencies during the past 15 years caused by the economy, labor strikes and vertical integration. As such, where once there were 30, we are now one of perhaps three maverick boutique agencies serving the scripted and unscripted (reality) businesses, working alongside the more well-known mega-agencies like ICM and William Morris Endeavor.

“My clients include writers and directors from broadcast shows such as Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders, American Crime, Arrow, Grey’s Anatomy, Blue Bloods and Modern Family to cable hits like Suits, The Walking Dead, Pretty Little Liars, Outsiders, American Crime Story and The Jim Gaffigan Show to must-see digital shows like Netflix’s Bloodlines and Fuller House. It is truly an honor and a joy to help our clients get in front of the right people to enable them to entertain the worldwide television-watching community.

“I have two great kids: a 10th-grader son, Simon (16), at Hamilton H.S. (we can never get too far from Alexander Hamilton [(Class of 1778)], can we?) and a seventh-grader daughter, Zoe (13), at Walter Reed M.S.

“Dino, thanks for checking in!

‘Gentlemen, keep those notes coming in to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1983

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My sons, David and Ricky, and I attended every 2015 Columbia Lions basketball Ivy-League home game, three pre-season games, an away game and two winning CollegeInsider.com Tournament post-season tournament games. The semi-final CIT game was on Easter Sunday, during spring break. My wife drew a line in the sand: The family was going to the Poconos for the weekend. At stake was Columbia’s first post-season tournament championship. A quick call to Woodloch Pines put my fears to rest. They had one large, flat-screen TV in the main lodge and we could watch the game on CBS Sports — but first come/first serve. You can imagine the disappointment of the Syracuse and Virginia fans when they showed up to watch their NCAA match but instead found yours truly tuned into the Columbia-NJIT game. Not only did we trounce NJIT, we also hired their coach, Jim Engles, after the season to replace resigning coach Kyle Smith.

“The win also enabled David, Ricky and I to witness in person the historic CIT Championship win over UC Irvine. Eric Wertzner joined us for the exciting game. Eric has been working at Columbia in different capacities for a few years (most recently as an assistant dean at the Law School). He is in touch with his Columbia roommate, soccer legend Kasbek Tambi. We reminisced about other Columbia athletes, including basketball great Eric Clarke. Wertzner is in phenomenal shape and plays hoops regularly.

“Seated in front of us at the game was Richie Gordon. Richie (along with Darren Burnett) was honored at a game earlier in the year with the players who scored more than 1,000 points in their career. I also spoke at the game to Dean James J. Valenti, Andrew Topkins ’98, Michael Schmitberger ’82, Ed Joyce (and his son Adam), Cheryl Milstein BC’82 and Phil Milstein ’71, Irving Raderman ’69 (who saw Columbia just watch NCAA team play), Dennis Kleinblum ’84 (class correspondent), Jon White ’85 (class correspondent), Ken Howitt ’76 (class correspondent), Jerry Sherwin ’85 (class correspondent) and Matt Amsterdam ’10, son of former Columbia College Fund chair Mark Amsterdam ’66, LW ’69. Ken is in touch with David Newman, SVP of marketing and communications for the New York Mets. Ed Joyce and Linda Gerstel BC’83’s daughter, Sarah Joyce ’19, is on the swim team. As a Class Agent, Ed has contacted countless classmates about renewing their donations. He is also a member of Fordham Law’s Board of Directors.

“Kevin Chapman (with whom I shared many emails about the team throughout the season) was disappointed to miss the final game in person. But he did watch it on CBS Sports. Columbia becomes only the second Ivy League team to win a post-season tournament since Princeton’s 1975 NIT championship. Columbia finished the season 25–10, their most wins since 1950–51. Their 10 Ivy League victories are the most since 1978.

“Earlier in the season, I was thrilled to get a tap on the shoulder from Danny Schultz. Danny was seated behind us with his sons. Danny is co-founder and managing director of Gotham Ventures. During the last two decades he has been involved with technology companies from startups to public companies in media, e-commerce, mobile and enterprise software. Danny ran the Lehman Brothers equity private placement business just prior to co-founding his own start-up. He is also an avid hockey player and triathlete. To view his full bio, see gothamvc.com/portfolio/daniel-schultz. Danny is in touch with Len Rosen, Teddy Weinberger, Adam Bayoff, Eddy Friedfeld, Paul Ehrlich and Neal Smolar. I also spoke at Levien Gym to former crew superstar Jim Weinstein ’84 and former Spectator news editor Beth Knobel BC’84. Beth teaches journalism at Fordham.

“From the third year in a row, Columbia won the travel game. David, Ricky and I attended. In 2014, we beat Princeton. In 2015 we beat Yale. This year we saw Columbia beat Penn at The Palestra. We also befriended player Luke Petrasek ‘17 sister and mother.

“I attended the 2016 John Jay Awards Dinner and sat next to Eric Shea, director of alumni relations for the College. I also spoke to loyal Columbia supporter Barry Raskover. Honoree Julius Genachowski ’85 (managing director, The Carlyle Group, and former FCC chairman) reminisced about his coffee breaks with Steve Waldman ’84 and Stuart Garcia ’84 at Check full o’Nuts. Julius set up a scholarship fund for Stuart, who died of AIDS. Stuart was a student in my Literature Humanities class taught by Professor Joseph Bauke. At a recent Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, Steve Coleman said his favorite Columbia teacher was Professor Bauke. Julius is in contact with President Barack Obama.

From Wayne Allyn Root: “I served as opening act for Donald Trump for the second time in 30 days. I opened for Donald and was master of ceremonies at two gigantic rallies in Las Vegas. I was honored to give the official Tea Party response to President Obama’s State of the Union address. Past speakers of this address were all United States senators and presidential candidates.

“From Jon Ross: "Micro-Aid supporters: I’ve been in Nepal for three weeks and have done many sites visits and met with local NGOs, INGOs and private individuals who responded to the Gorkha earthquake disaster of April 2015."

“From Bruce Abramson: “Business has been pretty busy on my end, but never quite busy enough for me to coast without marketing. In the expert witness world that I inhabit, that includes reaching out to folks with similar interests who might run across matters they can’t handle themselves. During the past two decades (sigh!) or so, I have leveraged my training in computing, economics and law to develop a broad practice. I have testified in several interrelated areas of expert work: damages, including but not restricted to patent damages; technology industry custom and practice in licensing, breach of contract and business tort suits; infringement, licensing, and damages and policy in patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret and other IP cases; technical aspects of selected soft-side technologies (software, Internet, business methods); and the interplay between antitrust and IP laws. In each of these areas, my experience combines working with counsel to devise and/or refine appropriate theories with conducting and presenting the actual analyses.”

From Ken Chinh: "Ken keeps busy professionally and philanthropically. In addition to managing his group at his law firm, he chairs a subcommittee for the American Bar Association and co-chairs an annual seminar for the Practising Law Institute.
was also inducted as a fellow of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers. He continues to be a 'Super Lawyer' and 'Best Lawyer' and was added to the Chambers listing this year. Ken also continues as a 'Super Lawyer' and 'Best Lawyer' partner. Lisa is also a 'Super Lawyer' and was added to the list in 2015. Son Nicholas is graduating in real estate and she received the estate department of Akerman as a gift.

My thanks once more go to Steve Greenfield, Seth Farber.

Seth and I reminisced about the music that I had an enjoyable telephone conversation with Seth Farber. Seth is the Assistant Attorney General at New York State Department of Law. He graduated from NYU Law.

Ken Chin ‘83 was added to this year’s Chambers listing, which identifies and ranks the world’s best business attorneys.

and lives with his wife and daughter in Brooklyn. Seth is involved with the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) and has interviewed countless College applicants. He also has attended the last few Columbia reunions. Seth is in touch with Eric Epstein. Seth and I reminisced about the last reunion dinner, where Steve Greenfield, Steve Holtje, Seth and I were seated at the same table. Dan Loeb was the speaker. According to the most recent Forbes listing, Dan’s net worth is $2.6 billion. Dan is the founder and head of activist hedge fund firm Third Point and is managing $16.5 billion. From Forbes: “Loeb is still shaking up Corporate America and scored a victory in February when Dow Chemical’s CEO, Andrew Liveris, said he would resign after his company completes its $130 billion merger with DuPont.”

Dennis Kleinberg ’84 is working with former dean of students Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS ’74 to add Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig’s book collection to Butler Library so all can view it.

Andy Gershon’s daughter, Sophie, is a forward on the MIT women’s basketball team. She has a 4.46 field goal percentage and is majoring in computer science.

Adam Bayrof’s daughter, Eliza BC ’20, is starting at Barnard in the fall.

David Brooks wrote an excellent article in The New York Times on February 9, “I miss Barack Obama.” Brooks writes: “As this primary season has gone along, a strange sensation has come over me: I miss Barack Obama. Now, obviously I disagree with a lot of Obama’s policy decisions. I’ve been disappointed by aspects of his presidency. I hope the next presidency is a philosophic departure. But over the course of this campaign it feels as if there’s been a decline in behavioral standards across the board. Many of the traits of character and leadership that Obama possesses, and that maybe we have taken too much for granted, have suddenly gone missing opportunity than by fear, cynicism, hatred and despair. Unlike many current candidates, Obama has not appealed to those passions … Obama radiates an ethos of integrity, humor, good manners and elegance that I’m beginning to miss, and that I suspect we will all miss a bit, regardless of who replaces him.”

Looking forward to seeing you at some football games this fall. Coach Al Bagnoli has dramatically improved the team, and we expect to win some more games this year.

1984

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Jonathan “Jon” C. Abbott was one of this year’s recipients of the College’s John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. Many of you will recall Jon as a talented singer with both the Glee Club and the Kingsmen; others may recall his involvement in CTV, WKCR, student politics and SPE, and still others will remember him well — as does Peter Schmidt — as “that intense, passionate guy” from 9th-floor Furmand in senior year! (He also played “Big Julie” in Peter’s production of Guys and Dolls.)

After obtaining an M.B.A. from Stanford, Joe brought his talents to the realm of public media, working first at KQED in San Francisco before joining WGBH in senior management.

Nowadays, Jon is president and CEO of WGBH, where he not only oversees 11 public TV services and three public radio services serving southern New England but also spearheads WGBH’s national television, radio and web production activities, media access services and educational technologies. Moreover, he is greatly involved with PBS, with the creation of digital program services, and by serving on the PBS Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee (which he chairs) and the PBS Executive and Final Committees.

Full disclosure: We know over this choice for personal and professional reasons. Jon has always been a great friend to our class, making the time to attend our reunions and to stay in touch over the years. When Jon arrived at WGBH, I heard only amazing reports from my sister, who was working there and whose children attended high school with Jon’s kids. Furthermore, it’s not every day that you hear “I saw Jon Abbott in shul,” but Ben Pushner and mishpacha are honored to attend the same synagogue as Jon and his family. And if all of this wasn’t already a plus, this writer and his family business is honored to have served WGBH and PBS Distribution’s international trade show shipping needs for more than 40 years.

Equally excellent kudos to former Great Neck and another 2016 John Jay Award recipient, Julius Genachowski ’85. Julius is managing director of The Carlyle Group and former chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. Jon White ’85, a fellow Class Notes correspondent, attended the award dinner and will, I hope, share more of that night’s merriment.

Don’t forget to send your updates to me at dennis@berklay.com or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/ctt/submit_class_note.

And I’d say more … but we “gotta Zoom, Zoom a Zoom.”

1985

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Dan Melamed is a program analyst at the Department of Energy working on the cleanup of the nuclear weapons legacy from the Cold War. As a federal employee, he has served under two presidents; he looks forward to working for whomever is elected next. Dan has attended a number of events at the Columbia University Club of Washington, D.C., and would love to catch up more with alumni in the D.C. area.

In his spare time, Dan is finishing his two-year term as a member of the Board of Directors for the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering International. After his term, he will continue his work with AACE International at both the national and local level. He lives in Maryland with his wife, and their daughter is finishing her undergraduate studies in math at Cornell.
Paul Bongiorno is president and co-founder of Starvox Booking, a leading theatrical agency, now entering its fourth year. The firm represents touring Off-Broadway productions, including Trey Parker's "Cannibal! the Musical" and "Wait Until Dark," starring Al Pacino and Kiera Knightley.

Peter Stathatos is a consultant, mainly focusing on employee engagement surveys. These are surveys employees get asking about satisfaction with supervisors, senior management, advancement opportunities, training opportunities and communication within and across departments. As a member of the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC), Peter did his first interviews with prospective College freshmen from this town this past winter. He says, "I was asked to do the interviews by my local alumni chapter. Interviewing is part of the application process for prospective students, and I submitted a short summary of the interviews after speaking with the students. It is a very good way to give back to the College and I highly recommend it to classmates." [Editor's note: You can join ARC at undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/arc.]

Mark Rothman was "very sad to report that Ken Bodenstein '57 passed away on March 20, 2016, at his home in Marina del Rey, Calif. Ken was a roommate and lifelong friend to my father, Louis Rothman '57, as well as other College alumni including Alan Froimson '57 and his twin, Paul Froimson '57. Ken made a dramatic appearance in my life when he searched me out at the hotel Columbia's freshman lightweight crew was staying at for the Eastern Sprints in May 1986. He remained a loyal friend and mentor to me and my sons (including Eitan Rothman SEAS'17).

"I was honored to read the following at Ken's funeral, which I had emailed to be read to him before his passing: 'If this is the last thing you ever hear from me in this mortal dimension, there is really only one thing I need you to hear: Thank you. Thank you for being a mentor, a guide, a father, a teacher. Thank you for your laugh, for your storytelling, for your gregarious interconnection with the world. Thank you for making me stronger as a man, a husband and a father. My sons wouldn't be the men they are if you weren't there to model for me parts of what it means to be a man myself. And if you are asking yourself, 'What did I do?' well, you did a lot. Most importantly, you were just you. And you were present, accessible — so I just had to watch and learn. And thank you also for Leslie and Todd [Ken's daughter and son] and for their friendship, and Diane [Ken's wife of 26 years] for her support and cheerleading for me, [my wife.] Vicki and my sons. Every time I will be with them, you will be there too. Love, Mark.'"

Ken was predeceased by his first wife, of 30 years, Susan Sims Bodenstein.

Jon Reich recently took a position at the United States Food and Drug Administration in Washington, D.C., as a medical officer. He says, "I'm in charge of the safety of our nation's supply of implanted cardiac devices (pacemakers, defibrillators, etc.)." Friends should feel free to contact him: jreich@gmail.com.

Charlie Butler's new book, The Golden Rules: 10 Steps to World-Class Excellence in Your Life and Work, came out in May. He says, "I wrote it with Bob Bowman, Michael Phelps' long-time coach, who will also be the coach of the 2016 U.S. Men's Olympic Swim Team. In the book, Bowman sets out the 10 principles he uses to shape people — such as Phelps — into success stories. Yes, the principles have worked for swimmers (Phelps has 22 Olympic medals), but Bowman makes the case that they can work for anyone who is seeking to achieve a goal."

Charlie lives in Allentown, Pa., with his wife, Sarah Lorge Butler '95, and children, Leah (11) and Ben (9). He says, "I saw Victor HOU last fall during a reunion of Columbia grads living in the Lehigh Valley. Just after the New Year, I saw Jon Orlin for lunch in NYC. And in February I met up with a few former Sepc sports editors (David Rubel '83, Tom Kassane '84 and Ian Winograd SEAS '85) at a Columbia basketball game."

And as for yours truly, my Columbia activities this past winter and early spring had two fantastic highlights. First, my youngest son, Josh, and I attended five Lions basketball games, including the CollegeInsider.com Tournament semi-final and final games (when Columbia won the CIT title, we were on the court and my son got selfies with the team). The team was the winningest basketball team in Lions history.

Second, I was pleased to attend the John Jay Awards Dinner, where Julius Genachowski was one of the honorees. Another of the honorees near and dear to me was WGBH CEO (and Glee Clubber and Kingsmen member) Jon Abbott '84. Joining me to cheer on the honorees were David Zopolsky, John Phelan and Rich Froehlich. We were also joined by Charles Lester '84, Harvey Cotton '81, Carby Cotton BC'83, Beth Knobel BC'84, Ari Brose BC'84 and Ian Zapolsky '15. It was a fabulous night to reunite with Glee Clubbers (who, of course, wouldn't let the night go by without an impromptu toast at the dinner) and to support the College.

Finally, congratulations to all of you who survived the recent college admissions season. I am pleased to report that Josh was accepted by his first choice, the University of Miami. I am looking forward to another major sports program, warm weather and a little more flexibility in my schedule, though our house will undoubtedly be quieter.

1986

Everett Weinberger 50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B New York, NY 10023 everett6@gmail.com

Our 30th reunion has triggered a lot of great updates. Jeffrey Bernstein emailed from Palm Springs, Calif: "I'm married to Oscar Chromium, my partner of 14 years. We recently celebrated our two-year wedding anniversary. On April 12, 2014, my husband and I had our bar mitzvahs in the morning and a wedding in the evening. I own and operate Chelsea Traveler, Buddy Miles, Bad Company, Guns 'N Roses, Alice in Chains and many more. He is developing a Celtic Christmas show for broadcast on PBS. Shannon is an artist whose work includes curated glass and mixed media. Her work can be seen at ShannonCastleArt.com."

From Warwick Daw: "The biggest news I have is my daughter's, Marguerite '16 graduated this spring, so we will have the same reunion years! She has accepted a painting teaching high school science in Tanzania with the Peace Corps. She majored in physics with a concentration in CS."

Jeff Ammeen: "I am owner and president of Blue Lion Apparel, a men's clothing manufacturer. We sell in department stores, online channels, specialty stores and have our own website for friends and family to purchase clothing. Our brands are Kroon and Palm Beach. I offer Columbia alumni the opportunity to visit our websites, blueionapparel.com and kroonclothing.com, and purchase anything you desire. Sign up and get 10 percent off what the goods sell for at Nordstrom. After all, the company is called Blue Lion. I am also involved with a business that manufactures 'e-liquid' for the vape/e-cigarette industry. American E-Liquid Co. is the parent and sells online at DestinationSPS.com and has worked with other national and international distribution outlets including Macys.com. Destination PSP (PSP is the Palm Springs airport code) capitalizes on the Greater Palm Springs lifestyle, but other Destination operations around the country are in development."

Jeffrey Sick lives in Kirkland, Wash, a suburb of Seattle and the birthplace of Costco. He legally changed his name to Geoffrey Castle in 2003, when he married his second wife, Shannon Connor. The presiding justice of the peace said that she had never done a marriage ceremony before where both parties changed their names. Geoffrey is a professional musician, entertainer, concert promoter and producer, composer and session musician, with a popular Pandora channel and 12 CDs out on his own Twisted Fiddle Music label, available through geoffreycastle.com. Geoffrey has played in the Broadway and touring productions of M. Butterfly and shared stages with people from bands like Heart, Queen, Yes, Blues Traveler, Buddy Miles, Bad Company, Guns 'N Roses, Alice in Chains and many more. He is developing a Celtic Christmas show for broadcast on PBS. Shannon is an artist whose work includes carved glass and mixed media. Her work can be seen at ShannonCastleArt.com.

From Warwick Daw: "The biggest news I have is my daughter's, Marguerite '16 graduated this spring, so we will have the same reunion years! She has accepted a painting teaching high school science in Tanzania with the Peace Corps. She majored in physics with a concentration in CS."
the two brands are The Fog Mafia and American E-Liquid Co. This is something that proves to be 95 percent healthier than tobacco and in time will surpass tobacco sales. There are studies (the United Kingdom recently released a major report) supporting the assertion of vaping being 95 percent safer than tobacco. It’s time to get the cigarettes off the shelves and reduce healthcare costs as well as give people longer, healthier lives. I have two daughters, Jade and Aja, and live in New Jersey.”

James Carr sent in a first-time update from Cambridge, Mass: “Kim Drain BC ’88 (the best thing I got out of the College was from Barnard’s Class of ‘88) and I are at more than three happy decades together. With luck this means we are still not even at the halfway point! We have two awesome kids: Daughter Nina (17), who is just loving my not-too-subtle hints that she might want to consider applying to Columbia, and son Jonah (who I can’t believe is only 9, meaning no empty nest for a long time yet, which is great by me). I rediscovered soccer in my early 40s, and it has become a big part of my life both as an Over The Hill League player and a coach of my kids’ teams. I have had my own practice in architecture and sustainable design consulting for 12 years, which has been both gratifying and fun.”

Lauren Rosen Herman wrote in from Modi’in-Maccabim-Re’ut, Israel: “I have spent 13 years in the same house with the same job, and many more years with the same man and the same kids, but no one day has been like the one before, or like the one following! I am a full-time pediatrician doing community medicine. My hours are long but satisfying and even fun. Our big shift recently has been participating in the ‘next stage’ with our 19-year-old triplets. After graduating from high school here in Israel, the kids head to mandatory army service. Only afterward will they think of higher education.”

“Our two daughters were inducted into the Israeli Defense Forces in July 2015. The oldest of the triplets is in a mixed-gender fighting unit, which specializes in search and rescue missions. The youngest triplet is working in the medical clinics of the Border Guard, specializing in dental care. So there is, truly, something for everyone in the IDF! Their brother, the middle triplet, has chosen to do a ‘gap year’ before his army service and is living with a group of young people and developing new branches of their youth movement. He will start his army service after the summer. Our youngest is an 11th-grader, busy with extracurriculars (and sometimes with schoolwork as well). As the kids grow toward the age that we all were at Columbia, I find myself thinking a lot about the treasures that we were exposed to, taught and given to absorb. I can only hope that my young people will find as great a base for themselves as I did in my Columbia education. Regards to all of the Class of 1986, especially to my transfer student friends!”

David Finkelstein recently accepted a position at University of Edinburgh as head of the Centre for Open Learning. David was employed at University of Dundee as head of the School of Humanities from 2012 to 2014. After three years heading that unit, he was recruited in January 2015 to a new chair in Continuing Education at Edinburgh University, to which the headship of the Centre for Open Learning is linked. He leads a team of about 300 academic and professional staff dealing with more than 6,000 students taking short courses in a range of subjects. Lifelong learning at its busiest! Further info on his recent activities can be found on his personal webpage at www.ed.ac.uk/lifelong-learning/about/prof-david-finkelstein.

From Leofwin Clark: “I’m coming up on 20 years with a global leader in infrastructure development, CH2M, where I am a VP and sales director in the water and wastewater design-build and public-private-partnership market. I am also the president of the Water Design-Build Council, an industry advocacy and research group that promotes collaborative project delivery. My wife, JoBeth, and I are approaching our 24th anniversary and we are happily settled in Denver. Our daughter, Paige, is just completing her M.S.W. at Loyola University in Chicago and our son, Paul, in his sophomore year at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.”

Kenneth A. Iczkowski: “I’m an associate professor doing surgical pathology at Medical College of Wisconsin (Milwaukee). My research contributions have mainly to do with grading of prostate cancer. Would like to hear from Mike Gormley ’87 or Jim Tiesinga ’87. Wife Betsy is fine; kids are 15 and 11. I love helping my son Jason with homework. For example: 16 ^(-3/4). That’s how System check: Can you all still do that in your head?”

Paul Dauber sent in an update: “Live in Englewood, N.J. Four kids (three girls, one boy), all 10 and under, so life a little bit hectic. Partner at PwC. Run marketing for the firm. Have managed to finish nine Ironman races including the biggie, Kona, in 2013. Married to Emily and mostly all good.”

Steven Klotz returned with a quote from his son an 11-day underwater deep ocean exploration of the Socorro Islands (about 400 miles from the Pacific coast of Mexico) and the mega-pelagics that live there. His next adventure will be Saba in the Caribbean and then the Forgotten Islands of Indonesia.

Dan Chenok: “Doing well in Washington, D.C. with my wife, Jill Levison Chenok ’87, SIPA’88, and our three daughters. I run the IBM Center for The Business of Government, which is a group within IBM that works with government leaders and stakeholders in the United States and around the world on how to improve efficiency and effectiveness in areas including management, technology, innovation and performance. We are also helping to lead a significant effort to support good government management as part of a strong transition for the next presidency, working with the Partnership for Public Service in D.C. in support of its Center for Presidential Transition.”

If you Google “FCW and Daniel Chenok” you can see an April 2016 article on Dan when he won an award for Industry Exec of the Year for the government technology world.

Mark Goldstein: “Can’t believe the 30th reunion is coming up [as I write this] — seems like only yesterday we were having fire extinguisher fights in Furnald (I mean studying for finals in Butler). I’m finishing my 22nd year as a coach of my kids’ teams. My son, Noah (11), is active in soccer, basketball and football — looking forward to him being a Lion in few years! Miss my days as sport editor — one of my college highlights for sure. Congrats to the basketball team on the CollegeInsider.com Tournament Championship!”

Mark Goldstein reports that his intellectual property law firm in Thousand Oaks, Calif., SoCal IP Law Group, has begun its 15th year; his younger daughter, Risa, celebrated her bat mitzvah; his older daughter, Shira, finished a run in a community theater production of The Wizard of Oz, where her parts included a flying monkey and mother munchkin; and Mark has embarked on his 20th year of marriage with his wife, Julie.

Dan Klein: “Other than thinning hair (now basically no hair), time has been relatively kind to me. I live in Briarcliff Manor, in Westchester, N.Y., and am married with two kids, Samantha (8) and Benjamin (6). I’m a pension actuary, a principal at Buck Consultants.”

Scott Glascb: “Some titles for me: Recently elected president-elect of the New York County Medical Society and currently president of the New York State Society of Plastic Surgeons. Also a governor of the American College of Surgeons and president of Plastic Surgery Practice Solutions (a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons). Living and practicing on the Upper East Side. I planned to be at reunion.”

1987

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 8–11, 2017

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The countdown begins! No, I’m not referring to that old chestnut, the countdown box to the all-time losing record (how many of you remember that one?). Our 30th reunion is coming!

Now, you may be surprised we graduated 30 years ago, when we are still so young and spry and, of course, up on the latest music and fashion trends (Madonna, ribbons, poufy hair, mullets and Duran Duran).
Duran). But yes, it’s true. It’s been almost 30 years since we were capped and gowned and set free to roam the wilds.

In anticipation of reunion (Thursday, June 8–Sunday, June 11, 2017), eight of us gathered in April for what we hope is the first of many Class of ’87 lunches. Michelle Estilo Kaiser, Ron Burton and Kyra Tirana Barry arranged a cozy gathering at The Smith restaurant in Midtown. Joining Michelle, Kyra and yours truly (Ron, where were you?) were Shelly Friedland, Richard Simon, Jim McNight, George Stone and my dear friend Howard Stecker, whom I hadn’t seen in more years than I care to count. What could be finer than breaking bread with old friends? Breaking bread with more old friends?

In a story only Columbia College grads could pull off, I got to spend some time (and munch on some serious donuts) with Irlene Weinstein Lederman on a recent trip to San Francisco to present some papers at the annual conference of the Society for Humanistic Psychology (my home division of the American Psychological Association). Not to be outdone, our dads, Alvin Kass ’57 and Ed Weinstein ’57, were getting together the same weekend when Ed invited my father to speak at the Sutton Place Synagogue in Manhattan, invited my father to speak at the Sutton Place Synagogue in Manhattan, with Ed introducing him. Two coasts, two Kasses, two Weinstein’s and one weekend! Gotta love it!

We may not have broken bread together recently (maybe soon?) but everywhere I look these days, there is Leslie Vosshall, beginning with the wonderful news that she has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Leslie, who is the Robin Cherners Neustein Professor and head of the Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior at Rockefeller University, is among 84 national and 21 foreign members welcomed to the academy on April 28. Established by an act of Congress, the academy provides independent, objective advice to the federal government and other organizations on matters related to health, science and technology. New members are elected by their peers based upon their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

Leslie’s work has been much in the news lately as she works with flies, mosquitoes and humans to study how complex behaviors are controlled by cues from the environment and modulated by an organism’s internal physiological state. Her more recent work on the genetics of odor and carbon dioxide perception in mosquitoes has implications for fighting diseases spread by these insects. Her lab has identified the odorant gene Oreo, which gives insects a strong preference for humans, as a potential target for chemical inhibitors; and developed genome editing techniques in the yellow fever mosquito Aedes aegypti, an achievement that opens up paths of investigation. In addition, human odor perception research within her lab has explored olfactory psychophysics with genetic analysis in order to understand the mechanisms of olfactory perception in humans. As if that weren’t amazing enough, imagine my surprise opening up my April 1 edition of The New York Times to see Leslie with the prestigious Quotation of the Day: “Have you seen The Shining? It’s like you have a thousand copies of all work and no play” and then three sentences of unique text. — Dr. Leslie B. Vosshall, a mosquito researcher at Rockefeller University, in explaining the difficulty of making sense of the mosquito genome because of repetitive sequences.

She compared it to the classic horror film in which the psychotic Jack Torrance character, played by Jack Nicholson, appears to be writing a novel that turns out to be the same phrase over and over again.

But Leslie wasn’t finished yet, as The New York Times featured her in a piece in the food section just four days later, “Nothing Smells Rotten in Leslie B. Vosshall’s Compost Pail” (search “Leslie Vosshall compost” on nytimes.com). To discover how this article wound up in the food section, I finally turned 50 (I’m a year younger than most of our class) and celebrated with a super-fun, funky dance party in Cambridge, Mass., followed by a Shambhala meditation retreat in Magnolia, Miss. Fifty feels like something to celebrate! Also, this year I became the maternal health technical director at the Maternal Health Task Force, a program of the Women and Health Initiative at Harvard’s T.H. Chan School of Public Health. My work centers on building consensus on strategies for ending preventable maternal deaths worldwide and promoting respectful maternity care.”

And from Lee Vibhushan Ilan: “So after suggesting everyone weigh in with how they celebrated their 50th birthday, it’s my turn to describe last October’s festivities. I celebrated with a Bhangra party where a couple of colorfully costumed dancers demonstrated and taught Bollywood-style moves to about 50 family and friends from many areas of my life. Columbians in attendance included Farah Chandu and her husband, Paul Carbone SEAS’86; Sue Raffman; and Sofia Dumery ’94 (a CCW book club alumna). I paired my wedding hat with a sari and we all enjoyed music, great company, food and cake. Otherwise, we’re ranking elementary schools, puzzling over this wacky election and working our mojo for the Mets in 2016.”

1988

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After two classmates were honored at the 2015 John Jay Awards Dinner, the Class of ’88 can now count another John Jay Award honoree among our ranks. John Vaske, co-chairman of global mergers and acquisitions for Goldman Sachs, received the honor at the 2016 dinner on March 10. John was promoted to his leadership position at Goldman last year.

Congratulations to New School professor Nicholas Birns, whose book Contemporary Australian Literature: A World Not Yet Dead was published last year by the Sydney University Press. The Australian
Mario DiGangi, another literature professor, wrote, "I am a professor at Lehman College, CUNY, and executive officer (chair) of the Ph.D. Program in English at the CUNY Graduate Center. Since 2005, I have guest-taught 10 undergraduate and graduate English courses at Columbia (often in Hamilton Hall, where I took English courses as an undergraduate) including 'Shakespeare II' this semester. This year, I was president of the Shakespeare Association of America."

Elsewhere in academia, Architecture School professor Erica Avrami GSAPP'93 appeared on campus as a featured speaker of the Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program (CUSP). Her presentation focused on the role of heritage sites in shaping changing communities and explored the ways in which heritage and collective memory contribute to sustainability and resilience.

According to her bio from the event, "Erica formerly served as the director of research and education at World Monuments Fund and as a project specialist at the Getty Conservation Institute, and has also taught in the preservation programs at the University of Pennsylvania and Pratt Institute. Erica is a Columbia alumna and she earned her Ph.D. in planning and public policy from Rutgers. Erica was a trustee and secretary of the U.S. Committee of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (US/ICOMOS) from 2004 to 2010, and she currently serves on the editorial advisory board of the journal Change Over Time."

Also featured in the CUSP speaker series this year was Ben Fried, VP and CIO of Google, who talked about "his serendipitous journey from Columbia College as a comp-sci major, to his satisfying and accomplished life today at Google and as a father of three," according to the event announcement. Ben oversees Google's global technology systems, following 13 years at Morgan Stanley, where he rose to managing director of the company's IT department. At Morgan Stanley, he led teams responsible for software development and electronic commerce technologies. Thomas Cornfield checked in from Ann Arbor, Mich., where he is a financial planner and adviser at MetLife. According to his company profile, "My mission is to help our clients achieve their financial goals so that they can fulfill their dreams. I believe in developing client relationships based on integrity, accountability and exceptional service. My goal is to become a lifetime resource for each and every client."

Elizabeth Dupont Spencer, who (like me) lives in the Washington, D.C., area, wrote that she "received a start-up grant from Gannon University for her new business using teleconsulting to train clinicians to effectively treat anxiety and OCD." Elizabeth has been in private practice treating anxiety and OCD with cognitive behavioral therapy for more than 20 years. She is also the co-author of two books about anxiety. At Columbia she was one of the founders of the Nightline Peer Listening Hotline, for which she was presented the Alumni Association Achievement Award at graduation. She lives in Chevy Chase, Md., with her husband of 25 years. They have two grown sons.

If you need any proof that the Columbia experience can be a life-changing one, look no further than my former roommate, Rabbi Lee "Elyahu" Haddad, whom I saw on a recent work trip to Israel. Lee's spiritual journey, which kicked off at Columbia, led him to become executive director of the Yad Avraham Institute, a Jewish learning center. Born in Beirut, raised in New Jersey, Lee moved to Israel in 2007 and, more recently, earned his rabbinic ordination. Now living in the West Bank with his wife and four children, Lee is not only a Jewish educator, but he has also begun business ventures with residents of a nearby Arab village. With his working knowledge of Hebrew, Arabic and English (and his Columbia economics degree), Lee has become a one-man force for Israeli-Palestinian cooperation and local economic growth.

Back home in the Washington area, I decided this year to devote what used to be my remaining free time to chairing the Board of Directors of my two children's day care center at the U.S. Government Accountability Office, where my wife is a policy analyst. As a healthy percentage of my paycheck goes to funding the Tiny Findings Child Development Center, I figured providing some fiscal oversight might be worthwhile; it's also an interesting departure from my responsibilities as a Jewish and pro-Israel advocate at B'nai Brith International. Meanwhile, my son Manny graduated from pre-K this year and will begin public school kindergarten, thereby lightening his parents' financial load while simultaneously swelling their budgets with pride.

Finally, best wishes to our many classmates who are celebrating a certain milestone birthday this year. I have been doing out bottles of Centrum Silver to some friends to mark the occasion. Fifty is nifty! Keep the updates coming! I look forward to hearing from you.

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It's been another big year for CC'89 as we continue our reign as some of Columbia's most committed Lions. Our own Wanda M. Holland Greene TC'91 was elected to Columbia University's Board of Trustees, succeeding William V. Campbell '62, TC'64, who stepped down in 2015 and passed away in April. Wanda is a leader in education and is the head of the Hamlin School in San Francisco and, as many of you might remember, spoke eloquently and generously at our 25th reunion.

Congratulations, Wanda! [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads," Spring 2016.]

Hoyt Glazer wrote that 2015 was full of challenges. "After losing my mother last August, I opened my solo law practice in Huntington, W.Va. I focus on employment and privacy law and, thankfully, have a thriving practice. My wife, Melanie, and I are the proud parents of Seth and Lydia. Both our children look forward to visiting New York soon and visiting the campus where their dad once sported long (now vanished) locks of hair.

"Recently, I had a great chat with David Koller. He and his family are doing well in Los Angeles. David works on [online political and social commentary program] The Young Turks, and you can see several of his podcasts for the show on YouTube."

"I look forward to seeing you and our classmates at the next reunion!"

Earlier this year I attended a scholarship event for the College [the Dean's Scholarship Reception]. A few of our classmates were in attendance, including Suren G. Ouzounian and his wife, Carol. Suren is managing director, head of Americas Corporate Finance at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Of the event, Suren writes, "Carol and I had a great time catching up with folks. When we met our scholar, it was quite humbling. He grew up in a village in Armenia, learned English only two years before he came to Columbia and, as a senior at Columbia, is considering grad school at MIT or Caltech. Wow! It truly energized our commitment to our scholarship at Columbia."

It turns out that Carol's sister-in-law is Christine Jamgochian-Koobarian '87, founding president of Columbia's chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta, which was featured in a New York Times article earlier this year, "When a Feminist Pledges a Sorority." I was also a Theta at Columbia and am excited to announce a reception at the former The West End (now Bernheim & Schwartz) to
celebrate Theta’s Thirtieth Anniversary during Columbia’s Homecoming weekend. The event will be held on Friday, October 21, 6-8 p.m. Ana Toledo, Christine Civardano BC’89, Jill Pollack Lewis, Amy Weinreich Rinzel and Adina Safer BC’89, as well as many of Theta’s founders, including Christine, Michelle Estilo Kaiser ’87 and Emily Valiquette Urban ’88, are hoping to attend. For more information, please contact me.

Don’t forget to send in Class Notes to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your classmates want to hear from you!

1990

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Summer is upon us once again, and I hope everyone survived whatever winter you lived through and enjoyed a fruitful spring. I know at least a few of you were thinking how much you miss Columbia classmates during this time, and I thank you.

Beth Kissileff wrote from Pittsburgh, “When I opened the book section of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on February 21, I found not one but two books by Columbians under review. One was my edited anthology, Reading Genesis: Beginnings, where I ask Jewish academics in different fields to write about Genesis from their academic perspectives. The other was music critic Ben Ratliff’s new book, Every Song Ever: Twenty Ways to Listen in an Age of Musical Plenty. [Editor’s note: See “Bookshelf,” this issue.] Ben and I both worked shelving books at Burgess Library one summer (1988? 1987?). It makes me happy to hope that someone will be shelving books each of us has written now! In other news, my novel Questioning Return will be published in October and my youngest daughter recently had her bar mitzvah. Columbia friend Rabbi Amy Bardack ’89 is moving to Pittsburgh with her family this summer — reunions to come!”

Noreen Whysel (née Flanagan) is proud to report that her daughter Simone finished her first year at Sarah Lawrence College and daughter of Ed Mitre’s middle daughter, Mira. It was a fun time, of course, but it’s particularly noteworthy because Ed is the best unpaid tour guide in our nation’s capital! He took us to the 9-11 Pentagon Memorial and the FDR Memorial on quite a rainy day. Ed is at Walter Reed AMC, where he teaches, runs a research lab and sees patients — and he’s as nice as ever! Dave Charytan also made an appearance at the festivities. He lives in Brooklyn, Mass., and his oldest son was recently accepted at NYU. We had hoped to see Liz Schumann Ghauri, but she and her family are on an extended stay in Dubai, where she is an attorney at a federal agency.”

Debra Williams is head of the International School of Florence and enjoys the Tuscan countryside in her free time with her three daughters and her husband.

David Wacks lives in Eugene, Ore., with his wife, Katharine Gallagher, and sons, Eitan (10) and Zev (8). He is professor of Spanish at Oregon. In 2015, he won the National Jewish Book Award in the category of Sephardic Culture for his book Double Diaspora in Sephardic Literature: Jewish Cultural Production Before and After 1492. Wacks and Gallagher and sons will spend 2016–17 in Seville, Spain.

David Kaufman writes: “I work at Bridgeport Hospital and am section chief of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. As the landscape of medicine changes, we have become more integrated into the Yale-New Haven Health System. I am the chairman of the Yale-New Haven Health System ICU Leadership Group. My main interests at work are mechanical ventilation and the prevention of a form of severe respiratory failure known as ARDS (acute respiratory distress syndrome). “Last month I helped teach a national course on mechanical ventilation at the yearly congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

In February, Alan Goldman began a position with the Orthodox Union, a nonprofit providing a variety of educational programs and religious services to the Jewish community. He is the director of development for the OU-JILC (Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus) program, which places a rabbinic couple on college campuses to teach and support observant students. He is especially happy that Columbia is one of the 22 colleges participating, which means that he will visit campus more often. Alan lives in Cleveland but the new job is based in lower Manhattan so he will commute to NYC weekly.

And finally, Jennifer Ashton, board-certified ob/gyn, author and TV medical correspondent, announced that she will provide free gynecological care to female veterans.

Jennifer Ashton ’91, a board-certified ob/gyn, author and TV medical correspondent, announced that she will provide free gynecological care to female veterans.
to do something now. Taking care of our female veterans is a cause I believe in, not only as a woman and an ob/gyn, but as the daughter of a former captain in the U.S. Air Force. I was born on George A.F.B. in San Bernardino, Calif., and that has always imbued me with respect for our men and women in the Armed Forces. On a larger scale, I think this highlights a crucial conversation that we need to be having around women’s — veterans and non-veterans — health and how to get women the best care possible.”

The next update will include a recap of all the fun from our 25th reunion. Hope you were there! Until then, cheers!

1992

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 8-11, 2017
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Greetings, classmates! And what have we here? A first Class Notes submission from Andrew Mackenzie!

“I do have some good news,” he writes. “After 20 years as an attorney with the Board of Veterans’ Appeals (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs), I have been appointed Veterans Law Judge with this agency.”

Peter Hatch wrote in with some professional news: After two years as senior advisor to New York First Deputy Mayor Anthony Shorris, Peter has moved to chief of staff for Dr. Herminia Palacio, New York’s Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

From the official announcement: “In his new role, Hatch will support Deputy Mayor Palacio in addressing homelessness across the five boroughs and developing a citywide network for mental health support. In addition, he will help in the coordination of the City’s public health care system, improve access to social services for all New Yorkers and ensure agencies that oversee New York City’s most vulnerable populations, such as children and victims of domestic violence, are run compassionately and effectively. He will also coordinate closely with the Office of the First Deputy Mayor on the ongoing review of the City’s homeless programs.”

So, all the easy jobs, eh, Peter? I don’t have any major news, though I recently returned from covering President Barack Obama ‘83 in Cuba. It was a history-making trip to a fascinating place.

Please send in your updates — personal or professional! This column only works when you contribute, and you can do so by writing to either of the addresses at the top of this column or by using CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note!

1993

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Greetings, classmates!

Vic Fleischer reports: “I teach tax and business law at USD and somehow survive the relentless sunshine. I’m an occasional contributor to The New York Times and I’m generally despised by the private equity industry for my attempts to close the carried interest loophole search ‘The Billionaires’ Loophole’ on newyorker.com). My wife, Miranda, is also a law professor. Our daughter Penelope (7)’s new favorite movie is The Martian. I often see old friends Rhanda Moussa, Dan Gillies, Sang Ji and Jessie Auth when I get to New York. I see Cameron Meierhofer when I get to Washington, D.C. And I occasionally see Neil Turitz when he drives down the coast from his meetings in Los Angeles with fancy movie people.”

Yumi Koh writes: “My Wharton M.B.A. classmate Lauren Cantor recently came to my new place in Brooklyn with her adorable dog, Pico. Lauren has retired from a successful career in finance and is getting a master’s in graphic design from the School of Visual Arts. She is pursuing her passion and, as an art history major, I’m impressed. I’m a global investment analyst at the hedge fund StoneWork Capital and also advise public/private companies. Looking forward to our 25th reunion. Yikes, can it really be that many years since we graduated?”

I was pleased to hear from Ken Ehrenberg, who writes: “I teach philosophy of law at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa (although I live in Birmingham). My first book, The Functions of Law, came out in May 2015. My wife, Hanako, and I have one girl, Sara (2).”

I also heard from the last issue’s guest columnist, Patti Lee, who hosted a musical evening in her home in Mill Valley, Calif., in January where Andrew Vladeck ‘92 performed for guests that included Drew Stevens SEAS’92 and Daria Saraf BC95, among others. Patti has been a loyal follower of Andrew’s group, Fireships, and said he was “awesome.”

Jill Kateman Glashow and I had a long overdue catch-up dinner recently. It is the classic situation at our stage of life — kids are different ages, we both work, we live one town apart (actually 10 minutes apart) and we hadn’t on each other’s radar for a couple of years given all of life’s activity. Jill and her husband, Jason, live in Wellesley, Mass., with their kids, Jude, Anna and Caleb, who range from fifth to ninth graders. Jill has been working part-time for the last six years as a social worker at a clinic and in private practice. It was great to see her and we are determined to not let so much time pass again!

As I read this short column, I am pleased to see so many Car—man 11 names! Please continue to send updates! You can send to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1994

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Alex Finley published in April her first novel, Victor in the Rubble, a satire about the CIA and the war on terror. Full disclosure: Alex is using a pseudonym, as she is a former CIA officer, but Karen Sender verifies that she is legit CC’94. The novel was inspired by many of Alex’s behind-the-scenes experiences in the CIA.

Alex has been hosting a number of book launch parties this spring and summer in Washington, D.C., New York City and Denver and started an Indiegogo campaign to help make the parties interactive by offering spy experiences (like having the book left at a dead drop). Learn more: igg.me/at/alexfinleyx.

Congrats to Alex! Congratulations are also in order for Jennifer Khouri (née Brodie), who writes that she and her husband, Andy, welcomed a daughter, Sofia Crescenzi, on September 13. Sofia joins brothers Aidan (6), Tucker (15) and Andrew (19), as well as sister Marybeth (21).

“My professional life saw some changes as well in 2015,” Jennifer writes. “After nearly seven years, I left Booz Allen Hamilton and entered into federal service. I’m the Command Information System Security Manager (ISSM) for Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCD) — everything is an acronym in the government! I’m basically responsible for the command’s cybersecurity program.”

Other changes also include her last name — after four years of marriage, Jennifer decided to take her husband’s name and go by Jennifer Khouri. And finally, a nice update from Shawn Landres: “In February I gave the 11th Annual Gus and Libby Solomon Memorial Lecture at Portland State University at the
kind invitation of Professor Natan Meir. Who knew that sharing a first-year, first-semester Russian class in 1990 would lead to this? Shawn adds, “Back home, where I have been a Civil Society Fellow at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, I’ve become more involved in civic life as chair of the Santa Monica Social Services Commission, and in my capacity as a Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity commissioner as chair of the Los Angeles County Productivity Investment Board, the nation’s oldest and largest local government innovation fund.”

Though Shawn notes that neither of these positions falls under the jurisdiction of L.A.’s most famous former Columbia College Student Council representative (i.e., Mayor Eric Garcetti ’92, SIPA ’93), he reports that he sees Eric and George Kolombatovitch ’93 from time to time.

Thanks for sharing your news, everyone! Everyone else, see your news in the Fall issue by sending me a note at lak6@columbia.edu or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1995
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Thanks to LinkedIn, I reconnected with Donna Phillips (née Paolotti). She graciously helped my call for an update.

Donna lives Columbia, Md., between Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, with her husband, Kris, director of facilities for Towson University, and their kids, Tyler (10) and Alessia (6). Both kids play ice hockey and swim, and the family dedicates weekends to their sports and Donna’s training for half marathons and triathlons.

After teaching middle and high school social studies for 20 years in Maryland, Donna is now putting her Ph.D. from Maryland in education policy to use as the social studies curriculum manager for D.C. public schools. “It’s an exciting time to work in curriculum and policy as federal and state policies are changing so rapidly. I like being in a position to actively support and work with teachers while interpreting laws that affect education,” Donna writes. “Work is hectic and challenging and I love it.” She also is an adjunct professor at Maryland, where she teaches preservice teachers.

For fans of Serial, Donna is on episode two in Season 1 as the AP psych teacher for Adnan and Hae and the students from Woodlawn H.S. “Those were my first four years of teaching,” Donna wrote in her email. “I knew the students pretty well, having taught them as freshmen and seniors.” Read her blog post about her experiences with the students, the murder and the impact of the Serial podcast: wp.me/P6pq6j-35.

Donna begins the post just a few months after our college graduation: “In August of 1995, I was a brand new teacher at Woodlawn High School. I, along with three other Caucasian teachers, was among the 25% of new teachers on the staff that year. We were all young and blond(ish) and my department chair called us the Brady Bunch.”

Adnan and Hae were both in her honors “Contemporary America” class. “It was Adnan and Hae’s freshman year. It was my freshman year,” she wrote.

Donna later realized the crime likely occurred sometime after her AP class: “Mine was the last class he had that day. Mine was the last class Hae ever attended.”

Thanks for sharing, Donna. Everyone else, please keep the news coming. You can send notes to either of the addresses at the top of this column or submit through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1996
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Greetings, classmates! By the time this column is published, I hope many of us will have reunited in Morningside Heights for our 20th reunion (at which I likely accosted you for news for our next column, in the Fall issue). At the present time, here is the news I have:

Elissa Vona (née Bondsteinman)
LAW ’02 married Joseph Vona
SEAS ’95, BUS ’00 in 2001 after Joseph graduated from the Business School and right before Elissa graduated from the Law School. The couple has two daughters, Sophia (12) and Victoria (10), and last year moved from New Jersey to Charlotte, N.C., after spending their lives in the Tri-State area. Joseph works at Wells Fargo and is head of Internet Rate Options Trading. Elissa writes that she has been keeping herself busy in Charlotte by working with the Alumni Representative Committee by interviewing high school students applying to Columbia, as well as forming the Columbia Alumni Association of the Carolinas. If any alumni are planning to travel to Charlotte, or are in the Charlotte area, Elissa asks that you look up the group at carolinas.alumni.columbia.edu.

Elizabeth Baron (née Tanenbaum) lives in south Florida and has been teaching art appreciation to grade school students and working in real estate. She has finished writing her first book on dance and is trying to get it published, so if there is a literary agent in our class she would welcome connecting. Elizabeth and her husband have two children, ages 12 and 13. Elizabeth would love to hear from classmates who are in the area: bettybaron@gmail.com.

Jody Alpert Levine and her husband, Elie Levine, reside in NYC with their five children. Their oldest, Skyler, is a first-year at Wharton; daughter Joline is a junior in high school, daughter Caitlin is in seventh grade, son William is in second grade, and baby Jack is 17 months old as of this writing. They continue to practice together at Plastic Surgery and Dermatology of NYC, a full spectrum cosmetic practice they created nine years ago.

Marcel Agueros is an assistant professor of astronomy at Columbia. He presented a 2016 Columbia University Distinguished Faculty Award. He directs public outreach for the astronomy department, is a member of the Double Discovery Center’s Board of Friends and manages Columbia’s Ph.D. bridge program in the natural sciences that prepares underrepresented minority post-baccalaureats for transition into Ph.D. programs.

Megan Hester has made community organizing and school reform the center of her work. She works at the Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown, coordinating with groups to improve New York City’s public schools for poor and working-class communities of color.

Writer and pastry chef Klancy Miller, who has contributed to Food Republic and appeared on the Food Network’s Recipe for Success, recently published Cooking Solo: The Joy of Cooking for Yourself. The book has been described by renowned New York chef Marcus Samuelsson as a “smart, fun, user-friendly cookbook with great recipes for solo cooks.”

For the last five years, Hussein Rashid has been working with the Children’s Museum of Manhattan on an exhibit called “America to Zanzibar: Muslim Cultures Near and Far.” (crom.org/explore/america_zanzibar). It is geared for children from 3 months to 10 and their caregivers. Hussein writes that if you are in the area, he hopes you will go see it.

Musician-composer Tom Kitt and playwright-lyricist Brian Yorkey ’93, whose celebrated musical Next to Normal won the 2008 Outer Critics’ Circle Award for Outstanding Score, the 2009 Tony Award for Best Score and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama (just the eighth musical in history to receive the honor), and who worked together on the musical If/Then, starring Idina Menzel, are teaming up again for a musical adaptation of the 2012 Steven Soderbergh comedy-drama film Magic Mike. Tom and Brian are also working on stage adaptations of Freaky Friday and The Visit. Keep your eyes out for these exciting projects from this highly talented duo.

And that, my classmates, is the news I have for you this time around. Thank you to everyone who helped gather this information for you (you know who you are). Given that you are all highly educated, cosmopolitan Ivy-Leaguers, I am going to climb out on a limb here and venture to say that you will all find my parting note entertaining (alarming?), regardless of your political inclinations:

“Our country is in serious trouble. We don’t have victories anymore. We used to have victories, but we don’t have them. When was the last time anybody saw us beating, let’s say, China, in a trade deal? … I beat China all the time. All the time.” — Donald Trump
1997

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 8–11, 2017
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CC'97, please share your news! I know you are all up to great things, and we would all like to hear about it. Shoot me an email at srk12@ columbia.edu and your news will appear in the Fall issue! Also, start getting excited for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2017, which will be here before we know it!

A short column this edition: John Dean Alfone recently worked with director and longtime collaborator Steven Alexander (seeking distribution for Steven's feature A Night Without Armor) to produce a sizzle reel for the Japan External Trade Organization commemorating Warner Bros.' mutually-beneficial relationship with Stevens feature Armor (out 2013).

Rebekah Gee was named secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals of Louisiana by Gov. John Bel Edwards. In this role, along with handling other important projects, Rebekah is overseeing the massive expansion of Louisiana's Medicaid program. She is also a professor of health policy and management in ob/gyn at Louisiana State University.

Cindy Kruger (née Warner) and her husband, Nathan Kruger, are happy to announce they had a son, Jacob, in February. Eti (3) is thrilled to be a big brother. Abigail (11) and Benjamin (9) are happy to run in circles around the little one. Cindy is in-house counsel for PepsiCo, where she practices regulatory food law.

1998

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First, a happy collective 40th birthday to the majority of our class. While a few of us approach 40 with teenagers, many of us are becoming parents (or having second, third or fourth children), so let's start off our Class Notes with baby news!

Nearly a year after getting married, Jerome Jontry became a father on April 11. Jerome and his wife, Amy Stockard, were married May 2, 2015, and are proud parents to Paige Marie Jontry. According to their wedding announcement, he is a senior civil engineering project manager at the University of Southern California and Amy is an ob/gyn at UCLA Medical Center. Julie Yufe, who attended the wedding with her husband, Michael Dreyer, said it was beautiful.

Congratulations on both your wedding and your daughter, Jerome and Amy!

Megan Kearney announced the birth of her fourth daughter. She and her husband, Paul Enright, welcomed Willa James Enright to the world on March 12. “She is such a joy!” Sisters Delaney, Mave and Ainsley are so excited,” Megan wrote on her Facebook page. The middle name, which all of her daughters share, is in tribute to Megan's late twin brother, James E. Kearney. Megan and Paul live in Manhattan. Congratulations, Megan!

Hope to hear from more of you for the next column. You don't have to announce a wedding or a baby to send in an update! Send notes to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1999

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Big news of the season! We hear there's a new addition to the Lions community in the great state of Texas. Charlie Leykum writes from Houston, where he recently moved with his family after nearly 20 years in the New York City area.

“We moved almost to the day I arrived on Morningside Heights from San Antonio for the pre-orientation program (Columbia Urban Experience) in 1995. It has been a busy few years with our move and my wife, Elizabeth, and I welcomed our third baby, Lucy, a year ago. Houston has been great, once we got acclimated to the 100-degree heat last summer and the constant humidity from being just off of the Gulf of Mexico. Despite all of this, the plethora of breakfast taco options does make up for the lack of bagels! I will miss seeing our classmates in NYC and I look forward to visiting with those in Texas — and also welcoming anyone who wants to come to Houston!”

It's a lean month for the CC'99 column. Not a lot of eager reporters among you. But we're looking forward to hearing all about your worlds now that you're out of hibernation. Give us a shout at the email addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note!

2000

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Daniel Kokhba is happy to announce that daughter Eva Storm Kokhba was born on January 22. Daniel is a partner at Kantor, Davidoff. His law practice is evolving with a greater focus on general counsel for clients in arts, sports and business.

Chip Moore also writes in with exciting news: “We had our second daughter, Penelope, in August. We had a homebirth with the assistance of a couple of midwives, because we believe in witchcraft. Mom and baby (who was just under 10 lbs.) are doing well, although I'm not sure the neighbors will ever look at us the same way. The homebirth was the most amazing experience of my life, but if there is a next time, I think we may just put a bed of hay down in the backyard and have the baby there.

“Speaking of neighbors, we have great ones. We live in a triple-decker in lovely Brockton, Mass., nicknamed ‘The City of Champions,’ as it is the birthplace of Rocky Marciano. It is also the home of a number of street gangs and, according to FBI crime data, has the highest rate of violent crime in the state. Hey, second place is the first loser is what I always say! Winter slowed down the action in our neighborhood though. At this writing, it's been at least a few months since we've heard gunshots outside the window. Thank goodness summer is here; I am starting to feel like I'm losing my edge. The good news is that the building of a casino right down the street from my house was just approved, so pretty soon we can add gambling to the list of vices available in the city. Can't wait!”

“The bright side is that my kids are growing up street-smart. My oldest daughter, Charlotte (AKA Charley, or street name 'Char-Loco'), will be 3 in June and she can already spot the neighborhood dope spots. We’ll be driving down the street, and she’ll point and say, 'Daddy, are they slangin’?' That’s my girl! She was also recently on WorldstarHipHop after taking out another toddler at the playground when the kid tried to take her Elmo doll. World Star!

“Speaking of the FBI, I recently finished a one-year assignment with a federal drug task force, working as part of an FBI team. We focused on drug trafficking organizations, both international and intranational. It was awesome. I got to have a beard.

"I had to leave that assignment when I got promoted. I am now Sgt. Chip Moore, which I think sounds very official. So now, instead of taking out high-level, violent cartel
and street-gang members, I’m back in uniform supervising the midnight shift. The good news is that I’m probably an Internet celebrity now, given how often someone sticks a camera in my face and records me. I may even have my own YouTube channel at this point although I can’t find it, so if someone comes across it, let me know. I’d like to put a link up on my MySpace page. No more beard though, which is very sad.

“Lastly, I’m pursuing a master’s in criminal justice from Curry College. I found that I was really missing my student loans, so I figured this would be a good way to get those back in my life. With any luck I’ll finish up next summer and then those bills can start coming and I can be whole again. “Obviously, this is written a bit tongue-and-cheek, but it’s all (mostly) true. We are truly happy and thankful for a wonderful family life and the blessings that have been given to us.”

CC’00, see your news in the Fall issue by sending a note to either address at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cc/submit_class_note.

2001

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In my years writing this column (I can say “years” now as we approach our 15-year reunion, as I’ve been doing this uninterrupted since graduation) there have been a few columns that I’ve turned in that were JUST ABOUT BABIES. And this is one of those columns. Seems like a baby boom for the Class of 2001. If your little one isn’t noted in this column, please tell me!

Ellen Volpe and her husband, Michael, welcomed their first daughter, Brooke Valentine, on December 31. Brooke joins boys Dylan (7), Quinn (5) and Grant (3). Congratulations to Ellen and Michael!

Samantha Earl welcomed her daughter, Maud Alice Manheim, on January 22.

Congratulations to Sam! Dan Feldman and his wife, Ilana Kurshen, welcomed their daughter on January 27.

Congratulations to Dan and Ilana! Robia Saeed and her husband, Parker Hayden, welcomed their son, Shane Ryker Hayden, on December 19. Shane joins big sister Sylvia. Congratulations to Robia and Parker!

Hilary Feldstein Ratner and her husband, David Ratner, welcomed their daughter, Eliette Cecilia, on March 2. Eliette joins brother Mason (4).

Congratulations to Hilary and David!

Camille DeLaite and Akhilli Chopra welcomed their first child, daughter June DeLaite Chopra in November.

Congratulations to Camille and Akhilli!

Eri Kaneko welcomed her son, Kenzo, on February 26.

Congratulations to Eri!

Finally, my wife, Jamie, and I are so disappointed that we weren’t able to attend reunion. But we were lucky enough to have our own mini-reunion on a recent visit in March.

We were thrilled to see Alex Eule, Michelle Eule BC’01, Rachel Bloom BC’01, Mirka Feinstein BC’01, Erin Fredrick BC’01 and Rachel Dobkin BC’01. It was amazing to see everyone (including spouses and a fiancé) and hang out with future generations of Barnard and Columbia alumni (there were lots of kids running around Mirka’s backyard in New Jersey).

Have a wonderful summer! Be sure to send in your notes; you can send them to either address at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cc/submit_class_note.

2002

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No news this time, CC’02. Send your updates about your fabulous summer adventures and everything else that’s going on with you to the addresses at the top of this column — they will be included in the Fall issue! You can also send in a note through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cc/submit_class_note. Our 15-year reunion will be here before we know it, so let’s use Class Notes to catch up before the big event!

2003

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Love and success both seem to be in the air for our classmates as spring has arrived [at the time of writing] for those of us living in the northern half of the world. Here are just a few of the exciting things that have happened in some of our lives recently:

Rohit Pushkar writes, “I’ve started pursuing an M.B.A. at the Kellogg School in Chicago after sound advice from Ruby Bola. Planned graduation date is 2018, as I need to take a couple quarters off to work and pay for the thing. If anyone wants to hang out in Chi-Town on the weekends give me a shout on Facebook or by email!”

Previn Waran writes, “I completed a federal clerkship with the Hon. Peter G. Sheridan, a United States district judge, and have since joined the incredible law offices of Oved & Oved, a full-service boutique firm in Tribeca. Been keeping in touch with Gil Se linger, who recently made director at his law firm in Colorado, and Jimmy Silberman, who loves being a dad to two beautiful kids in Los Angeles.”

Dawn Jackson writes, “I am enrolled in a master’s of science program at Mount Saint Mary’s University Los Angeles for counseling psychology. My interest is in researching and working with military and police populations to help them regulate the stressful nature of their positions to ensure safer outcomes for everyone involved. I made the move after a lifetime in New York with my family to L.A., where we had our first son, Bobby Cash. I’m a member of the Columbia University Alumni Association of Southern California. I don’t think our dad will ever allow us to move back.”

Sharif Neshewat shared a few updates: “I enjoyed Columbia’s wild basketball season at Levien Gym with Felix Brutter SEAS’03. I mentored Cadienne Naquin ’16 and Claudia Khoury ’16. Recently left the Department of Homeland Security and started a role at HSBC as a VP and senior legal counsel, regulatory and law enforcement investigations.”

Private Equity Wire recently ran an article announcing that Winston Song was promoted to partner at Vestar Capital Partners: “A member of the firm’s Consumer group, Song first joined Vestar in 2006 from Lehman Brothers’ Global Leveraged Finance Group. He rejoined Vestar in 2011 after receiving his M.B.A. from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Song began his career with CSFB Strategic Partners,
joining Keller Williams as a real estate salesperson in New York City. AnnaMaria Mannino White writes, "My husband, Jonathan White, and I have been in L.A. for almost two years now. Jonathan is an active duty Marine officer and credit Suisse’s private equity second-ary fund."

Jessica R. Berenyi is now VP and senior counsel at American Express.

David F.C. Wong recently transitioned from finance to real estate, joining Keller Williams as a real estate salesperson in New York City. Jack Simon Robbins (5) whom he represented for Northrop Grumman, working in its aerospace sector and supporting a variety of space programs. We enjoy L.A. but will be off on a new adventure by the end of next year when Jonathan gets orders to another duty station."

Jonathan Klein writes, "Jonathan recently changed jobs within the U.S. Department of Transportation. In September 2015, he left his job with the Federal Transit Administration overseeing transit infrastructure and program development in Los Angeles. His new position is at the Federal Aviation Administration, leading the agency’s Airport Disability Compliance Program. He lives in Los Angeles." Gracielle Lo writes, "I am very excited to announce that I got married on January 20! I met Jarrett, who was born and raised in Hawaii, a few years after I moved to Hawaii. Our plan is stay in Hawaii indefinitely, even though I miss New York terribly. The wedding took place at Cafe Julia, an art-deco restaurant in downtown Honolulu. It was small and intimate, with only about 50 guests. Joel Marrero, Kris De Pedro and Karolina Dryjanska all made the trip for the wedding; only Oscar Olivo ’04 was missing because he had performances in Germany.

The last year was an eventful one for Adam Kushner. In early 2015 he became editor of The Washington Post’s Outlook section; in the summer he bought a home in Washington, D.C., with Maria Simon, a D.C. attorney and partner/co-owner of The Geller Law Group; and in early 2016 he and Maria married in New Orleans. Many Colombians braved Snowzilla for the party, including Ravi Rajendra (who signed the ketubah), Alex Angert; Harold Braswell; Shawn Choy; Nancy Cook JRN’04; Amba Datta; Elizabeth Dwoskin ’05; Amanda Erickson ’08; Julia Fuma; David Gerrard; Calvert Wallace Jones; Josh Lebewohl; Columbia administrator Bridget O’Brien BC’80, JRN’81; David Reina SEAS’02; Liza Steele; Nick Summers ’05; instructor Alexis Wichowski, all of whom boogied adroitly during the second line. Rabbi Shira Stutman ’95 officiated. Ben Casselman, father Fred Kushner ’70, PS ’74, and brother Jared Kushner ’06, PS ’12 gave epic toasts/roasts. That night, Adam also became stepfather to Jack Simon Robbins (5) whom he calls "a little mini-mensch."

2004

Jaydip Mahida 76 Courter Ave. Maplewood, NJ 07040 jmahida@gmail.com

CCT welcomes new CC’04 correspondent Jaydip Mahida! The following is written by him: Hi Class of 2004! I hope you are all having a wonderful summer and a great year. Here are some updates from our class:

Jason Burwen has taken on the role of policy director for the Energy Storage Association, "...representing the industry that is putting batteries on the electric grid and leading market development efforts nationwide."

Jacob Barandes and his wife, Shirley Barandes (née Lavin) BC’01, enjoy life and work in Cambridge, Mass., with their daughters, Sadie (7) and Emily (3). Jacob is the director of graduate studies for the Science Division at Harvard, coordinating planning, advising and funding for the graduate programs across the university’s science departments. Jacob is also a lecturer and associate director of graduate studies for the physics department at Harvard, where he advises and teaches physics Ph.D. students in addition to administering committees that intersect with the department’s graduate program.

Cynthia Chen will take her talents from New York to San Francisco in a new role as chief risk officer at LendingHome, a FinTech company in the mortgage space. She would love to connect with Columbia alumni in the Bay area, so please reach out! Dominique Clayton (née Phelps) writes, “After living in NYC and Atlanta, I’ve relocated to my hometown of Los Angeles. My husband and I have three daughters. I’ve recently opened an art gallery, Studio Gallery Center. I look forward to visits from all of you to support local artists!”

Scott Moncur writes, "My wife, Becky Moncur, and I recently welcomed our first child, a girl, on November 2. Madison Charlotte Moncur was born in Calgary, Alberta, and her first Columbia alumni visitor was Darin Schroeder ’03."

Nyia Noel writes, “My husband, Ryan Cooper, and I had a daughter, Dahlia Noelle Cooper, on September 16. We live in Boston, where I am completing a fellowship in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. From Laura Gee BC’04: “[My husband,] Daniel Wise, and I welcomed our first child, Eleanor Gee Wise, into this world in July 2015. Daniel is a high school humanities teacher at Fenway H.S. in Boston and I’m an assistant professor of economics at Tufts.”

Andrew Briggle and his wife, Melissa, are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Annabelle Kacey Briggs. After 14 years in New York, I moved from Hamilton Heights to Maplewood, N.J., in 2014 with my wife, Carol TC’08, and our puggles, Stella and Roxy. We are having a great time hiking, golfing and exploring the Garden State with friends old and new. Definitely reach out if you are ever in the area and would like to catch up.

Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please share about trips you may take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across (not going to lie, I got way too excited for season two of Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt). You can send updates either via the email address at the top of the column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Columbia College Today Columbia Alumni Center 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530 New York, NY 10025 cct@columbia.edu

Calling all CC’05ers! CCT needs a Class Notes correspondent for this column. Being a class correspondent is a great way to stay in touch with classmates and to share all the amazing things they are up to.

Tze-cheng Chun ’06 married Geoffrey Patton Lewis in Hudson, N.Y., on May 24, 2015. In attendance were Christian Capasso ’07, Pavan Surapaneni GS’06, Jennifer Goggin ’06, Arvind Kadala ’07, Colleen Leth BC’08, Kate Lane Shaw ’05, Blake Shaw SEAS’05, Jessica Fjeld ’05, Aria Bronstein-Moffly BC’05, Eileen Farrell ’06, Tze-Ngo Chun ’02, Stacey Warady Gillett BC’05, Alper Bahadir ’07, Jessica Backus ’04, Michael Ciccarone ’05, Jeffrey Engler ’05, Sophie Scharf BC’07, Elisa Davis BC’07, Hart Lubmar SEAS’05, Kylie Davis ’07, Danielle Fein BC’06 and Ted Summe SEAS’06 as well as best man Robert Meyerhoff ’06 and maid of honor Sarah Betherman BC’06.
Please reach out to cct@columbia.edu if you are interested.

CCT thanks Claire McDonnell for her four years of great service as class correspondent. Until we find a new correspondent, please send your news to cct@columbia.edu — it will be included in the Fall issue!

2006

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Friends, it was a thrill to see so many of you at our 10-year reunion in June. For those who attended, I hope you had the opportunity to reconnect with classmates and reflect on the many ways our time at Columbia has influenced who we are today.

I’ve been our class correspondent for a decade and I can say that I am continually amazed by the impressive talent, creativity and purpose-filled ambition of our class. I’ve been heartened, inspired and challenged by many of your updates — thank you for that privilege. I expect great things in the decade ahead!

For now, here are some updates:
- Sam Schon and his wife, Katie, welcomed a son, William, in January.
- Andrew also works in operations at Summe SEAS’06 and freelances for a number of publications including The Atlantic and The Washington Post.
- Aditi Sriram is moving to Delhi, where she will be an assistant professor at Ashoka University, teaching critical and creative writing. Aditi currently teaches at SUNY Purchase and freelances for a number of publications including The Atlantic and The Washington Post. She’s excited to move her career to India this summer!
- Adrienne Zetterberg, Montse Ferrer with at the Los Angeles Film Festival.

2007

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 8–11, 2017
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Thank you so much to everyone who submitted notes! It’s nice to see all the exciting things members of our class are up to.

After eight years working in various roles at Citibank, Christopher Jones left the financial services industry to become an account executive with Google for Work in Mountain View, Calif., where he will focus on selling cloud-based software solutions to large corporations and government organizations.

2008

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Madeleine Stokes married Andrew Mercer on September 26. Teritha Yegash was maid of honor and Stefanie Goodsell ’09 and Wilson Lihn ’99 were in the bridal party. Sally Cohen-Cutler, Tom Keenan ’07, Sam Savage ’08, Caroline Savage ’08 and Terence Burke ’07 were also in attendance. Maddy and Andrew met in law school at Fordham. Andrew is an ADA in Miami and Maddy works for the Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice, in the Bronx.

Carmen Jo “CJ” Rejda-Ponce started a new job at the law firm Germer in Houston. She specializes in employment law and civil rights defense for public entities.

Katherine Atwill finished her master’s in English language arts education from CUNY Lehman and is on her way to a second degree in employment law at Fordham. Andrew is an ADA in Manhattan and Maddy works for the Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Practice, in the Bronx.
in teaching math. She says, "I teach seventh-grade math at the Bronx Charter School for Excellence and am happily married to Pitr Strait '07. We recently adopted a foster kitten, Yago, and he and his big sister, Seashell, are best friends."

Don’t forget to share your news for inclusion in the Fall issue! Send updates to either of the addresses at the top of the column or submit them through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2009

Alidad Damooei and his wife, Lauren Gentry Damooei '10, BUS'16, are also making a move this summer. Lauren graduated from the Business School in May and will be a consultant at Bain & Company. Alidad will continue to practice law at Sullivan & Cromwell but will transfer to its Los Angeles office. They look forward to enjoying the perpetual sunshine and good weather of California with their puppy, Rosie.

2010

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Hi, Class of 2010. I have a lot of great updates to share.

David Zhou writes, "I recently accepted an offer to join MIT’s Brain and Cognitive Sciences Department as a Ph.D. student. I’m currently doing research at Massachusetts General Hospital, in a lab where I found Professor of Biological Sciences and Neuroscience Rafael Yuste’s business card (from when he worked at Bell Labs) in a random filing cabinet."

Valerie Sapozhnikova shares, "I graduated from Harvard Law this May. It’s been great getting to know Cambridge and Boston during the past three years, but I am super excited to move back to New York! After taking (and I hope surviving) the New York Bar, I hope to travel and explore Southeast Asia. I’ll start my job at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in the fall."

Steven J. Carbonaro has been busy since Columbia. In May, he graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine as an M.D. specializing in psychiatry and will start a residency at Mount Sinai Beth Israel in Manhattan. In the course of his studies he has traveled to Guatemala and Uganda to help those in need.

Asher Grodman has some exciting news: "My short film, The Train, starring honorary Academy Award winner Eli Wallach, has screened at 17 film festivals nationally and internationally while also winning two awards. Up next is the Cleveland International Film Festival. "I recently made my Los Angeles theater debut as the lead of The Dodgers, which is about a group of musicians in the 1969 Vietnam War draft; up next I’m thrilled to play Amadeus Mozart in Amadeus at South Coast Repertory!"

Lena Fan writes, "The last few years have been a whirlwind of transitions! It has been wonderful to read updates from friends and classmates about their adventures since leaving Morningside Heights. I am excited to finally have an announcement of my own. I will move to Providence, R.I., in June to continue my medical training in internal medicine. I will join current Rhode Islanders Paul Wallace and Isha Parulkar. If any Columbians are in Providence during the next three years, please make sure to reach out and say hello!"

Abby Finkel (nee Oberman) says, "My husband, Bryan, and I welcomed our son, Asher Corey Finkel, into the world on February 5. We are overjoyed (although we are in need of sleep). I’m hoping Asher will join the Class of 2038!"

Benjamin Velez is excited to share, "In February, Katie Hathaway BC'10 and I had our first New York industry reading of our original musical, Afterland, at the York Theater. Directed by Mark Brokaw and starring an amazing cast that included Broadway stars Rebecca Luker and Alysha Umphress, it’s been a five-year journey that started when we met writing the 114th Annual Varsity Show in 2008. I’m excited to keep developing the show and hope our next update can be announcing a production!"

Last but not least, the latest from Chris Yim: "I’m thankful for my wife and for my best friends from Columbia, Varun Gultati SEAS'10, Justin Leung '09, Erin Tao '11 and Tiffany Jung, and the ones with whom I camp and kick it with in California and New York — Nidhi Hebbar '12, Christian Pitts '08 and Jake Grumbach. They’ve been amazing friends through thick and thin the past six years. I love them to death."

“Nature frees me. The quest for Truth keeps me humble, as does the fact that I don’t know anything. My wife is teaching me about compassion, understanding and forgiveness all the time. I have hopes to live in Europe at some point. My golf game is struggling. I get bored by small talk worse than ever but still have a huge craving for social interaction. I decided not to pursue ADHD medicine because I’m afraid of the balding side effects, and I’ve gotten this far without it. No kids on the way yet. I have a deep belief that the world is not the way it should be. People are not the way that they should be. We live in a flawed place, and we desperately need justice. The kind that will save us from ourselves and make things right. Sorry for preaching at you. Godspeed. I love you all.”

2011

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Welcome to summer, Class of 2011! After you’re done reading this, go outside and enjoy the sun because the political world is falling apart, California is entering its fifth year of historic drought and Dhruv Vasishtha has sent in another life update to this column. On the upside, we just celebrated our five-year reunion June 2-5. WHAAAAAT.

Let’s start with a wedding! Gene Kasiw ‘07 proposed to Erin Conway in November 2014 on a trip to Paris they had planned months...
before. Unbeknownst to Erin, Gene had also planned an unforgettable surprise. He secretly brought her parents and his parents along, seating them just five rows behind the couple on the flight. About two hours after takeoff, approximately 35,000 feet over Nova Scotia, Gene proposed to Erin at the front of the plane. With their parents there to share the moment and add to Erin's great surprise, the six then enjoyed a lovely long weekend in Paris to celebrate the engagement.

Erin and Gene met at Columbia through their mutual friends from the field hockey and football teams and quickly realized they had grown close to each other in Monmouth County, N.J. Erin and Gene became close friends and started dating shortly thereafter. They have supported each other through Gene's law school tenure and Erin's medical school courses. The couple lives in North Jersey, where Gene practices aviation law and Erin is an ob/gyn resident. They will wed on May 20, 2017, near their hometowns.

Gene practices aviation law and Erin's medical school courses. The couple lives in North Jersey, where Gene practices aviation law and Erin is an ob/gyn resident. They will wed on May 20, 2017, near their hometowns.

Anne Kramer will pursue an M.B.A. this fall at either UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business or Yale's School of Management, with a focus in corporate responsibility. She recently finished a 1½-year tenure at the Gates Foundation's internal strategy team and is now spending several months traveling the globe, exploring and seeking inspiration. Locations were TBD at the time of this writing but were likely to include Southeast Asia in May and Eastern Africa in June. Anne also got engaged in March to a non-Lion, but he's a great guy nonetheless. She emailed us a GoPro video of the engagement to prove it, and it's ridiculously sweet.

Anne's fiancé, Marc, works at a startup in San Francisco, Staffjoy, which offers scheduling solutions to on-demand businesses. Anne's in the market for travel companions and new SF friends, so hit her up if you fall in (either or both) camps.

She adds that she is sad she won't be able to make reunion but is also stoked because she's missing it for the wedding of Lucy Herz. Lucy Herz in North Carolina, which should be a blast. As Anne, Rose Levenson-Palmer, Eleanor Shi and Lucy will all be there, they've committed to sending lots of pictures to populate the next edition of the Class of 2011 notes.

Christopher Morris-Lent has launched, with two friends, a campaign to fund and promote a digital and physical book about gaming culture in the 21st century, with an eye toward undertaking a bigger project after the success of this one (tinyurl.com/abhome). He came up with the idea when living in Seattle after college and realizing games were the dominant medium for mythmaking in the Pacific Northwest. What kinds of people are into them? What effect do they have on people? What kind of culture gives rise to games? What kind of culture do games give rise to? These questions are of broad interest for anyone who reads, especially in the era of eSports and Amazon.

Awesome.

Gairy Hall reports that, this May, he was scheduled to graduate from the Business School with Andrew Kim, Kiara Reed GS'11, Samantha Shaffer GS'11 and Seen Spielberg. Gairy will join J.P. Morgan's Management Associate Program, the bank's executive development program. He also notes that Mahfouz Basith and Josh Wun are graduating from the Law School and will join leading corporate law firms after taking the bar this summer. Mahfouz is going to Davis Polk & Wardwell and Josh is going to Sullivan & Cromwell.

After five years of law school and law practice in the Bay Area (largely spent putting up with Giants fans), Adam Sieff is happy to share that he is moving home to Los Angeles in August, just in time for the Dodgers to go on a run for the pennant. He is looking forward to seeing more of Lucas Shaw and Jonathan Dentler but will miss Jonathan Club's August '09, Darien Meyer '00 and all the awesome folks at the Columbia Club of Northern California. He says that Zach Sims '12 will have to start raising VC in Silicon Beach, and he hopes Nuriel Moghavem will make the trek south from Palo Alto soon enough. He encourages you to visit and get in touch if you're in Los Angeles.

Melissa Im writes, "If anyone is traveling to Singapore, get in touch (melissaimnim@gmail.com). I moved here from Cambodia (where I was preserving Cambodian traditional art forms at Cambodian Living Arts) and shifted into a role at Mercy Relief, Singapore’s leading independent disaster relief agency. There are a lot of alumni events here in Singapore with the Columbia Alumni Association, so I encourage anyone to swing by. Whether you need some tips for your trip to Siem Reap or Phnom Penh in Cambodia or want to grab a drink in Singapore, reach out!"

Some quick hits:

Karen Woodin-Rodriguez is closing a five-year chapter in India as a strategy consultant turned entrepreneur in the ed-space. She's not sure where she is headed but she'll start with a Vipassana retreat in Jakarta, a few days in Bali, skydiving in Dubai, a wedding in Monterey, first-time visits to San Francisco and Los Angeles, and then planned to make her way to NYC for reunion!

Ben Turndorf and Amelia Turndorf (née Josephson) live in Brooklyn; Amelia’s a writer and editor at SmartAsset, a financial literacy startup, and Ben recently started doing digital marketing for Danny Meyer’s Union Square Hospitality Group.

Jeremy Slawin is moving back to New York to start a urology residency at NYU. He’s been in his hometown of Houston for the last five years completing an M.D./M.B.A. at Baylor College of Medicine and Rice but is excited for the move.

Holly Stanton left a position with SculptureCenter, New York, in January 2015 and relocated to Los Angeles, where she joined Francois Ghebaly Gallery as director.

Nicole Cata was sworn into the New York Bar in March. She also recently adopted a delightful cat.

Sam Beck and Louise Stewart Beck have moved to Detroit, where Louise is a conservator at the Henry Ford Museum. Sam’s finishing his Ph.D. and preparing to apply for postdocs.

Brenden Cline is graduating from law school this spring and plans to bike cross-country before moving to Denver in the fall. He invites fellow alumni adventurers to join him in August (after the bar exam!) for a day or two of the trek between Kentucky and Oregon.

And, lastly, Drhuv Vasilitha recently signed up for an Orange-Theory membership, as reunion is a few months away and he could afford to lose a few pounds.

As always, feel free to email us at nurielm@gmail.com or scan.udell@gmail.com to let us know how you’re doing!
Last May, Celine Pascheles graduated from medical school. On March 18, her dream of becoming a doctor came true: She successfully matched at Harvard Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where a doctor came true: She successfully matched at Harvard Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where she will do emergency medicine residency training. "Medicine has always been my passion and I never gave up on my passion to become a physician. Ever since I was 6 I knew I wanted to become a doctor, and now this humble dream has become a remarkable reality," she writes. Congratulations, Dr. Celine! Cristina "Cha" Ramos is pursuing her career as an actress and writer in NYC while working as an admin assistant at The Boston Consulting Group. Lately, she's been digging heavily into the stage combat world, heavily into the stage combat world and is certified in five (soon to be six) weapons styles with the Society of American Fight Directors. She is also a proud company member with Everyday Inferno Theatre Company, helping it develop multiple plays, musicals and adaptations. Her most recent acting credits include Thomas Middleton's The Revenger's Tragedy as "The Duchess" (scheduled to open May 14); Annette Storckman's Benedetta: A Tragediser as "Danielle" (scheduled to open May 13); and In Khunu Hay as one of two permutations of Russian poet Daniil Khams (opened on April 29). Cristina can be reached at cristinaramos.2012@gmail.com and writes that she is always down to touch base with fellow alums in NYC!

Chuck Roberts, a first-year at Stanford Law, will be a summer intern for the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps in Washington, D.C.

As for all our other classmates — we'd love to hear from you, so please send your updates my way: rsf2121@columbia.edu or by submitting a note through CCT's Class Notes webpage, colledge.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2013

Tala Akhavan
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Sean Brackett, a first-team All-Ivy quarterback at Columbia, began his professional career in the AFL on the Utah Blaze in fall 2013. Prior to joining the Jacksonville Sharks, Brackett played a season as the starting quarterback for the Las Vegas Outlaws and led his team in rushing yards, rushing touchdowen and passing efficiency while leading the team to a playoff berth in its inaugural season. The AFL season runs through the end of July, so check out the Sharks' schedule at jaxsharks.com to track their success! Sean spends his off season in South Boston.

Along with a former coworker, Simon Jerome launched a cycling tour company that conducts one-day and weekend-long tours throughout the Washington, D.C., area, including the Shenandoah Valley and parts of southern Maryland. Blue Ridge Revolutions takes its name from the Blue Ridge Mountains, where some of the best road cycling in the region is found. BRR's tours incorporate the best of the area's local food, wine and beer, with most rides ending at a local winery or brewery. The one-day rides emphasize the history of Virginia and southern Maryland, from one of the nation's first settlements at Jamestown, Va., to Fort Washington, Md. Longer weekend trips expose riders to the challenge and reward of climbing the peaks of the Blue Ridge, with vistas and downhills.

Simon will stay at his day job in compliance at the International Republican Institute but BRR will allow him to pursue his passion for the outdoors and cycling on the side, he says. Visit blueridgedrevolutions.com for more information or to sign up!

Want your news in the Fall issue of CCT? Email me at talaakhavan@gmail.com or submit your notes through CCT's Class Notes webpage, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2014

Rebecca Fattell
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New York, NY 10025
rsf2121@columbia.edu

CC'14, your classmates want to hear from you! Travel, jobs, fun side projects, new hobbies — Class Notes are for you and are the place to tell classmates about the amazing things you've been up to in the two years since graduation. You can update your class by emailing me at rsf2121@columbia.edu or by submitting a note through CCT's Class Notes webpage, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2015

Kareem Carryl
c/o CCT
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New York, NY 10025

Happy Summer 2015, everyone! As you venture out on much-needed vacations from work and school, please remember to send news my way. For this edition of Class Notes, we have two special updates: Yassamin Issapour wrote from London that she founded Harmony Ventures, an accelerator program for social enterprise startups aimed at solving sustainable development issues in Southeast Asia. It is sponsored by local and global corporates and NGOs. James Lin has the following special announcement: "Tatianna Kufferath (now Kufferath-Lin) and I got married in October. Our ceremony took place at Pacific Christian Center in Santa Maria, Calif. Several Columbia affiliates had active roles, such as bridesmaids Lillian Chow, Ashley Mendez and Shanya Orens ’16; groomsmen James Xue SEAS'15, Xavier du Maine, Luke Foster and Ryan Bae; and officiate Jim Black, the director of ministry of Columbia Faith and Action. After a 'mini-moon' in San Luis Obispo, Calif., we set up our new home in New York."

Best wishes to everyone who wrote in for this issue as they embark on new chapters in their lives! Please submit updates to me at kdc2122@columbia.edu or via CCT's Class Notes webpage, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Send photos to CCT via CCT's photo webpage, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2016

James Lin ’15 and Tatianna Kufferath-Lin ’15 were married in October in Santa Maria, Calif. Left to right: Charlotte Lin, Shanya Orens ’16, Grace Fowler, Ashley Mendez ’15, Lillian Chow ’15, Dasha Korolev, the bride, the groom, Ryan Bae ’15, James Xue SEAS’15, Wilson Hsu, Karl Li, Luke Foster ’15 and Xavier du Maine ’15.

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**Historian Fritz Stern '46, GSAS'53: “An Eminence Far Beyond the World of Academia”**

By Timothy P. Cross GSAS’98

Fritz Stern '46, GSAS’53, University Professor emeritus, proved his eminence and one of the world’s leading authorities on modern German history, died on May 18, 2016, in New York City. He was 90.

Throughout his career, Stern focused on what he called “the German drama,” the country’s descent from a locus of learning and culture into the destructive, brutal Nazi regime.

“I was born into a world on the cusp of avoidable disaster,” he wrote in Five Germanys I Have Known (2006). “And I came to realize that no country is immune to the temptations of pseudo-religious movements of repression such as those to which Germany succumbed.”

In their obituaries, The New York Times praised Stern for providing “a new understanding of the drift toward totalitarianism”, The Guardian (U.K.) said he had “gained an eminence far beyond the world of academia”; and Die Welt (Germany) described him as “a guardian angel of the new Germany.”

Stern was born on February 2, 1926, in Breslau, Silesia (present-day Wroclaw, Poland). His father, Rudolf, was a physician; his mother, Katharine (née Brieger), had a doctorate in medicine. “Medicine is a science, and history is not,” Einstein told him.

Stern studied history anyway, earning a B.A. (1946), an M.A. (1948) and a Ph.D. (1953), all from Columbia. He taught briefly at Cornell but returned to Columbia after completing his dissertation. He became a full professor in 1963 and University Professor in 1992.

Isser Woloch ’59, the Moore Collegiate Professor Emeritus of History, was Stern’s student before becoming a colleague. He not only remembers Stern’s “fine lecture course that I took as an undergrad” but also Stern’s first book, The Varieties of History: From Volski to the Present (1956), an anthology that Woloch says “influenced not only the public discourse on the political and moral history of modern Europe, as so much of Stern’s writing did, but the training of historians in the 1960s-80s.”


He returned to German politics in The Failure of Liberalism: Essays on the Political Culture of Modern Germany (1972) and Dreams and Delusions: The Drama of German History (1987). But his most notable later work, arguably his masterpiece, was Gold and Iron: Bismarck, Bleichröder, and the Building of the German Empire (1977), a dual biography of Jewish German banker Gerson von Bleichröder and the “Iron Chancellor.” Gold and Iron earned Stern the College’s Lionel Trilling Book Award (1977) and a nomination for a National Book Award (1978). Other works include: Einstein's German World (1999), the oft-autobiographical Gold and Iron: I Have Known and No Ordinary Men: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Hans von Dohnanyi, Resisters Against Hitler in Church and State (2013), which he co-authored with his wife, Elisabeth Sifton, a former senior editor at Farrar Straus and Giroux.

Stern was widely regarded as the foremost American historian of Germany. He lectured regularly at the Free University of Berlin. In 1990, he participated in the “Chequers” seminar, where he was among those academics who tried to persuade Margaret Thatcher to support German reunification. In 1993, Stern moved briefly to Bonn to become a special senior adviser to Richard Holbrooke, the U.S. ambassador to Germany.

Despite this fame, Stern “certainly considered himself preeminently a Columbia person,” said Robert Paxton, the Mellon Professor Emeritus of Social Sciences. He taught or supervised “an enormous load of students.” In 1962-63, Stern chaired an ad hoc committee that reviewed the Humanities core. Although he avoided becoming history department chair, he was provost 1982-83 and acting provost in 1987.

Stern’s first marriage, to Margaret Bassett, ended in divorce. In addition to Sifton, he is survived by the children of his first marriage, Frederick ‘71 and Katherine; stepsons, Sam, Toby and John; three grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Timothy P. Cross GSAS’98, a former CCT associate editor, is a consultant and freelance writer based in Brooklyn, N.Y. He took two memorable courses with Stern in the mid-1980s.
He earned an M.A. in statistics from GSAS in 1949. Milberg and his wife, Sylvia Lewits Milberg, who predeceased him in 1994, lived for almost 40 years in Westport, Conn., where they shared their active commitment to community well-being and the town’s Democratic Party. Co-founder of the management consultant company Marcom, Milberg went on to a successful career as a stock analyst and broker. He was intellectually curious; a lover of music, the arts and the Mets; an avid reader; and an enthusiastic chef. Milberg is survived by his wife, Marcia Osofsky; sister, Rita Bricken; sons, Daniel, David, William and John PF89; seven grandchildren; and daughters-in-law, Hedy Kalikoff and Sara Sade.

1948
Jackson H. Sheats Jr., musician, Lansdowne, Va., on January 27, 2015. Born in Memphis on October 26, 1926, after graduation Sheats worked for the American Viscose Corp. in Chicago. He studied voice with Robert Long in Chicago, sang in the Lyric Opera of Chicago chorus and was the tenor soloist at the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel in Chicago. In 1964 he moved his family to Europe and signed on as lyric tenor with the City Theater of Koblenz, Germany. In addition to 52 performances of The Merry Widow at the Koblenz Operette on the Rhein, Sheats sang more than 20 leading tenor roles on the opera stages of Germany 1964–73, when he returned to the United States to teach voice at the Shenandoah (University) Conservatory, from which he retired as professor emeritus in 2002. While at Shenandoah, Sheats sang in several performances at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. An avid fan of movies from the 1930s and ’40s, he was a veritable encyclopedia of famous stars of that era. He also loved animals, especially cats. Sheats is survived by his wife of 60 years, Ilse Henning Sheats; sister, Jeannine Odom; daughter, Anna Askari; son, David; one granddaughter; and one great-grandson. Memorial contributions may be made to the ASPCA.

1951
Robert S. Allgaier, research physicist, Potomac, Md., on January 9, 2016. Allgaier was born on November 29, 1925, in Union City, N.J. Valedictorian of his high school class, he served in the U.S. Merchant Marine as a radio officer during and after WWII. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in physics, the latter in 1952 from GSAS, and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year. Allgaier earned a Ph.D. in physics from Maryland. He had a long career as a research physicist for the Navy and published extensively. Allgaier was a visiting scientist at the Cavendish Laboratory,
William V. “Bill” Campbell ’62, TC’64, Former Trustees Chair, Lions Coach, Silicon Valley Adviser

William V. “Bill” Campbell ’62, TC’74, a former University Trustees chair, Lions head football coach and influential background player in Silicon Valley, died on April 18, 2016, in Palo Alto, Calif. He was 75.

Campbell was born on August 31, 1940, and grew up in Homestead, Pa., near Pittsburgh. He excelled in football in high school. A four-year student-athlete at the College, as a 165-lb. guard and linebacker he captained the 1961 Ivy League Championship football team and as a senior earned All-Ivy League accolades. Campbell earned a bachelor’s and a master’s in economics, and after six years as an assistant coach at Boston College returned to Columbia and coached the Lions from 1974 to 1979, ending his coaching career with an overall record of 12-41-1.

Campbell then went to work for J. Walter Thompson before joining Kodak. He was an Eastman Kodak executive in Europe when he was recruited to Silicon Valley in 1983 by Apple’s chief executive at the time, John Sculley, who named him VP of marketing. Campbell was deeply involved in Silicon Valley’s start-up culture. In 1987 he led a group of Apple executives in setting up a software subsidiary, Claris, of which he was founder, president and CEO, with the ultimate goal of spinning off the company. When Apple decided not to let Claris become a separate public company, many of the executives, including Campbell, left. He later became chief executive of Go Corp., a pioneering computer software company, and from 1994 until 1998 was chief executive of Intuit; he retired in January as chairman. Campbell was an Apple director from 1997 until 2014, the longest-serving board member in its history; his photo was prominent on Apple’s home page on the day of his death. Campbell played a significant role in Apple’s turnaround when Steve Jobs, who had been fired by Sculley, returned in 1997. Campbell also worked early on with Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon; with Ben Horowitz ’88 and Marc Andreessen before they founded one of the country’s top venture capital firms, Andreessen Horowitz, and with Larry Page of Google.

These advisory roles, as well as work with Facebook, Twitter and other tech firms, earned Campbell the nickname “Coach of Silicon Valley.” The New York Times pointed out, “Campbell’s advisory role was often unpaid, at his insistence; he said he wanted to pay back what he felt was a debt to the nation’s technology region.”

Campbell’s generosity of time — and funds — extended to Columbia. He was a member of the University’s Board of Trustees from 2003 until 2014 and chair from 2005 until 2014. In 2013, the Campbell Sports Center, a state-of-the-art 50,000 sq. ft. facility at the Baker Athletics Complex made possible by a $10 million donation from Campbell, was dedicated. In fall 2014, Athletics retired Campbell’s number, 67, and at the 2015 Varsity C. Celebration introduced a new award, the William V. Campbell Performer of the Year, to be presented annually to the top male and female student-athletes of the academic year.

Campbell endowed the Roberta and William Campbell Professorship in Contemporary Civilization and the Campbell Family Professorship in Anthropology; he gave $1 million to The Austin E. Quigley Endowment for Student Success and he recently committed $10 million to the Core to Commencement campaign. Campbell was presented the Varsity C. Alumni Athletics Award in 1988, a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 1991 and the 2000 Alexander Hamilton Medal. In 2011 he was presented the Community Impact Award and in 2015 was presented an Alumni Medal as well as an honorary doctor of laws degree at Commencement. The NFL presented him its 2004 Gold Medal, and in 2009 the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame announced that its annual award given to the top scholar-athlete would be renamed for Campbell.

Campbell also donated millions in support of education in the Pennsylvania steel country where he grew up.

“We are devastated by the loss of Bill Campbell,” said Dean James J. Valentini. "Bill was a remarkable entrepreneur, a dedicated and generous Columbia College alumnus; and a committed friend, adviser and mentor to me. He enriched the lives of many at Columbia and throughout the world and he will be missed by all who knew him.”

Campbell’s survivors include his wife, Eileen Bocci Campbell; daughter, Margaret “Maggie” ’13; son, Jim ’04, SIPA’08; and stepchildren, Kevin Bocci, Matthew Bocci ’13 and Kate Bocci. Campbell’s first marriage, to former Columbia assistant dean of residence halls Roberta Spagnola TC’69, ended in divorce.

-Lisa Palladino

University of Cambridge, England, 1965-66, where he worked with Sir Nevill F. Mott and contributed to the research on disordered materials for which Mott received the 1977 Nobel Prize in Physics. After retirement, Allgaier worked at several places, including the Office of Naval Research and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, taught at Maryland; and also taught and researched for a semester at Johannes Kepler Universität, Linz, in Austria. Allgaier worked to successfully have merchant mariners awarded veteran status for their service during WWII. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Nancy Lalos Allgaier; children, Stephanie and Eric; two granddaughters; and brother, Richard. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association, Columbia University Department of Physics or Friends of the National World War II Memorial.

Thomas E. Withycombe, attorney, Hillsboro, Ore., on March 31, 2016. Born in Montana, Withercombe was the son of a pharmacist and the grandson of Oregon Gov. James Withercombe (1914–19). Withercombe led the Eureka High School basketball team to the Montana State Championship finals; he also played competitively in squash, racquetball and tennis. Withercombe graduated from Harvard Law and served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War, leading a mortar division and achieving the rank of captain. An expert marksman, forward scout and adviser, he served as a liaison officer, training and fighting along with Korean Marines. After law school, he worked in the Oregon state legislature, moved to King, Miller (now Miller Nash) and then had a 34-year career with Georgia-Pacific, becoming deputy general counsel. He was on the Board of Directors of the Portland and Atlanta YMCA, and held leadership positions at First Presbyterian churches in Portland and Atlanta. Withercombe supported all of his children in Scouting and was Scoutmaster for Troop 200 in Beaverton, Ore., and a member of the Cascade Pacific Council Executive Board and Protestant Committee.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Kathy; five children; their spouses; and 14 grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church Columbarium Fund or to the Boy Scouts of America, Cascade Pacific Council Chaplain’s Fund.

1954

Robert A. Falise, attorney, Bedford, N.Y., on August 13, 2015. Falise was born in New York City in 1932 and earned a J.D. from the Law School in 1956. He was assistant director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights 1960-61 and prior to that an
Jim McMillian ’70, Basketball Standout

Jim McMillian ’70, who in 1967–68 led Columbia men’s basketball to its only Ivy League championship since the league was formalized in 1956–57 and later won an NBA title with the Los Angeles Lakers, died on May 16, 2016, in Winston-Salem, N.C. He was 68.

Nicknamed “Jimmy Mac” and described by current Athletics Director Peter Pilling as “a Columbia icon,” McMillian led the Lions to a 63–14 record during his three varsity seasons. He was named to the All-Ivy League first team all three seasons and to various All-America teams each year, and was a three-time winner of the Haggerty Award as the best player in the Metropolitan New York area.

Born in Raeford, N.C., but raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., McMillian was an All-City star at Thomas Jefferson H.S. and chose Columbia over such regional basketball powers as St. John’s and Providence. It was at St. John’s that he had perhaps his most memorable performance, a 37-point effort as Columbia defeated Princeton in a one-game playoff for the 1967–68 Ivy League championship.

A solid 6-foot-5 forward, McMillian led the Lions to a 23–5 record that season and a No. 6 national ranking. The Lions swept West Virginia, Louisville and St. John’s to win the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden and McMillian was named MVP in what was then one of the foremost college basketball tournaments in the country.

After Columbia and Princeton both finished with 12–2 Ivy League records, Alumni Hall at St. John’s was chosen as a neutral site for a one-game playoff to decide the Ivy crown. The outcome was never in doubt as the Lions routed the Tigers 92–74 to advance to the NCAA Tournament. The following day, Spectator wrote: “As usual the real story of the game was McMillian’s performance. The 6–5 sophomore forward played brilliantly on both offense and defense and in the process established a new Columbia record for most points in a season by a sophomore. He finished with 575 points in 25 games, shattering the old record of 559 set by Chet Forte [’57].”

In the NCAA tournament, McMillian and the Lions defeated LaSalle before losing a 61–59 overtime heartbreaker to Davidson in the East Regional semifinal. Including a consolation victory over St. Bonaventure, McMillian averaged 17 points and 11 rebounds in the Lions’ tournament run. He led Columbia to 20 victories in each of the next two seasons, although the Lions fell short of the Ivy title both years. He finished his career with 1,758 points, a school record since broken by Buck Jenkins ’73, who played four varsity seasons. McMillian still holds the records for field goals in a season (253) and career (677) and is second all-time in career rebounds (743).

The Lakers made McMillian the 13th overall pick of the 1970 NBA draft. In his second season he stepped into the starting lineup in place of retired Hall of Famer Elgin Baylor and averaged 19.1 points per game to help a Lakers team that featured all-time greats Wilt Chamberlain and Jerry West win an NBA-record 33 consecutive games en route to the league championship. He played one more season for the Lakers, then played for the Buffalo Braves, New York Knicks and Portland Trail Blazers before ending his nine-year NBA career in 1979.

After playing two seasons of pro ball in Bologna, Italy, McMillian returned to the United States to work in a wholesale retail business before founding his own clothing business in North Carolina. He later worked for a clothing manufacturing company.

McMillian is survived by his wife of 43 years, Alexis; son, Aron; daughters, Erica and Emon; and seven grandchildren.

—Alex Sachare ’71
Phoenix. While a software engineer on the Apache helicopters, he earned a master's in aerospace engineering. The family grew to include daughter-in-law Pattie, son-in-law

In 1971, he received All-Ivy League, All-East and honorable mention All-American honors as a defensive end. After college, he played for the New York Stars of World Football

York City, on January 6, 2016. Shur was a Columbia gay rights pioneer, famous as "Rick X," creator and host of The Closet Case Show, and one of the AIDS activism era's most incisive chroniclers. Amid 1972's war protests and musical theater, Shur came out, becoming a leader of Gay People at Columbia. After earning a master's at TC in 1979, he mentored a new generation of student leadership, dramatically revitalizing and expanding campus LGBT activities, programming and services in the 1980s. The Closet Case Show, launched in 1984 on Manhattan Cable Television, presented gay news and commentary and saturated culture, gender and sexuality, providing safer-sex information and inspiration at the height of the AIDS epidemic. In 1994, Shur joined WBAI's Gay Show. In recent years, he was often seen communing with campus birds and squirrels, a St. Francis-like figure called "Birdman of Columbia." For more information, visit facebook.com/rick.shur.9.

2001

Jon Wakiya Krug '01

it ping pong, basketball, surfing or snowboarding, he stretched both himself and his competitors. Krug enjoyed cars, motorcycles, nature, acting, photography, music, cooking and physics. Friends around the world describe him as kind, loyal, creative, an innovator and a visionary. They remember that his smile made them laugh, his intellect brought wonder and his charisma made those around him shine. He is survived by his wife, mother, father, stepmother, two half-brothers and a large extended family. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia men's varsity basketball by contacting Victor Spinelli, athletics development assistant: vs2557@columbia.edu or 212-851-7979.

— Lisa Palladino

classifieds

RENTALS


Columbia Jewelry

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Fall 2016 issue:
Monday, July 18, 2016

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Spring 2016 CCT 103
The Fall 2015 issue’s "Alumni Corner" was an essay by Bob Orkand ’58, “Who Needs Change for a $10 Bill?”, which argued that Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778)’s image should remain on the $10 bill and a better option would be to replace Andrew Jackson on the $20 bill with "a deserving woman — perhaps Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks or Eleanor Roosevelt." In April, the Treasury Department reversed its position and decided to keep Hamilton on the $10 bill and replace Jackson’s image with that of Tubman.

While we don’t underestimate the reach of this publication and would like to take credit for the change, it’s entirely likely that a certain eponymous Broadway musical — which garnered a record 16 Tony Award nominations and was named “Best Musical of the Year” on June 12 — had somewhat more to do with raising the collective consciousness about Hamilton and his role as a Founding Father.

In view of these developments, Columbia College Today invited Orkand — who entered with the Class of 1954 but was drafted into the Army before graduation, retiring as a lieutenant colonel of infantry and later as president and publisher of Knight Ridder’s newspaper in State College, Pa. — to provide an update to his essay.

The yearlong duel between Treasury Secretary Jack Lew — 76th to hold that office — and Alexander Hamilton, who created the post and was its first occupant, ended with a ceasefire in late April as Lew capitulated under a withering barrage of criticism from all sides.

Hamilton walked away from Treasury’s assault with his reputation intact and with thousands of newfound admirers who had seen or heard about Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Pulitzer Prize-winning musical Hamilton at the Broadway theater named for Richard Rodgers ’23. The musical is based on Pulitzer Prize-winner Ron Chernow’s 2004 biography Alexander Hamilton.

Treasury’s revised plan calls for Hamilton to retain his starring role on the $10 bill while slave owner and slave trader Andrew Jackson gets shunted off the front of the $20 bill. Jackson’s place will be taken by Harriet Tubman, the African-American abolitionist who helped lead the Underground Railroad that enabled 19th-century slaves to escape to free states or to Canada. Tubman deservedly claims her place on the front of the $20 bill, while “Old Hickory” gets bumped to the rear of the bus.

You might recall the altercation began in 2013 when Lew announced that an anti-counterfeiting redesign of the $10 bill was commencing. But when reports surfaced that Hamilton was slated to be offed, Lew began to feel the heat. An online organization called Women On 20s had already begun campaigning for a woman to replace Jackson on the $20 bill and used its influence for a woman to be featured on the United States’ paper currency for the first time since Martha Washington’s visage appeared on a $1 silver certificate in the 1880s.

In addition to keeping Hamilton alive on the front of the $10 bill, the reverse side, currently the Treasury Department building at 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. (just down the street from the White House and featuring a large statue of Hamilton out front), will depict a montage of leaders of the women’s suffrage movement: Susan B. Anthony, Lucretia Mott, Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Alice Paul.

The $5 bill is also slated for a makeover, retaining Abraham Lincoln’s portrait on its obverse side and redesigning the Lincoln Memorial image on its reverse so that Martin Luther King Jr., Eleanor Roosevelt and African-American contralto Marian Anderson — each of whom had close ties to the memorial — will be featured.

Treasury’s plan is to unveil the redesigned $10 bill, with its anti-counterfeiting features, in 2020, the centennial year of American women being granted the right to vote.

From his grave in Trinity Church’s cemetery in lower Manhattan, Hamilton may very well be celebrating by practicing and then undertaking some of Miranda’s hip-hop dance steps.
I give back because I received financial aid and it was the support of alumni who came before me that made my experiences possible.”

Zack Susel CC’11

Why He Loves Columbia College
“Columbia College gifted me four of the most delightfully challenging years of my life. It helped me to better understand myself, introduced me to my closest friends and brought me to the city I now call home.”

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All-Class Reunion Keeps Tradition Strong

ALL-CLASS REUNION, previously known as Dean’s Day, has been a Columbia tradition for decades, bringing back alumni for a breakfast with the dean where the state of the College is discussed, followed by intellectual panels and faculty lectures with a communal lunch between morning and afternoon sessions. After seven years as an integral part of Reunion Weekend, this year Dean’s Day was renamed All-Class Reunion. The spirit of community and intellectualism remains as strong as ever, though.

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